



**METRO COUNCIL MEETING**  
Meeting Minutes  
June 30, 2016  
Willamette View, Main Auditorium

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes, and Councilors Shirley Craddick, Craig Dirksen, Carlotta Collette, Sam Chase, Kathryn Harrington, and Bob Stacey

Councilors Excused: None

1. Council President Tom Hughes called the regular Council meeting to order at 1:06 pm.

Council President Hughes thanked Willamette View for hosting the meeting, and noted the importance of preserving natural areas for future generations. He briefly discussed the history of Metro's efforts to build a regional network of parks, trails and natural areas in a fast-growing urban environment, and expressed his appreciation for the support received from partners around the region.

Councilor Collette spoke to the engagement by the Willamette View community, and emphasized the meeting's importance as a milestone for the Parks and Nature department. She also highlighted several Metro parks and projects surrounding the Willamette View campus, and invited Mr. Phil Mirkes, Vice Chair of the Willamette View Resident Council, Ms. Eleanor Hunter, Vice Chair of the Oak Grove Community Council, and Mr. Mark Gamba, Mayor of Milwaukie, to speak.

Mr. Mirkes welcomed Councilor to Willamette View and discussed the responsibilities and work of the Resident Council. He also spoke to Metro's involvement in recycling and shared some of the work done by the Willamette View Green Team.

Ms. Hunter spoke to the benefits that the Oak Grove community has gained from its partnership with Metro, and thanked Metro staff for their support and work.

Mr. Gamba thanked Metro for their partnership and support, and discussed several current restoration projects in Clackamas County. He recognized Metro for leading those projects, and highlighted Metro's support for funding ecological education and community organizations.

2. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Charles B. Ormsby, Portland: Mr. Ormsby discussed an upcoming project that will result in the closer of Terwilliger Boulevard, urged Council to consider funding a plan to do emergency response on the rail lines along the Willamette River, and discussed the Interstate 205 river crossing.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion:	Councilor Craig Dirksen moved to adopt items on the consent agenda.
Second:	Councilor Shirley Craddick seconded the motion.

Vote:	Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Dirksen, Chase, Collette, Harrington, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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**4. RESOLUTIONS**

**4.1 Resolution No. 16-4723, For the Purpose of Approving the 2016 Nature in Neighborhoods Conservation Education Community Grants**

Motion:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Resolution No. 16-4723.
Second:	Councilor Carlotta Collette seconded the motion.

Council President Hughes called on Ms. Heather Nelson Kent, Metro staff, for a presentation. Ms. Nelson Kent discussed the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion lens used by Parks and Nature staff during their funding of grant proposals, and highlighted the program’s focus on the need to develop new and diverse leaders in conservation for the future. She introduced Ms. Sarah Trinkle, development director of Momentum Alliance, Ms. Vanessa Dominguez, co-executive director of Momentum Alliance, Mr. Henry Hays-Wehle, Northwest Youth Corps Field Coordinator and Crew Leader, and Ms. Jessica Rojas, grant review committee member.

Ms. Trinkle discussed the success of the Opportunity Corps partnership between Momentum Alliance and Northwest Youth Corps, and noted that Metro’s grant funds helped improve the recruitment and retention of underrepresented youth in the Northwest Youth Corps summer programs.

Ms. Dominguez thanked Metro for their enduring support, and noted the opportunities to offer stipends for underrepresented youth to receive job training opportunities, and for the Momentum Alliance to share with youth in the Northwest Youth Corps strategies for success in the environment justice and conservation fields. She spoke to the success of the summer internship program, noted the diversity of the most recent group, and highlighted the 100% completion rate. She thanked Metro for their grant funds, which allowed the program to integrate the provision of food, transportation, work clothes, and an orientation camp into the program.

Mr. Hays-Wehle spoke to the program’s opportunity to expand the understanding of conservation and the natural world for people of all backgrounds, and noted that the partnership between Momentum Alliance and Northwest Youth Corps is so successful in part because of the shared emphasis on the empowerment of underrepresented youth. He emphasized the rigorous conservation work put in by the crew, and reviewed several of the recently completed conservation and trail projects.

Ms. Nelson Kent reviewed each of the projects recommended for funding, noting the importance of funding applications who identified Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work as an objective, and thanked applicants, Metro staff, and review committee members for their work.

Ms. Rojas provided a brief review of the grants that were awarded this year, discussed the application review process, and thanked the review committee members and partners for their work.

**Council discussion:**

Councilors thanked Metro staff, partners, grantees, applicants, and community members for their support of Parks and Nature work, and emphasized the importance of renewing the Natural Areas levy to continue funding the grant program. Collette spoke to the grant program's emphasis on people and partnerships, not just the work being done, and Councilor Chase added that the grant program was made possible by the community's support for the Natural Areas levy. Councilor Craddick spoke to the progress that has been made and the geography of funds being distributed, Councilor Stacey thanked the community for allowing Metro to invest in natural area restoration and highlighted the Parks and Nature staff's integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work into their plans. Councilor Dirksen acknowledged the increasing stress on the environment due to urbanization, and spoke to the opportunity to educate new generations to protect natural areas in the future. Council President Hughes thanked Metro staff for the improvement of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and environmental work throughout the region.

