

Metro

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



Metro

Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 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)**

Council meeting

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)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: 6 - Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Duncan Hwang, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

Excused: 1 - Council President Lynn Peterson

2. Public Communication

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

Chris Smith asked Council to extend the IRB public comment period by fourteen days after the project's health analysis is published.

Seeing no further testimony, Deputy Council President Hwang moved on to the next agenda item.

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. 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. 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. Individuals will have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated at the meeting.

3. Resolutions

3.1 Resolution no. 24-5444 For The Purpose of Honoring The Life and Legacy of Bob Sallinger

Presenter(s): Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Metro

Attachments: [Resolution No. 24-5444.pdf](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Deputy Council President Hwang called Councilor Gonzalez to present on Resolution 24-5444 For The Purpose of Honoring The Life and Legacy of Bob Salinger.

Presentation Summary:

Councilor Gonzalez provided comments recognizing the lifelong work of Bob Salinger as a dedicated conservationist and climate activist.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Rosenthal expressed his deep support for the resolution and for the procurement of West Hayden Island.

Councilor Lewis noted Salinger's far-reaching impacts and shared her appreciation of all the folks who signed up to testify in support of the resolution.

Councilor Nolan spoke to Salinger's relentless pursuit of justice and his ability to bridge divides through his good nature, passion, and sense of humor.

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

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

Aye: 6 - Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Council President Peterson

3.1.1 Public Comment For Resolution No. 24-5444

Deputy Council President Hwang opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on Resolution 24-5444 For The Purpose of Honoring The Life and Legacy of Bob Salinger.

Mike Houck and encouraged the Metro Council to protect West Hayden Island as part of Salinger's legacy.

Kaitlin Lovell spoke about the important work of Salinger in the Bird Conservation Organization, which he founded.

Stacey Detwiler from the Wild Salmon Center honored Salinger's memory and his dedication to conservation efforts.

Michelle Emmons from Willamette River Keepers expressed her appreciation of Salinger's mentorship.

Micah Meskel from Bird Alliance conveyed the value of Salinger's depth of knowledge and wisdom.

Jim Desmond, former Parks and Nature director, articulated his admiration of Salinger and his work as an activist.

Lynn Herring from Bird Alliance described Salinger's devotion to conservation and enthusiasm for the environment.

Sue Marshall, a lobbyist for Bird Alliance, shared fond memories of Salinger and his unique approach to activism.

Roberta Jortner spoke as a friend of Salinger's and described his ability to bring people together.

Chris Smith conveyed Salinger's importance as a role model and echoed the sentiment to procure West Hayden Island.

Owen Wozniak from Intertwine Alliance discussed Salinger's passion and tenderness for people and animals alike.

David Moskowitz from Conservation Angler expressed appreciation for Salinger's diplomacy and wisdom.

Lenny Dee, a colleague of Salinger, noted his extensive knowledge of conservation science and the law.

Ali Berman shared her experiences as a mentee of Salinger and the inspiration he provided.

Teresa Wicks articulated the magnitude of Salinger's work, which extended to rural areas of southern Oregon.

Laura Feldman spoke about the significant role Salinger played in her growth as a conservationist.

Desiree Tullos extended her condolences to Salinger's family and conveyed how integral he was to the community.

Cassie Cohen expressed how valuable Salinger's insight and support was to fellow conservationists and activists.

Neil Schulman described the valuable lessons he learned from nearly 40 years of friendship with Salinger.

Zuriel Van Belle shared how important Salinger's hard work and extensive knowledge was to conservation efforts.

Salinger's wife and son, Elizabeth Neely and Peter Salinger, spoke about his joy, tenderness, and humor.

Seeing no further testimony, Deputy Council President Hwang moved on to the next agenda item.

The Council will take a brief recess following this agenda item.

4. Presentations

- 4.1 FY 23/24 Parks and Nature Annual Report to Council and FY 23/24 Natural Areas Oversight Committee Annual Report to Council

Presenter(s): Jon Blasher, Parks and Nature Director
Cary Watters, Natural Areas and Capital Performance Oversight Committee Co-Chair
TBD, Natural Areas and Capital Performance Oversight Committee Co-Chair

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

Deputy Council President Hwang introduced Jon Blasher, Parks and Nature Director and Cary Watters, Natural Areas and Capital Performance Oversight Committee Co-Chair to present the FY 23/24 Parks and Nature Annual Report to Council and FY 23/24 Natural Areas Oversight Committee Annual Report to Council.

Staff pulled up the FY 23/24 Parks and Nature Annual Report and Natural Areas Oversight Committee Annual Report presentation to present to Council.

Presentation Summary:

The presenters provided Council with an overview of the Parks and Nature department's achievements in the last

year. They described the continued land acquisition made possible with the 2019 bond and highlighted staff's habitat conservation and restoration successes. The presenters also shared information about park improvements, increased community engagement, and the Parks and Nature budget and expenditures in the last fiscal year.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Hwang asked the presenters what is next for the department, given that they won a national award.

Blasher responded that perhaps improvements in District 2 would be the next major focus for the region. Additionally, he hopes to improve community engagement and break down barriers to access for marginalized communities.

Councilor Lewis expressed appreciation for the presenters work and commented on the operational challenges faced by the department. She followed up with a question of how working with partners complicates or extends the processes required to execute Parks and Nature programs.

Jon Blasher replied that there are operational challenges when working with partners. He stated that the department is always working to compromise with partners and establish clarity surrounding timelines and goals to speed up and improve the efficiency of Parks and Nature programs.

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

5. Ordinances (Second Reading and Vote)

- 5.1 **Ordinance No. 24-1521** For The Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.05 (Income Tax Administration) Regarding Response Deadlines For Protests and Appeals

Presenter(s): Justin Laubscher, Tax Compliance Program Manager, Metro

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 24-1521](#)
 [Staff Report](#)
 [Exhibit A](#)

Deputy Council President Hwang stated that the first reading and public hearing for Ordinance No. 24-1519 took place on Thursday, November 7, 2024.

Deputy Council President Hwang called on Justin Laubscher, Tax Compliance Program Manager, Metro to answer questions for Council.

Seeing no questions, Deputy Council President Hwang called for a vote on Ordinance No. 24-1521. It passed unanimously.

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

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

Aye: 6 - Councilor Lewis, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Council President Peterson

6. **Chief Operating Officer Communication**

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

- There were none.

7. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- There were none.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business, Deputy Council President Hwang adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Cooley

Nicholas Cooley, Legislative Assistant