

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING 2022) RESOLUTION NO. 22-5232
FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE)
AGENDAS) Introduced by Council President Peterson

WHEREAS, Metro has an interest in the bills, policies, and discussions before the 2022 Oregon Legislature and the 117th Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council and Metro staff will represent Metro’s interests during the upcoming legislative session and the current Congress through meetings, engagement, and legislative discussion; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council wishes to establish a united position on important legislative proposals and provide direction to its staff in order to represent the will of the agency at both the state and federal level; and

WHEREAS, the attached Exhibit A of this resolution lists specific expected and potential 2022 issues that are of concern to Metro and the metropolitan region and gives guidance to staff on the Metro Council’s position on these issues in preparation for the 2022 State Legislative Session; and

WHEREAS, the attached Exhibit B states the Metro Council’s principles regarding categories of potential legislation in order to provide guidance to staff in representing Metro throughout the 2022 State Legislative Session; and

WHEREAS, the attached Exhibit C identifies key policy priorities and issues of concern regarding potential legislation and policy discussion, in order to provide guidance to staff and Metro Council for the remainder of the 117th Congress; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council hereby directs the Metro Chief Operating Officer, the Metro Attorney, and Metro staff to communicate the agency’s position on a variety of legislative proposals to the 2022 Oregon Legislature and the 117th Congress consistent with Exhibits “A,” “B,” and “C” attached hereto.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 13th day of January, 2022.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

METRO COUNCIL 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES¹



GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

- 1. Successful Communities:** Metro supports policy and funding solutions that facilitate the achievement of the six desired outcomes for successful communities that have been agreed upon by the region: vibrant, walkable communities; economic competitiveness and prosperity; safe and reliable transportation choices; leadership in minimizing contributions to climate change; clean air, clean water and healthy ecosystems; and equitable distribution of the burdens and benefits of growth and change.²
- 2. Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** Metro envisions a region and state where a person's race, ethnicity or zip code does not predict their future prospects and where all residents can enjoy economic opportunity and quality of life. Metro therefore supports legislation that acknowledges past discrimination, addresses current disparities and promotes inclusion in public programs, services, facilities and policies.³
- 3. Climate Justice:** Metro supports efforts to combat and adapt to climate change and to meet the state's goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. To this end, Metro supports state policy and funding solutions that can help to reduce emissions in all of its main lines of business: land use and transportation planning and investment, housing and homeless services, consumption and waste management and solid waste management, parks and natural areas, and operation of visitor venues.
- 4. Pre-emption:** With respect to issues related to matters of regional concern, Metro's policy and funding authority should not be pre-empted or eroded.
- 5. Funding:** To ensure a prosperous economy, a clean and healthy environment, and a high quality of life for all of their citizens, Metro and the region's counties, cities, and other service providers must have the financial resources to provide sustainable, quality public services. Accordingly, the Legislature should remove existing restrictions on local and regional revenue-raising authority and avoid enacting new limitations or pre-emptions, and all state mandates should be accompanied by funding.

SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES:

HOUSING:

- 6. Affordable Housing and Homelessness:** Metro supports efforts to ensure that housing choices are available to people of all incomes in every community in our region; to reduce the number of households that are burdened by the combined costs of housing and transportation; to support people experiencing homelessness or at risk of losing housing; and to increase affordable opportunities for home ownership.⁴ To achieve these outcomes, Metro supports legislative actions consistent with Oregon's land use laws that increase the supply of both regulated affordable housing and market-rate housing; provide funding for both housing development and services that support lower-income renters and people experiencing

homelessness; and provide reasonable protections for renters against arbitrary and unfair actions.

