

Council work session

Minutes

October 26, 2021

## Metro

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Metro

## Minutes

**Tuesday, October 26, 2021**

**10:30 AM**

**<https://zoom.us/j/471155552> or 888-475-4499 (toll free)**

**Council work session**

**10:30 Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Work Session Topics:**

10:35 Federal, State and Tribal Affairs Legislative Agenda

Council President Peterson introduced Tyler Frisbee [she/her], Katie MacDonald [she/her], and Annelise Koehler [she/her] to present Federal, State, and Tribal Gov. Affairs Agenda

Staff pulled up the [*Agenda Item Presentation Powerpoint*] to present to Council.

Staff updated Council regarding Metro's Federal, State, and Tribal Government priorities.

*Council Discussion*

**Council President Peterson** asked what parts of the federal 5 year economic recovery plan has Metro, other governments, and organizations taken on with other organizations. She also requested more specific details as they become available.

Tyler explained that staff is currently working with the economic recovery table to determine just that, and are currently working on applying for state/federal grant money.

**Councilor Rosenthal** was surprised to find that there would be no discussion around reparations for indigenous tribes at the federal level. He also believes Metro could use more specific language and support specific programs and legislation.

Tyler reminded Councilor Rosenthal that, last time Staff met with Council, they discussed using more generalized language. If Staff is given a more general list of Metro's

values and legislative priorities, they would not need to constantly return to Council to receive their approval with each introduction of new legislation or changes to existing legislation.

**Councilor Nolan** agreed with some of Councilor Rosenthal's comments, particularly regarding reparations. They believe Metro should push harder for reparations for historically disadvantaged populations and climate-related policies. Councilor Nolan worries that generalized language will not provide Staff with adequate guidance, and they may ultimately misrepresent Council.

**Council President Peterson** suggested that Council leave things as is, wait and see how things unfold, and have more detailed discussions about specific legislation as they become relevant.

Tyler assured Council that Staff and Metro's legislative liaisons have been accurately representing Council's interests, and will continue to do so. She is also happy to conduct 1-on-1 briefings with Council if that is preferred.

**Councilor Lewis** reminded Council that a balance is required. The document must be substantive enough to provide adequate guidance to Staff but cannot be too long, or others will not read it. She believes that, since Metro has very little influence at the federal level, Staff needs to be enabled to do their best. Otherwise, Councilor Lewis fears that Metro will be left behind when it comes time to allocate funds.

**Council President Peterson** asked if Council and Staff would like to make any edits to strengthen Metro's position on

reparations.

Tyler reminded Council that they had previously approved a letter of support for Senator Cory Booker's Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act.

Seeing no further discussion on the federal agenda, Council President Peterson moved on to the state agenda.

**Councilor Gonzalez**, regarding Metro's state-level priorities, suggested adding more language around SHS before approving the document.

Annelise would be happy to revise some of the language, but also feels like she has enough guidance to appropriately represent Council's interests.

**Councilor Rosenthal** had a few comments and questions:

- He suggested advocating for more funding for agencies like the DEQ, who are habitually underfunded.
- Will there be any local or regional revenue raising measures this legislative session?
- Specific climate change issues that may come up this legislative session?
- Will the bill to restructure OFRI be brought up this session?

Annelise is unaware of any budget requests made, revenue raising measure, or the OFRI bill coming back, but will look into it. However, there has been a big push to implement the governor's climate-related executive orders, and Staff is keeping their eyes on them, though there are no hard timelines yet.

Seeing no further discussion on the state agenda, Council President Peterson moved on to the tribal agenda.

**Councilor Nolan** appreciated Katie's work, and supported her approach of recognizing tribal leadership and following their lead.

**Councilor Rosenthal** asked Katie to clarify if Staff is working to facilitate inter-tribal communication. He also asked if there is a common definition of "first foods."

Katie explained that each tribe is unique and, though there are some common staples, they each have a different variety of "first foods." She also explained that the tribes have longstanding customs when communicating with one another, and Metro needs to respect those customs. The tribes are also sovereign nations, while Metro is a regional government agency, so Metro's role is purely to facilitate, not provide guidance.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next agenda item.

### **11:20 Reimagine Oregon: Reimagining Policing, Security and the Use of Incarcerated Labor Project**

Council President Peterson called on [Marissa Madrigal] [she/her/ella], Metro COO, and Punneh Abdolhosseini [she/her] to present to Council.

Staff pulled up the [*Agenda Item Presentation Powerpoint*] to present to Council.

*Council Discussion*

**Councilor Lewis** is excited that this work is being applied to frontline workers. She then asked when the more public phase, bringing in outside organizations, will begin. She also asked if contracting outside security was necessary.

Punneh explained that Staff wants to be sure to replace the resources lost as Metro shifts away from private contractors. Reed Broderson added that Staff does not have a hard deadline yet, but will have an engagement plan ready to present to Council by the end of the year.

**Council President Peterson** asked Marissa for any closing statements.

Marissa thanked Staff for their work on this project, and reiterated the significance of it.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next agenda item.

**12:05 Councilor Communication**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- **Councilor Gonzalez** updated Council regarding the Redistricting Subcommittee and the new Redistricting website.

**12:10 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Marissa Madrigal provided an update on the following events or items:

- Last Friday, Marissa visited Chehalem Ridge in Washington County.

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**12:15 Adjourn**

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 12:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nathan Kim*

Nathan Kim, Legislative Assistant