Metro

Metro

Minutes

Thursday, December 8, 2022

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center Council Chamber,
https://youtu.be/bvoJMXFEhYM, https://zoom.us/j/615079992, or
877-853-5257 (toll free) (Webinar ID: 615079992)

Council meeting

1.   Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Peterson called the Metro Council Meeting to order at 10:30am

2.

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

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

3.   Consent Agenda

President Peterson called for a motion to approve consent agenda

3.1   Resolution No. 22-5291, For the Purpose of Adding Three New and Amending Three Existing Projects in the 2021-26 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program to Meet Required Federal Highways Administration Obligation or Delivery Approval Steps

       Attachments: [Resolution 22-5291](#)
                                  [Exhibit A](#)
                                  [Staff Report](#)

3.2   **Resolution No. 22-5294,** For the Purpose of Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Issue a New Non-System License to Cor Disposal, LLC for Transport of Commercial Food Waste to the Annen Bros. Inc. Compost Facility Located in Marion County, Oregon

       Attachments: [Resolution No. 22-5294](#)
                                  [Exhibit A](#)
                                  [Staff Report](#)

4.   Resolutions

4.1   Resolution No. 22-5300, For the Purpose of Metro Council's Acceptance of the Results of the Independent Audit for Financial Activity During Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

Attachments: Resolution No. 22-5300
                 Staff Report
                 Attachment 1
                 Attachment 2
                 Attachment 3
                 Attachment 4

Council President Peterson introduced: Brian Evans,Brian Kennedy, Metro, Ashley Osten (she,her) and Moss Adams to present Audit Results Presentation.

Staff pulled up the Audit Results Presentation to present to Council.

Council Discussion

Councilor Craddick thanked Staff and Moss Adams for their work and asked if the Parks and Nature over expenditure happened at Glendoveer Golf Course.

Staff said yes, and explained that the golf course had higher-than-predicted revenues, and Staff did not make the necessary adjustments to reflect that.

Councilor Lewis asked about Metro Information Systems and asked if Staff required more resources to update Metro's IS infrastructure and where those resources would go.

Staff explained that the process of updating Metro's IS infrastructure is underway, and they are currently looking to hire a project manager.

Councilor Gonzalez thanked Staff and Moss Adams for their work.

Metro Attorney Carrie McLaren asked if there if there were any corrective actions.

Staff confirmed there were not.

She recommended that Council move to approve but strike the language requiring corrective actions.

4.2   Resolution No. 22-5293, For the Purpose of Incorporating Inclusive and Plain Language Best Practices in Metro Code and Establishing Code Updates as Appropriate

    Attachments: Resolution No. 22-5293
                        Staff Report
                        Attachment 1

                        Council President Peterson called on Andrew Scott, Metro Director of Government Affairs, to present to council

                        Council President Peterson asked for some examples of inclusive language

                        Councilor Hwang asked how the inclusive language style guide was created, if there is a requirement to use it, and encouraged all of Metro to implement this

                        Councilor Rosenthal asked if there is some sort of mechanism for sharing the style guide with other jurisdiction.

                        No such mechanism currently exists, but Staff has some initial ideas and is currently discussing this subject.

                        Councilor Lewis asked 2 questions:
                        • What recommendations does Staff have regarding

writing that requires technical language?
- What outside sources were used to create this style guide?

Staff recommended writing with the intended audience's knowledge (of lack thereof) in mind. The style guide uses the AP style.

Councilor Craddick asked how the style guide will be implemented.
The resolution encourages Metro Staff to utilize the style guide when writing new code and edit past documentation if they have the chance.

Councilor Gonzalez shared his admiration for this work, and thanked Staff for making this a priority.

Council President Peterson remarked that, as an engineer, she has found that you cannot simply "wow people with data." A diversity of opinions is required.
She asked if the style guide has been reviewed to ensure quality before it is shared. She believes outside perspectives will greatly benefit the style guide.

Sharing the style guide with other jurisdictions is still a distant goal. Other staff have shown interest in it and are frequently asking questions about how they can implement the style guide in their own work. Right now, Staff is actively taking notes and expanding the style guide.
Staff also plans to community forums with constituents, where they can gather feedback from community members.

