



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Meeting minutes

Meeting: CORE Meeting
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2023
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Place: Zoom

Attendees

Co-Chairs: Tristan Penn, Jamila Dozier

CORE Members: Anthony Deloney, Nabin Dhimal, Wade Hopkins, Rebecca Descombes, Brandon Culbertson

MERC Commissioners: Danel Malan

CORE Liaisons: Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Mary Nolan

Metro staff: Raahi Reddy, Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Amy Trieu, Melissa Palavecino, Sabrina Catholina, Nathan Sykes, Marissa Madrigal, Holly Calhoun

Absent: Daniela Ortiz,

Welcome and Overview of the day

Public Comment

No Public comment was offered.

Metro Update

Raahi shared news of her departure.

Marissa the Metro COO discussed the transition plan. Marissa shared that they decide to go with an internal recruitment. The COO office and DEI Leadership feel that there is a talented pool of internal candidates that can fill this position. They also want CORE to participate in the hiring process.

Holly added that the process will begin early February. They will be building out the candidate profile and being clear about the specific priorities for this position. They will also be looking at how to get folks involved with the hiring process. Because it is an internal process the posting will be put out for two weeks.

Jamila opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Tristen strongly suggested to Marisa and Holly that through this process they leave room for the team to grieve, because this is a loss. He also mentioned that he was excited about it being an internal process. He also stated that they need have a lot of awareness, because they are looking for a DEI director. The process needs to be equitable, and transparent.

Wade expressed his sadness over the departure and shared his respect for Raahi's leadership and commitment to DEI work.

Danel shared that the last time CORE met in person, Raahi was running around making sure everyone was taken care of. She expressed her deep appreciation for Raahi and all the attention she has given to CORE.

Councilor Hwang shared his appreciation of his and Raahi's long history of working together both at Metro and externally. He shared that it was a bittersweet moment. And that he was excited for Raahi's new adventure. He ended by thanking Raahi for all she has done.

Rebecca read what she wrote in the chat which was: Raahi! We did not get to meet in person the whole three years I've been on here. I was so nervous when I applied to be a CORE member. I wasn't sure or familiar with what that meant, and you were so warm and welcoming and made my journey that much easier to participate, grow, and learn in this space. So excited for you and I wish you the very best!

Council Updates

Councilor Hwang first shared on the housing bond that voters past in 2018, the Portland housing bureau announce four additional projects that they are planning with the bond proceeds. This will add 267 new homes to the 1,587 new homes that have already been put into the pipeline. The housing bureau has now exceeded its goal of 1,475 new apartments. Region wide they are on course to house more than 14,000 people with the 2018 bond, which exceeds their goal of 12,000. So far more than 600 apartments are under construction and more than 500 have already been opened.

He also shared that today Council had the first reading of the UGB exchange that's been proposed. MPAC has heard the proposal for exchange on several occasions, this exchanges in response to a proposal from the City of Tiger, to add approximately 500 acres to the original boundary. The City's concept plan for River Terrace 2.0, will add approximately 3,000 to 4,500 homes, including little/middle housing options, exchanges have been used at elsewhere in the State to ensure that more land inside the urban growth boundary is ready for development. This is the first time that Metro has a look into it, the council has had conversations with local jurisdictions. They looked at properties in the former city of

Damascus and outside Oregon City to swamp out, in order to potentially swap the lands outside Tigard. They have been balancing the need for housing production across the region with the expectations of local jurisdictions and property owners.

Lastly, the 2023 investments in integration grants application cycle are now open. These grants support creative ideas to prevent and reduce waste, in the garbage and recycling system. It invests in local businesses, nonprofits, and colleges to support new ways, to decrease trash through waste intervention, repair, reuse, recycling and composting. There is 2 million dollars to award this year. There are program grants as well as temple grants. There will be a webinar on January 23rd and 24th, virtual office hours are available.

Committee Business & Updates

Jamila reminded the committee that Sabrina Owens-Wilson sent out an emailed about opportunities to sit the grant committees that Councilor Hwang just shared. She also mentioned that she sat on the Capital Investments Grant Committee last year. And if anyone had any question about the experience to reach out to her.

