

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, October 9, 2025

10:30 AM

The Council meeting will adjourn into a Council work session

**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=Lg_T2ukQ-44](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lg_T2ukQ-44)**

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Peterson called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

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

2. Public Communication

None.

3. Consent Agenda**3.1 Consideration of the September 25, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes**

Attachments: [September 25, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

3.2 Consideration of the October 2, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [October 2, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

No discussion.

A motion was made by Councilor Simpson, seconded by Councilor Lewis, to adopt items on the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Presentation**4.1 Indigenous People's Day Staff Presentation and Discussion**

Presenter(s): Katie McDonald (she/her), Tribal Liaison
Stephanie Tabibian (she/her), Tribal Planner
Isabel LaCourse (she/they), Indigenous Community Liaison

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

Staff began with an overview of the Tribal Affairs and Indigenous Community Liaison programs within Metro. They described the types of events and projects the two programs have consulted for or sponsored, as well as other programmatic contributions like assisting in the preservation of cultural and historic resources and fostering increased traditional use of public lands.

President Peterson asked staff to expand on the legal requirement that Metro consult with Tribes compared to additional support that Metro's programs provide for regional Tribal Affairs and Indigenous communities. Staff explained that Tribes' definitions of "consultation" range from opportunities to participate in the legislative process to consistent, authentic engagement at the highest levels of respective governments. Staff emphasized that the goal of Tribal consultation is a government-to-government relationship with a sovereign nation and not based on race or ethnicity.

Councilor Lewis asked about the commitments other governments in Oregon have made to Tribal consultation and Indigenous engagement. Staff noted that Oregon's Tribes expect consultation from all governments, not just the federal government and went on to highlight that Metro shares its best practices with local jurisdictions and encourages similar programs within those agencies.

Councilor Rosenthal asked whether Tribal consultation is more robust for complex projects like the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program and what impact the federal government's shift in its approach to Tribal engagement has had. Staff described close coordination for complex projects, and they said Metro shares its expertise and capacity, even for programs managed by other governments.

Councilor Hwang asked how changes at the federal level may impact Metro's contributions to Tribal consultation and engagement, and he expressed support for considering future proposals. Staff pointed to funding cuts, the rescission of conservation policies and replacement of Bureau of Indian Affairs officials as a few examples of the impacts of the federal government's recent actions.

5. Adjourn

President Peterson adjourned the business meeting into a work session at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Buzzini, Council Legislative Advisor