

Metro

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Metro

Minutes - Final

Thursday, March 21, 2024

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber,
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> Webinar ID: 615 079 992 or
888-475-4499 (toll free) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=szxP5GuOQ3I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szxP5GuOQ3I)

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/watch?v=szxP5GuOQ3I>

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 Christine Lewis, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Duncan Hwang, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

2. Public Communication

There were none.

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 Resolution No. 24-5396 For the Purpose of Suspending Metro Code Subsection 5.01.260(c)(2) Regarding the Quarterly Sampling and Reporting Requirement for Processing Residual from Material Recovery

Attachments: [Resolution No. 24-5396](#)

[Staff Report](#)

approved

Aye: 7 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

4. Resolutions

4.1 Resolution No. 24-5387, For the Purpose of Amending the FY 2023-24 Budget and Appropriations Schedule and FY 2023-24 Through FY 2027-28 Capital Improvement Plan to Provide for Changes in Operations

Presenter(s): Cinnamon Williams (she/her), Financial Planning Director, Metro

Attachments: [Resolution No. 24-5387](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachments 1 - 4](#)
[Attachment 5](#)

Council President Peterson called on Cinnamon Williams (she/her), Financial Planning Director, Metro, to present to Council.

Staff pulled up the presentation to present to Council.

Presentation Summary:

Cinnamon Williams (she/her), Financial Planning Director, Metro presented Resolution No. 24-5387, which proposed FTE changes to allocate resources for planning, development, and research, specifically assigning one transportation planner to the RTO program to support its equity implementation strategy without requiring additional appropriation. Similarly, in Parks and Nature, the resolution aimed to elevate a 0.5 administrative specialist to a full-time position to accommodate emerging needs, utilizing budget savings from the bond fund to cover the costs.

Appropriation changes were made within various departments, with funds redirected to cover the pay equity project, ensuring compliance with equal pay legislation, though tight budgets for some departments necessitated additional funding. Additionally, adjustments were made to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), including reallocating resources within projects at the Expo Center and Oregon Convention Center, and increasing funding for the Oregon Zoo's projects, all managed without requesting additional appropriations.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Hwang wondered if there was an explanation available regarding the funding of FTE changes from savings.

Cinnamon Williams (she/her) explained that the funding for FTE changes from savings often results from vacancy savings or delays in projects, allowing enough resources in personnel services and materials and services to cover the costs at Metro, where the council provides flexibility in appropriation lines.

Councilor Rosenthal wanted to know any outstanding positions that are currently unfilled.

Cinnamon Willaims noted that venues still grappled with unfunded positions and ongoing impacts from COVID, particularly affecting Parks in Nature due to hiring challenges amidst a tight labor market. Although the recent Liuna contract alleviated some issues, vacancies remained a regular occurrence across departments, each facing unique challenges.

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

adopted

Aye: 7 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

5. Ordinances (first reading and public hearing)

5.1 Ordinance No. 24-1508 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Section 5.05.055 to Allow the Disposal of Cleanup Material at a Limited Capacity Landfill Under Certain Conditions

Presenter(s): Will Ennis (he/him), Senior Solid Waste Planner, Metro
Warren Johnson (he/him), Policy & Compliance Director, Metro

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 24-1508](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson called on Will Ennis (he/him), Senior Solid Waste Planner, Metro, Warren Johnson (he/him), Policy & Compliance Director, Metro to present on Ordinance No. 24-1508 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Section 5.05.055 to Allow the Disposal of Cleanup Material at a Limited Capacity Landfill Under Certain Conditions.

Staff pulled up the to present to Council.

Presentation Summary:

Will Ennis (he/him), Senior Solid Waste Planner, Metro presented a proposed change to Metro's solid waste code to amend the landfill capacity policy, outlined in ordinance number 24 1508, allowing metro area cleanup material disposal at limited capacity landfills for closure purposes. He explained the historical context and the need for the amendment to facilitate landfill closure while ensuring compliance with DEQ permits. Ennis provided a real-world example of the policy's impact on Riverbend Landfill in Yamhill County and recommended council adoption of the proposed ordinance to expedite closure processes.

Public Hearing:

Council President Peterson opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on Ordinance No Ordinance No. 24-1508 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Section 5.05.055 to Allow the Disposal of Cleanup Material at a Limited Capacity Landfill Under Certain Conditions.

Dave Huber, WM's public sector manager, Metro Council Chambers

Dave Huber addressed Metro Council, expressing gratitude

for their consideration of amending Metro code 50 5.055 to facilitate the timely closure of Riverbend Landfill. He acknowledged Metro staff's cooperation in preparing the proposed ordinance and highlighted WM's support for the amendment, emphasizing its role in expediting the closure process and addressing community concerns. Huber also noted proactive engagement with the community, including addressing questions from groups like Stop the Dump Coalition, and ensured timely communication with Yamhill County solid waste staff. Additionally, he mentioned the Yamhill County Solid Waste Advisory Committee's motion to support the amendment, which was set to be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Rosenthal expressed appreciation for the presentation and comprehension of the Riverbend situation. His first question concerned potential additional costs associated with accepting materials from distant facilities, considering haulage expenses. Secondly, he raised concerns about the broader implications of the proposed amendment, questioning whether it positioned the region as a default fill source for other areas across the state, such as Coffin Butte or Deschutes County, potentially burdening local taxpayers with hauling costs for materials destined for those locations.

