

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council chamber,
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or
253-205-0468 (toll free), www.youtube.com/live/hiOjyJGZ99E?si

Council work session

10:30 Call to Order and Roll Call

Deputy President Simpson called the work session to order at 10:32 a.m.

Councilor Hwang recognized a group of summer law clerks in public service joining the Council work session.

Present: 5 - Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Ashton Simpson, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Duncan Hwang

Excused: 2 - Council President Lynn Peterson, and Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

10:30 Work Session Topics:**10:30 Comprehensive Climate Action Plan**

Presenter(s): Eliot Rose, Senior Transportation Manager
Kim Ellis, Climate Program Manager
Ted Leybold, Transportation Policy Director

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Attachment-1-2025 CCAP Engagement Activities](#)
[Attachment-2-CCAP Winter 2024-25 Online Open House Results](#)
[Attachment-3-Summary of CCAP Council Briefings](#)
[Attachment-4-Draft CCAP Actions and Results](#)

Staff presented the purpose, structure, proposed actions and anticipated benefits of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP).

Councilor Hwang raised concerns about environmental justice, whether CCAP would include specific elements, and whether culturally specific communities would be engaged early in the process to ensure burdens and benefits are shared equally. Staff acknowledged the disconnect between policies and accessibility or affordability and noted that Metro is partnering with Multnomah County to leverage their work in this area.

Councilor Lewis expressed confusion over the separate

classifications for residential and business food waste, and staff explained that while existing residential programs focus on sustainable disposal, business programs focus on both disposal and upstream reductions in waste, resulting in a larger climate impact. Councilor Lewis then advocated for education that reduces household waste upstream.

Councilor Lewis also asked if the proposed plan is flexible enough to adapt to new statewide policies like cap and trade. Staff replied that the Environmental Protection Agency has resourced Metro to report actions for the next two years, including tracking new policies.

Councilor Nolan asked how Metro coordinates across policy areas and expressed concern about the timeframe for developing CCAP. Staff identified the Future Vision process as a way to address intersectional issues like sprawl. Councilor Nolan and staff then had a brief exchange about the risk or value of relying on actions included in past plans; while new data could be more reliable, past actions have been thoroughly analyzed for their impacts.

Councilor Nolan asked whether existing education programs are adequately resourced. Staff noted that Metro's outreach and education programs for multimodal transportation are successful and likely more so than on paper, due to synergies across programs.

Deputy President Simpson highlighted disparities across the region in access to the proposed transportation actions, such as access to transit. He also advocated for a bold plan.

11:15 Regional Transportation Demand Management Strategy

Presenter(s): Noel Mickelberry (she/her), Senior Transportation Planner
Jean Senechal Biggs (she/her), Resource Development Manager
Grace Stainback (she/her), Associate Transportation Planner

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - RTO Grantees](#)
[Attachment 2 - TDM Strategy Technical Work Group](#)
[Roster](#)

Staff presented the transportation demand management (TDM) project background, progress, project milestones and next steps.

Councilor Hwang asked the administrative burdens for small grantees, particularly at volunteer-led organizations such as PTAs. Staff confirmed that reimbursable federal funds present barriers but that the program is seeking to improve accessibility by creating more funding categories, offering microgrants, and asking core partners to help subcontract and coordinate with community groups.

Councilor Lewis advocated for Safe Routes to School grants to support pre-schools. She also expressed frustration with TriMet's low-income fare program ability to reach residents in need.

Staff and the Council discussed access to low-income fares, and Deputy President Simpson identified the need to establish more sites to access low-income fares while Councilor Nolan suggested contacting residents on wait-lists for low-incoming housing.

Chief Operating Officer Madrigal suggested partnering with organizations that help connect people to federal funds.

11:45 Chief Operating Officer Communication

COO Madrigal recognized that layoffs effective June 30 and thanked former Metro staff and those who continue to work with reduced staff capacity for their teams.

11:50 Councilor Communication

Deputy President Simpson congratulated the Oregon Convention Center staff for hosting the largest conference to date and showcasing the region as a travel destination.

12:00 Adjourn

There being no further business, Deputy President Simpson

adjourned the work session at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anne Buzzini". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Anne Buzzini, Council Legislative Advisor