

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-5490, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE FUTURE VISION COMMISSION

Date: June 3, 2025
Department: Planning Development & Research
Meeting Date: June 12, 2025

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Length: 30 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

Starting in 2025, Metro will update the 50-year regional vision, Future Vision, as required by Metro Charter. The Charter also requires Council appointment of a Future Vision Commission to develop that vision. The Commission will make a direct recommendation to the Council.

The Future Vision is a conceptual vision for the region, not a regulatory document. Regulatory changes could be identified as part of the implementation plan that will follow this vision and/or as part of the actions identified therein.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 25-5490 to appoint the Future Vision Commission as listed in Exhibit A and direct their work as described in the Commission Charge (Exhibit B).

Per Metro's Charter, this group must include representatives from the public and private sectors, one academic, and one person from outside the Metro region. Beyond those requirements, this list was developed based on additional guidance from Council discussions, which included: use an application process, balance new and established voices, consider lived experience, and seek systems thinkers and representation of a wide range of topics/interests. Council also directed the inclusion of one non-voting Metro Councilor to chair the Commission, one elected official from each Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties, and at least two members per Metro Council district. Subsequently, Councilors accepted the GAPD department recommendation to also include an elected official from the City of Portland. More than 100 applications were reviewed by staff, and an inter-departmental director-level group provided guidance on selection of a candidate shortlist.

The Commission will start meeting in the fall of 2025 and is expected to run for about 18 months. Commissioners will focus on a long-term, high-level vision, bring a systems approach, seek connections across sectors, and champion the Future Vision process. To do this work, Commissioners will become familiar with critical topics, analyses, and research; consider trends and futures; and be comfortable with uncertainty. The Commission will develop a document that describes a 50-year conceptual vision for the region and a list of implementation considerations for the next phase.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

The effect of Resolution No. 25-5490 will be to appoint the Future Vision Commission members (Exhibit A) and charge the Commission with developing and recommending a 50-year vision for consideration of Council. The purpose of this charge is to document Metro Council's guidance to the Future Vision Commission in their execution of this Metro Charter directive. The details of the charge are found in Exhibit B.

The new vision will likely lead to updates of the 2040 Growth Concept and Urban Growth Management Functional Plan and other policy actions that may be identified as part of the process.

POLICY QUESTION

Does the Metro Council approve the slate for the Future Vision Commission and the Commission's charge so Metro can proceed with convening the Commission?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

1. Adopt the resolution and approve the Commission and its charge
 - Approving the Commission and its charge will direct staff to convene the Future Vision Commission to begin the work outlined in the charge.
2. Provide staff with additional direction for modifying the Commission slate and charge.
 - Not approving the Commission as recommended would provide the Council with the opportunity to make further refinements but may delay convening the group.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 25-5490 to approve the slate of Commissioners (Exhibit A) and establish their charge to fulfill this Charter-mandated work (Exhibit B).

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Metro is charged under its voter-approved Charter to undertake, "...as its most important service, planning and policy making to preserve and enhance the quality of life and the environment for ourselves and future generations." (Metro Charter Preamble) The Charter further requires Metro to adopt a Future Vision (Metro Charter Section 5.1.a) and to periodically update that Vision (Metro Charter Section 5.1.d). The Future Vision has not been updated since its 1995 adoption.

The Charter directs that "the Council shall appoint a commission to develop and recommend a proposed Future Vision.... The commission shall be broadly representative of both public and private sectors, including the academic community, in the region. At least one member must reside outside the Metro Area (Metro Charter Section 5.1.c). The first Future Vision Commission was seated with Resolution No. 93-1801 in May 1993.

This work is funded by the General Fund in both the current budget (Fiscal Year 2024-2025) and the next fiscal year's budget (2025-2026). It is expected to continue into the

future fiscal year of 2026-2027 when Council would consider approving additional funding to complete the work.

BACKGROUND

Metro Council initially discussed the Future Vision update at a work session on July 30, 2024. A September 2024 work session focused on the makeup and recruitment of the Future Vision Commission. Council recommended an application process.

The application was opened in the fall of 2024, closed in late October, and then reopened to gather more applicants. The application was closed on April 24, 2025. A group of staff from Metro Planning, Development, and Research and Parks & Nature departments reviewed and scored the applicants and created a shortlist. Feedback was solicited from an interdepartmental group of department directors and managers regarding the shortlist. A recommended slate was reviewed by Metro Councilors, and that review resulted in the list that appears as Exhibit A.

Meanwhile, the Metro Council held work sessions in the beginning of 2025 to clarify topics and processes. Council's key desired goals and outcomes are documented below.

The Future Vision project should result in:

- Galvanizing partners,
- Aspirational and actionable implementation plan,
- A clear and consistent vision where aspirations interconnect,
- A unique vision for greater Portland that resonates with people across the region, and
- A vision that is actively used by Metro and its partners.

The process to develop the Future Vision should:

- Embody regional coordination,
- Present opportunities to unify the region,
- Engage core audiences as partners and co-developers of the vision,
- Consider who to engage when and the right level of input,
- Include both known and new voices, and
- Be data driven.

ATTACHMENTS

No attachments