

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

2:00 PM

REVISED 11/15

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:05 p.m.

Present: 7 - Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Bob Stacey, Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Christine Lewis, and Lynn Peterson

2:05 Safety Briefing**Work Session Topics:**

2:10 Regional Investment Strategy: Transportation Investment Measure

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)
[Preliminary Staff Recommendation](#)
[PowerPoint: Regional Investment Strategy T2020](#)

President Peterson introduced Mr. Andy Shaw, Metro's Director of Government Affairs and Policy Development and Ms. Margi Bradway, Deputy Director of Planning.

Mr. Shaw provided an overview of Metro staff's recommendations for the upcoming #GetMoving2020 transportation measure. He described the structure of the measure as consisting of Tier 1 Corridor Projects, Tier 2 Corridor Projects, region-wide programs, oversight and accountability, and efforts to advance regional policy. Mr. Shaw reviewed the measure's timeline and stated that conversations with the Transportation Taskforce were underway to discuss staff's recommended corridor projects for Tier 1. He noted the measures priority outcomes as to improve safety, prioritize investments that support communities of color, support resiliency, address climate change, drive economic growth, leverage regional and local investments, and increase access to transit.

Mr. Bradway noted key decision-making factors for the Tier 1 project recommendations as performance-based analysis, Local Investment Team (LIT) and community input, risk and

readiness analysis, Council input, Transportation Taskforce outcomes, and public partner collaboration. She stated the total expected corridor investment as \$5.24 billion, excluding potential Tier 2 corridor projects or region-wide programs.

Ms. Bradway described the expected collective impact of advancing the recommended 13 corridors from Tier 1. She noted their ability to connect constituents to town centers and employment opportunities while advancing racial equity throughout the Metro region. Ms. Bradway provided examples of the kinds of transit investments throughout the Tier 1 corridors, including the Southwest Corridor light rail, McLoughlin, TV Highway, East 82nd Avenue, and Burnside projects among others. She detailed examples of the kinds of safety investments embedded in the recommendations, such as improvements in sidewalks, safer crossings, lighting, and bikeways among others.

Ms. Bradway noted 2% of each corridor's funding is set aside to support working with communities on strategies that avoid displacement and create equitable economic benefits. She stated programs that are expected to be developed further in early 2020 by working with community partners to scope out their activities.

Mr. Shaw reviewed the measure's overall scope, stating the total investments over the next two decades as \$6.24 billion, including the corridor projects and other program investments. He provided a brief overview of the Transportation Taskforce's proposed Tier 1 project amendments, many of which were focused on increasing funding for transit and safety.

Mr. Shaw noted an upcoming Transportation Task Force meeting on November 20th and Council work session on January 7th to discuss the Taskforce's Tier 1 project

recommendations. He distinguished between Tier 1 and Tier 2 corridor projects and asked Council for their feedback.

Council Discussion

Councilor Stacey asked for clarification regarding if the Transportation Taskforce's deliberations. Mr. Shaw responded that the focus of the conversation was on determining if the 13 recommended projects were economically feasible. He added Council would be the primary informants for deciding which projects move forward following the Transportation Taskforce's final recommendations.

President Peterson inquired if the Columbia Corridor was included in Tier 1 or 2 corridor projects. She asked for clarification regarding investments in safety and suggested rephrasing "20% of region's serious crashes" to address high-crash corridors rather than the crashes themselves.

Councilor Gonzalez requested clarification on the sources of leveraged funds. Councilor Stacey asked if the East 82nd Avenue corridor may be considered for federal funding.

Councilor Craddick inquired if the Hacienda CDC project would be included in the transit highlights. She asked if including transit priorities is an expected standard when building new roads. Councilor Stacey suggested designed new roads as transit-ready as possible to make future development significantly easier.

President Peterson noted that the Transportation System Plan (TSP's) had not included transit-ready components and inquired of when they may be included.

Councilor Gonzalez asked of how Metro's capital investments in the Burnside corridor would complement

Trimet's upcoming service enhancement investments in the same area. He inquired if information regarding trip time would be available in the future as a part of the projects' transit highlights.

Councilor Stacey asked if Council Creek Trail was included in the Tier 1 projects for safety investments. Councilor Dirksen noted the Council Creek Trail project as a priority for the Washington County Coordinating Committee.

Councilor Dirksen requested clarification on the funding ask for when the measure is taken to the ballot. President Peterson suggested including information clarifying the leveraged funds and the funds proposed for voter support. Councilor Stacey requested clarification regarding the structure of the bond and whether it was an ongoing or one-stop request for voters.