Approval of CORE meeting Calendar for 2023 and Minutes:

Wade motion to approve the CORE Calendar for 2023

Rebecca seconded

All were in favor

Minutes approval

October and November meeting Minutes

Wade motioned to approve minutes

Rebecca seconded

All approved

Jamila reminded the committee that they are currently recruiting new members. There are 7 seats available, 2 of which are being held for Clackamas county. Amy will be sending out the recruitment description to everyone along with some template language. Jamila encouraged committee members to help spread the word for this opportunity.

Danel shared that Milagro currently had an Eco drama about reforestation called *Semillas*. It is an original true Story. She offered to set aside tickets for any CORE member interested in going.

Tristen shared that his organization NTEN puts on a yearly conference, that brings together nonprofit professionals working in the technology field. He also shared that he is now in charge of scholarships for his organization and encourages folks who are interested to check out their web page on it.

WPES System Facilities Plan Phase 2 Update

Presenters: Estee Segal and Gloria Pinzon

Estee and Gloria walked through their presentation

Rebecca was curious about what kind of questions they received during their outreach and engagement. Especially around the hard to recycle items or any of the common questions that people were asking.

Gloria responded that many of the community members involved wanted to know about how the system worked in general and how service level was provided across the region. Each city or county within the Metro region decides on what services are provided in their jurisdiction. Because of this community members wanted to understand more about that. Other questions they heard were focused on organics and wanting to decrease food waste. More information and education around this area was a common theme.

Estee added that they were more in the listening mode during this outreach and engagement sessions. Community members did ask questions, but mostly they were responding to the questions Metro was putting before them.

Rebecca followed up by asking if the comments and information that the community gave them would be possible to implement in their areas?

Estee responded they are hopeful. The most important aspect of this phase was to gather needs and gaps from a hard data collection perspective. Then driving towards the idea of reducing waste and recovering more materials. Which have been codified in our values and outcomes from council. Estee also stated that the project team excited about trying to come up with central solutions, they will look where facilities are and where they should be in the future, as well as what sectors should Metro build and operate.

Danel commented that Milagros created a play for Metro years ago to address community trash and recycling, and they worked with various community programs to get it out to the communities. At the time they were huge gaps, places like Tigard that did not have recycling. And through those interviews, focus groups and the play many services did improved. She stated that she felt it was coming full circle and that it is happening all over

again. Anshe hopes that their program can be as in-depth as it was then, because from what she understands garbage and recycling at Metro is the most well-funded part. She also offered to look for script of that play and send it over to the project team.

Jamila asked if there was alignment with this project and the investment in innovations grants? Because they seem to be addressing similar things and could that program be used to address some of the gaps they are finding through this engagement.

Estee responded that yes, they are connected and the project lead that grant program is closely tied into their project. She believes that yes, the work coming out of those grants can move the needle on this work and that it already is. However, this project is looking more broadly and more closely at Metro's role and what is provided now, where Metro is trying to go with waste reduction and recovery. As well as trying to get clarity around what role Metro should play in facility development and operation in the future.

Rebecca shared a question in the chat that said, "Will you be going back or getting information back to the communities you have engaged with in the process to do a follow-up to their comments, input, and improvement list?"

Gloria responded that they sent a summary of all the input given back to the roundtable participants that they engaged with. they will also be meeting on an ongoing basis with the community advisory group until the project is complete. The next phase is where they will be implementing both the community input and the technical analysis.

Estee continued with the last part of the presentation which outlined the technical analysis.

Jamila asked about how they came to choose those two jurisdictions as case studies. And what elements of either of them made them feel like they would work in our region.

Este responded that they worked with consultants who did a scan, and they focused on more than just the two that were presented. They were interested in places that had a focus on waste reduction, increased recover in recycling, and that are driving towards a future of either zero waste or a circular economy. Because they heard from Councilors and Community that that is what Metro should be moving towards.

Wade commented that he did not have any questions because what was presented fits their past presentations, and that he did not see any shifts. He also sated that the depth of the project was very detailed and commendable.

Adjourned

