

Metro

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



Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

2:00 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/471155552> or 877-853-5257 (toll free)

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the work session to order at 2:01 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 Legislative Agenda Update

Presenter(s): Randy Tucker, Metro
Anneliese Koehler, Metro

President Peterson introduced Randy Tucker and Anneliese Koehler from GAPD to present on the upcoming legislative session.

Ms. Koehler reviewed what the upcoming legislative session would look like. She explained that due to the pandemic there will be limited bills presented and that bills that do not address Covid-19 related issues, police reform, wildfire related policy, or budget issues will most likely not be prioritized.

Mr. Tucker reviewed the three solid waste issues listed in the attachments. He described the Recycling Steering Committee's proposal to overhaul old material removal standards that specifically target packaging and paper products. He explained that these new proposals will address equity issues, support education around recycling, new guidelines for producers and the expansion of the bottle bill.

Mr. Tucker reviewed the Mattress Recycling issue and the Hazardous waste issue. He explained that the new proposed

system for mattress recycling would put a front end small fee on mattresses which would then make it free of cost to recycle mattress at the end of their lifetime. He addressed, the Hazardous Waste issue which would require producers to help cover the costs of recycling common household hazardous waste.

Mr. Tucker addressed the new issues related to ride-hailing services and online delivery services that he projected would come up in this year's legislative session. He explained that a variety of issues might come up at the state legislature surrounding worker's rights and delivery fee's charged to restaurants that use these delivery services. Mr. Tucker asked Council where they stand on preemption of local government power, worker's rights and restaurant fees.

Ms. Koehler explained that because ODOT's historical focus was on freight movement and intercity travel specific they have not made the proper investments in State owned highways that would address local traffic and pedestrian uses. She reviewed the proposed Metro ballot measure which requests for \$50 million of state funds a year in order to implement projects that would address the local needs of these roads.

Ms. Koehler reviewed the issue of reopening the Willamette Falls Locks. She expressed her concern for receiving funding for this project due to the lack of available state funds. She explained that due to the issue of funding, this year they are focusing on the first component of this project which is establishing a public corporation in order to transfer ownership of the falls from the Army Engineers.

Ms. Koehler summarized the Equitable Housing priority, which focuses on housing insecurity and needs. She explained that due to last year's shortened session they

were unable to pass House Bill 2003 which originally requires certain cities not including Metro cities to address local housing needs. Ms. Koehler shared that they have worked with other jurisdictions in order to require Metro cities to implement the strategies and requirements of this bill.

Mr. Tucker summarized the work done by our Research Center in order to standardize geographic information and data taken throughout the state. He explained that OGIC is trying to receive \$2.9 million in funding from the state in order to standardize four key issues: Covid recovery, wildfire recovery, workforce development and administration of elections.

Council Comments:

Councilor Craddick expressed her concern about maintaining continuity of regulation between city policies on the topic of waste removal during this legislative session.

Councilor Chase highlighted the importance of educating the public on proper consumption especially around the fallacies of outdated labeling on products in regards to measures around updating waste removal policies. He emphasized improving zoning and condo legislation as some of the issues to incorporate into House Bill 2003.

Councilor Gonzalez asked GAPD staffers to think about how the waste removal proposal can connect to global environmental policy such as the goals stated in the Paris Accord.

President Peterson expressed her concern about transportation network companies defining workers as contractors but that for now Council should remain neutral on this issue until they have been properly educated on it.

She raised the issue about the need to recognize multi-model safety measures in lieu of just vehicle driver safety while passing transportation legislation.

Councilor Dirksen expressed his concern with requiring transportation network companies to define workers as employees rather than contractors. He explained that if this policy passed it might create barriers for drivers who are only wanting to work part time rather than being full time employees.

Councilor Lewis shared that if Metro cities are relying on companies like Uber and Lyft as reliable transportation for citizens, drivers should have more benefits and protections. She admitted, that because Council does not have expertise on these issues that they would need more information if these issues are brought up this legislative session. Councilor Lewis highlighted the importance of incorporating homeless services and maintaining equitable funding to each jurisdiction in House Bill 2003.

Councilor Stacey expressed his concern over the congestion created in highly populated areas due to transportation network companies. He highlighted the importance of maintaining equitable services for individuals who need more accessible transportation.

2:50 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Ms. Madrigal shared that today was the voter registration deadline in Oregon and that yesterday was Indigenous Peoples day. She additionally mentioned that the month of October is Disability Employment Awareness month and that this year was the 30th anniversary of the passing of the Disabilities Act.

2:55 Councilor Communication

Councilor Chase thanked Ms. Madrigal for reminding Council of Oregon's voter registration deadline.

Councilor Gonzalez shared that he represented Metro at the State Land Board award ceremony this morning and thanked the Metro team for achieving this award.

President Peterson recognized the extensive knowledge of the Council and for the questions that they asked.

3:00 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pilar Karlin

Pilar Karlin, Council Policy Assistant