



## CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO Natural Resources Advisory Board Minutes

June 15, 2011

### **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Chair Doug Rich called the Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB) meeting of June 15, 2011 to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Yamhill Room of the West End Building, 4101 Kruse Way, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present:	Chair Doug Rich, Benjamin Clark, Craig Stephens, Kara Warner and Stephani Wax (Youth Member)
Members excused:	Vice Chair Denise Dailey, Martha Sharpe and Stephanie Wagner
Guest(s) present:	None
Council Liaison:	Bill Tierney
Staff:	Jordan Wheeler, Staff Liaison/Management Analyst; Jane Blackstone, Economic and Capital Development Department; Matt Brown, Williams, Dane & White (consultant)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Rich announced that Vice Chair Dailey was attending the PRAB meeting that evening.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** (None)

**MINUTES** (Deferred)

### **REVIEW OF COUNCIL ROLLING AGENDA**

The Board examined the Council schedule, and noted it included a water project update and annexation.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **Update: Foothills Framework Plan**

Jane Blackstone, Economic and Capital Development Department, and Matt Brown, Williams Dane & White, presented. Brown's firm was the development manager for Foothills industrial property owners.

The goal was to have a final concept framework plan for the Council to consider in September and existing conditions that could challenge redevelopment were being analyzed. A Citizens'

Advisory Committee was involved along with public workshops when the alternative concepts were ready to present.

The vision of Foothills is to connect the City to the river and the District to the City and the region. For the planning process, sustainability was a central tenant. The district was to be seen as a unique neighborhood as well as economically viable. When asked, Brown clarified that the underlying model would be one that had been successful in other places, but the design, feel and character of the district was to be unique.

He confirmed that existing conditions such as the floodplain, soil contamination, natural systems and sensitive areas were being identified and analyzed. Nothing in those reports presented a challenge that could not be overcome. "Garden variety" spot soil contamination could be cleaned up. That would be coordinated with the DEQ. It was feasible to fill the floodplain and build the streets, garages and first finished floors at least two feet above the 100 year or (higher) 1996 flood levels. Mitigation cuts would have to be made elsewhere. After redevelopment could begin it would be up to the property owners to decide whether and when to redevelop their properties.

Brown explained that the CAC preferred to put the streetcar on Foothills Road rather than in the Union Pacific alignment. They preferred to see the streetcar terminus closer to downtown and Lakeview Village. From a development perspective, an ideal location for a park and ride facility was next to the Willamette Steps and built into the hill. The streetscape would offer a nice pedestrian/bike environment. Brown explained that the planners had been looking at how the odor and aesthetics of the wastewater treatment plant might be improved.

Stephens suggested designing a smooth area next to the steps for bikes to use. He had seen that in Europe. One of the challenges was crossing State Street. Brown explained that the planners were working that out with ODOT. Board members wanted to know if an overpass or bridge was being considered. The planners had found the related standards would make that difficult.

The presenters planned to return to the board in the future to provide an update and review the draft Framework Plan. They asked what kind of information the members wanted them to provide. The group responded that they wanted to know:

- How will stormwater be managed?
- Would there be permeable surfaces, native plants, rain gardens and swales?
- How would the impacts on natural resources be mitigated?
- How would wildlife nesting areas and travel corridors be protected?
- Would open space be maintained without using toxins?
- They wanted to see a breakdown of acreage for residential, commercial and parks and open spaces uses.
- Would the streets and garages be high enough elevation to be out of higher flood levels in the future?

Brown clarified the presenters had not met with the SAB yet. He confirmed the planners were looking at how reclaimed water could be used and how energy and heat from the plant might benefit the district. He confirmed the planners would find out if PGE had any plans to relocate its substation. The public workshop was scheduled on July 14. The presenters left the meeting.

### **NRAB Orientation Meeting**

The Board members present generally agreed to incorporate a tutorial or seminar about a specific topic into each regular meeting agenda instead of holding a separate orientation meeting. Chair Rich saw the objective as providing old and new members with useful knowledge that brought them all up to speed on natural resources issues and ensured they all had a common frame of reference. That would make the NRAB more effective in advising the Council. During the discussion it was suggested that the Board list the top ten issues the City faced and update the list every six months. They noted the Liaison List needed to be updated. They generally agreed to the suggestion to invite water quality and stormwater staff to talk about the watershed. They would invite Bill Gaar to update them on the Comprehensive Plan update. Councilor Tierney encouraged them to learn about the parks master planning process because it would apply to natural areas. He noted the Board could weigh in on the conflict between the tree code and solar access code. It could weigh in on whether there should be a part-time watershed coordinator. He noted those all related to existing NRAB goals. No formal vote was conducted for lack of a quorum.

### **Update: City Budget**

Wheeler reported the Budget Committee had not approved a motion to fund the natural resource program components Council Resolution 1051A called for and the staff recommended. But the Council was going to consider adding \$127,000 to the budget for those programs during a public hearing the following Tuesday, June 21. The package would expand the contract arborist's duties; fund a watershed coordinator; and fund the backyard habitat program. Chair Rich encouraged Board members to each submit advocating emails prior to the Council hearing.

### **Update: UGB Boundary Expansion**

This discussion was deferred.

### **Iron Mountain Staging Area Restoration**

Chair Rich had drafted and circulated a memorandum based on Mike Buck's presentation at the previous NRAB meeting. Buck had asked the NRAB to advocate that the construction staging area for the LOIS project in Iron Mountain Park be restored after the Lake Oswego – Tigar water project was complete. In the interim, the area should be protected. Wheeler advised the Board to act before the final erosion inspection was done. He reported he had talked with the LOIS project manager. He confirmed the site was within the park. The Board members changed bullet point #5 in the recommendation to call for restoring and enhancing the area to

a better natural state than it was prior to its use as a staging area. Chair Rich planned to make the change and recirculate the draft for comments and then submit it.

### **NRAB Council Advisory Role – Notice of Issues and Process**

The Board members discussed how to be more proactive than reactive. Councilor Tierney and Wheeler planned to keep them abreast of issues. The NRAB would receive Council agendas. The Board would invite Bill Gaar to update them on the Comprehensive Plan update process. They were attending PRAB meetings and planned to update the liaisons list.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting was scheduled on July 20, 2011. There being no further business Chair Rich adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Wheeler  
Staff Liaison

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