

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

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 Metro Council Meeting call to order at: 2:01 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Bob Stacey, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Mary Nolan

Work Session Topics:

2:05 Finance/MERC Venues Budget Work Session

Presenter(s): Robyn Williams, Executive Director P5
Craig Stroud, Executive Director OCC
Matthew Rotchford, Executive Director EXPO

Council President Peterson introduced the various Metro venue directors to review their FY 2021-22 budget.

Deidra Krys-Rusoff (She/Her) MERC Treasurer shared the hard work MERC venues have worked this past year during the pandemic. Matthew Rotchford (He/Him) Director of the Portland Expo Center presented the budget changes and their proposed FY 2021-22 budget.

Robyn Williams (She/Her) Director of Portland's Centers for the Arts, shared the Portland's venue's proposed budget and how the pandemic has affected their budget. Deputy Director of the Oregon Convention Center, Craig Stroud (He/Him), reviewed the proposed major programmatic changes for when the Oregon Convention Center begins to re-open.

Chief Operating Officer Brian Kennedy (He/Him) reviewed each venues budgets.

Council Discussion

Councilor Lewis asked each venue director's the following

questions: What tax assumptions were made and are we really a combined labor force? Did the venues do an air circulation study?

Councilor Gonzalez thanked the director's for their hard work and their presentation. Furthermore, he asked each director how many staff vacancies are there and are there concerns about staff returning.

Councilor Rosenthal asked the directors the following two questions: Whether MERC venues have completed a solar panel analysis? How has each venue worked on becoming more inclusive to community members with disabilities?

Councilor Nolan asked the directors how they are working on making their venues more inclusive to marginalized communities in our region.

Council President Peterson urged the directors to continue to work towards achieving more equitable venues.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next Work Session Topic:
Willamette Cove

2:50 Willamette Cove Work Session

Presenter(s): Paul Slyman, Metro
Marissa Madrigal, Metro
Katy Weil, Metro

Council President Peterson introduced Paul Slyman (He/Him), Marissa Madrigal (She/Her) and Katy Weil (She/Her) to present the DEQ Record of Decision on Willamette Cove.

Chief Operating Officer Marissa Madrigal, shared the history of Willamette Cove and what it looks like today. Katy Weil reviewed the proposed clean-up plan and Paul Slyman

reviewed the DEQ Record of Decision and potential remedies of the site.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan expressed her interest in options two and three and shared her strong support of a complete clean-up of the site.

Councilor Gonzalez thanked staff for their presentation and expressed his support of studying the site further.

Councilor Lewis expressed her desire for the Willamette River to be accessible to everyone in the community and that she would support options two and three. Additionally, she asked staff how they plan on engaging with local tribes who have a connection to the site.

Councilor Rosenthal thanked staff for their work and expressed his support of option three.

Councilor Craddick shared that she was in support of further evaluation of the site however asked staff to explain more about how they financially plan on funding another site evaluation.

Council President Peterson thanked staff for their work and for the community for their patience throughout this process.

Councilor Stacey thanked the community for advocating for the complete clean-up of this site and shared his desire for a complete clean-up.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next Work Session Topic: Investment & Innovations Grant Program Update

3:35 Investment & Innovations Grant Program Update

Presenter(s): Suzanne Piluso, Metro
Matt Korot, Metro

Council President Peterson introduced Suzanne Piluso (She/Her) and Matt Korot (He/Him) to provide an update on the Investment and Innovations Grant Program.

Matt Korot reviewed the Investment & Innovations Grant program and the questions staff had for councilors.

Suzanne Piluso reviewed the grants generated from the program and the impacts that these grants have made on the region.

Council Discussion

Councilor Craddick expressed her support of this program and shared that she would like to see more grants going to innovations in plastic waste reduction.

Councilor Rosenthal expressed his support for the program and asked staff what the hesitance might be to not refund this program.

Councilor Gonzalez asked staff what the right sized investment should be into this program and what is the greatest impact they can make.

Councilor Lewis expressed that she would support this program if staff commits to meeting more stringent environmental goals and creates a racial equity framework.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to Chief Operating Officer Communication.

4:20 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Marissa Madrigal introduced Randy Tucker to share various legislative affairs updates.

4:25 Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events: Committee on Racial Equity (CORE) meeting and 1-5 bridge replacement program

4:30 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pilar Karlin

Pilar Karlin, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 27, 2021

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	04/27/2021	Willamette Cove	042721cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	04/27/2021	MERC Commission Budget	042721cw-02
3.0	PowerPoint	04/27/2021	Investment and Innovations Grant Program	042721cw-03