

STAFF REPORT

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE TO DELIBERATE ON THE FY 2024-25 PROPOSED BUDGET

Date: April 8, 2024

Prepared by:
Joshua Burns, Interim Budget Coordinator

Department: Office of the Chief Operating Officer

Presented by:
Marissa Madrigal, Chief Operating Officer
Brian Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer

Meeting date: April 25, 2024

Length: 45 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

An opportunity for Council, acting as the Budget Committee, to deliberate on the FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget, discuss the COO's Budget Message, the Metro Auditor's budget presentation, and the department budget presentations, in the context of the Council priorities, strategic framework, racial equity outcomes, and climate action goals.

This is a public hearing and public testimony will be taken by interested members of the public and agency stakeholders. Information shared at this meeting will help guide the development of the FY 2024-25 Approved Budget.

ACTION REQUESTED

Council deliberation and feedback on the submitted FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget and the budget presentations.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Development of a FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget that aligns with Council priorities.

POLICY QUESTIONS

Specific factors for Council consideration *may* include:

- Does Council need clarification on any of the answers provided to their submitted budget questions?
- After having time to review the Proposed Budget and the COO's Budget Message, does Council have any comments or need any questions answered, to improve budget deliberations?
- Does Council require any further explanation, or can any actions be taken, to enhance the Council's understanding of the Proposed Budget, after attending the department presentations?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Each department's budget has individual items that should achieve outcomes specifically addressed by Council through the strategic framework. Council can support the budget in whole or in part, and modify individual items or larger program requests.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer recommend that Council hear all the department presentations prior to determining their support for each departments' proposed budget.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Each department's FY 2024-25 base budget was developed following the Chief Financial Officer's budget instructions released in early December 2023. The base budgets allow the departments to continue existing programs and projects as adjusted for various factors such as inflation, COLAs, etc.

New programs, projects, additional appropriations, and FTE are requested through the department's budget modification request process. These requests were reviewed and analyzed by the Chief Operating Officer, Deputy Chief Operating Officers, and Chief Financial Officer. Approved requests were built into the Proposed Budget, released on April 5, 2024, and presented by the Chief Operating Officer, acting as the Budget Officer, on April 11, 2024, with their budget message.

Legal Antecedent

The preparation, review and adoption of Metro's annual budget is subject to the requirements of Oregon Budget Law, ORS Chapter 294. The Chief Operating Officer, acting in their capacity as the designated Budget Officer, is required to present a balanced budget to Council, acting in their capacity as Metro's Budget Committee.

BACKGROUND

The Budget Officer presented the Metro Council, acting as the Budget Committee, the FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget to fully deliberate and to provide guidance in developing the FY 2024-25 Approved Budget, and eventually, the FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget.