



Eugene City Council

101 W 10th Ave., Suite 203
Eugene, OR 97401
541-682-5010 • 541-682-5414 Fax
www.eugene-or.gov

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

February 14, 2022

7:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL MEETING

As the state and community recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, most City Council meetings will continue to be held remotely using virtual meeting technology. Information about online or other options for access and participation will be available at <https://www.eugene-or.gov/3360/Webcasts-and-Meeting-Materials>

**Meeting of February 14, 2022;
Her Honor Mayor Lucy Vinis Presiding**

Councilors

Claire Syrett, President

Mike Clark

Randy Groves

Jennifer Yeh

Matt Keating, Vice President

Greg Evans

Emily Semple

Alan Zelenka

7:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

2. CONSENT CALENDAR 1

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

- June 30, 2021, Work Session
- July 21, 2021, Work Session
- September 22, 2021, Work Session
- October 11, 2021, Work Session
- October 25, 2021, Work Session
- November 8, 2021, Work Session
- November 10, 2021, Work Session
- December 8, 2021, Work Session

B. Approval of City Council Tentative Agenda

3. PUBLIC FORUM

The Eugene City Council welcomes your interest in these agenda items. This meeting location is wheelchair-accessible. For the hearing impaired, an interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Spanish-language interpretation will also be provided with 48 hours' notice. To arrange for these services, contact the receptionist at 541-682-5010. City Council meetings are telecast live on Metro Television, Comcast channel 21, and rebroadcast later in the week.

El consejo de la Ciudad de Eugene agradece su interés en estos asuntos de la agenda. El lugar de la reunión tiene acceso para sillas de ruedas. Se puede proveer a un intérprete para las personas con discapacidad auditiva si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. También se puede proveer interpretación para español si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. Para reservar estos servicios llame al 541-682-5010. Las reuniones del consejo de la ciudad se transmiten en vivo por Metro Television, Canal 21 de Comcast y son retransmitidas durante la semana.

For more information, contact the Council Coordinator at 541-682-5010,
or visit us online at www.eugene-or.gov.

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Approval of City Council Minutes

Meeting Date: February 14, 2022
Department: Central Services
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 2A
Staff Contact: Brooke Freed
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5010

ISSUE STATEMENT

This is a routine item to approve City Council minutes.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to approve the minutes for the work session on June 30, July 21, September 22, October 11, October 25, November 8, November 10, and December 8, 2021.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. June 30, 2021, Work Session
- B. July 21, 2021, Work Session
- C. September 22, 2021, Work Session
- D. October 11, 2021, Work Session
- E. October 25, 2021, Work Session
- F. November 8, 2021, Work Session
- G. November 10, 2021, Work Session
- H. December 8, 2021, Work Session

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Brooke Freed
Telephone: 541-682-5010
Staff E-Mail: bfreed@eugene-or.gov

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**June 30, 2021
12:00 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Jennifer Yeh, Claire Syrett, Greg Evans, Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Randy Groves, Mike Clark

Mayor Vinis opened the June 30, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

1. WORK SESSION – Independence Day Community Safety Efforts

Eugene Fire Department Deputy Chief Chris Heppel and Police Chief Chris Skinner provided information on enforcement lines and community safety concerns about fireworks usage and other considerations surrounding Independence Day celebrations.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Keating – thanked staff for the information; asked in what ways fireworks vendors, particularly those in South University area where new ban is in effect, can be of support the City’s restrictions on fireworks usage, such as sharing information or literature with their customers; asked what local neighborhood associations can do to be helpful in spreading information throughout the community; asked how complaints are being managed and tracked from the Eugene Fireworks Alert mobile application, and if there is a preference for using it rather than residents calling the City’s non-emergency line.
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for their work and attention to this matter; asked that fire and police officers also monitor and respond to illegal bonfires during this dry season.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked staff for the presentation; asked if anyone had spoken with the Eugene Emeralds management staff to ensure they are not planning an unpermitted display this year.

2. WORK SESSION – City of Eugene Naming Policy

Policy Systems Analyst Jason Dedrick presented a review of the City’s Naming Policy, which guides the naming of City-owned facilities and said the work session would provide City Council with an opportunity to receive an update on relevant staff efforts and ongoing review of the City’s Naming Policy.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for the presentation and appreciated their team engaging this process on multiple fronts; stated some concern over the status of the request to rename Washington Jefferson Park, which has been on hold while the City finalizes its naming policy.
- Councilor Yeh – thanked staff for the report; stated her belief that the naming process be used to tell the story of the community, not just where it has been but where it wishes to go, its values, all while retaining the ability to tell the full story; stated many in the community deserve recognition, in numbers likely far beyond the facilities in need of naming, and perhaps candidates should be considered with respect to their legacy and their impact within the community.

- Mayor Vinis – asked about timelines and when council will hear more on this topic later in the year as there are ongoing requests; seconded Councilor Yeh’s comments that there are many who could be recognized but not all rise to the level of having facilities named after them; asked Council to consider other opportunities for recognition of an individual’s contributions to the community through a wall of acknowledgement prominently displayed in a place of significance; noted that the naming policy currently states street names should not be “too foreign sounding,” language which should be reviewed more closely from a cultural responsiveness standpoint.
- Councilor Evans – asked if there is a comprehensive history on the process of how streets and landmarks were named in the past, noting a series of streets in Ward 6 named after former Chief Justices of the Supreme Court, for whom it is unclear whether they had significant contributions (or even negative impacts) at the local and/or national level.
- Councilor Keating – echoed Mayor Vinis’ comments on a wall of acknowledgement for high-level community contributors, noting there may be an opportunity to do so within the riverfront development project.

3. WORK SESSION – Intergovernmental Relations and 2021 Legislative Update

Intergovernmental Relations Manager Ethan Nelson, joined by Tess Milio and Zack Reeves of CFM Advocates (consultants to the City based out of Salem, OR), and Councilor Syrett, provided City Council with an overview of the City’s 2021 legislative process and accomplishments from the 2021 Oregon State Assembly and federal legislative efforts, as well as proposed Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) Committee efforts.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Keating – thanked to staff for diligent and engaging work.
- Councilor Clark – thanked staff for their hard work; said now that COVID restrictions are slowly lifting, he hopes to see the return of options to confer with legislators during in-person visits, as well as additional opportunities for City Council and state legislators to discuss priorities during the legislative session.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked staff for the presentation; stated that it feels Council has gone from previously too much time discussing IGR efforts to now too little; said he understands the speed and priorities of legislative sessions but nonetheless has recently felt disconnected to the process and policies/bills under committee discussion; asked for clarification about timelines for discussion on proposed bills with Council; said he thinks the Council engagement proposal discussed today should be a minimum starting point, and in particular updates to Council during active legislative sessions should be more frequent.
- Councilor Syrett – committed to taking Councilor Zelenka’s feedback to the IGR Committee and working to find a better balance between their priorities and the way in which information is relayed to Council.
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for the presentation; stated he understands Councilor Zelenka’s frustrations, and while they are also interested in more discussion and updates from the IGR Committee, he remains wary of creating a duplicate process to that of the IGR Committee.
- Councilor Clark – stated they are also interested in more input on IGR Committee activities, and though he recognizes his viewpoint on many issues may be in the minority to those of the council and state legislators, he hopes those viewpoints can still be heard.
- Councilor Zelenka – suggested that there be a pre-session prior to any work session on priority bills or issues of significance to the City; cited protocol that all non-unanimous positions from the IGR Committee are presented to City Council for review; stated that this process should be more informative and receive more input from Council.

