

METRO COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES WITH OUTCOMES 2023 Legislative Session



ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- **Industrial Site Readiness:** Support legislation, including Semiconductor Task Force priorities, that advances solutions to make land inside urban growth boundaries available for industrial development and job creation through infrastructure investment, brownfield cleanup, land aggregation, and other means.

SB 4 passed. The 60-day semiconductor package included \$210 million for financial incentives, industrial site readiness, and university research fund. It also includes time-limited gubernatorial executive authority to bring land into the UGB for semiconductors and advanced manufacturing.

HB 2548 failed. It would have extended the sunset on the Industrial Site Readiness Program (set to expire in 2023) for another ten years and would invest \$40 million in industrial site readiness loan fund. It died in Ways and Means.

- **COVID Response and Economic Recovery:** Support legislation that addresses ongoing COVID-19 public health response and economic recovery including policy changes and funding assistance in line with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and additional business, economic development, and housing support.

GPI's Elevate Greater Portland failed. The economic development marketing strategy to restore the Portland region's reputation and to help attract, retain businesses and jobs and talent did not receive funding.

GUN SAFETY

- **Regulating Firearms on Metro Properties:** Support legislation that increases Metro's authority to regulate the carrying of firearms on Metro properties and public venues.

HB 2005 passed but without the local government pre-emption lifted. The major package of gun legislation contained a lifting of the pre-emption and passed the House. It stalled on the Senate floor because of the Senate Republican walkout and ultimately, the pre-emption was stripped out of a bill as a part of the negotiations for Senate Republicans to return.

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

- **Private Activity Bonds:** Support legislation that increases the proportion of private activity bonds allocated for affordable housing and reduces technical barriers that result in delayed projects.

SB 225 passed. It creates coordination and strategic prioritization of PAB funding, by allocating all housing PAB resources through OHCS. In addition, this bill will eliminate the current 'blackout period' during which OHCS cannot move forward with financial closings for affordable housing developments.

HB 5005 passed. It is the bond bill and includes a \$450 million allocation of private activity bonds to OHCS.

- **Equitable and Affordable Housing:** Support legislation to increase state housing funding, improve tenant protections, expand affordable home ownership options, increase home ownership for BIPOC households, provide additional tools and authority to local governments to address housing supply and affordability, advance solutions that leverage and integrate local, state and federal investments to implement comprehensive supportive housing and wraparound services, and address climate resilience for home owners and renters.

HB 2001 passed. The 60-day housing package included provisions around youth homelessness funding, modular housing development, predevelopment loans for moderate income housing, eviction reforms, and agriculture workforce housing grants.

HB 5019 passed. It included the funding portion of the 60-day housing package. It contained \$85.2 million to rehouse people experiencing homelessness and expand shelter capacity for areas subject to emergency status in the Governor's homelessness state of emergency executive orders, \$33.6 million to prevent homelessness statewide, \$27.4 million to rehouse people experiencing homelessness and expand shelter capacity in the 26 rural counties within the Balance of State Continuum of Care, \$3.9 million for emergency management response (OHCS and OEM), \$5 million direct allocation to federally recognized Tribes and \$200,000 to develop a proposal for a long-term rent assistance program.

SB 5030 passed. It includes \$50 million to preserve and improve existing affordable homes, prevent rent increases in affordable housing, and preserve manufactured home parks.

SB 611 passed. It keeps Oregon's current rent stabilization law intact, with the addition of a 10 percent rent increase cap. There are no limits on rent resets between tenants.

HB 3462 passed. It provides that, if OEM, ODHS, or OHCS provide temporary housing to displaced individuals in response to emergency, that the housing is safe and provided in compliance with state and federal laws relating to discrimination. In addition, when federal disaster resources are available, OEM, ODHS or OHCS may provide similar or equivalent resources to community members who are ineligible to receive federal resources due to immigration status, subject to availability of funds.

HB 2987, HB 3409, and HB 3630 passed. These bills contain various energy-related provisions, including updates to the Healthy Homes program, state agency directives to consider actions to aid in achieving state greenhouse gas reduction goals, technical fixes to OHCS Cooling Resource website, directives to ODOE to establish whole-home energy savings program, or "one stop shop", in consultation with OHCS.

SB 979 failed. It would have provided that constructing childcare facility within projects for affordable housing does not subject project for affordable housing to prevailing wage requirements if childcare facility meets specified requirements. It died in Senate Housing and Development.

- **Housing Production:** Support legislation that help increase equitable housing production and development that addresses past inequities in the land use system and in affordability and location of housing while adhering to the fundamentals of Oregon's land use system.

