

Metro

*600 NE Grand Ave.
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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, July 16, 2026

10:00 AM

**Metro Regional Center, Council chamber;
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or
253-205-0468 (toll free), [https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=SqlTE5N8jB0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SqlTE5N8jB0)**

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Deputy President Hwang called the meeting to order at 10:13.

He acknowledged Council Intern Wren Helzer-Florer for her service to Metro and her future role as a congressional staffer. He thanked her for her service to Metro, including the development of new leadership programs for future interns and teens.

Councilor Lewis added thanked Wren for her work on her significant work to support the Willamette Falls Lock Authority. Councilors Rosenthal and Palacios echoed those comments.

Present: 4 - Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Christine Lewis, and Miles Palacios

Excused: 3 - Councilor Mary Nolan, Council President Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

2. Public Communication

Sharon Nasset provided public comment on the I-5 bridge. She had previously asked several governments for additional information about the project details and the project alternatives. She provided additional written comment with technical details (see appended materials to the meeting packet).

3. Consent Agenda

Present: 7 - Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Council President Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Ashton Simpson, and Councilor Miles Palacios

3.1 Resolution No. 26-5619 For the Purpose of Amending or Adding Six projects to the 2024-27 MTIP to Meet Federal Project Delivery Requirements

Attachments: [Resolution No. 26-5619](#)

[Exhibit A](#)

[Exhibit B](#)

[Staff Report](#)

A motion was made by Councilor Lewis, seconded by

Councilor Rosenthal, to adopt items on the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Resolutions

4.1 Resolution no. 26-5596 For The Purpose of Amending Metro's Procurement and Public Contracting Administrative Rules

Presenter(s): Gabriele Schuster, Procurement Manager

Attachments: [Resolution No. 26-5596](#)

[Exhibit A](#)

[Exhibit B](#)

[Exhibit C](#)

[Staff Report](#)

Staff reviewed the changes to the state law and opportunities to increase efficiency in procurement and contracting rules while bringing Metro's Rules up to date.

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

Aye: 4 - Councilor Hwang, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Palacios

Excused: 3 - Councilor Nolan, Council President Gonzalez, and Councilor Simpson

4.2 Resolution No. 26-5600 For the Purpose of Amending Three I-5 Rose Quarter Projects to the 2024-2027 MTIP to Meet Federal Project Delivery Requirements

Presenter(s): Gabriela Lopez, Senior Transportation Planner
Monica Blanchard, Interim Project Director, Oregon Department of Transportation
David Kim, Project Delivery Manager, Oregon Department of Transportation

Attachments: [Resolution No. 26-5600](#)
 [Exhibit A](#)
 [Exhibit B](#)
 [Staff Report](#)
 [Attachment 1 - Staff Memo on Major Project Assessment](#)
 [Attachment 2 - Project Fact Sheet: Construction Phases](#)

Staff from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) presented the project overview and support from project partners. They then described the three specific amendments under consideration in the resolution. Metro staff described the Major Project Assessment and past actions and meetings at Metro Council and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation.

Deputy President Hwang invited public comment on the resolution.

Joe Cortwright expressed concerns with the project, citing environmental issues related to emissions and the impacts to future generations.

Sharon Nasset agreed with the comments from Joe Cortwright, and she focused her comments as to how the off-ramps are designed advocated for options that better support mobility for Central Eastside travelers.

Councilor Lewis described the morning's Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) meeting in her role as the Chair. She noted that the committee received the same presentation as Council and support was unanimous, although diversion concerns were noted at that time.

This matter was adopted

Aye: 4 - Councilor Hwang, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Palacios

Excused: 3 - Councilor Nolan, Council President Gonzalez, and Councilor Simpson

5. Chief Operating Officer Communication

Chief Operating Office Marissa Madrigal thanked Kim Paul and Julie Christie, who both celebrated 25 years of service to Metro in July, as well as Dave Cutter, who worked for the Portland's Centers for the Arts for 50 years in July.

5.1 JPACT Update (Ted Leybold, Transportation Policy Director)

Ted Leybold, Transportation Policy Director, shared two additional items presented at JPACT earlier in the day. Including preparations for the September trip to Washington, D.C. to advocate for transportation priorities. Additionally, JPACT heard an update on the Regional Transportation Plan. One question from Rosenthal. Semi technical.

5.2 RPOC Update (Liam Frost, Housing Director)

Yesenia Delgado, Supportive Housing Services (SHS) Division Manager, reported the highlights of the most recent SHS Regional Policy and Oversight Committee (RPOC) meeting, which included discussion of key performance indicators and goals. She shared that Lake Oswego Mayor Joe Buck shared goals developed by the Metropolitan Mayors Consortium. Staff shared Council's desire to further define roles at the committee and how define how members work to set direction. The committee extended the timeline for adopting key performance indicators to allow for more discussion at a future meeting.

Deputy President Hwang added that the group discussed the future possibility of subcommittees, and Councilor Lewis added that she observed power dynamics within the group that should be considered.

6. Councilor Communication

Deputy President Hwang thanked Chief Operating Officer Marissa Madrigal for moderating a panel as part of Climate Week.

Councilor Lewis attended an event at the Willamette River Greenway, which she said models accessibility for those with disabilities seeking to access the waterfront.

7. Adjourn

Deputy President Hwang adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m. into an executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real estate transactions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anne Buzzini".

Anne Buzzini, Council Legislative Advisor
July 22, 2026