

Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov



Metro

Minutes

Thursday, April 28, 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 Peterson called the Metro Council Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

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

2. Public Communication

Council President Peterson opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on a non-agenda items.

There was no public testimony.

2.1 Public Hearing on Proposed Budget

Council President Peterson opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on the proposed budget.

There was no public testimony.

3. Other Business**3.1 Mid-cycle UGB recommendation**

Council President Peterson introduced Elissa Gertler [she/her] and Marissa Madrigal [she/her/ella] to present the Mid-cycle UGB Recommendation.

Staff pulled up the [*Tigard UGB expansion proposal Metro COO recommendation to Council*] to present to Council.

The presentation included a review of the Mid-cycle Review process and COO's recommendation to Council:

- Add River Terrace 2.0 urban reserve to the UGB because it is ready for housing development.
 - Remove comparable amount of land from UGB elsewhere in the region that do not demonstrate readiness for development.
-

Council Discussion:

Councilor Rosenthal expressed his support for the UGB expansion, and asked if it would be possible to conclude the trade evaluation in six months, rather than nine months. Staff explained that they set a more conservative deadline out of caution, but hope to complete the trade evaluation well within the end of the calendar year.

Councilor Gonzalez thanked the City of Tigard for their hard work and cooperation with Metro, thanked Metro staff, and asked for clarification regarding Tigard's commitment to "carbon responsible community development" Skylar Warren, Tigard's project manager for the River Terrace 2.0, explained how they plan to be more climate conscious.

Councilor Nolan asked

- if staff anticipate any unsubsidized affordable housing.
- If they plan to include public EV charging stations

They also had two comments

- They are less likely to support swapping more land if there is more than a 5% deviation in either the amount of land, or in the land's value.
- They requested an analysis of the land exchange process, and if there are any issues with it.

Staff said yes. Part of that depends on the regulations that are adopted in the area. They hope the area will develop economically-integrated neighborhoods.

Staff answered that they are looking into EVs. Though, building new infrastructure means this is a good opportunity to build new charging stations.

Councilor Hwang reiterated Councilor Rosenthal's sense of urgency, given his and others' districts' desperate need for housing. He asked about staff's predicted timeline, and if they could expedite it.

Staff believes that it will take at least two years before any sort of construction begins. They also hope to see construction begin after the community plan for the project concludes. Staff added that UGB expansions usually work on a 20-year timeline.

Councilor Craddick wished to make a distinction between housing affordability and affordable housing. She asked what sort of public transit connections already exist in the area. She also asked, in reference to the exchange, if Metro staff planned to do a full data sweep, some deep community engagement, or a combination of the two. Finally, Councilor Craddick asked if staff has discussed adding solar panels into their plan.

Staff requested to return to Council at their next work session with more specific details and dates for their plan. Public transit in this area is inadequate and staff is looking for ways to improve it. Staff believes their plan will come together in 2023.

COO Marissa Madrigal thanked staff and the City of Tigard for their hard work, and welcomed any additional input from Council.

Councilor Rosenthal echoed Councilor Nolan's request for an analysis around land swapping.

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

3.2 Department Budget Presentation- Zoo

Council President Peterson introduced Heidi Rahn[*she/her*] and Julie Fitzgerald [*she/her*] to present the Department Budget Presentation - Zoo.

Staff pulled up the [*Department Budget Presentation - Zoo*] to present to Council.

The presentation included an independent auditor's report, the Zoo Foundation's financial report for the 2020-21 FY, and the proposed budget for the 2022-23 FY

Council Discussion:

President Peterson asked if staff had a plan in mind, as they transition towards bringing more people in and adding more staff, as pandemic lockdowns end.

Staff explained that they have rehired many staff members who had been laid off, and are converting temporary positions into full-time positions.

Councilor Craddick thanked staff and presenters for their hard work, and requested that Council join the campus planning committee.

Councilor Rosenthal also thanked staff and presenters for their hard work, and asked if there are any plans to acquire more federal grants for endangered species work.

