

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2023

10:30 AM

**Metro Regional Center Council Chamber,
<https://www.youtube.com/live/TkyQNo9andQ?feature=share>,
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992>, or 877-853-5257 (toll free)
(Webinar ID: 615079992)**

Council Meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Deputy Council President Lewis called the Metro Council Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Present: 5 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Duncan Hwang

Excused: 2 - Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

2. Public Communication

Deputy Council President Lewis opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on a non-agenda items.

There were no members of the public that wanted to testify.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Deputy Council President Lewis moved on to the next agenda item.

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 Consideration of the January 5, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [010523c Minutes](#)

3.2 Consideration of the January 12, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [011223c Minutes](#)

3.3 Consideration of the January 19, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [011923c Minutes](#)

3.4 Consideration of the February 9, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [020923c Minutes](#)

3.5 Consideration of the February 23, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [022323c Minutes](#)

3.6 Consideration of the March 2, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [030223c Minutes](#)

3.7 Consideration of the March 16, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [031623c Minutes](#)

Note: Consideration of the March 16, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes were removed from the agenda due to an error.

3.8 Consideration of the March 30, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [033023c Minutes](#)

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

Council Discussion:

Councilor Rosenthal asked for the March 16th, 2023, Council Minutes to be withdrawn for correction because some of the votes of councilors that were online were not recorded.

Deputy Council President Lewis noted that there did not need to be a motion but asked for item 3.7 on the Consent Agenda to be removed.

A motion was made by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, to adopt items on the consent agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

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

4. Presentations

4.1 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) - Public Comment

Presenter(s): Grace Cho (she/her), Metro
Ted Leybold (he/him), Metro

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

Deputy Council President Lewis introduced Grace Cho

(she/her), Metro and Ted Leybold (he/him), Metro] to present the 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) - Public Comment.

Staff pulled up the *2024-2027 MTIP - Overview of Public Review Draft Presentation PowerPoint* to present to Council. Cho began the presentation by explaining what the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) is, which included its purpose and function. She described the overview of the 2024-2027 MTIP and noted that \$1.3 billion would be spread across 130 projects. Some project highlights of the 2024-2027 MTIP are the Council Creek Regional Trail, the 82nd Avenue Jurisdictional Transfer, the Columbia Slough Bridge Replacement, and the Beaverton Bus Garage Renovation. Cho discussed the overall results for the system evaluation and explained the draft findings for the 2024-2027 MTIP. She mentioned when the public comment was open and the next steps for the 2024-2027 MTIP.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan asked for clarification of what were \$73 billion worth of projects. They also asked about how the system evaluation was done, especially how climate change is neutral and how they evaluated equity.

Cho stated that the \$1.3 billion represents the 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program. In the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan, the investment profile calls for \$73 billion over 22 years to meet the regional vision planning goals.

Cho mentioned that staff was using the evaluation measures applied in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan. The measures tend to focus on capital projects. Cho stated that about half of the projects are under the Preservation and

Maintenance category, so they are looking at a smaller amount of capital projects that are evaluated. For example, repainting parts of I-405 on the Fremont bridge.

Councilor Nolan asked if Cho meant restriping.

Cho noted that they look at descriptions of projects and their context to see if they fit under the category. The results are showing a neutral to positive trend because it is highly focused on smaller community projects.

Councilor Nolan noted that this is a small fraction of federal and local resources to be invested in transportation for the region. They feel that the measurement ignores about half of the investments because it ignores about half of the projects. Councilor Nolan suggested that staff should look at how they evaluate.

Councilor Hwang mentioned that there was engagement process happening for MTIP and JPACT. He asked if they inform each other and why they sequence them this way. Cho stated that the MTIP must be updated every four years and the RTP now must be updated every five years. In this cycle, they ended up being at the same time when normally it would be staggered. The MTIP is drawn from the RTP. MTIP is made up of multiple allocation processes that each have their own steps for engagement. For the RTP, staff are making sure that the 2024-2027 MTIP is included in the 2023 RTP discussions.

Councilor Hwang asked for an example of question in the RTP engagement that is different for the MTIP.

Cho mentioned that the regional objectives from the 2018 RTP, such as equity and safety, helped to guide allocation process for the 2021-2024 MTIP and for the 2024-2027 MTIP. Staff work with Metro's transit partners, like ODOT, to talk about how regional objectives are applied within their allocation processes.

Councilor Rosenthal commented that they are prioritizing maintenance and preservation over their other priorities. Councilor Rosenthal asked to clarify what projects are requested to be added soon.

Cho stated that those are large-scale projects that were not ready to be included in the draft 2024-2027 MTIP. She mentioned that there will be an amendment to include these projects in the 2024-2027 MTIP later.

4.1.1 Public Hearing for 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)

Deputy Council President Lewis opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on the 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). There were no members of the public that wanted to testify.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Deputy Council President Lewis moved on to the next agenda item.

