



600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736  
oregonmetro.gov

## **METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)**

Meeting Minutes  
October 27, 2021

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Susheela Jayapal  
Carmen Rubio  
Gerritt Rosenthal  
Christine Lewis  
Joe Buck  
Gordon Hovies

Linda Glover  
Lacey Beaty  
Peter Truax  
Steve Callaway  
Vince Jones-Dixon  
Ed Gronke  
Luis Nava  
Thomas Kim  
Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong  
Kirstin Greene  
Terri Preeg Riggsby

Temple Lentz  
Pam Treece  
Rachel Lyles Smith  
Martha Schrader

### AFFILIATION

Multnomah County  
City of Portland  
Metro Council  
Metro Council  
City of Lake Oswego, Largest City in Clackamas County  
Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Special Districts in  
Washington County  
City of Vancouver  
City of Beaverton, Second Largest City in Washington County  
City of Forest Grove, Other Cities in Washington County  
City of Hillsboro, Largest City in Washington County  
City of Gresham, Second Largest City in Multnomah County  
Citizen of Clackamas County  
Citizen of Washington County  
TriMet  
Port of Portland  
Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development  
West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, Special  
Districts in Multnomah County  
Clark County  
Washington County  
City of Oregon City, Second Largest City in Clackamas County  
Clackamas County

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Ted Wheeler  
Brian Hodson  
James Fage  
Mark Watson

Kathy Hyzy  
Brian Cooper

AFFILIATION

City of Portland  
City of Canby, City in Clackamas County outside UGB  
City of North Plains, City in Washington County outside UGB  
Hillsboro School District Board of Directors, Governing Body of  
a School District  
City of Milawaukie, Cities of Clackamas County  
City of Fairview, Other Cities in Multnomah County

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Brett Sherman  
Anthony Martin

AFFILIATION

City of Happy Valley, Other Cities in Clackamas County  
City of Hillsboro, Largest City in Washington County

OTHERS PRESENT: Anne Debbaut, Adam Barber, Alison Wicks, Bill Holmstrom, Colin Cooper, Brian Martin, Lisa Batey, Erica Fuller, Erin Doyle, Evan Manvel, Gordan Howard, Jules Walters, Mona Schwartz, Ruth Osuna, Schuyler Warren, Tom Armstrong, Tom Markgraf, Sean Edging, Janine Gates, Tom Armstrong, Matt Crall,

STAFF: Roger Alfred, Jaye Cromwell, Connor Ayers, Patricia Rojas, Emily Lieb, Anne Buzzini, Ramona Perrault, Carrie Maclaren, Megan Gibb, Nick Christensen, Ted Reid, Valeria McWilliams

**1. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS**

Chair Steve Callaway (he/him) called the virtual meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Councilor Anthony Martin (he/him) of Hillsboro gave testimony. He advocated for an open and transparent rate setting process. He expressed a desire to review the fee/rate setting information that Metro uses.

**3. COUNCIL UPDATE**

Councilor Christine Lewis (she/her) gave the Council update. She gave an update on Metro's affordable housing bond, and the first units being opened up. She also gave an update on the projects in the pipeline. She shared information about Metro's redistricting and District 6 appointment efforts.

Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith (she/her) asked if there is a firm opening date for the Newell Creek Canyon Nature Park.

Councilor Lewis could not share an exact opening date, but informed members that construction is complete and they are hoping to open the park very soon.

Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal (he/him) added that another park in the region, Chehalem Ridge, is tentatively scheduled to open a few days before Thanksgiving.

**4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**

Chair Callaway informed members that a public comment period is open to provide written testimony on Metro's redistricting criteria, and that public hearings would be held on scenarios during the second week of November.

Vice President Gordon Hovies (he/him) shared that Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue has opened a new station that has been in the works for years.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Mayor Peter Truax (he/him) motioned to accept the consent agenda. Thomas Kim (he/him) seconded.

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**ACTION:** With all in favor, the motion passed.

## **6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **6.1 Continued MPAC Member Housing Needs Analysis Discussion**

Chair Callaway reminded members that at the last meeting members were discussing the work underway for their Housing Needs Analyses. This is an opportunity for members to share who were not able to at the last meeting.

*Member Discussion Included:*

Mayor Joe Buck (he/him) gave an update on Lake Oswego's Housing Needs Analysis update.

Councilor Vince Jones-Dixon (he/him) gave an update on Gresham's Housing Needs Analysis update and discussed the city's efforts to build affordable housing.

Chair Callaway shared results from Hillsboro's latest Housing Needs Analysis. He discussed new construction currently underway.

Thomas Kim asked what was for the estimated need number of units and Chair Callaway answered that it was from Eco Northwest.

City of Gresham Staff David Berniker (he/him) gave an update on Rockwood Village and discussed Albertina Kerr, which both used Metro housing bond funds.

Ed Gronke (he/him) discussed Clackamas County's efforts to build more affordable housing.

### **6.2 Regional Solid Waste Discussion**

Chair Callaway explained that the objective of this item is to provide an overview of Metro's garbage and recycling system. He introduced Metro Staff Roy Brower (he/him), Brian Kennedy (he/him), Shane Abma (he/him), and Pam Peck (she/her).

*Key points of the presentation included:*

Shane gave an overview of where Metro's legal authority in solid waste comes from. The three main sources are the Oregon Constitution, Metro's home rule charter, and state statutes ORS 268, 459, and 459A. He gave an overview of the history of Metro's authority and what each of the three sources of authority contribute. He explained each source relates to solid waste and what Metro's statutory authority allows it to do.

