

Metro

*600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov*



Metro

Minutes

Thursday, June 6, 2019

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council chamber

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Peterson called the Metro Council meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

Present: 7 - Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Bob Stacey, Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, and Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

2. Safety Briefing

Council President Peterson called on Councilor Chase to provide a safety briefing. Councilor Chase provided a safety briefing for the meeting including information on the location of emergency exits, fire extinguishers and automated external defibrillators.

3. Public Communication

There was none.

4. Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 7 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Stacey, Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

4.1 Considerations of the Council Meeting Minutes for May 30, 2019

5. Ordinances (First Reading and Public Hearing)

5.1 Ordinance No. 19-1437, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 2.19, Metro Advisory Committees, to Establish the Regional Waste Advisory Committee and to Repeal the Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee

Council President Peterson called on Mr. Roy Brower,

Interim Director of Property and Environmental Services, and Mr. Matt Korot, Resource Conservation and Recycling Program Director, to provide a brief presentation on the ordinance. Mr. Brower reviewed the oversight framework in the recently adopted Regional Waste Plan and noted that the oversight framework included the establishment of the Regional Waste Advisory Committee. He explained that the Regional Waste Advisory Committee would replace the existing Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee and shared the process for appointing members to the committee.

Mr. Korot reviewed the primary functions of the advisory committee and shared the proposed membership structure for the committee. He noted that membership included representation from communities of color and other historically marginalized communities as well as environmental and health advocates. He highlighted comments received through the public comment process and provided staff's responses to the public comment suggestions.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Lewis asked whether staff had a process for evaluating committee membership before re-appointments to ensure regional representation. Councilor Craddick asked how staff planned to continue to keep industry members informed and involved. She expressed her support for the ordinance and highlighted the importance of providing more recycling and food scrap opportunities for individuals living in multi-family housing. Councilor Gonzalez asked how the advisory committee would be involved in the implementation of the Regional Waste Plan. Councilor Chase asked how staff was planning to provide technical and

advisory support to committee members to aid them in decision making.

5.1.1 Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 19-1437

Council President Peterson opened up a public hearing on Ordinance No. 19-1437 and requested that those wishing to testify come forward to speak.

Beth Vargas Duncan, Oregon Refuse and Recycling

Association: Ms. Vargas Duncan discussed the importance of adequate representation of service providers within the garbage and recycling system on the advisory committee. She highlighted the expertise of service providers and advocated for the ability of industry members to select their own voting member on the advisory committee.

Terrell Garrett, Greenway Recycling: Mr. Garrett advocated for representation of private haulers on the advisory committee and discussed plans to create an association of private haulers. He shared that he needed time to organize the association and requested that the association hold a position on the advisory committee.

Council President Peterson acknowledged Mr. Garrett's request.

Seeing no further testimony, Council President Peterson gaveled out of the public hearing. She noted that second read, Council consideration, and vote on Ordinance No. 19-1437 would take place on Thursday, June 13.

6. Resolutions

6.1 Resolution No. 19-4987, For the Purpose of Confirming the Appointment of Caroline MacLaren As Metro Attorney

Council President Peterson introduced the resolution,

explaining that the Metro Council had undertaken an extensive recruitment process to fill the vacant Metro Attorney position. She thanked Acting Metro Attorney Nathan Sykes for his work to fill the role during the interim period and his commitment to Metro's mission. Council President Peterson announced that the resolution would appoint Ms. Carrie MacLaren, former Deputy Director of Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, as the Metro Attorney. She introduced Ms. MacLaren to share a few words. Ms. MacLaren thanked Council for the opportunity, stating she looked forward to serving as the Metro Attorney.

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

Aye: 7 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Stacey, Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

- 6.2 Resolution No. 19-4988, For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the Metro Area General Obligation Bonds in the Amount of \$475 million to Fund Natural Area and Water Quality Protection and to Connect People to Nature Close to Home; and Setting Forth the Official Intent of the Metro Council to Reimburse Certain Expenditures Out of the Proceeds of Said Bonds Upon Issuance

Council President Peterson called on Acting Chief Operating Officer Andrew Scott to provide opening remarks. Mr. Scott framed the resolution before Council in the large context of Metro's strategies for regional investments. He noted the importance of a comprehensive approach to the region's livability and shared that investments in parks and nature were part of Metro's comprehensive approach. Mr. Scott highlighted the proposals policy commitments to ensure that the bond investments serve communities of color, Indigenous communities and other communities that had

not equally benefitted from previous bond measures. He noted the proposal's commitment to make communities more resilient and reinforced the connection between nature and other community benefits including affordable housing, living wage jobs and transportation. Mr. Scott introduced Mr. Jon Blasher, Metro Parks and Nature Director, to provide a brief presentation on the resolution.

Mr. Blasher acknowledged the Indigenous peoples that have cared for the land since time immemorial. He explained how the proposed bond measure aligned with Metro's mission around protecting quality of life. Mr. Blasher recounted the steps leading up to the proposed bond measure, noting the extensive community engagement process. He discussed the importance of investing in natural areas and parks and shared how these investments would build resilience to the effects of climate change.

Mr. Blasher recounted the advice collected from the stakeholder tables, including aligning this bond with Metro's commitment to ensure people of color benefit from public decisions and investments. He reviewed the six program areas in the proposed bond measure including large scale vision projects and the emphasis on increasing access to those who have not historically had access to natural areas. Mr. Blasher shared his personal commitment to the legacy for future generations.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Stacey directed a question to Mr. Brian Kennedy, Metro Finance and Regulatory Services Director, as to the effects of taxation for the proposed bond measure. Mr. Kennedy explained that the estimates for the proposed measure would not increase the property tax rate from the

19 cents per thousand rate of the 2006 bond measure.

Councilor Craddick stated her support for the resolution and discussed the many opportunities to benefit the region with these bond funds. She shared her personal experience with the beauty of the region's natural areas and stated the importance of protecting these places for future generations. Councilor Dirksen expressed his appreciation for the overwhelming community support for the measure, noting the regional system Metro had created. He discussed the importance of partnerships including the local share program.

Councilor Chase stated that climate change and protecting the environment one of the greatest challenges of facing our communities and shared that the proposed bond measure would go a long way to address this challenge. He discussed the benefits of natural investments in urban areas to increase access to natural areas and framed this work within the context of Metro's responsibility for urban growth management.

Councilor Lewis discussed the importance of improving water quality and commitment to open spaces. She highlighted key projects including the Willamette Falls Legacy Project and commended staff on designing an inclusive process. Councilor Stacey explained the role of the Nature in Neighborhoods grant program in creating small scale connection between people and nature in urban environments.

Councilor Gonzalez expressed his appreciation for the work of all of the region's communities in developing the bond measure and emphasized the racial equity and climate justice framework in the measure. Council President

Peterson shared her personal experience with conservation ethics, noting the interconnectedness of working and living in an ecosystem. She framed the proposed bond measure within the context of Metro's investment strategies on housing and transportation and commended staff on a process that empowered the community to advocate their needs. Council President Peterson thanked community partners and those who had paved the way for this proposed bond measure.

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

Aye: 7 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Stacey, Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

6.2.1 Public Hearing on Resolution No. 19-4988

Council President Peterson opened up a public hearing on Resolution No. 19-4988 and requested those wishing to testify come forward to speak.

Adena Long, City of Portland: Ms. Long, Director of Portland Parks and Recreation, testified in support of the resolution and highlighted opportunities for investments in the region's natural areas and parks. She stated the importance of addressing long standing regional inequities in bond funding benefits and noted that some of the region's most vulnerable community members did not have access to parks and natural areas. Ms. Long discussed open spaces purchased through the 2006 bond and operated by the City of Portland and shared that this bond measure could provide funding for continued improvements. She pointed to opportunities to use local share funding to advance key shared priorities.

Doug Menke, Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District:

Mr. Menke, General Manager of the Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District, testified in support of the resolution and commended Metro staff for their exemplary efforts in successfully engaging the community in the process of shaping the proposed bond measure. He discussed the accomplishments that the district had achieved in partnership with Metro and emphasized the importance of serving the whole community. Mr. Menke expressed his appreciation for the proposal to expand access to nature through the regional trail system.

Tony DeFalco, Verde: Mr. DeFalco, Executive Director of Verde, stated he was representing the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, Self-Enhancement Inc. and Verde to testify in support of the resolution. He commended Council and staff on the public engagement process and expressed his appreciation for the strong racial equity criteria to guide all investments for bond revenue. Mr. DeFalco discussed the ability of bond investments to create a livable and just region and the importance of centering conservation on the needs of communities of color.

Kathleen Brennan Hunter: Ms. Brennan Hunter, President of the Global Directors of the Intertwine Alliance and Director of Conservation at the Nature Conservancy Oregon Chapter, testified in support of the resolution. She provided background on the Intertwine Alliance and shared that the Intertwine Alliance commitment to secure funds for equitable investments in the region's parks and natural areas. Ms. Brennan Hunter restated the Alliance's support of the bond measure.

Miranda Bonifield, Cascade Policy Institute: Ms. Bonifield,

Cascade Policy Institute Research Associate, testified in opposition to the resolution. She expressed her concern over the cost to taxpayers and debt service and questioned the need for protection against climate change. Ms. Bonifield raised questions about the most effective way to spend taxpayer funds and accountability.

Helen Cook, City of Beaverton: Ms. Cook testified in opposition to the resolution and expressed her concern over the accessibility of remote natural areas. She discussed the role of land trusts and non-profit organizations in land conservation and raised questions over whether the proposed bond was in alignment with Metro's mission. (Ms. Cook submitted written documents as part of her testimony; see the June 6 materials packet).

Bob Salinger, Audubon Society of Oregon: Mr. Salinger, Conservation Director for the Audubon Society of Oregon, thanked staff for their work with the stakeholder committees and shared that the Audubon Society Board of Directors unanimously endorsed the proposed measure. He discussed the success of the previous two bond measures and highlighted the need for continued habitat protection and equitable benefits to the region.

