

CITY OF BELLEVUE  
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Study Session

November 19, 2007  
6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room  
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Degginger, Deputy Mayor Chelminiak, and Councilmembers Balducci, Davidson, Lee, Marshall and Noble

ABSENT: None.

1. Executive Session

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m., with Mayor Degginger presiding. There was no Executive Session.

2. Study Session

(a) Joint Meeting with Redmond City Council

Mayor Degginger welcomed Mayor Rosemarie Ives and the Redmond City Council:

Council President Nancy McCormick  
Council Vice President Pat Vache  
Councilmember Kimberly Allen  
Councilmember Richard Cole  
Councilmember and Mayor-Elect John Marchione  
Councilmember Hank Myers  
Councilmember Jim Robinson  
Councilmember-Elect David Carson  
Councilmember-Elect Hank Margeson

Mr. Degginger stated that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the annual reconciliation of the Bel-Red Overlake Transportation Study (BROTS) interlocal agreement between Bellevue and Redmond. The agreement coordinates land use and capital facilities planning and implementation in the Overlake area. Mr. Degginger noted that both cities currently have significant planning efforts underway affecting the Overlake area and the Bel-Red corridor.

Mayor Ives spoke to the cities' shared interests and goals related to development and transportation infrastructure. She thanked Bellevue elected officials and staff for working with Redmond over the 20 years she has served with the city, and noted opportunities for positive outcomes from joint planning.

(1) Planning Studies and Activities

Redmond Planning and Community Development Director Rob Odle briefly reviewed the history of the two cities working together, beginning with planning for the Evergreen Highlands area approximately 30 years ago. He explained that the purpose of tonight's meeting is to learn about planning efforts by both cities, and to design the next phase of the BROTS agreement.

Bellevue Planning Director Dan Stroh noted that staff will provide an update on planning studies, review draft framework principles for a BROTS successor agreement, and review principles for interjurisdictional projects.

Kevin O'Neill, Transportation Long-Range Planning Manager (Bellevue), noted that one objective of both cities is to plan for the future implementation of light rail to Bellevue and Redmond. As part of the planning process, a Council-appointed Steering Committee began meeting in October 2005 and completed its work this September. The Steering Committee's recommendations were presented to the Bellevue City Council during the September 24 Extended Study Session.

Mr. O'Neill said that the elements addressed in the Steering Committee's recommendation are a vision statement, development program, preferred alternative map, transportation components, a strategy for traditional light industrial uses, a strategy for service uses, parks and open space components, housing, and building heights. Public outreach activities throughout the process have included five community meetings, 10 outreach events with the business community and property owners, and 25 meetings with the City Council, Boards, and Commissions.

Lori Peckol, Policy Planning Manager (Redmond), explained that Redmond's Overlake study area covers 1,300 acres across three subareas – employment, residential, and Overlake Village. The purpose of the study is to extend planning to 2030 and to determine both public and private investments that will help realize the city's vision for the area. Redmond's two-year process has encouraged public participation through focus group and stakeholder meetings, newsletters, and public workshops and open houses. The study assessed existing conditions and the residential market, and provided economic analysis. A draft EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) was issued in March 2007 and a Supplemental EIS was issued in August. Updates have been provided to the City Council, Boards, Commissions, and coordinating agencies including the City of Bellevue.

Earlier this year, the Redmond Planning Commission recommended a preferred alternative that envisions Overlake Village as a mixed use, residential neighborhood with 152<sup>nd</sup> as the neighborhood core. The Planning Commission supports growth in jobs and multifamily

development as well as a multi-modal transportation system. The preferred alternative envisions the addition of 5,800 housing units and 4.5 million square feet of office and retail space.

Ms. Peckol reviewed the Overlake Neighborhood Plan update process. Phase 1 is underway and includes the development of a master plan and implementation strategy. Joint work in support of the BROTS successor agreement will continue into 2008, and Phase 2 in 2008 will involve functional plan updates, an impact fee update, and SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act) activities. Redmond is striving to create an urban community with strong transportation connections, employment, and parks and open spaces.

Responding to Councilmember Noble, Ms. Peckol said Redmond requires that 10 percent of any new housing be affordable to households earning 80 percent or less of the King County median.

Staff responded to additional questions of clarification.

## (2) BROTS Framework Principles

Mr. Stroh reviewed the draft Framework for a Bellevue-Redmond Successor Agreement [Page SS 2-5 of the meeting packet]. Principles outlined in the draft framework document include cooperative planning for growth and development and joint advocacy for regional, state and federal investments in support of BROTS projects. The growth caps specified in the current BROTS agreement apply through 2012, unless superseded by the successor agreement. Additional topics addressed by the principles are the identification of growth and development impacts, mitigation strategies, funding strategies, periodic review of project implementation, and the term length of the successor agreement.

Staff responded to questions of clarification.

Both City Councils are in favor of continuing with annual meetings for updates on projects and the overall process.

Deputy Mayor Chelminiak said it will be necessary to work with Sound Transit and Metro in order to achieve the needed transportation mode splits.

Council Vice President Vache suggested prioritizing transportation facilities/projects based on their overall impact.

Mr. Stroh concluded by explaining that both Councils will be asked to adopt the principles, as amended, in a future Resolution.

## (3) BROTS Transportation Projects

Goran Sparrman, Bellevue Transportation Director, and Don Cairns, Redmond Public Works and Transportation Manager, described project planning and concepts for transportation investments.

Mr. Sparrman acknowledged concerns regarding traffic impacts in East Bellevue. Key trends reflected in 2030 forecasting are shorter trip lengths and increased traffic volumes. Mr. Sparrman said the City of Bellevue is not planning to increase general purpose capacity in East Bellevue. Instead the focus is on carpools, vanpools, and transit, as well as continued traffic calming measures in neighborhoods. Project concepts under consideration include transit signal priority at key locations and shorter lane segments to allow buses to bypass congestion points. Bellevue would also like to provide a continuous non-motorized system in East Bellevue for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Mr. Cairns highlighted three projects proposed by Redmond for incorporation into the successor BROTS agreement: 1) Slip ramp at 148<sup>th</sup> Avenue and SR 520, 2) Expansion of intersection at NE 24<sup>th</sup> Street and 148<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 3) Improvements along Bel-Red Road and West Lake Sammamish Parkway between NE 30<sup>th</sup> Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Street.

Staff responded to brief questions of clarification.

Responding to Councilmember Davidson, Mr. Sparrman said Bellevue is not planning any capacity improvements or extra lanes for West Lake Sammamish Parkway.

#### (4) Next Steps

Mr. Odle said staff will revise the draft framework principles based on tonight's discussion. Mr. Stroh said a joint resolution will be brought before the Councils within the next few weeks. The draft resolution is provided in tonight's meeting packet.

Councilmembers expressed their commitment to continue to work together.

Mayor Degginger commended Mayor Ives for her 20 years of service with the City of Redmond – four years as a Councilmember and 16 years as Mayor. He thanked Mr. Robinson for his 16 years on the Redmond City Council and for his regional leadership in Eastside transportation issues.

At 7:47 p.m., Mayor Degginger declared recess to the Regular Session.

Myrna L. Basich  
City Clerk

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