4.2 Public Hearing on the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget

Deputy Council President Lewis opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget

There were two members of the public that testified: Jackie Kirouac-Fram, Executive Director of the Rebuilding Center: mentioned that there is no investment in reuse organizations in the budget. With funding from Metro, they can expand their work and help Metro meet its reuse, affordable housing, and workforce development goals. Anna Kurnizki, Executive Director of Community Warehouse: mentioned the work that the Reuse Collective does. They do not have enough resources to respond to the need in the community.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Nolan mentioned that they have volunteered at the Rebuilding Center and the Community Warehouse. They have also been a customer. They noted that they should find ways to partner.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Deputy Council President Lewis moved on to the next agenda item.

4.3 Planning, Development and Research Department Budget Presentation

Presenter(s): Andy Shaw (he/him), Metro

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

Deputy Council President Lewis introduced Andy Shaw (he/him), Metro to present the Planning, Development and Research Department Budget Presentation.

Staff pulled up the *Planning, Development & Research FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget Presentation PowerPoint* to present to Council.

Shaw began the presentation by explaining the different areas of the program structure and the work staff were doing. Rachael Lembo, Metro described the FY23-24 Revenue Budget and mentioned that most of their funding comes from grants.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan asked Lembo to mention the sources of the grants.

Lembo continue the presentation by mentioning the sources of the grants. Lembo described the FY23-24 Expense Budget and the proposed FY23-24 FTE.

Shaw mentioned that the Key Equity metric is to increase the number of stipends and grants to build capacity and engage BIPOC community members in our work. He noted that the budget decrease is because they expect to get to locally preferred alternatives with two of the corridors, so they would not have as many meetings. Shaw explained that the

budget modifications were to add four positions, which are three new positions for internal support and one new position that would be funded by the Safe Streets for All grant.

Malu Wilkinson (she/her), Metro noted the investments in target areas of economy, housing, and environment/climate.

Council Discussion

Councilor Rosenthal mentioned that he liked the metrics for the equity focus. He asked since there is a DEI department, why did the planning department need staff to regional equity management.

Shaw mentioned that other departments have equity program managers. He also mentioned that the department has had trouble getting diverse candidates. There are DEI liaisons, but they people to consistently support the program managers.

Councilor Hwang asked why the Planning department is not having a tribal liaison and if they would be working more with GAPD on this. He also asked if the new DEI director has some flexibility to put their input on the budget.

Shaw noted that the positions being requested in CAM and Parks and Nature are specialist on tribal work. As they make park improvements and purchase land, they need to identify and mitigate for potential historic and cultural resources.

Marissa Madrigal (she/her), Metro noted that there are some modest changes, but overall, the department is the same that gives the new Planning director stability. There will be flexibility in the next fiscal year for the Planning director to make changes.

Councilor Nolan asked about Climate Start integration into the RTP and how it will change their approach to the RTP.

Shaw mentioned that Metro includes other things, like the Climate Smart Plan, into the RTP that is not federally required. They can come back with other staff to better answer the question.

Councilor Nolan noted that since the Climate Start plan and the state's Greenhouse Gas Policy were adopted and implemented, the situation has gotten worse. They wanted to know how this would change.

Shaw noted that there will be upcoming discussions about the analysis of the projects coming into the RTP.

Councilor Rosenthal commented on the slide about protecting farmland. He asked if they have considered programs to encourage agricultural land within the urban reserves. He mentioned that there was an agricultural owner that was concerned.

Shaw noted that in the Urban-Rural Reserves Intergovernmental agreements, the counties agreed to not to do zoning changes in urban reserve areas, so that there are places to expand for future urban growth. Rural reserves are areas they might ensure that agriculture could continue.

Wilkinson mentioned that they are not looking at easements to protect farmland in the urban reserves right now.

Councilor Nolan asked what else the department is doing for equitable outcomes. They commented that their key metric was an output, instead of an outcome that effects the public.

Shaw noted that the community engagement and advisory committees are weighing on items that Council considers and acts on. Staff are examining projects in the RTP for how they advance transit and mobility outcomes in equity areas. They also have ongoing engagement with community, particularly people of color. Shaw mentioned that staff is

working on new ways of looking at urban growth and who has benefited.

Councilor Nolan thanked Madrigal for her work on the budget process to try to understand outcomes from a racial equity perspective.

Madrigal mentioned that if they diversify and improve the community's capacity to engage in conversations, then the decisions and outcomes that are made will be better for the community.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Deputy Council President Lewis moved on to the next agenda item.

4.4 Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES) Department Budget Presentation

Presenter(s): Marta McGuire (she/her), Metro

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

Deputy Council President Lewis introduced Marta McGuire (she/her), Metro to present Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES) Department Budget Presentation.

Staff pulled up the *Waste Prevention and Environmental Services FY 2023-2024 Proposed Budget Presentation PowerPoint* to present to Council.

McGuire began the presentation by discussing the three key program areas of Waste Prevention and Environmental Services department. McGuire explained the Total Operating Budget, the FY 23-24 Proposed Budget Overview, the FY 23-24 Proposed Budget Detail, and the Capital Improvement Plan. She also mentioned the department's strategic priorities and their progress on several of their equity metrics. Some of these equity measures were the median hourly wage of Metro solid waste workers and the Regional Refresh Fund. She discussed the feedback they received

from engagement forums and explained the requested budget modifications. McGuire explained the different investments in environment, economy and in Garbage and Recycling Operations.

