

# Metro

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Metro

## Minutes

Thursday, November 9, 2023

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council chamber,  
[https://www.youtube.com/live/mNytBeDvVck?  
si=AzyduWnk4oKGVzdr](https://www.youtube.com/live/mNytBeDvVck?si=AzyduWnk4oKGVzdr), <https://zoom.us/j/615079992> Webinar ID:  
615 079 992 or 888-475-4499 (toll free)

## Council meeting

This meeting will be held electronically and in person at the Metro Regional Center Council Chamber. You can join the meeting on your computer or other device by using this link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/mNytBeDvVck?si=AzyduWnk4oKGVzdr>, <https://zoom.us/j/615079992>, or 877-853-5257 (toll free) (Webinar ID: 615079992).

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

**Present:** 6 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Duncan Hwang, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal

**2. Public Communication**

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

Mathias Quackenbush:

Mathias shared his frustration about how road safety measures weren't being done right and why it is important to do so.

Anna Kurdinsky, who's the Director of the Community Warehouse, talked about Metro's facilities plan. She gave a proposal from her team to redo Metro's transfer stations or build new ones. The plan included working with nonprofits to collect and fix reusable items, with a focus on helping marginalized communities.

Then, Jackie Curockfran, the Executive Director of the Rebuilding Center, spoke about how they can't afford property because of high rent. She explained why her organization and others need more funding to support the community. Jackie asked Metro to step up and help out

Public comment may be submitted in writing. It will also be heard in person and by electronic communication (video conference or telephone). Written comments should be submitted electronically by emailing [legislativecoordinator@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:legislativecoordinator@oregonmetro.gov). Written comments received by 4:00 p.m. the day before the meeting will be provided to the council prior to the meeting.

Those wishing to testify orally are encouraged to sign up in advance by either: (a) contacting the legislative coordinator by phone at 503-813-7591 and providing your name and the agenda item on which you wish to testify; or (b) registering by email by sending your name and the agenda item on which you wish to testify to [legislativecoordinator@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:legislativecoordinator@oregonmetro.gov). Those wishing to testify in person should fill out a blue card found in the back of the Council Chamber.

Those requesting to comment virtually during the meeting can do so by joining the meeting using this link: <https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or 888-475-4499 (toll free) and using the "Raise Hand" feature in Zoom or emailing the legislative coordinator at [legislativecoordinator@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:legislativecoordinator@oregonmetro.gov). Individuals will have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated at the meeting.

### 3. Presentations

#### 3.1 City of Portland Safe Rest Villages Update

Attachments: [Safe Rest Villages 22-23 Annual Report](#)

Deputy Council President Peterson introduced Dan Ryan, City of Portland Commission to present on the Safe Rest Village FY22-23 Annual Report.

Staff pulled up the presentation to present to Council.

Ryan went over his personal story and how it impacted his vision to strive for a change in the city, and how important it is to build these new homes as it provides support and safety to those who live on the street.

Brandy Westerman, Emergency Humanitarian director for the city of Portland, went over presentation and shared the current locations of the safe rest villages, and announced 169 documents were provided with personal information

such as social security cards, and birth certificates in order to access jobs, and houses to those who are in need.

Westerman then announced that 345 people were given shelter and a total budget for the safe rest villages from the years 2021-2024 is \$56.3 million and a majority of that came from the American Rescue Plan Act (\$52.3 million) and that it costs \$19.6 million to operate the 7 shelters yearly.

Andy Goebel, Director of All Good Northwest, spoke about what his organization does, and announced his organization housed 44 people, but mentioned how important it is to keep supporting those who received housing in order to build Resiliency.

Staff then pulled up a video showcasing the work done at the safe rest villages.

Ryan mentioned how important it is for the city to keep investing into homelessness and thanked council for their time.

Council Discussion:

President Peterson acknowledged how important it is now more than ever to keep this work going.

Councilor Nolan asked if a case manager is included, and if the 169 documents include social security income (SSI) and access to the Oregon Health Plan (OHP).

Goebel, explained that case managers are involved and they mitigate the barriers to help those in need to apply for SNAP and other state services.

Jake Budlaser replied by stating that most often homeless people are missing ID's and in order to start with getting

them services such as SSI and SNAP they must provide them with the basic documents first.

Councilor Hwang asked staff how the community feels about the villages being so close in their communities.

Ryan explained that he was expecting push back from neighbors and he found that most of the neighbors had a change of heart about the villages being so close to them as it has done more good than bad.

Goebel mentioned that there is a phone line open 24/7 for the community to call incase of emergency and opportunities for neighbors to volunteer.

Councilor Simpson asked what the plan is to ramp up homeless people into shelter now that winter is approaching.

Ryan noted that they are proposing a new site to help the community receive these assets, and that these shelters have provided permanent housing to the people using the services.

Councilor Lewis thanked staff for all the work they accomplished and then acknowledged that Metro has limited funds and mentioned that its funds is set aside for data research and if staff would like to speak more about data then they should approach council from that view.

