

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber,
https://youtu.be/Np_skpnQ8Fo, <https://zoom.us/j/615079992>, or
877-853-5257 (toll free) (Webinar ID: 615079992)

Council work session

10:30 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Peterson called the Work Session to order at 10:30 a.m.

Present: 2 - Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Mary Nolan

Work Session Topics:

10:35 Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan - Phase 2 Gap Analysis Summary

Council President Peterson introduced [Marta McGuire] (she/her), Metro, [Estee Segal] (she/her), Metro to present on the topic.

Staff pulled up the [*Introduction of Recommended Modified Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) Presentation*] to present to Council.

Staff introduced the new Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan and asked Council two questions:

- How do the identified gaps and themes align with what you know or hear from your constituents?
- Does Council have any questions on what we did in Phase 2 or our next steps in Phase 3?

Council Discussion:

Councilor Lewis asked if the plan accounts for private investments from re-use organizations and how residential collection services, like Ridwell, affect the plan. Finally, she asked if Staff had been in contact with the Cowlitz Tribe. Staff has been communicating with re-use organizations and are looking for ways they can collaborate.

Marta explained that they are working on improving service standards for residential collection services, especially for multi-family housing and bulky waste. Last year, Metro and

local jurisdictions began the Bulky Waste Policy Project and Staff will be providing an update for Council in about 2 months.

Luis informed Council that they are in communication with the Cowlitz Tribe and are looking for ways to increase services for their issues.

Councilor Nolan asked Staff how they plan to work with local jurisdictions and use Metro's authority to increase accessibility to basic collection services. They requested that Staff keep them up to date with this ongoing work. Staff is currently working on this but remain at the "conceptual level" of the planning process, though they mentioned potential incentive-based and regulatory approaches.

Estee added that the Recycling Modernization Act provides local governments the opportunity to play a larger role. They are currently completing needs assessments around depots.

Councilor Hwang asked how Staff might implement some of the community recommendations, and specifically asked how they would address "transportation barriers." He was surprised by community partners' need for warehouse space and asked how much they required.

Estee explained that, to address transportation barriers, the plan focuses on creating more creating more decentralized, neighborhood-based transfer stations to ease the burden of commuting to the current locations.

Staff does not currently have specific information about how much warehouse space other organizations are requesting, but Estee estimated that it would be around 10,000-20,000 sq ft.

Councilor Gonzalez had multiple comments:

- He has enjoyed seeing this plan evolve each time it is presented to Council, and voiced his support for Staff's work.
- He appreciated the "neighborhood-based" approach that Staff mentioned.
- He asked what plans to expect for the Cornelius site.

Councilor Rosenthal thanked Staff for working with the City of Wilsonville in identifying a site for a family hazardous waste haul and asked multiple questions:

- He noted that in his district, the Sellwood and Beaverton/Aloha areas are "waste access deserts" and would like to a map that shows the effects of placing collection sites in those areas.
- He would like to see two things added to Metro's values and outcomes related to solid waste:
 - Minimize travel time required to reach solid waste facilities.
 - Reduce overall waste generated per capita by X% within 5-10 years.
- He asked if Staff asked the community and INI grant recipients where they would like certain waste collection sites.
- He asked how building a full-scale Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) would affect waste allocations and the profitability of private haulers.
- He noted that the Covanta waste facility collects medical waste does not meet federal medical waste emissions standards and asked if Metro has a greater responsibility to address that.

Staff asked open ended questions to constituents and heard a great deal about specific sites and areas,

Staff asked open ended questions to constituents and heard a great deal about specific sites and areas, particularly about

the lack of sites in the West and Far East parts of the region. With regards to waste allocation and collection rates, Marta explained that Staff is exploring these mechanisms but they are levers Metro can use to affect the profitability of private haulers.

Marta said she would get back to Council regarding the medical waste question after speaking with Staff's regulatory affairs team.

Councilor Simpson asked if Staff has identified any personnel shortages in Phase 2 of the facilities plan. He also asked what gaps and barriers small and mid-sized haulers experience and how that will reflect in Phase 3.

Staff did not ask job related questions during this phase but believe adding a jobs lens to their upcoming baseline technical analysis is a great idea.

During a round table session with haulers, Staff heard that smaller haulers want to haul more, add more services, and send materials to the right places, but lack the capacity and space.

Council President Peterson hopes that Staff considers the end-user experience and how much the final rates will be as a performance metric when analyzing the different scenarios.

Estee clarified that Phase 3 analysis will include rate estimates for each scenario.

Councilor Rosenthal asked how Staff evaluates new, emerging technologies for use in materials management operations. He mentioned robotic arms with A.I. and high intensity optical lenses.

Luis mentioned that the Recycling Modernization Act includes funding for implementing new technologies and some facilities have already done so using INI grants.

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

11:20 Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

Greater Portland Inc. is working with Metro to hold a Best Practices Summit in the Portland Metro Area. Metro will be hosting a dinner at the OCC on Feb. 16th.

11:25 Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- **Councilor Rosenthal** updated Council regarding his meeting with the City of Wilsonville.
- **Councilor Gonzalez** updated Council regarding Council Creek's progress.
- **Councilor Simpson** thanked Metro Council and Staff for their response to Tyre Nichols' murder. There will be a prayer vigil at the OCC at noon today.

Councilor Lewis updated Council regarding Friday's meeting of the 82nd Transit Improvement Project Steering Committee and a tour they took.

11:30 Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Work Session at 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Kim, Legislative Assistant

Nathan Kim

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF January 31, 2023

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Powerpoint	01/31/2023	Garbage & Recycling System Facilities Plan	013123cw-01