Rowan Schmidt, Earth Economics: Mr. Schmidt, Earth Economics Program Director, testified in support for the resolution. He provided economic context to the proposed bond measure, stating the important value of the conservation and stewardship to the region. He outlined key economic benefits of parks and natural areas to communities and infrastructure.

Andrew Mason, Willamette Falls Trust: Mr. Mason, Willamette Falls Trust Executive Director, testified in support

of the resolution. He shared his experience as a member of the stakeholder table and expressed his organization's support for Metro's vision to support the Willamette Falls project. Mr. Mason discussed the importance of the Willamette Falls to the region and its alignment with Metro values.

James Holt, City of Portland: Mr. Holt testified in support of the resolution. He thanked Mr. Blasher for his leadership in lifting up the Indigenous community through the community engagement process and discussed past cycles of engagement followed by marginalization of Indigenous communities. He highlighted the importance of protecting and restoring natural areas as well as protecting and restoring the way of life of Indigenous communities.

Matthew Weintraub, Oregon Mountain Biking Coalition: Mr. Weintraub, State Policy Director for the Oregon Mountain Biking Coalition, testified in support of the resolution and commended Council and staff in engaging the stakeholder table throughout the process. He stated support for the commitment to ensure equity and access in the bond investments and discussed the importance of regional trail acquisition.

Sam Diaz, 1000 Friends of Oregon: Mr. Diaz, Director of Community Engagement at 1000 Friends of Oregon, stated his organization's support for the resolution. He highlighted key components of the proposed measure including addressing climate change and the emphasis on equitable benefits of investments. Mr. Diaz thanked Metro leadership for developing the bond measure through a collaborative process.

Walter Valenta, 40 Mile Loop Land Trust: Mr. Valenta, Board

Member of the 40 Mile Loop Land Trust, testified in support of the resolution and shared that the proposed bond measure would help complete the 40 mile loop trail system including an connection between the east to west connection of the Columbia Slough and the north to south connection of the slough.

Joanne Lazo, Sauvie Island Center: Ms. Lazo, Executive Director of the Sauvie Island Center, stated her organization's support for the bond measure. She discussed the community impacts of the center's education programming made possible through Metro's Nature in Neighborhood grant funding.

Cathy Corlett, American Trails: Ms. Corlett, American Trails board member, testified in support of the proposed bond measure. She advocated for investments in trail stewardship through the bond measure and discussed the benefits of trail stewardship including building resiliency and balancing transportation investments

Steve Wise, Sandy River Watershed Council: Mr. Wise, Executive Director of the Sandy River Watershed Council, stated his organization's support for the resolution. He discussed the value of the bond measure investments in capital grants to improve water quality, connecting wildlife corridors and restoring habitat.

Owen Wozniak, The Intertwine Alliance: Mr. Wozniak, The Intertwine Alliance board member, testified in support of the proposed bond measure. He highlighted the transformative nature of the investments in natural areas and shared his experience in implementing Metro parks and nature investment projects as a partner. Mr. Wozniak discussed the importance of strategic investments through

Metro's local share funds including Dirksen Park in Tigard and expressed his support for the proposed bond measure as it seeks to address the intersection of urgent housing and climate change needs.

Scott Archer, North Clackamas Parks and Recreation

District: Mr. Archer, Director of the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, stated his organization's support for the proposed bond measure. He commended Council and staff for their effective public engagement process and discussed the benefits of the proposed measure to the community. Mr. Archer highlighted the importance of continuation of the local share program and expressed his appreciation for the continued partnership.

Dan Roix, Columbia Land Trust: Mr. Roix, Conservation Director of the Columbia Land Trust, and expressed his organization's support for the resolution. He provided background on the Regional Conservation Strategy and noted the importance of this Metro bond measure in advancing the strategy. Mr. Roix conveyed that addressing racial equity and climate resiliency in protecting nature was a core element of the conservation strategy.

Juntu Oberg, Northwest Trail Alliance: Ms. Oberg, Northwest Trail Alliance board member, testified in support of the resolution. She shared her personal experience with connecting with nature and discussed the benefits of connecting trails to allow increased access to nature.

Seeing no further testimony, Council President Peterson closed the public hearing.

7. Chief Operating Officer Communication

Mr. Andrew Scott provided an update on the following

events or items: the Sapporo Friendship Bell re-dedication at the Oregon Convention Center and the Oregon Zoo Brew event.

8. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events: the Oregon Zoo Foundation meeting, a Convention Center Hotel tour and the Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade. Councilor Lewis announced that new labor agreements had been reached with four unions representing labor at some of Metro's venues. Councilor Stacey provided an update on the Southwest Corridor Marquam Hill connector alignment. Councilor Stacey discussed a conversation with fourth graders at Glencoe School about solutions to plastic pollution.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 4:25 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on June 6, 2019 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 JUNE 6, 2019

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
4.1	Minutes	6/6/19	Council Meeting Minutes for May 30, 2019	060619c-01
6.2	Powerpoint	6/6/19	Parks and Nature Bond Renewal	060619c-02
6.2.1	Letter	6/6/19	Written Testimony on Resolution No. 19-4988 Submitted by Helen Cook	060619c-03