

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, November 7, 2024

10:30 AM

**Metro Regional Center, Council chamber,
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or
888-475-4499 (toll free)**

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)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Deputy Council President Hwang called the Metro Council Meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

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

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.

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 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.

Deputy Council President Hwang acknowledged the political climate following the national election and reaffirmed Metro's commitment to the region.

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

items.

There were none.

Deputy Council President Hwang closed the public comment period and stated for the record that written testimony concerning Supportive Housing Services had been received from a member of the public and would be available in meeting materials.

3. Resolutions

3.1 **Resolution No. 24-5441**, For The Purpose Of Proclaiming Every November As Native American Heritage Month In The Greater Portland Area

Attachments: [Resolution No. 24-5441](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Deputy Council President Hwang introduced Katie McDonald, Tribal Liaison and Jess Rojas, Community Education and Stewardship Programs Lead, to present on Resolution No. 24-5441, For the Purpose of Proclaiming Every November as Native American Heritage Month in the Greater Portland Area.

Staff pulled up the “Native American Heritage Month” slides to present to Council.

Staff Presentation

Presenters shared photos from the Native American Heritage Month Coffee Hour at the Metro Regional Center. McDonald highlighted programs led by Indigenous staff members at Metro and reported on recent engagement events with native communities and Tribes. Rojas read Resolution No. 24-5441 to the Council.

Council Discussion

Councilor Rosenthal remarked on recent programming from Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB).

Presenters expressed that independent news organizations such as OPB and Underscore had created informative materials with the involvement of Indigenous communities.

Deputy Council President Hwang, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Simpson thanked the staff for their work.

Seeing no further comments, Deputy Council President Hwang called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 24-5441.

A motion was made by Councilor Gonzalez and seconded by Councilor Simpson.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Council President Peterson

4. Presentations

4.1 Willamette Cove Master Planning- Nature Park Concepts

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

Deputy Council President Hwang introduced Paul Slyman, General Manager of Major Projects, and Jennifer D'Avanzo, Landscape Architect and Planner, to present on Willamette Cove Master Planning.

Staff pulled up the “Willamette Cove Master Planning - Nature Park Concepts” slides to present to Council.

Staff Presentation

Slyman provided background on Willamette Cove and the habitat restoration project. D’Avanzo shared the current site Master Plan, commitments to Tribes, and engagement outcomes and priorities. She described three different design scenarios for Willamette Cove, 1. “Cove,” 2. “Panorama,” and 3. “Shallows.” D’Avanzo reported that a built structure and a longer boat ramp and fishing pier were favored elements. Presenters requested feedback on the concepts and overall approach.

Council Discussion

Councilor Gonzalez emphasized adaptive and comprehensive community engagement.

Councilor Lewis noted the evolution of the design ideas and stated a preference for the second and third concepts as promoting movement through the site.

Councilor Nolan inquired about potential conflicts with the cleanup effort and topography challenges of the site.

Presenters responded that the priority is making the site safe and protected for the long term and conveyed that staff would continue to work on resolving design conflicts.

Councilor Rosenthal advised prioritizing human and neighborhood use of the area and suggested in-water habitat recovery as the highest priority in terms of the

nature restoration goals.

Councilor Simpson expressed interest in the second and third designs and emphasized following the recommendations of Tribes and meeting ADA requirements.

Deputy Council President Hwang inquired about the beaches as a design element and cost estimates.

Presenters explained the purpose of the beaches in the design and stated that they could not provide cost estimates this early in the process.

Deputy Council President Hwang conveyed appreciation for the second and third design concepts.

Presenters expressed hearing support for the design scenarios “Panorama” and “Shallows” as well as the recreational design elements and in-water habitat for salmon. Presenters acknowledged the Council’s concerns over attempting to accomplish too much on the small site. Presenters highlighted the role of the late Bob Sallinger in the process.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 Consideration of the September 12, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was approved.

5.2 Consideration of the September 26, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was approved.

5.3 Consideration of the October 3, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was approved.

- 5.4 **Resolution No. 24-5434**, For The Purpose Of Amending, Canceling, Or Adding A Total Of Twelve Projects To The 2024-27 MTIP To Meet Federal Project Delivery Requirements

Attachments: [Resolution no. 24-5434](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Attachment 1](#)
[Attachment 2](#)

Deputy Council President Hwang called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Councilor Lewis and seconded by Councilor Gonzalez.

The motion was carried 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. Ordinances

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

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

Deputy Council President Hwang introduced Justin Laubscher, Tax Compliance Program Manager, to present on the first reading of Ordinance No. 24-1521, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.05 (Income Tax Administration) Regarding Response Deadlines to Protests and Appeals.

Staff pulled up the “Supportive Housing Services Program and Tax Implementation” slides to present to Council.

Staff Presentation

Laubscher explained that the amendment to the Metro Code would extend the Tax Administrator’s response deadline from 30 to 180 days to align with the City and Counties.

Council Discussion

Councilor Rosenthal requested an estimation of the standard response time.

Laubscher stated that responses generally take fewer than 180 days.

6.1.1 Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 24-1521

Deputy Council President Hwang opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on Ordinance No. 24-1521.

There were none.

Deputy Council President Hwang closed the public hearing, and the second reading of Ordinance No. 24-1521 was set for November 14, 2024.

7. Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

- Open enrollment period for Metro Benefits ending
- MRC is closed for the Veterans Day holiday
- Acknowledged post-election concerns and reminded employees of available counseling services through Metro’s EAP

8. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Councilor Simpson invited people to attend a Veterans Day parade at MLK and Beach
- Councilor Lewis reported that the Oregon Zoo ZAP program hosted an advocacy roundtable
- Councilor Lewis mentioned that the SHS Oversight Committee found inconsistent reporting from the counties on populations in their reports
- Councilor Rosenthal and Councilor Gonzalez thanked staff for facilitating a civic engagement class in Spanish
- Councilor Gonzalez reported meeting with THPRD leadership to discuss agency partnership, as well as participating in a virtual housing forum with Bienestar about SHS reforms

9. Adjourn to Executive Session

There being no further business, Deputy Council President Hwang adjourned the Metro Council Meeting to an Executive Session at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emma McIntosh

Emma McIntosh, Legislative Assistant

The Executive Session will be held pursuant under ORS 192.660(2)(h): To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

This Executive Session is closed to the public.