

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 23, 2020**

**2:00 PM**

**This work session was held virtually.**

**Council work session**

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

Council President Lynn Peterson called the work session to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Present:** 6 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, and Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Bob Stacey

**Work Session Topics:****2:05 The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Presentation**

President Peterson introduced Richard Whitman, Director of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Ali Mirzakhali, DEQ staff, and Margi Bradway, Metro Staff, and Grace Cho, Metro Staff, to present on the Portland Region Air Quality.

Mr. Whitman provided a brief overview of pollutant emission sources. He discussed federal air quality regulation and emphasized its objective to protect public health. Mr. Whitman highlighted the National Ambient Air Quality Standard and Portland's current standing in meeting the standards. He discussed state air quality regulation on ozone and particulates, vehicle and fuels, climate change, air toxics, and permitting.

Mr. Whitman explained how Metro and DEQ worked together to comply with federal requirements, implement state rules, and collaborate with additional efforts such as the clean air construction standard and promoting legislation. He noted the importance of working to reduce vehicle miles traveled in order to reduce air pollution.

Mr. Mirzakhali discussed the DEQ monitoring sites in the Portland Metro region. He provided an overview of the calculated particulate matter and sector pollutant

contributions. Mr. Mirzakhilili highlighted strategies led by DEQ to reduce air pollution: employee commute options, vehicle inspection program, point source emission standards, vehicle rebate incentives, and clean diesel grants. He noted the contingency plan outlined by DEQ that DEQ and Metro would take to address and prevent violations of air standards.

Ms. Bradway provided an overview of Metro's air pollution strategies, plans, and policies. She highlighted Metro's 2040 Growth Concept, Regional Transportation Plan, and Climate Smart Strategy. Ms. Bradway emphasized the importance of developing and implementing effective land use plans in order to support and ensure effective regional travel options and transit oriented development programs. She listed recent completed air pollution strategies in the Portland Metro area: 1% increase in transit service, construction of 28 miles of bikeways or trails, and construction of 9 miles of pedestrian paths.

Ms. Cho reviewed the programmatic ongoing collaboration and memorandum of understanding between Metro and DEQ. She highlighted the vehicle miles traveled monitoring and information sharing between the Metro and DEQ.

Mr. Mirzakhilili reviewed additional opportunities for collaboration. He noted the Ozone Advance plan which focused on changing the trajectory of ozone emissions. He provided an overview of the Ozone Advance timeline stages: research, outreach, and committee work. Ms. Cho discussed potential Ozone Advance strategies for Metro programs and development. She noted that strategies could include: continuing or enhancing existing programs that already work towards reducing emissions; enhancing analysis of emissions reductions in plans and programming; furthering implementation of policies, projects, and programs within the 2040 Growth Concept, Regional

Transportation Plan, and Climate Smart Strategy; updating VMT contingency measures and parking codes in functional plan; and coordinating or implementing new emissions reductions initiatives.

*Council Discussion*

Councilor Lewis inquired about recommendations for reducing diesel pollution in construction sites and asked how low-income communities and communities of color could be engaged in air pollution reduction strategies.

Councilor Chase inquired about the California vehicle standards and diesel regulation. He asked for updates about Metro's clean diesel construction standards.

Councilor Gonzalez asked how Metro's transportation would incorporate air pollution reduction strategies.

Councilor Craddick expressed support for the Ozone Advance Project and asked if Metro had the capacity to take on the project.

President Peterson asked how the Portland area's air quality measurement system could be improved. She proposed that Metro examine how it can enhance the cohesion between Metro projects concentrated on air pollution reduction strategies.

3:05 Regional Investment Strategy: Transportation Measure

President Peterson introduced Andy Shaw, Metro staff, and Margi Bradway, Metro staff, to present on the Transportation Investment Measure.

Mr. Shaw highlighted the oversight and accountability feedback Metro received by community members and Metro's Committee on Racial Equity (CORE). Ms. Bradway

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provided an overview of the updated oversight structure. She explained that the structure would include project steering committees, an anti-displacement: regional equity coalition, program committees, and a budget and outcome oversight committee. Ms. Bradway reviewed the purpose and component of each committee and explained how each committee would be informed by the work of the other committees.

Mr. Shaw discussed the workforce equity and contracting equity accountability components within the measure. He discussed the workforce and contracting equity goals: creating career pathways for women and people of color to meet the demand for a skilled workforce, creating demand for and support success of minority and women-owned firms. Mr. Shaw explained that the goals would be met through the implementation of three components: policy, program, and practice.

Ms. Bradway highlighted air quality monitoring within the measure. She explained that funding would be allocated towards purchasing air quality monitors to measure fine particles and ground level ozone. Ms. Bradway discussed the three main activities for monitoring air quality: monitoring, data management and analysis, and additional modeling. She added that funds would be allocated towards enhancing greenhouse gas analysis. Mr. Shaw provided a brief outline of the upcoming transportation measure recommendation presentations and virtual listening sessions. He noted that the Council referral decision and final public hearing had a tentative date of July 16th.

#### *Council Discussion*

Councilor Craddick asked if the administrative costs were included in the measure's project costs.

Councilor Dirksen inquired about opportunities for council liaison in the committees. He asked for clarification on the disproportionate membership in the community membership make up.

Councilor Gonzalez asked how each committee would uphold and engage in equity work to avoid over-reliance on the regional equity coalition.

**3:50 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Ms. Madrigal provided updates regarding Metro's internal CORE group to address anti-blackness and meet with Black leaders in the Portland area. She shared that Multnomah county and the Tri-county area were seeing upticks in COVID-19 cases.

**3:55 Councilor Communication**

Councilor Dirksen provided updates about the Invest in America Act and asked for Council support in signing on to a letter supporting recent amendments to the Invest in America Act.

**4:00 Adjourn**

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:32p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nubia Milpas Martinez, Council Policy Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 23, 2020**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
1.0	PowerPoint	06/23/2020	Improving Air Quality	062320cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	06/23/2020	Get Moving 2020: Oversight & Accountability Updates	062320cw-02