



September 13-14, 2023 Council Agenda

5730

City Hall – 1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Portland, OR 97204

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Questions may be directed to councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 9:30 am

Session Status: Recessed

Council in Attendance: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Officers in attendance: Alan Yoder, Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

Item 768 was pulled from the Consent Agenda and on a Y-5 roll call the balance of the Consent Agenda was adopted.

Council recessed at 10:46 a.m. and reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

Council recessed at 11:32 a.m. and reconvened at 11:44 a.m.

Council recessed at 12:52 p.m.

Communications

758

[Request of Robert Butler to address Council regarding violation of equity for small business compared to large business](#) (Communication)

Document number: 758-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

759

[Request of Mimi German to address Council regarding the people asked for justice verses the state of City Council](#) (Communication)

Document number: 759-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

760

[Request of Patrick Cashman to address Council regarding misuse of emergency ordinances](#) (Communication)

Document number: 760-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

761

[Request of Danielle Maillard to address Council regarding fatal crash review committee initiation](#) (Communication)

Document number: 761-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

762

[Request of Ann Buzaid to address Council regarding abandoned vehicles](#) (Communication)

Document number: 762-2023

Time Certain

763

[Amend the local improvement district boundary and create a new assessment zone for the NE 46th Ave and Bryant St Local Improvement District to construct stormwater improvements on NE 42nd Ave and on NE Columbia Blvd \(C-10065\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191456

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation; Environmental Services

Time certain: 9:45 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading September 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

764

[Accept FY 2022-23 Disbursement of Cannabis Emergency Relief Fund Report](#) (Report)

Document number: 764-2023

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Development Services (BDS)

Time certain: 10:05 am

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Accepted As Amended

Motion to amend the report: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Wheeler. (Y-5)

Rule requiring motion to accept the report as amended suspended by consent.

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

765

[Accept 2022 Annual Report by the Cannabis Policy Oversight Team](#) (Report)

Document number: 765-2023

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Development Services (BDS)

Time certain: 10:20 am

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Accepted

Motion to accept the report: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Ryan.

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

766

[Proclaim September 2023 to be Childhood Cancer Awareness Month](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 766-2023

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Time certain: 10:35 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

767

[Appoint Agha Zain to the Noise Review Board for term to end September 12, 2026](#) (Report)

Document number: 767-2023

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Development Services (BDS)

Time certain: 10:55 am

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Confirmed

Motion to accept the report: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Gonzalez.

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

Consent Agenda

768

[Amend Business License Law Code to require certain tax returns be filed electronically \(amend Code Section 7.02.510\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191450

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue Division

Second reading agenda item 744.

Disposition: Passed

Agenda item 768 was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

769

[Update salary grade for City Traffic Engineer classification](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191446

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Human Resources

Second reading agenda item 745.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

770

[Amend Designation of Streets, Avenues, Boulevards, and Drives Code to assign Court and affirm Place as a street name suffix \(amend Code Section 17.92.030\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191452

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading September 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

771

[Rename SW Westpoint Ct to SW West Point Ct on Multnomah County Assessor map to match existing addresses and to match an existing street name sign](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191453

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading September 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

772

[Rename SE 110th Dr to SE 111th Dr to align the street name with the SE 111th Ave and Foster Rd intersection](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191454

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading September 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

773

[Accept grant and authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Metro for \\$845,095 for the per-capita distribution and Business Food Waste Requirement](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191447

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Second reading agenda item 748.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

774

[*Amend approved application under the Multiple-Unit Limited Tax Exemption Program under the Inclusionary Housing Program for Graham Apartments located at 325 W/ NE Graham St to increase the number of restricted units \(amend Ordinance 191180\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191448

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

775

[*Transfer responsibility for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Homeless Management Information System grant to the Multnomah County Joint Office of Homeless Services \(amend Ordinance 191363\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191449

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

Regular Agenda

776

[Initiate foreclosure action on certain properties for the collection of delinquent City Liens placed against the properties](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue Division; Treasury

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading as amended

Motion to amend the ordinance to reflect the removal of Property 9, 14214 SE Crystal Springs St., from the list of properties in the ordinance, to update Exhibit A to reflect this change, and to remove Exhibit B-9: Moved by Wheeler and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Motion to amend the ordinance to reflect the removal of Property 3, 624-638 N Beech, from the list of properties in the ordinance, to update Exhibit A to reflect this change, and to remove Exhibit B-3: Moved by Wheeler and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Motion to amend the title of the ordinance to read "Initiate foreclosure action on certain properties for the collection of delinquent City Liens placed against the properties": Moved by Wheeler and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Passed to second reading September 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. as amended

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 2:00 pm

Session Status: Recessed

Council in Attendance: Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Carmen Rubio
Commissioner Dan Ryan
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez
Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Officers in attendance: Lauren King, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

Council recessed at 2:37 p.m.

Time Certain

777

[Amend Title 33, Planning and Zoning, and the Zoning Map to reduce the impacts of future flooding on the city and prevent the degradation of floodplain habitat for endangered and threatened fish species \(amend Code Title 33 and the Zoning Map\)](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 2 hours (1 of 2)

Previous agenda item 731.

Oral and written records are closed. View written testimony on [Map App](#).

Disposition: Continued As Amended

Motion to amend the Title 33 Ordinance package with substantive and technical changes: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Ryan. (Y-5)

Motion to amend Section 2 to read as follows, Directives D and F shall take effect on October 1, 2024. Directives A, B, C, and E will still take effect on March 1, 2024: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Continued to October 4, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Time Certain As Amended

778

[Amend Flood Hazard Areas Code to comply with Federal Emergency Management Agency National Flood Insurance Program requirements and modify compensatory excavation and removal requirements \(amend Code Chapter 24.50 and 24.10\)](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Development Services (BDS)

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 2 hours (2 of 2)

Previous agenda item 732.

Oral and written records are closed. View written testimony on [Map App](#).

Disposition: Continued As Amended

Motion to update Directive B effective date to October 1, 2024: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Ryan. (Y-5)

Motion to add Finding 31 and Directive C: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Rubio. (Y-5)

Motion to add a new Section 2 to the Title 24 Ordinance to incorporate a severability clause: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Gonzalez. (Y-5)

Continued to October 4, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Time Certain As Amended

Thursday, September 14, 2023 2:00 pm

Session Status: Adjourned

Council in Attendance: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Officers in attendance: Mike Porter, Deputy City Attorney; Rebecca Dobert, Acting Council Clerk

Council adjourned at 3:30.

Time Certain

779

[*Add Downtown Business Incentive Credit Code to encourage new and extended leases in core business districts \(add Code Section 7.02.875\)](#)(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191451

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue Division

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 1 hour

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

**Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
September 13, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.**

Name	Agenda Item
Mayor Ted Wheeler	
Keelan McClymont	
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez	
Commissioner Mingus Mapps	
Commissioner Carmen Rubio	
Commissioner Dan Ryan	
Alan Yoder	
Robert Butler	758
Patrick Cashman	760
Danielle Maillard	761
Ann Buzaid	762
Andrew Aebi	763
Daniel Jenkins	763
Christina Coursey	764
Jeannette Ward	764
Savina Monet	764
Phillip Keim	765
Dr. Stephen Roberts	766
Beth Benton	767
Mary Sipe	767
Kevin Foster	776
Sharon Nickleberry Rogers	776
Michael Liefeld	776
Dakotah Johnson	776
Mike Lindberg	776
Randall Baker	776
Scott Karter	768

**Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
September 13, 2023 - 2:00 p.m.**

Name	Agenda Item
Mayor Ted Wheeler	
Keelan McClymont	
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez	
Commissioner Mingus Mapps	
Commissioner Carmen Rubio	
Commissioner Dan Ryan	
Lauren King	
Patricia Diefenderfer	777, 778
Jeff Caudill	777, 778

**Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
September 14, 2023 - 2:00 p.m.**

Name	Agenda Item
Mayor Ted Wheeler	
Rebecca Dobert	
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez	
Commissioner Mingus Mapps	
Commissioner Carmen Rubio	
Commissioner Dan Ryan	
Mike Porter	
Andrew Fitzpatrick	779
Mike Wilkerson	779
Tyler Wallace	779
Tim Grewe	779
Peter Andrews	779
Ann Kasper	779
Susan Griffin	779
Travis Parrott	779
Susan Keil	779
Marc Wilkins	779
Andrew Hoan	779
Charlie Floberg	779
Matt Goodman	779
Erik Cole	779

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

September 13, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

This file was produced through the closed captioning process for the televised city Council broadcast and should not be considered a verbatim transcript. The official vote counts, motions, and names of speakers are included in the official minutes.

Speaker: Is the Wednesday, September 13th, 2023 morning session of the Portland City Council. Keelan. Good morning. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Good morning, Gonzales. Mapps here. Rubio here. Ryan here. Wheeler here.

Speaker: We'll hear from legal counsel on the rules of order and decorum.

Speaker: Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [w-w-w. Dot Portland.gov/council/agenda](http://w-w-w-dot-portland.gov/council/agenda) information on on on. Engaging with City Council can be found on the council's clerk's web page. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated. A timer will indicate when your time is done. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed. If you cause a disruption, a warning will be given further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once a ejected is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally council may take a short recess and reconvene. Reconvene virtually. Your testimony today should address the matter being considered when testifying. State your name for the record. Your address is not necessary. Disclose if

you are a lobbyist. If you are representing an organization, please identify it for testifiers joining virtually. Please unmute yourself. Once the council clerk calls your name. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Before we begin our formal agenda, I want to acknowledge we have some students here in the balcony from pcc. I understand you're international students, is that correct? Terrific. Terrific nick and you're here just to see how local government works. We appreciate you being here, cody. Thanks how did the tour go so far, so good. All right, great. Well, we hope not to disappoint. So thank you for being here. We appreciate your presence. We'll start with communications, please. Keelan. Item number 758 request of robert butler to address council regarding violation of equity for small business compared to large business. Mr. Butler, welcome. Is in person.

Speaker: I apologize for that.

Speaker: That that's my line.

Speaker: I tell people I look better virtually than I do in person. Well good morning.

Speaker: The most underpaid civil servants in Portland, Oregon. Thank you for your dedication. I'm robert butler, a native of Portland. So I want to talk to you today a little bit about something that's important to all of us, which is diversity, equity and inclusion and I'm going to suggest that we probably mostly all agree that that should include all classes of people in Portland, all legal classes. Us should get diversity, equity and inclusion in the class that I'm going to talk to you about is small business as compared to other business, which maybe we'll call large business. And in small business, that doesn't happen in Portland. And small employers have a bias against them in the way the business tax code is treated. And the bias is to result in the fact that there is a greater burden on on small business compared to large

business. Now, small business represents 40% of all our employees. So this is a significant class, even though extremely weak class with almost no political power compared to large business and i'll mention, first of all, that it is in our code already city tax code that all classes, all taxes in Portland should be treated in in confirmation in to the Oregon department of revenue. Taxes we should be on the same basic set of rules. Unfortunately, we are not. And what happens is that some time ago, mayor goldsmith was convinced that small employers would cook the books, basically have two sets of books, one set of books for Portland taxes would say that there is no profit this year and they'll do that by giving themselves bonuses to the point where there's then they pay no taxes. So mayor goldsmith decided that for at the point of \$60,000, if you made more than that, we would take everything over and above that, maybe \$40,000, move it right down to the bottom line of your tax return. And we're going to add that to your income tax, net income as additional net income, which I call phantom income. And this is a mistreatment of small business. And you would just have a handout showing that if we were to eliminate lines number seven or pardon me, nine and 14, that we would be back comparable to the Oregon department of tax revenue in compliance. What I feel of diversity, equity and inclusion and I urge this council to finally make this change and eliminate this mistreatment and bias against small business and quit saying that every time someone makes over in this case today over \$125,000, they're cheating on taxes and that they will be punished by an additional tax accordingly. Thank you. Thank you, sir.

Speaker: Appreciate it. Next individual, please item 759, request a mimi gorman to address council regarding the people asked for justice versus the state of City Council is referring to.

Speaker: Should we ask what's wrong? Mayor? Yeah, I just want to make sure.

Speaker: Just want one second. Robert you've mentioned the documents.

Speaker: Do have them. I have them. Okay, great. That's what I want to make sure we got them. Thank. Thanks

Speaker: Mimi gorman. I don't think they've joined us.

Speaker: All right. Next individual 760 request of patrick cashman to address council regarding misuse of emergency ordinances.

Speaker: Joining us online. Welcome.

Speaker: I'm sorry. Good morning. Do you hear me now?

Speaker: Yep, loud and clear.

Speaker: Fantastic. Thank you very much. Oh, this should provide a nice contrast for the visitors. I was disappointed in the council's decisions regarding item 630 on the July 26th agenda council voted to reassign \$3 million in federal covid assistance from whatever pretense the city originally claimed when they applied for the federal money. Regardless the council voted for it unanimously. The most disappointing thing about it, however, more than the idea of using federal disaster relief to pay for a city property capital improvement more than the city and gsa ignoring the federal regulations and their own policy requiring payment of full, fair market value more than the city having no document whatsoever of their claim in the ballot package is that, quote, the grants management division has reviewed and determined that this eligible use of arpa funds and then claiming the exact opposite in the very next paragraph with no public involvement, was sought for this transaction as the ultimate end use is not known at this time. The really disappointing thing is how the council used one. Council members claim need for an emergency vacation to rush this through without public participation or even acknowledging the written testimony provided well in advance. As a result, I feel it necessary to reach out to city employees and remind them of the absolute

mountain of federal money, the city. And there's agencies such as prosper Portland have received over the last few years much of it in a sloppy hurry. So let me ask you a few questions. Do you want to look at your babies and grandbabies and tell them no matter what school you get into, I promise I will make it happen? Do you want to take the whole family on a dream vacation for experiences spoken up for generation us? Are you aware of literally any amount of federal money that was requested, used accounted for, or reported in a manner less than fully 100% above board? And you got the emails? Good news. You two can now explore the wonderful opportunities of federal whistle blowing in which you are rewarded with from 15 to 30% of collected proceeds under the false claims act plus plus as an extra bonus for city employees, you get the full federal whistleblower protection package, which is like plus 100 employment armor forever because no boss wants to give the feds even a whiff of whistle blower retaliation. You can play as often as you like, and even if you don't land a big fish, the small bounties they start adding up fast. Like that. Five grand in federal money we spent on a taco drum circle to fight coronavirus, save off a couple emails or texts, and contact the national whistleblower center at [whistleblowers .com](http://whistleblowers.com). One final note of caution, however, after the 2008 financial crisis, senator Leahy of Vermont pushed to the false claims act, which governs such whistleblower, it removed the requirement for non public information. So now any citizen can be a whistleblower and file if they have assembled a convincing portrait of fraud or mismanagement, even from publicly available documents and are willing to cover the filing fee such private citizens are in the same reward. Only one reward is awarded for each instance because at that point, if you aren't the whistleblower, you are a coconspirator. You currently have unfiltered access to the databases and emails of private citizen would have to skillfully navigate and pay a lot through the public records process to even get a

sniff of. But there is a lot of money at stake. So eventually one of us will. I would recommend contacting the national whistleblower center [whistleblowers .org](http://whistleblowers.org) immediately. Currently you have a head start on doing the right thing. Thank you patrick.

Speaker: Next individual please. Item 761 request of danielle mailer to address council regarding fatal crash review committee initiation.

Speaker: Welcome. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Good morning. Mayor and commissioners. For the record, my name is danielle meyer and I'm a walking programs manager representing Oregon walks a pedestrian safety and advocacy organization. I'm here today to ask you to support the implementation of a fatal crash review committee in which public and private entities can work together to address the traffic violence on our streets. We wrote a letter to you with what kind of with the type of committee could accomplish if given the teeth to do so in 2021, 30 pedestrians were lost to traffic violence. An additional 528 lives were changed forever as that year saw 429 emergency room visits and 99 hospitalizations. This does not have to be the reality of our streets. This morning I had the opportunity to be part of the james john walking school bus and bike bus and watched the community come together for coffee and muffins before leading a group about 20 students to school. I was told that the regular walking leader was hit by a car while walking, breaking many bones in her body and still she wants to lead the students on her new mobility scooter because the value of community and walking to school is that important to her. After this comment, I'm headed to plan for the world day of remembrance that's planned in October for to honor those who have lost their lives to traffic violence. And this year that number is already at 47 in Portland. And i'll follow up about this event. But I hope by the time I speak in front of families who have lost their loved ones next month, I can share that our

leaders and elected officials are willing to come together and create a space where we can all learn from these tragic tragedies and mitigate further damage to our community. In the meantime, I ask that you encourage and support pbot in putting out the inexpensive infrastructure for solutions that will save lives today. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner Mapps has a comment. Sure

Speaker: Just very quickly, danielle, thank you so much for being here today. And thank you for your advocacy on behalf of safe transportation. This is a show shared value that I think everyone on this council embraces is. I also want to thank you for the letter recommending that we develop a more robust strategy for reviewing fatal crashes. I've received that letter and have directed pbot to get back to me with a recommendation by next Friday. So give me about a week and a half to both hear back from the bureau in terms of their recommendations on best path forward. And then I will get a response out to you in about ten days.

Speaker: Thank you. I appreciate it. Thank you.

Speaker: Next individual, please item 762, request request of an beyonce to address council regarding abandoned vehicles.

Speaker: Welcome.

Speaker: Good morning. Morning my name is anne abizaid and I would largely like to address the rv campsites that are in my neighborhood. My daughter and I bought a duplex on southeast ankeny in October of last year. I retired, fired from my job in Seattle, Washington. I was the director of the therapy department for universal of Washington medical center in February and moved to the duplex in February of 2023. Since that time, a number of rvs have occupied southeast ankeny between 20th and 24th avenue, including a bicycle chop shop and several rvs that have had what I would consider very dangerous individuals living in them, including

a tin shack that had written on it the kill shack. The situation became incredibly unsafe. My neighbors and I contacted pdx reporter. A311 the non-emergency nc 503. Number the police several times and I talked to commissioner Mapps office. Jackson in particular very delightful man I might say at and impact reduction team I talked to sharon wonderful person as well as is mike krebs from the vehicle inspection team. In the meantime, my daughter, we witnessed several beatings, many bicycles coming in at 4:00 in the morning to the bicycle shop shop and being dismantled by the person who operates it. We're 500ft within lamont school. There's children walking by all the time. We witnessed two ods and the beatings of two young women who were partially clothed. This is happening on the streets of Portland in real time. It's happening today in neighborhoods throughout Portland, and I'm particularly concerned about my neighborhood because I live there and I would like my grandchildren to be able to visit me and right now they can't. It is not safe. I can't. We've been trying to work on our duplex and I'm unable to have the windows delivered because the company won't come because it's unsafe. Mike krebs let me know that on September 21st, this group of rvs will be tagged and then removed on the 28th. My concern is this was consider ordered a priority. Remove all in June of this year is and it's not happening until September 21st. And after September 28th. What is the guarantee that it won't happen again? You have great teams out there. I've talked to many different people from the police force to 503 to 301 to mike krebs, to sharon. These are fantastic team teams. Please empower them streets of Portland and make Portland. Thank you.

Speaker: Our commissioner Mapps. And then I want to have a comment as well. Commissioner Mapps sure.

Speaker: And thank you for coming in today. Um, we're neighbors. I live about three blocks away from you. I don't know if you see me around the neighborhood,

but I used to literally take my kid down to the bus stop at 20th and burnside side and we've actually been run off from that space because of folks going through mental health crisis. As I go by. The street that you're talking about, literally on a daily basis, I completely get it. I completely live with it. Your information is the same information that I have. We're going to post it on the 21st of this month and if vehicles are still there, we're going to tow them by the 28th. I and you were also absolutely right that this is a problem, which is happening throughout the city. We need to do better in this space. I do want to thank my colleagues on council who made, I think, an additional \$2 million available in this past budget process that will help us ramp up our efforts to get rvs into more appropriate spaces. And we're deeply committed to getting better in this space. I also very much appreciate you sharing the praise for our staff over at pbot. I do think that pbot reacting to the needs on the street has evolved from not just a transportation bureau, but a bureau that does a lot of outreach, especially to our most vulnerable, houseless neighbors. I cannot sing their praises loud enough. At the same time, if we're going to succeed in this space, I know we got to do better and this is something that I will be thinking of as we enter our next budget process, which literally will begin in a matter of weeks. So again, thank you so much for being here. Thank you for your patience. When you see me on the street, wave and i'll try to do the same. And mr. Mayor, i'll hand it back to you. Yeah I just I want to say this.

Speaker: This is obviously a large and it's a thorny issue. And you're correct that it is widespread. It's not just your neighborhood, but first, I want to apologize for what you and your neighbors have had to endure. I support commissioner Mapps as our transportation commissioner. He's been a strong leader on this front, particularly with the derelict rvs, as this council all wrote a letter to the governor yesterday expressing our hopes and aspirations for the governor's task force on Portland,

which this is the center of target for the types of issues that people are experience seeing. We have requested additional support from the legislature for funding specifically related to derelict rvs. We've stood up new programs at the city level to dispose of them. To be clear, most of them are nonfunctional. A lot of them don't have appropriate sewer systems. Yes I'm aware of that. So we have set aside funding and sent out crews to actually deal with those scenarios and I dare say there is more. We can do, given that it is increasingly common for people who want to dispose of an old rv to simply scrape all of the vin and identification information and leave it parked on a street corner with the keys in it. I'm hearing this anecdotally over and over again may be what should happen is people should post a modest bond and when they appropriately, we sell and document the sale of their rv or appropriately dispose of their rv and document it, then they get that bond plus interest back. But in the meanwhile, it feels like people have found an easy way to get rid of their problem. And then, of course, a lot of those rvs, there's some very honest, hardworking people who are trying to get out of a difficult situation. But as you described, there are also people engaged in illicit criminal activity, including the manufacturing and distribution of drugs, human trafficking and other problems. And so I just want you to know, this is something the police bureau is on. It's something the bureau of transportation, an under commissioner Mapps, is engaged in. It's something that we're all dealing with from a livability perspective and a community perspective. I am sorry that it takes as long as it takes for these hotspots to be remediated. We have substantially increased the irp, the impact reduction program, and I'm glad that that you are treated with professionalism and kindness when you spoke to those individuals and members of commissioner Mapps team. That's that's what we want the public to see. We can't solve these problems quickly enough. And we acknowledge that. And we're

scaling it. But we also want you to see that that that we're on it and we care about it and we care about you and your neighbors. And I think it's fortuitous that commissioner Mapps is one of your neighbors. So he's in it with you and collective everyone in this room is in it with you. So I'm sorry. This has happened to you and your neighbors. And I look forward to that event on the 21st being successful. And I agree with you that then there's upstream solutions required to make sure we're not just back there in another six months doing exactly the same thing.

Speaker: Thank you so much. I would also just like to bring up one more thing. During this process, my daughter's tires were slashed and then we rented a car to so she could have a car. During that time period and all the tires were stolen off of it. So I do think people who are left in this these situations, actions and these criminal acts happen to them, that since the city isn't responding swiftly enough to prevent these criminal acts, there should be a way to compensate people for the damages that they endure. So while we're waiting for some action, thank you, mayor.

Speaker: Yeah, commissioner gonzales.

Speaker: My hand was up.

Speaker: Oh, I'm sorry. Commissioner Ryan, then. Commissioner gonzales. Sorry. Dan and first of all, thank you for your distinguished career at university of Washington.

Speaker: It made sense as I listened to your testimony. They were it was a it was really obvious what your professional background was. It was so thoughtful as actually we hear a lot of themes such as yours. But I have to say that was the most compelling, thoughtful testimony I've heard in a long time. There's a rv safe park that opened up and it's it fills up about five units a week. It's more complex to move them in because the people moving into the tiny homes are coming from

conditions on the street. And for them to move into a tiny home is a big step. People that have rvs and such are very independent, but there's a whole host of reasons why they want them. You got into the organized crime aspect. They're not the ones that are saying yes to services for the reasons that I think you understand, because you mentioned them. But I just want you to know that that will fill up and then we will need more, more. And that's a complex, longer conversation that someone like you could be helpful in. I wanted to ask you a favor. If you could, because you're so compelling and you're such a such great testimony. The city can't do it alone. So we work with our partners at the county and also with the state. And I think it's really important that these messages get to the county because they're the other half of all of our action that we're doing. So when the first responders at the city, they have to work with the county when it comes to treatment centers, when it comes to jurisdictions, prosecutions, jails, all of which has been defunded quite over the last x amount of years. And so I hope that you'll take that. There and also the state legislature needs to hear from Portlanders what they're experiencing. So we're not pegged as some law and order system here in local government. We're just actually doing all we can to be responsive to this emergency crisis, humanitarian crisis that you've spelled out. And our goal is to make sure that you as a grandma can have your children visit as soon as possible. Thank you so much for being here today. Thank you. Yeah. And the drug trade.

