

# Metro

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Metro

## Minutes

Thursday, April 16, 2020

2:00 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> or 888-475-4499 (toll free)

**Council meeting**

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

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

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

**2. Public Communication**

There was none.

**3. Consent Agenda****Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made by Councilor Lewis, seconded by Councilor Dirksen, to adopt items on the consent agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

3.1 Consideration of the Council Meeting Minutes for April 2, 2020

**4. Resolutions**

4.1 Resolution No. 20-5090, For the Purpose of Proclaiming April 22, 2020 Earth Day

Council President Peterson called on Jenna Garmon and Victor Sin, Metro staff, to present Resolution No. 20-5090, recognizing the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22. Ms. Garmon explained that Earth Day was an opportunity to celebrate progress and to recommit to protect the viability of a healthy planet for current and future generations. She provided a history of Earth Day and highlighted how it paralleled growing concerns about the environment.

Ms. Garmon stated that Metro had committed to advancing sustainability in all of its regional services, from land use and

transportation planning to its natural areas and waste prevention programs. She reviewed some of Metro's key milestones related to sustainability and emphasized the urgent need for continued action to address the climate crisis. She noted that Earth Day presented an opportunity to adopt climate solutions that not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions but that also transform systems to be just and equitable and deliver shared prosperity. Mr. Sin then read the proclamation into the record.

*Council Discussion*

Councilors thanked Metro staff for their work supporting sustainability in the region. They spoke to the importance of addressing climate change and highlighted the work that had been done since Earth Day was first recognized in 1970. Councilor Stacey recognized that there was not enough work being done to fully address the consequences of burning fossil fuels. He expressed support for Metro's sustainability efforts but added that he would be abstaining from the resolution. Councilor Dirksen celebrated the work that had been accomplished since Earth Day was first recognized. Councilor Lewis spoke to the importance of working locally.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

**Abstain:** 1 - Councilor Stacey

- 4.2 Metro Chief Operating Officer Acting as Budget Officer Presents the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget and Budget Message to the Metro Council, Acting as the Budget Committee

Council President Peterson called on Marissa Madrigal, Chief

Operating Officer, Brian Kennedy, Director of Financial Services, and Brian Evans, Metro Auditor, to present the proposed fiscal year 2020-21 budget. She acknowledged that the timing of COVID-19 and the forecasted revenue changes would require making significant changes to the budget. She provided an overview of the budget process, noting that staff would bring forward proposals to amend the proposed budget over the next several weeks in advance of approval of the budget on May 7, which would transmit the document to the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC). She explained that the final adoption of the budget was scheduled for June 18, to go into effect on July 1.

She noted that the three main focuses of the budget process were creating a budget that would allow Metro to continue delivering high-quality public services; prevent the crisis from further exacerbating the devastating disparate impacts from COVID-19 and support Metro's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals; and respond to the COVID-19 crisis and eventually reopen and recover over the next 12 to 18 months.

Ms. Madrigal then reviewed the proposed budget and how it would be impacted by the forecasted revenue changes. She explained that staff would return to council on April 28 with proposed cuts to the budget from each department. She stated that Metro would need to prioritize items based on its values and essential services, given the severe financial impacts of the COVID crisis. Mr. Kennedy shared the specific impacts of COVID-19 on the budget across Metro's departments, noting a forecasted decrease of around 7% in the total budget.

Metro Auditor Brian Evans then presented the auditor's

budget. He explained that the auditor's budget was presented separately to ensure budget independence from management. He acknowledged that the auditor's budget would also be impacted by COVID-19. He explained that his budget was originally requested to be \$875,000, but given the circumstances, the Auditor's Office had committed to coming under the budget anywhere from \$35,000 to \$50,000 below the adopted budget from last year. He then provided an overview of the auditor's budget.

*Council Discussion*

Councilor Lewis asked how the Tax Supervising and Conservation Committee process would be affected by COVID-19 and its impacts on the budget. She also asked about cuts in the budget and where funds were being preserved. Councilor Chase asked about the solid waste component of the budget and how the reserves in the solid waste fund might be impacted. Councilor Craddick inquired about how the PERS rate increases were factored into the proposed budget.

- 4.2.1 Resolution No. 20-5092, For the Purpose of Approving the FY 2020-21 Budget, Setting Property Tax Levies and Transmitting the Approved Budget to the Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission
- 4.2.2 Public Hearing on Resolution No. 20-5092

Council President Peterson opened up a public hearing on Resolution No. 20-5092 and requested that those wishing to testify come forward to speak. Seeing none, Council President Peterson gaveled out of the public hearing. She noted that the Metro Council would hold a work session on the budget on April 28 and that an additional public hearing would be held on May 7, at which time the Metro Council would consider approving the fiscal year 2020-21 budget and transmitting it to the Tax Supervising and Conservation

Commission for review.

**5. Chief Operating Officer Communication**

There was none.

**6. Councilor Communication**

There was none.

**7. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 3:32 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on April 23 at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nellie Papsdorf, Legislative and Engagement Coordinator

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2020**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>2.0</b>	Testimony	04/10/20	Testimony from Leah Gordon	041620c-01
<b>4.1</b>	PowerPoint	04/16/20	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day Proclamation	041620c-02
<b>4.2</b>	PowerPoint	04/16/20	FY 2020-21 Proposed Budget	041620c-03
<b>4.2</b>	PowerPoint	04/16/20	Office of the Metro Auditor FY 2020-21 Proposed Budget	041620c-04