

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 31, 2017**

**2:00 PM**

**Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber**

**Council work session**

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**2:05 Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Councilors Present:** Council President Tom Hughes and Councilors Craig Dirksen, Bob Stacey, Shirley Craddick, Sam Chase, Carlotta Collette, and Kathryn Harrington

**Councilors Excused:** None

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:05 p.m.

**2:10 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Ms. Martha Bennett, Metro's Chief Operating Officer, made the following announcements:

- November 9 and 16, 2017 would be reserved as Council retreats. The retreats would be held in the Oregon Convention Center, VIP suite B.
- The All Staff meeting for Metro's community giving campaign would occur on Thursday, November 02, 2017 at the Oregon Convention Center.
- Ms. Bennett would be out of office for the week of November 6, 2017.

**Work Session Topics:****2:15 Innovation and Investment Program Proposal**

Mr. Paul Slyman, Director of Property and Environmental Services, shared that the work session presentation would relate to the proposal for a solid waste innovation and investment program. He then introduced Mr. Matt Korot, Metro's Director of Resource Conservation and Recycling, and Mr. Kevin Six, a Certified Public Accountant for Metro. Mr. Slyman shared that the program objectives would aim to effectively invest public resources to create,

expand, and preserve efforts that advance waste prevention, along with advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the solid waste system. Mr. Slyman acknowledged complexity in the metropolitan solid waste system exists due to the responsibility shared by public entities, private companies, and nonprofit organizations. In order to help fill gaps in the financing of solid waste operations, Mr. Slyman shared that the innovation and investment program would be an attempt to provide additional waste reduction services that could introduce financial or technological risks.

Mr. Korot noted that there were two major components to the proposed investment program: 1) promote and expand solid waste innovation and investment 2) promote Metro's racial equity strategy. When discussing the commitment to equity, Mr. Korot proposed that the program would create economic opportunities for underserved communities. Generating community benefits along with providing programs and services with an equitable scope were other facets to the proposed program. In terms of the solid waste plan for the region, Mr. Korot highlighted that the innovation and investment program complemented the goals set out by 2030 Regional Waste Plan.

Mr. Six, shared that during the development of the proposed innovation and investment program, eight for-profit and nonprofit organizations that participate in the solid waste system were contacted for input. Also, input from Metro staff managing existing grant programs was received, along with feedback from other public funding entities in Oregon. Mr. Six revealed that there was a demand for assistance in growing innovation in the solid waste market. However, he also highlighted the limited availability of public programs to support solid waste projects. In

regard to the program proposal, Mr. Six shared that the program would initially be a three-year grant program. For-profit businesses and nonprofit organizations would be eligible and the scope of the program would aim towards system improvement and a diversity, equity, and inclusion criteria. Mr. Six conveyed that there would be two types of grants:

- \$10k-50k for operations, equipment, and personnel
- \$50k-500k for larger capital investment

In terms of the proposed selection process, Mr. Six explained that Metro staff would screen applications for completeness and eligibility. Afterwards, a selection committee-made up of public employees from multiple agencies, citizen representation, and other expertise if needed- would review project proposals. Mr. Six pointed out the the selection committee would evaluate and score the proposals, and its recommendations would go to the Property and Environmental director for final decisions. Then, the Chief Operating Officer would issue a seven-day notice to Council, during which any councilor could request formal Council briefing and potential review of proposals. Mr. Six illustrated several topics that needed to be addressed before the project could move forward: changes to Metro Code 5.04, a budget amendment to allocate funding for the program, refinement of program criteria, and annual assessment of program administration. Mr. Six informed Council that the draft program framework was sent to individuals and organizations related to solid waste activities. He reported that most feedback was supportive, however, there were concerns that the \$500k funding cap was too low, and that the diversity, equity, inclusion criteria would be too stringent. As for next steps, Mr. Six indicated that-with Council guidance- code amendments to

Metro Code 5.04 and a budget amendment would be introduced to Council before project implementation. Assuming major components are completed and approved by Council, solicitation of grants would begin in late Spring 2018.

*Councilor Discussion:*

Councilor Collette shared her concern regarding the \$3 million annual cap for funding the innovation and investment program. She inquired staff about how the \$3 million figure was reached and whether the program assessment would review the maximum funding allowed per year. Mr. Slyman explained that the figure was based off of projections and expectations based off of feedback from local operations. Councilor Dirksen commented on the broad range of project needs that the grant program could address for various solid waste operations/organizations. Councilor Harrington inquired upon the timeline and structure of the grant application process. She also defined certain components of the program proposal that required more work-such as the criteria for awarding an entity a grant between 10k-50k- before she could give her full support. Councilor Craddick asked staff about the diversity, equity, and inclusion criteria for the innovation and investment program. Mr. Slyman briefly explained that there were certain hiring goals that certain businesses would need to honor in order to fulfill diversity, equity, and inclusion criteria. Councilor Chase shared his support of the proposed program, especially the integration of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Councilor Harrington stressed the importance of a non-disclosure process for the businesses that would compete for the grants.

**3:00 Councilor Liaison Updates and Council Communication**

Councilor Dirksen recalled that on October 2, 2017, the Portland metropolitan region reached 20 years of

maintaining carbon monoxide levels below federal guidelines. He acknowledged a formidable public transportation system, effective land use policy, and other policies that have allowed the region to maintain clean air.

**3:10 Adjourn**

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:17 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Amaanjit Singh, Council Policy Assistant

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THAT ARE EXEMPT BY LAW FROM PUBLIC INSPECTION AND 192.660(2)(H), TO  
CONSULT WITH COUNSEL CONCERNING THE LEGAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF A PUBLIC  
BODY WITH REGARD TO CURRENT LITIGATION OR LITIGATION LIKELY TO BE FILED**