

Metro

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



Metro

Minutes

Thursday, October 24, 2024

10:30 AM

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or
888-475-4499 (toll free)

Council work session

This meeting will be held electronically. 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: 4 - Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Mary Nolan, Duncan Hwang, and Christine Lewis

Excused: 3 - Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Ashton Simpson, and Lynn Peterson

10:30 Work Session Topics:

10:30 Portland-Metro P'5 IGA Renegotiation Discussion

Attachments: [Resolution No. 24-5438](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Deputy Council Chair Hwang introduced Craig Stroud, Interim General Manager of Visitor Venues, and Brian Wilson, Interim Portland'5 Executive Director, to present on the topic of the Portland'5 IGA Renegotiation between Metro and the City of Portland.

Staff pulled up the "Review Portland'5 Centers for the Arts" slides to present to Council.

Staff Presentation

Stroud informed the Council of an upcoming resolution which would direct Metro staff to engage with City of Portland staff to convene a work group with representatives from the arts and culture community, for the purpose of reviewing and improving the current model of operations and management at Portland'5 Centers for the Arts.

Wilson reported that the City of Portland recently adopted a resolution to carry out a Market Feasability analysis and stated that a 2022 audit of the P'5 IGA by a Metro auditor found issues with the existing governance structure and the

lack of a maintenance funding plan.

Stroud shared a list of policy options from the staff report, as well as the values and outcome priorities offered to staff from the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC) and the Metro Council for management of P'5 venues.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan identified an absence of regional perspective in the policy options and values and inquired about taking a regional approach going forward.

Stroud responded that the considerations are focusing on immediate and short-term needs before addressing the broader ecosystem.

Councilor Nolan raised concerns about oversaturation of the regional market and whether public funds would be used efficiently.

Stroud responded that the Market Feasibility Analysis would provide more data and insight and inform those questions.

Councilor Lewis thanked staff for coordinating with the City of Portland on the timeline. Councilor Lewis remarked on the challenge of trying to shape the future model while the existing system is in severe disarray, and emphasized the need for significant IGA restructuring, including acknowledgment of the liability of old buildings and the meaning of public service.

Councilor Rosenthal concurred with Councilor Nolan's comments about a regional perspective and expressed

support for developing a work group to renegotiate the IGA.

Councilor Hwang inquired about the region's capacity to pay for renovations at the venues and the funding pathway.

Wilson stated that P'5 is projecting a deficit for the current fiscal year and is in precarious position given the existing lack of intergovernmental support.

Councilor Hwang remarked that adding new venues given the current state of the IGA may present challenges.

Wilson clarified that proposed expansions and renovations would be considered in the feasibility study.

Councilor Rosenthal commented that the Market Feasability study should have occurred sooner in the process.

Councilor Nolan inquired about potential competition between venues.

Wilson conveyed that there is no mid-level theatre in the P'5 portfolio and shared that commercial models do not reflect the predominantly local, non-profit programming.

Councilor Nolan advised that Metro's role should be outlined to prioritize commitment to the local and regional arts community and remarked that Metro acts as primarily a labor contractor under the current IGA.

Councilor Lewis added that Metro also acts as a programmer and noted the difference between non-profit and commercial programming.

Councilor Hwang asked the presenters about specific

changes they would suggest for the ideal new structure.

Stroud responded that the current situation was too complex to adequately answer the question. Wilson concurred and mentioned that the model would ideally have a more regional focus.

Seeing no further discussion, Council Chair Hwang thanked the P'5 staff and moved on to the next agenda item.

11:20 Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

- Metro Health Benefits open enrollment period starts soon
- Tentative scheduling of three additional vaccine clinics at Oregon Convention Center, Metro South Transfer Station, and P'5

11:30 Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Councilor Rosenthal reported on Oregon Zoo Foundation's Strategic Retreat and applauded the efforts on getting the Zoo Bond passed
- Councilor Lewis reported joining U.S. Representative Susanne Bonamici and the Youth Advisory Council in visiting Portland'5 and mentioned an upcoming groundbreaking at Shortstack in Milwaukie
- Councilor Hwang reported speaking at the Vision Zero Conference for planners around the country, and highlighted MPAC discussions regarding the future vision, placemaking grants, and waste systems plan

1:00 Adjourn

There being no further business, Deputy Council Chair Hwang adjourned the Metro Work Session at 11:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emma McIntosh

Emma McIntosh, Legislative Assistant