

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Thursday, October 17, 2019**

**2:00 PM**

**Metro Regional Center, Council chamber**

**Council meeting**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Deputy Council President Chase called the Metro Council meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Present:** 5 - Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Bob Stacey, Councilor Christine Lewis, and Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

**Excused:** 2 - Councilor Craig Dirksen, and Council President Lynn Peterson

**2. Safety Briefing**

Deputy Council President Chase called on Councilor Craddick to provide a safety briefing. Councilor Craddick provided a safety briefing for the meeting including information on the location of emergency exits, fire extinguishers and automated external defibrillators.

**3. Public Communication**

Victoria Cummings, City of Happy Valley: Ms. Cummings testified in support of the former Metro volunteer naturalist program. She shared her personal experience discovering her passion for teaching and the environment and discussed the importance of the naturalist program.

Suzan Wells, City of Gresham : Ms. Wells testified in support of the former Metro volunteer naturalist program. She discussed the importance of the volunteer led nature education programs and raised concerns over recent changes to the program. (Ms. Wells submitted a written statement with her testimony; please see the October 17 meeting materials).

John Wertzler, City of Portland: Mr. Wertzler expressed his concern with the termination of the Metro volunteer naturalist program, highlighting the volunteer resources

that would go unused. He praised Metro for its equity, diversity and inclusivity goals, but discussed the unintended consequences of the decision to terminate the program.

Patricia Hyatt, City of Hillsboro: Ms. Hyatt testified in support of the former Metro volunteer naturalist program and expressing her concern over the sudden termination of the program.

Ron Swaren, City of Portland: Mr. Swaren discussed a third bridge option over the Columbia River, noting the importance of travel between Clark County, Southwest Washington and the greater Portland area. He shared costs estimates for a third bridge similar to one built in Little Rock, Arkansas and highlighted the benefits to the region of such a bridge.

Charles Ormsby, City of Portland: Mr. Ormsby discussed difficulty with wheelchair accessibility and transit access on Highway 43 through the City of Lake Oswego and raised concerns over proposed projects in that area that would make accessibility more difficult.

#### 4. Consent Agenda

Deputy Council President Chase moved to remove Resolution No. 19-5015 from the consent agenda. Councilor Craddick seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Stacey, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

- 4.1 Resolution No. 19-5018, For the Purpose of Adding or Amending Existing Projects to the 2018-21 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program Involving Thirteen Projects Impacting Metro, ODOT, Portland,

SMART, TriMet, and Washington County (SP20-01-SEP)

- 4.2 Resolution No. 19-5015, For the Purpose of Amending the Metro Affordable Housing Bond Measure Program Work Plan
- 4.3 Consideration of the Council Meeting Minutes for September 26, 2019
- 4.4 Consideration of the Public Hearing Minutes for September 26, 2019

**5. Resolutions**

- 5.1 Resolution No. 19-5036, For the Purpose of Proclaiming October 14, 2019 as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Greater Portland Area and November as Native American Heritage Month

Deputy Council President Chase read aloud a land acknowledgement acknowledging the entire confluence of the Columbia and Willamette Rivers as originally Indigenous land. He called on Ms. Raahi Reddy, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department Director, for a brief presentation on the resolution.

Ms. Reddy stated that with the resolution Metro would join other jurisdictions in the greater Portland area in recognizing the important history and culture of Indigenous people in our community. She discussed the history of genocide, assimilation and erasure of culture experiences by native people, highlighting the resiliency and perseverance of native people in the face of these injustices. Ms. Reddy noted that the resolution would mark the fifth annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the greater Portland area. She introduced Ms. Leah Altman, Oglala Lakota, Ms. Isabel LaCourse, Colville and Metro Indigenous community liaison, and Ms. Shilo George (Buffalow Woman), Southern Cheyenne-Arapaho, to provide testimony on the resolution.

Ms. Altman discussed her experience growing up and working in the greater Portland area and highlighted the invisibility of the Native community in the region. She described the experience of having the day off for Indigenous People's Day as a holiday and the visibility that came with it. Ms. LaCourse discussed the importance of her role within Metro's Parks and Nature in collaborations to support the healing of the land and the people. She highlighted the culture resource use permit program to remove systemic barriers for Indigenous communities to be

able to gather on Metro's public lands. Ms. LaCourse shared two stories that exemplified the resiliency of her community.

Ms. George introduced her nieces, Rika F. (Flying Woman), member of the Northern Cheyenne Nation, and Gia F. (Red Paint Woman), member of the Northern Cheyenne Nation, to read a brief statement. Gia stated that she was glad the Indigenous People's Day was important to the greater Portland area and shared that she wished the United States would follow Portland's example. She shared that Indigenous People's Day helped her to clear up misunderstandings about her culture. Gia discussed the importance of a clean Willamette River for swimming and fishing.