Staff answered yes, they have a full strategy being developed with the foundation advocacy committee. They also specifically mentioned a few new funding sources: the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the Recovery American Wildlife Act, and some one-time congressional funds. More detailed information would be brought to council at a later date.

Councilor Lewis thanked Heidi for her hard work and dedication, and asked if staff required more staff.

Heidi explained that they are currently hiring, and have already filled 50 positions so far. However, they asked for about six months as they assess their staffing needs and recruit qualified employees. She added that they are working on creating career pathways, going from schooling, to internships, then to entry level positions.

COO Marissa Madrigal added that many employers are currently competing for qualified recruits because they are also beginning to rehire.

Councilor Craddick requested more information about the Zoo Animals Presenter Program.

Staff described their plans for the ZAP program, mainly trying to emulate their past success.

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

3.3 Break (20min)

3.4 Department Budget Presentation- P'5/Expo

Council President Peterson introduced Steve Faulstick [he/him] and Robyn Williams [she/her] to present the Department Budget Presentation - P'5/Expo.

Staff pulled up the [*Department Budget Presentation - P'5/Expo*] to present to Council.

The presentation included: Department staff goals, equity metrics, and service levels.

Council Discussion:

President Peterson asked about staff's plan as they ramp up activity and rehire staff after COVID lockdowns. She also expressed her desire for more detailed discussions after budget season. President Peterson also asked how staff

plans to meet all of their racial equity goals, and if their subsidized rates are affordable enough to do so. Finally, she laid out two expectations for staff:

- That any future financial discussions with the City of Portland and other organizations be coordinated with the rest of Metro.
- That staff discuss what private interests can do to help P'5/Expo and Council with capital and building maintenance.

Staff explained that they are currently rehiring staff for full-time positions, and reiterated that they are implementing variable opening hours. Staff also explained that their racial equity goals can be met with existing staff. They also plan to divert some of their subsidies towards groups with the least access to P'5 and Expo. Staff promised to provide Council with more details at a later date.

Councilor Nolan asked if staff had a plan to establish a “baseline” for measuring their efforts to meet their equity goals, and offered Council’s support in this work.

Staff explained that they have never done this kind of work before. Most of their energy is normally directed towards putting on shows, but COVID lockdowns have given staff time to consider racial equity goals. The work has only just begun, but staff promised to update Council as they make progress.

Councilor Lewis thanked staff for making the “huge step” of reopening, and applauded them for holding six community engagement sessions. She recommended that staff work with Metro’s Community Engagement Department in their equity work. She also critiqued staff’s goal of increasing BIPOC representation among their volunteer workforce, rather than increase BIPOC representation among their paid workforce. Finally, she requested that, in future

presentations, staff include more information about the P'5 Foundation's budget and its relationship to the rest of the department's budget.

Councilor Rosenthal reiterated Council's hope that more full-time positions, with potential upward mobility, are created. He also asked if P'5 faced any capital issues with regards to their HVAC systems. Finally, Councilor Rosenthal expressed his hope that, though Metro's primary focus is upon racial equity, other disadvantaged groups are considered in any equity discussions.

Staff explained that they have done everything they can "short of literally ripping out and replacing" their filters. They also explained all of the measures they have in place to accommodate people across a spectrum of abilities.

Councilor Craddick expressed her belief that the need for performing arts will increase as the region grows, and asked what facilities would be needed to meet this future need.

Councilor Gonzalez asked what P'5's regional collaboration with other performing arts venues looks like.

Staff explained P'5's connections to the larger public assembly industry. P'5 is a member of the International Association of Venue Managers, and they are in regular communication with regional counterparts.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson introduced Steve Faulstick [he/him] and Robyn Williams [she/her] to present the Department Budget Presentation - Expo.

Staff pulled up the [*Department Budget Presentation - Expo*] to present to Council.

The presentation included: Portland Expo Center's Goals,

Equity Outcomes, and their proposed budget.

