

Mark Rosenbaum
Commission Chair

May 14, 2007

Bertha Ferrán
Commissioner

Dear Work Group Member:

Subject: Budget Work Group Phase II: River District Expansion Recommendation

Sal Kadri
Commissioner

Thank you for your willingness to continue to serve on the Budget Work Group as it moves into its second phase as an ad hoc policy forum. Your time is very much appreciated and the task is important in addressing the future of urban renewal and achieving policy objectives for the citizens of Portland. As was discussed in the last meeting, the Budget Work Group will be augmented by the addition of a Multnomah County Commissioner and a Portland Planning Commissioner.

John C. Mohlis
Commissioner

Charles A. Wilhoite
Commissioner

The Work Group's Phase II focus will be to serve as the recommending body to the PDC Commission for a 61-acre expansion of the River District Urban Renewal Area (River District), as well as consider increasing the maximum indebtedness, which will likely be reached in 2010. Following your work and after consulting with impacted taxing jurisdictions, particularly Multnomah County and Portland Public Schools, the PDC Commission will forward a recommended plan amendment to the Planning Commission for final action by the Portland City Council. We hope these actions will occur in January/February 2008.

Tom Potter
Mayor

Bruce A. Warner
Executive Director

The idea of an amendment came from a 2004 Central City Urban Renewal Area Study which recommended that parts of Old Town/Chinatown (OT/CT) in the Downtown Waterfront Urban Renewal Area (DTWF) be transferred to the River District. This was as a result of lack of funding and "expiration" of Downtown Waterfront. Now in 2007, it is clear both DTWF and the South Park Blocks Urban Renewal Area (SPB) will both no longer be able to issue debt after March 2010. Given this dynamic, I expect your group will hear from the community about a number of unfunded priorities throughout the downtown which citizens feel should warrant inclusion into an expanded River District. Your key task will be to weigh the compelling and competing priorities and recommend which areas should be added to River District.

www.pdc.us

222 Northwest
Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR
97209-3859

tel: 503.823.3200

fax: 503.823.3368

TTY: 503.823.3366

The tentative schedule includes monthly meetings beginning May 22, 2007 where City CFO Ken Rust and City Bond Councilor Harvey Rogers will provide an financial and technical overview of urban renewal. At your second meeting, on June 26, PDC staff will provide a policy overview of achievements, goals, and future objectives of River District, DTWF and SPB urban renewal areas.



Budget Work Group
May 14, 2007
Page 2 of 2

July through September meetings will involve a series of panel discussions with stakeholders to coalesce potential alternatives while still allowing time for testimony from the public at large. The public meetings from October through December will focus on deliberations, public comment and ultimately final recommendations. In January and February, 2008 public hearings will occur as any amendments go before the PDC Commission, Planning Commission and City Council. Also included in this packet are summaries of the three downtown urban renewal areas and maps of the areas in question.

I look forward to working with you and to the results of your efforts. Thank you again for your service on this important task.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce A. Warner", written over a horizontal line.

Bruce A. Warner
Executive Director

RCA

Enclosures (3)