Vote:

Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Dirksen, Chase, Collette, Harrington, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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4.2 **Resolution No. 16-4690**, For the Purpose of Referring to the Voters of the Metro Area Renewal of Metro's Local Option Levy for Protecting Water Quality, Restoring Fish and Wildlife Habitat; and Connecting People to Nature

Motion:	Councilor Carlotta Collette moved to approve Resolution No. 16-4690.
Second:	Councilor Shirley Craddick seconded the motion.

Council President Hughes called on Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Metro's director of Parks and Nature, for a presentation. Ms. Brennan-Hunter thanked Willamette View for hosting the Council meeting, and thanked grantees for attending. She spoke to Metro's opportunity to manage such a unique park system, and briefly discussed the recently adopted Parks and Nature System Plan, highlighting the plan's mission to renew the Natural Areas levy. She reviewed the grant program's funding distribution, and briefly walked through the major program areas, including restoration and maintenance, regional parks operations, public access improvements, and community grants and partnerships. She highlighted the plan's emphasis on serving and educating underrepresented communities, and the integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work.

Council President Hughes opened the floor for any public testimony on the resolution.

Mr. John Charles, Portland: Mr. Charles noted his work as an environmental professional with the Cascade Policy Institute, and expressed his opposition to the renewal of the levy. He discussed a recent audit report of the Nature in Neighborhoods grant program, and raised concerns that too much money is being spent on restoration, and not enough on public access.

Ms. Sarah Trinkle, Portland: Ms. Trinkle spoke in support of the levy, and highlighted the grant program's emphasis on partnerships, noting the success of the Opportunity Corps program, and the advancements in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work.

Mr. Mike Wetter, Portland: Mr. Wetter spoke in support of the levy, and highlighted the importance of building a coalition of public, private and nonprofit community members and leaders working together toward a shared vision. He thanked Metro staff for the integrity and professionalism expressed throughout the previous levy, and highlighted Metro's commitment to supporting communities of color and underserved communities.

Mr. Mike Houck, Portland: Mr. Houck spoke in support of the levy, noted the success of the Nature in Neighborhoods grant program, and highlighted the need to protect the region's natural resources.

Ms. Roberta Schwarz, West Linn: Ms. Schwarz spoke in support of the levy, and thanked Metro for the opportunity to speak. She emphasized the efforts to educate youth to become future stewards of the land, and discussed her experience as a previous grantee.

Mr. Mike Skuja, Tualatin: Mr. Skuja spoke in support of the levy, and thanked Metro for their partnership with Tualatin Riverkeepers. He emphasized that Metro's process encourages grantees to engage and be accountable to every dollar received, and highlighted the accessibility of Metro staff.

Mr. Tony DeFalco, Portland: Mr. DeFalco spoke in support of the levy, and thanked Metro for their work on expanding access to parks and natural areas throughout the region. He expressed his appreciation for Metro's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work, and urged staff to focus on minority and women-owned businesses, and continue making strategic investments in communities of color.

Mr. Gerald Deloney, Portland: Mr. Deloney spoke in support of the levy, and highlighted Metro staff's commitment to equity. He discussed the history of economic barriers for communities of color in Oregon, and emphasized the need to gather together a coalition that is multiracial and has interests across the economic scale.

Mr. Andy Jansky, Portland: Mr. Jansky spoke in support of the levy, and emphasized his support for providing bicycle access to families, youth, and community members.

***Council discussion:***

Councilors thanked community members for their testimony, and spoke in support of renewing the natural areas levy. Councilor Craddick noted that it is simply the renewal of an existing tax rather than an additional tax, Councilor Collette emphasized the importance of building relationships between Metro, partners, and the community, Councilor Harrington discussed the integrity of financial planning work in Metro, Councilor Stacey spoke to the range of programs and projects that are funded by the levy, Councilor Dirksen thanked Metro's partners in supporting the restoration, protection, and access of natural areas, Councilor Chase highlighted the levy's work in educating

and developing future generations of people who will value the protection of the region's natural areas, and Council President Hughes noted that environmental conservation and restoration benefits all communities.

Vote:

Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Dirksen, Chase, Collette, Harrington, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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**5. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Martha Bennett, provided an update on the following events or items: a household and hazardous waste collection event at the Intel campus, and the new Metro logo.

**6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: the Oregon City Enhancement Grant Review Committee, the Sunrise Grant Opening, a Bull Mountain Golden Shovel event, a City of Tigard Council Meeting, the Westside Economic Alliance Southwest Corridor meeting, the Springwater Trail Open House, and the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades.

**7. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:15 p.m. The Metro Council will convene at the next regular council meeting on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at 2 p.m. at the Metro Regional Center in the Council chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



Kyra Schneider, Council Policy Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 30, 2016**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
3.0	Minutes	06/23/2016	Council Meeting Minutes on June 23, 2016	063016c-01
4.1	PowerPoint	06/30/2016	Nature in Neighborhoods Grants PowerPoint	063016c-02
4.2	PowerPoint	06/30/2016	Parks and Natural Areas Levy PowerPoint	063016c-03