METRO COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES WITH OUTCOMES 2024 Legislative Session



ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- ➤ **Industrial Site Readiness:** Support legislation 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.
 - <u>SB 1526 passed.</u> This omnibus bill made technical and clarifying changes to tax statutes. It included a sunset extension for the Industrial Site Readiness Program to December 31, 2029.
 - <u>HB 4042 failed.</u> This bill would have established the Industrial Site Readiness Loan Fund and invested \$40 million into the fund.
- ➤ **Regional Economic Recovery and Growth:** Support legislation that addresses economic recovery for the region including policy changes and funding assistance in line with the Portland Central City Task Force, recovery efforts for arts and culture organizations, and additional business, economic development, and housing support.
 - HB 4041 failed but \$8 million was secured in the end of session budget bill. The bill asked for \$30 million for the Economic Equity Investment Program for grants to culturally responsive, community-based organizations with programs that build generational wealth for people experiencing multiple economic risk factors.
 - HB 4124 failed but \$11.8 million was secured in the end of session budget bill. This bill asked for \$27 million to support arts and culture organizations' recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Although this bill did not pass, \$11.8 million dollars was awarded to seven venues for programming and thirteen venues for capital projects.
 - <u>GPI Elevate Greater Portland funded in end of session budget bill.</u> The economic development marketing strategy to restore the Portland region's reputation and to help attract, retain businesses and jobs and talent received \$2.5 million funding.
 - <u>ODOT Trash Clean Up funded in end of session budget bill.</u> A recommendation of the Portland City Task Force was to adequately fund ODOT to clean up trash and maintain the health ad safety of their right of ways. ODOT received \$20 million to do this work.
- ➤ **Hillsboro Hops:** Support legislation that ensures the Hillsboro Hops baseball team stays in Oregon, including securing the final \$15 million in state funding needed for a new, city-owned ballpark.
 - <u>SB 5701, the end of session budget passed with Hillsboro Hops funding.</u> The end of session budget omnibus bill included \$15 million to the City of Hillsboro for the Hillsboro Hops Ballpark.

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

➤ **Equitable and Achievable Housing Production:** Support legislation that increases equitable housing production and development including incorporating the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis in urban unincorporated areas and funding for housing infrastructure.

<u>SB 1530 passed</u>. Senate Bill 1530 is the primary housing appropriations bill being considered by the legislature during the 2024 legislative session and included \$89.4 million in direct allocations for shovel-ready housing infrastructure projects. There were 7 projects funded in the Metro region. The bill also included funding for housing stability and eviction preventions, climate initiatives for housing, shelter operations and culturally specific affordable housing projects.

<u>HB 4063 passed.</u> This bill was a housing omnibus bill that included provisions extending the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis to urban unincorporated areas of the Metro region.

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.

<u>SB 1537 passed.</u> This bill was proposed by the Governor after being introduced in many other sessions. It will allow cities to petition Metro for urban growth boundary expansions once in the next seven years for housing if they can demonstrate land need and affordability 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 once they verify the petition meets the requirements of the bill. The UGB provisions become operative on January 1, 2025, and sunset on January 2, 2032.

<u>HB 4026 passed.</u> This bill shields final land use decisions from referendum petitions and establishes that land use decisions are administrative decisions of local governments. It is also retroactive to January 1, 2023 to address the North Plains petition.

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND WASTE REDUCTION

Equitable and Convenient Electronic Reuse: Support legislation that provides for better electronic reuse pathways that are more convenient and equitable, like right to repair.

SB 1596 passed. After many years, right to repair legislation passed with bipartisan support. This legislation will make it easier for Oregonians to fix their stuff 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.

OTHER ITEMS

➤ **Columbia River Levees:** Support legislation that provides additional revenue tools needed to protect flood safety along the Columbia River and facilitate the transition of the Columbia River levee system management to the Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District.

<u>SB 1517 passed.</u> This bill provides the Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District with two financial tools to raise revenue for ongoing operations and maintenance. The operating revenue source is necessary to refer a general obligation bond measure to voters in May 2024 and to access federal funding opportunities.