- Councilor Semple – requested that information from the IGR Committee meetings be presented to Council in a timely manner, are more accessible, and with more opportunities for feedback and discussion.
- Councilor Syrett – agreed with others regarding the need for more communication between the IGR Committee and Council; stated the committee will follow requirements that all items which receive a vote at the IGR Committee will be forwarded to Council for vote, and that they will continue to explore ways to create further opportunities for discussion on priority items.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Freed
City Recorder AIC

(Recorded by Jay Ferris)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**July 21, 2021
12:00 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Claire Syrett, Randy Groves

Councilors Absent: Greg Evans

Mayor Vinis opened the July 21, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

1. WORK SESSION – Unhoused Response Update

Assistant City Manager Kristie Hammitt and Public Works Director Matt Rodrigues provided an update on temporary urban camps and vehicle camping response/actions. Data on homelessness in Lane County was reviewed, as well as current distribution of sites and programming within the City of Eugene. Three new sites were proposed for council consideration and action.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for their hard work and expediency in moving forward; expressed a sense of urgency around this matter; said she has discussed ongoing concerns with Whiteaker residents about the lack of access to Washington Jefferson Park this summer; suggested the possibility of consolidating the unhoused in this park to free up space for resident use, such as in and around skate park; asked for clarification of need to have Chase Commons as both safe tent and parking site instead of only one or the other; asked about the occupancy estimate for Garfield site (50-60 unhoused).
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for their work, and the public for dealing with these spaces which are not being used for their intended purposes; acknowledged the need to keep pushing on expansion and building of these sites; gave additional thanks to businesses who have paid to set up adjacent dumpsters in an effort to keep their community clean; offered further thanks to Pastor Gabe Piechowicz, who has worked to organize unhoused communities for refuse pickup in multiple areas.
- Councilor Clark – thanked staff for their hard work, particularly considering the scale of the required effort; asked about the parking implementation ordinance and what efforts are being taken to reduce illegal, long-term roadside parking; stated that camps at and around 13th and Jefferson are also illegal camping and questioned if the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) shelter-in-place recommendations as it relates to relocating these camps has changed; asked if the council could vote to enforce City ordinances on illegal camping; expressed that he is in favor of providing solutions for unhoused, but nonetheless frustrated with lack of enforcement for illegal camping.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked staff for the presentation; recognized community frustrations with slow movement on this issue while understanding progress on such complicated matters takes time and effort; said he was looking ahead to eventual dispersal of unhoused from Washington Jefferson Park and asked Public Works what will be needed to repair these public spaces (such as structural and landscaping) once it has been vacated.
- Councilor Yeh – echoed comments from Councilor Syrett around the possibility of re-opening some or all of the skate park section of Washington Jefferson Park and clearing it for greater

public access during the summer; regarding safe sites, asked if there a timeline for future site suggestions; said she was also hoping for more capacity at Chase Commons but understands proximity of nearby waterway limits maximum occupancy.

- Councilor Keating – appreciated the iterative approach to solutions for the unhoused; said he understands the broader frustration but strongly supports the ongoing approach; voiced concern about any proposed council action that goes against current CDC recommendations; urges council to adhere to CDC recommendations, particularly for more vulnerable unhoused populations.
- Councilor Semple – thanked staff for their ongoing efforts; said she also wishes progress was faster but understands critical work is progressing at an appropriate pace; concurred that re-opening the Washington Jefferson skate park is a good idea; also concurred with following all CDC recommendations.
- Councilor Groves – stated that this is the most pressing issue faced by the City; expressed frustration that councilors do not have a say in the timing allotments during council meetings.
- Councilor Syrett – recommended that the City Manager be prepared to call an emergency meeting as more sites become available in lieu of waiting for fall meeting.
- Councilor Clark – asked about the number of spaces in emergency camps that are currently unfilled, and additional detail about the nature of calls for service related to homelessness; concurred with Councilor Groves that the policy response is inadequate relative to the scope of these issues facing the City; stated that Council should be empowered to act more quickly; concurred with Councilor Syrett on calling emergency meeting as new sites are ready to be proposed.
- Councilor Zelenka – concurred with Councilor Syrett’s proposal to call an emergency meeting as new sites are ready to be proposed; asked about local nonprofits and their capacity to manage all current, currently proposed and future sites.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to approve Chase Commons for use as a Safe Tent site. **PASSED 6:1, Councilor Clark opposed.**

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to approve 310 Garfield Avenue for use as both a Safe Tent and a Safe Parking site. **PASSED 6:1, Councilor Clark opposed.**

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to approve 450 Highway 99N for use as a rest stop site. **PASSED 7:0**

2. WORK SESSION – Sustainability Commission Work Plan

Eugene Sustainability Commission Chair Zach Mulholland, Vice Chair Mtima Richardson, staff liaison Samantha Roberts and Sustainability Manager Chelsea Clinton presented the Eugene Sustainability Commission’s Annual Report, providing highlights of FY21 accomplishments and a comprehensive overview of their FY21 work products, plan summaries and recommended next steps, concluding with an opportunity for City Councilors to provide their feedback on the proposed next steps and recommendations.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Zelenka – thanked staff for their hard work; noted his request for a work session on climate change funding coupled with homeless service funding; noted that trees are still plentiful in Eugene, yet the canopy has been declining in part due to storms as well as construction/development efforts; said the Climate Action Plan 2.0 included a commitment to

meeting annual goals and, when these goals are not met, the City should be looking at purchasing carbon offsets to maintain this commitment; recommended investing with local partners for climate reduction projects; said 80 percent of local carbon emissions come from buildings; said EWEB and NW Natural planned to be carbon neutral by 2023; suggested that the City continue focusing on projects that have the largest impact per dollar spent.

- Councilor Clark – requested that the council return to its discussion on prior topic (Work Session #1 - Unhoused Response Update) if there is any time remaining once this topic has concluded.
- Councilor Keating – thanked staff and the commission; said he welcomes the opportunity to bring any recommendations or concerns from the commission report, Climate Action Plan 2.0 and existing ordinances to the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA); which may include such items as uncertified wood stoves, ongoing monitoring of known polluting offenders instead of relying solely on citizen complaints, idling trains/vehicles and gas-powered leaf blowers; requested the City’s and Mayor’s support for LRAPA to advance City’s agenda; requested to convene a special committee including Eugene LRAPA representatives, Councilor Keating, Howard Saxton, Zach Mulholland, and City of Eugene staff to advance this work.
- City Attorney Kathryn Brotherton - clarified the specific policies outlining committee formation and made herself available to discuss further.
- Councilor Syrett – suggested a work session around these recommendations in lieu of a formal or informal committee.
- Councilor Keating – thanked Councilor Syrett for the suggestion of a work session and said he would like to discuss further.
- Mayor Vinis – thanked Zach, Mtima and staff for their work on the Sustainability Commission.
- Councilor Semple – echoed thanks to the Sustainability Commission; said she looks forward to future work together.

3. WORK SESSION – Further Discussion, Unhoused Response Update

In response to a request from Councilor Clark, Public Works Director Matt Rodrigues returned to his graph on “Unhoused Response Requests for Service”.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Clark – asked for clarification on the number of calls for service placed by home and business owners versus those placed by City staff or unhoused residents; asked why vehicle camping complaints/requests are increasing at a much higher rate compared to park camping or right-of-way camping; asked whether vehicles with complaints of illegal parking are being impounded; asked if illegally parked vehicles being moved is based on a policy decision; asked what work is being done to follow up on illegally parked vehicles after they move and those that only move their vehicle a few blocks away; asked if City policy is helping to decrease the number of complaints or if a new policy is needed; thanked Matt for his work; stated he believes City policies and policy response are inadequate; questioned whether current lack of mental health and addiction recovery services is directly responsible for all homelessness and those lack of services the responsibility of the public; stated that this notion creates much disagreement in the community; agreed that mental health services are important, but current policies do not address those who have no desire to get well.
- Councilor Groves – concurred with many of Councilor Clark’s statements; added that frequent relocation of illegally parked vehicles leads to less accumulation of refuse and “turf mentality”; said the current policy is far from perfect but has a positive impact; questioned whether license plate tracking is useful given many illegally parked vehicles do not have a current registration; said large recreational vehicles take up much more space than other options; said camps continue to be the better option due to favorable space-to-occupancy ratios; asked to confirm

whether local nonprofits have capacity to manage the camping sites, noting organizations such as St. Vincent DePaul have recently stated that they are already at or above capacity; expressed appreciation for Assistant City Manager Kristie Hammitt's response that there is capacity for all current sites as well as those three proposed and approved during the work session; reiterated it will be important to keep a close eye on nonprofit capacity and resources as programs continue to grow.

