

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-5073, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING AN AGENDA FOR THE 2020 OREGON LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Date: January 17, 2020
Department: GAPD
Meeting Date: January 30, 2020

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ISSUE STATEMENT

This resolution articulates the Metro Council's agenda for the 2020 Oregon legislative session and directs staff to pursue legislative outcomes consistent with the Council's policy priorities and principles.

ACTION REQUESTED

Staff recommends approval of Resolution 20-5073.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

See Exhibits A and B.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

See Exhibits A and B.

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

N/A. (Note: staff will continue to seek policy direction from the Council throughout the legislative session as issues change and new issues arise.)

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Specific recommendations on policy direction are included in Exhibits A and B.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- **How does this advance Metro's racial equity goals?** Several items in the proposed agenda support outcomes that will advance Metro's racial equity goals, including but not limited to support for both funding and policy related to affordable housing and support for climate legislation that addresses the needs of impacted communities. However, the legislative agenda is limited since the 2020 session is the biennial "short session" that happens in even-numbered years. The Metro Council's legislative principle

on Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will guide staff's responses to other legislation that arises during the course of the session.

- **How does this advance Metro's climate action goals?** The agenda directs staff to seek specific provisions in climate "cap and invest" legislation that supports implementation of the Climate Smart Strategy. Metro's legislative principles support efficient land uses which reduce the need to drive, thereby reducing per capita greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Known Opposition:** None.
- **Legal Antecedents:** None applicable.
- **Anticipated Effects:** Provides direction to Metro staff with respect to issues before the 2020 Oregon Legislature.
- **Financial Implications (current year and ongoing):** Funding for Metro's legislative advocacy is included in the budget for Government Affairs and Policy Development and is supported by Metro's general fund. Certain substantive elements of the legislative agenda have financial implications for Metro, its regional partners, and the larger regional economy (e.g., personnel or public contracting requirements or the availability of funds to support regional projects and programs), but those implications cannot be known at this time with any specificity.

BACKGROUND

The Metro Council has taken formal positions on legislation since its inception. The first such action was in Resolution No. 79-23 whereby the Council took a position on Senate Bill 66, which dealt with economic development. Since that time, the Metro Council has taken formal and informal positions on legislation that impacts the agency and the region.

The priorities and principles described in Exhibits A and B were developed by Metro's legislative affairs manager, Randy Tucker, in consultation with the Metro Council and Metro staff. Most of the specific legislative issues described in Exhibit A have benefited from consultation with legislative liaisons and other staff in Metro departments. The priorities and principles were discussed with the Metro Council in work sessions that occurred on December 3, 2019 and January 21, 2020.

Where applicable, the legislative principles described in Exhibit B also reflect previously adopted Metro policy as embodied in the Regional Framework Plan, the Regional Waste Plan and other documents.

As issues arise and develop during the 2020 session, the Council will have the opportunity to take positions on specific pieces of legislation and to modify its agenda as it sees fit.

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A, Metro Council Legislative Priorities, 2020 Legislative Session

Exhibit B, Metro Council 2020 Legislative Principles