LAND USE AND URBAN GROWTH MANAGEMENT:

- 7. Oregon's Land Use System:** Oregon's land use planning system provides an important foundation for the prosperity, sustainability and livability of our region; this system reflects the values of Oregonians and enjoys strong public support.⁵ The Legislature should exercise restraint and care when considering changes to Oregon's land use system.
- 8. Local Land Use Decisions:** Management of the urban growth boundary is a complex undertaking that involves extensive analysis, public input, and a balancing of many factors. Urban growth management decisions have profound impacts not just on land at the boundary, but on communities within the boundary and on farms and other rural lands outside the boundary. For these reasons, the Legislature should establish the process and policy framework for local land use decisions and should affirm the authority of local governments, including Metro, to make specific decisions on local land use matters.
- 9. Efficient Use of Existing Urban Land:** Land within the urban growth boundary should be used efficiently before the boundary is expanded.⁶ Metro supports policy and funding strategies to facilitate efficient use of existing urban land, including investments in brownfield cleanup and industrial site readiness, as well as policy and zoning reforms that authorize and/or encourage more efficient development in residential and commercial areas.
- 10. Need:** The UGB should not be expanded in the absence of demonstrated need.⁷
- 11. Integration of Land Use and Transportation:** Land use and transportation planning should be coordinated so land uses do not undermine the efficiency and reliability of the transportation system and transportation investments do not lead to unintended or inefficient land uses.⁸
- 12. Annexation:** Cities are the preferred governing structure for providing public services to urban areas, and Metro supports reforms that will facilitate, or reduce barriers to, orderly annexation and incorporation.
- 13. Fiscal Responsibility:** Funding to support urban development should be generated at least in part by fees on those who directly benefit from that development.

SOLID WASTE:

- 14. Life Cycle Approach:** Metro supports efforts to minimize the health, safety, environmental, economic and social impacts associated with consumer products and packaging throughout all stages of a product's life cycle, beginning with resource extraction and continuing through design, manufacturing, consumption and disposal.⁹
- 15. Product Stewardship/Producer Responsibility:** Metro supports legislation providing that whoever designs, produces, sells or uses a product bears responsibility for minimizing the product's environmental impact throughout all stages of the product's life cycle. Under this market-based approach, the life-cycle costs of a product are internalized into its price rather than being forced onto the general public. This approach also provides an incentive for manufacturers to design and produce their goods in a way that minimizes waste, environmental impact and management costs.
- 16. Equity in the Solid Waste System:** The Regional Waste Plan aims to eliminate disparities experienced by people of color and historically marginalized communities from the full life

cycle of products and packaging used and disposed in the region. Metro supports legislation that achieves this by advancing: community restoration, community partnerships and community investment; access to recycling, waste and reuse services and information; good jobs with improved worker health and safety, compensation and career pathways; business opportunities in the local economy; and community health through minimized impacts from system operations - locally and in end markets - and from toxic chemicals in products and packaging. Legislation should require the establishment of targets, standards and compliance processes, as appropriate, to ensure progress toward equity goals.

TRANSPORTATION:

- 21. Transportation Funding:** Providing adequate funding for all transportation modes that move people and freight supports economic prosperity, community livability, public health and environmental quality. For these reasons, Metro supports an increase in overall transportation funding, investments in a safe and balanced multimodal transportation system that addresses the needs of all users, and flexibility in the system to provide for local solutions to transportation problems.
- 22. Climate Justice:** Metro and its regional partners are committed to the Climate Smart Strategy, which includes actions needed to achieve state targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation. The state should provide financial support for implementation of the Climate Smart Strategy.
- 23. Safe and Equitable Transportation:** Our region has adopted policies and developed programs to make it safer to walk and bike to school and other destinations, reduce serious traffic crashes and deaths, and reduce the disproportionate impact of traffic crashes and traffic enforcement in low income communities and communities of color.¹⁰ Metro supports legislation that advances safe and equitable transportation, including more effective and equitable enforcement of speed limits and other safety regulations, greater investment in infrastructure that improves safety (especially in disadvantaged communities), and greater authority for local governments to safely manage their transportation networks.

PARKS, NATURE AND CONSERVATION:

- 24. Parks and Natural Areas:** Our region has invested heavily in protecting water quality and wildlife habitat and providing residents with access to nature and outdoor activity. Parks and natural areas are regional assets that support public health, environmental quality, strong property values and economic prosperity. For these reasons, Metro supports measures to increase local and regional authority to raise revenues to support parks and natural areas and to increase the level of state funding distributed to local governments for acquisition, capital improvements, and park operations.
- 25. Species Conservation:** Metro supports efforts to protect and restore wildlife habitat, to recover threatened and endangered species, and to create a better future for wildlife, both in Oregon and globally.
- 26. Conservation Education:** Metro supports efforts to provide stable and reliable funding to conservation education.

