

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF WORKSHOP DINNER MEETING

Monday, June 14, 2010
6:00 p.m.

Conference Room C-104 - Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue N.

PRESENT: Mayor Keith McGlashan, Deputy Mayor Will Hall, and Councilmembers Chris Eggen, Chris Roberts, Terry Scott, and Shari Tracey

ABSENT: Councilmember McConnell

STAFF: Bob Olander, City Manager; Julie Underwood, Assistant City Manager; Scott MacColl, Intergovernmental Relations Manager; Dan Eernessee, Economic Development Program Manager; Scott Passey, City Clerk

GUESTS: Bill Bryant, Commissioner, Port of Seattle; Charla Skaggs, Corporate Media Officer, Port of Seattle

At 6:11 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Mayor McGlashan, who presided. There were introductions around the table.

Bill Bryant, Port of Seattle Commissioner, discussed the reforms that have taken place at the Port of Seattle since the 2008 election following the negative audit report the Port received. He described the measures taken to change the system of oversight and adopt a single procurement process, which has transformed the way the Port does business. He noted efforts to cut the budget by 10 percent using a zero-based budgeting approach, pointing out that the Port is now self-sufficient and no longer relies on tax revenues for operations. He commented that the Port of Seattle is the fastest-growing seaport on the west coast in terms of cargo, and that each of the 223 cruise ships that make calls in Seattle this year will bring in an average of \$1.9 million in local revenue. He noted that the airport traffic is down 3% and concessions are down 10%, but these statistics are much better than other U.S. airports. He noted that a \$70 million project was suspended due to the bond market, but the Port is in a much better financial position now. He then discussed unfunded mandates, liability of the Superfund cleanup along the Duwamish, and funding for the tunnel. He said while the Port is not paying for the tunnel, it is funding new improved connections in the south end and connections to Mercer Street. He concluded by describing the Port's aggressive environmental program and commitment to sustainability. He distributed a portfolio regarding the Port's environmental programs.

Responding to Councilmember Eggen regarding the Port's interaction with unions, Mr. Bryant explained that the Port maintains good relations with the unions, as there are 23 bargaining units at the Port. He commented that the unions went along with unpaid furloughs, and while there is some tension with the Teamsters regarding the trucking program, relations

are stable. He noted that they have an apprenticeship program which is funded through contracts. Mr. Bryant continued providing information on the Port, noting that Microsoft, Boeing, and the Port of Seattle are the three major economic development contributors to the region. He said the Commission considered the idea of splitting up large contracts into smaller contracts so that smaller contractors could compete in the bidding process. He commented that \$73.5 million of the Port's budget is funded by the King County capital budget (property taxes), and \$40 million of this amount is debt service for prior projects.

Councilmember Eggen commented on the lack of a Port representative on the Regional Transit Task Force. Councilmember Scott wondered how the Port advertises small contracts, to which Mr. Bryant responded that like the Seattle Public Schools system, which teaches people how to compete, the Port does the same thing. He added that the Office of Social Responsibility is working to advertise the Port's interest in working with contractors. There was brief discussion about airplane plug-ins and the Port's online environmental report.

Mayor McGlashan asked about the level of regionalism and competition in the area, to which Mr. Bryant responded that there is a joint transportation strategy and a single set of priorities that includes the whole state; therefore, the Port is taking a regional approach.

There was brief discussion about airport wifi service and connectivity issues. Mr. Bryant noted that the Port has no official position on Paine Field; however, it is starting a new strategic plan in collaboration with Tacoma with the goal of making SeaTac Airport more efficient. It was noted that the Port cannot make a connection from the light rail station to the airport. Mr. Bryant commented on the Port's infrastructure needs, noting that replacement of the escalators and elevators at the airport is budgeted at \$70 million.

At 7:00 p.m., the discussion shifted to the topic of Council Check-in. Councilmember Tracey arrived at 7:05 p.m. There was discussion about the dedication date for Cromwell Park and about meeting agendas, length of meetings, setup configuration for study sessions, and the passionate yet respectful public comment at last week's meeting. The Council discussed the role that public comment plays in Council meetings and the need to avoid questioning motives. It was noted that most public comment at the last Council meeting focused on issues, not on political posturing. There was Council consensus to direct staff to bring back a proposal to make Council meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. for both Study Sessions and Business Meetings. Mr. Olander expressed his appreciation for getting Council questions early, and Ms. Underwood thanked the Council for its commitment to receiving materials electronically rather than paper copies. It was noted that posting PDF files created in MS Word would make it more convenient for Councilmembers to use "copy and paste" when forwarding questions to staff.

The Council meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Scott Passey, City Clerk