Speaker: The sex trade information for those other areas. I'm happy to provide information to the county and state. Thank you.

Speaker: But you just you weaved it all together with the fact that we have a drug trade, sex trade, and the chop shop trade, however you want to call that. We've got it all in the open market.

Speaker: Your southeast ankeny, you'll see it all. Yeah.

Speaker: And you're right. Those hotspots are all over the city. Not just downtown. Thank you.

Speaker: I just wanted to echo commissioner Ryan's point about not really taking the eye off the ball on criminal justice as a region and as a state. And again, we get pegged because we're the ones stuck with enforcing it. The city is being overly law and order oriented at times, but I don't know how we respond to this livability crisis without a more firm response there. I mean, that's exactly because of what you're going through. And we will continue to build shelter. We will continue to offer services. But until we address these criminal elements, as they are, are and to be real clear, these are people that are service resistant. They're not asking for our services. They don't take it when we at least a certain segment don't take it when they're offered. And so appreciate your testimony very much. Um, I had a quick question for commissioner Mapps and the mayor. Maybe just as a reminder for all of us, when we are looking at rvs, do we have to go through this? Are we posting those the same way we post camps or what is the what is technically the technical legal process on rvs currently? Sure. For sure.

Speaker: Without getting too deep in the weeds, you can kind of think of there are two. There are rvs that people or vehicles that people live in, and then there are abandoned cars or abandoned cars. We will not talk about. That's a much more straightforward in some ways, process. Let's just talk about vehicles that have people living in them. We do need to post them. So, for example, in this particular example, so we're talking 20th and ankeny ish, we'll post it stays posted for about a week and then we'll go in actually on the 28th and, and, and then tow the vehicles if they're still there. Does that answer your question? It does.

Speaker: And it's concerning, right? Because if you know, in addition to the help and resources from the state, we need help in the way Oregon law is written. I

mean, it puts incredible we get into this vicious cycle of doing this over and over again with our camps and our rvs. And it's just a never ending story with this segment of this population, particularly painful is those engaged in criminal enterprise that exploits state law, terrorize our community in a in a real way. So it's and commissioner Gonzalez, thank you for that question.

Speaker: And i'll use this as an opportunity to do some public education here. So I do have to post them. Wait a little bit of time before we tow them. Then we told them and I take possession of them I have or pbot takes possession of them. Pbot has to hold on to them for 30 days in case folks want to come back and reclaim their property. 30 if after 30 days, um, no one comes and claims it, I will likely have it crushed out. Which again costs pbot and the people of Portland hundreds if not a couple of thousand thousands of dollars. One of the other bottlenecks in this space is, um, as I tow rvs, I have to put them someplace for 30 days. And one of the things that the mayor's office and I have been working on over the last several months is to try to find additional space to store the rvs that we tow so I can store them for 30 days so they can either be returned to their owners or sent to the crushers. And those are some of the bottlenecks that define the dynamics of this space. And the only thing I have to add is, is a good many, not all, but a good many of those rvs are hazmat sites by the time they come into the possession of pbot and they have to be remediated as such.

Speaker: And that's where you get into the thousands of dollars.

Speaker: And that's part of the challenge at the safe park is that we have to do a lot of work to make sure they're safe when they get to the park.

Speaker: And I think what's hard to hear about that is right now they're in the streets of Portland and they're not safe. Yeah totally understood.

Speaker: Yeah, it's this complex and the good news is we're starting to build, so we're hoping that when we partner with the county, we can build more. Yeah.

Thanks

Speaker: Thanks for being here. Thank you so much. And thank you. Great, great discussion. Thank you. Thanks, commissioner Mapps. Uh, that completes communications. We'll go to the consent agenda. Have any items been pulled off the consent agenda?

Speaker: One item seven, six, eight, 7168 has been pulled and commissioner Gonzalez, you're pulling that.

Speaker: Is that correct?

Speaker: That's correct. Okay. Just wanted a little bit more information from your team.

Speaker: Not a problem. We'll we'll move that to the to the end of the regular agenda. We'll move to the first time. Certain item, please. Item number 763, which is a non emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Mr. Mayor, did you intend for us to vote on the consent?

Speaker: Oh, yeah. You know what? That'd be a good idea, wouldn't it? Let's vote on the consent agenda. Just because commissioner Mapps thinks we should please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzalez. Hi maps. Rubio hi, Ryan. Wheeler hi.

Speaker: The consent agenda is adopted. First time certain. 7763. Non emergency ordinance amend the local improvement district boundary and create a new assessment zone for the northeast 46th avenue and bRyant street local improvement district to construct stormwater improvements on northeast 42nd avenue and on northeast columbia boulevard. Commissioner Mapps colleagues, this item comes to us from pbot.

Speaker: If adopted, this ordinance would expand the size and scope of a local improvement district, which already already exists. This boundary adjustment would create a new assessment zone which will pave the way for the construction of stormwater improvements on northeast 42nd avenue and northeast columbia boulevard. Here to tell us more about this ordinance, we have andrew abbey with pbot and daniel jenkins with bts. Welcome, andrew and daniel.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Mapps I'm andrew abbey, the city's local improvement district administrator. I'm joined today by daniel jenkins from the bureau of environmental services. We are going to go right into our brief presentation on next slide, please. So council previously we formed this id and I do want to note that we received no remonstrances against deformation when we originally formed this id, I would characterize the sentiment of the existing property owners in the lid that they want us to build this lid as quickly as possible because there's a lot of need in in this area. So the current lid amount is roughly \$12.3 million. The ordinance in front of you today proposes to increase it by about another \$1.3 million by is generally generously offered, up nearly \$1 million in ratepayer funds for the proposed scope addition. So if council approves this ordinance at the second reading next week, the total project budget will increase. To \$15.7 million. As I noted, there are no remonstrances received originally at formation and I'm also pleased to note that there were no remonstrance received against this proposed scope expansion. Next next slide, please. So I wanted to just give you a little bit of an overview. This project is in the cully neighborhood. Cully is our most diverse neighborhood in the city of Portland and historically the city and the county have not done well by funding infrastructure in the cully neighborhood. I just want to give you a little snapshot of what this lid attempts to begin addressing so if you look at the cully neighborhood, 9.0% of the streets in cully are unpaved

versus a citywide average of 2.7. So that means that if you live in cully, you are more than three times likely to live or own a business on a street that doesn't. On a street that is not paved. There are no residential properties in this lid. They're all they are all commercial in nature and I would also just note that the sidewalk coverage ratio in cully less than a third of the streets in cully have sidewalks versus almost two thirds citywide. And this this is a very diverse census area where this lid is located. Over a third of the people all are minority and the median income is less than \$45,000 a year. Next slide, please. So the current lid scope, we packed a lot into this existing lid. So if you look at where that green square is in the northeast corner of the lid that is where we are building a stormwater outfall to the columbia flue. So you can see that picture there. The lower right, that's northeast 46th avenue. There's no stormwater management on the street. So the water just sort of sit there and percolates into the ground and there's a lot of bad stuff going into that stormwater. So we will build stormwater facilities and appropriately treat and convey that stormwater before it outfall to the columbia flue. And that will be a new stormwater outfall. Next slide please. So this there's green square that you see in front of you is where we're going to build a new east west street connection so that the small businesses on the street can safely get out to northeast 47th avenue. So that they're not taking their life into their hands, trying to make a left turn onto columbia boulevard from northeast 46th avenue. Next slide, please. And then this circle here shows where we're going to put in a new traffic signal signal on a high crash corridor at the intersection of northeast 42nd and lombard recently, we had a small business owner in the lid contact me and he was very anxious for us to get out to bid because he his employees have had three accidents trying to egress from northeast 42nd avenue onto columbia boulevard. And again, I want to stress, this is already in the lid. I'm just trying to provide an overview for council that we're really

trying to be thoughtful and very comprehensive that we don't take a siloed approach when we do these lids. We really try to look at everything that needs to be done in the area and do them all at once. Next slide, please. So the map that you see there is the columbia flue. You can see that it stretches from the confluence to the columbia and willamette river pretty much east of troutdale there. This is a very valuable hydrological and ecological resource for the city of Portland. So bts has had efforts underway for decades to help clean up the columbia flue. And I'm very pleased that the lid can be a component of helping to further that objective. Next slide, please. So. When we're looking at treating stormwater, this is not a nice to have thing. This is decades of work by the bureau of environmental services to work with the federal regulatory authority to do what we need to do to appropriately treat stormwater. And daniel will share more about that in a minute. So really what we're talking about here is there's the obligation of the bureau of environmental services, but also private property owners to treat the stormwater that is on their private property. And there's proposed amendment helps to do that in a cost effective way. Next slide, please. So if you look at the two green squares there, those are the properties that we propose to newly include in the lid. For me, this was really just a matter of common sense. What I didn't want to do is, as the city's lead administrator, not pbot lead administrator, but as the city's lead administrator, notwithstanding that, the bureau of transportation is the responsible bureau for the lid. When baez first approached me about doing this, I didn't want the answer to be, well, this is a pbot project. You go figure it out on your own. But what was very clear to me is that did not make sense for us to spend the property owners money to build a new concrete street on northeast 42nd avenue and a new concrete intersection in northeast, 42nd in columbia boulevard and not plan ahead by putting the piping in so that eventually these properties that you see circled here

in green had a way of disposing of their stormwater on private property. What we did not want to do is to punt and say, we'll deal with that later. You come in later, you rip up what the just built and you figure it out on your own and you pay for it on your own. Where would obviously be much more expensive. Next slide, please. So I'm just going to give a quick recap here before I hand it over to daniel. We received some thoughtful testimony yesterday. I just want to share a few excerpts of that testimony because I think it really summarizes this proposed amendment. Well, what it said was this amendment takes the vantage of public right of way to assist with public and private stormwater runoff. What that means is, is that by approving this amendment, what we do as a city is we go back to these property owners and we say, you don't have a dozen property owners that each individually have to go build postage stamp sized facilities on their own individual properties, gobbling up valuable industrial land to treat stormwater. And everybody does it on a piecemeal basis where instead we can build two stormwater facilities in the public right of way and they don't have to give up their valuable industrial land to try to treat their stormwater on site. The testimony also said Multnomah County drainage district expect this project to reduce hazard hazard hazardous material. Runoff flowing from the street into the columbia slough. That's an important environmental objective. This project is forward looking and pragmatic and it builds stormwater improvements on a relatively small budget today to meet future requirements so that summarizes my component of the presentation, and i'll turn it over to daniel to provide you some background on the outreach we did with property owners and some of the technical details of the stormwater improvements. Hello hello, my name is daniel jenkins.

Speaker: I work for the bureau of environmental services as a stormwater engineer. I've been working on this project since early concept. We've reached out

to andrew to kind of combine, find our outfall project with the lid. The purpose of the outfall project is to treat 12 acres of impervious and poorly draining soil that generates a bunch of stormwater and then flows into our outfall. The columbia slough is a heavily impacted water body and so all of the stormwater generated from these 12 acres go currently untreated into the slough of the 12 acres, eight acres of the area is actually private property, while the other four is right away. And this new system will actually treat both of those into 1 or 2 combined treatment facilities. That'll be accomplished by rerouting some of the existing storm sewer, connecting, reconnecting all of the private connections into this new system. And then having two treatment vaults that will treat all the stormwater before it continues along the outfall. We're hoping that you can support this new project as typically does not have joint public private facilities like this. And so this is a new concept for areas that really fit this type of unique circumstance where everything shedding into one specific point and we can get the most bang for our buck and provide the most amount of treatment for both public and private infrastructure.

Speaker: So I think that concludes our presentation this morning. I don't believe that anybody has signed up to testify. So i'll turn it back to council to see if you have any questions. Very good colleagues, any questions at this particular juncture.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps it looks like i'll let commissioner randall yeah, it's great to have pbot and bts here at the same time.

Speaker: Both the messages you gave about the safety with the red lights and then obviously the cleaner water that we need in the slough. How long have you all been partnering? Was it in the first lead or did this evolve as we go into the extension?

Speaker: Bts assists in the review and design of lids when they trigger stormwater management. So I have actually been the reviewer for the outfall project as part of

this lid. And when I was assigned the, the other outfall project. But since I've already worked with Andrew on the existing lid, we've been working together to, to combine the two projects. So I'd say probably about two years now.

Speaker: Good, good. And when you did the first one, when was the first one passed? This is an extension, correct? Correct. Okay

Speaker: Yeah. And maybe if I could just add to that. I think the nuance here is this is the first time that we've really taken a best identified capital improvement. I don't want to say the first time I'm going to back up here, but it's probably the second time we've taken identified best capital improvement project, where bids had it on there, I don't know, short, medium, long term capital plan to get something done. And it's like, oh, this fits really well for the lid to build. The first example of that would have been the northeast 47th avenue lid a block away where Bts had planned to extend sanitary sewer and it would have been really, really expensive for Bts all on their own with ratepayer dollars to rebuild northeast 47th avenue. So that was an example where Pbot brought most of the money to the table. We're reconstructing 47th and also could extend sanitary sewer. So it's not all that often that we are able to take a previously identified a best CIP priority and help fund it with an led. But this has really been a positive partnership and I'm hoping that we can do more of that moving forward.

Speaker: I agree. And kudos to you, Commissioner Maps for having all this under your portfolio. I'm sure that was helpful as a part of that synergy. Usually I be I'm somewhat critical when these come because the people on fixed income that are part of it that see their their burden go up when these go in and I always am sensitive to that. So are there any I don't think there are any residential neighborhoods in this area, correct? Correct. So it was all commercial properties.

Speaker: Okay. And then we've done outreach to all those commercial properties, sent letters and actually gone door to door to all the commercial properties myself and my pi public information lead. I've actually gone door to door to all these commercial businesses and talked to them about the benefits of the and they're all in for this investment. But yes, we have one person that was willing to provide testimony to that.

Speaker: Okay, sounds good. Thank you. Thank you for working together.

Speaker: Thank you. And I would just add, commissioner Ryan, we also don't want to burden property owners by throwing up roadblocks to these small businesses, growing and expanding and providing living wage jobs, which are desperately needed in the cully neighborhood. So if these small businesses on their own were to want to expand and they would go through the development review process process and then we probably I'm not the best reviewer or development review, but my sense is they'd be told you need to go build your postage stamp size facility and oh, by the way, you need to put in all the piping and you need to rip up the street. And I don't mean to repeat what I said earlier, but we really do want to remove all those roadblocks to these small businesses prospering over the years. I would also just add, you know, without the bts funding, the maximum assessment would be \$170,000. With the bts funding that was provided for the new the assessment zone. That brings the maximum assessment to under \$97,000 and the median assessed amount is \$57,000. So for the average small business, property here is about \$350 a month. Not insignificant, but but as was mentioned in one of the written testimony that was submitted and the property owner said this project adds value for me.

Speaker: Yes, andrew, I totally agree with that. That was my point. And I'm just distinguishing saying how different that is when we have property owners that are residents. Yeah, thanks for that distinguishing fact.

Speaker: I commissioner Mapps just as we wrap up today on this item, I want to thank andrew and daniel for their presentation.

Speaker: And I also want to compliment both of you and everyone else who worked on this project. I think it really embodies the new direction that the city of Portland is trying to go into, to breaking down silos between different bureaus and actually sponsoring more partnerships between the public sector and the private sector. I think this is what good government looks like, and I really appreciate everyone who got us here today.

Speaker: Excellent work. Well done. Do we have public testimony on this item?

Speaker: No one signed up.

Speaker: All right. Very good. This is a first reading of an emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading. Thank you. Thank you. Next item, please. Item seven six for a report. Except fy 2022, 23.

Speaker: Disbursement of cannabis emergency relief fund report.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Thank you, mayor. In December of 2021, council approved an a historic five zero votes to provide a one time allocation of 1.33 million from the recreational cannabis tax revenue in cannabis emergency relief funds. These funds were available to struggling cannabis businesses and its workers that were economically impacted from the unprecedented covid 19 pandemic vandalism seen from the civil state of unrest, increased criminal activity and a historical 2020 wildfire season. And the residual effects of illness, trauma and grief suffered from such impacts. The approval of these funds allowed Portland to become the first government

jurisdiction in the country to provide emergency relief to cannabis businesses and its workers. And due to the great success witnessed in fiscal year 2122 and the continued need for emergency relief in fiscal year 2223. Council approved another one time allocation. Of \$456,000. The report being presented today is a record of the results of that disbursement. So christina coursey, the cannabis program coordinator, and others have joined us here to present this report.

Speaker: Thank you. Good morning. Mayor Wheeler and commissioners of the council. My name is christina coursey and I'm the supervisor of the cannabis and liquor programs with development services. I come before you today to present the outcome of the fiscal year 2223 disbursement of the cannabis emergency relief fund or better known as surf next slide, please. In November 2016, Portland voters approved ballot measure 20 6-1180 to impose a 3% local tax taken at the point of cannabis retail sales. Since then, over \$30 million. That slide says 14 million. It is actually 30 million in cannabis tax revenue has been allocated across various city of Portland bureaus to support street infrastructure improvements, dui training, drug rehabilitation, criminal justice, expungement and reentry services, and small businesses disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition. Prior to July 1st, 2023, the cannabis program was housed with the office of community and civic life, the licensing and compliance arm of the program has since moved to development services, while the social equity and educational development or seed initiatives grant program moved to prosper, Portland seed initiatives receives an ongoing allocation of 1.9 million from cannabis tax revenue to distribute funding across a range of projects. Programs and services within designated priority service areas of education development, social justice, entrepreneurship and economic development. A budget of 5.8 million for reimagine Oregon to support small businesses and economic prosperity for the black community. Also transferred to

prosper for this presentation, I will only be specific speaking about the cannabis emergency relief fund and will defer any questions about seed or reimagine Oregon to prosper. Portland next slide please. Cerf was developed in fiscal year 2122 to provide emergency relief in the form of grants of up to \$25,000 to small licensed cannabis businesses and up to \$5,000 to cannabis industry workers economically impacted from the covid 19 pandemic. Vandalism as seen from the state of civil unrest experienced across the nation in increased criminal activity impacts from the historic 2020 Oregon wildfires and the residual effects of illness, trauma and grief suffered from such impacts. Throughout this presentation, I will cover the history and objectives of surf. I will discuss the application process and provide demographics from the funding. You will hear from the ongoing. You will hear the ongoing challenges. The cannabis industry continues to face and we will hear from our surf community partners on their experiences as those who worked directly with cannabis business owners and its workers. On disbursement of funds. Next slide, please. In March 2020, Oregon governor kate brown declared a state of emergency due to concerns around the covid 19 pandemic and issued an executive stay at home order. This order closed schools and many businesses that were considered non-essential cannabis businesses were fortunately deemed essential and were able to continue operating. Although unfortunately open for business made, the cannabis industry employees vulnerable to contracting coronavirus. Employees with small children being forced out of the workforce or needing to take a reduction in hours in order to stay home with their children due to a lack of child care and needing to home school these cash based businesses were also vulnerable to what would become a 115% increase in violent crime reported from the previous year and vandalism seen around the city and country. As time progressed. The distress felt by the cannabis industry only worsened in early

September 2020. Rapid expansion of multiple wildfires ran rampant across the state, making the Oregon 2020 wildfire season one of the most destructive on record. Oregon wildfires have caused unprecedented devastation to the entire cannabis industry. Supply chain with significant uncertainty surrounding future outcomes and long term sustainability. On December 1st, 2021, I presented before this council on fiscal year 2122 surf ordinance, which is widely accepted and provided \$1.33 million allocated from the city's recreation cannabis tax revenue fund. We received a historic five zero vote from council, which allowed Portland to become the first government jurisdiction in the country to provide emergency relief to cannabis business and its workers. These funds were prioritized for historic disadvantaged populations, which includes minority women and veteran owned. And those businesses qualifying as a small business. And they are based on the they are dispersed on the level of need due to ongoing need. Council approved a second one time allocation. Of \$456,901 in the fiscal year 2223 budget. This funding included approximately 306,000 for of a one time allocation of cannabis tax revenue and approximate 151,000 of one time general fund resources. I spent the greater part of six months researching and developing the approved comprehensive plan for surf that outlined all the eligibility requirements for businesses and individuals and the actual application for relief funding. Details of surf were derived from assessing the needs of the industry, analyzing data trends, researching successful small business relief programs locally and across the country, and speaking with cannabis industry advocates. Next slide, please. As part of the historic five zero vote, council approved the proposed execution plan, including noncompetitive umbrella grant agreements with three uniquely positioned organizations to manage applications and disperse funds due to the emergency nature of the funds, we propose. These non competitive grant

agreements with organizations with proven historical experience, with knowledge of and direct access to the very specific and unique target target population. The organizations, the organizations selected as community partners are all led by historically disadvantaged populations. So not only are the recipients being prioritized, but so are the community partners dispersing the funds, surf was modeled after an umbrella grant agreement that was made effective in December 2020 between the city of Portland and casa of Oregon, which is the Oregon relief relief fund that provided 1.7 million for unemployment like benefits for those who cannot access state and federal unemployed. Unemployment benefits. Cannabis businesses are also in a unique position as they are also not eligible for relief funding or federal funding due to cannabis still being classified as a schedule one controlled substance and federally illegal in fiscal year 2122 city of Portland cannabis program worked with three uniquely selected community partners for the administration of these funds, the community partners receive up to 20% admin fee. The admin fee was for marketing outreach intake processing, verification, payment and reporting of surf the community organizations we worked with were new project. The initiative and Oregon cannabis association. New project also acted as a fiscal sponsor to cannabis workers coalition to provide grants to cannabis industry workers. The community partners selected were not being funded by surf. They dispersed these funds to assist with the level of need that is harming cannabis businesses and will eventually put them out of business. If we were to continue on this same trajectory due to the lower allocation received in fiscal year 2223, the cannabis program only worked directly with the lead surf partner new project to disperse these funds and once again, new project ask acted as a fiscal sponsor to Oregon cannabis cannabis workers coalition. Next slide, please. Just to provide a brief overview of business eligibility. While this is not an exhaustive list, I wanted to

point out just a few. The businesses must be located in Portland city limits. They must be in good standing with the city of Portland cannabis program and olcc be 5,151. Historically disadvantaged owned again this includes minority owned women owned or veteran owned or be considered a small business by holding three or less pending or active marijuana regulatory licenses by olcc and have an annual combined total revenue of less than \$2 million. They also must be in current in good standing with local, state and applicable federal taxing and licensing authorities. Next slide please. On this slide you will see a list of eligible expenses that the funds may be used for. Again this is not an exhaustive list. I am only highlighting a few of them. These funds can be used for rent or mortgage payments, maintenance and repairs needed to restore premise following from damage of vandalism or break in increased security measures. This does not include armed security guards or purchase of firearms or other weapons expenses, cover medical trauma or grief counseling associated with covid robberies or wildfire, and the cost to cover past due balances of marijuana regulatory licenses in order to remain in compliance. Next slide, please. The first surf applications opened up on February first, 2022, and due to an overwhelming demand application, an acceptance was paused after only 23 days. The total amount of funds requested in that 23 days was \$2.1 million. The amount of total funds available after deducting the administrative overhead cost was approximately \$1.1 million. There were many businesses still in emergency need that were unable to receive funding within the first round. However however, with the amount of funding available and with the number of applications submitted, 91% of cannabis workers requesting relief were funded, while 70% of businesses had a funding rate, 35% of eligible applications were women owned, while 52% of applications met. New projects. Priority designation of black, latino or indigenous owned businesses. These communities

are known to have been most disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition in for fiscal year 2223 applications opened on January 16th, 2023, and in order to increase equitable access, they remained open for a preset designate time of one month before closing, and those 30 days there were approximately 1.8 million requested and only 391,000 available for dispersal so 77% of businesses that submitted an application were eligible and received funding while 99% of individuals received a portion of funding, 15% of these businesses were women owned, while 32% were bipoc owned. Next slide, please. As of August 2023, the cannabis industry is still reeling in hardship and continue to increase criminal activity. Data obtained by olc indicates 300 Portland cannabis businesses reported theft of product and or cash between February 2020 and August 20th, 23. Portland accounts for 69.1% of thefts statewide and some businesses being victimized more than once. These thefts range from looting to armed robbery, some resulting in bodily injury, sexual assault and even homicide. Updated stats received for this month shows two reported thefts already in September. Further data obtained from olcc indicates the economic the Oregon cannabis economy is the lowest it has been since 2015, coupled with the economic ramifications from increased crime, increased overhead with the cost of doing business, including rent hikes, wage increases, general inflation costs and the inability to deduct usual business tax expenses. A perfect a perfect storm is being generated and is threatening the livelihood and success of Portland's small cannabis businesses, many of which are choosing to sell or are temporarily closing their doors to decrease continual expenses from repeated vandalism and robberies. In the past year, the cannabis program has seen a record number of license surrenders and or store closures. Next slide, please. Next next, we will hear testimony from the community organizations, the cannabis program partnered with to manage the fiscal year 2223

surf application loans and disburse funds to those most in need. I would like to introduce president and ceo of new project jeanette ward.