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY:

28. Metro Venues: Because the Oregon Convention Center, Expo Center, Portland's Centers for the Arts and Oregon Zoo contribute millions of dollars to the state and regional economies, Metro supports policy and funding solutions that facilitate the success of these venues in attracting visitors and enhancing the quality of their experiences.

AGENCY OPERATIONS:

29. Firearms and Public Facilities: Metro supports legislation that increases Metro's authority to regulate the carrying of firearms on Metro properties and public venues, and opposes legislation that limits or reduces that authority.

30. Disaster Resilience: Metro supports legislative efforts to improve community disaster preparedness and resilience, with the goal of enabling the Portland region to provide for the immediate needs of its residents and businesses after a catastrophic event and facilitating the region's short- and long-term recovery.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, endnotes refer to applicable policy statements in Metro's [Regional Framework Plan](#) (RFP).

² RFP Chapter 1 (Land Use).

³ [Strategic plan to advance racial equity, diversity and inclusion](#).

⁴ RFP Policy 1.3 (Housing Choices and Opportunities).

⁵ See <http://oregonvaluesproject.org/findings/top-findings/> (specifically item 5, Natural Resource Protections for Future Generations)

⁶ RFP Policy 1.1 (Compact Urban Form).

⁷ RFP Policy 1.9 (Urban Growth Boundary).

⁸ RFP Policy 1.3.13 (Housing Choices and Opportunities); Transportation Goal 1 (Foster Vibrant Communities and Efficient Urban Form).

⁹ [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#), page 11.

¹⁰ [2018 Regional Transportation Plan, Chapter 3](#), Safety and Security Policies 1-9 and Transportation Equity Policies 1-7.

METRO COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2022 Legislative Session



SHORT SESSION PRIORITY ITEMS (Legislation we know will be introduced)

- **COVID response and economic recovery:** Support legislation that addresses ongoing COVID-19 public health response and economic recovery including policy changes and funding assistance in line with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and additional business, economic development, and housing support.
- **Product stewardship for mattresses:** Support legislation that requires mattress companies to set-up and operate a program for managing and recovering materials from discarded mattresses.
- **Columbia River levees:** Support legislation that address technical changes and provides funding support to facilitate the transition of the Columbia River levee system management to the Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District.

ON-GOING PRIORITIES (Legislation we anticipate could be introduced)

- **Affordable housing and addressing homelessness:** Support efforts to increase state housing funding, improve tenant protections, expand affordable home ownership options, increase home ownership for BIPOC households, advance solutions to end homelessness, and provide additional tools and authority to local governments to address housing supply and affordability.
- **Urban growth management:** Ensure that the Legislature establishes the policy framework and process for local land use decisions and respects the authority of local governments, including Metro, to make specific decisions on local land use matters. Oppose efforts to legislatively determine specific land use designations in the region or to distort the process of assessing land need by mandating inaccurate analysis.
- **Transportation:** Support legislative decisions that: secure ongoing state funding for investments to improve safety and multimodal mobility on state highways that operate as urban arterials; advance transportation projects in ways that accommodate community concerns, measurably reduce greenhouse gas emissions and minimize other environmental impacts; and address ongoing harm to communities of color caused by past and current transportation policies and investments.
- **Racial justice:** Support legislation that acknowledges past and ongoing discrimination, eliminates current disparities and promotes substantive inclusion in decisions about public programs, services, facilities and policies, including Black, Indigenous and People of Color-led policy and funding proposals that create meaningful law enforcement reform.
- **Climate justice:** Support state policy and funding solutions that reduce emissions in all of Metro's main lines of business: land use and transportation planning and investment, housing and homeless services, consumption and waste management and solid waste management, parks and natural areas, and operation of visitor venues.