Council Discussion

Councilor Rosenthal commented that the city councils that are very interested in Regional Refresh. He asked how to respond to reuse facilities and what are their goals for reuse.

McGuire mentioned that there are opportunities for the program to be restructured. There are opportunities to think about larger grants and strategic partnerships with the resources they have.

Councilor Nolan commented that there are two chooses to handle growing demand. They can build more capacity to handle the growth or make investments to lower the demand. They suggested staff to look at the cost per ton and explore different ways to handle it.

McGuire noted that they have historically been focused on the disposal of materials, instead of on preventing waste or reuse and repair. She mentioned that conversations on the facility system plan will help identify areas to make investments and move materials to benefit the community. McGuire noted that there is a cost to manage reuse, but they need to figure out the cost differences and the social and environmental benefits.

Councilor Hwang mentioned that the Community Warehouse could potentially be eligible for SHS finding. He also commented on how the different departments act individually but do work related to the same outcome. He asked about opportunities for interdepartmental conversations and shared programs.

Madrigal mentioned that they can look at the restrictions on the SHS funding, but there is an opportunity to look at connections. She also mentioned how interconnected Metro is and the need to be in community with their reuse and repair partners.

Councilor Hwang mentioned that he did a tour of Community Warehouse and that people need furniture when they move into new housing.

Councilor Nolan asked about the upgrade of the point-of-sale system. They hoped staff were looking at a commercial off the shelf (COTS) system instead of completely customized.

Staff noted that they are looking at bidders soon. They have talked about off-shelf products, but the system needs to interface with several other systems. Staff mentioned that they are trying a tool as simple as possible.

Councilor Rosenthal asked if they thought about focusing on plastics. He mentioned that there were some I & I grant proposals for dealing plastics. He also asked if they have the resources to deal with plastic generation and disposal in the area.

Staff acknowledge that plastics are a high impact material for the environment, but the primary focus has been on bulky waste items. Staff suggested that conversations about plastics may come up when they look at the Facilities System Plan.

Councilor Hwang asked about their longer-term strategic planning for facilities and the organization of the system. He mentioned that he wants a defined process for them having conversations with their community partners.

Staff explained that the 2030 Waste Plan is their long-term strategic plan. On about a three-year basis, staff works with

cities and counties on short-term work plans that identify priorities. These plans are more aspirations and commitments, but there are some requirements. Staff noted that there are opportunities to adapt and evolve.

Councilor Hwang commented about thinking about reimagining the system and the balance between operations and their aspirational goals.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Deputy Council President Lewis moved on to the next agenda item.

4.5 For the Purpose of the Budget Committee to Deliberate on the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget

Presenter(s): Marissa Madrigal (she/her), Metro
Brian Kennedy (he/him), Metro

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

Deputy Council President Lewis introduced Marissa Madrigal (she/her), Metro and Brian Kennedy (he/him), Metro to present For the Purpose of the Budget Committee to Deliberate on the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget.

Kennedy mentioned several upcoming deadlines for submitting amendments to the budget.

Council Discussion

There was no Council discussion.

Deputy Council President Lewis opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget

No members of the public wanted to testify.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Deputy Council President Lewis moved on to the next agenda item.

5. Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

- Gave an update on the nature and neighborhood community choice grants. The pilot grant is live and accepting parks and nature ideas until May 15th, 2023.
- Gave an update on the nature and neighborhood capital grants programs. They have received 16 letters of intent and ten projects are invited to submit a full application.

6. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- **Councilor Nolan** gave an update on the oversight committee for the affordable housing bond measure. They are preparing to present its annual report to the Council. They mentioned that there were conversations about adding home ownership programs to the bond, regulatory and permitting streamlining, and diversity data.
- **Councilor Hwang** gave an update on the Northwest Chamber of Commerce Trip to Washington D.C. He mentioned they talked about transportation funding, addressing the housing and homelessness crisis, and other topics.
- **Councilor Rosenthal** went to a public forum on tolling of the Boone Bridge. He noted that people were very concerned and not happy with.

Councilor Lewis gave an update on JPACT. She mentioned there were discussions on MTIP, Unified Work Plan (UPWP) and on the project list for the draft RTP. She also mentioned that their letter to ODOT about I-205 tolling is due soon.

7. Adjourn

There being no further business, Deputy Council President Lewis adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 12:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jemeshia Taylor".

Jemeshia Taylor, Legislative Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2023

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Powerpoint	04/20/2023	Planning, Development & Research FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget Presentation	042023c-01
2.0	Powerpoint	04/20/2023	2024-2027 MTIP –Overview of Public Review Draft Presentation	042023c-02
3.0	Powerpoint	04/20/2023	Waste Prevention and Environmental Services FY 2023-2024 Proposed Budget Presentation	042023c-03