I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sal Kadri (acting in the absence of Commissioner Rosenbaum) called the meeting to order at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Renee Castilla acting as Recording Secretary for the Board meeting, called the Commission roll:

Commissioner Mark Rosenbaum  ABSENT
Commissioner Bertha Ferran  PRESENT
Commissioner Sal Kadri  PRESENT
Commissioner John Mohlis  PRESENT
Commissioner Charles Wilhoite  PRESENT

II. MEETING MINUTES

Chair Kadri asked if there were any corrections to the November 14, 2007 draft meeting minutes. As there were none, he asked for a motion to adopt the meeting minutes as presented.

Commissioner Wilhoite moved and Commissioner Ferran seconded the motion to adopt the meeting minutes of November 14, 2007 as presented.

AYES:  Ferran, Kadri, Mohlis, Wilhoite
NAYS:  None

III. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Mohlis stated he toured the Portland Youth Center and learned of the different experiences they have had and the job sites they have worked on. While at the Portland Youth Center, he also attended the Lents Urban Renewal Area Committee as it was held there. He expressed he appreciate to PDC staff for a great meeting. He also said he attended the Oregon Leadership Summit at the Oregon Convention Center.

Commissioner Ferran stated she had met with officials from Wells Fargo regarding home ownership and affordable housing opportunities with the properties the Housing Authority of Portland will be releasing from their portfolio within the next two years.

Commissioner Wilhoite stated Urban Renewal Advisory Group has been moving closer to a decision regarding River District. He said the next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2008.

Chair Kadri stated he also met with HAP in order to ensure the HAP housing is selling into the hands of first time homebuyers at a reasonable price.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director, Bruce Warner presented Report No. 08-01. He highlighted the following:
• The City Auditor released the annual Service Efforts and Accomplishments report in December. This is the 17th annual report on city government performance and the second year PDC performance statistics have been represented in the report. More than 30 measures of PDC’s work are included in the report. This past fiscal year, significant trends include:
  o The value of property in urban renewal areas has grown far faster than property outside of URAs. Overall, property values inside URAs grew 24 percent, compared to 3 percent for Portland property outside URAs.
  o In the past six years, PDC has assisted 230 businesses. It is estimated that PDC’s funding helped create or retain 12,000 jobs. Eighty four percent of the businesses assisted employed less than 50 people.
  o PDC estimates that 81 percent of businesses assisted five years ago are still in business today.
  o Although Census data show that housing affordability is increasingly a problem in Portland, PDC has made steady progress in assisting low-income rental and owner housing. Over the past ten years, PDC has provided loans and grants that assisted about 6,500 rental units and 1,800 owner occupied units. (These numbers include new construction, rehabilitation and home buying assistance. These numbers do not include other PDC housing incentives such as tax abatements and Systems Development Charge waivers.)
  o Over the past six years, PDC and City programs have assisted more than 11,600 housing units. This number represents 58 percent of the City’s 2011 goal of 20,000 units.

• Some challenges for PDC were noted by the Auditor and these are things we will be working on:
  o First time home buyer assistance lags behind our 2011 goal.
  o Direct PDC financial assistance to existing home owners for home repair has decreased over the past years.
  o Last year, there was a dip in the number of jobs assisted by PDC business programs. This dip results from a pronounced focus on smaller business in Fiscal Year 2006-07.

• Staff has responded enthusiastically to the Mayor’s call for support for Jefferson High School. As you may know, Mayor Potter will be conducting all his City Hall business from the high school on January 16 & 17. He has asked city staff members to consider volunteering at the school, providing alumni support, or has asked staff to talk with students about their city jobs.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Harold Harrison, Harolds BBQ, expressed his thanks to the Commission and PDC staff for their support of his restaurant and their willingness to invest in his company. He recommended PDC invest in a Resource Specialist, an FTE that has the expert knowledge who could specialize in assisting business owners with their needs.

The Commissioners and Executive Director Bruce Warner acknowledged his comments and the good food they enjoyed at Mr. Harrison’s restaurant. They encouraged him to try again.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA
Commissioner Wilhoite moved and Mohlis seconded the motion to adopt the consent agenda. The motion passed.

Resolution No. 6550, titled, “Revised and Restated Development Agreement with 1201 Building LLC for One Waterfront.”

VII. CONVENE TAX SUPERVISING CONSERVATION COMMISSION (TSCC) PUBLIC HEARING ON PDC BUDGET

Questions and answers attached.

VIII. FY 2007/08 BUDGET AMENDMENT NUMBER 1

Ms. Julie Cody and Mr. Tony Barnes presented Report No. 08-03, titled, “FY 2007/08 Budget Amendment Number 1”.

Mr. Barnes stated this action will formally amend the current fiscal year (FY) 2007-08 Adopted Budget for the first time this year. This recommended budget amendment recognizes actual audited beginning fund balances as of July 1, 2007 and adds or decreases prior appropriations for projects and programs based on revised project timelines. This budget amendment also makes adjustments to account for organizational shifts that occurred between departments in June, 2007 that could not be incorporated into the FY 2007-08 Adopted Budget. Finally, this budget amendment effects a reallocation of housing funds to homeownership categories in several urban renewal areas.

