

# Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736  
[oregonmetro.gov](http://oregonmetro.gov)



Metro

## Minutes

Tuesday, May 25, 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: 2:02 p.m.

Council President Lynn Peterson and Councilors recognized the one year anniversary of the murder of George Floyd and took a moment of silence in remembrance of his death.

**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 Interstate Bridge Replacement Program-Project Update and Revised Values and Outcomes

Presenter(s): Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, Metro  
Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Metro  
Margi Bradway, Metro

Council President Peterson introduced Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara (She/Her), Sebrina Owens-Wilson (She/Her), Margi Bradway (She/Her) to provide an update on the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program.

Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara provided background information on the project, the updates that have been made to outcomes and the next steps to implementing the updated outcomes and values. Additionally, she reviewed the updates that have been made since receiving comments from Councilors in January.

Sebrina Owens-Wilson provided an update on the Equity Advisory Group and their work plan/framework. Furthermore, she highlighted the importance of incorporating equity in both the planning and

implementation process of this project. She explained that in order to achieve their equity goals for this project including Black, Indigenous, People of Color and other minority community members throughout the entire process is crucial.

*Council Discussion*

Councilor Stacey asked staff if they have shared the equity goals and framework with the Committee on Racial Equity. Additionally, Councilor Stacey expressed his concern with including Washington state projects into the bridge replacement program.

Councilor Craddick expressed her support of the additional sustainability values/outcomes and shared the importance of design in this project.

Councilor Lewis expressed her support of incorporating the light-rail over bus transit on the bridge. Additionally, she asked staff when and how in this process they can advocate building up the light-rail system over bus transit.

Councilor Gonzalez asked staff to review the differences between past proposals for the bridge and the current proposal for the bridge. Furthermore, he expressed his concern with the project's potential greenhouse gas emissions.

Councilor Nolan shared her concerns with the omission of explicit quantity based goals and outcomes in terms of equity and the environment. She asked staff to strengthen their environmental and equity goals.

Council President Peterson thanked staff for their work and

expressed her appreciation to all of the partners on this project.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next Work Session Topic: Parks and Natural Areas Operating Levy Renewal

2:50 Parks and Natural Areas Operating Levy Renewal

Presenter(s): Jon Blasher, Metro  
Scotty Ellis, Metro  
Beth Cohen, Metro

Council President Peterson introduced Jon Blasher (he/him/his), Scotty Ellis (he/him), Beth Cohen (she/her) to present on: the Parks and Natural Areas Operating Levy Renewal.

Jon Blasher reviewed the history of the levy project and the importance of parks during the pandemic and in general as a community resource.

Furthermore, Beth Cohen reviewed the regional impacts of the levy program. Scotty Ellis reviewed the proposed work plan and the guiding principles for the 2022 levy renewal package and summarized the project timeline and next steps.

Staff asked the following questions of Councilors: How does this approach align with the Metro Council's expectations at this point? What additional information would Metro Council like in the future to inform its decision making?

#### *Council Discussion*

Councilor Rosenthal asked staff if there has been any changes to the framework and if they need to be doing

---

more or less in certain focus areas.

Councilor Nolan expressed her concern with the regressive nature of the property tax and its impact on lower income community members. Additionally, she shared her concern with the lack of access to our parks via public transit and how to increase accessibility for both lower income folks and the disabled community.

Councilor Craddick asked staff to look into compression and what its impacts are in the region.

Councilor Lewis thanked staff for their work and asked staff to thoroughly review the improvement. Furthermore, she asked staff to present the tax mechanism options with Council separately from discussing the programmatic questions.

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

**3:35 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

There was none.

**3:40 Councilor Communication**

Councilor Lewis share the following updates: the Oversight Committee for Supportive Housing Service’s approved the Clackamas county LIP and the Parks Bond Oversight Committee had their second meeting.

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pilar Karlin, Council Policy Assistant

**3:45 Adjourn to Executive Session**

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Pilar Karlin*

Pilar Karlin, Council Policy Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 25, 2021**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
1.0	PowerPoint	05/25/2021	Interstate Bridge Replacement Program-Project Update and Revised Values and Outcomes	052521cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	05/25/2021	Parks and Natural Areas Operating Budget Levy Renewal	052521cw-02