

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, December 4, 2025

10:30 AM

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

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Councilor Hwang, presiding officer, called the meeting to order at 10:32.

Present: 5 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Christine Lewis

Excused: 2 - Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

2. Public Communication

Art Lewellen shared his concerns about the southwest light rail and the Rose Quarter transportation projects.

3. Consent Agenda

Present: 6 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Councilor Christine Lewis

Excused: 1 - Councilor Ashton Simpson

3.1 Resolution No. 25-5527 For The Purpose of Renewing GSS Transfer, LLC's Solid Waste Facility Franchise to Operate a Transfer Station

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5527](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - Public Comment Report](#)

3.2 Resolution No. 25-5529 For the Purpose of Renewing Pride Recycling Company's Solid Waste Facility Franchise to Operate a Transfer Station

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5529](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Staff Report](#)

3.3 Resolution No. 25-5526 For the Purpose of Renewing Waste Management of Oregon, Inc.'s Solid Waste Facility Franchise to Operate Forest Grove Transfer Station

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5526](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - Public Comment Report](#)

- 3.4 **Resolution No. 25-5524** For the Purpose of Renewing Willamette Resources, Inc.'s Solid Waste Facility Franchise to Operate a Transfer Station

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5524](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Staff Report](#)

- 3.5 **Resolution No. 25-5528** For the Purpose of Renewing Waste Management of Oregon, Inc.'s Solid Waste Facility Franchise to Operate Troutdale Transfer Station

Attachments: [Resolution No. 25-5528](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Staff Report](#)

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

4. Ordinances (Public Hearing)

- 4.1 **Public Hearing for Proposed Amendments to the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan to Include Locally Preferred Alternatives for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project, the Tualatin Valley Highway Transit and Safety Project, and the Montgomery Park Streetcar Extension**

Presenter(s): Ally Holmqvist (she/her), Senior Transportation Planner,
Regional Transit Planner

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1: Amendments Process Schedule](#)
[Attachment 2: 82nd Ave RTP Amendment Request Memo](#)
[Attachment 3: Exhibit A 82nd Ave Redline Amendments](#)
[Attachment 4: TV Hwy RTP Amendment Request Memo](#)
[Attachment 5: Exhibit A TV Hwy Redline Amendments](#)
[Attachment 6: Montgomery Park RTP Amendment Request Memo](#)
[Attachment 7: Exhibit A MPSC Redline Amendments](#)
[Attachment 8: HCT Project Lifecycle](#)

Todd Littlefield, resident, testified regarding the proposed amendment to add 82nd Avenue Transit Project Locally Preferred Alternative to the 2023 Regional Transportation. He expressed concern about changes to the flow of traffic to support transit on a road that is used by so many cars.

5. Ordinances (First Reading and Public Hearing)

5.1 **Ordinance No. 25-1535** For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapters 3.07 and 3.09 to Make Housekeeping Updates, Modernize Public Notice Methods, Incorporate Plain Language Best Practices, and Implement New Statutory Metro District Annexation Requirements

Presenter(s): Glen Hamburg (he/him), Senior Regional Planner

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 25-1535](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - Summaries of Amendments](#)
[Attachment 2 - House Bill 2356 of the 2024 Legislative Session](#)

Staff provided an overview of the proposed housekeeping changes to Metro Code. Councilor Lewis asked for more information about how the changes would inform Metro's consultation with Tribes, a policy that currently exceeds state requirements for simple notice. Staff explained that new changes go slightly further than current

regulations.

- 5.2 **Ordinance No. 25-1539** For the Purpose of Consolidating the Supportive Housing Services Regional Oversight Committee and Tri-County Planning Body Into a New "SHS Regional Policy and Oversight Committee" and Establishing the Committee's Duties and Membership

Presenter(s): Liam Frost (he/him), Interim Housing Director
Yesenia Delgado (she/her), Supportive Housing Services Division Manager
Kristin Dennis (she/her), Metro Chief of Staff

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 25-1539](#)
[Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 25-1539](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1 - Draft SHS Reform Actions Memo](#)

Staff presented the history and context of the ordinance to create a new committee.

