

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

2:00 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/96717147770> or 346-248-7799

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council work session call to order at 2:01 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Bob Stacey, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Mary Nolan

Work Session Topics:**2:05 Greater Portland Economic Recovery Plan**

Council President Peterson introduced Elissa Gertler, Metro; Jeff Raker, Metro; Brittany Bagent, GPI; and Curtis Robinhold to present.

Elissa Gertler recapped the way that the Greater Portland Economic Recovery Plan came about.

Jeff Raker spoke to how the Economic Recovery Plan has sought to adhere to Metro's values.

[Economic Recovery Plan Powerpoint]

Brittany Bagent presented on the process for constructing the Economic Recovery Plan: the plan affects a four-county, bi-state region; it coincides with federal relief; composition consists of a GPEDD Board of Directors that come from the public & private sector, as well as the community; a number of stakeholders were also convened for discussion.

Bagent went on to describe the effects COVID-19 had on the progress of GPEDD and measures taken to combat this development. Impacts on marginalized individuals and businesses were discussed.

Raker and Bagent spoke to the racial wealth gap and

disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. They discussed the development of guiding values, action items, and project principles to combat this effect.

Consulting Firm Owner Camille E. Trummer (she/her) spoke about her role developing a Stakeholder and Community Engagement plan with respect to GPEDD, including an overview of: key objectives, key findings, recommendations, and ongoing engagement.

Bagent and Raker discussed three target impact areas, effectively “goals” for this work, including: helping small businesses recover and grow; advancing economic mobility for individuals; and supporting families and children. Implementation included a social media tool kit, task force, community partner presentations, and new projects. Next steps would include integration back into the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS); an action-oriented strategy for regional economic development. Public comment would be opened in the spring, with final documentation to be resolved by the summer.

Robinhold spoke about a federal approach to accomplishing these ends, making note that federal assistance would be more plausible now than in year’s prior, and that collaboration would be necessary in order to assert a productive regionally-led approach.

Gertler outlined staff recommendations that Metro continue to coordinate efforts and support implementation of the Greater Portland Economic Recovery Plan, and that the Metro Council consider sending a letter to the GPEDD affirming that role.

Council Discussion

Councilor Lewis requested a sharper focus from Metro Council on nursing (with respect to caregiving); identifying the homelessness services network and mental health support as an avenue for this.

Councilor Rosenthal asked whether the job strategies would be broken down based on sector (as some sectors were experiencing more in the way of losses than others).

Raker affirmed that distinction based on sector is under consideration, and offered to touch base on that 1 on 1.

Councilor Craddick asked who would be following through on this project in uniting the agencies, where the funding is coming from, and whether they felt secure about uniting the agencies.

Bagent affirmed confidence in the relationships built among other agencies and identified Metro's role in directing agencies without explicitly telling them what to do.

Councilor Nolan expressed a want to support communities-not simply proportionally-but in an equitable fashion.

Council President Peterson expressed a want to offer support in whatever mode that would be most appropriate (as a letter or otherwise). She additionally questioned whether or not next steps would include any movement in this 2021 state legislative session.

3:00 BIPOC Caucus Agenda 2021

Council President Peterson introduced Representative Khanh Pham and Rep. Bynum's Chief of Staff Zakr Khan to present.

[Oregon BIPOC Caucus 2021 Legislative Agenda Powerpoint

Presentation]

Rep. Pham noted that BIPOC communities have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and a need to build a more equitable future during the recovery process. Pham presented the caucus vision for Oregon and mission statement.

