

# Metro

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[oregonmetro.gov](http://oregonmetro.gov)



Metro

## Minutes

Thursday, March 3, 2022

10:30 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or  
888-475-4499 (toll free)

**Council meeting**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council Meeting call to order at: 10:30 a.m.

**2. Public Communication**

**John Wohler**, a property owner on Blue Lake. Testified regarding the proposed changes to Blue Lake. He was concerned about the way the decision was made. The community on Blue Lake should have been notified so they could provide input. He hopes Council will consider delaying these changes so the community can comment and propose revisions.

**John R. Wissler** testified regarding the proposed changes to Blue Lake. They appreciate that Metro has agreed to meet with community members. They believe the relationship between owners and Metro can be maintained without the proposal, and just want to be part of the decision making process

**Chris Smith:** Testified regarding the Boone Bridge. Requested Metro return the plan to ODOT and remove the additional highway.

**Jerry Mylet** testified regarding Blue Lake. Open Meeting laws were disobeyed, and an open meeting should be held to hear the concerns of home owners.

**Nancy Jordan** testified and submitted written questions regarding the proposed changes to Blue Lake regulations, and requested a response from Metro.

**President Peterson** Admitted that Metro did not meet their community outreach expectations on this matter. They reached out to decision makers and agreed to delay.

**Councilor Craddick** Expressed their appreciation for Blue Lake homeowners for sharing their concerns.

**COO** added that the Parks Dept. has heard these concerns and are adjusting their timeline and goals accordingly. Apologized for the impacts of these issues. Jon Blasher sent an email to BL homeowners, and they can directly respond to him or COO.

### 3. Consent Agenda

**A motion was made by Councilor Craddick, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, that this item be approved the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, and Councilor Hwang

- 3.1 Consideration of the January 20, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes
- 3.2 Resolution 22-5247, For the Purpose of Appointing Members of the Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee
- 3.3 Resolution No. 22-5248, For the Purpose of Adopting a Project Work Plan to Develop the Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan

### 4 Resolutions

- 4.1 Resolution No. 21-5215, For the Purpose of Amending the FY 2021-22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to Amend the Funding and Add

Detail to the Existing I-5 Boone Bridge Planning Project

Council President Peterson called on Margi Bradway [she]her, [John Mermin] [he/him], Metro, Vanessa Vissar, Chris Ford [he/him], and Scott Turnoy (ODOT) to present to Council.

Staff pulled up the [*2021-22 United Planning Work Program Amendment*] to present to Council.

John explained UPWPs, their scope, and purpose.

Staff pulled up the *I-5 Boone Bridge and Seismic Improvements Projects Powerpoint* to present to Council  
Staff explained the purpose of the project, replace the Boone Bridge to withstand the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and add an auxiliary lane. They also described the specific objectives of the project, how they will be achieved, studies conducted, the perceived benefits, and a projected cost.

*Council Discussion:*

**President Peterson** asked about the purpose of the auxiliary lane

**Councilor Nolan** asked if a council vote would have any affect upon the proposed UPWP.

Margi explained that a UPWP is an organizing document, and a council vote would approve it. However, it does not program funds for a given project.

**Councilor Craddick** asked if councilors can make requests for additional information to be identified and reviewed in a UPWP

Margi answered yes. She alluded to an ODOT memo she

previously distributed to councilors that addresses concerns brought up during past meetings and discussions.

**President Peterson** asked about the bike lane on the Wilsonville side of the bridge, and whether the project team has considered safe alternative paths while the bridge is under construction.

Scott assured President Peterson that the team is aware of this issue, and will take it into account during the next phases of the project.

**Councilor Rosenthal** asked if the current request for “bridge funding,” and the team would return to make more funding requests in the future. They also asked if additional analysis would not include the French Prairie Bridge. Furthermore, they asked if the team will analyze how the proposed auxiliary lane will affect current congestion levels in order to determine if additional congestion management is necessary, like tolling.

Vanessa clarified that the team is evaluating possible alternatives that would include the French Prairie Bridge. Staff then explained that the current plan for the bridge includes tolling, and future studies will include congestion pricing. Though it will only provide a rough estimate the team plans to use past tests, which did not include tolling or the Northbound auxiliary lane extension, and compare it to their work to answer that question. Margi added that she believes tolling will help to control congestion.

**Councilor Nolan** raised her concerns around the prioritization of this particular project, while there are so many others of great importance. She also raised land-use concerns. This bridge is on the Urban Growth Boundary,

and Councilor Nolan wanted to be assured that Council and Metro would be part of the decision-making process when land-use issues arise. President Peterson added that she wishes to see Metro included.

**Chris** explained the lengths to which the team has and will coordinate with other regional groups, including Metro. He reiterated the large regional implications of this project, and expressed his willingness to coordinate with Metro staff and present to Council again.

**Councilor Gonzalez** also questioned the prioritization of this project over others. He felt as though the state legislature, with little regard for RTPs and community-decided priorities, inserted themselves into the local and regional decision-making process with this project. He asked for clarity around how ODOT prioritizes its projects.

**Staff** summarized the decision-making process. Historically, everything starts with the TSPs, and Metro does not create the project list for RTPs. CFRs envision local, regional, and federal entities working together, but does not account for state intervention. HB-2017 is also precedent-setting legislation in Oregon, because the state legislature itself decided upon transportation/infrastructure priorities, who then prioritized this project over others.

**President Peterson** advised the ODOT team to begin community outreach efforts early and cast a wide net, so they may properly determine the scope of this project.

