

# **Metro**

*600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736  
[oregonmetro.gov](http://oregonmetro.gov)*



**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Thursday, November 8, 2018**

**2:00 PM**

**Metro Regional Center, Council chamber**

**Council meeting**

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

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

**Present:** 7 - Council President Tom Hughes, Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Betty Dominguez, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Kathryn Harrington, and Councilor Bob Stacey

**2. Public Communication**

There was none.

**3. Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made by Councilor Harrington, seconded by Councilor Chase, that these items be adopted. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Council President Hughes, Councilor Chase, Councilor Dominguez, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Harrington, and Councilor Stacey

3.1 Resolution No. 18-4937, For the Purpose of Establishing Hearing Procedures for the Adoption of Land Use Final Orders

3.2 Consideration of the Council Meeting Minutes for November 1, 2018

**4. Presentations****4.1 Parks and Nature Annual Report**

Council President Hughes called on Mr. Jon Blasher, Metro Parks and Nature Director, to provide a brief presentation on the parks and nature annual report. Mr. Blasher shared that the report would review 2006 bond and 2013 levy funding investments to improve water quality, enhance fish and wildlife habitat and provide access to nature. He explained that nearly half of the operating levy funding had supported restoration and maintenance of natural areas and the program has exceeded its targets with more than 2,400 acres of restoration projects completed and an

additional 1,260 underway.

Mr. Blasher highlighted the program's work in planting and promoting native plants across the system and discussed ways the program was increasing access to nature and natural areas. Mr. Blasher shared how park improvements projects have helped protect clean water and habitat while also improving visitor experience. He reviewed nature education and volunteer programs that served more than 6,000 people in the last year and provided more than 12,000 volunteer hours. Mr. Blasher discussed the parks and nature racial, equity and inclusion action plan and shared that 25 percent of contracts were awarded to minority and women owned businesses and small emerging businesses. He noted the partnership between Metro and Centro Cultural on the Chehalem Ridge Nature Park and the creation of a more inclusive engagement process. Mr. Blasher gave an overview of the historic cemeteries program and also discussed investments from the 2006 bond measure in land acquisition. He explained that bond funding investments were well managed and effective and that investments were within the spending ranges across all of the programs.

*Council Discussion:*

Councilors discussed the native plant ecosystem, the native plant center, the regional market for native plants and the need for education and promotion of native plants with both businesses and residential users.

Councilor Chase asked what specific projects were focused on improving public access and what projects have yet to completed. Mr. Blasher shared that Farmington Paddle Launch and some of the wetlands parks projects were part

of the improvements to public access. He explained that Creek Canyon project had yet to completed.

Councilor Chase stated that the 25 percent equity contracting awards was a model for all of Metro and thanked staff for their work. Councilor Dominguez commended staff for their work on the ADA accessible children's play areas at Oxbow Regional Park.

## **5. Ordinances (First Reading and Public Hearing)**

### **5.1 Ordinance No. 18-1421, For the Purpose of Amending the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan to Comply with Federal and State Law and Amending the Regional Framework Plan**

Council President Hughes called on Ms. Kim Ellis, Metro staff, to provide a brief presentation on the ordinance. Ms. Ellis presented an overview of the Regional Transportation Plan process, explaining that the plan would serve as the policy foundation for investments in the transportation system. She outlined the plan and discussed the freight, transit, safety and emerging technologies strategies developed with the plan.

#### **5.1.1 Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 18-1421**

Council President Hughes opened up a public hearing on Ordinance No. 18-1421 and requested that those wishing to testify come forward to speak.

Terry Parker, City of Portland: Mr. Parker expressed his concern with the growing congestion in the region and the ability of the transit system to reduce congestion. He discussed the impact of highway congestion on fuel consumption and emissions and shared proposals for improvements to I-5 and providing adequate off-street parking for new housing developments. Mr. Parker stated the Foster Road improvements did adequately address

traffic and noted that he believed the priorities in the plan did not represent the needs of the public as whole. (Mr. Parker provided written materials as part of his testimony; please see the November 8 meeting packet.)

