

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, September 3, 2019

2:00 PM

REVISED 8/28

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:01 p.m.

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

2:05 Safety Briefing**Work Session Topics:**

2:10 Metro Stands For Resolution

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)
[Resolution No. 19-5016 \(DRAFT 8-28-19\)](#)

Council President Peterson introduced Ms. Ina Zucker, Metro's Council Office Program Director, and Mr. Nick Christensen, Metro's Senior Public Affairs Specialist. She provided a brief introduction to the resolution and stated its intention.

Ms. Zucker noted staff engagement and input during the creation of the resolution and the relevance of this legislation to the nation's current political climate. She summarized the contents of the resolution and asked Council for their feedback.

Council Discussion

Councilor Stacey mentioned the City of Portland's Mayor Ted Wheeler's public gathering of elected officials and other public servants in Pioneer Square the previous week to take a stand against violence and the importance of influential organizations standing in unity with our region's marginalized communities. Councilor Chase noted the gravity of change occurred in the past two years within the Metro region and the necessity for this legislation to be updated to be relevant to the current political climate.

Councilor Stacey advised for the language within the resolution regarding finances to be adjusted to include potential reallocation of investments, even if a specific budget may not be assigned to this legislation. President Peterson suggested a more proactive approach to noting the possible redistribution of investments.

Councilor Chase requested the language to be adjusted to be more inclusive of diversity and the various communities within the Metro region. Councilor Dirksen suggested identifying Metro's six desired regional outcomes within the first paragraph of the legislation to inform constituents of the resolution's goals and intentions. Councilor Gonzalez suggested the phrasing a "Statement of Metro Values" for the title.

Councilor Stacey requested a strategy for consulting with local partners regarding the implementation of this legislation.

2:30 Recycling System Update

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)
[PowerPoint: Recycling Systems Update](#)

President Peterson introduced Mr. Roy Brower, Metro's Interim Director of Property and Environmental Services (PES), Ms. Pam Peck, PES Manager, and Mr. Matt Korot, PES Program Director.

Mr. Brower provided a recap of the previous Council discussion regarding this subject. He framed the purpose of the day's discussion as to update Council on the recycling system and to solicit feedback on future actions. Mr. Korot provided context for the conversation as focusing on recyclables, excluding recyclable construction waste. He reviewed the current recycling process, the product life cycling, and the critical role of these cycles in improving Metro's climate change efforts.

Mr. Korot noted current challenges facing the recycling industry, including the departure of China from the U.S market and rapid changes in the types of product packaging. He mentioned opportunities within the recycling industry such as the Metro region's continued recycling efforts, consistent private and public investments in the system, and an emerging domestic market for paper recycling.

Mr. Korot summarized current efforts to stabilize the recycling system, such as coordinating with the private sector, investing from local jurisdictions, and communicating the importance of recycling with businesses and residents. Ms. Peck introduced two future-focused topics relative to the recycling system, including the statewide collaborative project and Metro and local governments' role within this process. She noted the importance of the statewide collaborative project to reach consensus on how to optimize benefits for the environment, improve the strength and adaptability of the recycling system, and maintain public trust within the recycling system.

Ms. Peck noted the various regional collaborators participating within the statewide collaborative project. She additionally introduced five policy subjects, including materials collected for the recycling programs, future public investments, legal and relational frameworks for the system, producer responsibilities, and potential end-markets. Ms. Peck delved further into each subject point and noted key considerations and necessary public investments. Ms. Peck delved into two research options to inform public investment decision making: conducting statewide infrastructure research about options and costs and secondarily sorting existing research projects. She stated vital areas of public interest as maintaining transparent and consistent rates, multi-market reliability,

and ensuring end markets and recycling methods are aligned with Metro's values of equity and environment.

M. Peck described producer responsibility and stated the need for stronger accountability for manufacturers and retailers in the product packaging process. She defined the terms of product stewardship, which is to minimize health, safety, social, and environmental impacts of a product and its packaging throughout all life cycle stages, and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) to provide context for the conversation.