Will Ennis noted that when the policy was initially implemented, its full implications weren't foreseen, suggesting that leaving it open-ended might prevent the need for future amendments. Riverbend Landfill, facing a shortage of materials to fill low spots, required additional materials for closure, potentially incurring extra transportation costs, the responsibility for which remained

uncertain in terms of who would cover them. He indicated that such arrangements would likely be negotiated between the waste generator and the landfill, highlighting that Metro currently receives \$3.50 per ton for cleanup material disposal.

Councilor Lewis asked Who is the responsibility on to determine that a material is contaminated yet not hazardous?

Will Ennis explained that DEQ regulated Riverbend Landfill along with all other landfills in the state, emphasizing that it was the responsibility of the permitted entity, the landfill itself, to ensure the acceptability of incoming materials.

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

5.2 Ordinance No 24-1509 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.04 to Expand Eligible Recipients of 2040 Planning and Development Grants and Allow Allocation of CET Funds to Community Placemaking Grant Program

Presenter(s): Eryn Kehe, Urban Policy & Development Manager, Metro
Serah Breakstone, 2040 Grants Manager, Metro

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 24-1509](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson called on Eryn Kehe, Urban Policy & Development Manager, Metro, Serah Breakstone, 2040 Grants Manager, Metro to present on Ordinance No 24-1509 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.04 to Expand Eligible Recipients of 2040 Planning and Development Grants and Allow Allocation of CET Funds to Community Placemaking Grant Program.

Public Hearing:

Council President Peterson opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on Ordinance No 24-1509 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.04 to Expand Eligible Recipients of 2040 Planning and Development Grants and Allow Allocation of CET Funds to Community Placemaking Grant Program.

There were none.

Presentation Summary:

Eryn Kehe (she/her), Urban Policy & Policy Development Manager expresses that ordinance number 20 415 oh nine, aimed at amending Metro code chapter 7.04 to broaden the eligibility for 2040 planning and development grants and to allocate CET funds to the Community Placemaking Grant Program. The proposed changes were initially reviewed by the council in February to create more funding opportunities for tribal governments and unincorporated communities. These adjustments align with Metro's goal of supporting community enrichment projects, enhancing the region's livability. Erin and Sarah returned to provide updates and answer questions regarding the ordinance's implementation, which includes allowing grants for federally recognized tribes and community groups in unincorporated areas, as well as integrating CET funds into the Community Placemaking Grant Program.

Council Discussion

Councilor Lewis questioned the omission of specific language related to implementing the region's long-range plan, particularly referencing the 2040 vision, which had transitioned from a long-range perspective to a more immediate focus, though she suggested the potential need for a future long-range vision plan.

Roger Alfred, Metro Attorney, explained that he decided to remove the language referring to implementing the region's long-range plan because it seemed inconsistent with other language in the code and appeared somewhat extraneous, although he noted that there was no intention to deviate from activities aligning with the long-range plan.

6. Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

- Reported on stakeholder advisory table for affordable housing, where diverse opinions were shared, providing a comprehensive understanding of stakeholders' perspectives.
- Provided an update on the Willamette Cove project, including community engagement efforts to ensure meaningful input from indigenous communities, communities of color, and members of the disability community, with the first engagement workshop scheduled for early May and a survey open to the region.
- Noted progress on the cleanup planning, with the team working with DEQ to apply information gathered from a soil study conducted in 2022.

7. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Councilor Rosenthal reported on the recent discussions he and Councilor Gonzalez had after the last meeting regarding the TV highway project. They held three sessions with stakeholders last week, working on both federally funded and locally funded options for the project's advancement.

- Councilor Gonzalez reported on a group of regional transportation professionals who attended JPEG at 7:30 AM, expecting a heavier agenda but found it lighter than anticipated due to Governor Kotek's tolling pause, leading to a fruitful conversation with Lindsey Baker from ODOT about revenue mechanisms and community empowerment. The meeting also briefly covered the upcoming JPAC trip to DC.
- Councilor Lewis reported that the Expo Futures sports committee met, presenting phase one of the consultant handed analysis, indicating the right direction with a consensus on comparators and plans to move forward with phase two for a more intense site analysis. Additionally, she shared the success of the Clackamas County Business Alliance's post-legislative session forum, particularly emphasizing discussions on transportation funding, which felt promising for future conversations.
- Top of Form
- Councilor Nolan reported on highlighted the significance of the upcoming celebration on March 31st, Transgender Day of Visibility, emphasizing the importance of recognizing and honoring transgender individuals' presence, achievements, and ongoing challenges within the community. Stressing the need for visibility, they outlined Metro's commitment to inclusivity, diversity, and understanding by valuing contributions from trans gender employees and stakeholders, while acknowledging the systemic barriers and discrimination faced by trans gender individuals. They reaffirmed Metro's solidarity with trans gender individuals and underscored the ethical and moral imperative of celebrating and consulting with a diverse community, including trans gender people, to effectively fulfill Metro's mission.
- Councilor Simpson had the opportunity to tour Metro Central with Superintendent Deborah Humphrey and

Director McGuire yesterday, experiencing firsthand the bustling activity in one space. They noted that Metro Central operates with greater efficiency compared to Metro South and expressed eagerness to tour the latter soon, inviting colleagues to join. He praised the dedication and operational expertise of Debbie and her team, as well as Director McGuire, for effectively managing the site.

- President Peterson reported on the semiconductor competitive task force during the legislative push for chips manufacturing subsidies, which has now materialized with Intel's \$100 billion investment announcement, \$36 billion of which is allocated for Oregon. While acknowledging the positive news, she emphasized the need for strategic planning to address workforce training, affordable housing, and regional disparities, expressing a commitment to proactive engagement to ensure the investment benefits the entire region.

8. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,

Anushka Kargathara

Anushka Kargathara, Legislative Assistant