- Mayor Vinis – thanked everyone for their comments; agreed that investment in nonprofit partners is one of the most critical components to ensuring the success of these programs and that this will continue to be an important conversation at the local, state, and national level.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Freed
City Recorder AIC

(Recorded by Jay Ferris)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**September 22, 2021
12:00 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Jennifer Yeh, Claire Syrett, Greg Evans, Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Randy Groves, Mike Clark

Mayor Vinis opened the September 22, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

1. WORK SESSION – Climate Action Plan 2.0 Additional Strategies Update

Sustainability Manager Chelsea Clinton, Transportation Planning Manager Rob Inerfeld and Waste Prevention Program Analyst Anna Reid provided an update on the City’s Sustainability Program, including a review of the Climate Recovery Ordinance and a comprehensive overview of additional strategies related to the Climate Action Plan 2.0.

Council Discussion:

- Mayor Vinis – thanked staff for their hard work; recognized that some items have not moved forward at the original pace but said she understands ongoing staff efforts will make positive progress.
- Councilor Evans – asked if any strategies can be accelerated, and if so, what means are required to do so; asked about home energy score program and if there could be mobile application support for reporting/monitoring to make it easier to report and assist in efficient data collection.
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for their hard work and approach; asked for any insight into the impact on hydroelectric power generation in the wake of recent federal decision to reduce dam throughput to protect endangered species; asked how the drought is impacting hydroelectric power output; asked where the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) Electrification Study fits into these strategies; asked what additional data is needed to facilitate an honest and well-informed discussion as council moves forward with discussions/goal setting; said he is hopeful for robust options for local carbon offset options; noted that Climate Action Plan 2.0 uses the Eugene Urban Growth Boundary data, and asked for confirmation that any regulations can only be applied within the city limits; said he is interested in seeing how consultants projected city growth within the Urban Growth Boundary year-over-year; asked all to consider how to modulate the societal appetite for energy consumption, and the growing need to increase personal awareness and community education about usage reduction.
- Mayor Vinis – reminded all that the Electrification Study is first topic on the agenda for the upcoming joint meeting with EWEB.
- Councilor Clark – thanked staff for the presentation; asked about EWEB’s work from approximately one year ago and when the complete report will be published; asked if cost and capacity will be included in report; asked about cooperative efforts and if there were no agreement with NW Natural, how that would impact the Sustainability Program’s modeling and planning; asked if the City is better off working with them or regulating as it sees fit; said understanding whether it is better to work with or without them is an important consideration;

questioned whether there is enough information available to make any significant decisions at this time.

- Councilor Keating – thanked staff for information; asked to return to the presentation slide showing 32 percent of greenhouse gas emissions originating from building energy-related sources; asked for a further breakdown of these figures between clean energy and natural gas, as well as a breakdown of these figures between residential and commercial properties; noted his rough calculations show 90 percent of building emissions are related to natural gas versus 10 percent for electricity, and one-third of building emissions are residential versus two-thirds commercial; stated his interest in exploring steps to implement mandatory smart energy programs and asked all to consider the ongoing impacts on renters whose homes require them to sign up for natural gas service; confirmed that only two percent of renewable hydrogen has been explored at the local level; said he was excited to hear mention of Governor’s Executive Order 20-04, which empowers agencies to use the full extent of their respective authority in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated that the additional strategy related to lobbying for state and federal actions was only expected to account for a quarter of the City’s reduction goal; however, recent state-level climate protection programs/incentives are likely to have further positive impact on City goals; noted that 87 percent of future emissions come from current housing/buildings so it is important to maintain focus there; noted that for the approximately 30,000 customers using gas heating, it could cost upwards of \$200 million to retrofit these homes for electric heating.
- Councilor Yeh – thanked staff for the presentation; agreed that the City should continue working with partners such as NW Natural whenever possible, but it does take time and all options should nonetheless be considered; asked if the City can work with landlords in apartment complexes to establish dedicated charging spaces for electric vehicles.
- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff; asked about the home energy score and commercial benchmarking programs and the Sustainability Program’s recommendation of managing a broader building framework with the support of a half-time employee, and to elaborate what services this would provide above and beyond what already exists; asked what council action would be needed to make home energy score a mandatory program; encouraged fellow councilors to keep an eye out for opportunities to move that forward; asked about the carbon offset program and why there is such a large range of potential reduction amounts; noted that the Eugene Airport has an option on their website to purchase local offsets for flights; asked if staff needed any direction from council to perform outreach to property managers regarding electric vehicle charging stations.
- Councilor Semple – thanked staff; said she was looking forward to the Transportation System Plan and believes its potential impact will be great; asked about exploring additional incentives and outreach to the public on the growing affordability and viability of electric vehicles; concurred that the home energy score program is an essential component of the Climate Action Plan and participation should at a minimum be required whenever a home is sold; noted that the community innovation fund aligns well with Eugene culture, but requires ongoing community education and outreach; stated there are many current advocates of regulating energy/infrastructure providers, which also has her support.
- Mayor Vinis – asked if there are any Housing and Urban Development regulations which require electric vehicle charging stations for new builds.
- Councilor Clark – asked about the inclusion of provisions for autonomous vehicles in the Transportation System Plan; asked about the efficiency loss when using natural gas to create electricity; asked what percentage of EWEB electricity is created using natural gas; asked what increase in fossil gas burning will be necessary to meet increasing energy demands.
- Councilor Zelenka – noted that one of largest biogas fuel projects in the state is progressing and will be of considerable help to greenhouse gas reduction; stated that there are many, including himself, who are eager to move forward with the home energy score program; stated that

implementing the City's electric vehicle program will be a great help toward greenhouse gas reduction goals.

- Councilor Keating – asked for clarification on the best ways to close gaps on the regulation of natural gas, for which he is in support of strict, robust regulation.
- Councilor Evans – noted his role representing council on the Lane Transit District greenhouse gas planning committee; asked to what extent the Climate Recovery Ordinance is referenced in discussions at the City's Strategic Planning Committee; asked about the effect of partners in the Lane Transit District framework not participating at a high enough level.
- Mayor Vinis – thanked everyone for their efforts and discussion, stated that they are all of like mind when it comes to doing the right thing for our community with regard to clean energy, affordable housing and sustainable economic growth, and that she looks forward to future conversations advancing these topics.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Freed
City Recorder AIC

(Recorded by Jay Ferris)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**October 11, 2021
5:30 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Jennifer Yeh, Claire Syrett, Greg Evans, Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Mike Clark, Randy Groves

Mayor Vinis opened the October 11, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

1. WORK SESSION – Community Safety Initiative

Assistant City Manager Kristie Hammitt, Project Manager Kevin Alltucker, Chief of Police Chris Skinner and Executive Director of Library, Recreation and Cultural Services Renee Grube reviewed Community Safety Initiative outcomes and service investments to achieve established outcomes. The Community Safety Initiative funds critical community services including police, fire and emergency medical services, municipal court and prosecution services, prevention and homeless services. While the funding is limited to these services by ordinance, there is flexibility in how funds are distributed among these services to achieve desired community outcomes. Staff requested input regarding areas of focus and proposed strategies for FY22.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Evans – thanked staff for the thorough and comprehensive report showcasing a path forward to improved public safety; asked Chief Skinner about overworked and stressed police officers who may be looking for opportunities elsewhere and the tools available to increase mental health support; asked how we reconnect police officers with local schools, building and strengthening the relationships needed to pursue productive youth prevention work; asked if the culture of the police department needs to be rebuilt or reframed in a way that creates a more proactive relationship with the community.
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for the presentation; stated that there is a capacity problem and more officers are needed, noting the department has been unable to keep pace with call volume growth; said incidents rattle people’s safety and their perception of safety and this is a system deficiency problem; agreed with focusing on youth prevention opportunities further up the education and social services pipeline; said he believes the best chance for changing future paradigms is through relationship-building, lifting at-risk youth out of chronic poverty and unstable housing and into healthy and safe environments with positive role models; regarding officer mental health, noted that overworked officers make poorer decisions in the field, and much more so with high-risk, low-frequency events.
- Councilor Clark – echoed Chief Skinner’s thoughts that 4J and Bethel School Boards made a mistake in altering their relationship with the Eugene Police Department School Resource Officers; stated that reestablishing these relationships remains an opportunity for youth prevention programming; asked about 2018 bridge funding for 40 new officers and how many have been hired to date; asked how much longer will it take to complete the additional 30 hires remaining given current funding and hiring timelines; asked about lateral movements between Portland Police Department and Eugene Police Department; asked if there is any awareness around the number of officers that may leave due to a COVID vaccine mandate.

- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for the thoughtful information; stated the importance of the many resources beyond the Community Safety Initiative in terms of providing upstream interventions and alternative responses, which are receiving investments of time, policy and funding; noted the future work session on rental protections and other mechanisms that can help ensure vulnerable residents are secure and maintain housing; agreed that investment in youth services is a high-impact strategy and should be expanded further; expressed hope that federal initiatives to provide child tax credit payments and childcare assistance will contribute to public health and safety improvements; asked about community court status in terms of residents served and coverage map.
- Councilor Yeh – thanked staff for the clear and concise information; agreed with Councilor Syrett’s remarks on creating further stability within homeless and social service programs; asked about youth program long-term funding sources to ensure continuance of positive outcomes; said she stands with Council on its commitment to officer wellness; stated that the impact of forced overtime is not minimal and is glad to see the City on the path to shoring up officer vacancies in the Eugene Police Department.
- Councilor Keating – thanked staff for the informative presentation; noted that Community Safety Initiative was launched in 2018 prior to COVID pandemic and restrictions; stated that instead of framing office vaccination rates as having the potential to lose officers, it would be better to see it as a mechanism for building trust with the community; asked for the exact number of officers who are vaccinated versus unvaccinated, and what efforts if any are being employed to bolster vaccination rates locally and in their field overall; asked if Chief Skinner would hire new Community Service Officers who are unvaccinated; asked Chief Skinner to demonstrate how an increase in Community Service Officers and peace officers is not an investment in military hardware; asked what efforts are being employed to hire a more diverse array of officers; asked what strategies are in place to support officers experiencing mental health concerns.
- Councilor Semple – thanked staff for a thorough report and expressed appreciation for its intention and innovation; stated it is not an either/or decision between having police and defunding police – more of both are needed; more officers are needed to reduce response times and to provide additional outreach for youth and the community at-large; stated she opposes forced overtime as work/life balance is critical to mental health in high demand jobs such as these; said she wants more officers available, not because more arrests are needed, but for the greater protection and safety of the community and its officers; said she believes alternative courts are more effective and should be funded as such.
- Councilor Zelenka – agreed with the key findings and areas of focus in the Community Safety Initiative engagement sessions; agreed there is a capacity problem in the community safety systems; stated that homelessness remains the council’s highest priority in this area and additional alternatives are needed in lieu of officers acting as mental health first responders; asked about CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets) capacity, funding and opportunities for increasing their capacity; said he wants to see a modest shift of resources to the prevention side within the Community Safety Initiative, but should also be considering an increase in overall funding streams.
- Mayor Vinis – expressed appreciation for this conversation and stated support for the Community Safety Initiatives framework and recent adjustments, key areas of focus; stated that more eyes on the street are needed to ensure the local public safety system is visible, available and familiar to our community in a positive manner.
- Councilor Zelenka – asked about the possibility of some Community Service Officers and peace officers being dedicated to homeless population and the issues that arise in those areas.

2. WORK SESSION – Right-of-Way Resolutions on Federal-Aid Projects (TABLED TO 7:30PM COUNCIL MEETING)

Due to time constraints, this work session was postponed to the October 11, 2021, 7:30 p.m. City Council meeting, with discussion to take place in the time remaining after public forum.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Freed
City Recorder AIC

(Recorded by Jay Ferris)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Urban Renewal Agency
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**October 25, 2021
5:30 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Jennifer Yeh, Claire Syrett, Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Randy Groves, Mike Clark, Alan Zelenka

Councilors Absent: Greg Evans

Mayor Vinis opened the October 25, 2021 meeting of the Urban Renewal Agency in virtual format.

1. WORK SESSION – Steam Plant Redevelopment Update

Community Development Director Will Dowdy and Business Development Analyst Amanda D'Souza provided an update on the proposed redevelopment of the riverfront Steam Plant, including answers to Council questions from the May 19, 2021, work session.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for the presentation; addressed the recent vandalism and property damage to the steam plant interior, noting it was an affront to the community; said he was impressed by Mark Miksis' and Mark Frohnmayer's vision for the property, which serves to underscore the importance of working with local developers who understand the community; expressed concerns over the \$6.5 million gap and asked about potential funding sources; suggested future Council discussion on the pros and cons of renewing urban renewal district which is soon to expire; emphasized that the ground floor area and adjacent outdoor space would be open and usable by the general public.
- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for the presentation; reminded all that the steam plant redevelopment is a part of the larger redevelopment of the former Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) industrial site, which includes park space and affordable housing, a huge asset to the city; asked if the rooftop terrace space was newly added since last review by Council; expressed concerns over vandalism and what can be done to reduce such activities and better monitor the site.
- Councilor Clark – thanked staff for the presentation; echoed comments about the steam plant being a landmark in the community; noted his support of project but urged Council to be careful and cautious of what is in the best interest of the city when moving forward; stated his full confidence in the team to bring these plans to fruition, but will continue to advocate for limited use of local dollars.
- Councilor Yeh – said she believes the updated plans makes sense, and that pivoting from shared workspace to a hotel is a good idea; expressed concerns over funding gap and the prospect of allocating more local dollars when there are arguably more pressing needs within the community; asked Council and staff to consider whether there may be things that can no longer be asked for if a request is made for gap funding from the state legislature,.
- Councilor Keating – thanked staff for their work; asked for a count of market-rate housing units anticipated to be available in the adjacent property; asked if another boutique hotel is a priority during times of housed and unhoused crises; applauded the high likelihood of Bureau of Labor

and Industries (BOLI) classifying this as a prevailing wage project, adding that City projects should adhere to this practice as part of a broader community benefit agreement; advocated for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) installations for proposed community art spaces.

- Councilor Zelenka – stated there is much to like about this project, including more hotel space and adaptive reuse of riverfront building, but it is nonetheless a very costly project; stated that the public benefit of open use space is worthwhile though there is still concern about closing the funding gap by extending the urban renewal district and its spending/debt limits; asked what other state and federal resources may be available; noted that, given all competing interests for local funding, a boutique hotel does not feel high on the list.
- Councilor Semple – expressed sadness and anger over the recent destruction and vandalism inside the steam plant; said she is excited for the rooftop and public performance spaces; said she believes a boutique hotel on the river will be a draw to the public; stated that the funding gap is concerning and the council must keep its eyes open for other funding opportunities.
- Mayor Vinis – noted that she took the challenges of this space to a mayor’s design conference in 2018 and many were quite excited about it; noted the already high level of private investment in this project; reminded Council that this is not just a hotel for visitors but a self-sustaining economic engine whose development is a public benefit.
- Councilor Groves – echoed comments from the Mayor; stated that this property is an anchor point for riverfront development and strengthens connections to downtown and the University of Oregon; noted that the developers have stated there is enough space for on-site parking, particularly given many are expected to take alternate forms of transportation; said he hopes to see this project bring forward the history of this building and its benefits to the city.
- Councilor Syrett – shared insights from developers and hoteliers who believe a boutique hotel will be a nexus for residents, businesses, visitors, and the public art spaces; echoed support for this project being subject to prevailing wage; noted that hoteliers have committed to hiring skilled workers at higher wages; said she believes having publicly accessible spaces for residents is a huge enhancement to their quality of life; stated that unified Council support of this project will be critical for garnering funding from state legislators.
- Councilor Keating – stated that the lack of a river exit for kayakers and other recreational users may have been a missed opportunity to drive river tourism; encouraged all to be thinking beyond the local impact of projects of this size and how they can serve to attract visitors from beyond the city.
- Councilor Clark – asked about public interactions with this space and if it will include dining opportunities; followed up to ask if usage of natural gas for any dining amenities will be precluded as part of their agreement; asked staff to speak further on scale and capacity of space as it relates to public interaction.

Mayor Vinis adjourned Urban Renewal Agency meeting at 6:23 p.m. and opened the October 25, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

2. WORK SESSION – Human Rights Commission Work Plan FY 2022

Human Rights and Neighborhood Involvement Manager (AIC) Fabio Andrade and Human Rights Commission (HRC) Chair Amanda McCluskey provided an overview of the HRC’s proposed fiscal year 2022 work plan. The HRC’s enabling ordinance, adopted in December of 1990 (Eugene Code 2.280), requires that it develop a work plan for City Council review and approval, with annual reporting on its progress.