Mr. Korot provided an overview of the timeline for Council engagement opportunities within the recycling system policy process. He noted the options for decisions to be made based on a statewide consensus or an independent regional approach. Mr. Korot asked Council for their feedback and areas of interest for engagement.

Council Discussion

President Peterson inquired of the "Recycle or Not" education campaign and the performance measures used to test the impacts of the campaign. Ms. Peck responded with examples of community engagement efforts from Metro and other local jurisdictions via social media, the organization's website, and face-to-face meetings. President Peterson asked of Metro's role within the public and private investments, specifically in relevance to the statewide efforts to stabilize the recycling system. Mr. Korot explained the interrelation between Metro, other local jurisdictions, and the state's efforts and how this partnership benefits each collaborator.

Councilor Dirksen inquired of the purpose of the statewide project. Mr. Korot provided an example of a statewide and local effort collaboration in terms of product stewardship,

which provided a more impactful benefit and increased success rates for the recycling system.

President Peterson requested for specific policy initiative recommendations for Council so the research process may start as soon possible and before the state's initiatives. Councilor Chase asked for clarification on the difficulty of implementation for solutions or actions within each of the five policy subjects.

Councilor Gonzalez stated his appreciation for the initiative to coordinate local government and statewide efforts to lead to a more substantial impact and benefit. He requested additional information regarding the process for creating end markets and EPR strategies. Councilor Stacey stated his support for product responsibility and limitation laws, especially on a regional scale, and their potential to have a more considerable impact on the flow of the recycling system over other strategies.

Councilor Lewis stated her appreciation for the social media engagement with the "Recycle or Not" educational campaign. She also advised for how materials may be collected to be addressed at a local level rather than a statewide level. Councilor Lewis requested to capitalize on the innovative businesses and hubs within the Metro region to reuse recycled materials for future materials.

Councilor Dirksen suggested that the best opportunity to increase the impact of product responsibility and limitation laws may be at the statewide level, as to provide coordination and consistency across regions. He also requested technical guidance from Metro staff in regards to public investments within the recycling system.

Councilor Craddick requested for the categorization of the five policy subjects into a short to long term timeline. She

also added the necessity for Metro to lead recycling initiatives and set an expectation for the state to follow with legislative efforts.

President Peterson noted the importance of not waiting for state action, even though coordination between the various levels of government is necessary for long-term improvements to the system. She requested for the identification of a model, a contract, and the needs of private-public relationships to help manage risk as these projects are initiated or implemented. President Peterson suggested a two-year timeline for creating an action plan.

3:15 Regional Investment Strategy

Attachments: [PowerPoint: Regional Investment Strategy Update](#)

President Peterson introduced Mr. Andy Shaw, Metro's Director of Government Affairs and Policy Development, and Ms. Tyler Frisbee, Transportation Policy and Federal Affairs Manager. Mr. Shaw provided a brief overview of the presentation, noting that the focus will be on the transportation measure of the Regional Investment Strategy (RIS). He stated the 14 Local Investment Team (LIT) tours that had taken place during the months of July and August and provided an overview of the feedback given by the transportation task force members who had participated.

Mr. Shaw reviewed the purpose of the programs under the transportation measure as those that include ongoing and flexible funding, provide benefits beyond the corridors, meet community needs and intake community input, include capital and non-capital investments, and lastly advance the overall outcomes of the measure.

Ms. Frisbee revised the feedback provided by the transportation task force members and stated seven emerging themes for the measure as improving access for individuals with disabilities, increasing first and last mile access, improving resiliency, increasing transit services,

implementing participatory budgeting, including paratransit, and improving community safety and enforcement.