Metro Attorney Carrie MacLaren clarified that term limits for committee members do not apply to elected officials or agency staff and that only voting members are considered in the calculation of a quorum per Metro Code. She also confirmed that committee members selected for their representative of culturally specific services perform on behalf of the services provided by a given organization, not based on the makeup of any boards or identities of those serving on the committee.

Metro Attorney MacLaren and presenting staff also addressed questions related to the lack of staggered terms and conflicts of interest. They noted that bylaws adopted in the future would further define conflicts of interest and impartiality and that natural attrition of the committee provides opportunities to fill new seats, along with the strengthened ability to rebalance the committee geographically at the end of each term.

Public Hearing

Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson testified in

support of increased representation of counties in comparison to cities, as the primary providers of homeless services. Multnomah County Commissioner Shannon Singleton reiterated these concerns and asked that cities serve as non-voting members of the committee.

Amon Green, resident, shared personal experience with homelessness and advocated for more residents with lived experience on the committee.

Angela Martin, Here Together, also emphasized that cities do not administer homeless services. She advocated for the committee to create more tools for compliance and a regional continuous improvement framework.

Andrew Rowe, business owner, argued that the proposed committee, designed for governance, is too large to create strong accountability and responsiveness.

Nick Sauvie, Rose CDC, asked Council to improve accountability tools and to include more representation from people with lived experience and homeless services providers.

Brooke Hill, AFSCME political fellow, spoke to emphasize the need for input from behavioral health services providers.

Noah Goldman, AFSCME, asked Council to ensure the committee addresses compensation and workforce stabilization for those providing services.

Brooke Goldberg, Central City Concern, expressed concern about the size of the committee but advocated for retaining the number of services providers if reductions are made.

Andy Miller, Our Just Future, asked Council to reduce the

committee's size and ensure that the committee works to create comprehensive regional alignment of services and priorities.

Sahan McKelvey, Self Enhancement, Inc., shared concerns about the size and structure of the committee, arguing that it is both too big and relies on elected officials as members providing oversight, redundant with their existing responsibilities.

Laura Galino de Levato, Northwest Pilot Project, asked Council to consider a committee of 12 to 14 members, with cities serving only as non-voting members.

Dr. Sandra Comstock, Hygiene for All, expressed concern about the representation of politicians and asked for more people with lived experience on the committee.

Molly Hogan, Welcome Home Coalition, emphasized the need for professional expertise on the committee.

Crystal Magana, resident, shared her experience with the Welcome Home Coalition and as a person who has experienced homelessness, emphasizing that empathy and a desire to improve conditions are not equivalent to lived experience.

Brian Hoop, Housing Oregon, supported three primary recommendations put forward by HereTogether: committee size, mechanisms for accountability and prioritizing commitment to a regional continuous improvement framework.

Michael Austin, Just Compassion, shared academic findings about effective committee structures, noting that studies conducted in the field suggest lived experience outweighs political representation.

Cameron Foster, JOIN PDX, also shared lived experience with

homelessness and supported greater representation on the committee of professionals providing services.

Council Deliberation

Council President Peterson thanked those who testified and agreed with the need to create an effective regional system. She highlighted the committee's structure as a tool for combating mistrust among stakeholders, and she noted that the proposal includes an annual review to continue to make changes to improve the committee.

The Council then considered amendments to the ordinance. First:

Councilor Lewis moved to adopt Amendment #1, as included in the distributed materials. Councilor Hwang seconded the motion.

During discussion, Councilor Rosenthal recognized TriMet's role providing transit service to people experiencing homelessness. Councilor Lewis hoped that TriMet would remain a partner but said that a committee seat wasn't necessary.

President Peterson suggested including both TriMet and philanthropic seats as non-voting members.

Councilor Rosenthal moved to amend Amendment #1 consistent with President Peterson's remarks, seconded by Councilor Lewis.

During discussion on Councilor Rosenthal's amendment to Amendment #1, Councilor Nolan opposed Amendment #1 unless the committee size were otherwise reduced first and shared a broad concern about the late timing of the submitted written amendments.