Council Discussion:

- Mayor Vinis – thanked staff for the report and acknowledged those who are stepping off the committee and their contributions to advancing City policy work.
- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for their presentation and important work; thanked current members for their ongoing support.
- Councilor Groves – noted that, as the Council member assigned to this commission, he greatly appreciates their dedication and professionalism.
- Councilor Keating – thanked staff and current/former members of commission for their efforts.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked former members for their service to the community and the benefits granted through their efforts; said he believes the FY22 work plan is appropriate and well thought out; suggested a more diverse representation from all City Council wards, compared to current commission having 80 percent of its members from only two of the eight wards.
- Councilor Yeh – thanked staff for the hard work; asked those interested in becoming commission volunteers to reach out to their Councilor.
- Councilor Syrett – noted that commission volunteers are a joint effort across the City Council wards and that those from all wards should be encouraged to apply.
- Mayor Vinis – appreciated the HRC’s focus on equity and multiculturalism and said that this commission has liaisons on other commissions to ensure human rights considerations are represented and connected across all activities.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to approve the Human Rights Commission Fiscal Year 2022 Work Plan. **PASSED 7:0**

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Freed
City Recorder AIC

(Recorded by Jay Ferris)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**November 8, 2021
5:30 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Jennifer Yeh, Claire Syrett, Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Randy Groves, Mike Clark

Councilors Absent: Greg Evans

Mayor Vinis opened the November 8, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

1. WORK SESSION – Sustainability Commission FY22 Work Plan

Staff Liaison to the Sustainability Commission Samantha Roberts, Commission Chair Mtima Richardson and Vice Chair Laura Allen presented the Sustainability Commission’s Proposed FY22 Work Plan.

Council Discussion:

- Mayor Vinis – expressed appreciation for the structure and clarity of the report and the proposed plan; said she understands Council is concerned about improving the tree canopy and pursuing fossil fuel bonds and thanked the commission for its contributions to that important work.
- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for their focused work, as well as their efforts to research options, ideas, policy and funding recommendations; stated strong support among the Council for air quality recommendations.
- Councilor Semple – thanked staff for the presentation and said the council is looking forward to working with the commission once the work plan is approved.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked staff for the work plan; stated that the local tree canopy remains impressive but nonetheless continues to diminish in size every year; noted that the purchase of carbon offsets, when done with proper protocol, can be very effective and useful; provided an example of energy offsets with cost/size comparison; expressed hope that the Sustainability Commission will find a cost effective way to purchase local offsets as the City should be stimulating the local economy whenever possible while striving for a greater impact.
- Councilor Keating – thanked staff for the update; echoed comments on the specificity of plan and appreciation for flexibility on emerging areas of interest in sustainability; echoed support for expanding the dwindling tree canopy.
- Councilor Yeh – thanked staff for their work; asked about the intent behind the commission adding more committees as part of work plan.
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for the presentation; emphasized the use of local carbon offsets whenever possible to keep that money in the community; suggested a targeted effort to expand the tree canopy in locations where it is most effective, such as providing shade for hardscapes and waterways.
- Mayor Vinis – asked Council and the commission to consider the formation of a local tree bank to maintain/grow canopy.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to approve the Fiscal Year 22 Sustainability Commission Work Plan. **PASSED 7:0**

2. WORK SESSION – 2020 Census and Ward Population Update

Policy Systems Analyst Jason Dedrick provided a population overview of the eight City Council wards, including potential scenarios for updating ward boundaries. Every 10 years, the Eugene City Council examines the population of City Council wards, based on the results from the U.S. Census. Council previously directed staff to engage community members and stakeholders on two scenarios that would address population imbalances between Council wards. This work session is an opportunity to review community input and to direct staff to prepare the final ordinance and map for adoption in December.

Council Discussion:

- Mayor Vinis – thanked staff for the presentation and inclusion of full survey responses.
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for their hard work; expressed ongoing concern that the process is rushed; noted that one review every 10 years makes it challenging to perform a deeper dive into community concerns; asked if anything precludes Council from reviewing ward boundaries more frequently; asked if the council is under any legal obligation to have the process completed by end of calendar year.
- Councilor Yeh – asked to clarify whether the process had to be concluded by election deadlines in May; shared concern that waiting another 10 years to reevaluate may cause more problems than it creates; asked about methods for increasing response count and engagement levels from community feedback.
- Councilor Clark – thanked staff for their hard work and strategic approach towards redistricting efforts; said he was pleased that council represents different neighborhoods and community elements; expressed his slight preference for Scenario 2; noted that an incremental approach to boundary changes is well thought out, as minor alterations historically lead to fewer disputes.
- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for the presentation; concurred with Councilor Clark that incremental changes to ward boundaries create less conflict; stated that Council has a responsibility to ensure that population counts are balanced across the wards as it helps to ensure equitable voting; expressed uncertainty as to what would be accomplished by delaying this process.
- Councilor Semple – thanked staff for their efforts and for following the criteria previously laid out by Council; said she was concerned about renters feeling they have unequal representation yet was uncertain what redistricting efforts would be needed to correct that; questioned how soon ward boundaries can be reviewed again, with greater community outreach and a balanced, responsive approach.
- Councilor Zelenka – noted the tight deadline for this process relative to upcoming election processes; stated he did not think the ward allocation system is broken or controversial towards renters; stated that a difference of approximately 24,000 voters in one ward is high and changing it should not be delayed; asked if options could be mixed and matched across the (2) presented scenarios; noted the differences in how both scenarios would further split neighborhood associations across ward boundaries; expressed his preference for Scenario 1 overall.
- Councilor Keating – concurred with Councilor Zelenka’s sentiments that distribution of renters across wards does not seem contentious; stated his preference for Scenario 1; asked staff to review the map showing current distribution of renters across the wards; stated that they consider ward, county and legislative boundaries to fundamentally benefit land owners, particularly given that renters move around more; encouraged current and future councilors to prioritize options that allow for a diverse array of voices to be at the table for discussion.
- Mayor Vinis – addressed questions regarding the 10-year review timeline and suggested that with code changes being confirmed in House Bill 2001, along with the completion of new housing developments and growing population, the 10-year boundary adjustment timeline serves to consider broad-sweeping changes in our community at the appropriate scale.

- Councilor Syrett – stated that the council views the engagement survey responses as a sampling of viewpoints from around the community; noted they need compelling evidence that delaying this process would lead to greater insight and better decision-making; expressed support for Scenario 1.
- Councilor Clark – reiterated the statute which states the Council’s obligation to not separate communities of common interest, noting that is a somewhat subjective phrase; asked Council to consider whether the neighborhood associations being split across multiple wards is a benefit due to broader representation; stated his desire that Council discussion on the nature of appropriate representation continues.
- Councilor Yeh – expressed appreciation for everyone’s comments and the team approach to Council discussion; said she is uncertain whether Council is ready to make this important decision as it is unclear whether they all see the same problems surrounding it; questioned if making sweeping changes to ward boundaries would actually aid in diversifying Council; stated she would like to see this become an ongoing topic for future discussions and work sessions.
- Councilor Keating – appreciated staff’s work and attention to detail; asked if it is known what percent of landlords are paying the \$10 per unit annual fee for education and enforcement of the City’s Rental Housing Program; followed up to ask if the amount has been adjusted since its implementation approximately 20 years ago; expressed interest in proposing a work session on this fee, its amount and best use in times of housing crises.
- Councilor Clark – shared that the Rental Housing Program fee has not been adjusted since its inception.
- Councilor Zelenka – clarified that the primary difference between scenarios 1 and 2 is the shifting boundary between wards 4 and 5; proposed that Council direct the City Manager to adopt changes which represent both scenarios.
- Councilor Semple – reminded all that a session for the Housing Policy Board on renter’s protections is forthcoming.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Yeh, seconded by Councilor Syrett, moved to direct the City Manager to prepare a resolution and map to adopt ‘Scenario 1’ with ward changes for wards 4 and 5 based on ‘Scenario 2’ as Eugene’s new ward boundaries.
PASSED 7:0

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Freed
 City Recorder AIC

(Recorded by Jay Ferris)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**November 10, 2021
12:00 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Randy Groves

Councilors Absent: Greg Evans, Claire Syrett

Mayor Vinis opened the November 10, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

1. WORK SESSION – Housing Implementation Pipeline (HIP) Draft Review

Senior Analyst Amanda Nobel Flannery and Community Development Director Will Dowdy presented the draft Housing Implementation Pipeline (HIP) document.