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METRO COUNCIL 117th CONGRESS FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Metro Council 2021-2022 Federal Legislative Agenda lays out the principles, priorities, and issues for Metro to track at the regulatory and legislative level for the 117th Congress. This Congress represents a unique time for our federal government and for Metro: there are significant needs to ensure that we emerge from the COVID-19 public health pandemic economically stronger, more equitable, more sustainable, and more prepared to tackle the climate change, inequality, and racial justice crises. To do so will require coordinated, focused policies and sustained investment at all levels of government. This document captures the key needs and goals of the greater Portland area as we embark upon the recovery our region needs.

METRO COUNCIL 117th CONGRESS FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

The Metro Council 2021-2022 Federal Legislative Principles are the key values that guide Metro's engagement on any issue and apply to all our policy and funding priorities.

ADVANCE RACIAL EQUITY

Metro envisions a region and state where a person's race, place of birth, ethnicity or zip code does not predict their future prospects and where all residents can enjoy economic opportunity and quality of life. Metro therefore supports policies that acknowledge past discrimination (including using financial compensation to address past disparities, theft, and broken promises at the federal, state, and local level), eliminate current disparities, and promote inclusion and accessibility in public programs, services, facilities and policies. Metro supports removing barriers, through targeted universalism-based policies, to the full participation of Black, Indigenous, and immigrant communities as well as all communities of color in economic and social opportunities. Metro also recognizes the need for disaggregated data to help decision-makers better understand the needs and challenges faced by Black, Indigenous and People of Color, and efforts to center those lived experiences in decision-making.

SUPPORT GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT TRIBAL RELATIONS

Support Government-to-Government Tribal Relations: Metro acknowledges centuries of systemic harm to our tribal partners, including genocide, forced land removal, land and property theft, and the breaking of agreed-upon treaty rights. These actions were supported and often carried out by governments at the federal, state, regional, and local levels. Metro will track and advocate for strengthening requirements and incentives regarding government to government engagement and other initiatives that are intended to expand the role that tribal partners and indigenous peoples have in government decision-making.

TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE, RESTORE CLIMATE INTEGRITY

Metro supports aggressive efforts, policies, and bold investments to combat and adapt to climate change and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the local, regional, state, national, and international levels. Metro advocates for policies, programs, and projects that incentivize or require greenhouse gas emissions reduction, advance planning efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support climate adaptation, and facilitate data collection to improve climate and air pollution monitoring. Metro also supports policies that use possible revenue from carbon reduction fees to support family wage jobs, job training, transportation investments that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and climate pollution mitigation programs.

FACILITATE REGIONAL COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE

Support Regional Planning and Coordination: Many of our country's challenges are big and complex. While cities and counties play a key role in enacting policy change and improving the lives of their constituents, many of the most pressing issues require coordination between cities, counties and other local forms of government. Metro supports policies that advance regional coordination on policy challenges that ignore boundaries and require cooperation and alignment among cities and counties, particularly those related to climate change, land use policy, housing affordability and availability, transportation planning, waste management, and conservation.

PROMOTE SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITIES

Metro supports legislation that facilitates the achievement of the six desired outcomes for successful communities that have been agreed upon by the region: vibrant, walkable communities; economic competitiveness and prosperity; safe and reliable transportation choices; leadership in minimizing contributions to global warming; clean air, clean water and healthy ecosystems; and equitable distribution of the burdens and benefits of growth and change.

PROTECT AND INCREASE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR OUR REGION

To ensure a prosperous economy, a clean and healthy environment, and a high quality of life for all of our residents, Metro and our partners must have the sustainable financial resources to provide quality public services and advance the principles and goal discussed above. This includes protecting existing federal funding, and supporting and seeking funding opportunities that align with Metro’s Six Desired Outcomes and other regional priorities. After decades-long disinvestment at the federal level, the federal government must be a partner in tackling the looming challenges of economic inequality, systemic racism, climate change, and recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

METRO COUNCIL 117th CONGRESS FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Metro’s Legislative Priorities reflect our key federal advocacy efforts. These represent the bulk of Metro’s federal engagement for the 117th Congress, although other efforts may emerge in response to unforeseen opportunities.