Speaker: Hi. Hi. My name is jeanette ward. Thank you for the opportunity to give you testimony today. And I first just want to start off by saying that you may have noticed a few slides ago the stats around 14 million in cannabis taxes collected. And if you do the math over half of that is now going to the communities disproportionately harmed by the war on drugs. I just want to thank the commissioner for this commission for getting there. That has been some work that we've been doing and the community's been doing with you all over the last few years. And to see that on that slide is a real testament to advancement, I think, in progress in putting this money where voters wanted it to go, which was to economic recovery and resilience for the communities most harmed by the war on drugs. So first off, just backing up and doing a 10,000 foot view, we're moving really in the right direction in terms of how these cannabis taxes get reinvested into repairing harm for the communities that were unduly and unfairly arrested. So that said, let's talk about how these specific funds have gone to work this year, creating equity. This isn't just equity in terms of serving the black, brown and women owned businesses who usually don't get funding. This is equity for the industry. Just and good business sense for a city. There aren't emergency relief funds available to these businesses. And when I disperse these checks handwritten and handed to these business owners, the 49 that you saw, we had conversations about about their journey and their struggle. A small business owners there on mlk with beautiful cannabis dispensaries that that they don't have the funds to do emergency repairs when there's a burglary and they don't have the funds to continue to pay these employees when product is stolen. And now now they don't know how they're going to make ends meet this month because they literally had

product walk out the door. These are our businesses who, because of their small growing businesses, are the ones that are adding the most employees and the most new growth and employees. So this is the kind of funding you want to do to an industry that has the potential for some serious long term growth. But right now it doesn't have the emergency relief funds to keep it on its feet. So these funds kept these businesses on their feet. They kept these employees employed and i'll tell you that the other kind of largest use of these funds was on exterior improvements and safety. So making these businesses look better on the outside, but also look safer and be safer for the employees and the community, really adding security cameras and adding lights and keeping these businesses from being a target with security doors. So this is really just a smart use of funds and it's a pleasure to share with you how these funds were used. And to reiterate that that these funds can't dry up. So as we've seen these these taxes dwindle, we really I would really urge you to see how you continue to think about this as a smart business investment for these small businesses who don't have any other way to get these funds. And so the states, the state's not there with cannabis business funding. So the city and the county needs to be. So thank you for doing that. Thank you.

Speaker: Next slide, please. Thank you, Jeanette, for that testimony. I would like to welcome Sabina Monet, founder and executive director of Cannabis Workers Coalition.

Speaker: Hello, everyone. Yes, thank you so much for allowing me to be here to testify. I am the co-founder and executive director of a grassroots worker center that advocates for equitable labor practices in the cannabis industry. We've also been responsible for dispersing \$200,000 of the surf fund to 200 workers in the last two years. I just want to speak more about the direct impact this has had on the individuals, the workers that serve this community, workers such as Aileron,

whose father of a six year old girl. And after working in the industry for five years, was held at gunpoint during a mass burglary in July of 2020. As a man who needs to support his family, he had no choice but to return to work during a time when customers were mandated to wear masks and because of this, suffered from PTSD and anxiety attacks while locked in. Luckily we were able to give him funds from the surf grant, which allowed him to seek professional help, so he felt comfortable simply clocking into work. There's also workers such as Elizabeth, a woman with a high risk disability that was forced to leave her job after her employer would not make a reasonable accommodation to lessen her exposure to the coronavirus afterwards. They're unable to find a secure spot in the industry where they would feel safe coming into work. And because of this, fell behind on bills, rent and car payments. This luckily again we were able to grant them funds that allowed them to catch up on these payments, which would have saved them from losing their housing and transportation in over the last two years. As you may have heard at least four times, the amount of funds granted to our organization. Glisan has been requested from workers. We've had to reject applications simply because we ran out of money. There's clearly still a need for surf grant for workers. 75% of our funds went directly to the pockets of workers from the most impacted communities, with 60% of them being black and brown. Workers who were most at risk for evictions. Many of our applications were from individuals who had to miss work because they contracted COVID-19 or recovering from traumatic and sometimes violent robberies that occurred in the workplace. In addition to that, these workers have been carrying debts for on average of 6 to 9 months. And we're often at the brink of a total financial and emotional collapse. So I stand here before you on behalf of my organization and many of the Portland cannabis workers to

request that you grant an additional round of emergency funding. Thank you.
Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, sabina. Next slide, please. Portland cannabis. Portland. Portland based cannabis businesses continue to experience extreme financial impacts caused by increased continue criminal activity as well as market downturn. Despite being eight years into legalization, Portland's cannabis landscape is still young. Therefore, we must do what we can to provide assistance during the ebbs and flows, especially to struggling businesses. During times of hardship in order to uplift and support small businesses. Historic disadvantaged and those disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition. There is absolutely an ongoing need to provide emergency relief to the cannabis industry. Unfortunately due to the reorganization of civic life programs earlier this year, we were unable to request another one time allocation of surf during an attempt to request funding during the fall bump. I was told that fiscal year 2223 cannabis tax revenue was already accounted for. However, the cannabis program continues to provide an equity centered framework and will continue to collaborate with partnering agencies in our community partners to provide resources and assistance where applicable with a funding request next fiscal year should there still be a need. Thank you for your time today. If you have any questions for either myself or our community partners, we will take those. Now

Speaker: Very good. Thank you for the report. Colleagues questions.
Commissioner Rubio I just have one thing.

Speaker: I was negligent in doing this right before the presentation. Colleagues, we need I need to make a motion to amend the report. There was a little bit of updated data in the presentation, so we just want to make sure that it's trued up nothing material materially. Sure.

Speaker: I'll second any further discussion on the amendment. Call the roll on the amendment.

Speaker: Gonzales hi, maps. Hi. Rubio hi, Ryan. Hi. Wheeler hi.

Speaker: The amendments on the table and I'm doing that prior to any public testimony because it's technical in nature. Any further questions at this point? Sure. Commissioner Ryan, first of all, christina, thank you for your own resilience and the transition from civic life to bds.

Speaker: I want to know that. I appreciate that. And it was necessary to remove the regulatory out of civic life so that mission could get back to focus. And also, it's great to meet the partners just so I really do understand this. So it sounds like these two partners, you represent organizations, of course. Do attribute the funds and then you're the regulatory in terms of the parameters, if you will. Correct okay. And then the way I'm taking it in is you're more focused on the small businesses. You care about them, too. But you're more focused on the workers in those organizations, correct? Correct. Okay great. Nothing's ever perfect. But I just have a couple of questions to hear stories on why there's a little bit of a gap between what was requested or there's always a gap between what's requested and received. But in what was delivered. So 83% went out the door and 21, 22, therefore 17% did not. I just want to hear stories on what the what's all of that 17% and then this fiscal year, 22, 23, 40% of the money that you had didn't get out the door. There's a lot of people that are tuning into government right now when we say that we need more money in any time there's a disparity between what we have and then what we're not getting out the door, people need to know why. So I just want to hear the stories. There's always reasons I'm not sure I follow the question.

Speaker: We distributed all the money that was allocated for distribution according to the contract. Was there an amount of tax money that didn't make it to us?

Speaker: So what we saw in the report was that in 21, 22, there. Was 1.33 million that went out. There was a dispersed was 1.1, if you will. And what was received to go out was 1.33. So 83% went out, 70% did not. I just want to hear some stories about why that 70, 17% did go out. And that probably is for you, christina, for the approximately \$200,000 that were not dispersed, went to the administrative cost of dispersing those funds. Okay so you that answered the question. And so therefore, the administrative cost in 22, 23 were 14. So 14. Okay all right. Thank you. Oh, and then because it's been in the news so often, I just want to hear la moda. Are they do they receive money? This past year? No. No. Okay for the record, they did not know.

Speaker: They do not qualify as a historically disadvantaged business and they also do not qualify as a small business.

Speaker: And i'll just end with one more point. Earlier, we had some really compelling testimony about the small business class action. I don't know if you heard that, but it's a it's its own class action of struggle and I think that you get at the crossroads of that. And so I think it is great that you're looking at at really focusing on the challenge of being a small business, especially especially ones that don't have the same protections and regulations. So I want to say I appreciate that. And I know there are many small business owners in this space that want to be able to receive these awards. I think it was great that it moved to prosper. Who has a nimbleness around this? And I'm really grateful to see that progress being made. But I like the expansion of looking at all small businesses because they are all being impacted by this. Thanks all right.

Speaker: Yeah. Yeah. Thank you. Good.

Speaker: Do we have public testimony on this item?

Speaker: No one signed up.

Speaker: Could we take a two minute recess and we'll wait for commissioner Gonzalez to get back and then we'll take the vote. Thank you for the report. Recess for two minutes. Maps

Speaker: Rubio I just want to thank christine and jeanette and sabina for their presentations today. It's a very important program for our small cannabis businesses and their workers. And in this time of uncertainty, it's really important for the city to be stepping up and supporting these small businesses. It's clear the industry is struggling and we need to continue these conversations and I'm glad for it. I vote aye.

Speaker: Ryan aye. Wheeler good report.

Speaker: Appreciate it. I vote I the reports accepted. Thank you. Next item, please. 765. Accept 2022 annual report by the cannabis policy oversight team. Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Thank you. The cannabis policy oversight committee pot is an advisory body created by the city to facilitate dialog between industry representatives. Cannabis workers, consumers, public health workers and the broader community. Kpop meets to discuss issues affecting and affecting, affecting and affected by cannabis. Since the legalization of the adult use market, this advisory body and its subcommittee has meet frequently to discuss ongoing issues, conduct research, build community and make recommendations to policymakers and regulators. Pot and its subcommittees hold regular meetings online that are open to the public. The 2022 pot annual report unveiled key findings that have existed in the Portland cannabis market and beyond. It highlighted the need to increase data collection and study the impacts of cannabis to allow for data informed policy. Also, the

industry faces significant barriers to success that are not present in other businesses due to federal prohibitions and other challenges. And there's a need to increase efforts towards environmental sustainability. The stakeholder partners of the pot and the cannabis program include prosper, Portland, the Oregon liquor and cannabis commission, Portland City Council and Oregon health authority, Multnomah County health department, cannabis industry workers. Business owners. Consumer leaders. Parents of youth and neighbors. Ongoing community involvement is necessary to ensure enactment of policy recommendations, research and transparency. Cross bureau collaboration, monitoring of policy and impacts feedbacks, feedback and open conversations about cannabis. The 2022 annual report builds on some previous recommendations and give clear gives clear calls to action for policymakers and regulators to support needed changes in the adult use cannabis industry. So I'd now like to hand it to phil keim. Cannabis policy coordinator at bts to present this report. Thank you.

Speaker: All right. Thank you. Good morning. For the record, my name is phil keim, policy coordinator for the bureau of development services cannabis program. And good morning, mayor Wheeler. And commissioners. It's nice to meet you in this space and I want to thank you for allowing us the time to share the cannabis policy oversight team's 2022 annual report. I'm pleased to meet you all in this space and honored to work for the city over the last few months. And my colleagues at the city, our partner organizations and other agencies and volunteers on this advisory committee who come from the community, see the cannabis industry and public health have worked hard to establish Portland as a leader in the cannabis policy world that rights the wrongs of the war on drugs and engages community into the changes that we make along the way. I'm happy to be a part of this team and look forward to continuing to bring more successful programs and efforts here in

Portland and beyond. A 2020 audit of the cannabis program found that to be effective, we need to report on progress to inform needed adjustments to the strategy and respond to evolving industry. And so bringing these updates today just allows us to meet the needs for ongoing communication and adjustments in the way that our program works with the industry. Perfect so just going over our agenda here really quickly today is just an opportunity to give an update of the work completed by the cannabis policy oversight team. Also known as cpat last year that led to the 2022 annual report. We'll share some background on the annual report who worked on it, the process of how it was written, the framework used key findings, and finally the policy recommendations proposed by community members. The cpat is an advisory body created on December 17th, 2015 by the former commissioner in charge of the office of community and civic life, formerly the office of neighborhood involvement, and then effective April 1st, the Cannabis program, which provides liaisons myself and my colleagues to work with cpat. We were moved over to bts following approval of an ordinance from the City Council. And so the body provides the bureau of development services with diverse stakeholder perspectives on cannabis related public policies and the teams objectives are to discuss and develop policies that support equitable access and outcomes for the cannabis industry, cannabis, consumers and all city of Portland residents. Next slide, please. The volunteers listed here, some of whom are no longer members of cpat, completed the work last year that led to the 2022 annual report. Are we on the right slide? Sorry. Next this. This one here.

Speaker: Oh, got it. Thank you.

Speaker: Thanks. These volunteers were members of the cpat last year. Some of them continue as members now, but not all of them. And they completed the work that led to the 2022 annual report with some support from my colleagues who

were at the city now and other city workers who have also moved on to other work. And next slide, please. Over the course of last calendar year, the cannabis policy oversight team and its subcommittees met to discuss ongoing issues affecting and affected by the cannabis industry in the Portland community.

Speaker: A question about the last slide are there any members that are actually owners of the small business cannabis operations?

Speaker: I believe so. Of those I think Brett Born is a business owner. Derek Smith public health. Hannah Schoendorf public health. Natalie Darvis works in cannabis as well.

Speaker: Yeah. So the percentage is small, but there are people that have lived experience working in the cannabis industry in terms of a small business, like we were talking about earlier, for sure. Okay thanks. Sure. Um actually, let me jump in here commissioner Mapps. Actually I'll pass.

Speaker: Okay.

Speaker: CBO and its subcommittee members conducted research and led outreach to experts from the cannabis industry, from public health. They spoke with policymakers and regulators and the annual report last year is a summary of findings and recommendations to enact policies that strengthen economic, environmental, human and social equity and shaping future cannabis policies involves a collaborative effort between policy makers, industry stakeholders, public health experts and community members, and recognizes the following key steps that can be taken to shape future policies to conduct research and gather data. It's essential to conduct local research on the effects of cannabis use on public health and public safety and the economy. And policy makers should also gather data on the experiences of other jurisdictions that have legalized cannabis to inform policy decisions to engage stakeholders, policymakers should engage with a diverse group

of stakeholders, including industry representatives, public health experts, law enforcement officials and community members, to ensure that all perspectives are considered when developing policies. I think that's a perfect place for these conversations to be had. Develop regulations, clear regulations are essential to ensure that the cannabis industry operates safely and responsibly. Regulations should cover all aspects of the industry, including cultivation, processing, distribution and retail sales. Promote equity policies should be developed with equity in mind, particularly in communities that have been disproportionately affected by cannabis prohibition. And this can involve measures such as expunging past cannabis related convictions and creating opportunities for individuals from underserved communities to participate in the legal cannabis industry and finally provide education and public awareness. It's important to educate the public about the risks and benefits of cannabis use, particularly among young people and young adults. Public awareness campaigns could also help to reduce the stigma associated with cannabis use. And next slide, please.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan. Phil on that last slide question, the last report we heard about the economic hardship of so many in the industry right now.

Speaker: And I'm looking at the key buckets here, which one would fall into that category. I suppose, for promoting equity, economic equity, if we, in fact look at the big picture equity that includes small businesses, perhaps, but I think my feedback would be that was the majority of the last presentation. And so then I don't see anything that really target that when it comes to our future policy. So just feedback. Sure

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: I thought it was important to highlight the framework used in this annual report yesterday in a training I was pointed out that it's important to have shared

meaning, especially when we use words like equity that are in our core values. So what I chose to use this holistic meaning of the word equity to frame cannabis policy recommendation and ideas and the idea is to get our community closer to total health equity by addressing these different pillars within the capital. E equity word. So this is the cannabis health equity movement or chem, which was created by former member and dr. Rachel Knox. Chem is a call to educate, advocate and demonstrate that cannabis is a core solution to achieving health equity for all people, beginning with communities most divested of access to full health and well-being. And chem asserts that social equity is our vehicle, while health equity is our destination. And we believe that health equity should be the true north of not only the cannabis industry but for all governments, public and private sector institutions and individuals as we imagine and create more prosperous societies for all people. And we can go to the next slide. So these were the key findings that the advisory body found in writing this annual report last year. And they directed the subcommittees focus on economic, educational and research opportunities, the broader Portland community, number one, a lack of local data and research hinders progress toward more effective, sustainable and equitable cannabis policy. Number two, significant work remains undone to address ongoing racial disparities and inequity within the industry and key finding number three, small businesses need local government support for technical assistance, workforce development, increases in safety measures and other resources. We can go to the next slide. So these are the four recommendations made by the cannabis policy oversight team and their annual report last year. So recommendation number one, to amend and modify the current license fee reduction program to help small cannabis businesses and those directly impacted by cannabis prohibition. In 2018, the City Council approved the creation of a license fee reduction program to help small

cannabis businesses and those directly impacted by cannabis prohibition in the license fee reduction program provides 15 to 25% off the cost of an annual license to qualifying businesses in the following areas. Qualifying as a small business as owners or staff with previous cannabis convictions or contracting goods and services with minority owned women owned or small emerging businesses, or those producers and processors that sign up for early assistance appointment for related permitting. We'd like to build this program out more to provide further incentives to the industry. Currently, we have 367 active licenses as and have 56 licenses enrolled in the license fee reduction program, which saves these businesses a combined \$28,000, give or take, in 2018. A small cannabis business was defined as a business earning less than \$750,000 in annual total income. And since then, the threshold for small businesses to access this program have not been adjusted to better align with current climate. 280 tax burdens, commercial lease prices or the movement towards paying a livable wage and offering benefits to employees. So shepherd's call to action is to increase the gross annual income threshold of \$2 million to offer fee reduction to businesses paying one and a quarter times the minimum wage and to offer fee reduction to businesses providing health care benefits at 80% to employees. And we're looking at possibly other incentives, incentives and plan to take this ordinance to council in the next couple of months. So any feedback from you all is welcome. Next slide.

Recommended action number two is to create a new category of license fee reduction opportunities for cannabis businesses that pursue specific sustainability goals that align with the city's strategic plan for a sustainable future. Cbo recommends implementing a scalable program for cultivators that starts with an energy audit and ends with maximum efficiency. See an energy audit might include an inspection of buildings, processes and equipment to analyze energy

consumption and identify efficiency improvements to reduce businesses, energy use and costs. Cbo recommends license fee reduction for any indoor cultivator that is completed. An energy audit within the last calendar year of license issuance. And when these programs are successful, progressive additions could be made to encourage businesses to continue with efficiency improvements. And these improvements would be monitored by the city's cannabis compliance specialists, seaport also recommends offering a license fee reduction for any retail store that has adopted a city approved waste management plan, which includes accepting recyclable packaging. This program would require benchmarking current rates for waste, recycling and more, and showing changes in rates of diversion and collection of consumer recyclable packaging. Annually and next slide, please. Recommends option number three c request the Oregon liquor and cannabis commission or olcc to review and change its educational materials to reflect how the industry is operating today. And while indeed cpat was created to advise the city bureau in charge of the cannabis program, it's essential that this group has conversations and presents ideas to policymakers and regulators beyond city limits. Because of the complicated web of cannabis policy from federal, state and local perspectives. C pot addresses topics from our community and beyond with every conversation that they have so recommendation number three is audience is the olcc and request changes to their marijuana worker permit. Education program, which was created after the passage of measure 91. And since then there have been considerable changes in the operating procedures of the industry and the terminology used. And there are real concerns for safety and customer relations in the cannabis industry. And while Oregon is a trailblazing in its requirement for all cannabis workers to receive education and pass a test to obtain a marijuana workers permit, the contents of this education are out of date or incorrect with the cannabis industry as

it exists today. So c pot calls on scc to change some terminology in their materials to reflect current generally accepted terminology for example, changing any instance of the word marijuana to cannabis, changing recreational to adult use and recommends adding units on consumer health, customer relations and worker safety on July 20th of this year, c members christina and myself attended an all commissioners meeting to present this recommendation on natalie davis from c pot gave a great explanation of the work that informed this perspective and she fielded questions from commissioners and they were generally pretty receptive to our call to action here for some modest reforms and gave us some direction, you know, because they hear from a wide variety of stakeholders, they have to ensure that the policies they adopt are in the best interest of all parties. So they asked us to return with support from a broader coalition of trade organizations and advisory groups to follow up on our request with consensus from other groups that can inform the proper steps are followed through changes in statute in the coming years, the legislature nature and through their rules advisory committees and we can go to the next slide, please. And finally, recommendation number four, c pot requests that the city of Portland establish a policy to solicit public feedback regarding youth in the cannabis industry every 3 to 5 years in partnership with the seed initiatives that prosper. This report would be used to better inform where cannabis tax revenues should be used to impact youth education. About cannabis throughout last year, the community impact subcommittee of c pot reviewed data from student health surveys. The Oregon poison control reports and a dispensary staff survey. They completed with the focus on youth. The subcommittee members identified a lack of information regarding the impact of the cannabis industry on young people in Portland through public health campaigns, cannabis advertising and perceptions of youth perceptions of use among youth and adults. So this

subcommittee recommended soliciting feedback and data collection from the Portland area community every 3 to 5 years, beginning next fiscal year. We can go to the last slide. Thank you all for your attention. And support of our work to improve conditions for the cannabis industry and folks impacted by the legalization of cannabis. S. I'd welcome any questions from you all and also mention my contact information here on this slide. So members of the public are welcome to ask me questions, provide any feedback as well to the work of this advisory body works on so thank you very much, commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: My hand was still up. Two things. One is you brought up youth. I just wanted to hear about the engagement with our with the schools on that topic.

Speaker: Sure. This advisory body in subcommittee has reviewed some youth risk behavior survey data this year. Just understanding the trends of uses of cannabis and other substances among area youth. So that's a cdc administered survey that was collected, I think, four years ago and then a year ago. And they'll be rolling that out again. So we had some folks from rps come and speak to the community members of this advisory body about that survey. Areas of need. In that survey, there's a question about access where youth are getting cannabis from that was removed from that survey. So some community members feel that that question should probably go back into the survey to inform interventions in youth access to cannabis. Yeah in that space there's a lot of opinions and heated opinions, even on this topic and being in that coming from that area.

Speaker: I just wanted to make sure that they were a part of building those questions. Certainly and just a factoid when we were looking at trades and really trying to get more of our youth to see that as an option. You know, a lot of times the only options that are presented to them is college and military or good luck in retail. And one of the best avenues of course, is to go into the trades where you

have living wage jobs rest of your life. And there's two factors that were making that challenging for some to get into apprenticeship programs, math is one, of course, that makes sense. You have to be highly skilled with math, and the other was weed because of the test that's at the federal level. So just had to get that out in your executive summary, you mentioned that there were challenges getting data. Could you talk more about that? Yeah

Speaker: Well, one of the pieces of data that this advisory body is called for is just more of a line item reporting of cannabis tax dollars. So instead of seeing the cannabis tax dollars go into the general fund, you know this the community members are hopeful that there can be an increase in transparency to know exactly where cannabis dollars might go. Another piece of data is about crime statistics locally here in Portland, you know, we have data from the olc about incidences of crime at cannabis businesses and there hasn't been a concentrated collection of data in Portland for a report. But I am happy to report that I've been working with Portland police bureau on this and they their crime analyst team has come close. Their report is almost finished. The analyzes data going back all the way to, I think, 2016 when adult use cannabis was legalized. And so they've looked at trends in reports of theft and vandalism and robbery at cannabis businesses. So I think that report should be coming out hopefully very soon and reveals some some key insights about when crimes are occurring, exactly where they're occurring and frequency at different businesses.

Speaker: Okay, great. I wanted to hear more about that. So thanks. And I know that all of us up here would like to work with you to eliminate those roadblocks so that you have access to the data that's necessary to make good decisions.

Speaker: Yeah, thank you very much.

Speaker: Any other questions? Public testimony on this report?

Speaker: No one signed up.

Speaker: I'll entertain a motion.

Speaker: So moved.

Speaker: Second, commissioner Mapps moves to accept the report. Commissioner Ryan seconds any further discussion on the report? Seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzalez. I Mapps I Rubio I want to thank you, phil, for that.