Councilor Nolan asked how the style guide will be evaluated so that unintentional substantive changes are not made, particularly around synonyms. They also expressed their full support for this initiative. They also suggested including a more technical section alongside the plain language. Finally, they suggested Staff include a "devil's advocate" in their process.

Staff explained that they are looking for synonyms that will not create substantive changes, especially with legally sensitive language. Staff is also open to suggestions regarding evaluation.
Staff explained that technical terms are acceptable at times, though they advocated for a uniform readability standard, though they are unsure what that would look like.

Councilor Craddick asked for clarification regarding the implementation of the resolution.
Staff and Metro Attorney Carrie McLaren clarified the implementation process.

Councilor Lewis acknowledged that Council is busy, but encouraged Staff to reach out immediately and they are never to busy to discuss this.

Council President Peterson expressed appreciation for Staff's proactivity, and made clear that Council's inaction does not mean indifference, it simply has not been brought to Council's attention.

Councilor Rosenthal echoed Councilor Lewis and Council President Peterson's thoughts.

Councilor Hwang encouraged Staff and the COO's Office to keep the broader cultural influence of this work in mind.

COO Marissa Madrigal acknowledged the importance of this work.

5.   Other Business

5.1   Draft Regional Mobility Policy, Measures and Implementation Plan for 2023 Regional Transportation Plan

Attachments: Staff Report
Attachment 1
Attachment 2
Attachment 3
Attachment 4

Draft Mobility

Staff pulled up the presentation Powerpoint to present to Council.

Council Discussion:

Council President Peterson asked for clarification regarding the purpose of the proposed resolution.

Margi clarified that Staff is seeking informal approval from Council and it would be best to formally adopt the resolution

within the RTP.

Councilor Craddick asked if this mobility plan will be implemented across the entire state of Oregon via the Oregon Highway Plan.

Margi explained that this mobility plan will only apply to the Portland Metro region.

Councilor Craddick asked what changes regular constituents will see if this plan is implemented.

Glen Bolen explained that the mobility plan will have two main effects:

- It will remove land-use barriers to affordable housing and economic development in areas with a lot of congestion.
- It will provide transportation planners guidelines for future projects.

Margi explained that it will allow for more context-sensitive design by allowing planners to make design trade-offs more easily.

Councilor Rosenthal asked Staff to clarify the difference between a thruway and an expressway. He also asked if going from 75% speed to 35mph caused any problems.

Staff explained that "thruway" is a Metro term that refers to routes that service long-distance trips with limited access

(like grade-separation and interchanges) and do not have traffic signals.

Kim explained that Staff decided upon the 35mph threshold, the "reliability measure" in this plan, because their studies showed it is a fast enough speed that the system does not "utterly fail" while maintaining a decent throughput. "Expressway" is an informal term not used by Metro.

Council President Peterson recommended Staff follow-up with Councilor Rosenthal with more technical details at a later date.

Councilor Nolan asked if the project's design accounted for driver capacity. They used the dramatic lighting contrast between the inside and outside of the Vista tunnel as an example of poor design.

Margi empathized with Councilor Nolan and reminded them that the 35mph reliability measure is there so planners and engineers can more easily measure performance. Margi also promised to mention the Vista Tunnel lighting issue during her next meeting with the Region 1 manager.

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

6.   **Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Marissa Madrigal provided an update on the following events or items:
- She shared the takeaways from last week's budget retreat.
- Staff will be working on internal communications

between Staff and Councilors, and Council should expect more information.

7. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- **Councilor Lewis** attended yesterday's MERC Commission meeting and budget retreat.
- **Councilor Craddick** updated Council regarding the **Urban Flood Safety Water Quality District's** current work.
- **Councilor Gonzalez** gave the following updates:
  - This Saturday is the TV Highway tour.
  - He thanked everyone who made the Bob Stacey Remembrance possible.
  - He updated Council regarding the Port of Portland International Air Service Committee's work.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 12:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Kim

Nathan Kim, Legislative Assistant