Council Discussion:

- Mayor Vinis – stated this coordinated strategy is an appreciated shift, especially with setting two- and five-year goals; approved of the targeting to be able to look realistically at the goals.
- Councilor Groves – expressed appreciation to staff for the work on this project; stated at the December work session he would like to hear more information on how the Riverfront and Downtown Urban Renewal Districts contribute to creating opportunities; stated he is working with staff to develop a work session poll to have a discussion on what the urban renewal districts mean for the community, whether they should be extended, and whether the cap should be raised; stated he thinks more housing is needed downtown.
- Councilor Clark – expressed appreciation for the presentation and recognized it represents a great amount of work; stated he is focused on transit corridors and the issues around the two renewal districts are complex and important; said he thinks there are underutilized opportunities especially for multifamily housing along 6th and 7th avenues; stated he would like Council to discuss a construction cost analysis of Eugene compared to nearby communities; stated there is a large lever if the City is willing to consider its effect on cost and new construction being driven outside of city limits.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated the affordable housing crisis is one of the biggest issues facing Eugene, and thousands of units in the middle housing price range are needed to help solve the problem; stated if the crisis is only going to be addressed with incentivized housing it will never be solved; stated the two ways Council can shift levers is through incentivizing and regulation.
- Councilor Semple – thanked staff for the project work; stated she is a little worried about the Urban Growth Boundary and saying we don't want to have suburbs when eventually Eugene will be a city like Portland and we need think about density and the edges; expressed concern over housing unaffordability for working families and losing housing along transit corridors; stated she is energized by this inclusive plan.
- Mayor Vinis – stated that more robust programs may come through from the federal government and it would be helpful for Council to identify what might be happening at the federal level that would influence capacity to do this work; stated she would like to know what tools are available to renovate a corridor such as 6th and 7th avenues.

- Councilor Keating – stated these are lofty goals and wondered if it would make sense to establish goal levels to be able to celebrate progress even if it falls short; asked if there could be a transportation corridor urban renewal district.
- Councilor Clark – stated he absolutely supports creating urban renewal along 6th and 7th avenues and along Highway 99 as this would be a great opportunity to remake corridors; said he feels the regulatory side is equally important to incentivizing and would like Council to analyze which regulations are costing the most money and which can be removed to bring down the cost of construction; stated regarding the HIP he would like to see a dashboard or on-going projection of how many of the resulting units will be for rent vs. for sale.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated he would like to see metrics to determine how many affordable housing units are being provided by the market; stated at this point it is hard to tell if the Housing Tools and Strategies (HTS) work has actually made a difference in getting affordable housing units into the community; stated the bottom line is the market is not helping to solve the affordable housing crisis and finding new approaches beyond modest incentive programs is needed; stated in regard to the 20-year land supply, he would be interested in knowing the inventory that will allow large-scale affordable housing projects.
- Mayor Vinis – noted the creation of student housing has not loosened the market by providing smaller, more affordable homes; pointed out there were specific actions in HTS beyond streamlining of systems (such as creation of the CET and allowing accessory dwellings) that Council has acted on; encouraged Council not to lose sight of the work that has been done when it is too soon to know the actual impact.
- Councilor Clark – stated the market responds to the changes made by Council and so what is produced by the market is directly related to the creation of policy; stated he would like to know the cost per square foot of building a home in Eugene compared to nearby communities such as Springfield, Creswell and Harrisburg; stated these markets will have relatively similar material and labor costs and the differences will be regulatory, fee and land costs, which can be addressed by Council.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated the economics of this affordable housing crisis are supply and demand and the market is not providing affordable housing so there is a market failure; stated the government can intervene in the market through incentives and regulation, and said he doesn't see the end to this crisis with only incentives.
- Mayor Vinis – stated there are 3,000 unsheltered people in this community and the first step should be subsidized affordable housing; expressed gratitude to staff for the creation of this HIP, which makes the pathway clear and triggers productive conversations.

2. WORK SESSION – Northwest Natural Gas Update

City Manager Sarah Medary provided an update on the City's work with Northwest Natural Gas (NWNNG) and the Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) on greenhouse gas reductions projects.

Council Discussion:

- Mayor Vinis – asked if this work is targeting low-income homeowners, low-income tenants, or low-income customers.
- Councilor Groves – stated he agrees with targeting low-income, disadvantaged residents but if the goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions targeting large commercial/industrial users would provide a greater impact and asked for more information around this idea to help refine the top objective.
- Councilor Keating – offered as an observation that a moratorium on new gas hookups and no new gas infrastructure would make the greatest impact at this juncture; asked if these negotiations raise rates for NWNNG customers and what the goal of this work will be in terms of reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

- Councilor Clark – expressed appreciation to the City Manager for this work; stated this is another example of how Council’s decision-making affects the market; reminded Council of testimony provided by a local homebuilder who stated he has not built a home without gas in over 20 years because the market demands it; stated if Council chooses not to allow new gas hookups, the result will be these homes being built in other communities instead of Eugene.
- Councilor Semple – stated she has asked local homebuilders if it is cheaper to put in gas instead of electric, and the reply is that it is not cheaper but it is what homebuyers want; stated there are a lot of people who want to buy a home in Eugene and if Council chooses a moratorium on new gas hookups, then it becomes the buyer’s choice – buy in Eugene without gas or buy somewhere else; stated she wants to reassure the public that Council is not discussing eliminating natural gas altogether at this time.
- Councilor Zelenka – asked the City Manager if this path is mutually exclusive from the motion to ban new hookups (meaning if new hookups are banned then this process ends and NWNG goes on to do whatever it will do); stated negotiations with NWNG have gone on for two years and he is losing patience and confidence that there will be a successful result; in answer to Councilor Groves’ question, explained this project is aimed at reducing the disparity that will be felt by low-income customers (about 15,000 customers from NWNG information) when NWNG increases rates in response to negotiated franchise terms or action by Council; stated that energy efficiency improvements to structures is one of the only things that actually reduces a ratepayer’s costs.
- Councilor Groves – stated he was not opposing this work happening for low-income residents, he was only trying to understand if the intent of the work is to make the largest reductions in emissions; asked the City Manager if this process is the first of its kind and if it can be expected to take longer than anticipated due to its newness; asked the City Manager if in her opinion the City will have more influence in directing that path of natural gas use in the community with or without a franchise agreement; stated he would like to know the true average cost of natural gas locally and on the national market and by how much it is increasing.
- Councilor Semple – stated buy-in will be needed by all to get to the sacrifices it will take to reduce carbon emissions and helping natural gas customers will educate and get more people involved in climate recovery.
- Mayor Vinis – stated this is an agonizing transition because decarbonizing is a critical pathway but is also extremely expensive, and so it is important to support households through this transition by weatherization which will increase comfort and reduce costs while also reducing emissions; feels that retrofits are important to help prepare the community for electrification in response to the climate crisis.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked Mayor Vinis for her comments and stated the main problem in addressing climate change is the amount of money and length of time it takes to make progress; the City will need to dedicate a great deal of resources to this problem.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

City Recorder

(Recorded by Jessica Gebb)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council and
Lane County Board of Commissioners
Virtual Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**December 8, 2021
12:00 p.m.**

Councilors Present: Jennifer Yeh, Claire Syrett, Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Randy Groves, Mike Clark

Councilors Absent: Greg Evans

Commissioners Present: Joe Berney, Heather Buch, Laurie Trieger, Jay Bozievich, Pat Farr

Mayor Lucy Vinis opened the December 8, 2021, work session of the Eugene City Council in virtual format.

Lane County Board of Commissioners Chair Joe Berney opened the December 8, 2021, work session of the Lane County Board of Commissioners in virtual format.

