

MILWAUKIE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 10, 1982
5:15 p.m.

BASEMENT-CITY HALL

WORK SESSION

A work session of the Milwaukie City Council was held on June 10, 1982 with the following councilors present:

Mel Paulson	Roger Hall
Wallace Bischoff	Don Graf
Mayor Joy Burgess	

Also present:

Hugh Brown, City Manager
Topaz Faulkner, Comm. Services Director
Steve Hall, Public Works Director
Laurie Perkin, Secretary

City Manager reported on recent developments concerning transportation projects. There was a special meeting of JPACT (Joint Policy Alternatives Committee on Transportation) the task force which represents the various jurisdictions and makes the final decision on transportation funding. The meeting was held in response to the letter from the City of Milwaukie concerning light rail. He said that although there was not a great deal of urgency, he would like to see Council agree on some preferences, process to use in making a final decision, time schedule and method of contacting other jurisdictions.

Mayor Burgess reported on the meeting with Tri-Met on June 10, which she and Topaz Faulkner attended. Tri-Met has provided a draft report entitled "Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit: A Preliminary Analysis". The Mayor said that Tri-Met was very pro light rail and that if Council approved they would do further studies on light rail over a one or two year period. She expressed the desire to work with the Portland Council, Tri-Met, Metro, and ODOT as well as other jurisdictions to identify needs and make a decision on highway improvements. The Council discussed sending a letter to other jurisdictions initiating the process of deliberations. Topaz Faulkner pointed out that the Federal Register shows the date of September, 1983 as the time that the Secretary of Transportation has to have approved a plan for use of interstate transfer funds. She also indicated that the figures used by Tri-Met regarding savings incurred by use of light rail were very conservative, that in fact, savings were expected to be much higher than the report indicated.

Steve Hall, Public Works Director, spoke of the changes in the ODOT original proposal. Improvements included: leaving Milport intersection open, preservation of many businesses previously impacted, improved access to city.

The City Manager talked about the Citizens Committee for Milwaukie, the group coordinating efforts to pass the budget on June 29. There have been several coffees set up to talk to neighborhood groups. A letter will be going out to the community in support of the budget. The meeting recessed at 6:35.

The meeting reconvened at 6:47. in the Council Chambers. Jim McClure, Project Development Manager from ODOT introduced representatives from ODOT and reviewed concerns of City Council, city staff and businessmen regarding transportation improvements which had been expressed at an earlier meeting. It is the recommendation of ODOT that the city approve alternative 3, and that the project be completed in four stages, stage 1 being the construction of the Tacoma Street overpass. Bob Heard, representative from ODOT pointed out improvements over the original proposal. Among topics discussed were: river road access to McLoughlin, saving of sequoia trees, impact on businesses, intersecons along McLoughlin, signalization, 1 way grid, traffic flow. Mr. McClure said that ODOT would go before the Portland Council on June 29 and hoped for approval of Alternative 3. He said that the entire project would not have to be done but with approval, ODOT could go ahead and get the funding, completing their recommendation by the first of August with Federal approval by January or February.

William Lieberman, Project Development Manager from Tri-Met, went briefly through Tri-Met's report on the feasibility of light rail. The report described background conditions in the Southern Corridor and presented a light rail transit plan that could be implemented. The cost would be approximately 45 million excluding the cost of the Portland Traction Co. right-of-way. Possible funding sources were outlined in the report and there was discussion on methods of financing.

Doug Allen, Citizens for Better Transit, commented on the possible engineering conflicts between light rail transit and highway improvements which should be resolved before any decision is made. There was discussion on meeting schedules. Hall suggested further discussion on transportation at the June 15 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved:

Joy Burgess, Mayor

Laurie Perkin, Secretary