Councilor Stacey emphasized the importance of local participation and funding to ensure equitable treatment of all of Metro's partners. He inquired of avenues for partners to keep projects in the program while they develop their strategies, especially for partners who may be short on funding or resources and thereby require longer development time.

Councilor Gonzalez inquired of the expected accountability and oversight for the measure's projects following potential adoption. Councilor Dirksen asked if the workforce exists to deliver the proposed projects in the expected timeline.

3:10 Proposed 2019 Amendments to the Visitor Facilities Intergovernmental Agreement (VF IGA)

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)
[PowerPoint: VFIGA 2019](#)

Mr. Shaw provided an overview of the Visitor Facilities Intergovernmental Agreement (VF IGA) and its historical significance. He introduced the proposed updates and

amendments to the VF IGA, noting the four high-level priorities of the agreement to improve visitor facilities, attract new businesses and conventions, to help address liability and homelessness within the Portland region, and to ensure adequate reserves were in place to sustainably fund visitor venues in the upcoming years.

Mr. Shaw reviewed the Visitor Facility Trust Account (VFTA's) funding structure and mentioned the funding sources as coming from the Transient Lodging Taxes and Motor Vehicle Rental Taxes. He described changes to the VFTA buckets, including the additions of the Veterans Memorial Coliseum Renovation and the Portland's Centers for the Arts Renovation Bonds to the Debt Services for Facility Bonds section of the VFTA. Mr. Shaw mentioned the inclusion of three other buckets to the Support for Operations, Programs, Services, and Marketing section of the agreement, including the Portland Expo Operations Support, the Livability, and Safety Support Services, and its additional counterpart. He stated the changes to the final section of the VFTA, the Revenue Stabilization Reserves, and distinguished between the strategic and general reserves.

Mr. Shaw explained the current governance process in place to respond to a possible economic downturn or recession. He noted the options for intervention in case of such a recession, such as to delay the escalation of funding for any bucket or delay the initial issuance of the two bonds. Mr. Shaw stated the financial review team would make a recommendation for intervention, which the three government entities would then have the opportunity to dispute if desired. He mentioned the dispute resolution community, who would make the final decision with which to move forward.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dirksen inquired how this VF IGA differs from the one that the previous Metro Council had passed in December of 2018. Mr. Shaw responded the previous agreement needed to be updated to include financial information from the most recent fiscal year along with adjustments to the language regarding the options for intervention in the case of a severe recession.

Councilor Craddick noted that the hoteliers of the region had been very supportive of the recent amendments. She stated her concerns regarding a lack of specific commitment in what would be done to decrease homelessness in the downtown Portland area and inquired of the potential to include guaranteed outcomes.

Councilor Chase suggested highlighting how the resources in the VFTA are supported by permanent supportive housing efforts throughout the regions and inquired of ways to integrate the two to help reduce the effects of homelessness in the downtown Portland area. He asked if there were significant changes from the recently amended VF IGA and the one that Multnomah County had passed the previous month.

President Peterson inquired how long the new amendments were expected to be in place. She mentioned an upcoming meeting with the City of Portland's Council on November 20th, during which she would be speaking in support of the VF IGA.

3:40 Chief Operating Officer Communication

President Peterson introduced Mr. Andrew Scott, Acting Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Scott noted Metro's Charitable Giving Campaign and stated potential avenues through which staff may participate, including an online auction and upcoming book and bake sale. He mentioned a Metro employee recognition luncheon from earlier in the day,

stating that 19 employees were recognized for 220 years of combined service.

3:45 Councilor Communication

Councilor Craddick reported on her attendance at the Oregon Zoo's Bond Oversight Committee meeting from the previous week. She noted that the Zoo's bond projects were ongoing with expected opening dates for the primate forest and rhino habitat and café in 2020. Councilor Craddick added the Oregon Zoo's Bond Oversight Committee had made recommendations to Zoo staff in their 2018 report, of which all 25 recommendations are expected to be fulfilled by the end of 2019.

Councilor Stacey stated that there would be two resolutions on the November 21st Council meeting agenda from Metro's Property and Environmental Services department regarding food waste licensing and solid waste disposal.

President Peterson noted upcoming Council training focused on transportation-focused media, racial equity, and legal records management training.

3:50 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janani Srinivasan, Council Policy Assistant

EXECUTIVE SESSION ORS 192.660(2)(e), TO CONDUCT DELIBERATIONS WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNING BODY TO NEGOTIATE REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS, (h), TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL CONCERNING THE LEGAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF A PUBLIC BODY WITH REGARD TO CURRENT LITIGATION OR LITIGATION LIKELY TO BE FILED.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2019

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	11/19/2019	Regional Investment Strategy T2020	111919cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	11/19/2019	VFIGA 2019	111919cw-02