Affordable Housing

Unified control of Congress for the first time in more than a decade is likely to lead to a more robust discussion about federal housing policy and ways that the federal government can be more supportive of local efforts to address chronic homelessness in the U.S. This will likely include the rollback of the Faircloth Amendment (which forbids the construction of public housing projects), increased interest in the intersection of transit and housing through legislation like the More Housing Near Transit Act, and efforts at improving the Affordable Housing Tax Credit. In addition, the Biden Administration will likely look for ways to expand use of existing programs, such as the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, and will roll back Trump Administration policies and guidance that limited or restricted eligibility for federal housing assistance.

- **Housing Affordability:** Metro supports policies that advance housing affordability, increase investments in regulated affordable housing programs to meet the national identified need, and provide diverse housing choices. This includes eviction moratoriums during times of national crisis, rental support and housing vouchers, and increased funding for services to help people stay in their homes. In order to reduce the barriers to home ownership, Metro also supports efforts to strengthen regulation of home mortgages and predatory lending practices. Metro believes all of these policies should also help dismantle racist housing policies and help people of color find safe, stable, and affordable housing. As part of that effort, Metro supports efforts to enforce and strengthen the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule.
- **Regional Housing Principles for National Housing Solutions:** The National Housing Solutions for Greater Portland policy proposals highlight the need to increase the supply of affordable housing coupled with accessible and high-quality wrap around services to ensure that everyone can find a place to call home. These principles were created in partnership with our region’s Housing Authorities and Continuum of Care

providers to identify shared housing values amongst regional partners and will help guide Metro's engagement with housing policy at the federal level.

Economic Rebuilding

The Biden Administration's Build Back Better agenda includes a strong focus on workforce training and development, and using federal funds to help workers, as well as small businesses, regain stronger footing. Congress is expected to consider progressive legislation including possible paid family leave, a higher federal minimum wage, and worker training programs.

- **Regional Economic Recovery Plan:** The bi-state Regional Economic Recovery Strategy identifies key investments and tactics the region is pursuing in order to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic economically more robust, more resilient, and more equitable. The Strategy identifies key strategies and focuses on the need to help small businesses recover and grow, advance economic mobility through workforce training opportunities for individuals, and support families and children through better childcare and workforce policies, with an urgent focus on building opportunities and long-term wealth creation for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Metro stands ready to support efforts identified by the Greater Portland Economic Development Plan and the Greater Portland Economic Development District Implementation Workgroup as key priorities to help the region in its economic recovery.
- **Workforce:** Ensuring that the benefits of a growing and green economy are equitably distributed means ensuring that our workforce and workforce training programs are focused on ensuring women and BIPOC communities can fully participate and succeed. As Metro advances the Construction Career Pathways program in the greater Portland area, we encourage the federal government to support investments in regional training programs and changes in local hiring regulations to make it easier for local agencies and hiring partners to use public investment to ensure that people of color can find employment and advance their careers.
- **Metro Venues:** Due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Metro may need ongoing support for our visitor-dependent entities, such as the Portland's Centers for the Arts, the Oregon Zoo, and the Convention Center. These venues are regional assets that contribute millions of dollars to the state and local economies, and are key to regional economic recovery. As necessary, we support federal aid to facilities that provide for public access to arts, education, and culture and boost tourism, in order to help these facilities survive the COVID 19 pandemic.

Safe and Reliable Transportation

Metro Council and JPACT have worked together to develop a robust federal agenda to help the region build and operate the transportation projects necessary to reach our

Climate Smart goals, our resiliency projects, our maintenance projects, our Vision Zero goals, and ongoing congestion in the greater Portland region.