Councilor Gonzalez offered his respect and admiration for the achievements accomplished.

Councilor Nolan asked staff to give a follow up about the housing units per acre at the various sites to get an idea of how much it costs.

Westerman noted she will come back with that information.

End of discussion.

**4. Consent Agenda**

4.1 **Resolution No. 23-5358**, For the Purpose of Completing Required Transition Actions to the New 2024-27 MTIP Including Adding Nine New Projects and updating Two Existing Projects to Enable Future Federal Fund Obligations to Occur

Attachments: [Resolution 23-5358](#)  
[Exhibit A](#)  
[Staff Report](#)

**A motion was made by Councilor Lewis, seconded by Councilor Simpson, that this item be approved. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Rosenthal

**5. Ordinances (Second Reading)**

5.1 Ordinance No. 23-1503 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapters 7.05 (Income Tax Administration) and 7.06 (Personal Income Tax) to Add Certain Clarifications and Make Housekeeping Updates

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 23-1503](#)  
[Exhibit A](#)  
[Exhibit B](#)  
[Exhibit C](#)  
[Staff Report](#)

**A motion was made by Councilor Simpson, seconded by Councilor Nolan, that this item be approved. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Rosenthal

**6. Other Business**

6.1 Council Procedures Update

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)  
[Attachment 1](#)  
[Attachment 2](#)  
[Attachment 3](#)

Deputy Council President Peterson introduced Ina Zucker (she/her) council office program Director, and Anne Buzzini (she/her) policy advisor, metro, to present on the council procedure update

Staff pulled up the presentation

Summary of presentation:

Zucker thanked councilors for submitting comments, and mentioned that she is excited to keep this topic moving forward.

Buzzini went over the purpose and updates and noted that the last council procedure was updated in the year 2013, then went over the procedures to adopt by resolution, summary of proposed updates, and policy questions.

Council discussion:

President Peterson explained that this change is meant to manage a better environment to deal with the hybrid work schedule.

Councilor Nolan mentioned It is perfectly reasonable to have that much flexibility. Nolan then explained that it would be better to have council deliberation 3 days in advance to give council time to absorb the information given to them.

Zucker mentioned that staff strives to get materials in a week in advance even though that is not going in the council procedure documents however they can put 72 hours instead of 48 hours in the document.

President Peterson asked for clarification.

Councilor Nolan explained that her comment was meant to ask for materials to be submitted 72 hours before a council meeting.

President Peterson apologized and noted she misunderstood.

Councilor Gonzalez asked if the hours are business hours or general hours

Buzzini explained it is business hours and they will clarify that in the document.

Councilor Gonzalez mentioned that he appreciates the shared agreements as a council.

President Peterson asked for a clarification about the cameras being on during a meeting.

Buzzini mentioned that a camera must be on during the entire duration of the meeting.

Councilor Gonzalez explained that there should be an



exemption for technical difficulties implemented in the document.

Councilor Hwang asked for more information about the 2 hour of agency work time mentioned in the document and who the arbiter is.

Zucker mentioned that the council office is not part of the 2 hour rule.

Councilor Lewis thanked Buzzini for reading her notes.

## 6.2 Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES): The Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan Proposed Scenarios

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)  
[Attachment 1](#)

Deputy Council President Peterson introduced Marta McGuire (she/her) WPES director, Metro, Estee Segal (she/her) Principle Planner, Metro, and Luis Sandoval (he/him), Principle Planner, Metro to present on the Garbage & Recycling System Facilities Plan

Summary of presentation:

McGuire went over the first part of the presentation and mentioned that the first symposium kick off was a success and thanked those who attended. McGuire then went over the discussion guide.

Segal then went over the project purpose and mentioned that it is meant to reduce waste to landfill, improve access to facilities, keep services affordable and to improve system resilience. Segal then finished up by going over the project phases and building the scenarios from baseline, full service, distributed to no-build.

Lindsey Lopez (she/her), then went over the building the scenarios portion of the presentation, the baseline map that shows the overview, the costs & waste reduction in 2040 and mentioned that the average garbage collection bill is expected to increase to \$39. Lopez then went over the full-service portion of the presentation and mentioned that the average garbage & collection bill will be \$41.80 which is the second highest across all the scenarios and 1.29 million tons of materials will be recovered yearly for reuse, recycling, and composting.

Sandoval then went over the distributed portion of the presentation and mentioned that Metro will build a network of mid size facilities which will include 3 medium sized transfer stations and 4 reuse facilities.

Segal then spoke about the next steps which include phase 3 (engagement summary, scenario elements), phase 4 (draft plan elements & implementation strategy components) and phase 5 (final plan & adoption).

Council discussion:

Councilor Gonzalez asked for a clarification about the star ratings and if they include just metros ratings or rates from other departments.

Lopez explained that most of the criteria focuses on the Metro regional area.

Councilor Gonzalez asked if they are looking at jobs that pertain to Metro.

