

Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov



Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, July 16, 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=4XBbOlb_ajg&list=PLeB2faWWqJxGAOgOHIX1Wdw4NNSBfpYH](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XBbOlb_ajg&list=PLeB2faWWqJxGAOgOHIX1Wdw4NNSBfpYH)

Council work session
-&index=3

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)

10:30 Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: 5 - Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Mary Nolan, Duncan Hwang, Lynn Peterson, and Ashton Simpson

Excused: 2 - Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Christine Lewis

10:30 Work Session Topics:

10:30 Bulky Waste Multifamily Study Results

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson introduced Sara Kirby (she/her), Senior Planner, Metro, Casey Mellnik (she/they), Associate Planner, Metro, Rachel Chu (she/her), Senior Planner, Metro, to present the Bulky Waste Multifamily Study Results.

Staff pulled up the Bulky Waste Multifamily Study Results PowerPoint to present to Council.

Presenters outlined an update on the ongoing bulky waste policy project and its associated bulky waste collection study. They clarified that "bulky waste" refers to large household items like mattresses and couches that don't fit in standard garbage or recycling containers. The project, a collaboration between Metro and city/county partners, aims to expand convenient and regular bulky waste collection services, particularly for multifamily properties which often lack such services. The study, conducted over 16 weeks, focused on understanding material generation, service frequency, and operational costs. Key findings included the consistent demand for the service, with larger properties using it more frequently, and the predominance of furniture

items in the collected waste. Cost analysis revealed the average expense per household, and the study also highlighted limited reuse opportunities for collected items. Insights from property managers and additional interviews with other jurisdictions provided further context and informed the project's next steps, including drafting service standards and engaging with stakeholders for future implementation.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan asked about the disparity in participants that lived in multifamily units versus smaller households, and what could be done to even that out more. Presenters explained some logistical reasons for that difference, but agreed it could be improved.

Councilor Hwang inquired about appliances and if a potential community warehouse would accept E-waste.

Presenters shared that Community Warehouse does not typically accept E-waste. They stated that over the 16 weeks they collected 67 TVs and it was up to the collection companies how each of them handle e-waste, but it could be handled by organizations in the future.

Councilor Hwang asked about cost for multifamily homes, and presenters shared that there are a little over 7000 multifamily properties in the region. She added that the disposal costs were about 30% of the total cost, with the collection cost being about 70% of the total cost.

Councilor Simpson asked if they will anticipate an increase during holiday seasons, spring breaks, and spring cleaning. He also noted that the \$2 per month price point is very low,

stating a preference to keep it that way. Presenters explained that their price point factors in the average across the year, including busier periods and slower periods.

Councilor Nolan expressed concern about waste sitting outside overnight, and presenters responded that wet mattresses can be recycled but they cannot be reused. They also asked if participation rates improve with longevity with a program like this, and if there is something they can do to collaborate with property managers to educate or set requirements for them to make sure that their property is synced up with the collection to improve participation. Presenters shared that across the board, the longer standing programs, such as 10 year programs, had higher participation rates.

Council President Peterson noted that this pilot program is meant to ignite conversations with cities and counties who have contracts with haulers to try to get them to include it in contracts during their negotiations. She inquired if WPES is doing this because they have heard counties and cities want these services but haven't gotten around to it, or if we are trying to get them to do this. Presenters explained that they already have rules that will require these services to be regularly occurring by June of 2025, and that they are working with them to get this to happen.

Councilor Hwang asked if there is a difference between administrative rule making and ordinances, and presenters explained that an administrative rule process is a COO process and goes through a public comment period, whereas the ordinances go through Council.

11:15 2025 State Legislative Transportation Priorities

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

Council President Peterson introduced Anneliese Koehler (she/her), State Legislative Affairs Advisor, Metro, Jenna Jones (she/her), State Legislative Affairs Advisor, Metro, Catherine Ciarlo (she/her), PDR Direction, to present the 2025 State Legislative Transportation Priorities.

Staff pulled up the 2025 State Legislative Transportation Priorities PowerPoint to present to Council.

Presenters outlined the Council's priority-setting process for a transportation package, explaining its significance and how it integrates with legislative agendas and regional processes. They emphasized the importance of unity within the region to ensure success in Salem and discussed the major fiscal challenges facing transportation funding due to declining gas tax revenues and the need for sustainable funding sources. The presentation also covered political aspects, the need for bipartisan support, and the potential impact of public sentiment. Key points included the importance of focusing on funding programs rather than projects, addressing operational and maintenance shortfalls, and the opportunities presented by transitioning to sustainable transportation funding. The presentation concluded with a call for feedback to refine the process and ensure alignment between regional and Council priorities.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan asked if they are having conversations about additional revenue sources, and presenters confirmed that is something they will talk about next week, including how different states do it. They added that they want advice from Council regarding what goals they want for the transportation package, and Councilor Nolan responded that they want to talk with council about how to engage with the goals of the transportation package.

Councilor Simpson noted that a priority of his is kids being able to get to and from school safely on foot.

Councilor Nolan inquired about gas taxes and inflation, and presenters agreed to look into it further.