Ms. George shared the importance of bringing her nieces so that they would have the opportunity to know that they belong in these spaces. She expressed her appreciation for the agency's work to prioritize Indigenous communities.

*Council discussion:*

Councilors stated their support for the resolution and expressed their appreciation for the testimony. Councilor Gonzalez noted the many opportunities for Metro to continue to learn and improve systems that engage with native communities and tribal nations. Councilor Chase highlighted the importance of continuing to make the region inclusive and safe.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Stacey, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

## **6. Presentations**

### **6.1 Office of the Auditor Annual Report for FY 2018-19**

Deputy Council President Chase called on Mr. Brian Evans, Metro Auditor, to present on the Annual Audit Report for FY 2018-19. Mr. Evans reviewed the primary responsibilities of the Auditor's Office and explained the function of the annual audit report in publicly reporting performance measures. He discussed the audits released in the FY 2018-19 and the performance measures used to evaluate the effectiveness of the audits. Mr. Evans outlined key accomplishments including general agreement from staff on audit findings. He also provided information on audit recommendation rates and the accountability hotline.

#### *Council Discussion:*

Councilor Gonzalez asked about the scope of the accountability hotline reports. Councilor Lewis asked what factors were considered to determine whether to conduct new audits or follow up audits. Councilor Gonzales asked for further clarification on the audit recommendation implementation rates data. Councilors thanked the Auditor for his work.

## **7. Resolutions**

### **Resolution No. 19-5015, For the Purpose of Amending the Metro Affordable Housing Bond Measure Program Work Plan**

Deputy Council President called on Ms. Emily Lieb, Metro Housing Bond Program Manager, for a brief presentation on the resolution. Ms. Lieb explained that the amendment to the work plan would allow flexibility for the Metro site acquisition program to contribute funds to sites already

owned by Metro or acquired by Metro through other funding streams. She stated that the greater flexibility would help advance the work to meet the affordable housing unit targets.

*Council Discussion:*

Deputy Council President Chase and Councilor Gonzalez expressed their appreciation for staff's work and stated their support for the resolution.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Stacey, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

**Excused:** 2 - Councilor Dirksen, and Council President Peterson

7.1 Resolution No. 19-5011, For the Purpose of Approving the Metro Affordable Housing Bond Site Acquisition Program Implementation Strategy

Deputy Council President Chase called on Ms. Lieb to provide a brief presentation on the resolution. Ms. Lieb stated that the resolution would approve Metro's site acquisition program implementation strategy. She explained that the housing bond allocated ten percent of total funding to the site acquisition program to focus on acquiring and supporting the development of regional significant sites for affordable housing. Ms. Lieb shared that the strategy anticipated acquisition of eight to eleven sites over the next five to seven years and explained that the funding would be used to both acquire sites and provide gap financing for the development of affordable housing on those sites. She noted that Metro's program was intended to support all of the jurisdictional partners in achieving unit targets.



Ms. Lieb discussed the coordination work with jurisdictional partners to identify sites and explained that staff anticipated development of sites through joint development solicitations with local jurisdictions. She highlighted the strategy's 20 percent equity contracting goal, noting this was in alignment with the other implementation strategies that have come forward. Ms. Lieb discussed the criteria to be considered in prioritizing sites including racial equity and existing policies such as the growth management, climate action and transportation policy frameworks. She noted that the Housing Oversight Committee had recommended the strategy with the addition of some minor revisions to how the racial equity considerations were framed.

*Council Discussion:*

Councilor Stacey asked for clarification on how funds could be used on sites already acquired by Metro. Councilor Lewis expressed her appreciation for staff's work, highlighting the importance of moving forward on the housing bond program. Deputy Council President Chase asked what measures would be used to determine whether the development of housing units was meeting regional goals and objectives. Councilors asked for clarification on the process of deploying funding and transferring ownership of properties.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Stacey, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

**Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Mr. Andrew Scott provided an update on the following events or items: Metro Parks and Nature Department was

recognized for their environmental leadership.

**Councilor Communication**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events: the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation. Councilor Lewis shared that TriMet had an upcoming decision on the Transit Oriented Development program and noted that staff were preparing a response letter.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 3:55 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on October 24, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at the Metro Regional Center in the council chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara Farrokhzadian, Legislative and Engagement  
Coordinator

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2019**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>3.0</b>	Handout	10/17/19	Written Statement submitted by Susan Wells	101719c-01
<b>4.3</b>	Minutes	10/17/19	Council Meeting Minutes for September 26, 2019	101719c-02
<b>4.4</b>	Minutes	10/17/19	Council Public Hearing Minutes for September 26, 2019	101719c-03
<b>6.1</b>	Powerpoint	10/17/19	Annual Report FY 2018-19: Office of the Auditor	101719c-04