Lopez explained that the jobs criteria looks at Metro jobs and other jobs that are a result of changes such as private and re-use entities where the jobs will be and the details of the criteria are in the memo.

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Councilor Hwang asked how the process fits into the bigger picture, how the scenarios will impact tonnage allocations and if Metro's partners have the capacity to engage all these levels during the next 12 months.

McGuire explained that there is no data for the cost of service for WET waste for private facilities and part of the plan is to get that information.

Sandoval explained the scenarios are meant to address facility gaps, and how to address cost differences across the region and a way to do that is by setting a set price.

Councilor Hwang asked if Metro would reconsider the impact of private facilities.

Sandoval noted that they can not anticipate the pricing positions from the private facilities if Metro would increase or decrease tonnage however, they do have experience with the tonnage allocation program and explained that they have noticed some facilities have seen increases and decreases in facility tonnages however, Sandoval mentioned that the pricing behavior hasn't changed much overtime.

President Peterson explained that councilor Hwang is pointing out a key aspect that was not in the values and outcomes section and asked staff if they want to keep the rates low and tonnage constant or raise the rates a little and mentioned that it all comes down to how Metro phases it and how to keep the rates down.

COO Marissa Madrigal explained that it would be helpful to hear from what council wants

President Peterson explained she does not know what

keeping the metro rate as low as possible means just yet and does not have an answer. She then asked if keeping metro tonnage constant and what it means should be a question and what is Metro getting out of the goals-based tonnage.

Councilor Hwang noted that as council they should look at what they want to achieve together and noted that he is not sure how to best facilitate that.

Lopez explained that the goal is to reduce waste, increase access, and affordability and then asked council if that sounds right.

Councilor Lewis explained that she looks at tonnage as the capacity issue and some of the most important things to work on is interactions, and the need for public service is what Metro needs to invest in and that includes bulky waste, and reuse and repair is part of that infrastructure and that is where Metro should grow the system.

Sandoval noted that one of the main issues they have right now is that they don't know how much the producers are paying for the infrastructure related to the RMA, he noted they do know Metro will pay a fee.

Councilor Lewis noted that she knows they can't guess how much it will cost however she would like to see a future vision of what the plan would look like.

Sandoval explained that even with all 4 scenarios mentioned in the presentation, Metro will still have a role in the RMA.

Councilor Lewis emphasized she is having trouble understanding where Metro is going.

Councilor Gonzalez noted that it wasn't clear how the costs are absorbed and who absorbs the costs.

McGuire stated that the point of this presentation was to start a conversation and that they still have a very long way to go.

Councilor Gonzalez replied to McGuire's response and mentioned that he feels misled from the information given to him and that the future around producer responsibility is still not clear.

McGuire stated that it is not her intentions to not be misleading and that the westside is a great example to make good choices as there is a gap in that region and that there are implications to build a new facility there.

President Peterson clarified what she heard from the council discussion and what she feels that needs to come out of the conversation is what scenerios they are leaning towards.

Councilor Simpson asked if there is a 5th scenario that is balanced and that he would like Metro to have its own paint facility and that his neighbor showed him their waste management bill at \$40 per month.

McGuire stated that it may be 2 months combined and not monthly.

Councilor Simpson noted that it was monthly, and they are elderly on a fixed income.

McGuire stated that is a lot.

Councilor Nolan stated that a top priority for her is reduction in WET waste.

President Peterson asked staff pull up the presentation to go

over the building Scenario slide.

President Peterson announced that they already pulled back from the 2030 waste plan and asked if there is a scenario in this presentation that calls for the entire 2030 waste plan.

McGuire answered by stating the guidance in the regional waste plan doesn't get to a specific scenario.

President Peterson asked council to state which of the four scenarios they are leaning towards (baseline, full service, distributed, no build) and then explain why.

Councilor Hwang stated that he wants to explore the distributed scenario more as it provides the most coverage with potential collaborations with re use partners.

Councilor Nolan stated that she does not like any of the scenarios and she wants a scenario that will get to 2 million tons diverted however she noted that she would choose the no build scenario.

Councilor Lewis noted that she is interested in distributed scenario and that the facilities don't need a large or small building but instead a medium sized one.

Councilor Simpson stated that he is between distributed and no build scenarios.

Councilor Gonzalez noted that he is leaning towards distributed however he likes some aspects of the no build scenario.

President Peterson noted that she also is between distributed and no build for the same reasons the councilors stated.

COO Marissa Madrigal asked if staff should come back with variable scenarios and go through them with council, such as waste reduction, affordability, and tonnage.

President Peterson explained that filling in the gaps at a particle size is what she needs to hear more about and that council is not opposed to making the facilities safer.

End of discussion.

**7. Chief Operating Officer Communication**

**8. Councilor Communication**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Councilor Simpson announced last night he attended the Rise of Community Enhancement grant and to reach out to those who served in honor of veteran's day.

**9. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Deputy Council President Lewis adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 12:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sermad Mohamad*

Sermad Mohamad, Legislative Assistant