

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 12, 2020**

**2:00 PM**

**This work session was held virtually.**

**Council work session**

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

**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: Transportation Investment Measure  
Community Partnership Reports

President Peterson introduced Andy Shaw, Director of Government and Policy Affairs, Molly Cooney-Mesker, Metro Staff, Duncan Hwang, APANO Staff, Jairaj Singh, APANO Staff, and Cristina Palacios, Unite Oregon Staff, to present on the Transportation Investment Measure Community Partnership Reports.

Mr. Shaw explained that the Investment Measure Community Partnership Reports consisted of ten regionwide programs staff would include in the regional transportation investment measure. He stated that the presentation was the first in a series that would culminate with staff seeking final direction in June.

Mr. Shaw emphasized the Transportation Investment Measure's commitment to the Metro's racial equity goals. He explained that in late 2019, Metro selected four community-based organizations to receive funding to conduct engagement with communities of color throughout the Portland region on the potential Get Moving 2020 measure's regionwide programs and oversight and accountability. Mr. Shaw listed the community-based organizations that were selected: the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF), Unite Oregon, and Verde.

Mr. Hwang provided an overview of APANO engagement on the transportation measure. He explained that there was a 366% increase in hate and bias incidents in Oregon according to the Department of Justice. Mr. Singh noted that 18% of the reports in March and 20% of the reports in April were from Asian Americans and Asian Pacific Islanders.

Mr. Singh highlighted the Washington County Digital Dialogue on April 8th in which community members discussed regional transportation and the racial discrimination they had experienced due to COVID-19. Mr. Hwang briefly discussed the Chinese Community Engagement Forum on May 8th. Mr. Hwang reviewed the survey results collected by APANO about the transportation measure's regionwide programs. He listed the top program priorities according to the survey: anti-displacement, affordable housing, safety hot spots, safe routes to school, and affordable student fare. Mr. Hwang highlighted additional program ideas proposed by survey and forum participants.

Ms. Palacios provided a brief overview of the community dialogues in Washington, Multnomah, and Clackamas County. She noted that most community members in attendance were immigrants from various parts of the world. Ms. Palacios listed and reviewed the program priorities participants advocated for: affordable housing that was equitable and accessible to all; safe, comfortable and efficient transportation experiences for all, and providing technical assistance and having resources widely available to support non-English speakers and elderly to help navigate the region's transportation system.

Ms. Cooney-Mesker reviewed the Metro Programs engagement that took place February through April 2020. She highlighted the in-person forums, focused virtual workshops, and online surveys. Ms. Cooney-Mesker

discussed the key themes heard within the Metro Programs engagement: safety is paramount, improve access to transit, concerns about displacement and affordable housing, support for youth transit passes, and desires for accountability and ongoing engagement.

*Council Discussion*

Councilors expressed appreciation towards APANO, Unite Oregon, and the presentations.

Councilor Lewis inquired about the possibility of hosting community dialogues in Happy Valley and Milwaukie.

President Peterson asked Ms. Palacios for clarification on Unite Oregon's definition of accountability. She asked how staff planned to follow up with the communities they engaged through the forums and dialogues.

Councilor Craddick emphasized the importance of following up with community members and clearly outlining what Metro can and cannot do regarding the transportation investment measure.

Ms. Palacios emphasized the importance of compensating community organizations and translators tasked with reporting back to the participants of community engagements.

**3:20 Budget Update**

Ms. Madrigal discussed the recent Oregon Re-opening orders by Governor Kate Brown.

*Council Discussion*

Councilor Dirksen inquired about potential re-opening plans for the Oregon Zoo.

**3:25 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Ms. Madrigal announced the Metro All Staff Town Hall scheduled for May 14th. She provided updates on the Metro employee assistance fund and noted that eligible employees would be notified about the grants beginning next week.

**3:30 Councilor Communication**

Council Dirksen provided an update on the Oregon Zoo Foundation. Councilor Gonzalez provided an update on the Transportation Investment Measure presentation at the Washington County Board of Commissioners meeting. Councilor Lewis discussed the Clackamas County Coordinating meeting. President Peterson discussed ongoing efforts throughout the state to address food and housing insecurity.

**3:35 Adjourn**

Seeing no further business, Deputy Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nubia Milpas Martinez, Council Policy Assistant