- **Innovative and Stable Transportation Funding:** In order for our transportation system to tackle our region’s biggest challenges, including slowing climate change, increasing traffic safety, advancing racial equity, and supporting everyone’s ability to move around our region safely, affordably, and easily, the region needs a robust and multimodal transportation funding approach. Metro supports an increase in overall transportation funding, investments in a safe, electric, and balanced multimodal transportation system that addresses the needs of all users, and flexibility in the system to provide for local solutions to transportation problems. Given the significant underinvestment in transit at the federal and state levels as compared to what is needed to implement the Climate Smart Strategy, Metro particularly supports increased investment in transit capital and operations.

Given the need for long-term, stable transportation funding sources, Metro supports innovative approaches, including congestion pricing, that better connect system performance, outcomes such as increased safety, reduced climate pollution or improved access for people of color, and road usage, with transportation funding mechanisms. There should be funding and policy changes to support exploring these innovative revenue mechanisms at the federal, state, and regional level, and ensuring that revenue from these innovations supports a cleaner, more equitable transportation system.

In addition, the region has spent two years identifying key transportation needs through the Let’s Get Moving process; funding for the projects and programs in that proposal is a key interest for Metro. Metro supports policies that make it easier to seek funding for these projects, particularly the corridor-long transit projects, and in general supports efforts to increase the transportations funds available at the regional level in order to advance regional goals around reducing greenhouse gas emissions and building a safe, equitable, affordable transportation system.

- **Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) Federal Legislative Agenda:** This agenda has included policies to support Vision Zero at the federal level, increase transit funding and funding for Safe Routes to Schools, provide set-aside funds for orphan highways, and provide funding for specific regional projects. Metro supports these policies as approved by JPACT and the Metro Council.
- **Coordinated Transportation Planning:** Metro supports policies and funding that highlight the importance of equitable, comprehensive, regional transportation planning; connect transportation, housing, and economic development; and that increase accountability for planning and funding decisions through stronger performance metrics at the federal level.
- **Trails and Outdoor Recreation Funding:** As both a parks operator and a regional planning agency, Metro supports increasing federal funding to plan, design, and build non-motorized trails and trail systems for recreation and transportation purposes.

Clean Air, Clean Water, and Healthy Ecosystems

The Biden Administration has been very clear that fighting climate change is a key priority, and this includes efforts to protect clean air and clean water from climate pollution and other toxics. This is likely to begin with a focus on undoing many of the Trump-era environmental rollbacks, but will also include additional efforts to strengthen the Clean Water and Clean Air Acts, incorporate an environmental justice lens onto federal decision processes, and better account for the cost of externalities, such as climate pollution, in federal rulemaking. The Department of Interior is also expected to act as a strong steward, with a focus on supporting access to and preserving the long-term health of our public lands.

- **Clean Air, Clean Water, and Wildlife Habitat:** Our region has invested heavily in protecting water quality and wildlife habitat and providing residents with access to nature and outdoor activity. Parks and natural areas are regional assets that support public health, environmental quality, strong property values and economic prosperity. Metro supports regulatory action and funding efforts that increase access to open spaces, reduce air, water, and climate pollution, and protect vulnerable habitat.
- **Safe, Healthy, Sustainable Products and Product Disposal:** Metro supports legislative efforts to ensure that whoever designs, produces, sells or uses a product bears responsibility for minimizing the product's environmental impact throughout all stages of the product's life cycle, particularly when the product involves the use or disposal of toxic substances. Under this market-based approach, the life-cycle costs of a product are internalized into its price rather than being forced onto the general public. Metro supports efforts to minimize the health, safety, environmental, economic and social impacts associated with consumer products and packaging throughout all stages of a product's life cycle, beginning with resource extraction and continuing through design, manufacturing, consumption, recycling, and disposal.
- **Open Space Preservation and Access:** The COVID 19 pandemic and the increased vulnerability to natural hazards due to climate change have both demonstrated the need for open space to facilitate safe, accessible outdoor recreation and protect natural systems that increase community and ecosystem resiliency and recovery. Metro supports efforts to increase funding for state, regional, and local entities to protect and preserve open space.
- **Willamette Falls:** As a key partner in the Willamette Falls Legacy project, Metro has successfully negotiated continued public access and development of a riverwalk in partnership with the new property owner; the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The restoration and redevelopment of the abandoned mill site will require significant time and funding. Metro will support efforts led by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Willamette Falls Trust to pursue federal funding efforts to support projects such as Phase 2 of the Riverwalk, cleanup of environmental contaminants on-site, restoration of key habitat, protection of economic development opportunities, public access, and co-development of facilities that can be used by Tribal members and the public. Metro also supports

funding efforts to resolve long term issues with the Willamette Falls Locks, which are under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers.