Councilor Nolan agreed with Councilor Simpson that projects can tear us apart, and asked what the viable options are for a substitute sustainable source of funding. Presenters responded that they will hear about what other states do next week at the informational presentation. They also discussed funding transportation alternatives like VMT, road user fees, as well as charging for electricity. They added that Minnesota had a local delivery fee component, noting that there was a \$2 fee tacked on to delivery orders over a certain price.

Councilor Nolan asked if they were looking into sales tax for transit, and Council President Peterson shared that the general sales tax is usually used for education and not for transportation, but there could be some that do. She also pointed out that they cannot just change the underlying source of paying off those bonds, so it will be a transitional time and take a lot of time.

Councilor Hwang asked how they should think about this measure and if they should approach this as a new revenue source. Presenters responded that for transportation packages, revenue sources have not been much of a subject for discussion, but for this project it will be. They intend to make sure the package is prioritizing using this new revenue to fund safety and transit. Councilor Hwang noted that people do not get excited about funding sources, but rather they get excited about the things that could be done.

Presenters shared that next week they will meet with T for America to figure out how to tell the story of what the funding does to impact people's everyday lives. They noted the need to refine the message on how important it is to people's lives and the reiteration to how important transit it.

Councilor Hwang asked who the message is for and how they will do the story, and presenters responded that there is work underway to get that messaging.

Councilor Nolan shared that as a principal, they prefer to have a transportation funding system that is usage based because it has climate benefits and is something that individuals can control. They stated that they hope the Council will join them in objecting to anything that moves general fund commitments to transportation projects because it sets a bad precedent.

Council President Peterson emphasized the need to finish what has been started and to prioritize building housing.

12:15 2025 Metro State Legislative Agenda

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

Council President Peterson introduced Anneliese Koehler (she/her), Legislative Affairs Manager, Metro, Jenna Jones (she/her), State and Regional Affairs Advisor, Metro, to present the 2025 Metro State Legislative Agenda.

Staff pulled up the 2025 Metro State Legislative Agenda PowerPoint to present to Council.

Presenters outlined the initial steps in setting the state legislative agenda, highlighting key monitoring areas in the lead-up to the session. They noted significant political changes, such as new Senate Republicans due to the longest walkout in state history and several legislative leaders running for statewide office. They discussed upcoming ballot measures on impeachment, compensation commissions, and rank-choice voting. Presenters emphasized the importance of housing, homelessness, behavioral health, transportation, and education funding as session priorities. They detailed the iterative process of setting the legislative agenda, involving feedback from various stakeholders and multiple updates to the Council before final adoption in December.

Council Discussion

Councilor Hwang inquired about continuing the momentum of the Downtown Task Force established by the Governor, and presenters shared that they will see some of it woven into the State's agenda for behavioral health, housing, and homelessness. Councilor Hwang also asked if they are considering art venues for this session, and presenters responded that they are having initial conversations around that to figure out the correct timing on when those funding asks should occur. They added that even if they are not coming with the ask in 2025, they want to do educational pieces to make sure the State knows there is a need for possible funding in the future.

Councilor Simpson shared that making sure everyone has quality jobs is a priority, and asked where they are positioned in terms of workforce and industry improvements. Presenters responded that they see some of the needs in terms of construction on infrastructure

projects, childcare accessibility, and burnout in behavioral health professionals.

Councilor Simpson noted that historically, communities of color have been left out of the discussion, emphasizing the need to address those issues and make sure folks can maintain their jobs.

Council President Peterson shared that they should have more conversations about construction and what the second and third priorities are for them, asking how they can affect the second and third priorities rather than just supporting the number one priority of CHIPS manufacturing. She suggested that they think about free community college and other ways they can add priorities.

Councilor Nolan mentioned that they want to support efforts for additional housing, inquiring if there is a role that the state could play either through incentives or regulations that would push a streamlined or standardized method. Presenters responded that they have thought a lot about this, and that there are a lot of different solutions on the table.

Council President Peterson shared that Senator Peter Courtney has passed away and asked everyone to have a moment of silence.

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

1:00 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Deputy COO Andrew Scott provided an update on the following events or items:

The Lamprey celebration happened last week, and they honored the Willamette Falls and the Pacific Lamprey. It was

an important celebration.

1:05 Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Councilor Rosenthal thanked Andy Shaw for his presentation he gave to Washington County Chamber about housing and supportive services. He added that the TV Highway steering committee voted to support a \$300 Million project. He also reported that he went to the Lamprey celebration, noting that it was a good year for the lamprey. He added that the Washington County Coordinating Committee met yesterday and will be sending a letter to support the UGB expansion in Sherwood. He added that the Tualatin festival was sponsored by Metro and they had a nice banner outside the stage.
- Councilor Nolan reported that the confederated tribes of Grand Ronde had a powwow over the weekend.
- Councilor Simpson noted that people should be safe because they had homicides happen over the weekend at the Glison boat launch and sent his condolences to the loved ones. He remarked that while they cannot fully eliminate gun violence, he would like to reduce it as much as possible.

1:10 Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Work Session at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Hart

Sam Hart, Legislative Assistant