In sum, FY 2007-08 Budget Amendment No. 1 (Budget Amendment #1) increases the total PDC budget from $316,068,287 in the FY 2007-08 Adopted Budget to $320,778,947 including Transfers, Contingency and Reserves. Excluding Transfers, Contingency and Reserves total budgeted expenditures are increased from $245,027,009 to $259,984,267. Attachment A summarizes the recommended changes to be made to the FY 2007-08 Approved Budget pursuant to Budget Amendment #1.

After discussion among the Commissioners and PDC staff, Chair Kadri called for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 6528.

Commissioner Ferran moved and Commissioner Wilhoite seconded the motion to adopt the FY 2007/08 Budget Amendment No. 1. The motion passed.

IX. RIVER DISTRICT HOUSING IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Ms. Leah Greenwood presented Report No. 08-05, titled, “River District Housing Implementation Update”.

She stated PDC is currently in the process of updating the River District Housing Implementation Strategy originally adopted on June 16, 1999. The 1999 River District Housing Implementation Strategy was requested by the Portland City Council. Because the 1999 strategy was initiated and approved by the City of Portland, it is appropriate to inform the City of our intentions to update The River District Housing Implementation Strategy.

She said PDC staff wanted the Commission and the City Council to know that they are updating the 1999 River District Housing Implementation Strategy before we return in the Spring of 2008 with a final draft. The 2007 River District Housing Report shows the River District Plan Area has exceeded the 1999 River District Housing Implementation Strategy (1999 Strategy) goal of 5,000 additional housing units by 2,408 units (7,408 total). The update will recommend new
housing production unit targets based on the development capacity of the River District Planning Area, analyze current housing development strategies and recommend new strategies for implementing current adopted City housing policy.

She said new strategies will aim to achieve a mix of housing that is affordable to the income distribution of the City and support adopted City policies and initiatives including:

- Central City No-Net-Loss,
- Closing the Minority Homeownership Gap
- The Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness
- Schools-Families-Housing Initiative
- Tax Increment Financing for Affordable Housing

The completed River District Housing Strategy update will be presented to the Board and the City Council for approval and will be used as a policy document to guide the next twelve years of housing development in the River District Plan Area.

X. NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS CAPITAL GRANT


Councilor Liberty stated in November 2006 voters approved a $227.4 million bond measure that protects natural areas throughout the region, safeguarding water quality, preserving fish and wildlife habitat, and maintaining the area’s quality of life. To inspire innovative ways to enhance ecological functions and increase the presence of nature where people live and work, $15 million of these bond funds were directed to a new capital grants program. The Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants program will fund projects that purchase land (or easements) for public ownership or fund capital improvements on publicly owned land. Neighborhoods and community groups, nonprofit organizations, schools, cities, counties and public park providers are invited to apply for the grants.

He said projects must either purchase land or make improvements to real property that result in a capital asset with a life of at least 20 years and with a total value of at least $50,000. The applicant must also match grant funds with outside financing or in-kind services equivalent to twice the grant request.

XI. BRIEFING ON FINANCIAL ALTERNATIVES TO TAX INCREMENT FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS PDC TYPICALLY FINANCES

Mr. Keith Witcosky, Mr. Dan Bates and Mr. Ken Rust presented Report No. 08-07, titled, “Briefing on financial alternatives to tax increment for capital projects PDC typically finances.”

Mr. Rust, Chief Financial Officer, City of Portland and Mr. Bates, Director of Government Relations, City of Portland, provided a brief presentation on the tools the City of Portland has as it’s to fund capital projects, such as General Obligation Bonds, Local Improvement Districts, and other methods. They highlighted other methods included both state and federal dollars as well.

After brief discussion among the Commissioners and staff, Chair Kadri thanked Mr. Rust and Mr. Bates for their time.
XII. NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING PROGRAM HOME BUYING ASSISTANCE TOOLS

Ms. Shelly Haack and Mr. Javier Mena presented Report No. 08-06, titled, “Neighborhood Housing Program Home Buying Assistance Tools”.

Ms. Haack stated in September 2007, the Board provided direction regarding homeownership assistance tools available through PDC. Three key components were identified at this meeting:

- Eliminate the Shared Appreciation Mortgage program and replace it with a more traditional interest bearing, deferred payment second mortgage product
- Provide an opportunity for wealth creation
- Make the tools accessible to lending partners

She said this resolution adopts updated financial assistance guidelines for the Neighborhood Housing Program (NHP) to implement these changes.

After discussion among the Commissioners and PDC staff, Chair Kadri called for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 6529.

Commissioner Ferran moved and Commissioner Wilhoite seconded the motion to adopt the Neighborhood Housing Program Home Buying Assistance Tools. The motion Passed.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Kadri adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved by the Portland Development Commission on February 27, 2008.

Renee A Castilla, Recording Secretary