METRO COUNCIL 117th CONGRESS FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ISSUES TO TRACK

Metro's Federal Legislative Issues to Track are policies that the agency supports, but either are not top priorities or are not expected to have a lot of opportunity for Metro to engage in during the 117th Congress.

- **Disaster Preparedness:** Metro supports policy and funding efforts to improve community disaster preparedness and resilience, with the goal of enabling the Portland region to provide for the immediate needs of its residents and businesses after a catastrophic event and facilitating the region's short- and long-term recovery. This includes investment in transportation and waste removal infrastructure, long-term planning efforts, and policies to support other immediate and long-term recovery needs, such as those identified in the regional Emergency Transportation Resiliency Plan.
- **Waste Prevention Innovation and Authority:** Metro supports efforts to align federal policy with best practices in waste prevention and recycling, but any efforts to create standard guidance, whether administrative or legislative, must support the role of states and localities to innovate and go beyond what is federally required.
- **Species Conservation:** Metro supports efforts to protect and restore wildlife habitat, to recover threatened and endangered species, and to create a better future for wildlife, both in Oregon and globally.
- **Conservation Education:** Metro supports efforts to provide stable and reliable funding for conservation education.
- **Tools to Advance Better Land Use Planning:** The federal government has limited tools to engage in land use planning, but Metro supports efforts to advance sustainable, equitable land use planning at the national level.
- **Brownfields:** As a regional partner in brownfield cleanup, Metro supports legislative efforts and funding efforts to expand brownfield cleanup efforts, particularly in urban areas, and in areas where the pollution impacts disproportionately hurt communities of color.
- **Clean Up of Portland Harbor:** Metro will monitor developments and work with regional partners to support the cleanup of the Portland Harbor and address its Superfund status, as well as policy changes in the Water Resources Development Act that may have implications for efforts to clean up and revitalize properties in the Portland Harbor.
- **Recycling and International Agreements:** As international agreements, trade negotiations, and other international concerns impact our region's waste and recycling operations, Metro engages in these conversations when necessary and productive.
- **Diesel Emission Reductions:** Metro supports continued efforts to reduce reliance on diesel fuel, particularly for garbage and recycling collection vehicles, construction

vehicles, or public transit vehicles that travel disproportionately in communities of color.

- **Firearms and Public Facilities:** Metro supports legislation that increases Metro's authority to regulate the carrying of firearms on Metro properties and public venues, and opposes legislation that limits or reduces that authority.
- **Human Resources, Agency Operations:** Metro tracks and may weigh in on federal policy and regulatory changes that impact employees, worker pay, work place environment, and other agency operations. Metro supports policies that advance paid family leave, living wage jobs (including a \$15/hour federal minimum wage), paid sick leave, and programs that support equitable hiring, training, and compensation practices.

FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDAS

Date: 12/21/21
Department: GAPD
Meeting Date: 1/14/22

Presenters: Tyler Frisbee, Deputy
Director and Anneliese Koehler, State and
Regional Affairs Advisor

Prepared by: Tyler Frisbee, Deputy
Director, and Anneliese Koehler, State and
Regional Affairs Advisor

Length: 30 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

This Council meeting is for Council to adopt the 2022 Federal Legislative Agenda and the 2022 State Legislative Agenda and 2022 State Legislative Principles. Proposed legislative priorities and principles will be discussed.

