

# Metro

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Metro

## Minutes

Thursday, June 6, 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=TKRJXdXssG0&list=PLeB2faWWqJxGAOgOHIX1Wdw4NNSBfpY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TKRJXdXssG0&list=PLeB2faWWqJxGAOgOHIX1Wdw4NNSBfpY)

H-&index=7  
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://zoom.us/j/615079992> Webinar ID: 615 079 992 or 888-475-4499 (toll free)

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

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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Ashton Simpson

**2. Public Communication**

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

There were none.

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. Testimony on non-agenda items will be taken at the beginning of the meeting. Testimony on agenda items generally will take place during that item, after staff presents, but also may be taken at the beginning of 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 Presentation of Financial Policies with emphasis on renewal and replacement

Attachments: [Renewal-replacement-audit-highlights-may-2024 Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson introduced Auditor Brian Evans (he/him), Metro, and Angela Owens (she/her), Metro, to present Financial Policies with emphasis on renewal and replacement.

Presenters outlined financial policies with a focus on renewal and replacement, emphasizing transparency and accountability. Presenters discussed scenarios to assess future resource adequacy, highlighting the importance of prioritizing renewal and replacement. They identified inconsistencies in current practices and recommended improvements, such as finalizing asset management strategies, aligning financial policies, and enhancing reporting and data standards. The audit included ten recommendations to strengthen decision-making and ensure adequate funding for long-term asset requirements. Council President Peterson introduced Andrew Scott (he/him), Deputy COO, Metro, to give the management response to the financial policy recommendations. He expressed support for their recommendation and provided additional context for the asset management strategy.

#### *Council Discussion*

Councilor Hwang inquired about venue reserves policies, and presenters described the reserve policies that each venue must balance their financial needs.

Councilor Rosenthal asked how the MERC commission will be included in these discussions, and presenters offered to make a presentation of their findings to MERC as well if they are interested in it.

Councilor Lewis pointed out the lack of collaborative skill building and training mentioned in the report, and presenters described some of the ways the asset management team's programs that cover this area.

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

**4. Resolutions**

4.1 **Resolution No. 24-5412** For the Purpose of Adding Two new ODOT Managed Projects to the 2024-27 MTIP to Meet Federal Transportation Project Delivery Requirements

Attachments: [Resolution No. 24-5412](#)  
[Exhibit A](#)  
[Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson called on Chris Ford, ODOT, and Dwight Brashear, SMART, to present to Council.

Staff pulled up the Resolution No. 24-5412 For the Purpose of Adding Two new ODOT Managed Projects to the 2024-27 MTIP to Meet Federal Transportation Project Delivery Requirements PowerPoint to present to Council.

Presenters described the addition of two new ODOT-managed projects to the 2023-2026 MTIP to meet Federal transportation requirements, focusing on a complete street upgrade and a new bus-on-shoulder lane on I-5. Presenters emphasized the projects' alignment with climate and safety initiatives. They explained the bus-on-shoulder concept, its benefits, and successful pilot programs, highlighting improved transit reliability and on-time performance. They also discussed the funding and partnership details, aiming to enhance transit efficiency and reduce congestion in the Metro Portland area.

*Council Discussion:*

Councilor Rosenthal asked about potential changes to certain bus routes in Tualatin, and presenters described the various requests they are juggling to produce the most ideal routes.

Councilor Hwang inquired about funding and presenters gave additional context on the funding for this project.

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

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

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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

## 5. Ordinances (First Reading and Public Hearing)

5.1 **Ordinance No. 24-1514** For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.05 (Income Tax Administration) Regarding Income Tax Confidentiality Provisions

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 24-1514](#)  
[Exhibit A](#)  
[Exhibit B](#)  
[Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson called on Justin Laubscher (he/him), Tax Compliance Program Manager, Metro, to present to Council.

Staff pulled up the Ordinance No. 24-1514 For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.05 (Income Tax Administration) Regarding Income Tax Confidentiality Provisions PowerPoint to present to Council.

