

Metro

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



Metro

Minutes

Thursday, May 1, 2025

10:30 AM

This Council meeting will adjourn into a work session.

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

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Present: 6 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Christine Lewis, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

2. Public Communication

Art Lewellan proposed transportation safety improvements in Northwest Portland.

3. Presentation**3.1 Observing Missing and Murdered Indigenous People's Day of Awareness**

Metro staff representing the Native employee affinity group presented information about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP). They described the crisis, the ways that jurisdictional boundaries exacerbate the issue, the erasure of MMIP in public safety and in the media, and the disproportionate coverage between MMIP and white missing persons.

Whitney Watson, Future Generations Collective, described the impacts of MMIP on individuals, families, and communities and connected the crisis to planning, housing, and other Metro priorities.

Kimberly Smart, MMIP Search and Hope Alliance, described the process for searching for missing persons and spoke to the scope of the crisis in the Portland area.

Polimana Sierra-Long Joshevama, Future Generations Collective, addressed the Native urban diaspora, jurisdictional difficulties, and lack of opportunity for those seeking missing Indigenous family members or persons.

President Peterson thanked presenters for sharing their stories

and acknowledged the need for broader public awareness. Councilor Nolan thanked presenters, shared condolences, and committed to sharing the stories broadly. Councilor Lewis asked how Councilors could support the Native community. Kimberly suggested attending searches and events.

Deputy President Simpson appreciated the presentations and highlighted the erasure of women of color. He asked ways Metro could amplify these stories and committed to doing so himself.

Councilor Rosenthal asked which cities have the highest concentration urban Indian centers, what community events are upcoming, and if there are any state legislative priorities for the current session. Watson summarized HB 3198 to direct the Oregon Health Authority to dedicate staff to addressing the MMIP epidemic. Watson and Smart highlighted events on May 3 and 5.

Councilor Hwang asked whether databases exist in other regions and Joshevama explained the grant-funded work underway was more developed than other examples and that they hoped to work with Metro's Research Center.

4. Resolutions

4.1 Resolution No. 25-5478 For The Purpose of Adopting the Federal Legislative Agenda for the 119th Congress

Staff provided a summary of the values, principles, and priorities in the Legislative Agenda, including specific changes resulting from Council engagement.

Councilor Rosenthal asked about federal impacts affecting Willamette Cove clean-up. Staff explained Willamette Cove has several overlapping designations that complicate clean-up and that the Environmental Protection Agency's recent list of priorities included many brownfields cleanup and superfund actions.

Councilor Hwang asked about federal uncertainty impacting construction and business. Staff noted that priorities relate to

affordable housing production but that additional advocacy could be included.

A motion was made by Councilor Simpson, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, that this item be adopted. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Hwang, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Gonzalez

- 4.2 **Resolution No. 25-5483** For the Purpose of Approving the FY 2025-2026 Budget, Setting Property Tax Levies and Transmitting the Approved Budget to the Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission

Metro Council met in its role as the Budget Committee.

Staff reviewed two nondepartmental adjustments to the budget. One, within the general asset management fund, to move funds from contingency to special appropriations, to facilitate response to changes in state funding in the future. Two, a recent bond sale that adjusted the appropriate levy for the bond.

Deputy President Simpson moved to approve the budget. In his motion, he referenced Resolution No. 25-5483 and the budget dollar amount and property tax rates for the permanent rate and the local option levy.

A motion was made by Councilor Simpson, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, that this item be adopted. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Hwang, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Gonzalez

- 4.3 **Resolution No. 25-5492** For the Purpose Of Providing Up To \$15,000,000 to Multnomah County to Support Investment in City of Portland Programs to Address Unsheltered Homelessness

Staff presented an overview the demonstrated need for

distributing administrative funds and recalled a February meeting when Portland Mayor Keith Wilson presented to Council about reducing unsheltered homelessness.

President Peterson thanked staff and partners for responding to the urgent crisis and for supporting the resolution.

Councilor Rosenthal asked the timeline for disbursement and use of funds, which Skyler Bocker-Knapp, Portland Solutions, explained would be negotiated in an intergovernmental agreement.

Councilor Lewis asked how new initiatives would be measured for success and feedback. Bocker-Knapp said the City planned to adhere to metrics and KPIs and working with Multnomah County on their HMIS system for those entering shelter.

Councilor Simpson advocated for particularly close oversight on this rare form of funding, and Bocker-Knapp noted Mayor Wilson is interested in returning to Metro to report directly to Council in addition to formal reporting requirements.

Councilor Nolan thanked Mayor Wilson and the City for acting with a sense of urgency and interest in providing new services to better meet complex need.

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

Aye: 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Hwang, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Gonzalez

5. Adjourn to work session

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council Meeting into a work session at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Buzzini". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Buzzini, Council Legislative Advisor