

Metro

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



Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council chamber,
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615079992) or
888-475-4499 (toll free)

Council work session

This meeting will be held electronically and in person at the Metro Regional Center Council Chamber.

You can join the meeting on your computer or other device by using this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> (Webinar ID: 615 079 992)

10:30 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Peterson called the Work Session to order at 10:32 a.m.

Present: 7 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Ashton Simpson, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Duncan Hwang

10:30 Work Session Topics:

10:30 28-30 Regional Flexible Fund - New Project Bond Development Process, Updates, and Input

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1](#)
[Attachment 2](#)
[Attachment 3](#)
[Attachment 4](#)

Council President Peterson introduced Metro staff Ted Leybold, Transportation Policy and Program Director, and Grace Cho, Principal Transportation Planner, to present on the topic of the 2028-2030 Regional Flexible Fund New Project Bond Development Process, Updates, and Input.

Staff pulled up the “2028-30 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation (RFFA) Step 1A.1” slides to present to Council.

Staff Presentation

Presenters explained how the Regional Flexible Funds are allocated to each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by the federal government and highlighted the estimated

amount of funds for 2028-2030. Presenters reviewed the findings from the initial bond scenario assessment and shared the timeline for the bond proposal.

Council Discussion

Councilor Rosenthal asked for clarification on the dollar amounts for the funds.

Councilor Gonzalez emphasized Metro's role in fulfilling the fiduciary responsibility while delivering meaningful projects. Councilor Gonzalez listed 82nd Avenue, TV Highway, and Sunrise Corridor as funding priorities for the three counties.

Councilor Lewis expressed appreciation for the insight into the funding framework for accomplishing important project goals and inquired if contemplating the bond on top of the current bond would reduce spending power in step 2.

Presenters clarified the time frame for the bond cycle and payment schedule.

Councilor Lewis advised being open to early signals from new administrative officials on whether existing programs will remain priorities.

Presenters responded that monitoring the federal situation would be key to establishing the bond approach.

Councilor Hwang asked whether there was an application of racial equity in identifying the themes.

Presenters explained that there were three technical evaluations, and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) objectives analysis had more specific measures and criteria for looking at racial equity.

Councilor Hwang requested a clearer articulation of racial equity practices in future discussions, and asked if bonding success is based on agency rating or interest rates and timing.

Presenters responded that the initial analysis is based on cost estimate of all of those factors, including timing.

Councilor Lewis asked if the staff had created a hybrid scenario with both Metro and TriMet administering the bonds.

Presenters stated that the hybrid scenario was based around reliance on federal bonding programs and would result in higher costs and less revenue.

Council President Peterson advised making efforts to move forward with preparations rather than overthinking the scenarios.

Seeing no further discussion, Council President Peterson thanked the presenters and moved on to the next agenda item.

11:15 Chief Operating Officer Communication

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

- Announced the “Metro in Media” newsletter
- Reminded everyone of the community survey on Lone Fir Memorial Cemetery

11:20 Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- Council President Peterson announced that Councilor
-

Simpson would be replacing Councilor Hwang as the Deputy Council President going forward

- Councilor Lewis reported that the SHS Oversight Committee had adopted a letter to the Metro Council and thanked Council President Peterson for attending the Q&A at the meeting
- Councilor Simpson highlighted the upcoming East Metro Housing Summit at Mt. Hood Community College

11:30 Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Work Session at 11:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emma McIntosh

Emma McIntosh, Legislative Assistant