

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council chamber,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDiGM3nfEyE>
<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 Work Session to order at 10:30am

Present: Councilor Ashton Simpson, Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Mary Nolan, Deputy Council President Lewis

Excused: Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzales

2. Public Communication

3. Presentations

3.1

Attachments: [Resolution No. 23-5321](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Auditor Budget Presentation FY2023-24](#)

Council President Peterson introduced COO Marissa Madrigal, Auditor Brian Evans, CFO Brian Kennedy to present on the topic.

Staff pulled up the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget Powerpoint to present to Council.

Summary of presentation: This budget plan is meant to highlight key investments in certain areas such as; Regional Housing Analysis (\$425,000), SHS technical Assistance, 2024 Urban growth boundary Review Process Support (\$970,000) and the Final Affordable Housing bond Awards to Partner Jurisdictions (\$23 Million)

Investments in local economy (expo futures phase 2 support \$253,000), Support for TV highway 82nd Avenue and southwest corridor projects (\$3.1M) investments in economic development and brownfield revitalization (\$805,000)

environment Investments: Land acquisition to preserve habitat (\$5M), Habitat Restoration (\$3.8M), Capital improvements increasing sustainability (\$1.7M).

Racial Equity Framework: \$330,000 reimagine policing & security vision and action plan, \$458,000 to fund a cultural and historic recourse program.

Total budget for the years 2023-24 is \$1,700,300,000.

3 audits have been complete, managed 18 reports to the accountability hotline, administered contract for the annual financial hotline, hired three new employees.

Council Discussion

Councilor Rosenthal asked to clarify if the money Metro Spends/allocate come under materials and Services.

CFO Brian Kennedy explained that it does relate to Materials and Services.

Councilor Nolan asked about the timeline about renewable energy vehicles in Metro's Fleet

Marissa Madrigal explained she does not have a timeline on that.

Councilor Nolan asked about the process of coordinating with auditors with the counties Metro works with.

Brian Evans explained that it is something they consider quite a bit & they do it quite often.

Councilor Hwang asked why there is 75% more revenue

coming into the venues.

Brian Evans explained that it is due to the pandemic recovery process and that this is not pre pandemic numbers.

Councilor Rosenthal asked about a report that system wide is not being communicated to and if the budget will reflect on better outreach communication.

Marissa Madrigal explained that this budget will support and improve communications within the communities, stakeholders and Metros website and that this will be discussed more in a separate presentation

Deputy Council President Lewis asked how the process aligns with the calendar as there is limited time and what would happen if something came up that would need to have a deeper dive.

Brian Evans explained that deadlines to make amendments, requires council to take action for approval however there is still time to make improvements for communications.

End of presentation.

3.1.1 Public Hearing on the Presentation of the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget and Budget Message

No Public hearing was given

4. Other Business

4.1 Solid Waste Fees update

Attachments: [Work Session Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson introduced COO Marissa Madrigal, Marta McGuire, and CFO Brian Kennedy to present on the topic.

Staff pulled up the Solid Waste Fees Update Powerpoint to present to Council

Summary of Presentation:

This presentation is about reducing waste, protecting the environment, making sure people have access to services and reducing the impact of products being used throughout peoples lives.

The presentation goes over the financial policies, revenue requirements, cost of services, and fee design.

The mixed solid waste fee will cost around \$45M.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Nolan asked for a clarification about the \$16M operating loss. She asked if it is a loss from current revenues.

Brian Evans explained that it is based on the proposed budget.

Council President Peterson asked for clarification about the terminology “revenue requirement” & explained if there was a legal requirement.

Brian Evans explained that it was also part of the proposed

budget, and her clarification was correct.

Councilor Rosenthal asked what the impact of the inflation compared to the 8% is.

Brian Evans explained that he did not have the number ready to answer.

Marissa Madrigal asked that there should be a better clarification with more details for the next presentation.

Brian Evans agreed with Marissa Madrigal.

Councilor Simpson asked about the proposed budget & wanted clarification about the missing \$1M that was shown in different slides.

Brian Evans explained that the different numbers is due to under spending.

Council President Peterson asked Brian Evans to use different language when answering the question Councilor Simpson asked.

Brian Evans re-worded his answer.

Deputy Council President Lewis asked why Metro would decide before the end of the month when there can be an amendment and have that reflected in the budget.

Brian Evans explained that due to under spending there will be more flexibility in the budget and be able to execute on more programs to take advantage of more opportunities.

Marissa Madrigal explained that it would be best to track

and report back about the under spending.

Brian Evans continued to go over the rest of the presentation and budget plans.

Presentation Ended:

Marissa Madrigal recommended the Council Members to ask questions & opened Councilor Communications:

Councilor Hwang asked how the fees are significantly lower than the peer cities near Portland and if Metro has data from cities with higher fees related to illegal dumping and what the elasticity of the fees are.

Brian Evans explained it is best if Marta answered the questions about peer cities, however he explained that the fees are inelastic and that there is no real data showing what the breaking point of the prices are.

Marta McGuire explained the structures between all the cities are different and that may be why the fees are different however she answered that she does not have a direct answer.

Councilor Hwang asked what the impact would be to regular consumers.

Brian Evans explained there would be roughly a \$10 difference in price per year if the garbage went to the Metro waste field.

Deputy Council President explained that there should be a comparison between Portland's fee costs to Salem or another neighboring city.

Marta McGuire explained that there will be a pilot testing on bulk waste to determine the best solution to address the problem of waste dumping.

Councilor Nolan explained that what Metro has been doing is not working in relation to waste dumping & explained she prefers a progressive system and option 5 in the PowerPoint is where Metro needs to be. She also expressed desire for different cost containment.

Council President Peterson gave her approval of the 8% and expressed moving forward and explained the first value is the reduction of the waste stream and asked an understanding of what the impact of that would look like and what would be the requirements to lower waste by 10% or more and what is Metros role in getting to that outcome.

Councilor Hwang expressed his interest in Option 1.

5. Legislative Update

Legislative update will be sent via email from Lisa as there is not enough time during the council work session.

6. Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

- Updates of the texting/phone call scams via Metro cell phone numbers and the service provider blocked the phishing scam numbers. The Oregon zoo lost Dakota the black bear and the team tried to save the bear

however he passed away.

7. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Councilor Simpson explained the request from the Latino Network to support construction La plaza Esperanza which will cost \$4M.
- Councilor Hwang wanted to recognize the DEI team that tri-met has joined the construction careers pathway program.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Work Session at 1:04pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sermad Mohamad

Sermad Mohamad, Legislative Assistant