Speaker: Really informative presentation. All your great work on it. This gives us really clear recommendations to track as you move forward on your progress, and we look forward to hearing it. I vote aye. Ryan yeah.

Speaker: Thank you for this report. And please know my questioning is because it's really important that we continue to build this industry, right? I always said our number one cash crop, we are receiving the revenue that we should from it. Now we have to make sure that we do it right here in Portland throughout the state and so we have to keep leaning in, asking tough questions to make sure that this is part of an economic development strategy as well. So I vote aye. Wheeler all right.

Speaker: The report is accepted. Thank you. Thank you all very much. Item number 766, please. Proclamation proclaim September 20th, 23 to be childhood cancer awareness month. Colleagues. Our next item is a proclamation naming September 2023 to be childhood cancer awareness month. I'd like to welcome dr. Stephen roberts, who's the division head of pediatric hematology, hematology and oncology at the ohsu knight cancer institute, to present this proclamation. Good morning. Good morning. Thank you. You go ahead and start. Sorry, sorry. Okay. Are we waiting for some slides to come up?

Speaker: No, we're not. Okay. Very good. My hesitation there was because I was under the impression that you were someone was reading the proclamation that I was speaking after. So I don't actually have the proclamation in front of me.

Speaker: Oh, well, why don't I do that then?

Speaker: I apologize.

Speaker: We can do this.

Speaker: I misunderstood how this went. This is my this is my first time here. So I'm learning as we go. Well, we're glad to have you, first of all.

Speaker: So why don't I read the proclamation?

Speaker: Thank you. And then maybe when I'm done with the proclamation, then we can hear from you. And then we'll let my colleagues speak and maybe I'll have some wrap up words and we'll do it that way. How does that sound?

Speaker: That sounds wonderful.

Speaker: Thank you. And we're really glad that you're here. I'm glad. Morning. So here is the proclamation. And I want to thank you and your colleagues for the assistance in drafting this proclamation. And I want to thank my colleagues as well. This is a proclamation on behalf of us and by extension, the city, whereas the America cancer fund for children and kids cancer connection report heart cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among us children between infancy and age 15. This tragic disease is detected in more than 16,000 of our country's young people every year. An estimated. 400. Thousand children. This happened last year. To an estimated 400,000 children and adolescents. This. Are diagnosed with cancer globally each year and. Whereas, 1 in 5 of our nation's children loses. Their battle with cancer. This may take a little longer, but we're going to get through it because it's important. Whereas 1 in 5 of our nation's children loses their battle with cancer.

Many infants, children and teens will suffer. From um, the long term effects of comprehensive treatment, including secondary cancers.

Speaker: Can I help you out?

Speaker: I'm determined.

Speaker: Thank you. I do appreciate the offer. I am determined. Whereas the early diagnosis of childhood cancer is often hampered by nonspecific symptoms shared by common childhood conditions. And. Whereas childhood cancer impacts the physical, emotional and financial health of the entire family. For years to come. And. Whereas I founded nearly 30 years ago by Stephen Firestein, a member of the philanthropic branch of the Max Factor Cosmetics family, the American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. Kids Cancer Connection, Inc, along with Lions Club International, are dedicated to helping these children and their families and. Whereas, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection provide a variety of vital patient and psychological services to children undergoing cancer treatment at Randall Children's Hospice at Legacy, Emanuel, OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital and Shriners Children's Portland. Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington, as well as participating hospitals throughout the country, thereby enhancing the quality of life for these children and their families. And. Whereas, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection also sponsor toy distributions. Family sailing programs. KCC SuperCar Experience, laughter, noon laughter is healing pet assisted therapy, home and hospital instructional programs and hospital celebrations in honor of a child's determined passion and bravery. To fight their battle against child childhood cancer. And. Whereas as. The state's premier academic health center including OHSU, Knight Cancer Institute and Doernbecher Children's Hospital have distinguished themselves in research and patient care in both adult and pediatric cancer cases and have

contributed significantly to the overall understanding of these diseases and their management and. Whereas, too many children are affected by this deadly disease and more must be done to raise awareness and find a cure. Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon, the city of roses, do hereby proclaim September 20th, 23 to be childhood cancer awareness month in Portland and encourage all residents to observe this month the wording of this proclamation is important. We mean it deeply because my delivery was not up to par. I've set a low bar for you. Why don't we hear from you next and then we'll hear from my colleagues. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Thank you. Mayor Wheeler. I really appreciate you reading that. Thank you. As just to introduce myself again, my name is Dr. Stephen Roberts. I have the privilege of serving as the head of the division of pediatric hematology and oncology at Doernbecher Children's Hospital at OHSU. I'm also the associate director for pediatric oncology of the Knight Cancer Institute at OHSU and a professor of pediatrics there. I'm really, really grateful for the opportunity to be here and for this proclamation. And so thank you all for that. As I start, I would specifically like to acknowledge that anybody that may be present today, whether they're in person or online, who may be walking this road, who may be facing or has faced childhood cancer, this is it is hard at and I want you all to know that we're aware of you that that we care about you, that we are here to help you. And you're not alone. So childhood cancer for some listening today, for some here today, you probably didn't even know this was a thing. Kids get cancer. Well yes. Yes. In fact, they do. As you just heard in the proclamation, child is the number one disease. Childhood cancer is the number one disease killer of children in America today. It claims the lives of more kids than any other disease in America. Now, that's not to imply that other diseases are not also tragic or important, but it does highlight the need for

proclamations such as this and the awareness of this very real problem that we face. But what does it really mean when I say it's the number one disease killer? What does that actually look like? Let me put this this way. Imagine for a second with me a classroom full of children. Okay think about an average sized classroom full of kids, 20, 25, 30 kids. Well an average sized classroom full of kids will die from cancer today and tomorrow. And every day, all year long. This year and next year. That that's what it really looks like. Think about, say, a first grade classroom in an elementary school nearby. Think about those kids full of life promise, potential excitement. It's gone tomorrow. Picture that next class gone in. Just want to let that sink in for a minute. But but not here just to be negative. And it's all doom and gloom. The reality is we've made incredible progress in taking in treating children with cancer. Childhood leukemia is the most common form of cancer in children was 100% fatal in the 1960s. It was a death sentence. If you were lucky, you got a couple of months before your child died. Today, the most common subtype called standard risk acute lymphoblastic leukemia. That's not the important part. The point is it's the most common cancer we see is cured. 95% of the time. And when I say cured, I mean cured. I don't mean in remission, but it's probably going to come back someday. Okay? I mean, gone for good forever for those kids are going to grow up and go on and become adults. And I think that's amazing. And that's another thing that when we talk about childhood cancer awareness that we all need to be aware of, that we actually do cure today. A lot of these kids, something I'm proud to have been a part of in my career, and it's something exciting that we're doing. But that said, it's not all even while some forms of leukemia have been a huge triumph, other childhood cancers have not seen this progress. There are many other cancers in kids where very few survive despite aggressive treatments. Chemo therapy, radiation surgery and those who do survive have are often left with

lifelong long disabilities and health problems. Now now, why is that? Well now we could go on for hours and I won't. But there's a lot of reasons for that. But one important reason that I would like to highlight is because today, in 2023, less than 4% of the national cancer institute's budget goes to fund research and treatment into childhood cancer. And so you can imagine that makes our job a lot harder. And again, highlights the importance of raising awareness of this important problem that our kids face over the past 40 years. Years fewer than ten new drugs have been approved to treat kids with cancer. To put that in context, that's fewer than the fda has already approved this year alone for adult cancer. So while it's unfortunate, this is, I think, another key important fact that as we talk about childhood cancer awareness, that we are aware of the challenges that we face in funding in researching this disease as a few years ago, I received a card in the mail. I kind of out of the blue it was from the mother of a patient. I took care of at ohsu 22 years ago. We diagnosed this little child at three months of age and she had a particularly rare and nasty cancer that had sort of invaded the entire one side of her chest. There was no way you could do surgery. You couldn't do radiation in a three month old baby. So we gave her chemotherapy. It was all we had. And as you can imagine, that's not an easy thing to do in a three month old. And i'll be honest with you, I did not expect her to survive. And by all accounts, she should not have. But she did. And this card that I received was from the mom letting me know that she had graduated from high school and that she was soon to go off to college. And she acknowledged that she had disabilities and challenges because of her treatment and her cancer. But she wanted me to know that she was alive and not just alive, but thriving and I have been privileged to take care of kids like that for my entire career here. And I'm grateful for that opportunity. And so as I close today, what I would if I could be so bold, what I would say is that while awareness is

important, it's the critical first step. It's not enough. And my hope today is that someone listening that someone would hear about this and be moved to move from awareness to action because us alone, we can't do this. But with help from others together we can and I firmly believe that we will end childhood cancer. And so thank you for your attention and for your proclamation on commissioner Mapps can you let me get one here?

Speaker: So action in your mind looks like what when you say let's let's move away from awareness towards action. If you know, looking back on your career, if you have a top one or 2 or 3 wishes about where we go in terms of action, what would you say?

Speaker: That's a great question. Thank you. So for me, action has been research. It's I take care of patients. I do research, and action is understanding diseases better? It's advocating for a better and improved funding to study these diseases. I think for the average person who's not a physician, who's not a pediatric oncologist, I think there's so many ways that people can be involved, whether that's simply being a volunteer up at dawn baker coming to ten south and spending time with these kids, you know, and helping these families, it's an incredibly difficult time. And we take care of patients from all over, from all of Oregon, southwest Washington. We get patients from northern California. These people are far from home. They need help and support. So something as simple as volunteering, there are many, as you heard about the proclamation, there are many outside standing foundations that are doing really great work. You know, contacting one of them and joining and helping those as they raise funds, as they raise awareness, as they participate in helping families supporting research. These are all the kinds of things I think it looks different for different people. What what they can they can do. But but to me, from a community standpoint, it's partnering with us whether it's physically coming

up to dawn becker or to randall children's or joining with these foundations to help support these families. Thank you, commissioner Mapps thank you, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: I want to thank the good doctor for joining us today. And mr. Mayor, I want to thank you for setting a high bar, which underscores how deeply the resolution before us today resonates with the people of Portland and colleagues. I want to say this. I am proud to join you in proclaiming September 20th, 23 to be childhood cancer awareness month here in Portland, Oregon. Over the past 50 years years, researchers have made enormous advances treating kids with cancer. But as we heard today, there is still a lot of work left to do today. Cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease for American kids under the age of 15. This year in the united states, around 17,000 kids will be diagnosed, posed with cancer and the average age at diagnosis is six years old. Now, during national cancer, childhood cancer awareness month, we honor those kids and we support the loved ones who care for them during childhood cancer awareness month, we recognize the medical profession nils and researchers who search for better treatments during national childhood cancer awareness month. We remember the young lives cut short by cancer and during national childhood cancer awareness month, we recommit ourselves to ending cancer as we know it. Now. Colleagues I believe that we can create a cancer free future for our kids. That's why I will wrap up my comments today by encouraging anyone concerned about childhood cancers to visit [w-w-w cancer.gov](http://w-w-w.cancer.gov) that site can connect you with trained special lists and resources on the symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of childhood cancers. And with that, mr. Mayor, I will hand the floor back to you.

Speaker: Thank you, sir. Commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Thank you, mayor, for bringing this to the dais today and for your heartfelt comments earlier. Thank you. Good doctor, for being here. It's a pleasure

to meet you here. An outstanding leader. You can tell. I wanted to just acknowledge the hardworking people at doernbecher and your colleagues at at randalls children's hospital. I think there's two ronald mcdonald houses in Portland. I'm sorry, are there two? Ronald mcdonald houses in Portland?

Speaker: Are there two? I know I should know that, shouldn't i? There's one. Yeah there's one over by randalls and then there's the rood family pavilion at ohsu.

Speaker: That's it. And I just wanted to acknowledge the employees that work with the families day in and day out. And i'll just tell a brief story. A dear friend from college, she works at dawn becker. Her name is susan sherwood. She's a child life specialist. Went to mills college to get those credentials back.

Speaker: And susan very well.

Speaker: You know her very well. Yeah, she's a she's a dear friend. And I always listen to her stories when we have dinner. And it's so compelling and then a story going back three decades now is another dear friend that goes back a decade for the susan. Her son was there and did pass away. And they met one another. And our dear friends. And so I know that your employees go so far. So the story you told about receiving that note, I think that's what keeps your employees in this type of work. And I also know that the parents out there, you never get over this. Grieving is hard no matter. But but this is one that you just never get over. So thank you for doing this type of work, for being a leader in this work, and for having all of us take a pause today to think about what this issue. I appreciate you.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Appreciate it as well.

Speaker: I'll just everybody said things already. I just want to thank you for being here and the proclamation and your testimony.

Speaker: We're very compelling for me today. And it just reminds reminds us of, you know, just the. Innocence of children, but also the hope that they bring during these these hard times as well. And that's why they're special and vulnerable like flowers. And I just I just want to thank you for bringing this. You know, the urgency around this proclamation and reminding us to take care of our most vulnerable young members of our of our community. So thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: I'll just close out. First of all, I want to thank all of the people in this community who work so hard on this. You mentioned randall children's hospital, dawn becker, shriners, the ronald mcdonald house. So many good things happening and we should be really proud of that. As a community. I also want to return a favor for I heard phil knight had said some things about me earlier this week and I wanted to return the commentary by thanking him and penny knight for the night cancer research institute right down here in the south waterfront. It my view of phil knight is that he's a giant and penny to and I suspect that 100 years from now, it may not be nike that they're remembered for, even though I'm wearing their product. But right now me too. And we all love nike, but I think they're lasting gift was the knight cancer research institute. I think it's a gift that will keep giving and giving and giving. Not just to this community, but globally. And I think of the millions of lives that could potentially be saved and the role they are also playing around childhood cancer research and I think of the parents I butchered the proclamation by blubbering my way through it. But my viewpoint is that if the kids and their parents can get through it, I can read a proclamation. It's the least I could do. But we as a community care deeply about all of them. And I just think it's great that we have a community that has so many assets, so many people, so many researchers, so many medical professionals, and just a lot of volunteers in this community who care and are working so hard. And so it is important that every

year that we remember that. And yes, there's a large degree of loss and sadness, but there's also a lot of optimism and hope.

Speaker: Absolutely. For what we can do going forward.

Speaker: So thank you for being here today. Thank you for sharing your knowledge. And I know you have a lot of work to do. So we'll let you get back to it.

Speaker: Thank you so much. Thank you. I appreciate your time. Appreciate you so much. Thank you.

Speaker: Next item, please. Actually, why don't we take a break just because we want to give our our tv crew an opportunity to take a break. When we come back, we'll do seven, six, seven. We'll take a ten minute recess. We are in recess. For session. Thank you. First item. Next item up is seven, six, seven, please. A report, a point adjacent to the noise review board for term to end September 12th, 2026.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, thank you.

Speaker: The noise review board is an advisory body reviewing certain noise or variances for projects that range from nighttime construction projects to large outdoor concert s and the board also works to develop long term objectives for reducing sound levels in the community. The noise review board members serve as a voice for the community and for industry seeking to balance requests for noise variances with community livability concerns. As the review board is comprised of five members, including three community members at large positions. A representative from the construction industry and a professional in the field of acoustics. Nrp members are appointed by council for a three year term, with the possibility of serving a second three year term. I am pleased to present aga zion. Zion for a three year appointment to serve as an nrp member filling the community member at large. Position in beth benton with will now provide an introduction for the appointee.

Speaker: Good morning, mayor. Commissioners I'm Beth Benton. The property compliance manager for the bureau of development services, and I am pleased to present Mr. Zion to the noise review board appointee. Mr. Zion has over ten years of experience analyzing both short and long term business issues and building business relationships in a variety of areas such as general business operations, product development and marketing. Here in the Portland area, he understands the value of developing good, positive relationships with others on his team as well as with customers and other professional work teams in order to achieve success. In addition, his varied experiences with nonprofits and working with a diverse group of individuals across Portland helps him better understand the experiences and the issues facing our communities. This candidate will bring a wealth of expertise and experience to the noise review board for the community at large seat. And lastly, with this appointment, all of the seats will be filled on the noise review board and at this time I would like to turn it over to our chair of the noise review board, Mary Sipe. Hi everyone.

Speaker: Hi, Mary. Hi it's nice to see you again. It's been a long time, mayor. I just wanted to first of all, thank Mr. Zane for stepping forward and volunteering for the board and it's funny because my very first visit to the City Council was in May of 2014, and I came with a group of neighbors about a noise issue that we were having. And here I am nine years later and I'm chair of the noise review board and it just speaks to the if you speak out and you step up, you can facilitate change in our community and it is people like Mr. Zane and the staff such as Beth and the rest of the staff at the noise control office that really help keep our community livable and I just want to say thank you and how exciting it is. We've been shorthanded on the board for a good 11 of the last 12 months. And so it's

great to have a full board and we will start moving forward with a lot of our initiatives. And thank you. Thanks, mary.

Speaker: Colleagues, any questions.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps I was just going to move that. We accept the report and commissioner Mapps moves.

Speaker: Can we get a second, second, second? Do we have any public testimony?

Speaker: No one signed up.

Speaker: All right, very good. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzalez. Hi maps.

Speaker: I just want to thank mr. Zane for agreeing to serve on this important board vote. I cbo.

Speaker: I also want to thank mr. Zane for his service on the noise review board as well as mary as chair for serving chair and for getting involved in our city.

Appreciate your time and also, beth, for bringing this forward and all the good work that you do every day. You don't get to come up before council every day, but I just want to take an opportunity to thank you for, uh, for your dedication to your job. So thank you. Beth I vote aye. Ryan yes, thank you, beth.

Speaker: I worked with you in the era of being on zooms all the time, so it's always great to see you in person. Mary. I really loved your story about service and how it all organically happens. That was a great story and it sounds like you found a wonderful new commissioner and mr. Zane ivery Wheeler.

Speaker: I want to second that.

Speaker: Beth, thanks for your leadership and mary, I don't know how you do it year after year after year, after year, but you step up in a big way. You are a model citizen in every sense. And thank you for the time and the energy and the dedication you put into our community. There is an issue that I do want to just raise

substantively, and that is that we are seeing, I believe, in there's a chance I'm wrong, but I think I'm not, that we're seeing an increase in noise related concerns in our community and as we approach the budget process, which really kicks off in earnest late October, early November, I'm going to lean on you a little bit for some input and advice on how we might best staff our noise office. I think. Don't we only have like one noise officer right now? We do for a very large city. And that's that's probably asking too much. So let's, let's put our heads together and see what we can do there and maybe build to a three or a four year plan in terms of what you think it should look like. Mr. Zane thank you for volunteering for this important committee. I'm happy to vote on the report is accepted. The appointments are approved. Thank you. Thank you. Next item. Seven seven. We're yes, seven, seven, six, please. And that is a non emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Initiate foreclosure. Foreclosure action on nine properties for the collection of delinquent city liens placed against the properties.

Speaker: Colleagues, this ordinance is part of a coordinated effort by the mayor's office, the bureau of development services, the office of management and finance revenue division, as well as the city attorney's office to pursue remedies for vacant and distressed properties with delinquent lien payments as it begins the foreclosure proceedings on seven properties with delinquent city liens that are eligible for foreclosure in accordance with city code 5.30. The liens were placed against the properties by the bureau of development services for code enforcement violations. Various nuisances nuisance abatement and or chronic offender violations. These properties have been identified as causing significant problems for neighbors. They are the subject of multiple and frequent police calls and numerous enforcement activities. The revenue division works closely with bds to identify properties with delinquent account balances, many of which are

designated as vacant and distressed properties by bds. Extremely distressed properties enforcement program. Kevin foster foreclosure prevention manager, and sharon nickelberry rogers budget and lean supervisor are with us today to take us through this item. Welcome

Speaker: Good morning, mayor, and good morning, commissioners, for the record, i'll state my name, kevin foster. I'm the foreclosure prevention manager in the bureau of revenue and financial services revenue division with me today is sharon nickelberry. Rogers supervisor of the budget and liens team with the revenue division. Also here is mike liefeld, property compliance property compliance division supervisor with the bureau of development services. Joining us virtually is bridget o'callahan, the city treasurer, and dan simon, the deputy city attorney.

Speaker: And I'm sorry to interrupt, but while you're switching slides, as you know, I'm going to make three amendments. Are you going to discuss those before or after during the present? Very good. Thank you.

Speaker: Next slide, please. I'm going to start by giving a high level overview of the city of Portland assessments, liens, collections, and foreclosure program assessments include code violations, nuisance complaints, also various activities for new developments and infrastructure improvements. Each assessment results in a lien being placed on the property. There are two types of liens a non bonded and bonded after the lien is placed on the property and becomes 30 days delinquent collection efforts begin on the collection team makes calls and sends letters to get the owner to set up a payment arrangement for their delinquent lien after 90 days. And there's been no response. It is forwarded over to me for review. After my review is completed. Foreclosure is used as a last resort to engage the owner for eligible liens that are 60 days delinquent for non bonded and one year delinquent

for bonded. And the majority of the liens on the seven properties we are presenting for foreclosure are non bonded liens for code violations and nuisance complaints. Next slide please. This is a combined effort by the bureau of development services who recommends priority properties and some of them are from the extremely distressed properties enforcement program. The city's attorney's office identifies barriers that decide if the property is a good candidate for foreclosure or not. Such couch barriers can include pending litigation on the property or the property being or the owner being delinquent on the property. Taxes as part of my role in the revenue division, I reviewed delinquent accounts and bureau of development services foreclosure reports to determine which accounts meet the criteria for recommendation to foreclosure buyer. Lastly the city treasurer conducts the foreclosure sale. Next slide, please. The city of Portland and the community at large have the reasonable expectation that property owners are responsible for the maintenance of their properties. The city, through its property compliance division in the bureau of development services, has adopted a property maintenance minimum standard after a complaint is received when a property doesn't meet the minimum standard. The bureau of development services approach includes appeals, a host of waivers that property owners may qualify for to avoid liens and the opportunity to connect property owners with available repair assistance programs for their situation. The bureau of development services monthly code enforcement fees are referred to the revenue revenue division for assessment after the opportune parties or incentives to correct the violation have been exhausted. Next slide, please. This targeted approach began with the mayor's office in 2016. The target is vacant and distressed properties throughout the city. The goal is to minimize the effects and problems these properties create in the community. Foreclosure being used as a last resort. The ultimate goal of the foreclosure is to

motivate the owner to bring the property into a productive use. All of the properties we're proposing today meet the criteria. Next slide, please. Here is a list of characteristics of vacant and distressed properties. The common theme is little to no action is taken by the property owners to rehabilitate their properties. These properties cause public health and safety concerns in the community, if not corrected, the city fees increase over time from. Next slide, please. The city offers many opportunities to property owners to correct the violations and solve the delinquencies on their properties. As an example, when property owners are willing to resolve the violations, they can contact the bureau of development services and request a review of their case after the issue is corrected and the case is closed. One case that review is complete. The amount owed is typically decreased and then the revenue division will provide a payment plan that allows the property owner to repay the amount owed in monthly installments, which can go up to 60 months. Another example is the bureau of development services amnesty program, which is a one time program offering automatic reductions once the case is closed. The owner, the owner, can also work with the bureau of development services to obtain a waiver. The owner has the opportunity to get on a payment plan arrangement with the revenue division. After a pause in foreclosure during the pandemic. And position vacancy and also the rebranding of this position, we have recently resumed outreach to property owners about delinquent accounts that about delinquent accounts that will be considered for foreclosure. As of today, we have been unsuccessful in getting the owners to make a payment arrangement. Next slide, please. In the past, foreclosure has motivated owners to address the delinquent liens on their property. Just as an example, yesterday one of the properties scheduled to be part of this foreclosure list came in right before close and paid off their delinquent liens. Also, another property, again scheduled to be part of this list.