1. JOINT WORK SESSION – Homeless Systems Transformation

Joint Shelter and Housing Strategist for the City of Eugene and Lane County Sarai Johnson and Lane County Human Services Director Steve Manela gave a presentation with updated progress on the implementation of the homeless systems transformation.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Syrett – thanked staff for the report; noted their excitement about progress with coordinated efforts and the Navigation Center coming online; expressed hope for ongoing expansion of mental health services for the community; stated she believes that engaging landlords is a critical component of this process and is glad to see it moving forward; stated that much hard work remains to address the capacity issue with social service providers.
- Commissioner Bozievich – thanked staff for the presentation; asked staff to clarify the differences between emergency, alternative and drop-in shelters and where the Eugene Mission fits into that picture; highlighted the importance of evidence-based practices and controlled, randomized testing of options to determine their effectiveness, as well as measuring outcomes to determine which shelters are having the greatest impact on connecting residents with permanent housing.
- Councilor Groves – thanked staff for the presentation and their ongoing efforts; concurred with Commissioner Bozievich and emphasized the importance of metrics to guide decision-making and provide the community with a dashboard showing progress; referred to Oregon Measure 110 and the Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act and inquired about the status of State funding for addiction recovery centers and wraparound services managed by the Oregon Health Authority; asked how referrals for services work at the street level.
- Commissioner Farr – stated there is not enough time to talk about all the things that need to be addressed; stated that the greatest drain on the system comes at the intersection of behavioral health and criminal justice and when police jail those experiencing mental health crises they are passed right through the system without receiving assistance; stated that local governments

must work together to build an adult crisis center to relieve these pressures on the jail and that now is the time to make this happen as the State and Governor are attuned to this issue; stated that better options must be created for those experiencing mental health crises, particularly the unhoused or those on the verge of it.

- Councilor Clark – concurred with Commissioner Farr; referenced The Atlantic article on phenylacetone (P2P) methamphetamine use and the growing crisis it represents to its user’s mental health; asked Mr. Manela to talk about the connections between substance abuse and psychosis; stated that existing systems and coordinated efforts are heavily focused towards those who are actively seeking or open to assistance; asked how local joint efforts can systemically address those who do not want to receive services.
- Commissioner Trieger – stated that in these meetings, which bring together the two largest local government bodies on timely issues, it is important to receive the same information and use shared language; expressed frustration that meetings spend more time on getting the group to a point of mutual understanding and less on taking action; expressed concern about provider system capacity and what is being done to reinforce related processes; stated that this group has a collective opportunity to ease bottlenecks in the system; asked what, as a ‘Built for Zero’ community, should be expected as it relates to shared knowledge and resources.
- Councilor Keating – expressed frustrations around access, branding and coordination; recognized the need for better coordination between city, county and service providers, as it seems service providers are still operating rather independently; asked staff to articulate what effective coordination looks like across those groups; stated there is a lack of information on how to engage with homelessness services on the City and County websites.
- Commissioner Buch – said she was pleased to see progress on implementation of recommendations from the Technical Assistance Collaborative’s (TAC) Shelter Feasibility Study; stated only the surface of potential coordinated efforts has been scratched for the two large policy-making bodies; stated that the issue is far greater than the current conversation; stated that TAC implementation should be flexible in methods for advancing forward; stated that additional funding sources are needed to tackle these issues and do more on the ground; stated that a greater regional approach is needed, one that includes outlying and rural communities.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked staff for the update on progress; stated that the City is more effective on resolving these issues thanks to its partnership with Lane County; acknowledged the significant accomplishment of adding over 800 permanent beds to shelters; stated that additional permanent supportive housing is needed; stressed the importance of caring for City employees and combatting the strain on their mental health; stated that mental health resources are underfunded within the local system and the establishment of an adult crisis center is long overdue; asked staff for an approximate headcount of chronically homeless individuals in Eugene.
- Commissioner Berney – concurred with Commissioner Farr that the two-minute comment window is not adequate for addressing this topic; thanked staff and those in the community who have given their time and effort to this serious problem; stated that the TAC study and recommendations are outdated and need to be refreshed, favoring a regional approach to this issue that includes the City of Springfield; stated that this issue should be addressed at the intersection of behavioral health and public safety, noting ongoing expansion of Eugene Police staff and concerns that as arrests of the homeless increase, there will not be adequate resources to connect them with services.
- Mayor Vinis – responded to comments on the age of the TAC study and recommendations; reminded City Council and Board of Commissioners that there is established policy on how this group acts upon TAC recommendations and these meetings serve to both confirm things are moving in the appropriate direction and provide a chance for all to weigh in on current state and suggested courses of action.

- Councilor Syrett – responded to Commissioner Trieger’s concern about the lack of policy discussion in these meetings; suggested that joint work sessions could be used to focus on one particular strategy or programmatic need, such as service provider capacity, mental health services and metrics for accountability.
- Commissioner Trieger – Stated that programmatic updates are important, but they are not hearing policy discussion at this meeting of two policy boards; expressed hope the group will move forward with policy-driven solutions.
- Councilor Clark – concurred with Commissioner Trieger on the need to look at new policies that continue the work of others; stated that information from the public indicates a growing perception that things are getting worse; advocated for new solutions around drug abuse in the community.
- Councilor Keating – noted that there is rarely talk about those on the verge of being unhoused; stated there is an opportunity to bring these two governing bodies together for more in-depth work on the TAC study and recommendations in 2022; requested that City Council, the Lane County Board of Commissioners and the City of Springfield come together in 2022 for a joint work session retreat for a deeper conversation on this topic.
- Commissioner Berney – stated that this group and all those dedicating their lives to this issue are working against the market, which is more powerful than anything they can do; provided the example that rising home prices lead to rising conventional loan price limits, which impacts prices and demand for available housing amongst the populations served; noted the challenge of leveraging small amounts of public funding must be faced in order to incentivize the market to start filling this need.
- Mayor Vinis – expressed appreciation for the conversation; stated that follow-up is needed, including a list of possible new policy directions for group discussion; asked councilors to consider forming a list of policy directions to be added for future discussion.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the Eugene City Council meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Commissioner Berney adjourned the Lane County Board of Commissioners meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Freed
City Recorder AIC

(Recorded by Jay Ferris)

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Approval of Tentative Working Agenda

Meeting Date: February 14, 2022
Department: Central Services
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 2B
Staff Contact: Brooke Freed
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5010

ISSUE STATEMENT

This is a routine item to approve the City Council Tentative Working Agenda.

BACKGROUND

On July 31, 2000, the City Council held a process session and discussed the Operating Agreements. Section 2 notes, in part, that "The City Manager shall recommend monthly to the council which items should be placed on the council agenda. This recommendation shall be placed on the consent calendar at the regular City Council meetings (regular meetings are those meetings held on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the Council Chamber). If the recommendation contained in the consent calendar is approved, the items shall be brought before the council on a future agenda. If there are concerns about an item, the item may be pulled from the consent calendar at the request of any councilor or the Mayor. A vote shall occur to determine if the item should be included as future council business." Scheduling of this item is in accordance with the Council Operating Agreements.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

The council may choose to approve, amend or not approve the tentative agenda.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to approve the items on the Tentative Working Agenda.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Tentative Working Agenda

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Brooke Freed
Telephone: 541-682-5010
Staff E-Mail: bfreed@eugene-or.gov



City Council Tentative Agenda

Updated February 10, 2022

**** SPECIAL NOTICE ****

As our state and community recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, City Council meetings will continue to be held remotely using virtual meeting technology. Information about how to access these meetings will be available at <https://www.eugene-or.gov/3360/Webcasts-and-Meeting-Materials>.