Council Discussion:

President Peterson asked if there is a specific plan to create and/or convert more full-time positions, as the region comes out of lockdown.

Councilor Lewis asked what “the new normal” will look like for Expo, and what that means for revenue streams and temp employees. She also asked why Expo spent just as much on outside contractors as it does in-house staff. Councilor Lewis also asked for a written response to her questions at a later date. She specifically asked what factor(s) would convince staff to move “that engineer to a 1.0” and hire more variable-status employees for fulltime positions. She also requested face-to-face follow up with Matt and Steve to discuss the budget in more detail. Staff emphasized that this is not the new normal. Matt explained that outside contractors help keep their operations fiscally viable. Staff does not want to ask for general fund support, but they are under a great deal of pressure. General fund support will keep them afloat as they re-evaluate their situation. Staff expressed their willingness to follow up with Councilor Lewis.

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

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

3.5 **Department Budget Presentation- Central Services (CAM, Comms, HR, IS, FRS)**

Council President Peterson called on John Lindenthal [he/him] Metro CAM Interim Director,

Neil Simon [he/him] Metro Communications Director,
Julio Garcia [he/him] Metro HR Director
Rachel Coe, [she/her] Metro IT Director, and
Brian Kennedy [he/him] Metro FRS Director, to present to
Council.

Staff pulled up the [*Metro Central Services FY 2023
Proposed Budget Presentation*] to present to Council.
Staff presented the proposed FY 2023 budget for the
Central Services Departments: Capital Asset Management,
Finance and Regulatory Services, Communications,
Information Services, and Human Resources.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Rosenthal suggested more expansive terminology
in CAM's proposed budget.

Councilor Lewis asked if there are enough personnel in
payroll.

Brian explained that they have made multiple additions to
payroll, along with HR and IS. The next step is re-evaluating
the underlying payroll system, which are in dire need of
updating.

Councilor Rosenthal asked how this year's Central Services
proposed budgets compares to more "normal" years. He
also commented on staff's use of social media; though he
does not use it, Councilor Rosenthal knew that many people
use social media with ill intentions, and he believes staff
should be more proactive, not reactive, with their content.
Staff currently has data around past budgets, and they
would be happy to provide Councilor Rosenthal with more
information.

Councilor Rosenthal asked is Information Services has the
capacity to serve as a regional information hub and

adequately provide their regional/local partners with important data they cannot independently collect. Rachel believed that Information Services' proposed budget would answer many of those concerns, though Planning should also be a part of this conversation. Andrew added that staff is currently working to make that information more accessible.

Councilor Rosenthal asked how many HR coordinators staff has, since it seemed like 1 is simply not enough. Julio explained that they have 2 HR coordinators. Staff has also hired additional staff to help meet the department's immediate needs.

Councilor Lewis asked if staff has the capacity to re-examine what sick days will look like moving forward. Staff is currently having those conversations, and want to encourage staff to stay home if they aren't feeling well

4. Chief Operating Officer Communication

COO Marissa Madrigal had no updates for Council.

5. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- **Councilor Gonzalez** invited fellow Councilors to attend the "New Years at the Park" event, which is taking place on 4/30, from 10am-6pm at Glenhaven Park.
- **Councilor Craddick**, on behalf of **Councilor Hwang**, announced that 82nd Avenue will officially be under the jurisdiction of the City of Portland, rather than ODOT.

6. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Kim

Nathan Kim, Legislative Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2021

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	PowerPoint	4/28/2022	Tigard UGB expansion proposal Metro COO recommendation to Council 4-28-22	042822c-01
2.0	PowerPoint	4/28/2022	Central Services FY 2023 Proposed Budgets	042822c-02
3.0	PowerPoint	4/28/2022	Visitor Venues: Portland Expo Center FY 2023 Proposed Budget	042822c-03
4.0	PowerPoint	4/28/2022	Portland'5 Centers for the Arts FY 2023 Proposed Budget	042822c-04
5.0	PowerPoint	4/28/2022	Oregon Zoo FY 2023 Proposed Budget	042822c-05