We've made arrangements with as of this morning to remove from the foreclosure list since June 2016, 25 properties have been on ordinances for council consideration. Over 1.5 million has been recovered and our last sale was held in October 2022. Next slide, please. So the figures on this, due to the two properties that we're removing, the figures have been decreased. We will send an updated slide to you guys. So you have it for the record today we are recommending seven properties for foreclosure for 40 liens in total and roughly \$729,000 owed. Five of these properties are in the extremely distressed properties enforcement program. Two of these properties have chronic offender liens on them. The extremely distressed programs enforcement program was approved by council in the fall of 2011. This program is managed by the bureau of development services. The purpose of this program is to enforce property maintenance regulations. Often these properties are referred to this program by the police bureau and district housing inspectors. The ultimate goal is to minimize the impacts to the surrounding neighborhood from the property being vacant and distressed. Therefore, the revenue division recommends that council approve these properties for foreclosure. One property is still outstanding from a 2020 ordinance to be included in this upcoming sale. Next slide please. In order to stay true to our city values, we wanted to look at equity in this process and ensure that black, indigenous and people of color are not being disproportion harmed. We looked at the data of the people who actually lived in the property as they would be most impacted by foreclosure data. We use census data from 2020, provide by the population research center, which confirmed at that time 87% of the properties were vacant and that bipoc community members would not be impacted if we proceeded with foreclosure in August of 2023, the bureau of development services sent out an inspector to each of the properties and confirmed that all the

properties are vacant. Next slide, please. The first property is located at 1225 northeast 109th avenue. There are three liens against this property. The oldest one dates back to 2018 and there's roughly \$33,000 owing the property taxes are delinquent for 2022. The property has been the subject of complaints for disabled vehicles and nuisance complaints. This property has been vacant since 2015 and there has been police involvement at the property in the last 60 days. We've sent out certified letters to the owner. The owner is represented by counsel and I have spoken with the attorney as recently as yesterday who informed me they are working to clean up the property and they plan to sell the property. Next slide, please. The next property is located at 9001 24 northeast prescott street. There are five liens against this property. The oldest is from 2015 and roughly \$119,000 is owed. This property is an extremely distressed properties enforcement program case. The property is a subject of periodic complaints for squatters and campers on the property. The property is deteriorating with portions of the building open, exposing it to weather. There has been police activity at the residence and in the nearby vicinity. The property taxes are three years past due. In the last 60 days, we've sent out two certified letters to the owner and we've been unable to reach the owner by phone. Next slide, please. This is the property that we're actually this is one of the properties we're removing from the list. Next slide, please.

Speaker: Yeah, go. Go ahead.

Speaker: Can you just clarify why we're pulling some of these properties?

Speaker: Yes. So this property we've met with the owner this morning and we're working on arrangement to resolve the delinquent liens.

Speaker: Okay. And these were these were property taxes as well. Here

Speaker: This one. Let's see. No, on this one. The property on beach, they're not delinquent in their property taxes, high level.

Speaker: What was the amount where were the drivers of the 391,000?

Speaker: There was a. Check nils. Yes, please.

Speaker: This one is 62.

Speaker: 24. So court code enforcement and nuisance liens.

Speaker: Any idea of the flavor of the code enforcement in nuisance claims?

Speaker: No, I don't have that additional detail. Okay

Speaker: I know some of it was for permit for work being done without a permit.

And. Disabled vehicles on the property. And that's what I have. Okay. Thank you.

Yeah, no problem. All right, next slide, please. The next property is located at 111

northeast killingsworth street. There are two liens against this property. The oldest

one dates back to April 20th, 23. Roughly \$9,000 is owed. The property taxes are

one year delinquent. The property has generated many complaints to the bureau of

development services. The complaints indicate there is frequent squatter activity at

the property. There have been two fires at the property. One was caused by arson.

There's also been police activity at the residence. One of the neighbors was recently

interviewed by koin six news about this property. In the last 60 days, we've sent out

two letters to certified letters to the owner and we've been unable to reach the

owner by phone. Next slide, please. The next property is located at 6004 to 17

southeast 84th avenue. There are four liens against this property. The oldest one

dates back to 2012, roughly owed is 170,000 \$170,000. The property was vacated

under a code hearing order. There are two accessory structures on the lot. The

accessory structures have been combined which create an unpermitted dwelling.

There has been police involvement at the property. The property taxes are owing

for 2022. This is an extremely distressed property enforcement program case. In

the last 60 days we've sent out to certified letters to the owner. I have spoken with

the owner who was who was to contact the bureau of development services to

work on correcting the violations. I did communicate with the owner yesterday over email and she confirmed that she had she had not reached out to the bureau of development services. She let me know. Her plan is to try and sell the property prior to the foreclosure sale date. Next slide, please.

Speaker: May I ask a question? Sure. This this will obviously come up. So they call you at the 11th and three quarters hour and they say, oh, we're all over it now when they've basically been unreachable, unmoved and unwilling to do anything. So and I realize that this process is designed to make it difficult for government to take people's private homes. And so I want to just acknowledge that I understand that. But at what point what do you say enough is enough? So they've reached out to you now? Do they have are they on the clock? Is there a timeline? Is there some commitment they have to make by a certain date? Otherwise these go back onto the list.

Speaker: The answer to that would be yes. They will be closely monitored. And put on notice with what type of things they are supposed to do by a certain deadline. And so some of our one of the properties we're removing may show up again because they didn't meet whatever commitments they were supposed to.

Speaker: Right. And i'll just say and i'll of course be introducing some amendments in a moment, but these property owners have not demonstrated an interest up to this point in doing anything to remediate these properties. And so I don't have a lot of confidence that when they give you their word that they're going to change and things are going to be different going forward. They haven't earned that trust from my perspective or from the perspective of their neighbors. So I do hope we are diligent in in ensuring that if they want to stop this process and do the right thing, that they actually do it. And if they don't, I want to see this come back before council and continue the foreclosure process. Yes.

Speaker: Thank you for your support.

Speaker: That's the plan. And I appreciate the good work you're doing. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: The next property is located at 6402 southeast 103rd avenue. There are seven liens against this property. The oldest one dates back to 2022, roughly \$159,000 is owed. This property is uninhabitable and poses an environmental mental risk due to the noncompliance septic system. The septic system currently drains into the Johnson Creek. This is an extremely distressed property and enforcement program case. There has been police activity at the property in the last 60 days. We've sent out two certified letters to the owner. I have not been able to reach the owner by phone. However the Bureau of Environmental Services has been in contact with the owner as the Bureau plans to as the Bureau is interested in purchasing the property. Next slide, please. The next property is located at 2826 southeast 87th avenue. There are nine liens against this property. The oldest one dates back to 1998, roughly \$151,000 is owed. This is an extremely distressed property enforcement program case. The property has had two significant fires. The second fire destroyed the structure prior to the fire. The property was the subject to frequent complaints for trespass and vandalism. In the last 60 days, we've sent out two certified letters to the owner and no contact has been made by phone. Next slide, please. The next property is located at 1229 North Bryant Street. There are ten liens against this property. The oldest one dates back to 2019 and roughly \$88,000 is owed. The accessory structure on the property burned in 2019, resulting in damage to a neighboring structure in 2020. A police officer was injured while assisting with the vacate at the property. The property is subject to squatters and several break ins. The property is adjacent to an alley which allows for unobserved access. There have been continued complaints for

yard maintenance and trash cleanup. This is an extremely distressed property enforcement program case. In the last 60 days, we've sent out two certified letters to the owner. I've spoken with the owner who lives out of state. He told me he would be working to get this property demolished and also working on working with the bureau of development services to resolve the violations. As as of today, there has been no movement on the owner's part. These are the seventh properties we are presenting for foreclosure today. Next slide, please. Why were there could you go back to the two before?

Speaker: Sure, because I think that's the one that said since 1998. Yeah. Jaw drop. How how does one beyond there since 1998.

Speaker: So this borrower or this sorry this owner see the 1998, I believe was a system development charge. So that's either a infrastructure improvement. Let me just confirm that. Yes, it was a system development charge and they they were actually on a payment plan and did make payments up until 1998 when they defaulted.

Speaker: Okay. But since 1998, there's been frequent concerns.

Speaker: Well, the next lane didn't come on until 2010. And at that time it looks like left going on that original lien from 98 was like \$3,000.

Speaker: Okay, thanks. I just had to pause there for a minute because that one stuck out quite a bit.

Speaker: I understand. All right. And the next slide, please. Next slide. So this property, this is the one where the owner came in yesterday and paid off the loans that were owing. Next slide. This property is located at a question on that.

Speaker: So they paid off the liens? Yes but to the degree that a property still is not compliant with code or poses a hazard, how is that then remediated as part of this

process? Well what we'll be doing is giving the owners information to bds, and bds will work with them to make sure everything is corrected.

Speaker: However, this is a particular owner who indicated that she has a person lined up to sell the property to, so she'll be able to pass that information on. Great. Thank you.

Speaker: This property is located at 5080 southeast cooper street. This property was approved by ordinance for foreclosure in 2020. The amount owed at the time was 92 was roughly \$92,000. The property did not sell at the last foreclosure sale. The amount owed has increased to now roughly 108,000. Two certified letters have been mailed to the borrower, to the owner within the last 60 days, and we've been unable to reach the owner by phone. Next slide, please.

Speaker: Can I ask you a question? When you when you say sold, are they sold with a reserve price or is it just the lowest bidder you're talking about for the foreclosure sale? You said it didn't sell at the last foreclosure sale. Is there a minimum reserve?

Speaker: The minimum is the amount of the outstanding liens. Okay. That's the amount that it'll be auctioned off for. And you know, it could be a bidding war, but unfortunately for this one, it was not. Got it.

Speaker: That's helpful. Yeah, sure. Yes.

Speaker: Hi, mike liefeld, bureau of development services. Actually the sale price is the greater of the liens owing or or 75% of the assessed value from the county. The greater so there is a minimum sale price because this is a sale that is on behalf of the owner. Proceeds after the liens are paid off, goes back to the property owner.

Speaker: Okay. And so, so if, if they owe \$100,000 and it sells for 200, then the property owner will still get the additional 100, is that correct? Correct. Okay thank

you. That's helpful. Thank you. Thank the next steps in the city's foreclosure process, you will vote on whether to move forward with the ordinance.

Speaker: If approved, the ordinance authorizes the city treasurer to conduct the foreclosure sale. The property owner may pay the amount owed up to the sale date after the sale is administered. The property owner has one year has a one year redemption period. This concludes my presentation on. I'd be happy to answer any questions. You may have great colleagues.

Speaker: Anything else I'd like to based on the information shared by our presenters today, I have three amendments to make to this ordinance. One property owner, as you heard originally listed within this item, satisfied their outstanding liens late yesterday and therefore my first amendment seeks to remove them from the list of properties. First, I motion to amend the ordinance to reflect the removal of property number nine, which is 14214 southeast crystal springs street. From the list of properties in the ordinance to update exhibit a to reflect this change and to remove exhibit a, b-9. Can I get a second? Second a second property owner is connected. Commissioner Mapps seconds a second. Thank you. The second property owner is connected with staff handling these matters, seeking to address their outstanding liens in an effort to encourage engagement and collaboration from our neighbors. My second amendment seeks to remove them from the list of properties. Therefore, a motion to amend the ordinance to reflect the removal of property. 3624-638 north beach from the list of properties in the ordinance to update exhibit a and to reflect this change and to remove exhibit b three. Can I get a second? Second commissioner Mapps seconds? Thank you. And thirdly, I motion to amend the title of the ordinance to reflect the changes within the previous two motions. The amended title will read quote, initiate foreclosure action on certain properties for the collection of delinquent city

liens placed against the properties. Can I get a second? Second, commissioner Mapps seconds again, we'll now hear public testimony on these items, if there is any. We have two people signed up.

Speaker: First up is mike lindbergh. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Welcome back, commissioner. Thank you very much.

Speaker: It's been a while. Was glad to see robert butler testify. Yeah, before the hearing today, I recall that 43 years ago today, he was in the council chambers, as it was then to start his citizen testimony at the 930 timeslot. Wow mr. Mr. Mayor, members of the City Council. My name is mike lindbergh, and I was asked to help several property owners in northeast Portland with to help them with a significant problem that they had in terms of an adjacent property that had provided a substantial nuisance since an absentee owner bought the property at 111 northeast killingsworth in March of 2022. The neglect has presented one problem after another more and more severe as time has gone on. You've heard reference sometime to nightmare on elm street while the neighbors feel this has been a nightmare on killingsworth street, you have a report before you from the bureau of development services which describes this very specifically, the nature of the problem. 20 911 calls to police and fire crimes as squatters, garbage age, no matter even if there's been notification to board up the property, it was not boarded up, meaning the property frequently has just been completely open and in fact, I drove by it a couple of times myself and took a number of photos and it was just kind of unbelievably bad in terms of the state of the property. I particularly take note in terms of not only the police calls, but the impact that this has had on the fire barrel. There was there were several fires and this sort of culminated in one fire in June that was so bad that there were many firefighters, several engines. And this prompted koin-tv to do a special report on this particular property. And as it

represents a larger problem throughout the city. During that last fire were the flames. And I have a video of it for anybody that would like to look at it in more detail. Flames going extremely high in the neighborhood. Neighbors hosing down their home to prevent the spread of fire. I'm here today to simply testify to have you support the foreclosure that's on the City Council agenda. And I want to thank in particular, the mayor's office for working on ways over the last few years to expedite this foreclosure process. This was really encouraging to see the report earlier today. And I want to thank commissioner Rubio, the office, for being so responsive and helpful. Your staff person, Megan Bayer. In terms of navigating bureaucracy, thank commissioner Gonzalez's office by making Tom Miller available too. So that they could really get a look at the impact on the fire bureau and the bureau of development services itself, which has been extremely helpful. So with that, I'd like to thank you for your time.

Speaker: Thank you, sir. Appreciate you being here.

Speaker: Next up, we have Randall Baker.

Speaker: Welcome, Mr. Baker. Thanks for being here. Commissioners

Speaker: I'm Randall Baker.

Speaker: I'm an attorney here in Portland. And I represent Lori Smith. She's one of the property owners listed in the agenda before you. And it's property. One, two, two, five. Northeast 109th Avenue. And I'm speaking here today in supplement of the written materials that I just submitted yesterday and submitting those materials, we indicated that we support the agenda before you with changes. And I did so because I can tell you personally and professionally here, we certainly agree with the that landowners who willingly and intentionally allow nuisance conditions on their properties to exist should be held accountable and by whatever means necessary to bring them into compliance for the sake of their neighbors and their

neighborhoods. I personally have lived on a block with a home like this and whether there's trouble going on at it or not, you still have the knot in your stomach thinking there's going to be and there's been plenty of trouble at this property over the years. But it's not a situation where there's been an unwilling owner of this property. It's just not the situation. Ms. Smith is 80 years old. She has significant cognitive impairments. She has severe short term memory loss and to a point where she effectively has no executive function, she cannot manage her affairs. She's got dementia and it's become increasingly worse over some time. She suffers anxiety issues that essentially paralyze her from making any type of decision other than basic needs. And certainly she doesn't have the ability to manage her affairs like you or I would or a property like this. I know this because I've been dealing with her for six straight weeks. She's gone missing several times during that period, including for three days where I had to call the Gresham police to put in a missing persons call for her. Eventually was found at a Denny's, which was a safe place for her when her family lived. They always used to go there. The employees know her, and they contacted people and she'd been there all day for the past several years. She's been living in a room in an extended, extended stay motel. She has no living family members. Her parents are gone or husband's gone. Her only sibling, her brother, who she lived with the last year of his life through cancer. And he's gone. No children, no nephews, no nieces. I'm here because she doesn't. In short, she's not a land owner who needs motivation. I have been involved since early August. We have a power of attorney appointed for her. The property. There are no nuisance current nuisances on this property. They've been cleaned up. We have three neighbors who are interested in purchasing it. I'm on steady terms with them. I've been to the property six times myself. As I speak today, there's someone cleaning out the interior. I've tried to contact BTR last month to address and resolve

these liens and that's my intent. I didn't get a return call. I did speak with mr. Foster yesterday. I also spoke with staff, including mr. Foster, in August. Actually asked to be contacted if there's any further action. So I was surprised to learn from the news yesterday that this property is on the list. We have been in swift action for the last five weeks. We don't need any motivation. The liens on this property are 32,000. We're going to resolve those. I want to resolve them this week and we hope to sell this property still this month to one of the neighbors. They have put up with this property for far too long. They're the ones who who should reap the rewards of this property being cleaned up. And I can tell you if ms. Smith truly understood the condition of the property and the stress she's put on her neighbors, she'd be ashamed. She truly would. She's not a bad person. She just simply has not had the ability. These notices from the city. I was delivered banker boxes of mail notices from the city, notices from utilities, notices from other entities unopened. These have gone out. They've been collected from her p.o. Box or in her motel room. They're simply not opened. And so I ask you to approve this agenda. But make an exception for this property. Even if we could have 30 days to address the issues. That's all I need. Because we've come. The neighbors will attest to how far we've come in the last five weeks. I'll take any questions as commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Mr. Mayor, i'll just kind of turn this one back to you or staff, or could we have maybe we could have staff come up or i'll just let me make a statement at which is I appreciate you being here today, and I hope that staff can work with you to resolve this situation.

Speaker: I mean, off script, i, I represent to the council, I will make this happen. In case you can't tell, I'm invested with this client. She's she's a really sweet person. She really has been drifting out there alone, though. It's true.

Speaker: Thank you. I'll lower my hand now. And thank you. See how the discussion evolves.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner. Commissioner Gonzales.

Speaker: Just two quick follow up questions. So you have been retained by Mrs. Smith to represent her in this matter or the reason I'm involved is an acquaintance from out of state just happened to come into town in July, met with her, realized what?

Speaker: How severe her condition was found some sort of letterhead from a matter that I represented her several years ago, very limited representation, frankly, I recognize she had some trouble then, and it's far worse the last three years. He contacted me and brought her into the office. Her memory span is about ten minutes. She's missed appointments with me. I can call her today. And she's not going to really understand. And a lot of what's going on. But I guarantee you, if she saw the property and understood what she'd done to her neighbors, she would be the first. She's broken down to me. She's really, frankly, ashamed of her cognitive. She recognizes she has impairments, not to the extent they are, but that's how I got involved. This person who's since now is her power of attorney and since he came on board, since we put together a team to try to address these issues, we're moving really swiftly. I know the enforcement officer, Mark Davis, the nuisance officer, if he went out there today, he wouldn't recognize the property. Again, the neighbors can attest to it. And we're really hopeful that one got three of them who are interested that we're going to sell to them.

Speaker: And I just the reason for my question, just to be crystal clear, is if you've been engaged and you're representing her, the minimum you're being notified is a reasonable expectation. And if there's some ambiguity as to whether there's an engagement in fact, representing her, then that's, you know, absolutely

representing her a little different dynamic. But I am surprised that that as of the third week of August, I made it very clear that if there's any problems with the property, if there's any in education, that anybody is moving forward with enforcement, please contact me, because and mr. Foster referenced some notices that were sent out fairly recently.

Speaker: Those must be sent to the air. She she just didn't get them. And if anybody had called me, I would have been on it. And I really have reached out to bts. I didn't have the right number. The first number that I was given by city staff. I just found out yesterday they asked me, why are you calling this number? I finally reached a human. Nobody had returned my calls and I got a hold of property compliance and left. Actually, a message for mr. Liefeld. In fairness to him, it was late yesterday afternoon. I didn't realize it was going to be here. I read a news article on my phone yesterday and realized this property is on this agenda today and I had no idea that it was going to be so I'm just asking for 30 days. If we can table bring it back on. Mayor, I agree with you. It's not an 11th hour rush. You know, the owner's been caught. Oh, better do something. We've been doing something since the beginning of August, since people who can process information have been involved. Okay mayor, I'd be interested to hear from staff.

Speaker: Just. I have appreciation. When a council requests to be notified before action being taken and if for whatever reason we didn't jump through those hoops, that's relevant to my perspective on it. But I just would like to understand what our process is here.

Speaker: And could I also just add, we can resolve this even if you place it in foreclosure status. I understand that. But invariably there's probably going to be additional expenses, she can't afford that with what we've already expended to bring the yard, the interior, we're talking like \$10,000 to clean up the interior of this

property. And frank, there's a stigma to it, too, which i'll have to tell her that it's in foreclosure. And if we can avoid that, because you need somebody motivated, I'm motivated. We're going to get this done. And I wish you owned the property.

Speaker: You had a question for staff. My mike liefeld, bureau of development services is I think we certainly appreciate mr. Baker's attention to this issue.

Speaker: Now, the city's process to bring this to City Council for a foreclosure vote upon second reading, simply just keeps that process moving. So if council does vote to foreclose on it, the next step is preparing a sale, which is going to happen 60 to 90 days later. So there's quite a bit of process timeline that's afforded to an owner to still to pay off the liens and remove it from the list after a sale occurs. If there is a bidder, there's a 12 month redemption period where an owner asserts their rights, they can still pay off the liens and retain the property. So the city's position at this point is to do, I think, our recommendation would be to move forward with the process as there's still time afforded for. Mr. Baker to continue working with the property owner to achieve the desired result of selling it through a private sale rather than a city foreclosure sale. And I think there is a lot of benefit to that. But there is time afforded to allow that process to occur. Thank council.

Speaker: Thank you. Dakota, do you want to add something?

Speaker: I did. Thank you. Mayor dakota thompson, deputy director of community safety and the mayor's office. One of the other properties on this list that we just heard an amendment about. Part of the rationale behind that was a power of attorney situation that injected new relationships in our ability to remedy the problems. It seems like we're stepping into a place where that is happening, and I'm heartened to hear that. As has been said many times, the entire point of this is to have a better relationship with these property owners so that we can help the community surrounding them. So I think we're we're fast approaching that

situation. And I want to echo what mr. Liefeld just mentioned, that we have some wiggle room here with respect to ensuring everybody is getting what they need, including the represented party here. And I know that council has spoken eloquently about wanting to achieve that end as well.

Speaker: Yeah. And I appreciate you being here, mr. Baker in dakota. I appreciate your advice to me that we continue with the process as designated commissioner Ryan, I think you were next.

Speaker: I can lower my hand because I wanted the staff to come up to get further explanations. Gotcha. Thank you.

Speaker: Great.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps. Yeah I just wanted to invite mr. Baker to respond to the staff comments that we just heard.

Speaker: Well, i'll again, just on principle, the problem I'm having is ms.

Speaker: Smith, lori is being lumped in with these willing and intentional all these defiant landowners that it simply isn't what the case has been. And I was told that over the phone that, well, we've had all these notices. It's gone on for so long. And I felt like I was talking to the wall because as you can send 20 more notices if I hadn't met her, it'd be foreclosed and keep sending notices. I don't know what would have happened if this acquaintance hadn't contacted me because they weren't going anywhere other than a p.o. Box. I have them in chronological order. They're all unopened. So so that's my problem with, again, saying, well, we'll move the process forward. You can redeem it or you can end it during foreclosure. I don't think this property it's not like the others. It shouldn't be in foreclosure. And that's my problem with it. And I again, I'm trying to spare her for whatever that's worth financially speaking. I don't want to address all the other fronts. I'm trying to save her sinking ships on, but I'm trying to save her. The stigma of knowing her

property's gone into foreclosure when it's not needed. That isn't what motivated us. I was motivated when they brought her in to me. I was motivated when I drove out to the property two days later and met with the first neighbor who, you know, the expression, don't shoot the messenger. Yeah, we had to work through that because from the moment I got involved, I saw what was going on here. And so I'm just asking for 30 days to get it resolved. I'm not asking for six months or a year. Nobody's going to return with this property. We're getting it done.

Speaker: Thank you very much for this dialog. I have no more questions.

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzalez just one follow up question.

Speaker: The staff, when we're talking about redemption scenarios, you know, I've been involved in pro-bono foreclosure actions in the past representing seniors in very similar situations. We were able to amicably resolve it prior to foreclosure. But the I guess my question is I have not really been through a redemption process and really thought through, you know, it's one thing often in this case, you're dealing with a senior who's going to frankly just wants to liquidate the property to pay off the liabilities and move on. And that's often optimal for everybody, which it sounds like this this scenario. But I'm just trying to play through if this did proceed to foreclosure and then we're she has the right to redeem within a year. I'm just is there any kind of market for her interest there? And I'm just sort of thinking out loud, does she have the ability to liquidate the property at that point? I mean, it's foreclosed on. I'm just sort of curious what you've seen. And then the second question is, is there other liens on the property that we're aware of outside of the city of Portland's?

Speaker: To answer the second question first, I'm not aware of any other liens outside the city of Portland.

Speaker: We do a title search at all when we do do a title search and due diligence.

Speaker: City attorney's office also helps us with that. So I don't have that information. Perhaps Mr. Foster has it. I don't know if that's in the file. The first question about the redemption period, I don't recall all from any city foreclosure sale that a property owner has redeemed during that afforded 12 month period and essentially any new bidders who do come to city hall and purchase a property at the city foreclosure sale are given a bill of sale and it admittedly causes some bit of problems for the next 12 months. Do they exercise their rights? You know, are they going to put money into the property when there's still this redemption period? And I think other like like other judicial foreclosures, there is some opportunity to negotiate that interest and sell that interest to make sure that the redemption period goes away, because the owner can cede their redemption rights to the purchaser to move things along. So I think that would be afforded or an opportunity. But essentially that's what it is. If the owner comes in during the 12 month period and pays off the lien amounts and the foreclosure costs, then the sale is terminated. Got it.