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Roy discussed where the money from fees goes, which includes public operations, regional programs, and general government expenses. He introduced Brian to go through the rate process.

Brian gave an overview of the fee charges and who pays them. All ratepayers pay a regional system fee, excise tax, DEQ fees, and enhancement fees. He shared the history of Metro's rates from 2004 to now. He explained the rate setting process, which includes a revenue requirement and tonnage forecast. Cost factors in fees include investments in green fuel, improved wages, less-polluting equipment, and additional staff to improve safety at Metro South. He went over the recent rate increases and their impacts. He shared that due to COVID-19, the Waste Prevention and Environmental Services department had its budget cut and the Metro Council authorized the use of half of reserve funds to cover costs.

Roy shared upcoming engagement opportunities related to the budget for Metro's Waste Prevention and Environmental Services department. He discussed why Metro allocates wet waste. Doing so supports system stability, ensures the provision of public services, supports small and local businesses, and advances diversity and equity in the system.

Pam gave an update on Ridwell's facility license application. She explained that Ridwell is a subscription recycling service that collects hard to recycle materials. Ridwell must obtain a facility license from Metro, as it is the regional solid waste authority. Metro will make a decision after the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality makes a permit decision, which will likely be in early 2022. She noted that Metro plans to include a provision in the license requiring Ridwell to comply with all local laws. She discussed changes happening to the system as a result of the Plastics Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act adopted by the Oregon Legislature in 2021. She informed members that there is opportunity for community and local government involvement as the changes are implemented.

*Member Discussion Included:*

Councilor Jones-Dixon asked how Metro's authority would relate to Ridwell.

Shane explained that Ridwell will have to apply for a license with Metro. Metro will require that Ridwell comply with all local government laws.

Chair Callaway pointed out that counties and cities set rates and franchise fees for collection services, but because of the rates that Metro sets, they have to pass along that rate to citizens.

Shane discussed how the rates set by cities incorporate fees from multiple sources, including Metro's. He also understood the point, and discussed the vertical integration

often seen in the waste industry and how Metro's transfer stations are a part of the larger system.

Mayor Truax noted that Forest Grove gets a part of the enhancement fee and discussed how the funding is used for community enhancement programs.

Mayor Buck asked if the budget reductions from when COVID-19 first hit are still in place for WPES. He also asked what Metro can do to help local jurisdictions when they are trying to understand what goes into setting rates.

Metro Staff answered that the reductions are still in place for the most part. Roy added that Metro staff are happy to assist cities with getting a better understanding of what goes into the rates set by Metro.

Director Terri Preeg Riggsby (she/her) asked about potential future impacts of using the reserve funds.

Brian answered that Metro is not anticipating any rate increases as a result of repaying the reserve, which was built up over time. The more significant impact is that there will be less of the reserve to use in future years if it's needed.

Chair Callaway expressed concern in the increase in tipping fees without knowing where it's going. He noted that the fee is more than the national average. He requested more transparency around how fees are set and the tonnage forecast.

Brian explained that there is no connection between the excise tax and the tip fee. The excise tax is set at a flat rate and determined automatically by a formula. He noted they had shared the rate model to staff that requested it. Rates could be impacted if the Metro Council makes different decisions on capital projects.

Chair Callaway asked for confirmation that they are not expecting to see 10% rate increases over the next three years, which Brian confirmed.

Roy noted that compared to other cities on the west coast, Portland's fees are still better than most.

Mayor Buck asked how the changes to producer responsibilities due to the 2021 legislation could affect prices.

Pam answered that it's expected that producers will pass on the additional costs to consumers based on similar laws in other parts of the world. She added that the Oregon DEQ did research on the topic that is available on their website.

Mayor Lacey Beaty (she/her) requested that information on community involvement be passed on to MPAC members.

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Commissioner Pam Treece (she/her) noted that haulers would like the opportunity to participate in similar business opportunities as Ridwell.

### **6.3 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment: I-205 Toll Project (Preliminary Engineering Phase)**

Chair Callaway introduced Metro Staff Kim Ellis (she/her) and ODOT Staff Brendan Finn (he/him) and Mandy Putney (she/her).

*Key elements of the presentation included:*

Mandy explained that the purpose of this item is to give provide information about the project to MPAC members. She shared the history of the Urban Mobility Office, which was launched in early 2020, and how the I-205 project came to be. She reviewed the values of the Urban Mobility Office, which included equity, climate change, congestion, safety, and reliable funding. She gave an overview of projects funded by HB 2017 and HB 3055. She noted that the two current tolling projects are the I-205 Toll project and the Regional Mobility Pricing Project, which both aim to manage congestion and generate revenue. She shared a timeline for both projects and what they will pay for. She gave an overview of the I-205 Toll Project and what the preliminary engineering phase would accomplish. She shared information on an equitable, income-based toll rate report, and a transit and multi-modal working group. She discussed the timeline for the diversion impact analysis. The team is seeking to amend the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program to fund the preliminary engineering phase of the project.

*Member discussion included:*

Commissioner Martha Schrader (she/her) discussed concerns about the project from residents of Clackamas County. Mitigation of diversion is a major concern. She noted that Clackamas County has less transit options than other parts of the region.

### **7. ADJOURN**

Chair Callaway adjourned the meeting at 7:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Connor Ayers  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 27, 2021**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>2.0</b>	Testimony	10/27/21	Anthony Martin Testimony	102721m-01
<b>6.2</b>	Presentation	10/27/21	Regional Solid Waste Presentation	102721m-02
<b>6.3</b>	Presentation	10/27/21	I-205 Toll Project Presentation	102721m-03