February 2022					
Date	Day	Time	Title	Length	Dept. Contact
14-Feb	Monday	5:30 pm	Budget and Process Update (Work Session)	90 mins	Sarah Medary, CMO
		7:30 pm	Committee Reports and Items of Interest Public Forum		
<i>Expected absences for 2/14: none</i>					
16-Feb	Wednesday	12 pm	Public Art Update (Work Session)	45 mins	Kate Ali, LRCS
			Peterson Pacific Industries-Enterprise Zone Extension (Work Session & Possible Action)	45 mins	Amanda D'Souza, PDD
<i>Expected absences for 2/16: S. Medary</i>					
22-Feb	Tuesday	5:30 pm	Schedule only as needed		
		7:30 pm	Ord. on Withdrawal of Annexed Properties from Special Districts (Public Hearing)		Althea Sullivan, PDD
<i>Expected absences for 2/22: none</i>					
23-Feb	Wednesday	12 pm	Unhoused Response Update (Work Session)	90 mins	Kristie Hammitt, CS Matt Rodrigues, PW
<i>Expected absences for 2/23: none</i>					
28-Feb	Monday	5:30 pm	MovingAhead Joint Meeting with LTD Board (Work Session)	90 mins	Rob Inerfeld, PW



Work Session



Action



Public Hearing



Public Forum



Consent Calendar



Committee Reports/Items of Interest

CC Agenda Changes







Official Matters

Feb. 14, 2022





Pledge of Allegiance

		7:30 pm	 Committee Reports and Items of Interest  Ord. on Withdrawal of Annexed Properties from Special Districts (Consent Calendar 1)  Public Forum  Resolution Annexing Land at 110 South Garden Way (Consent Calendar 2)		<p>Althea Sullivan, PDD</p> <p>Althea Sullivan, PDD</p>
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Expected absences for 2/28: none

March 2022






Date	Day	Time	Title	Length	Dept. Contact
9-Mar	Wednesday	12 pm	 Riverfront MUPTE Applications – Lots 3BC, 7, 9 (Work Session)	60 mins	Dylan Huber-Heidorn, PDD
			 Middle Housing Code Update (Work Session)	30 mins	Terri Harding, PDD

Expected absences for 3/9: M. Keating (tentative)

9-Mar	Wednesday	5:30 pm	 Budget Committee Financial Update, Budget Process Update (Work Session)		Vicki Silvers, CS
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Expected absences for 3/9: none

Note: Budget Committee Meeting Added

14-Mar	Monday	5:30 pm	 MovingAhead Deliberation and Action (Work Session & Possible Action)	60 mins	Rob Inerfeld, PW
			 Potential Amendment to EC 4.830 (Work Session)	30 mins	Matt Rodrigues, PW
		7:30 pm	 Committee Reports and Items of Interest  Public Forum  Resolution Annexing Land at 1070 and 1075 Fairway Drive (Consent Calendar 2)		Althea Sullivan, PDD







Expected absences for 3/14: none




16-Mar	Wednesday	12 pm	 Renter Protection Follow-up (Work Session)	90 mins	Genevieve Middleton, PDD
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Expected absences for 3/16: none










Council Break: March 17 – April 11









April 2022

Date	Day	Time	Title	Length	Dept. Contact
11-April	Monday	5:30 pm	 Middle Housing Code Update (Work Session)	60 mins	Terri Harding, PDD
			 Willamette River Greenway (Work Session)	30 mins	Gabe Flock, PDD
		7:30 pm	 Committee Reports and Items of Interest  Public Forum		
<i>Expected absences for 4/11: none</i>					
13-April	Wednesday	12 pm	 Building Electrification (Work Session)	60 mins	Lydia Bishop, PDD
			 TBD (Work Session)	30 mins	Staff
<i>Expected absences for 4/13: none</i>					
18-April	Monday	5:30 pm	<i>Boards and Commissions Interviews</i>	90 mins	Staff, CS
		7:30 pm	 Public Contracting Code Provisions and Exemptions (Public Hearing)  Willamette River Greenway (Public Hearing)  Ord. Adopting Middle Housing Code and Metro Plan Amendments (Public Hearing)		Becky Wheeler, CS Gabe Flock, PDD Terri Harding, PDD
<i>Expected absences for 4/18: none</i>					
20-April	Wednesday	12 pm	 Parks and Recreation Annual Bond and Levy Update (Work Session)	45 mins	Craig Carnagey, PW Craig Smith, LRCS Carolyn Burke, PW
			 Street Repair & Pavement Management Annual Reports (Work Session)	45 mins	Jenifer Willer, PW
<i>Expected absences for 4/20: none</i>					
25-April	Monday	5:30 pm	 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	Staff
			 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	Staff
		7:30 pm	 Committee Reports and Items of Interest		

			 One-Year Plan for Affordable Housing and CDBG Approval (Consent Calendar 1)  Public Forum		Genevieve Middleton, PDD
<i>Expected absences for 4/25: none</i>					
27-April	Wednesday	12 pm	 Addressing Chronic Toxic Polluters (Work Session)	90 mins	Staff
<i>Expected absences for 4/27: none</i>					
27-April	Wednesday	5:30 pm	 Budget Committee City Manager Proposed Budget (Work Session)		Vicki Silvers, CS
<i>Expected absences for 4/27: none</i>			<i>Note: Budget Committee Meeting Added</i>		

May 2022					
Date	Day	Time	Title	Length	Dept. Contact
9-May	Monday	5:30 pm	 Livability Code Revisions (Work Session)	45 mins	Rachelle Nicholas, PDD
			 Fossil Fuel Risk Bonds (Work Session)	45 mins	Staff
		7:30 pm	 Committee Reports and Items of Interest  Public Forum		
<i>Expected absences for 5/9: none</i>					
11-May	Wednesday	12 pm	 Middle Housing (Work Session)	90 mins	Terri Harding, PDD
<i>Expected absences for 5/11: none</i>					
11-May	Wednesday	5:30 pm	 Budget Committee Budget Deliberation, topic TBD (Work Session)		Vicki Silvers, CS
<i>Expected absences for 5/11: none</i>			<i>Note: Budget Committee Meeting Added</i>		
16-May	Monday	5:30 pm	Schedule only as needed		
		7:30 pm	 TBD (Public Hearing)		Staff
<i>Expected absences for 5/16: none</i>					
18-May	Wednesday	12 pm	 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	Staff
			 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	Staff
<i>Expected absences for 5/18: none</i>					

18-May	Wednesday	5:30 pm	 Budget Committee Budget Deliberation, topic TBD (Work Session)		Vicki Silvers, CS
<i>Expected absences for 5/18: none</i>			<i>Note: Budget Committee Meeting Added</i>		
23-May	Monday	5:30 pm	 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	staff
		7:30 pm	 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	staff
			 Pledge of Allegiance  Committee Reports and Items of Interest  Public Forum		
<i>Expected absences for 5/23: none</i>					
25-May	Wednesday	12 pm	 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	Staff
			 TBD (Work Session)	45 mins	Staff
<i>Expected absences for 5/25: none</i>					
25-May	Wednesday	5:30 pm	 Budget Committee Public Comment and Recommendation (Work Session)		Vicki Silvers, CS
<i>Expected absences for 5/25: none</i>			<i>Note: Budget Committee Meeting Added</i>		

 Work Session	 Action	 Public Hearing	 Public Forum	 Consent Calendar
 Committee Reports/Items of Interest	 Ceremonial Matters	 Pledge of Allegiance		

Approved Work Session Polls to be Scheduled	Councilor	Date Approved
"Housing Status" as a Protected Class – <i>follow-up TBD</i>	Semple	03/12/20
Reparations (two-part work session) – <i>follow-up TBD</i>	Evans	03/18/21
Funding Source for Climate Change and Homelessness – <i>follow-up TBD</i>	Zelenka	05/10/21
Fossil Fuel Risk Bonds – Scheduled	Groves, Syrett	10/21/21
Addressing Chronic Toxic Polluters – Scheduled	Groves	12/2/21

UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS			
Date of Public Hearing	Title	Description	Staff Contact
February 22 (7:30 p.m.)	An Ordinance Providing For Withdrawal of Annexed Properties From the Following Special Districts: River Road Parks & Recreation District; River Road Water District; Santa Clara Rural Fire Protection District; Santa Clara Water District; and the Willakenzie Rural Fire Protection District	The City Council will hold a required public hearing to consider an ordinance concerning the annual withdrawal of annexed land from special service districts.	Althea Sullivan, PDD

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Public Forum

Meeting Date: February 14, 2022
Department: Central Services
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 3
Staff Contact: Brooke Freed
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5010

ISSUE STATEMENT

This segment allows citizens the opportunity to express opinions and provide information to the council. Testimony presented during the Public Forum should be on city-related issues and should not address items which have already been heard by a Hearings Official or are on the present agenda as a public hearing item.

SUGGESTED MOTION

No action is required; this is an informational item only.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Brooke Freed
Telephone: 541-682-5010
Staff E-Mail: bfreed@eugene-or.gov