HB 2001 passed. The 60-day housing package included the new Oregon Housing Needs Analysis methodology. It prioritizes planning for housing that is needed at various affordability levels and state and local government working towards housing goals together with urgency.

HB 2889 passed. The 60-day housing package included many provisions around the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA). Unfortunately, there were a handful of ambiguities and technical errors in the sections of HB 2001 and HB 2889 addresses those. For Metro, the bill clarifies how state estimated housing needs for localities in our region will work with Metro's Urban Growth Management processes and population forecasts.

HB 2984 passed. It allows commercial building conversion for workforce housing.

HB 5005 passed. It is the bond bill and includes \$604.2 million in Article XI-Q bonds to develop new affordable homes with LIFT Rental and Permanent Supportive Housing.

LAND USE

- **Urban Growth Management:** Ensure that the Legislature establishes the policy framework and process for local land use decisions and respects the authority of local governments, including Metro, to make specific decisions on local land use matters. Oppose efforts to legislatively determine specific land use designations in the region or to distort the process of assessing land need by mandating inaccurate analysis.

See SB 4 under industrial site readiness.

HB 3414 failed. It would have allowed cities to petition Metro for urban growth boundary expansions once in the next ten years for housing without demonstrating need. Metro will determine if the petition meets the requirements of the bill and if a petition does, Metro shall expand the urban growth boundary. Earlier versions of this bill (SB 1051, SB 1096, and HB 3620) all died. HB 3414 died on the Senate floor the last day of session after passing the House the night before.

TRANSPORTATION

- **State Funding for State-Owned Highways:** Secure ongoing state funding for investments to improve safety and multimodal mobility on state highways that operate as urban arterials.

HB 3113 failed, but \$1 million for Great Streets Program was secured in the end of session budget bill. The bill would have dedicated significant funding (our ask was \$100m) to the Great Streets Program. It died in Ways and Means.

HB 2756 failed, but \$3 million for Hall Boulevard was secured in the end of session budget bill. The bill would have dedicated \$50 million to bring Hall Boulevard in Tigard to state of good repair and transferred it from ODOT to the City of Tigard. It died in Ways and Means.

HB 3323 failed but \$20 million for Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge was secured in end of session budget bill. The bill would have dedicated \$300 million to the project which is the total investment needed from the state over the course of the project. It died in the Joint Transportation Committee.

HB 2793 passed. It establishes a Jurisdictional Transfer Advisory Committee that will review proposed jurisdictional transfer applications and submit three recommendations to the Joint Committee on Transportation.

- **Interstate Bridge Replacement Project:** Support legislative decisions that advance the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project in ways that accommodate community concerns, measurably reduce greenhouse gas emissions and minimize other environmental impacts and address ongoing harm to communities of color caused by past and current transportation policies and investments.

HB 5005 passed. It allocates \$251.8 million of General Obligation Bonds to the Interstate Bridge Replacement Project and commits \$750 million over the next three biennia to reach Oregon's \$1 billion portion of the project.

- **Transportation Pricing:** Support transportation pricing mechanisms that significantly and measurably reduce congestion, minimize carbon emissions, advance equity and improve safety.

A multitude of bills relating to tolling were introduced and did not pass this session. They all died in the Joint Transportation Committee. In early May, the Legislature created a Joint Subcommittee on Transportation Planning to oversee and monitor ODOT's plans to mitigate the negative impacts of tolling on vulnerable communities and the Governor paused the collection of tolls until Jan 1, 2026.

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND WASTE REDUCTION

- **Electronic Recycling and Reuse:** Support legislation that modernizes the current electronic recycling system to be more convenient, equitable and allows for better pathways to reuse when possible.

SB 542 and HB 3631 failed. For years, many folks have been trying to pass legislation that would make it easier for Oregonians to fix their products by requiring manufacturers of consumer electronics and appliances to make parts, tools, and repair documentation available. This legislation is known as right to repair. Right to repair combats e-waste by keeping electronics not at their end other lives in circulation by refurbishing them. SB 542 died in Senate Rules and HB 3631 died in Business and Labor.

HB 3220 passed. It modernizes the Oregon E-cycles program, DEQ's electronic recycling program. Changes to the bill aim to make the program more convenient for community members to access as the region.

- **Abandoned and Derelict Vessels and Recreational Vehicles:** Support legislation building towards a comprehensive statewide program and dedicated funding for the removal and

disposal of abandoned and derelict vessels and recreation vehicles, both on land and in the water.

SB 5506 passed. It was the Christmas tree bill and included \$18,763,236 for the Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Fund in the Department of State Lands.

HB 3556 failed. It would have created an abandoned RV program in ODOT to help tow, dismantle and dispose of abandoned RVs left in public rights of ways and parks. It died in Joint Transportation Committee.