The presenter detailed updates to two code sections regarding tax return confidentiality and disclosure provisions to fund the Supportive Housing Services Program. He explained that a recent district attorney ruling and subsequent state legislation prompted these updates.

The new bill exempts local income tax information from public records requests, aligning local confidentiality requirements with state standards. Metro staff proposed updating its income tax code to mirror state statutory language, ensuring consistency and clarity in handling taxpayer information. This alignment aims to minimize public records disputes and reassure taxpayers of confidentiality standards similar to those of the state Department of Revenue.

*Council Discussion:*

Councilor Hwang asked if there have ever been public records requests about specific tax information, and presenters explained they do not divulge individual tax records.

**5.1.1 Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 24-1514**

Council President Peterson opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on Ordinance No. 24-1514.

There were none.

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

**6. Other Business**

6.1 FY 2024-25 Budget - Vote on Budget Amendments and Notes

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

6.1.1 Public Hearing for FY 2024-25 Budget Vote

Council President Peterson opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on FY 2024-25 Budget - Vote on Budget Amendments and Notes.

There were none.

Seeing no further discussion, Council President Peterson

moved on to the next topic.

6.2 Vote to Include Departmental Budget Amendments in the FY 2024-25 Budget

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

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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

6.3 Vote to Include Budget Note #1 in the FY 2024-25 Budget

**A motion was made by Councilor Lewis, seconded by Councilor Gonzalez, that this was adopted.. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

6.4 Vote to Include Budget Amendment #637 in the FY 2024-25 Budget

**A motion was made by Councilor Hwang, seconded by Councilor Gonzalez, that this was adopted.. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

6.5 Vote to Include Budget Amendment #638 in the FY 2024-25 Budget

**A motion was made by Councilor Gonzalez, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, that this was adopted.. The motion carried by the following vote:**



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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

6.6 Vote to Include Budget Amendment #639 in the FY 2024-25 Budget

**A motion was made by Councilor Lewis, seconded by Councilor Gonzalez, that this was adopted.. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

6.7 Vote to Include Budget Amendment #640 in the FY 2024-25 Budget

**A motion was made by Councilor Hwang, seconded by Councilor Lewis, that this was adopted.. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

6.8 Vote to Include Budget Amendment #642 in the FY 2024-25 Budget

Councilor Gonzalez and Councilor Lewis detailed the changes made to this budget amendment.

Councilor Nolan asked if organizations applying for these funds must meet every qualification to apply, or just that they must meet one of them to be eligible. Councilor Lewis confirmed that it is an inclusive list, so anyone who meets one qualification is eligible.

Councilor Hwang requested clarification on the language of the amendment, whether for-profit businesses qualify or if it is for non-profit only, and Councilor Lewis explained that they can be technically included but that emphasis will be on

community-based and non-profit applicants.

Councilor Rosenthal expressed concern over the details of this amendment, like where the money is going and how it is going to them. Councilor Lewis clarified the process for establishing those details, and that this amendment is for an earlier portion of the process.

Councilor Nolan asked if the numbers discussed were from the total operating fund reserve or the Regional System Fee Fund, and presenters explained the way the finances are separated and allocated from the WPES budget.

Councilor Gonzalez clarified further the purpose of this amendment and thanked collaborators and staff for their work on it.

Councilor Hwang asked why funding is coming from reserves rather than other areas, and presenters described the reasoning behind the funding mechanisms and decisions.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, and Councilor Hwang

**Nay:** 1 - Councilor Rosenthal

**Excused:** 1 - Councilor Simpson

#### **7. Chief Operating Officer Communication**

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

- Promoted the Zoo Brew event this weekend

#### **8. Councilor Communication**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Councilor Gonzalez reported on the roundtable of the Joint Committee on Transportation that happened on
-

Tuesday with a variety of leaders to discuss things like revenue reform and investment priorities.

- Councilor Lewis thanked Metro senior staff who came to the Gladstone mixer and put the event together. She also reported on the Sunrise Corridor Steer Committee meeting.
- Councilor Rosenthal reported on the MERC commission meeting, noting that revenue numbers have been positive.

## 9. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sam Hart*

Sam Hart, Legislative Assistant