

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Thursday, August 2, 2018**

**2:00 PM**

**Metro Regional Center, Council chamber**

**Council meeting**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.**

**Present:** 7 - Council President Tom Hughes, Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Betty Dominguez, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Kathryn Harrington, and Councilor Bob Stacey

**2. Public Communication**

There was none.

**3. Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made by Councilor Craddick, seconded by Councilor Stacey, that this item be adopted. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council President Hughes, Councilor Chase, Councilor Dominguez, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Harrington, and Councilor Stacey

3.1 Consideration of July 26, 2018 Minutes

Attachments: [July 26, 2018 Minutes](#)

3.2 **Resolution No. 18-4901**, For the Purpose of Adding or Amending Existing Projects to the 2018-21 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Involving Four Projects Impacting Metro and ODOT (JL18-11-JUL)

Attachments: [Resolution No. 18-4901](#)  
[Exhibit A to Resolution No. 18-4901](#)  
[Staff Report](#)  
[Attachment 1 to Staff Report](#)

**4. Public Hearings**

4.1 **Public Hearing as Part of the Public Comment Period for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan and Strategies for Safety, Freight, Transit and Emerging Technology**

Attachments: [Council Packet Brief on Public Hearing](#)  
[RTP Public Comment Opportunity Handout](#)  
[2018 RTP Financially Constrained Projects Map](#)  
[PowerPoint: Finalizing 2018 RTP](#)

Council President Hughes called on Planning and Development Director Elissa Gertler and Principal Transportation Planner Kim Ellis to provide a brief presentation the public comment period for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (2018 RTP).

Ms. Ellis provided an overview of the public comment period. She provided background on the process for engagement including regional leadership forums, technical work groups, online surveys and technical and policy committees. Ms. Ellis emphasized the importance of connecting with historically marginalized communities in the planning and decision making process and explained that throughout plan development Metro connected to more than 18,000 individuals. She explained where policy makers and the public could find information on the draft recommendations and encouraged members of the public and policy makers to comment through emails, letters, phone calls and online surveys. Ms. Ellis then outlined next steps once the comment period had closed.

Council President Hughes opened up a public hearing on the 2018 RTP and requested that those wishing to testify come forward to speak.

Ron Swaren, City of Portland: Mr. Swaren advocated for the planning of a western arterial highway in the region. He raised concerns over the ability of tolling proposals to reduce the volume of traffic and highlighted the importance of a high capacity transit corridor.

Tim Helzer, Northwest Citizen Science Initiative: Mr. Helzer

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expressed concern over Port of Portland's plan to access West Hayden Island's circular rail yard. He highlighted studies that show this plan poses a threat to wildlife habitat and the community without economic justification. (Mr. Helzer provided written materials as part of his testimony; please see the August 2 meeting packet.)

Jeff Geislen, Hayden Island Neighborhood Network: Mr.

Geislen spoke about Hayden Island Neighborhood Network's support for extending light rail to Hayden Island. He highlighted the benefit of increased transportation access to the Hayden Island and expressed concern over air quality and the impacts to the senior citizen population on the island.

Chris Smith, Portland Planning and Sustainability

Commission: Mr. Smith commented on four policies in the 2018 RTP. He thanked Metro for including the Vision Zero policy and encouraged Council to advocate for pricing strategies and parking management policies. Mr. Smith shared his opposition to the I-5 Rose Quarter Project.

Aaron Brown, No More Freeway Expansions Coalition: Mr.

Brown shared his organization's opposition to the freeway expansion and widening projects in the 2018 RTP. He spoke about Metro's responsibility to the community and the environment and encouraged the Council to find alternatives to investing in fossil fuel infrastructure.

Sarah Innarone, City of Portland: Ms. Innarone spoke about

the role Metro plays in climate change policy and urged Council to allocate resources for alternative transportation and reduce investments in single vehicle occupancy use through freeway expansions.

Micah Meskel, Audubon Society of Portland: Mr. Meskel spoke in support of the equity and climate change focus in the 2018 RTP and highlighted the need for integrating green infrastructure into the plan. He urged that the West Hayden Island and I-5 Rose Quarter projects be eliminated from the priority list.

Council President Hughes gaveled out of the public hearing. He noted that the next public hearing would take place on Thursday, November 8 and Council consideration and vote on the 2018 RTP would take place in early December.

*Council Discussion:*

Councilor Stacey shared concern over the I-5 Rose Quarter project and the cost of the project compared to the incremental improvements. He also emphasized his concern with the design impact in a location that remains culturally significant to African American communities. Councilor Stacey pointed out the lack of environmental impact statement process and encouraged the Oregon Transportation Commission and the Oregon Department of Transportation to consider a thorough analysis of the impacts of this project on the community.

Councilor Craddick asked for clarification on whether the City of Portland had removed the West Hayden Island Rail Terminal from its comprehensive plan and if the Port of Portland submitted the project as part of the 2018 RTP.

Ms. Ellis explained that her understanding was that this project was not included in the Portland Transportation Plan and requested more time to thoroughly look into the matter.

## 5. Resolutions

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5.1 **Resolution No. 18-4903, For the Purpose of Confirming the Appointment of Nathan A. S. Sykes as Acting Metro Attorney**

Attachments: [Resolution No. 18-4903](#)  
[Exhibit A to Resolution No. 18-4903](#)  
[Staff Report](#)

Council President Hughes introduced a resolution to confirm the appointment of Deputy Metro Attorney Nathan Sykes as Acting Metro Attorney.

**A motion was made by Councilor Stacey, seconded by Councilor Craddick that this item be adopted. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council President Hughes, Councilor Chase, Councilor Dominguez, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Harrington, and Councilor Stacey

**6. Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett recognized departing Metro Attorney Alison Kean for her contributions to Metro. She highlighted Ms. Kean’s accomplishments and commended her creativity and determination. Councilors read a celebratory resolution in Ms. Kean’s honor and wished her well in her endeavors.

**7. Councilor Communication**

Deputy Council President Craddick requested Council confirm support for Council President Hughes’s attendance at the American Society of Association Executives annual meeting in August with Travel Portland. Councilors agreed.

**8. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes

adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 3:22 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on August 16, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Metro Regional Center in the council chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara Farrokhzadian, Legislative and Engagement  
Coordinator

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF AUGUST 2, 2018**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>3.1</b>	Minutes	8/2/2018	Council Meeting Minutes for July 26, 2018	080218c-01
<b>4.1</b>	Testimony	8/2/2018	Written Statement from Northwest Citizen Science Initiative	080218c-02
<b>4.1</b>	PowerPoint	8/2/2018	Finalizing the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan	080218c-03