Councilor Stacey stated the importance of pedestrian and bike safety and clarified that the Powell and Division Street projects sought to address to safety issues.

Joe Cortright, City of Portland: Mr. Cortright, of City Observatory and the No More Freeways Coalition, expressed his concern over the transportation plan and its ability to address climate change. He explained that pricing the roadway system was an effective tool in addressing climate change and testified in opposition to widening roadways. Mr. Cortright pointed to the pricing roadways system in Louisville, Kentucky and encouraged Council oppose widening highways before implementing a pricing system.

Ms. Susan Bladholm, City of Portland : Ms. Bladholm, President of Friends of Frog Ferry, discussed the passenger ferry service proposal and its importance to the region's transportation needs. She provided background on the proposal, funding of feasibility studies and stakeholder support for the project. (Ms. Bladholm provided written materials as part of her testimony; please see the November 8 meeting packet.)

Council President Hughes and Councilor Dirksen remarked that a ferry service could be a good transportation alternative for some users. Councilor Stacey discussed the limitations of a ferry service in addressing regional transportation needs.

Bob Sallinger, City of Portland: Mr. Sallinger, Conservation

Director for the Portland Audobon Society, discussed the following three areas of concern with the transportation plan: green infrastructure, natural resource impacts and I-5 Rose Quarter project. He stated the need for green infrastructure policies and more robust analysis of natural resource impacts for projects in the plan. Mr. Sallinger pointed to the negative impacts of the Rose Quarter project and urged Council to advocate that community concerns be heard.

Councilor Stacey stated he supported the incorporation of green infrastructure policy handbook into the transportation plan through amendment once staff had prepared it. He discussed the I-5 Rose Quarter project and its inclusion in the transportation plan and agreed that continued advocacy for community concerns and projects impacts was necessary. Councilor Stacey also stated his support for a full environmental assessment and comment period for this project.

Councilor Chase discussed the impacts of the I-5 Rose Quarter project on the community and highlighted the importance of community engagement particularly for historically marginalized and displaced communities impacted by this project.

Council President Hughes gaveled out of the public hearing and noted the second reading, Council consideration and vote on Ordinance No. 18-1421 would take place on December 6, 2018.

## **6. Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Ms. Martha Bennett provided an update on the following events or items: passage of the Metro housing bond

measure. Ms. Bennett thanked Council for their direction and leadership on the housing bond measure and called on Ms. Elissa Gertler, Director of Planning and Development, to provide a few details on next steps.

Ms. Gertler discussed the responsibility to voters to achieve results with the housing bond funding and discussed the bonds desired outcomes to invest in 3,900 homes with roughly 1,600 of homes available to people at 30 percent of median income. She outlined next steps including reconvening key partners and developing the implementation plan.

Councilors expressed their appreciation for staff, stakeholder and advisory group members and the many regional partners involved for their advocacy and support in successful passage of the housing bond.

Ms. Bennett congratulated Councilor Harrington on her successful election to become Washington County Chair.

## **7. Councilor Communication**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings: Oregon Metropolitan Planning Organization Consortium quarterly meeting. Councilors discussed Safe Routes to Schools, House Bill 2017 funding allocations and the Transportation for America advisory committee.

## **8. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 3:45 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on November 15, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Metro Regional Center in the council chamber.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Farrokhzadian', with a small dot at the end of the signature.

Sara Farrokhzadian, Legislative and Engagement  
Coordinator



**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 8, 2018**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>3.1</b>	Minutes	11/8/18	Council Meeting Minutes for November 1, 2018	110818c-01
<b>4.1</b>	Powerpoint	11/8/18	Parks and Nature Annual Report	110818c-02
<b>5.1</b>	Powerpoint	11/8/18	Finalizing the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan and Strategies	110818c-03
<b>5.1.1</b>	Handout	11/8/18	Frog Ferry Passenger Service Proposal	110818c-04
<b>5.1.1</b>	Handout	11/8/18	Written Statement on Transportation System Plan	110818c-05