

# Willamette Falls

## ◦ LEGACY PROJECT ◦

### PARTNERS GROUP SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

July 26, 2018

*Council Chambers*

*Metro Regional Center*

*600 NE Grand Ave.*

*Portland, OR 97232*

*9:30 – 10 A.M.*

#### Partner Attendees

**Oregon City:** Commissioner Renate Mengelberg\*, City Manager Tony Konkol

**Metro:** Councilor Betty Dominguez, Metro COO Martha Bennett

**County:** Commissioner Paul Savas\*, County Administrator Don Krupp\*, Commissioner Martha Schrader\*

**State:** State Parks Deputy Director M.G. Devereux\*, Representative Mark Meek\*

**Absent:** Senator Alan Olsen  
Metro Council President Tom Hughes  
Mayor Dan Holladay

**Staff:** Brian Moore, Hope Whitney, Melanie Reinert, Jonathan Blasher, Ramona Perrault, Roger Gonzales, Gary Shepherd, Carrie Belding (Metro); Kristin Brown, Phil Lewis (Oregon City); John Southgate (Clackamas County)

**Public:** Mini Sharma-Ogle (PGE), Andrew Mason and Alexis Ingram (RTF), George Heidgerken and Betsy Heidgerken (Falls Legacy LLC), representatives from Representative Kurt Schrader's office, and others

*\*on conference call*

**The Willamette Falls Legacy Project Partners special session was called to order by meeting Chair, Metro Councilor Betty Dominguez, at 9:30 a.m. The special session followed an executive session for the purpose of discussing a confidential real estate transaction, pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e), which allows the Partners to meet in executive session for this purpose.**

**The Partners and meeting observers introduced themselves at the Chair's request.**

**Project Manager Brian Moore of Metro shared project updates:**

- At the last Partners Group meeting, staff announced they had submitted the Joint Permit Application (JPA) to the Army Corps of Engineers.
  - Army Corps has had a chance to review the application and has provided feedback.
  - The project team is looking to advance the designs to move forward on the application.

- We have good news that they have approved the portion of the application that allows the Corps to advance the Section 106 process.
- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation will all be notified of the permits being processed and will be approached for consultation by the Army Corps.
- Section 106 will take ten months to a year to get through and then project staff will work with owner George Heidgerken towards the outcome of this process: signing the agreement that will come out of the Section 106 permit.
- This is a major update for the project.
- Rediscover the Falls (RTF), the WFLP friends group, has a new Executive Director and has hired their first additional staff member.
  - They are working on development of fundraising to help fund Phase 1 and future phases of the riverwalk.
  - The team is excited to have them on board.
  - RTF held their annual Board retreat to make sure their “ship is pointed in the right direction,” and Brian M. was encouraged by their discussion.
  - The Partners will see a new and updated agreement with RTF for the next year.
- City Manager, Tony Konkol requested an update on recent meetings with CDFA.
  - Brian M. explained group that the Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is a group financed through the EPA (federal).
    - They work with projects that have received EPA grant money to help with public financing and infrastructure on brownfield sites.
  - CDFA consultants visited the site and spoke with project staff and stakeholders in Oregon City and at Metro this month.
  - They reviewed designs and brownfield data and looked at infrastructure proposed.
  - CDFA representatives were impressed with the project and are looking forward to giving a report to lay out public financing strategies and options to fund improvements to Main Street.
  - Brian M. felt it was a good meeting and noted that this consultation was a free service to projects in receipt of EPA grant money.
- There were no round table updates from the Partners Group members present.

**Chair Councilor Dominguez thanked everyone for attending and calling in and adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.**