

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Thursday, August 1, 2019**

**2:00 PM**

**Metro Regional Center, Council chamber**

**Council meeting**

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

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

**2. Safety Briefing**

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

**Present:** 7 - Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Bob Stacey, Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, and Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

**3. Public Communication**

Art Lewellan, City of Portland: Mr. Lewellan stated that his testimony was both for Council and members of the public that were viewing the meeting from home. He discussed his proposed subway design and identified differences from TriMet's subway proposal. Mr. Lewellan expressed concern about spending tax dollars for salaries and operations at Metro. He discussed the Southwest Corridor project and his intention to file a legal suit to stop the project. (Mr. Lewellan submitted written documents as part of his testimony; see the August 1 meeting materials.)

Councilor Stacey responded that throughout his tenure as a Metro Councilor TriMet had consistently engaged communities along the Southwest Corridor.

**4. Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made by Councilor Craddick, seconded by Councilor Dirksen, that these items be adopted. The**

**motion passed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Stacey, Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

4.1 Resolution No. 19-5005, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Grant a Trail Easement to the Oregon Department of Transportation

4.2 Consideration of the Council Meeting Minutes for July 25, 2019

**5. Resolutions**

5.1 Resolution No. 19-5003, For the Purpose of Endorsing Paid Parental Leave for Metro Employees

Council President Peterson called on Mr. Julio Garcias, Metro Human Resources Director, to provide a brief presentation on the resolution. Mr. Garcia explained that the resolution would put into effect a generous paid parental leave policy for Metro until the State of Oregon's parental leave policy comes into effect in 2023. He discussed the impacts on the benefits to both employees and the organization of the paid parental leave policy and noted broad benefits to the community. Mr. Garcia thanked Metro's human resources department, the office of the Chief Operating Officer and the office of the Metro Attorney for their work in developing the policy. He introduced Ms. Angie Bond, Human Resources staff, to answer questions.

Councilor Dirksen stated his support of the policy and asked about the anticipated financial impact. Ms. Bond explained that the anticipated financial impact was \$250,000 a year, noting that Metro was already incurring this cost as employees often used paid vacation and sick leave during parental leave events.

Council President Peterson called on Ms. Hila Ritter, Ms. Yuliya Lee and Ms. Elizabeth Goetzinger, Metro staff, and

Ms. Stacey Chamberlin, Executive Director of Oregon AFSCME to provide a brief statement on the resolution.

Ms. Ritter stated her support for the paid parental leave policy and discussed the challenges of adjusting to parenthood. She noted the benefits to families when parents had access to paid parental leave and shared her personal experience with taking unpaid parental leave.

Ms. Lee discussed the impact the paid parental leave policy would have on working parents. She highlighted misconceptions of new parenthood and the physical and emotional healing needed after childbirth and through a child's first year of life.

Ms. Goetzinger, President of AFSCME Local 3580, thanked Metro Council for its leadership in providing paid parental leave to workers at Metro. She highlighted the State of Oregon's recently passed parental leave legislation and discussed the outsized and unseen role of women, particularly indigenous, immigrant and women of color as caretakers in our society. Ms. Chamberlain thanked Metro Council for its leadership and shared her personal experience with parental leave.

*Council Discussion:*

Councilor Stacey stated his support for the resolution. Councilor Lewis expressed her appreciation for the testimony and thanked staff for their work. She stated the importance of acknowledging that parental leave was valued by Metro and noted that more work was needed to address health inequities of mothers upon returning to work. Councilor Craddick stated her support for the resolution shared her personal experience with parental

leave.

Councilor Gonzalez highlighted that paid parental leave was an equity issue across all communities, noting that the United States was the only industrialized country without a national paid family leave policy. He expressed his appreciation for Metro setting a bold vision for the region and its efforts for becoming an employer of choice.

Councilor Chase discussed the importance of paid parental leave for both parents and children and the benefit to the workforce. He thanked Councilor Lewis, AFSCME and staff for their work.

Council President shared her personal experience with women having to choose between career opportunities and a family. She discussed the importance of valuing parental leave both for the workforce and for families to make their own decisions.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Councilor Chase, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Stacey, Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, and Councilor Gonzalez

## **6. Presentations**

### **6.1 Housing Bond Local Implementation Strategies For the City of Beaverton and Washington County**

Council President Peterson called on Ms. Emily Lieb, Metro staff, to provide a brief presentation on the housing implementation strategies. Ms. Lieb explained that this was an update on the two strategies as part of intergovernmental agreements with City of Beaverton and Washington County as part of the Metro affordable housing bond program. She noted that both strategies had been

reviewed by staff and unanimously recommended by the housing oversight committee.

Ms. Lieb then provided brief highlights from each of the strategies. She explained that the City of Beaverton was eligible for \$31 million of bond funding to create 218 affordable homes. Ms. Lieb noted that the City of Beaverton had conducted extensive community engagement on their strategy and stated that the plan included an aspirational goal of 20 percent equity contracting. She reviewed the oversight committee considerations for ongoing monitoring including a broad recommendation to further specify in the strategy measures related to racial equity.

Ms. Lieb stated the Washington County was eligible to receive \$116 million in bond funding to support the development of 814 affordable homes, noting the plan included a goal of 100 permanent supportive housing units and \$25 million set aside for small non-profits and community housing organizations. She highlighted the County's engagement work in coordination with the Cities of Hillsboro and Beaverton and discussed the County's minimum threshold of 15 percent equity contracting with an aspirational goal of 20 percent. Ms. Lieb reviewed the specific oversight committee considerations for the County's plan including a request for more clarity regarding intentions for geographic distribution and articulation of a plan to achieve the 20 percent equity contracting.

*Council Discussion:*

Councilor Craddick asked for the definition of permanent supportive housing and whether most of the housing units to be funded by the housing bond would be permanent supportive housing units. Councilor Lewis asked how these

strategies would leverage the investments of Metro's site acquisition plan. Councilor Gonzalez asked staff about lessons learned from the first two housing implementation strategies. Councilor Dirksen expressed his appreciation for the work of staff and the jurisdictions.

**7. Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Mr. Andrew Scott provided an update on the following events or items: welcoming Mr. Julio Garcias, Human Resources Director to Metro. Mr. Scott thanked Council for their leadership on the paid parental leave policy.

**8. Councilor Communication**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events: the Willamette Falls Legacy Project Partners Table, the regional transportation investment measure local implementation team tour, the Tribal Nations Climate Change Summit in Spokane, WA. Councilor Gonzalez provided a project update on the Construction Career Pathways Project.

**9. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 3:14 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on September 5, 2019 at 2:00 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 AUGUST 1, 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	8/01/19	City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Gentrification and Displacement Assessment submitted by Robert Liberty	080119c-01
<b>4.2.0</b>	Minutes	8/01/19	Portland Light Rail Map with Proposed Changes submitted by Art Lewellan	080119c-02
<b>6.1</b>	Powerpoint	8/01/19	Housing Bond Local Implementation Strategies	080119c-03