Ms. Firsbee reviewed the transportation task force's last meeting discussion and described an exercise they had participated in to prioritize investment project outcomes. She stated the programs with the most votes as Safe Routes to School, Better Bus, Active Transportation Connections, Safety Hot Spots, Fare Affordability for Students, and Transit Vehicle Electrification programs. Mr. Shaw noted the discussions surrounding community strengthening and engagement during task force meetings as it relates to working to combat displacement. He summarized the three primary outcomes of member feedback as safety, climate change, and equity.

Mr. Shaw explained the measure's timeline and opportunities for Council to provide direction on programs and projects. He noted an upcoming transportation public opinion research and requested for Council's comments or concerns.

Council Discussion

Councilor Stacey asked for clarification on the funding process behind Oregon's Department of Transportation (ODOT)'s Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF).

Councilor Lewis noted that the priority of first-last mile access has already been a top priority for local jurisdictions and advised to be wary of redundancy between the two levels of planning efforts. She also spoke on increasing access for individuals with disabilities and suggested separating this area of focus from paratransit efforts. Councilor Lewis noted constituents concerns regarding a lack of representation from the disabled community on the

transportation task force.

Councilor Craddick relayed constituent feedback she had received regarding disappointment for the lack of prioritizing the Main Streets Revitalization program and inquired of how the program may be better represented within the measure. Mr. Shaw responded with upcoming opportunities for staff to take further Council direction on program priorities and to adjust recommendations accordingly.

Councilor Lewis stated her concerns surrounding the potential exclusion of impactful program proposals, such as the Protect & Preserve Multifamily Housing program.

Councilor Chase advised for the integration of fare affordability for students and affordable housing programs to maximize positive impacts. Councilor Gonzalez noted the importance of the Better Bus and Fare Affordability programs for the future of our transportation system. He suggested setting broad outcomes moving forward to assist with prioritizing themes or programs.

Councilor Stacey addressed the importance of balancing the various aspects of public transit services such as transit frequency, accessibility, and affordability to synergize the outcomes of the measure. He encouraged for the programs to be viewed through a big picture or regional lens and to consider how partnerships with other transit organizations such as TriMet may be leveraged in this process.

Councilor Dirksen advised being wary of Metro's role within the transit system as compared to Trimet's, adding that detailed transit operation improvements may not be within Metro's authority. He noted Metro's responsibility to improve transit infrastructure to then better support transit operation improvements by other organizations.

Councilor Gonzalez stated his support for measuring ridership as an outcome, emphasizing the need to improve the transit system in a manner which would create value for users.

President Peterson summarized the expectations for the next steps of the program and requested Metro staff's program recommendations. She asked for specific outcomes to be identified and for their programmatic performance metrics.

Councilor Craddick stated her concerns for representing transit affordability as an ongoing program with limited funding.

3:45 Chief Operating Officer Communication

President Peterson introduced Mr. Andrew Scott, Metro's Interim Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Scott noted an upcoming meeting update on Metro's Innovators Program. He stated Ms. Stacy Coonfield, Executive Assistant to Metro's Chief Operating Officer, would be leaving her current position to pursue a new opportunity as Executive Assistant to the Executive Director and Deputy Director of the Oregon Convention Center and stated his appreciation for her contributions to Metro thus far.

3:50 Councilor Communication

Councilor Craddick reported on her attendance of the Metro's Investment and Innovation Grants Committee meeting. She provided a brief overview of the program and stated 27 pre-proposals had been submitted, of which 17 have advanced for further consideration. President Peterson reported on her various excursions over the month of August to work within Metro's multiple departments and alongside the organization's many staff members.

3:55 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janani Srinivasan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Janani Srinivasan, Council Policy Assistant

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: ORS 192.660 (2)(h): TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL CONCERNING
LEGAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF A PUBLIC BODY WITH REGARD TO LITIGATION LIKELY
TO BE FILE**

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	9/3/2019	Recycling Systems Update	090319cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	9/3/2019	Regional Investment Strategy Update	090319cw -02