



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Meeting minutes

Meeting: CORE Meeting
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2021
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Place: Zoom

Attendees

Co-Chairs: Tristan Penn; Rebecca Descombes

CORE Members: Saara Hirsi; Daniela Ortiz; Anthony Deloney; Maria Magallon; Nura Elmagbari, Nabin Dhimal; Quincy Brown

MERC Commissioners: Dañel Malan

CORE Liaisons: Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Mary Nolan

Metro staff: Raahi Reddy, Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Melissa Palavecino, Nathan Sykes, Raul Preciado Mendez; Gloria Pinzon; Estee Segal

Absent: Jamila Dozier; Karis J.A. Stoudamire-Phillips; Dañel Malan,

Welcome and Overview of the day

Tech Overview by Melissa

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Committee Business & Updates

Tristan gives announces the Inclusive calendaring process for 2022. This process will be for scheduling CORE meetings to accommodate significant religious and cultural holidays. The hope is to avoid folks having to decide between honoring these important days and attending meetings. The DEI team is going to prepare a calendar for the year of 2022 based on an intercultural calendar which might result in our meetings being shifted by a day or week. During the next meeting CORE members will also have the opportunity to identify any holidays that might have been missed.

Rebecca asked to add Inuit day 11/07.

Nura asked about adding Major Muslim, Jewish, and interfaith holidays.

Sebrina responded that the goal is to support the participation of our committee members.

This is a new process and we welcome feedback to find out what's working and what can be adjusted.

Minutes Approval:

Nura moved to approve May 20 minutes

Saara seconded that motion

Members agreed unanimously.

Maria moved to approve September 16 minutes

Anthony seconded that motion

Members agreed unanimously.

Quincy moved to approve October 21 minutes

Nura seconded that motion

Members agreed unanimously.

Metro Council Update

Councilor Lewis - A few updates: Opening a new park Shihalem Ridge Forest Park, and Newel Creek Canyon Park. Local park providers have been able to participate in the local parks program. Getting local jurisdictions to plan more trails and to work to open new parks around the region. Improvement funds will be a competitive grant application and folks are encouraged to apply.

We plan to accept applications to District 6 after redistricting in December.

On redistricting: Metro has heard from residents, advocates, and elected officials. Feedback to keep cities together. And unincorporated sections of WA County want to stay together as well. It is difficult to achieve some of these requests but Council will do its best.

Tristan - Redistricting impacts communities of color and other marginalized groups and we appreciate the opportunity to weigh in.

DEI Program Update

Raahi introduced Steve Faulstick the new Visitor Venues General Manager.

Steve – I continue to learn many new things in the short time I have been in Metro. Grew up in Iowa, lived in Portland for 22 years and have learned all sorts of things in the hospitality industry. One of the exciting things is the budget process for FY 2023. Decisions in the budget process have a huge impact on equity.

Raahi gave an update on the Audit

Audit occurred, recommendations:

1. Continue implementation and assign specific people
2. Evaluate results and performance measures.
3. DEI to continue to play a role with HR to create new strategies and improve best practices.
4. CORE to have more regular check-ins and have a subcommittee infrastructure.

Auditor Evans will report to Council 12/09.

Raahi also introduce the subcommittee concept (internal, external, evaluation)

In 2018-2019 there were 3 subcommittees. First was internal strategic plan alignment, second was focusing on external investments, and third was focused on evaluation. What was helpful was those subcommittees allowed members to have deeper dives with relevant staff.

Nura—Access to being a good leader is difficult and there is a need for Metro to have education, training, certification etc. for leadership development.

Raahi—before the pandemic we had offerings like Race Forward, and brainstorming opportunities with co-chairs to do leadership development with CORE members.

Future Metro South Community Engagement and Site Search Project Update

Presenters: Gloria Pinzon, Estee Segal

Metro's Waste Prevention & Environmental Services Staff will share the "community criteria" developed to inform their recommendations to Council on the purchase of the Future South and would like to discuss with CORE how it fits into the site evaluation processes moving forward.

Gloria- Role is to support the department with Community Engagement, 20-25 minute presentation. Welcome Estee as the project manager. We're here to talk about the future Metro South recycling and transfer center project that's focused in the Clackamas County area, give you an update on the site search phase, as well as the community engagements, we've done over the last year. But we especially want to discuss the community engagement, how it could inform Metro Council's decision making process, giving your role in as a Metro committee.

Estee - Want to frame the project. It has been about 2 years since we have met with CORE and a lot has changed since then. The challenges and current conditions in the Metro South Transfer Station in Oregon City. It's nearly 40 years old and has reached maximum capacity

to handle customers and waste needs. The facility was not built for its current purpose and has been adapted and expanded over the years, but has reached its limit.

There is not enough space to process the current material. There was an attempt to purchase a new facility in Oregon City and because of a number of factors it is no longer an option.

In a process of finding a new direction from management, the COO and Councilors, on the site search.

Gloria- Community work and public engagement, looking to inform and consult with local community on the properties being searched. Identified potential impacts. We received feedback in 2019, which included questions on how staff would measure level of support for a site. Using the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial equity we have crafted goals. The goals were focused on community engagement work.

Discussion and Q&A

1. Does the Community Lens tool (Attachment A) and the engagement outreach activities as summarized in the Public Involvement Summary Report (Attachment C) align with Metro's Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity Diversity and Inclusion?
2. Does CORE recommend incorporating the Community Lens tool (community criteria) in the Council decision making process? Why or why not?
3. If/when staff identify a property for possible purchase, do CORE members want to be included in a review of the draft Community Lens?

Saara- Were people with disabilities included in the focus groups by Unite Oregon?

Gloria – Not sure exactly on the numbers, but pretty sure that yes.

Overview of the community lens. The decision making structures and evaluation process.

Estee – Providing an example on the decision-making process

Nura- What is the average timeline for a project like this? Who sets the deadlines and how are they determined?

Estee- It really depends, I Seattle it took over 10 years.

From beginning to end 6-10 years, but it really depends on the community buy in and a number of other factors.

Nura- Making sure we aren't revisiting questions or issues that have already seemingly been resolved. Also I am upset about disability justice not being addressed. Why don't we build a facility outside of the region that has public transit available to it

Estee- Many good questions, there is a big process to get to agreement to take it to council multiple times and to do community engagement.

Gloria- We can do better and do more and do our best to continue that

Saara – Some challenges to having people participate from cultural organizations and people with disabilities, can you tell me what those are?

Gloria- Don't have a great answer will look into it.

Tristan- What is the collaborative work? I'm curious to hear if there is cross department collaboration. I want to make sure that people are prioritizing environmental racism as a factor.

Gloria- There is nothing this formal for community engagement and equity.

Estee- There are other departments who are working on this sort of thing.

Quincy – How are CBO's being engaged?

Raahi- Co-creating structures with CBOs, we are working as an agency to build capacity for those organizations so we can build capacity among different organizations. We have dedicated \$1.2 million to CBOs to build capacity.

Anthony- It is good to be asked and it's great that these conversations are happening.

Nura- Estee and Gloria you do unbelievable work. Bouncing off of what Quincy said. Until we get resources, please tap into the CORE members to tap into those community organizations

Maria- Thank you Gloria and Estee. Wanted to comment on the CE tool, very specific to the project you are presenting on. I agree that it takes a lot of important things into consideration: history, languages, and centering community input.

Estee- Want to highlight the importance of the partnership with Unite Oregon

Nura- It is important to tap into the CORE resources because there are other options to help with community engagement.

CORE Bylaws Review

Postponed discussion until December meeting.

Adjourn