Speaker: Um, okay. I mean, I'm putting my cards on the table here. We have to be rigorous about derelict properties in the city of Portland right now it is exposing us to an incredible amount of risk across the board, including fires. Um, having said that, I have been through this with seniors in the foreclosure scenario when you have someone represented by counsel, I think trying to find a third party sale is going to maximize the pie for everyone involved outside of foreclosure. If we can if we can do it. So I would be open to removing this one at this time if we have some assurances, we can keep it on a tight, tight leash. If you have them from me, I should add, she's not living on her own any longer.

Speaker: She's living with a family and they're looking for an assisted living memory care facility for her. But if there's a way to do even a 30 day delay and I

don't know the agenda procedure here, but spring it in 30 days, if I haven't kept my word here and we haven't resolved what we need to, then add it to the list then and I would just include in any request if there's colleagues support here and that's a big if.

Speaker: But is that there's some assurance on how we're going to maintain the property that there's regular visits and supervision because that's our challenge with derelict properties. Obviously it's we have a set of neighbors here.

Speaker: They're they're in charge. There were homeless people living in this property and they weren't the neighbors weren't able to get responses from the police. It was during the worst of the worst. And they they had some discussion with the homeless in their i'll tell you, it got so bad, the city somebody plywood it up all the windows, all the boards impact screws they went up on the ceiling or the roof of the house and cut in with a sledge hammer and opening and rappelled down mission impossible. And I've been on the roof. I sealed it up myself because the rains were anyway. It's a stunning situation, but we're trying to resolve it. These neighbors have eyes on it. I'm driving by the property every other day.

Commissioner it happens to be coincidentally near a home where my mother is living, who also has dementia. So it's literally within four blocks of where she is. So I just swing by the property. I check in with the neighbors. They're checking in all the time. We now have a crew going through the interior. It's going to take them ten days, three 30 foot dumpsters, probably. I've been quoted there on site. So we've got activity. We left a barrier of limbs on the two side, fences to keep the homeless out. I'll tell you, I was out there three nights ago. Somebody wrote by on a bike and you know that look, it wasn't he wasn't headed to a book club. And I could tell that he recognized this property, but he saw me or eyes met and he drove on. But you're right. There's got to be vigilance on it. I, I thought of the idea of security

there, but I think the neighbors. But between all of us, we're all working for the same thing.

Speaker: All right. My last question is the staff I mean, is there a way to if we amend, remove it at this time, how much does that delay your process? Yes. I mean, can you do we have to start everything over again or what? Mechanically would happen if can we can we give a 30 day pause here mechanically again, should there be support for it?

Speaker: I don't believe I'm the most appropriate staff to answer questions about council procedures. I believe today we would you'd be authorized adding removing it from the list so the other properties could move forward to a second reading. So the foreclosure, the vote could occur and then the city treasurer could begin work on preparing those for sale again, to go back to an earlier point, keeping it on the list today and even going to next week for a vote, even with a vote that the opportunity to do a third party sale is afforded and that that work can continue and the city treasurer has timelines they have to meet with notice to prepare a sale. I think it's 60 to 90 days before we could even schedule a sale. So there is time afforded for everything to happen in terms of liquidating, selling the property, maximizing the return on if foreclosure today and with a vote continue.

Speaker: I, I guess the other option is can we just say that we're going to take longer than 60 to 90 on this particular property? I mean, I guess the other option is to approve it now or approve it in the second reading. I should be more precise. But and just commit that we give a longer period of time. Here is that optimal? I think for everyone is going to be a third party sell it. I think, you know, is my assumption here. You know, the only thing I'd add is I wouldn't be here today if somebody I had reached somebody at bts in the third week of August, if I'd had a return call, if I had had the right number to begin with, I don't need that much time.

Speaker: I imagine you and I could get this settled in, out in the hallway, whatever the lean amount is. I just want to try to resolve it because it includes a lot of penalties because they kept doubling when those notices weren't responded to. Of course, they are.

Speaker: So I don't mean to push this, but it seems like we're making a lot of the same points over and over again. I tend to do that. Finish your questioning.

Speaker: I think so.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan and then commissioner Mapps. Yeah, because second readings are often quiet.

Speaker: I want to acknowledge commissioner lindbergh for being here. And you, beth, on that killingsworth property. The nightmare on killingsworth. I know our office sent you a lot of emails on that matter as well, so that was great to have on this on this matter. I just would like to put this out there. This is the first reading. So we have a week. It can you all like figure this out between this week and next week. And then if we have a well thought out amendment, we could deal with that next week. I just don't feel comfortable with a walk on amendment at this moment. I've learned my lesson on those. I'm sure we all have. And so I do think that there's merit in this dialog that's taking place. But I was trying to figure it out in the emotion of this moment just doesn't seem like a wise idea. So I would be looking forward to the staff getting back to us. I'm looking at you, commissioner Rubio, because I know you're on it so does that make any sense?

Speaker: Yeah, I that I appreciate that suggestion and I would encourage that if staff can figure out. Thank you. Next reading.

Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Baker, could you just clarify something for me? You said she has no existing family. Is that accurate?

Speaker: To my knowledge, she has no parents. Her brother or her only brother passed away? No. Her husband died. Neither she nor her brother had children. So there's no nephews.

Speaker: Later on, you said she's living with family members.

Speaker: She's living with a family. She's living with. She's not her family. No. In fact, she's not even in Oregon now. She's temporarily down in san jose with this family. They're trying to find an assisted living facility for her. It gets more complicated.

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: Very good. But she has no family. She she literally was just out there.

Speaker: Fair enough. And i'll put all my cards on the table. I disagree with you, but I may take one of your business cards for future reference. I appreciate your advocacy. I you know, my personal view is we should move forward with the process. And if you can swing a miracle, great. The process leaves plenty of flexibility. Again, the burden is on government in the foreclosure process. And there are many, many opportunities for those who are being foreclosed upon to stop the process, reverse the process, whatever, and you have that opportunity. But my strong recommendation is that we move forward as we proceed. Colleagues with that, I'd like to vote on the amendments before I move this to second. The first amendment was to remove property number nine. Keelan did you have a question? Nope. Call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales hi, maps. Hi. Rubio hi, Ryan high. Wheeler all right.

Speaker: The amendments adopted colleagues, is there further discussion on the second amendment, which was to remove property number three from the list, seeing none, call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales hi, maps. Hi. Rubio hi, Ryan. Hi, Wheeler all right.

Speaker: The amendments adopted finally, the amendment to update the title of the ordinance. Any further discussion on seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales hi, Mapps hi. Rubio I Ryan hi, Wheeler. Hi. The amendment is adopted.

Speaker: I want to thank everybody for their testimony. Mr. Baker thank you for being here and provoking what I thought was a really valuable conversation. I want to thank staff for their hard work on this. This is a first reading of an emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading as amended. Last item colleagues. Seven, six, eight to pull the consent agenda item.

Speaker: Amend business license law code to require certain tax returns be filed electronically.

Speaker: Colleagues not all tax software providers make city tax forms available online, which inhibits tax preparers ability to file elected. Sonically, this item would mandate electronic filing for tax professions nils in alignment with requirements at the state and federal level. Folks, folks, we're still in session here. Thank you. In alignment with requirements at the state and federal level and would result in an increase in form availability from tax software providers. Audit and accounting manager scott carter and policy analyst don jones from the bureau of revenue and financial services are here to answer additional questions about the item. I'm going to turn this over to commissioner gonzales. Since he had pulled the item to get whatever concerns he has out on the table.

Speaker: I just wanted to get a quick overview of this and understand what we're doing in terms of accessibility for english. Second, language speakers non-primary. There's always some concerns about digital accessibility in certain communities. Now it looks like we're doing this to support and encourage software providers to

fill the gaps. I'm just would like to understand what we're doing to address any language concerns about an all digital pathway.

Speaker: Great. And I think we have staff somewhere online, online. Oh, there we go. It looks like we have scott. Scott, can you unmute. There you are. Yep. Okay so thank you.

Speaker: My computer froze up for about the last 30s of what you said.

Commissioner gonzales. Can you restate it?

Speaker: Yeah. Just want to understand what we're doing to assure accessibility for those that may have language barriers, english as a second language as well as just how we're sort of addressing digital issues for low income, lower income?

Speaker: Okay. Again, I'm scott carter. And the audit and accounting manager with the revenue division. I think as far as the electronic filing, I don't know if this if your question directly relates to that, but that's just one way that that the return gets to us. But we do have a lot of efforts that go toward making sure our forms, especially the most used forms like the arts tax forms, are in several languages, I believe 12 at last count. We also have an initiative with our business license programs. We've been focusing on providing spanish instructions and, you know, pretty robust body of. You know, non non english speakers and we also are with our online our our alternative way to file online, which is called pro Portland revenue online. So we're working on adding spanish features to that regularly. And this is something that's been in the forefront with us recently to even take it further.

Speaker: Got it. But the bottom line is we're going to be requiring that these returns be filed or electronically and is I was just curious if there's outside of what we're already doing with the respective forms, is there any game plan for addressing english second language and there's just sometimes the challenge with going all digital for certain communities. I just wanted to make sure we thought

through that, that we did meet with one of the tax software development companies, their government representative, and they they stated they were they were enhancing the non-english components of their tax software packages.

Speaker: We actually we're, we're trying to you don't want to use the word pride, but we're trying to encourage the tax software development companies to include the electronic filing in their forms. But they're they're the ones that actually address those issues. But it should you know, things should run on so they wouldn't even know that they're they're working with the city so that the onus would be on the tax software providers to provide that additional all the additional languages and resources such as those.

Speaker: Okay. Yeah, i'll support it. I just would ask that we keep an eye out on this in terms of what we're communicating on our websites for in, you know, for non-english speakers as best we can. Appreciate you. Thanks for the background.

Speaker: Sure.

Speaker: Very good. Any other questions? Any public testimony? No one saying this is a second reading. Please call the roll. Gonzalez maps.

Speaker: I want to thank commissioner Gonzalez for pulling this item and raising the important question about language accessibility in this space. Um. And it seems like we might still have some work to do here. I think it's is probably the what I learned today, I don't have a solution, but I certainly look forward to working with my with staff and colleagues on council to make sure that the software that we use to interact with the public is accessible to everyone regardless of what your first language is. In the meantime, I vote. I Rubio, i.

Speaker: Ryan yeah. Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez, for bringing this forward. I didn't really hear the accountability in that answer with how we'll work with those providers. So anyway, I'm this. Thanks for raising it. The issue. So we had dialog

about it and now let's all tune in to make sure that we actually reach the service is that we kind of had an idealistic viewpoint on, but I didn't hear any real accountability. So thanks for bringing this up and we

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

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Speaker: Everyone this is the Wednesday, September 13th, 2023.

Speaker: Afternoon session of the Portland City Council. Good afternoon, Keelan. Please call the roll. Good afternoon.

Speaker: Gonzalez here maps here. Rubio here. Ryan here. Wheeler.

Speaker: Here. And now we'll hear from legal counsel on the rules of order and decorum. Good afternoon.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [www dot Portland dot gov slash council slash agenda](http://www.portland.gov/council/agenda) information on engaging with City Council can be found on the council clerk's web page. Presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated. A timer will indicate when your time is done. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed. If you cause a disruption, a warning will be given. Further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally, council may take a short recess and reconvene virtually for your testimony today. Should adjust the matter being

considered when testifying. State your name for the record. Your address is not necessary. Disclose if you're a lobbyist. If your organization, please identify it for testifiers joining virtually. Please unmute yourself once the council clerk calls your name. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you very much. All right. We have two items today that will be read together. They're both non emergency ordinances. So we will not be voting today. Keelan could you read seven, seven, seven and seven, seven, eight together, please?

Speaker: Is item seven, seven seven amend title 33 planning and zoning and the zoning map to reduce the impacts of future flooding on the city and prevent the degradation of floodplain habitat for endangered and threatened fish species. Item 778 amend flood hazard areas code to comply with federal emergency management agency. National flood insurance program requirements and modify compensatory excavation and removal requirements.

Speaker: Colleagues, today we're hearing two continued items from the August 30th council session. One ordinance amends the zoning code, title 33, and the other amends the building code title 24. The building code amendments are not land use regulation, but for the purposes of efficiency. We're going to consider the items together either on August 30th, staff provided an overview of the two proposals we heard public testimony and commissioner Rubio introduced a package of amendments which are currently on the table. We'll refer to that package as Rubio number one. Today we're back to hear additional amendments and take a vote on all of the proposed amendments. We will not be taking a final vote on the ordinances today. I'll provide more information on the next steps as we get to the end of the meeting. As a reminder, the oral and written record are

currently closed and i'll now pass it to commissioner Rubio to walk us through this afternoon's session. Commissioner Rubio thank you, mayor.

Speaker: As a reminder, the proposals in front of us today are the result of many years of conversations between multiple bureaus and stakeholders about how to manage the city's flood plains and update regulations for new development in the floodplain in the central city and other areas. These changes are important to bring Portland's regulations into compliance with federal fish habitat regulations to advance the city's climate resiliency goals and to ensure that the properties in the floodplain remain eligible for federal flood insurance. This the staff recommendation aims to balance the need to address these issues, while also recognizing the importance of building housing and future economic development in the existing areas that allow for development, development. Today, we will then walk through a few new potential amendments from myself and commissioner Mapps. All of the new amendments were included in the clerk's Tuesday memo and posted on bp's project web webpage in advance. Following our discussion and deliberation, we'll vote on all of the amendments. The record will remain closed. But first we will hear a brief presenter from bp's staff, whom I've asked to pull together some information in response to some of the testimony we received last time we met. So jeff and patricia, welcome.

Speaker: Thank you. And good afternoon, commissioner, mayor and commissioners. I'm going to hand it over to jeff caldwell, who will be providing the presentation. Thank you. Jason you get going here.

Speaker: There you go. Okay.

Speaker: Okay. Mayor and commissioners, thank you again for having us here. My name is jeff caldwell, environmental planner at the bureau of planning sustainability. And I've been working on the floodplain resilience plan, managing

that project for now. A couple of years, just a little bit about the topics we expect to discuss today before we get into the details of some of those potential amendments, we wanted to follow up to respond to some of the comments we had heard at the both in written and oral testimony for the August 30th at the August 30th hearing, the two items were briefly going to discuss and we'll open it for questions afterwards. The first is really the different components of the biological opinion or what are called the elements of the biological opinion and then how they are incorporated into the proposals we have before you. And then the second is a little bit more on the phasing of the implementation of the work plan that came up a couple of times. And we just want to provide a little bit more clarity on that. So the first topic is really about the different components of the biological opinion. So in testimony we received, there have been some requests to implement the by the biological opinions interim measure. Right now in response to those requests, we wanted to provide some additional information on the different components of the bio directives and how they have informed our proposals. The directives of the bio are contained in what is called the reasonable and prudent alternative live and what's shown here on the slide. It contains six elements, and those six elements are the way in which the national marine fisheries service directed fema to make sure that they are compliant with the endangered species act. Though the elements are directed at fema, many of them require response from participating jurisdictions like the city of Portland. Since we ultimately approve or deny development in the floodplain. And then also we must meet these minimum criteria. To continue to have access to the national flood insurance program. So today we'll talk about elements two and three and in more detail in just one second. Then element four, just for your reference, is, is fema's long term is focused on fema's long term compliance with the endangered species act through changes that will be included

in its final implementation plan, which is expected to be completed in March 2025, which we mentioned last time. After the release of the implementation plan participating in jurisdictions are expected to have 18 to 24 months to come into compliance. But our overall work plan is really designed to ensure compliance with that final implementation plan. So element two, which has been referenced in a number of the testimony that we received, is really in that element. Two, it was identified, immediate actions were identified for fema to take to reduce the impacts of on threatened endangered fish species while fema staff were working on that long term strategy that we talked about in element four, the these actions were actually expected to be implemented within 18 months of the release of the biological opinion. But congress gave fema a three year extension for implementation of the of the biological opinion guidance. And so fema really turned its focus to developing that long term compliance strategy. We so they did release a draft implementation plan in October of 2021, which is currently going through national environmental policy review, national environmental policy act review. But that 2020 October 20th, 21 strategy did lay out the different their compliance, what they expect to be their compliant compliance options. And it draws significantly on those interim measures. So the interim measures, as is shown here on the slide, really provided sort of prescriptive guidance on tree and vegetation management, which is what we're doing in a lot in the updates to the environmental overlay zones that we've talked about, directives for improvement to habitat nearest the waterway, which is what we are referring to as the riparian buffer area requirements. And then also the had specific ratios for ensuring flood storage capacity would be maintained with development in the floodplain. And that's the title 24 component. So the directives of element two have been and they serve that as a foundation for our proposed changes to both the zoning code and the building

regulations. And in many cases are in operated directly from the interim strategies, interim measures. So we also wanted to highlight element three, because as you know, we are doing we've there were some we're updating the 1996 in the central and south reach, the 1996 flood area that we currently regulate. And a number of the comments questioned the 1996 as a basis for our protections. So element three, although again focused on fema's maps, really did say that fema's maps are not being updated appropriately or consistently enough and that they need to do better. And we have worked with fema to try and to try to advocate for the development of a new fema 100 year floodplain. Unfortunately based on those conversations, it's about a 5 or 7 year process to do that, to finalize that new fema 100 year floodplain. So in the meantime, we work the city bureau of environmental services, primarily worked with the with the us army corps of engineers to model the impacts of a 1996 like flood. And then that that new model takes into account current developments and river characteristics. So it really brings it to what is currently on the ground, the 1990, 1996 storm is used because it represents the most recent significant storm in the city and it is a type of storm that we expect to occur more frequently due to climate change. Additionally, the future update to the fema 100 year floodplain is expected to likely encompass many of the areas that are in the 1996. So therefore, we think that the 1996 represents a more conservative model for flood risk. And then also it fine tunes an area that we have already been regulating since 2000 as a result of metro requirements as so then now moving on just a little bit more about our work plan phasing, which is also come up a number of times in testimony. So we presented this graphic the last time we were here on August 30th. But so a significant portion of the testimony questioned why industrial lands were not included in this package as we had discussed, our overall approach in the work plan utilizes a phased process to

ensure that the biological requirements are applied to all the areas in the city by the compliance deadline, which we expect to be early in 2027. As shown in the slide, future phases of the work will address the industrial areas of the cobid corridor, which includes the employment areas of north Portland and the columbia slough, and between the columbia slough and the columbia river and then the willamette river north reach. All of those are heavily industrialized areas. So a key component of this component of this phased approach is addressing these areas as part of the development of an updated economic opportunities analysis, which is required by statewide planning goal nine. So just to kind of give a little bit more context based on on statewide planning, goal nine, goal nine requires that Oregon and jurisdictions ensure they have enough land to accommodate future job growth for over a 20 year period. So the economic opportunities analysis, which is a key component of that of compliance with goal nine, is the way in which we estimate the demand and supply of industrial and commercial lands over the next 20 years. So the determination of land that is available for these uses takes into account site characteristics and expected development constraints, including any required protections of natural resources and floodplains. As a part of this process, the economic opportunities analysis must consider policy guidance at a variety of levels. The state land use goals, as well as metro's goals and policies, address, address both environmental resources and economic development. So our own comprehensive plan also includes a range of goals and policies that recognize the importance of both these considerations. As our most recent economic opportunities analysis was completed and adopted in 2016, as a part of the 2035 comprehensive plan. And since that time, unfortunately, my phone is going off out of all times. For that to happen was mine. Since that time, the available industrial land has been significantly reduced and to ensure that we stay compliant with goal

nine, we need to evaluate potential limitations on industrial lands during the preparation of a new economic opportunities analysis, which has begun the flood management requirements and other environmental protections, along with a variety of other potential development constraints, will be considered with that new eoa. The economic opportunities analysis so that economic opportunity analysis is actually expected to come to City Council by the end of 2024. To all of you. And with that, we'll open it up to questions of anything else that we can provide clarity on.

Speaker: Very good. Commissioner Gonzalez so with respect to goal nine, what the gradual evolution of central east side district to more diverse uses right traditional warehouse and I have to think back if there was ever any real light manufacturing there, is that do you anticipate ?

Speaker: Well one, has that been built into any of these studies thus far or just the change in mix in central east side and if not, how do you anticipate it will impact planning here? And I realize when we talk further up the river, substantial industrial land there, that was excluded from parts of this process. But but looking at the city as a whole and our stock of land just just kind of curious, you know, change is both in northwest Portland and central east side in relative mix. How we think that's going to play out for goal nine in the city.

Speaker: I'm good afternoon, patricia diefenderfer for the record, thanks for the question. Commissioner Gonzalez so just to start out to acknowledge that those those lands are still employment lands, so for example, the lands that you're referring to in the central east side, those are still employment lands. They may not be industrial, they're I think they're office industrial. They're kind of a combination of office and light industrial. And those changes were made and accounted for in the previous economic opportunities. Analysis going forward, though, as we've expressed, there's going to be some real work ahead of us to look at the more river

adjacent areas that are industrial and consider how these environmental protections and floodplain regulations are going to interact with the availability of land there.

Speaker: Let me modify the question slightly. So we've seen some interesting mixed use in parts of central east side. Some of it's even been apartments and housing. And just depending on where you are and was that widely foreseen and baked into previous assessments? And do you anticipate we'll have any material impact on on future assessments?

Speaker: Yes. So those changes did you're making me recall that on some of the more major corridors, residential was allowed and outside of those major corridors, it was the residential was not allowed and it was retained for commercial industrial and light industrial uses. So those considerations, that was factored in and all of that was analyzed as part of updating both the comprehensive plan and the central city 2035 plan. So in essence, those those changes are already they were anticipated, they were planned for and they've been accounted for. And what we have before us is just further analysis around the industrial lands in particular, which are the most kind of you know, the scarce, the more scarce we have a lot of commercial. We have, you know, substantial office. What we're kind of lacking is some of the industrial lands. There's a more pressure on the industrial lands.

Speaker: Got it. And it goes one slightly different direction. Just maybe just ten second reminder on how banking works in in you know, in the city, when you're looking at development, someone raised cedar mills. Is a potential area of if our big term plans there don't work out would that be a banking opportunity just just the concept and on a macro level like how that plays out for our planning.

Speaker: Can I just clarify, commissioner Gonzalez, you're talking about mitigation banking. Yes, correct. Yes. Okay. Well, I can I certainly will let others speak to it. But

mitigation, banking, there's just the general concept is that there's a site on which you do substantial floodplain restoration in and create a habitat and vegetation so that it can help offset impacts of development in other locations where that might not be able to be done on site.

Speaker: So from a planning perspective, we've identified some properties that can be utilized for banking. When a developer or somebody wants to develop, and that's sort of absorbing that capacity inside the that's right. In the region.

Speaker: So those a mitigation bank has credits that you use and basically so that is sort of like how depending on on the site that you're proposing to do development, you have to have a commensurate your mitigation is not on site, but it is off site. And then there's a ledger that is part of that mitigation bank. And so as those credits are sold, the amount of benefit that is there that can be purchased reduces until there is nothing left but there's yes, the mitigation bank has that capacity that then is sort of used to offset development elsewhere.

Speaker: The last question and i'll turn it over to my colleagues, just to understand, is that banking, what is the geographical proximity required to a project? Can it be anywhere inside the city and in kind of the reason for thinking about this, since we're doing this in phases, we haven't, you know, substantial industrial land need might be tough. Just trying to figure out how this plays out as we're as we're planning this out, you know, decades in the future.

Speaker: Yeah, I would say in general, what we're looking to do is you would have especially for something like flood storage with jason, can, can speak to you more specifically, but you would have it in the same flood zone. So generally you can think of it. So for along the willamette for development in the willamette, currently for the zoning code, we do allow through the river overlay zone, you can use these banks if they were available to you. And so it would need to be in the same zoning

overlay zone. But that's basically the central and the south reach. So it's basically what we would expect is the offset would be the mitigation would be in the flood area and or in the general vicinity. If you're talking about not just floodplain offset mitigation, but habitat mitigation and things like that, you would expect that it would basically be in the same general area and along the same waterway, essentially. Okay. Thank you. And I do think I will say that for the future phases for the economic opportunity analysis, this is another key part of the consideration is because the banks on the willamette wouldn't be able to be used in the slough, for example, or on the potentially on the columbia river. That's still, I guess, somewhat of a question. But so you would need to have particular banks that are that serve the specific waterway where we don't necessarily have them right now along the columbia and the columbia slough, columbia river and the columbia.

Speaker: I follow the distinction. Great thank you so for your question. No we do have an expert on mitigation banking here.

Speaker: If we want to dive in more fully. But if we want to just move on, we can just move.

