

# Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736  
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Metro

## Minutes

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

2:00 PM

This meeting was held virtually

**Council work session**

**2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call**

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council work session call to order at: 2:04 p.m.

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

**Work Session Topics:**

2:05 Regional Investment Strategy: 2019 Parks Bond Draft Refinement Work Plan

President Peterson introduced Mr. Jon Blasher, Director of Parks and Nature, and Ms. Beth Cohen, Strategic Funding Program Manager to discuss the 2019 Parks Bond Draft Refinement Work Plan.

Mr. Blasher reminded the Council of Parks and Nature’s mission and the region’s call to action on protecting, restoring and enhancing natural water systems, wildlife habitat and access to nature close to home. He then reviewed the agenda for the work session which included: a bond overview, parks bond refinement timeline and next steps, COVID response and values to guide, and questions for Council.

Mr. Blasher discussed the bond measure principles. The principles included:

- Serve communities through inclusive engagement, transparency and accountability.
- Advance racial equity through bond investments.
- Protect clean water for people, fish and wildlife.
- Protect and restore culturally significant native plant communities.
- Protect, connect and improve habitat for native fish

and wildlife.

- Take care of what we have.
- Make parks and natural areas more accessible and inclusive.
- Connect more people to the land and rivers of the region.

Mr. Blasher reported on the bond criteria for Parks and Nature, such as racial equity climate resilience and community engagement. He mentioned that the criteria would be applied to Metro programs and local share partners. Mr. Blasher then discussed the bond program areas that included land investments and restoration, Metro park improvements, Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants, local parks and nature projects, walking and biking trails, and complex community projects.

Ms. Cohen discussed refinement in terms of the bond, stating that regional partners and the community would meet together to take the policy goals in the bond measure and turn them into specific actions, programs and criteria. She then reported on the Parks and Nature community engagement approach once approval is given from the Council. The department would plan on using the feedback given during the process of developing the bond. Ms. Cohen then reviewed the draft Parks and Nature bond refinement timeline, next steps and the application of a COVID lens.

Mr. Blasher spoke to the values that would guide the work on bond acceleration opportunities such as focusing on getting people to work quickly, supporting community partners during COVID-19, and to be transparent with stakeholders throughout the process. He posed the following question to the Council:

- Does the proposed sequence and pace of refinement milestones meet Council's expectations?
- How would Council like to be involved with

- acceleration conversations as staff works with communities within the parameters of the bond?
- Are Councilors interested in being liaisons to the refinement work?

*Council Discussion*

Councilor Craddick inquired on the feasibility of accelerating the refinement plan.

Councilor Lewis voiced her support of the refinement plan and spoke to the participatory budgeting. She reminded staff to keep the budget cycles in mind from this point forward and she inquired on the uncertainty of hiring future staff for the grant. Councilor Lewis asked what the clean-air construction standard was.

Councilor Dirksen commented on the need to follow the public process to ensure the efficiency of the bond.

Councilor Chase spoke to the importance of balancing giving back to the community and how the funding would be spent. He also commented on the participatory grant making and voiced his support of the separated engagement process for the urban areas.

Councilor Gonzalez voiced his concern on the lack of acceleration for the refinement plan. He requested that the timeline incorporate measurable outcomes.

Councilor Stacey stressed the need to accelerate the timeline if feasible without neglecting the public process.

Councilor Craddick asked for clarification on the complex community plans for urban areas.

## Community Partnership Reports

Council President Peterson introduced Mr. Andy Shaw, Director of Government Affairs to present on the Transportation Investment Measure Community Partnership Reports. Mr. Shaw reminded the Council of the previous work session that included community partner reports from Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) and UniteOregon. He mentioned that the Get Moving 2020 community partnerships goals consisted of the engagement of communities of color and to ensure their voices are heard in decision making, to reach communities of color across the region, and to build capacity of community partner organizations.

Mr. Shaw introduced Jose Mikalauskas with Verde and Joy Alise Davis from the Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF) to discuss their reports. The reports included topics ranging from their community outreach, lessons learned from the workshops, and community member recommendations.

*Council Discussion*

Councilor Gonzalez thanked Mr. Mikalauskas and Ms. Davis for their presentation.

Councilor Lewis commented on the importance of anti-displacement that was prevalent through the community partner's presentations.

Councilor Chase thanked the community partners for their presentations and the importance of ensuring the integration of community voices on issues such as the transportation measure.

Councilor Stacey thanked the community partners for reaching out to often unheard community members and the

need to continue to listen to them. He stressed the importance of continuing to fight displacement.

**3:35 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Ms. Marissa Madrigal discussed the freezing of management and non-represented pay across the board, schedule reduction, and results regarding the Supportive Housing Services measure.

**3:40 Councilor Communication**

There was none.

**3:45 Adjourn**

Seeing no further business, Deputy Council President Juan Carlos Gonzalez adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diadira Pedro-Xuncax, Council Policy Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF May 19, 2020**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
1.0	PowerPoint	05/19/2020	Parks Bond Refinement	051920cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	05/19/2020	RIS: Community Partnership Reports	051920cw-02