ACTION REQUESTED

The Council may adopt its federal and state legislative agendas for 2022.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Support Metro's policy goals through engagement with Congress, federal agencies, and the State Legislature.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

- Does the Council wish to approve previous policy direction, updated in Council discussion in October and December, under which staff is currently operating with respect to federal issues that are likely to surface in 2022?
- Does Council wish to approve 2022 state legislative policy priorities and principles, updated in Council discussions in October and December?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

See attachments for Federal Affairs Legislative Agenda, State Legislative Principles, and State Legislative Priorities. These are final drafts that reflect Council's discussion in October and December and are here for final adoption.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

See attached Federal Affairs Legislative Agenda, State Legislative Principles, and State Legislative Priorities.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

This fall, for the first time, the Metro Government Affairs and Policy Development group brought all three of our government legislative agendas to Council in order to give Council an opportunity to see the full spectrum of our government to government work. Today's adoption includes our federal and state legislative priorities; the Tribal Affairs agenda will be before Council for final approval in February.

Over the course of the fall, we met with Metro Departmental leadership to discuss our federal and state legislative agendas and our tribal affairs agenda. In addition, Metro Council held two work sessions, one in October and one in December to discuss the initial drafts of these agendas. We have incorporated all of this feedback into our presentation to you today and are here seeking final adoption of the federal and state legislative agendas for 2022.

We will continue to work with our regional governmental partners and community partners to discuss their priorities for 2022 and look for opportunities for partnership and collaboration.

Federal Affairs

Council approved Metro's first comprehensive federal agenda in February of 2021. In general, staff will intend to bring an updated federal agenda to Council every two years, in order to align with the Congressional calendar. However, given the interest in aligning all of our legislative agendas and the flurry of activity in DC, staff are bringing this updated agenda to Council.

With the passage of the American Rescue Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and possible passage of the Build Back Better bill, many of Council's urgent priorities due to the economic impacts of the pandemic have been addressed. The Zoo and the P5 Performing Arts Venues have cumulatively received \$18 million from the Shuttered Venue Grants program and the Metropolitan Planning Organization has also received increased funds to address emergency operations shortfalls. Future opportunities to pursue federal funding due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and possibly the Build Back Better bill may include increased capital funding for transit projects, safety projects, and trail projects, and additional workforce funding programs and conservation efforts to advance climate goals. The updated document reflects the accomplishments Council has already achieved and the new landscape due to changing legislative opportunities, as well as feedback received from Council during the October worksession.

State Legislative Affairs

The 2022 Legislative session is a short session lasting roughly a month. Unlike long sessions, short sessions focus on small, necessary budgetary tweaks and passing technical fixes and a few pieces of policy legislation. It is uncommon for large, controversial pieces of legislation or significant budget changes to occur. Many parties approach the short session with only one or two minor bills, and the session is set up to be limiting: legislators are only allowed two bills.

Similar to the 2021 Legislative Session, we anticipate that COVID-19 response – both public health and economic recovery -- to be top line priorities. While the situation remains fluid, we anticipate that much of the short session will be virtual.

In addition, we anticipate that it will be a particularly political and partisan session. The combination of redistricting, an open seat for Governor, an open Congressional seat, and a new Congressional seat creates a heightened political environment over the next year, including short session. Noncontroversial bills will become instantly controversial because of their sponsors, there will be highly partisan parliamentary maneuvering in committee and on the floor, and the rumor mill will be vigorous.

While it will be a unique short session, normal preparation are already under way. Bill concepts are being discussed and circulated and people are meeting to advance policy priorities. Similar to previous short sessions, staff expects to propose a modest legislative agenda that reflects well-established Council policy and/or legislative priorities that have previously been included in the Council's agenda.

BACKGROUND

Council has previously adopted the Federal Affairs Legislative Agenda and Principles in February 2021. This updated agenda is rooted in the principles Council supported at that time and features slightly updated priorities given the new legislative landscape.

Council updates its State Legislative Agendas annually and reviews and as needed, updates its State Legislative Principles.

ATTACHMENTS [Identify and submit any attachments related to this legislation or presentation]

- Federal Legislative Affairs Agenda
- State Legislative Affairs Principles
- State Legislative Priorities

[For work session:]

- Is legislation required for Council action? Yes No
- If yes, is draft legislation attached? Yes No
- What other materials are you presenting today? [INSERT]