Speaker: I've got a couple of questions that I'd like to pose. And first of all, I also want to acknowledge and thank staff who came and visited with me in the interim and answered a bunch of my questions. It's provoked a couple of more. So we heard a lot of testimony last week or two weeks ago. I guess it was. And there were some consistencies in that testimony. And I just want to put on the record some of those questions and maybe get your reactions to some of them. One of the consistent criticism items we heard was was that this this exempts certain commercial or industrial interests. Is that accurate? It so maybe I can I can start and you can jump in.

Speaker: Jeff so patricia diefenderfer, for the record, I think the common theme of the testimony was that we were exempting the industrial areas. And so I think that's why we wanted to revisit that graphic with the phasing of the work to indicate that those areas are not exempted per se. They, they are the subject of future study. So there are yeah, I think that so it's not that we're exempting it this this ordinance, these ordinances do not encompass that question but that is slated as part of a currently scheduled study that will then come to council.

Speaker: Is that correct? That is correct. Okay so you have not ignored that question then?

Speaker: That is correct. Okay.

Speaker: Thank you. Um, there were concerns about modeling off of 1996 as flood experience here in the city of Portland. And I think it would be helpful for you to just mention what we discussed with regard to using the 1996 modeling. It was suggested, I believe, unless I misheard by some, that that is inadequate. But it seems that based on on what you believe, in fact, the 1996 modeling is rather forward looking compared to the national standards. Can you talk a little bit about that ?

Speaker: Yeah, and I think it builds on the information we provided related to the 1996 model. And basically so yeah, we are currently we related to the biological opinion. We currently regulate areas that are outside of technically fema's, the fema 100 year floodplain. And so that is one of something that contributes to our 25% reduction in the insurance for people in the city of Portland. But it is a more conservative approach to determining flood risk. And that's why we think it's really valuable for us to utilize. And so we still we have been since 2000 per the metro requirements, been requiring balanced cut, fill in both the 100 year and the 1996. And we just see this 1996, the new model rule. And again, going back to what I said,

it is our most significant recent storm. And so and per kind of our fema requirements and coordination with them, we call that the storm of record and so that's sort of we then have regulations to address that sort of like the most jason can again speak to this more in detail if necessary, but that is beyond just our 100 year. We're saying we've adopted this community flood area, which is the 1996. And so the model that we are using is just trying to fine tune it and make it more accurate as we thinking about where flooding will happen in the future so that we understand that as well, given current conditions, because clearly there has been development and there have been changes along the willamette since 1996 and since that, so 1996 is the most conservative, real world data you have.

Speaker: And that was an exceptional year, obviously. That's right. In the last 30 years, looking for. There are some who would suggest that weather modeling and whatnot could suggest even more severe nificant flooding. How does that get worked into this?

Speaker: So, mayor Wheeler, to answer your first question, yes, that is the more conservative. And we feel like the most sort of representative area to be regulating floodplain regulations currently going forward. I mean, I think that's what the fema has the responsibility to update the maps. And I mean, I think it staff's expertise, you know, their opinion, professional opinion that the fema 100 year maps will potentially look more like the 1996 maps in the future. But it could also be even, you know, the boundaries of the floodplain could be even beyond that.

Speaker: So if let's say fema does its job and they come back with a baseline that is even more conservative than 1996, does that change our modeling that we would be required to recognize those 100 year flood plains, whatever they may be in the future if they come back with a more conservative number than our 1996, we will adjust that.

Speaker: That's right. But your professional guesstimate at this point is that the 90 1996 numbers are certainly more more conservative than the current baseline and potentially will be more conservative than what FEMA comes up with in the future. Correct that's right. In which case the 90 1996 baseline will remain here in the city of Portland, correct? We won't go back to a less conservative standard. Is that an accurate understanding?

Speaker: That's correct.

Speaker: And then lastly, there there were specific areas that that people mentioned and that that were excluded. Amongst them, for example, the Johnson Creek floodplain. Could you just elaborate on that a little bit? Yeah sure.

Speaker: The reason why Johnson Creek. So there's a lot of work going on, especially from the environmental services. And in terms of the mitigation banking experts, you could probably tell you we could call her up if you want to know more. But so the reason why Johnson Creek is still waiting, there's we have done a lot of work for floodplain restoration in in Johnson Creek. So it's a re-mapping of that floodplain is an important thing to do based on those. And I think your environmental services is working to try to make that happen. The other component is the flooding in Johnson Creek is a little different than elsewhere. It's really not so much focused on riverine. So from the Johnson Creek itself, but also stormwater back up and things like that in the area. It's a very large floodplain there and so the conditions there are very unique. In addition, we regulate it very specifically. The zoning code addresses it specifically title 24, the building regulations have specific requirements for Johnson Creek. And so we have again, in terms of its conditions and character specifics, we've pulled that out because and they also have, you know, different demographics and things like that in terms of who are engaging with and talking to. And so we pulled that out because we think it

is a pretty significant relook at all of those regulations and also require its own attention. So that's why it's the final piece in this phase.

Speaker: I appreciate those clarifications. Commissioner Gonzales, just very quickly on the exchange, on the various maps, when we're using the term conservative, I'm concerned that that's going to be misunderstood.

Speaker: Is it fair to say that it's the most protective right. So it is most protective of wetlands. That's when we're talking about the 96 expansive.

Speaker: You don't mean to wordsmith, but just when people hear those words, I think Commissioner Ryan had a similar.

Speaker: Yeah I'm referring of course, to, you know, this I'm referring to baseline and. Establishing standards that are more stringent than what is currently that's right under the federal guidelines.

Speaker: It's not intended as a political statement, just so.

Speaker: But you're right most certainly would get interpreted that way one day.
Okay

Speaker: Thank you. Great. Any other questions? If not, thank you for the presents and colleagues will now move through the amendments. We'll go through them one at a time and vote on each amendment as we go. And I'll turn this over to Commissioner Rubio to represent the first amendment, which is already on the table. Amendment number one, Rubio one.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Patricia, would you mind queuing up the first slide for the first package?

Speaker: Yes.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, we're going to queue that up for you right now.
Okay great.

Speaker: Yeah, here. That's okay. You can do it. Okay, I'm just gonna.

Speaker: Yeah, yeah. There you go. Great

Speaker: I'll just start. So just as a reminder, these amendments were introduced in City Council on August 30th, and they were described by staff, then moved and seconded at that time. And as you may recall, they, they were substantive and technical amendments applicable to the title 33 ordinance package. And in a moment i'll introduce the two additional amendments. Rubio two and three, which would make minor but important change to this package. But first, we need to vote on this initial package. Okay, thanks.

Speaker: Any further comments or questions on Rubio? Number one, seeing none, please call the roll on Rubio one Gonzalez hi, snaps.

Speaker: Hi.

Speaker: Rubio hi, Ryan. Hi, Wheeler. Hi.

Speaker: Rubio one is adopted. Commissioner Rubio it's my understanding that you have three additional amendments.

Speaker: Yes. Thank you. So these are two new amendments this week which I'm introduced as Rubio two and three. These amendments would change the effective date of the key components of the proposal, reducing it from a two year delay to a one year delay. The amendment also makes a technical change to properly correspond to the appropriate directives, and I want to thank everyone who provided testimony at the August 30th meeting. We heard a lot of testimony expressing concern about the two year delay. And while staff had good reasons for the initial proposal of two years, we don't believe that reducing it to one year will harm the balance we sought in the proposal. So I'm happy to be introducing this amendment which I hope will be well received by my colleagues. Great.

Speaker: That's Rubio two. Do we have a second? Second commissioner Mapps second, is there any further discussion on Rubio? Two seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales hi maps a Rubio i. Ryan Wheeler hi.

Speaker: Rubio two is adopted. Commissioner Rubio and does that encompass so then updating the effective date on item 778. We'll call that Rubio three yes.

Speaker: Yes. So moving to amend. Yeah to October.

Speaker: Great. Is there any further discussion on that? Call the roll. So moved commissioner Mapps second and commissioner Ryan, please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales hi maps. Hi Rubio hi, Ryan Wheeler all right.

Speaker: Rubio three is adopted and then the new section two would be Rubio four.

Speaker: Yes. So thank you. I have one final amendment that's new. It's a minor technical amendment to add in standard language. That was inadvertently left out of title 24 ordinance. It does not change the code or any of the policies or substance in the proposal, and staff have the precise language shown on the slide. And with that I move to amend seven, seven, eight and add the severability clause to the title 24 ordinance.

Speaker: Second, we have a second from commissioner gonzales.

Speaker: Any further discussion on the technical amendment? Seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales Mapps a Rubio i.

Speaker: Ryan hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: Hi.

Speaker: Rubio four is adopt id thank you, commissioner Rubio it's my understanding. Commissioner Mapps you have a friendly amendment, is that correct?

Speaker: Yes, I do. Colleagues I let me start out today by thanking commissioner Rubio and her team for working with my office to develop this friendly amendment. My colleagues, I moved to amend item 778 that deals with title 24. You can in a moment you will be able to see that amendment up on a slide on the screen. While we wait for that to come up. Um, do we have it on the slide?

Speaker: We have it on zoom.

Speaker: We are sharing it. It's not showing on that screen.

Speaker: Okay.

Speaker: As long as folks can maybe we'll share it again real quick and see if that works.

Speaker: Yeah. Here's commissioner Mapps we were looking into here.

Speaker: They were showing sorry about that.

Speaker: So speaking of things that need to be amended, um, so here we go.

Speaker: Uh, uh, this amendment touches on title 24. That's the amendment up on the slide. And this amendment addresses concerns we heard from the public about building along the waterfront without taking steps to mitigate the impact that development will have on flood storage capacity and endangered species. This very much harkens back to the conversation that, uh, commissioner gonzales sparked a moment ago about mitigation banking. Um, a. Amendment three as language to the ordinance, which acknowledges public concerns about building in a floodplain without taking some mitigation efforts. In addition to acknowledging those concerns. Amendment this amendment commits the city to lobbying the state

legislature to fund flood mitigation along the willamette river and or to fund a city run mitigation bank at and with that, that is a very quick summary of the motion.

Speaker: Very good. So, commissioner Mapps moves that. Do we have a second? Commissioner Rubio seconds any further discussion on what we'll call Mapps? Number one, just to be consistent, please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales Mapps hi, Rubio hi, brian.

Speaker: Hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: Hi. Amendment Mapps number one is adopted.

Speaker: Colleagues are there any further amendments, any further discussion on the amendments committee? Rubio any closing remarks you'd like to make before we move this on?

Speaker: No

Speaker: All right very good, thank you commissioner Rubio for your leadership. Item 777 and 778 are continued to October 4th at 2 pm time certain. On October 4th we'll vote on the revised findings and return with documents that incorporate and reflect the amendments that were voted on today. The oral and written record will remain closed. That concludes today's business and we are adjourned.

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

September 14, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.

This file was produced through the closed captioning process for the televised city Council broadcast and should not be considered a verbatim transcript. The official vote counts, motions, and names of speakers are included in the official minutes.

Speaker: This is the Thursday, September 14th, 2023, session of the Portland City Council. I want to welcome rebecca to the council clerk seat. I think this is your first time in the clerk position. I know you've been shadowing, but this is your first time in the big box.

Speaker: Yes, it is. It is. Thank you.

Speaker: Well, we're really thrilled to have you here. Thank you for your service. We appreciate it. Please call the roll. Gonzalez here, maps here.

Speaker: Rubio here. Ryan here, Wheeler here. Now, we're going to hear from legal counsel and the rules of order and decorum.

Speaker: Good afternoon.

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor. Thank you. Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [w-w-w dot. Portland.gov/council/agenda](http://w-w-w.dot.Portland.gov/council/agenda) information engaging with City Council can be found on the council clerk's web page. Presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated. A timer will indicate when your time is done. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be

allowed. If you cause a disruption, a warning will be given. Further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected, is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally, council may take a short recess and reconvene virtually your testimony today should address the matter being considered when testifying. State your name for the record. Your address is not necessary to disclose if you are a lobbyist. If you are representing an organization, please identify it for testifiers. Joining virtually. Please unmute yourself once the council clerk calls your name. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you for that. We have one item this afternoon item 779. An emergency ordinance. This add downtown business incentive credit code to encourage new and extended leases in core business districts. Good afternoon, everyone, and thank you for being here to consider this important proposal for the central city economic recovery and revive stylization. This item, just to remind us all, would create a one year full business license tax credit for a long term lease signings in targeted areas of the central city to promote the retention and attraction of employers and the economic vibrancy that they generate in our urban core alongside the many safety and livability initiatives, we're simultaneously pursue doing this unprecedented policy action leads the nation and helps meet the moment that we face here in our city. This action in concert with the expansion of the enterprise zone program as well as the establishment of a new central city tax increment financing or tif district is a key component of the advance. Portland economic development strategy and my administration's central city recovery plan. I want to thank commissioner Rubio and her chief of staff, jillian shawnee, for their partnership and collaboration to develop this proposal. I also want to thank prosper Portland, the revenue division of the city budget office and the attorney's office as well as the bureau of planning and sustainability for their terrific work to

craft this innovative policy. I appreciate the leadership and the practical perspectives shared by the Portland business alliance. It's no longer the name. It is now the Portland metropolitan chamber and other key stakeholders that are deeply committed to revitalizing our central city. I'll now turn this over to our commissioner of community and economic development and commissioner Rubio for any opening remarks that she'd like to make. Before we get right into our invited to our presentation and invited testimony, commissioner Rubio thank you, mayor.

Speaker: As you heard from the mayor, myself and other colleagues, Portland's economic recovery is a top priority for this council. We are committed to doing all we can to ensure that we are a city that is safe and thriving for our businesses, big and small. Today's proposal follows other efforts by this body and bureau staff to take action to respond to the needs of small businesses more, more stabilization and repair grants. Passing a resolution to consolidate permitting services, expanding our enterprise zones, launching new Tiff district exploration committees for both east Portland and the central city, developing a new economic development strategy and making our own investments and asking for support from the state to assist in community safety. I think we also know that it hasn't been enough. More action is needed right now to be responsive to the moment that we're in, and that's what brings us to today's action in June, both the mayor and I alluded to exploring new ideas to help the areas of our central cities struggling the most, based on a data analysis provided to us by Econorthwest. My point then and still is today is this know that your city government is willing to consider a lot of things in balance while maintaining the services people rely on every day and largely due to the good thinking and hard work of Andrew Fitzpatrick. We offer today a new policy to incentivize those office lease renewals through a

business license tax credit that is tied to in-person work for employees similar to city employees that will help surrounding small businesses. Before I hand it off to Andrew and other city staff to speak to the detail, I want to say this our city can fully recover because we have a core of people, including everyone in this room, who know and believe in Portland's best and highest potential and who are willing to try new things to get there. This new idea today and others come, others to come are what will move us through this turbulence and eventually to the other side. And today we are ensuring that we come back strong with this action. So with that, I will turn it back to the mayor. Thank you, commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Next, I'll welcome Andrew Fitzpatrick. He's my office's director of economic development to share details of the policy. Welcome, Andrew. Thanks Mayor. And Andrew, do you also want to introduce the invited testimony? I'll be happy to. Great terrific.

Speaker: Thank you. Good afternoon, Mayor and city commissioners. For the record, my name is Andrew Fitzpatrick and I serve as the director of economic development and the Mayor's office. I'll provide some key context and components of this policy proposal, and then we'll turn it over to Mike Wilkerson, the director of analytics from Econorthwest, and Tyler Wallace, who's the interim chief of the revenue division currently, who will describe detailed program structure, implementation and management of this program. Mike's portion with Econorthwest will describe how this intervention responds to their economic analysis of the needs of the central city and the post pandemic recovery phase. As the Mayor and Commissioner Rubio stated, this business license tax credit is designed to recover and revitalize hardest hit areas of our central city by incentivizing long term real estate lease renewals and new signings. The investment employees foot traffic and spending that these leases represent will drive further

vibrancy and economic activity in the surrounding neighborhoods. Many employers, retailers, restaurants and other businesses operating in the central city may choose to close or relocate. Otherwise their their operations. But for the incentive that this ordinance creates, this which retains and attracts continued investment and employment in our city's core. Although the university of toronto's study on downtown recoveries was flawed, it's still fair to say that our downtown recovery lags comparable cities and demands this aggressive policy intervention. The central business district office vacancy rate continues to grow and is now at nearly 27, with shadow vacancies and significant negative net absorption of office space, this figure is likely to continue to increase in future quarters. More than 100,000 people work downtown before the pandemic accounting for about 5% of the entire state's jobs. Today office worker foot traffic is less than 50% recovered from 2019. Similarly visitor foot traffic recovery lags the metro region and comparable cities depressed. Foot traffic continues to perpetuate further stagnation in foot traffic. Recovery as business activity, public space activation and community safety are negatively impacted. We are seeing a trend of continued departures of employers and their employees from our core that we must turn around even as we reimagine and reinvent our future downtown. The total program cost of this credit is capped at \$25 million total plus administrat costs over the next five years. This investment represents about 3% of the average business license tax revenue that's collected each year. This level of tax expenditure is needed to meaningfully influence individual lessees in a manner that achieves scale across the targeted subdistricts in the near term. Simply put, the revenue division would be collecting \$0 forever for all companies choosing to close or leave the jurisdiction on top of the broader positive economic impact that they would be leaving with to act swiftly and maximize the economic benefit of scarce fiscal resources. There is a 15 employee

threshold in this program for employers with 15 or more employees are more likely to have a significant belt liability that could be credited against to influence their leasing decision. Ultimately, this program's primary goal is to stimulate economic activity that will benefit smaller businesses through the increase in foot traffic and spending of neighboring tenants and their employees. Prosper Portland will continue to deliver other direct programs, aims like the repair and restore grants, which are specifically focused on very small businesses in the city. Although there is broader need for support in our city, the targeted geographies in this credit are our central city subdistricts that are most acutely distressed based on northwest analysis. Old town lloyd lower albina and downtown. This analysis incorporates several factors, including reductions in foot traffic and employment and increases in vacancy rates. Mike from econorthwest will speak more to this methodology momentarily. Taxpayers must be prepared, must be pre-approved for this tax credit and must attest to having returned their workers to the office in person at least half the hours of a standard working week. Taxpayers may only claim this credit for one tax year. They may not claim more than 100% of their total liability or more than a per taxpayer cap of \$250,000 each taxpayer availing themselves of this opportunity is subject to audit and oversight by the city's revenue division, who will speak more to this shortly to develop this proposal, we took insights and inputs from those who engaged in the advanced Portland plan and worked collaboratively with a variety of employers commercial real estate managers, brokers and other stakeholders involved in central city recovery efforts. You'll be hearing from some of these representatives of these companies and organizations in public testimony. We stand ready to learn from the early performance of this program and adjust it if needed to stimulate as much positive investment as possible over the coming months. Thank you for your consideration and leadership, your vision and your

willingness to take bold action to bring our city back. Thank you. Thank you. And now over to mike. Hi, mike.

Speaker: Good morning, mayor. Commissioners, my name is mike wilkerson. I'm the director of analytics at econorthwest. As andrew mentioned, I was invited today to share an update on the analysis that we provided to help inform the advanced Portland inclusive economic development strategy. I believe I have some slides. We can pull them up while that's happening. I would just like to state on the record that we have been a long time downtown tenant. We believe in the downtown and have recently re signed a lease to commit our long term future to downtown. And so our firm believers in that. Thank you. Next slide, please. As I'm sure you're all familiar from the plan, we looked at the ten sub districts in downtown and the goal there being to provide a data informed, repeatable analysis that could be updated as conditions conditions change during the recovery. So as part of that, we had three categorizations or typology changes, reimagined, reinvigorate and retain and reimagine were the hardest impacted areas facing crisis conditions and also in need of a long term reimagining of those of those sub districts. Whereas reinvigorate our performing better, although still seeing some noticeable impacts from the pandemic and the retain geographies have performed best and continue to perform during the recovery. And I think to do that we really used, as andrew indicated, five data points that can all be updated with some regularity and with geographic specificity. So we looked at the number of businesses to see our businesses forming. Are they closing employment by sector office vacancy rates? And then I think importantly, foot traffic as the best real time leading indicators of conditions on the ground. Next slide, please. What we see, I think, is not not surprising and not different than many places, which is office vacancy rate is increasing. I will note that there are challenges when you're looking at

understanding the square footage of vacancy. There are multiple sources of data and important. What this doesn't include is shadow or subleased space that will come to market and that's in the order of several million additional square feet on top of what you see here. I think the key takeaway is the trend is increasing, continuing to increase. And we now have more than double the amount of pre-pandemic office space vacant. Then we then we did more than half of that is in our downtown alone. So we have high concentrate in in the downtown area of that office vacancy next slide, please. I think the other trend is to understand what's happening on a leasing volume basis. And so when we look out at the future, we still have 3 to 4 years of leases that were signed pre-pandemic. And what we're now seeing as the leading indicator is what is that volume of leases. And so effectively you have firms who are renewing leases and typically on average they're taking 30% less space than they did on their previous lease. And certainly you have firms who are leaving the central city and you have firms who are entering the central city. And so this is that combination of all of those factors. And what you see is, I think the trend is the quarterly leasing volume is less than half of what it was. And I think what's challenging is that trend is decreasing over the last year, which is to say this is indicative of the vacancy rate continue going to increase for the foreseeable future. I think this trend certainly supports getting to 30% vacancy or higher. And the sublease is even on top of that. So those are the two, I think, best indicators we have as it relates to vacancy that we've continued to monitor since the advance Portland report. I think the two most relevant data points today are foot traffic and the next two slides step through that. The first of which next slide, please, is employment. And so here we're able to subset employment, foot traffic. So these are people who come to the same place of work and it can incorporate hybrid work versus in-person work. And we're able to look at that on an effective daily basis. All

the way through. As of this date is through end of month, July 20, 23. And when we do that, what we see is a continued recovery through about six months ago. And then it has really plateaued. And so when you look at the central city total office foot traffic is down 30. Downtown is down 53. Old town chinatown is down 60. Lloyd is down 48. And lower albina of our reimagined subdistricts is performing the best, but is still down 30. And so I think this is indicative of the initial analysis holding true today. The conditions in these sub districts are still the poorest performing of the sub districts in the central city, and that holds true across all the data that we're able to have. Ready updates for next slide, please. And again, visitor foot traffic, I think is not directly related to employment, but there is a very strong nexus between a thriving, active, ated public realm and retail experience that daytime employment supports. And so if you don't have that daytime activation, the retail environment really struggles and that has a negative feedback loop with visitors wanting to come down to spaces. And certainly the amount of business that can be supported when foot traffic is down, 50% is meaningful. But again, the overall visitor foot traffic is down to a lesser extent, 35% in downtown town and 23% in the rest of the central city. So those are my remarks. Thank you for your time this afternoon. Thank you.

Speaker: Appreciate it.

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor and commissioners. My name is tyler wallace. I'm the interim revenue division director. This ordinance before you today amends Portland city code, chapter 7.02 to add the downtown business incentive credit. As you have heard, the dbi provides a credit of up to \$250,000 per business as incentive to enter, renew or extend the lease within the downtown core. It also applies to businesses that occupy the space that they own. The credit will be taken on the business tax return filed with the city to qualify a business may must enter a

lease or extend a lease of at least four years in 2023 or 2024. A qualifying business must have at least 15 employees working at least half time in the location within the district qualify businesses must submit an application to the revenue division and receive an approval to claim the credit on the tax return. The credit is calculate as the lesser of \$30 per square foot or 1% of apportioned net income, and the credit is capped at \$250,000 per business as once the business establishes their credit in 2023 or 2024 is divided by four and available to them as a non refundable credit over the next four years, the credit program as a whole, as you heard, is capped at \$25 million. In the event that the credit cap is reached, all timely applications will still qualify and still receive a credit. Every business that was approved for the credit would then have their credit reduced just to stay at the \$25 million cap. Applications must be submitted by January 31st, 2024 to be claimed on the 2023 tax return. However, if someone renews a lease in 2023 and don't get the application in by that deadline, they can still submit an application by January 31, 2025, and originate their credit in tax year 24 for the 23 renewed lease revenue will review applications and send taxpayers a notification of their approvals. A denial or requesting additional documentation on businesses must have an approved credit to claim and receive the credit on their tax return. Once the business has that approval, they can then file their tax return and calculate the amount of their credit based on their 2023 income revenues. Tax system. The integrated tax system will be able to identify tax returns, claiming the credit that didn't have a previously approved application. And those claims will be denied. Businesses are required to keep their lease and also maintain the 15 employee requirement at least half time. Failure to maintain these qualifications will result in forfeiture and repayment of the credit revenue will require an annual attestation of businesses receiving the credit, ensuring that they still meet qualifications for the credit revenue will do

audits and request documentation from the businesses to ensure the business has maintained qualification. This work will continue for the duration of the program, which will be through fiscal year 2829. The revenue division will work quickly to implement and do everything that is needed to make this available for tax year 23. And there's a lot to do in a short amount of time in the coming weeks, revenue will send an educational notification to all of our current business tax accounts with information about the credit program and what they need to do to qualify and claim the credit. We will work with the mayor's office on additional communications to notify local businesses about the credit program. We will create the credit application process. As I said, the first deadline to apply is January 31st, 24, which is coming. And so we will make sure that we have that application process stood up as soon as possible. Revenue will make the necessary modifications within our integrated tax system to administer this program, and we will also work to modify business tax forms, instructions and work with software vendors to make sure this credit is available in their software's. This ordinance provides revenue with additional budget resources, which will primarily be used to add two fte to administer this program, as well as send notification and correspondence to business as related to the program with that, i'll stop there and available for questions.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez. Thank you.