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

Excused: 1 - Councilor Simpson

Council adopted Amendment #1 by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Hwang, Councilor Rosenthal, and Councilor Lewis

Excused: 1 - Councilor Simpson

Councilor Hwang moved to adopt Amendment #2, as included with the distributed materials, with no objection from Council, seconded by Councilor Lewis.

Councilor Hwang described his intent to balance voting seats between professionals and elected officials by adding specific professional seats.

Councilor Nolan opposed the amendment on the grounds that the proposed committee is too large and none of the distributed amendments seek to reduce the size. They advocated for greater specificity in the committee and program outcomes before determining the governance structure.

Councilor Rosenthal suggested that the committee be empowered to reassess its makeup to support improvements over time.

Councilor Rosenthal moved to table consideration of Amendment #2, seconded by Councilor Nolan. The motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Councilor Rosenthal and Councilor Nolan

Nay: 4 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Hwang, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

Excused: 1 - Councilor Simpson

During continued discussion on Councilor Hwang's amendment, Councilor Gonzalez asked for clarification regarding a labor representative on the committee. Councilor Hwang confirmed the representative should be a union member providing homeless

services.

Councilor Lewis spoke to the size of the committee and pointed to the Metropolitan Policy Advisory Committee and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation as examples of effective, large committees that build trust. She also noted that within the existing oversight structure for SHS at Metro, seats are reserved for elected officials but those officials do not frequently attend the meetings.

President Peterson moved to strike the organized labor representative from Amendment #2 and instead insert academic and organized labor representatives as options for types of experts (experts are included as a separate category in the ordinance as introduced), seconded by Councilor Gonzalez.

During discussion on President Peterson's motion, Councilor Nolan supported organized labor representation but noted that under President Peterson's motion that expertise would be optional; an appointee could bring other expertise to that seat instead.

Councilor Rosenthal supported both academic and organized labor expertise on the committee but similarly expressed concern that those viewpoints would be diluted under the broad list of experts eligible for a single seat.

The proposed amendment to Amendment #2 failed by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Council President Peterson and Councilor Gonzalez

Nay: 4 - Councilor Hwang, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Lewis and Councilor Nolan

Excused: 1 - Councilor Simpson

Amendment #2 failed by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Councilor Hwang, Councilor Lewis and Councilor Nolan

Nay: 3 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Gonzalez and

Councilor Rosenthal

Excused: 1 - Councilor Simpson

Councilor Lewis moved to adopt Amendment #3, as included in the distributed materials, stating her intent to add specificity to the requirement that appointees represent all six Metro Districts, seconded by Council President Peterson.

Council discussed the balance between the number of affected seats and the number of Metro districts. Councilor Nolan believed that the structure already provided for adequate representation without additional restriction. Councilor Gonzalez worried that attrition would make filling seats more difficult; President Peterson agreed. Councilor Lewis acknowledged that her amendment would have been easier to implement had Amendment #2 passed, increasing the size of the committee further. Although she recognized that her proposal would require six districts represented by just eight seats, she also pointed to Metro committees with almost no representation from Clackamas County.

Amendment #3 was adopted by the following vote:

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

Nay: 1 - Councilor Nolan

Excused: 1 - Councilor Simpson

Deliberation on Ordinance 25-51539, as Amended

Councilor Lewis reiterated the main points she heard from the public hearing, including size of committee and trust-building, as well as identifying key outcomes in the system.

President Peterson appreciated a thorough process, with each stakeholder asking for additional representation. She argued that immediate action is critical.

Councilor Rosenthal suggested adding technical advisory committees specifically to ensure that changes can be effective in the next five years.

Councilor Nolan reiterated their support for a smaller committee, citing the difficulty of changing the size of the committee in the future.

President Peterson was excused from the remainder of the meeting.

Councilor Gonzalez highlighted that Council had already considered several options for improvement and consolidating the two oversight committees is the best immediate step. He also shared his support for city representation on the committee.

Ordinance 25-1539 was amended by the Council as described above.

8. Adjourn to Work Session

Councilor Hwang adjourned the meeting at 1:36 p.m. and carried over a previously scheduled work session item.

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

Anne Buzzini, Council Legislative Advisor
December 11, 2025