**Councilor Craddick** raised similar land use concerns and asked if the bridge could be designed in a way that would reduce its negative land-use impacts. She also asked raised concerns about the auxiliary lane's design, that it may

increase traffic congestion rather than alleviate it. Finally, she asked what research has been conducted to determine the bridge's potential climate impact, especially with the added lane.

In response to Councilor Craddick's questions, Margi mentioned studying the particular commute habits of local populations and conducting traffic modeling with congestion pricing and transit. Staff also ensured Council that they would closely study the potential impacts of the proposed auxiliary lane. Staff also referenced past studies that could supplement their future traffic analyses.

**Councilor Craddick** asked President Peterson if it was time to begin coordinating with Marion County regarding the development of this area.

**President Peterson** explained that there has been discussion around this, but such coordination needs to be a partnership between Metro and Marion County.

**Councilor Nolan** also expressed land-use concerns around this project. They again requested information around population and traffic projections being used in this project. They also requested the information be driven by current land use and zoning, and not extrapolations from past trends. Councilor Nolan then requested that ODOT look into other congestion management tools, like congestion pricing, before constructing an auxiliary lane.

Chris acknowledged Councilor Nolan's requests, as well as question asked before this meeting, and would follow up with them offline.

**Councilor Hwang** echoed the same land use and prioritization concerns expressed by other Councilors. He

asked how engagement and racial equity is being centered in this project, and what community engagement was conducted before this project was identified.

Staff referenced the Facility Plan Summary as a resource with more information about the project's community outreach and engagement. Public hearings, city council meetings, work sessions, and an open house were conducted as part of those efforts. Staff assured Council that equity and social engagement are one of their main goals, and would continue to work towards achieving them.

**Councilor Gonzalez** asked when possible alternative options will be explored and decided upon.

Staff explained that such decisions are usually made at the end of the planning phase of a project, though there is no concrete deadline. Chris also warned that exploring too many alternative plans can be overwhelming and counterproductive.

Margi clarified to Council that the changes in the memo sent to Councilors are not proposed changes to the amendment. Today's vote is regarding a \$200,000 funding request and a high-level description in the UPWP, along with an ODOT memo where they commit to including many of Council's asks in the next UPWP. Council will be brought the full UPWP at the council work session scheduled for April 19th, 2022.

**Councilor Hwang** asked if and when Council would get the opportunity to consider the merits of this project alongside other projects prioritized by the region.

Margi explained that those discussions will occur next Fall/Winter.



**Councilor Gonzalez** reiterated his reluctance to vote yes on this amendment, but believed that further study on this project was warranted.

**Councilor Rosenthal** expressed support for this amendment, simply because there are issues that need to be addressed now, like the bike path issue.

**Councilor Lewis** agreed with Councilor Gonzalez. She believed this project sorely lacks public accountability and transparency, though formalizing this project will allow for further investigation and more clarity. Currently, she would not vote to fully fund this project, but will vote for the \$200,000 for further investigation.

**Councilor Craddick** shared the same concerns as the other councilors. She would also have not voted to fully approve this project, but believed that further investigation will allow Council to make a more informed decision later.

**President Peterson** expressed her desire to vote yes.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved to vote on Resolution No. 22-5215.

**A motion was made by Councilor Rosenthal, seconded by Councilor Hwang, that this item be adopted. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, and Councilor Hwang

## 5. Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

- The State of Oregon will be lifting their public mask

mandate, and Metro will be lifting their own mandate for guests. However, Metro has decided to maintain its mask and vaccine mandates for employees.

- With the current war in Ukraine, the OCC towers will be lit blue and yellow to show support for the Ukrainian community. Metro is in contact with ERCO and other Eastern European organizations so they may determine other ways to show support.

## 6. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- **Councilor Gonzalez** updated Council about the Forest Grove Community Enhancement Committee's new Parks & Rec scholarship.
- **Councilor Rosenthal** updated Council about the Cazadero Trail and commissioner Ray Leary's retirement from MERC.
- **Councilor Craddick** updated the Council on the Region 1 Area Commission on Transportation Meeting + Toll Work Group and their plans for the future.
- **Councilor Hwang** updated Council on his meeting with the TOD and the Nature and Neighborhoods Capital Grants Pilot Committee meeting for participatory budgeting.
- **Councilor Lewis** updated Council on her meetings with MPAC, The Expo DOS Committee, and the Housing Bond Oversight Committee.
- **Councilor Nolan** updated Council on their meeting with the Parks and Nature Natural Areas Oversight Committee

## 7. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nathan Kim*

Nathan Kim, Legislative Assistant

## Council meeting action update

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10:30 AM

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### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

### 3. Consent Agenda

**A motion was made by Councilor Craddick, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, that this was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, and Councilor Hwang

- 3.1 Consideration of the January 20, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes
- 3.2 **Resolution 22-5247**, For the Purpose of Re-appointing Members of the Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee
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**A motion was made by Councilor Rosenthal, seconded by Councilor Hwang, that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, and Councilor Hwang

**PLEASE NOTE:** Official copies of legislation will be available in electronic format via format via [Metro Online Records](#). For assistance, please contact Becky Shoemaker, Metro Records Officer at ext. 1740.

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF March 3, 2022**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>1.0</b>	PowerPoint	3/03/2022	2021-22 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment	030322c-01
<b>2.0</b>	PowerPoint	3/02/2022	Draft FY 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program: I-5 Boone Bridge and Seismic Improvement Project	030322c-02
<b>3.0</b>	Testimony	3/02/2022	Bob Torheim, Blue Lake home owner	030322c-03