

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, May 8, 2025

10:30 AM

**Metro Regional Center, Council chamber,
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or
253-205-0468 (toll free), www.youtube.com/live/sym7waHCXcc?si**

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Present: 5 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

Excused: 2 - Councilor Christine Lewis and Councilor Ashton Simpson

2. Public Communication

Art Lewellan presented a concept for transportation safety improvements in Northwest Portland.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 **Resolution No. 25-5486** For the Purpose of Reappointing Eight Members to the Supportive Housing Services Tri-County Planning Body

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5486](#)
[Exhibit A to Resolution No. 25-5486](#)
[Staff Report](#)

- 3.2 **Resolution No. 25-5473** For the Purpose of Adding a New ODOT Public Transportation Awarded Project into the 2024-27 MTIP for TriMet Supporting Elderly and Disabled Persons Transit Needs

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5473](#)
[Exhibit A to Resolution No. 25-5473](#)
[Staff Report](#)

- 3.3 **Resolution No. 25-5481** For The Purpose Of Adding, Amending, Or Canceling Three Projects To The 2024-27 MTIP To Meet Federal Project Delivery Requirements

Attachments: [Resolution 25-5481](#)
[Exhibit A to Resolution No. 25-5481](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1- Key 23763 Approved Project Site List](#)
[Attachment 2 - ADA March 2025 OTC Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 3 - ODOT ADA Safe Crossings in Oregon Flyer](#)
[Attachment 4 - March 2025 Quarterly STIP Amendment OTC Staff Report](#)

- 3.4 **Resolution No. 25-5500** For the Purpose of Confirming a Member of the Metro Regional Waste Advisory Committee

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5500](#)
 [Staff Report](#)

- 3.5 **Consideration of the April 10, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes**

Attachments: [April 10, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

- 3.6 **Consideration of the April 17, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes**

Attachments: [April 17, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

4. Presentations

- 4.1 **Results of First Opportunity Target Area Audit**

Presenter(s): Brian Evans, Metro Auditor

Attachments: [First Opportunity Target Area Audit](#)
 [First Opportunity Target Area Audit Highlights](#)

Metro Auditor Brian Evans and Angela Owens, Principal Management Auditor, presented the history of the First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) program, the purpose of the audit and key findings. They touched on eligibility requirements, recruiting and a lack of alignment with guidance from the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC).

Craig Stroud, General Manager, Visitor Venues, provided the management response, agreeing with the six audit recommendations. He suggested re-assessing the program after a two-year stabilization period.

Councilor Nolan asked how the Office of the COO approaches program evaluation outside the auditor process. COO Madrigal expressed a desire to increase structure and formality in systems tracking while balancing responses to emergent issues.

Councilor Rosenthal asked about FOTA's usage. Staff noted that 4% of MERC applicants use the program and Auditor Evans noted that commitment to the program has evolved over time and that its structure does not reflect more recent policies and Council direction.

Councilor Hwang asked if FOTA is a legal requirement, and management explained it is no longer a legal requirement but venues continue to participate. Councilor Hwang suggested re-designing and funding a modern program.

Councilor Gonzalez agreed with Councilor Hwang and asked that the agency partner with community to define new goals and outcomes.

President Peterson clarified the Council's role providing guidance, as MERC administers the program. Management agreed to continue the conversation with both Council and MERC.

Councilor Rosenthal asked when MERC might respond to the recommendations. Management said they would first relay Council's appetite for a larger program re-evaluation.

COO Madrigal clarified with President Peterson that Council directed staff to advance short-term responses to the six recommendations within the existing program while also beginning to develop a long-term reform process.

4.2 Waste Prevention and Environmental Services FY2025-26 Budget Engagement Report Out

Presenter(s): Mary Nolan, Metro Council
 Marta McGuire, Waste Prevention and Environmental
 Services Director
 Patrick Dennis, Finance Manager

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Regional Waste Advisory Committee Advisory Report:](#)
[Proposed FY2025-26 Budget and Fees](#)

Councilor Nolan opened the presentation by thanking the Regional Waste Advisory Committee (RWAC) and Metro's Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES) staff for being receptive to feedback.

Staff reviewed the fee engagement process, including budget forums and RWAC meetings. They identified broad support for essential services, affordable rates, and fee stability. They also noted feedback about areas of concern, including geographic equity, fee increases, and forecasted tonnage.

Councilor Gonzalez appreciated the good governance and transparency of the engagement process. He emphasized the importance of balancing costs for ratepayers with services.

Councilor Hwang clarified with staff that the planned annual underspend supports stability and flexibility, and he asked how the fee model could be more transparent. Staff responded that they make themselves available for more discussion and education.

5. Resolutions

5.1 **Resolution No. 25-5487** For the Purpose of Adopting the Metro Investment Policy For Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Presenter(s): Brian Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5487](#)
[Exhibit A to Resolution No. 25-5487](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Staff described minor changes to the investment policy, including administrative changes to determine firms affected by the existing prohibition on fossil fuel investment.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosenthal, seconded by Councilor Nolan, to adopt the resolution. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Hwang, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, and Councilor Gonzalez

Excused: 2 - Councilor Lewis and Councilor Simpson

6. Other Business

6.1 Council Discussion of FY 2025-26 Approved Budget

Presenter(s): Marissa Madrigal, Chief Operating Officer
Brian Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

COO Madrigal gave an update on the process for development and discussing the budget.

Councilor Gonzalez and President Peterson appreciated the format and pace of the budget discussions and opportunity for discussion. Councilor Gonzalez also suggested the Council spend time discussing federal funding impacts and difficulties funding local services.

6.1.1 Public Hearing for FY 2025-26 Approved Budget

No testimony.

7. Chief Operating Officer Communication

COO Madrigal announced a Bike Month event on May 13th.

8. Councilor Communication

Councilors Gonzalez, Hwang, and Rosenthal and President Peterson thanked a departing staff member.

Councilor Hwang also highlighted Asian American Heritage Month and announced the screening of a film on May 29, "Come Together Home," about Block 14 at Lone Fir Cemetery.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anne Buzzini".

Anne Buzzini, Council Legislative Advisor