Khan and Rep. Pham outlined the caucus' top ten priorities, including:

1. Police accountability
 - i. HB 2928: Deals with police munitions (would ban tear gas)
 - ii. HB 2936: Provides an anti-racist background check
 - iii. SB 593: Reforms training
2. Criminal justice reform
 - i. SB 620: Makes the probation fee collection requirement optional
 - ii. HJR 5: Incarcerated workers' dignity bill
3. Economic opportunity
 - i. HB 2594: Farm and outdoor workers' protections
 - ii. HB 2935: Prevents care discrimination
4. Education
 - i. HB 2590: Student voice bill
 - ii. HB 2937: Help to come down on school bias crimes happening
5. BIPOC healthcare access
 - i. HB 2359: Healthcare Interpretation Accountability Act
 - ii. HB 2361: Behavioral Health BIPOC Workforce Shortage
 - iii. HB 2949: Greatly improve mental health

workforce in OR

6. Housing & homeownership
 - i. Bill to rid OR of no-cause evictions
 - ii. Bill to address racial disparities in home ownership
 - iii. Bill to expand and provide funding for down-payment assistance for BIPOC families
 - iv. Tax credit for agricultural worker housing
7. Expand access to democracy
 - i. Bill to advance Campaign Finance reform
 - ii. HB 2366: Expand voting rights to those incarcerated
 - iii. Will allow 17 year-old voters to vote in the primary election, provided they turn 18 by the time of the election
8. Equitable & transparent government
 - i. Renaming Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day
 - ii. Addressing state song
 - iii. Establish racial justice council
 - iv. Address legislator pay, which keeps many voices from participating
9. Environmental and climate justice
 - i. Discount utility rates for low-income households
 - ii. Expanding Healthy Homes Weatherization Program
 - iii. Pushing for 100% clean energy standard for utilities
10. Protect & expand critical social services
 - i. Reform revenue system
 - ii. Bill to make social services free of bias:

Illumination of Implicit Bias in the Child Welfare
System

Council Discussion

Council President Peterson noted a lot of overlap between federal and regional agendas and expressed a desire to collaborate to achieve these ends.

In response to a question concerning equitable vaccine rollout put forward by Councilor Gonzalez, Rep. Pham noted that the caucus presented a letter to the Oregon Health Authority expressing concern that the mode of the vaccine rollout was pitting BIPOC communities against one another, and that this was something they intended to maintain focus on.

Councilor Gonzalez reiterated the Metro Council's commitment to equity and expressed a want to make the meeting with the BIPOC Caucus an annual event.

Regarding police accountability, Councilor Craddick asked whether there was any discussion regarding reforming police training. Zakr Khan referenced the Use of Force bill passed during the summer and a task force put together by the Governor to investigate training.

Councilor Rosenthal brought up the need for prosecutorial reform in addition to ensuring benefits from the farm bill go to workers rather than owners.

Councilor Nolan expressed support for the BIPOC Caucus agenda, and pride at the overlap between their and Metro's agenda. Additionally, Councilor Nolan suggested a degree of deference to the BIPOC Caucus in the prioritization of bills, given that the caucus members are leaders of BIPOC communities, while only one Metro Councilor is. Council

President Peterson agreed and suggested composing another letter.

3:30 Chief Operating Officer Communications

Randy Tucker presented on the events of the first couple weeks in the legislature, including bills that would be relevant to Metro interests and values.

Marissa Madrigal provided an update on the following events/items:

- Partnering with Participatory Budgeting Oregon (PBO) and community stakeholders to create a participatory grant-making pilot.
- Budget Timeline

3:35 Councilor Communications

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events:

Councilor Lewis:

- Homeless Services Oversight Committee meeting
- The coordinated response and rebuttal of Clackamas County Commissioner Mike Shoal's pattern of racist behavior

Councilor Craddick:

- Travel Portland Board of Directors meeting

Councilor Gonzalez gave follow-up regarding Commissioner Shoal's behavior.

Council President Peterson opened up discussion regarding the Values, Outcomes, and Actions that would be associated with the I-5 Bridge Replacement and Rose Quarter Projects.

3:45 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shay Perez

Shay Perez, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2021

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	Powerpoint Presentation	01/26/21	Economic Recovery Plan Presentation	012621cw-01
2.0	PDF	01/26/21	IBR Values Draft	012621cw-02
3.0	Powerpoint Presentation	01/26/21	Metro Presentation on BIPOC Caucus Agenda	012621cw-03