

Metro

*600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, March 5, 2026

10:30 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=LqU10DawfWg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LqU10DawfWg)**

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Deputy Council President Hwang called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

Present: 6 - Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Christine Lewis, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

Excused: 1 - Council President Lynn Peterson

2. Public Communication

None.

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 Resolution No. 26-5562 For The Purpose of Adding, Amending, or Canceling Seven Projects to the 2024-27 MTIP to Meet Federal Project Delivery Requirements

Attachments: [Resolution 26-5562](#)
[Exhibit A: Project Detail Report](#)
[Exhibit B: MTIP FA Public Comment Period Summary Staff Report](#)

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

4. Resolutions

4.1 Resolution No. 26-5561 For the Purpose of Approving the Willamette Cove Nature Park Master Plan

Presenter(s): Jennifer D'Avanzo (she/her), Parks and Nature Senior Planner
Jon Blasher (he/him), Parks and Nature Director
Andrew Scott (he/him), Deputy Chief Operating Officer

Attachments: [Resolution No. 26-5561](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1](#)
[Attachment 2](#)
[Attachment 3](#)
[Attachment 3a](#)

Deputy Council President Hwang introduced the topic and formally entered into the record a letter of support for the master plan from Yakama Nation. Staff reviewed the importance and history of the Willamette Cove site and the opportunity to connect residents to nature and to the water, as well as to the site's cultural heritage.

Staff emphasized the Tribal history of the site and engagement with Tribes and tribal communities in developing the plan. They also discussed accessibility and the environmental history of the site. Council heard comments from invited guests and others wishing to speak.

Following the public comments, Councilor Rosenthal commemorated Bob Sallinger and former Metro Councilor Bob Stacey for their work on this project and for identifying funding for improvements. He suggested more proactive steps to protect human and animal life from algae blooms. He asked whether streets between bus stops and the nature park are adequately improved for people with disabilities accessing the park. Staff noted that the streets remain within the control of Portland Bureau of Transportation, with whom Metro continues to cooperate.

During his remarks, Councilor Rosenthal noted a technical error in the resolution, which referred to Exhibit A. He suggested the possibility of updating that language to instead refer to Attachment 3. This concern was later addressed.

Councilor González reiterated his support for improving the site

and asked about algae blooms. Staff described past efforts to reduce the risk of algae blooms at Blue Lake Park. Staff also spoke to supporting the health of riparian areas and headwaters to manage water flow and sediment.

Councilor Lewis expressed her intent to raise the need for funding to remediate PHBs at a future Council meeting to allocate funding. She asked staff for additional information about the decision to remove a floating dock from the design, and staff pointed to erosion concerns and additional maintenance costs, including the requirement for additional remediation processes to replace the dock at the end of its useful life.

Councilor Simpson thanked staff and advocates for prioritizing access for disabled residents. Councilor Nolan appreciated those who testified and advocated for greater access to the river for residents.

Deputy Council President entertained a motion to approve the resolution, with the change described previously by Councilor Rosenthal to refer to Attachment 3.

A motion was made by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Gonzalez, that this item be approved. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Councilor Hwang, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Council President Peterson

4.1.1 Public Communication on Resolution no. 26-5561

Natalie Swan, Yakama Nation, spoke to the Tribal cultural and environmental significance of Willamette Cove.

Cassie Cohen, Portland Harbor Community Coalition (PHCC), shared the background of PHCC's advocacy to ensure cleanup, restoration, and re-development of the harbor. She advocated for

a gold standard nature park at Willamette Cove.

Camilo Centeno, Growing Gardens, emphasized that Willamette Park Nature Park would benefit the greater Portland community, and not only North Portland. He looked forward to future generations having access to the park.

Annadiana Johnson, Committee on Disability, shared her experience with a disability and how her perspective has changed since her time as a fully ambulatory person. She explained that small details can shape the experience for people who live with disabilities, particularly children.

Doug Larson, resident, encouraged Council to approve the resolution and asked that Metro consider adding a floating dock for all residents to use and for kayakers to access the nature park. He hoped that more funding would be invested in the degraded superfund area.

Sarah Taylor, resident, shared with Council the results of a Metro Community Placemaking Grant benefiting the Willamette Cove area. She also drew connections to redevelopment of the Lloyd Center.

Scott Fogarty, Human Access Project, appreciated environmental cleanup efforts and improved access to the river. He expressed concern about impacts to human and animal health from algae blooms.

5. Ordinances (First Reading and Public Hearing)

- 5.1 **Ordinance No. 26-1536** For the Purpose of Amending the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan to Include the Locally Preferred Alternative for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project

Presenter(s): Ally Holmqvist, Senior Planner
Melissa Ashbaugh, Senior Planner

Jesse Stemmler, Interim 82nd Avenue Transit Project Director, TriMet

Attachments:

[Ordinance No. 26-1536](#)

[Exhibit A](#)

[Staff Report](#)

[Attachment 1 - HCT Project Development Lifecycle](#)

[Attachment 2 - Transit Projects LPA RTP Amendments](#)

[Process Timeline](#)

[Attachment 3 - 82nd Ave RTP Amendment Request Memo](#)

[Attachment 4 - Public Comment Report \(2025\)](#)

Staff confirmed that the ordinances seek to implement the formally adopted locally preferred alternatives, without changes to those LPAs as previously approved.

Staff clarified for Councilor Lewis that Metro believes that the LPA for 82nd Avenue retains flexibility for funding despite changes in budget at TriMet since the LPA was approved.

There was no public testimony.

- 5.2 **Ordinance No. 26-1537** For the Purpose of Amending the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan to Include the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Tualatin Valley Highway Transit and Safety Project

Presenter(s):

Ally Holmqvist, Senior Planner

Kate Hawkins, Senior Planner

Josh Brennan, Tualatin Valley Highway Transit and Safety Project Director, TriMet

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 26-1537](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - HCT Project Development Lifecycle](#)
[Attachment 2 - Transit Projects LPA RTP Amendments](#)
[Process Timeline](#)
[Attachment 3 - TV Hwy LPA RTP Amendment Request](#)
[Memo](#)
[Attachment 3.1 - Initial TV Hwy Purpose and Need](#)
[Statement](#)

There was no additional staff presentation on this ordinance specifically, and there was no public testimony.

- 5.3 **Ordinance No. 26-1538** For the Purpose of Amending the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan to Include the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Montgomery Park Streetcar Extension

Presenter(s): Ally Holmqvist, Senior Transportation Planner
Alex Oreschak, Senior Planner
Shawn Canny, Senior Transportation Planner, Portland
Bureau of Transportation

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 26-1538](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - HCT Project Development Lifecycle](#)
[Attachment 2 - Transit Projects LPA RTP Amendments](#)
[Process Timeline](#)
[Attachment 3 - Montgomery Park RTP Amendment](#)
[Request Memo](#)
[Attachment 3.1 - Project Schedule](#)
[Attachment 3.2 - Metro Council Staff Report: LPA](#)
[Endorsement](#)
[Attachment 3.3 - Proposed Preliminary Cross Sections](#)

There was no additional staff presentation on this ordinance specifically, and there was no public testimony.

6. Chief Operating Officer Communication

No updates.

7. Councilor Communication

Councilor González encouraged public participation in the Future Vision Artist Residency series. He reported the Beaverton State of the City. Councilor Rosenthal added that the address remarked on the importance of supporting small businesses and transportation funding challenges.

8. Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Deputy Council President Hwang adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

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

Anne Buzzini, Council Legislative Advisor
March 30, 2026