Speaker: Starting on revenue estimates ice, could you just walk us through your methodology for projecting those? I mean, given that we have declining well increase vacancies? I just sort of curious what the assumptions are and making those revenue projections so estimates were difficult because we don't have really solid information as far as obviously who is within the district.

Speaker: Businesses filed their tax returns and many times as the parent corporation that files the tax return and their address might not be within the district, but they may have a lease within the district. And then the other thing is obviously we don't know who's going to extend the lease. And so with the analysis that we did do, we took a look at the businesses that pay the most amount of business license tax and made the assumption often that a large majority of them would be able to claim the credit.

Speaker: And are you? I guess, given the trajectory of downtown, for example, right now, where you're seeing increased vacancy, I just sort of curious what the assumptions are for absent this incentive for those, you know, what percentage of those leases would be renewed or extended. I guess I'm just bottom line, I'm worried that maybe our estimates might be exaggerating the potential revenue loss, but it's hard to tell.

Speaker: So yeah, that's I mean, that's partly why we wanted to instate the cap. If you were to hit the cap, it would sort of be a good problem to have in the sense that you'd now have all of that leasing activity, a lot of which wouldn't be there. But for this intervention. And we could always allocate more above the cap with another separate council action, but at least you have that kind of safety valve so that you're not going beyond where you'd like to go.

Speaker: Yeah, no, my worry is almost the opposite direction that again, that we may be overestimating the negative revenue impact. The and do we include any projections as to how this might positively impact assessed values downtown? I mean, if we're able to retain more tenants, it's going to drive potentially at least it's going to protect the assessed value to a certain extent of properties downtown. I'm just curious if that baked into it. Certainly will directionally, but we'd have to work with the county's assessor's office to try to come to a more narrow window in terms

of how much we did ask them about some different scenarios that we're happy to share with you separately that relate to decreases in assessed value over time and how much property tax revenue impact that would have separate from this.

Speaker: So it is this is partly the response to that, but we have a few breaks in the system that prevent too much of a swing based on large assessed value decreases.

Speaker: So because the delta is between market value and assessed value, you you wouldn't measures five and 50 state law. Got it. And for those listening at home, it's just a multiplying effect of leases and the way they impact assessed value and overall revenue for governments. Last two questions. Just on the language of the code, this might be mostly for commissioner Rubio and her team. The verb break. I was just curious when we're talking about the carve back, the clawbacks on the benefit, I was just curious on the word break, the lease if we considered alternatives like terminate or allowed to expire, I just wordsmithing just being a lawyer up here. But yeah, that's probably kind of an eloquent term break.

Speaker: I think it does refer to termination. Okay

Speaker: So, um, and we can try to clarify that administratively or we can try to, you might consider it because if they have an early termination right, you know, that may, they may be able to terminate a lease without actually breaking it. And still we wouldn't get the benefit of their utilization downtown. That's a good point. Um, the last question in that area, um, the, the clawback here would be for the entire amount of the credit they received. And so, so even if they stayed three years, we would, we would claw back all of all of the tax benefit. That's correct. Okay. And I just was curious about the logic of that, that I can, on the one hand, have some understanding, but they are bringing benefit to downtown if they stay three of the four years. And is that excessively punitive? I'm just thinking out loud. I don't know. But that's that's the question.

Speaker: That was part of our logic in terms of trying to split it up into the four years that you're incentivizing someone to actually be there for the full term of the lease that they recommitted to. But you're sounds like suggesting that maybe you could give them a portion of the tax benefit if they were there for a portion of the lease that they extend for? Yeah we want them there as long as possible.

Speaker: But I just I didn't I also want to be fair on how it's applied. I guess the last question is as much for the mayor. Do we have anticipated do we do we have a line of sight on where we think this what expenses we're going to cut to pay for this in 23, 24?

Speaker: Nothing. It's this this is a if these leases aren't renewed, our revenue take would be zero. So you're talking about a percentage of zero?

Speaker: Yeah, I guess what I'm fully follow your logic, but we are projecting some revenue decline in 2324 based on what we're looking at here. And I'm just wondering if that comes to fruition, what we identify?

Speaker: Yeah. Well there i'll probably turn this over to north west, but there's an assumption that we're going to continue to see increased vacancy rates and the quicker we do the work we need to do around public safety, be around open drug use.

Speaker: And I'm really appreciative of the council's collective work on that front. The quicker we address livability issues, those are differences we can make today and we are making today. And I'm hoping that we don't see that continue attrition. But it's pretty likely just given the lead time required to renew a lease. Biko northwest is right about it and this is just one more of many different efforts we're undertaking to try to stem the tide and turn it around.

Speaker: And just to be crystal clear, so we're projecting nearly \$700,000 impact in 23, 24. I have deep concerns about if those dollars are coming out of public safety,

for example. And I completely follow. I mean, the challenge here is we don't know how much vacancy will increase without this incentive. So we don't fully know how much it will improve with it. And so these projections are all speculative. But I that's my I'm just putting it on the record.

Speaker: I have pretty conservative when we calculate our balances, our beginning balances for the budget. And my assumption is we will be conservative and we will take this projection into account. I hope we're wrong, but we also tend to be conservative in our initial projections.

Speaker: Jones okay, I'm good right now. Thanks. Thank you, tim.

Speaker: Anything else you would add to that? No okay. I hate talking about your job. I could since it's a new program, it's kind of difficult to can you introduce yourself for the record? Sorry I sucked you in. I apologize. Into the vortex.

Speaker: Tim gross, city budget director, as was mentioned earlier, this is a new program. We don't have a lot to forecast on until we get some actual data to complicating this. Also is the bigger issue of the overall effects on our total business license revenues. And we'll be doing our new forecast, as you know, going into the budget process and we'll update that. At that time, we ended the year last year with more business license taxes than we had projected. So that's that's good information. And again, a lot of our business taxes come from international or national companies that are providing or doing business within Portland and pay the license based upon their business here. So that's another factor here that we don't have a lot of information on in terms of what the trends are and just building on.

Speaker: And i'll get to commissioner Ryan in just a second. But building building on commissioner Gonzalez's question, now that we have this data from econorthwest on presumed vacancies, which does impact our long term. Well, in

fact, our near term estimates of tax revenues, do you include that in our baseline projections for the.

Speaker: We definitely look at that. We're doing. That's helpful.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan. Then commissioner Mapps. First of all, it's great to have were you done, commissioner Gonzalez yeah, i'll save my yeah, I think that my question's been answered.

Speaker: Okay.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: It's great to see everybody. This is a good conversation.

Speaker: I'm really just here to want more revenue to come to downtown. So I'm not troubled by the incentives at all. In fact, I'd probably want to go further with them because revenues, revenue and we obviously need to do everything we can to get it turning. So with that in mind, the group that I'm thinking about the most right now are small businesses, and that includes, of course, restaurants, the storefronts, those who haven't had the privilege or luxury of staying at home and doing zoom meetings, but have had to get up every day and face all the challenges of downtown Portland and I've always been grateful to kimberley and we've had so many conversations about those funds that help with all the vandalism they've had to endure and providing relief, providing some aspirin for the many headaches that have gone on with our drug crisis. That and illegal drug trade and other trade that we don't want on our streets that is really killed downtown Portland. That's why people aren't coming here. So I can't I want to hear more about how we incentivize them and how we will know if the promise of foot traffic going up. Like if that promise isn't revealed, then what? What would trigger us to know that we'd have to go deeper with the small businesses is I just want more, more concrete understanding of how this will help small businesses.

Speaker: Well, firstly, I would start I think you hit the nail on the head and that one of the indirect benefits is increased commerce coming downtown increased foot traffic will benefit many of those small businesses that may not get as big of a benefit directly from the credit as far as, you know, follow up analysis and what the impact of the credit is, how many people it does bring downtown. Is that something you could speak to or.

Speaker: Yeah, no, I mean, I think that, you know, you always have multiplier effects. So any time you're generating a dollar of activity in a in a location, that dollar then gets spent presumably in the local region. And the idea here is are there other programmatic things you can do to help target that I think is a is a real option for small business. Certainly but the advantage here is we do have near real time data that we can track and so we can pair the business incentive of locations with the actual foot traffic locations and see are we seeing improvements in places with more credits. I think as kind of a near real time tracking of the efficacy of the program. And certainly if it's not having the intended outcomes, you can reevaluate. But I think that that is an option for sure.

Speaker: I like it. You're the econorthwest person. Yes, I can tell this is good. So how real time is that data and then how agile can we be to respond to that data?

Speaker: The data source we use is placer i. It's available as of, I think like a one week lag time. So so we typically will pull it at the end of the month. So it's certainly available monthly. I think if you wanted to go more real time than that, you can. But certainly monthly I think is pretty amazing. Pretty good, yeah.

Speaker: Yeah. So I think as we operationalize this and implement this, I'd like to have dialog with Rubio and the mayor's office about looking at that real time data so we can really see if we're benefiting our small businesses. And I wanted to put that out. And then loyalty is really a big deal right now. We have so many again,

courageous small businesses that have hung in there. Some have even renewed the lease. We have businesses that have come back with a higher percentage of employees working downtown than others. How can we reward them for that loyalty? Is there anything is there any incentive for that? Like I would love to give more incentives to those that have people coming in to work four days a week as opposed to those that still are groveling with getting employees to come back one day a week? I just thought I'd put that out there. When did that come up in our conversation? When you were developing this policy and we've talked a lot about this with council in terms of maybe financial rewards like through the kudo credit that then is spent back in the small businesses directly.

Speaker: Yes. So continuing to try to perpetuate that positive cycle. But open to other ideas that are maybe in concert with every Wednesday campaign to try to drive more activation that makes it more valuable for someone to like to be here.

Speaker: That's the type of creativity I hope as we're implementing this, that this policy is. You know, it's a policy. It doesn't mean anything until you actually implement it. And actually learn from it while you're implementing it. And I think right now, since we're in a crisis, we have to figure out how to be really nimble and adjust. So I'm going to always have that. The two themes will be small businesses actually getting something concrete from this and then really keeping an eye on those. And thank you. Those businesses that are returning their employees about four days a week and which brings much more joy to your life and obviously to downtown. And then also go to those small businesses that have hung in there. So i'll be looking for more loyalty incentives. Thank you for those that are just going to show up now because they're getting the incentive. You know, I'm okay with them, but I really want to give more to those that have been loyal throughout the last few

years, and maybe we should be naming them and celebrating them more outwardly as well.

Speaker: Just as a pride and civic pride thing as well.

Speaker: I like that. That makes sense. And then they can go to an arts event and spend money at a restaurant and life is good. All right.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps did you still have a question or comment?

Speaker: Um, i'll wait till after invited testimony. Very good. Back to you, andrew.

Speaker: We don't have anything further, mayor, so I think we can go to public testimony if that's okay with you.

Speaker: All right. Rebecca, how many folks do we have signed up for public testimony and have 12. Good. All right, we'll do three minutes each. Please. Name for the record.

Speaker: Our first speaker is peter andrews. Mr.

Speaker: Andrews, welcome. Thanks for being here. Thanks for the time.

Speaker: Good afternoon.

Speaker: Mayor and commissioners. My name is peter andrews.

Speaker: Peter, could you slide that maybe four inches closer right there. Perfect thank you. There you go. Thank you. Sorry to interrupt. Not a problem.

Speaker: I'll get closer to that. Help my name is peter andrews. I am the coo and executive vice president of brokerage for melvin mark. Companies melvin mark owns operates brokers, manages and invests in commercial real estate in the greater Portland region. We currently manage approximately 4,000,000ft² of office, industrial and retail from wilsonville to Vancouver, Washington, over 50% of these assets are in downtown. We have been headquartered in Portland, Oregon for over 75 years, just a few blocks away from here, we believe in shared success and that people come first and an intentional investment in our community. The properties

that we own and operate and lease have value based on the businesses and most importantly, the people that work. And visit those businesses. As commissioner Ryan, just today I met with a small retail business that is a tenant of ours who shared with me that their income and revenue is 40% as of January through August of what it was in 2019. We have worked tirelessly through the pandemic to keep this tenant in downtown as a landlord. There is nothing more that we can offer. The retailer relies on activity and people to use their services. They have tapped their own savings to the point and resources that there is not much left out. I shared with them this proposal all and it was an exciting moment for them because this specifically answers something that they are asking how do we get more people to come in to the city? And if it's successful, it will not only keep this small business in our great city, but long term it will incentivize other small businesses like their to relocate at our retail core as you walk around and you all see it are those small businesses that fill those spaces or in the larger buildings. But they are what make the vibrant downtown interesting, cool, fun, fun. It is really important that those survive and it is 100% based off of getting people into our city. So I hope that we're able to commit to this. And I thank you for your leadership during these incredibly challenging time in our city. Please don't put perfect in the way of good.

Speaker: Thank you, peter. Next we have anne casper. Hello anne.

Speaker: Hello. My name is anne casper. I'm a citizen of Portland for the moment. And moving out and I just think this is an unwise decision. I think what we need really is a healing plan. And if you want more people downtown, it's about fear. People are scared to come downtown. My family is actually go downtown quite a bit. And it's really wonderful to see it come back. I don't know where they got the 62% that lloyd center district because there's a lot of foot traffic around there. We have to be so careful all about data driven things. Where is the data coming from?

Who's making it? I heard commissioner Ryan talk about loyalty. I think that's very important too. I go to businesses and thank them for being in northeast Portland because Nike, you know, just a couple of blocks from me, just pulled out and it's wonderful that the businesses are still there. Um, I just don't think it's a wise minded thing to do at this point. We are a city in trauma. We need some time to heal. Making these very, very important decisions at this time is not wise. Just give us some time to come back. Give. Make a healing plan. I don't know how to do that exactly, but it's a lot of fear. Actually, I did study international economics, so this is not just coming from thinking like this, looking at this. The populists I've been traveling, I came back and the people around me are really disappointed in this plan. And they don't want it. So they're not here today, perhaps to talk for that. But the talk around the town is, please don't do this at this time. Maybe it is. It's good for the future. I understand that you want to solve problems and I really appreciate all of you working on this. But we're making desperate decisions. Slow down if you can. And I also just want to thank all of you again for your work and it sounds like from what Tim Bruce said, this is a new program already, but it hasn't been decided yet. So we'll see what the vote turns into. Let's just keep working together. And I wanted to read a quote I just saw today because Montgomery Park and it came from our mayor, old mayor. Excuse me, uh, Bud Clark and what it is. And I also wanted to mention, too, as long as I have 40s left, there's a lot of growth downtown. It's almost like also new Japantown. Have you noticed all those restaurants and Japanese stores and people are coming back to have the businesses so good luck to you. And I will read as soon as this it's not opening. Oh, there we go. So Bud Clark said Portland's greatness is in the livability of the neighborhoods. It's in the people who make sure that Portland is clean, safe and prosperous. Our city is a jewel on the bank of the Willamette River and the culture and trading hub of the Columbia

basin. So I also want to say for mental health, treat us as equal human beings. We can tell you how to do it and works and thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, anne.

Speaker: Susan griffin.

Speaker: Welcome, susan. Andrew, can you help move a chair out of the way, please? Thank you. Welcome hi. My name is susan griffin.

Speaker: For the record, can everyone hear me? Yeah okay. Yeah um, and this is the second time I've come down here to testify, and I'm sure you guys remember me. The first time I cried all the way through it. And I've been thinking since then what? I could come back here and possibly ask for. That would be some logical and maybe something that one of you could maybe help me with. With, um. I know that I should be very grateful to have a roof over my head in Portland, Oregon. I'm very well aware of that. And I am, however, I have some serious problems in my building with people smoking fentanyl indoors and outdoors in the stairwells and my management and her boss have clearly told me nothing's going to change. Okay. So here's what here's what I need. And maybe maybe one of you or a couple of you can come up with something to help me. I'm not able to go back to northwest pilot project. The last time I went there and got help from them when I moved into the apartment that I'm in now 7 or 8 years ago or whatever, I had to sign a paper saying that I couldn't get help from them anymore. And so I really don't know who to turn to, but I need maybe one of you could help me hook up with a social worker or an advocate, someone to work with me, maybe help me figure out how to get on some housing lists outside of the downtown area. If not, maybe in clackamas county. Um, if I could have someone that could work with me and give me a little bit of hope, that's mainly what I need is just something to that I can work on, something I can develop a plan and have something I'm working towards. Um I don't I don't know

where to go. I've turned to different places and Multnomah County for help and gotten a runaround. And it's very frustrating for me because because I struggle so much with my mental health. But um, but what I want is I want to be able to live my life again, and I want to be able to heal. And I know that I'm not going to be able to heal. Living in downtown where I don't want to cry, where the trauma that I endured surrounds me every day. Like I walked out my front door to come down here today and went right around the corner to where the where the little restaurant was right next door. And there's a guy right there, you know, smoking fentanyl. And that's all I see. And that's all I'm surrounded by. So maybe if you guys could help me come up with an advocate or a social worker or someone, that would be it.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Um, Susan, I have a couple of things I want to touch on today. First, thank you for coming in. Do I recall that you live by the Lloyd's center or can I ask roughly where you live? You don't have to give me your address.

Speaker: The south park blocks, south park blocks.

Speaker: Okay. I know we have some livability and public safety problems there. And if we're going to bring someone who was horribly assaulted recently, he won't even come home.

Speaker: Yeah, I.

Speaker: I, I understand. And I'm going to I'll state for everyone watching in the room and watching at home. I'm going to vote for this. And I think this will help bring people back to downtown and inner northeast, inner southeast. But it's not going to be enough. We also have to address the livability challenges here. I don't know how much you know about me, Susan. I'm your infrastructure guy. I don't do a lot of human services, but I but the sidewalks and whatnot matter a lot to me in

the back of my room. I have a staffer here, jack. I'm going to ask jack to connect with you, and let's this is not our specialty, but I'm going to ask my staff to try to connect you with the with folks who can kind of help you navigate the systems. And I'm sure other folks in the in the building can help us figure out how to make that connection, too. So jack is back there in the orange. So jack, you two can talk. Adam and my office also has some expertise in this space, too, so we might want to roll over and pull adam out. And we can do our best for you. Thank you.

Speaker: All right. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, I was just going to say the same thing that commissioner Mapps did, so we'll just play back up to you and just if you need any help from our staff or happy to help with housing. Thank you, commissioner.

Speaker: Yeah. Thank you both. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: All right. Thank you very much.

Speaker: Well, you guys have those conversations. So could we figure out why the organization said that she couldn't work with them any longer? I just found that to be fascinating. You'll get to that, okay?

Speaker: Yeah, absolutely. Uh, jack's on it. All right.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Next individual, please.

Speaker: Uh, travis parrott. Thanks, susan. Good day.

Speaker: Thank you. To

Speaker: Thanks, andrew. Welcome. Travis thanks for being here. Thank you.
Thank you.

Speaker: Let me know if I'm too far or too close.

Speaker: You're just right. Just right. Okay

Speaker: Um, my name is Travis Parrott. I'm the managing director at Newmark for its Portland office. Newmark is a global full service real estate advisory firm. I spend most of my days entrenched in the local business community, and I'm very concerned with the trends I see. And I do believe massive change is necessary. I sit before you today to shed light on the pressing issues facing Portland and why a business license tax is essential to rejuvenate our community. Portland has long been known for its vibrant culture, but recently has been marred with high vacancy rates and unanticipated work from home strategies and public safety concerns. It's imperative that we take proactive steps to address these challenges and usher in a new era of growth and prosper. City first high vacancy rates have cast a shadow over our city's once thriving business districts. Empty storefronts and commercial spaces. Not only represent lost opportunities for economic growth, but also contribute to a sense of neglect in our neighborhoods, a business license tax can break. Can, can, can serve as a powerful incentive for entrepreneurs and businesses to invest in our city. Occupying these vacant spaces and breathing life back into our streets. Second, the sudden shift towards remote work accelerate. Aided by the global pandemic, has disrupted traditional business models. While this disruption has brought flexibility for employees, it has left many office spaces empty and property owners struggling, doing nothing is not a viable strategy. I would also like to point out that this tax incentive is one of the many steps needed to occur to turn the city back around. Public safety continues to be the top priority for companies as they choose where to locate their business. A city's economic vitality is closely tied to its safety. When residents and businesses do not feel secure, they are less likely to invest and contribute to the growth of our city. A safer Portland will attract more businesses and residents driving economic recovery. In summary, Portland, Oregon is at a crossroads. We face high vacancy rates, evolving

work from home strategies and public safety concerns to turn our city around and restore its vibrancy, we must consider offering this business license tax at this pivotal, pivotal moment. This break will incentivize businesses to occupy vacant spaces and contribute to the safety of our communities. Let us remember that the success of our city is intrinsically tied to the well-being of its people and businesses by taking this step towards supporting our local businesses and addressing these pressing issues, we can collectively work towards a brighter, safer and more prosperous future for Portland. Thank you for your time and consideration. Thank you.

Speaker: We appreciate you being here.

Speaker: Susan keel. Hey, sue, welcome.

Speaker: Thank you. Mayor and council.

Speaker: I'm susan keel and I chair Portland mall management, inc. Ami as it's known, is a public private management organization focused on providing stewardship for the 52 blocks in downtown Portland transit mall along fifth and sixth and at the 24 blocks that are along the cross streets, yamhill and morrison are related to the measure that you're considering here today. The ami area includes small and large businesses such as retail and professional offices, hotels and restaurants and many of the buildings which house these businesses are significantly underutilized with a great deal of vacant space. We believe that a healthy downtown is safe, clean and active. This has not been the case for the better part of three years. Downtown is coming out of a pretty deep hole. Well, not news to you, but it really is. This proposal for a business license tax exemption for a year is good, but it needs to be in place for two years as an and I'm not talking about spreading the benefit over four years, but really we give them an exemption for two years. We're asking these businesses to sign a longer term lease or

extension at and the to get those tenants to come in. They've got to get them for a longer time. Um, the way that Portland looks now, that's no easy task as much certainty and financial help as possible is crucial. The important of bringing people back to offices, retail, restaurants, hotels and events can't be overstated, and the core needs to be active, clean and safe. The proposal is a good incentive, but should be a two year commitment at the exemption is a visible way for you all to show your support for a healthy downtown, even amid the ongoing recover three and something a couple of you have alluded to all a rising tide lifts all boats. If in fact businesses succeed and grow, they pay more taxes and people will. And people who are coming down to visit those businesses park, as do employees, as. Thanks.

Speaker: Thanks. Appreciate it. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Mark wilkins. Hi, mark. Hello.

Speaker: Can you hear me? Yep loud and clear.

Speaker: We see you as well. Perfect.

Speaker: I'm mark wilkins, commercial property manager with tmt development, whose president and ceo is vanessa sturgeon. I've been with them since 2020 and I manage for them their downtown properties, including park avenue, west studio building and the eaton building. And in addition, I help on fox tower. So I just wanted to read just three important prepared statements that we wanted to share with you guys. In the past couple years, we've encountered enormous difficulty in tenant retention in our downtown properties. The announced of this initiative from the mayor's office has been such a hopeful signal to the community that the city government is listening to the needs of Portlanders, and we appreciate it tremendously. I cannot overstate the positive impact this would have in terms of retaining and attracting businesses to sign leases downtown. At tmt development, we have a backlog of tenants waiting to see if this initiative progresses in fact, we

have quite a bit of leasing activity contingent upon it. Businesses are heartened by the city's focus on the vibrancy of the central city. I'd also like to express my gratitude that the initiative includes the crucial requirements that employees employers have their staff back in the office in order to qualify such an important provision that will help stimulate retail activity downtown and on a personal level, our office is in studio building, which is right by director park. I definitely see the benefit of this initiative and with the improvement in director park, I definitely have noticed some activity in that area. So I just wanted to extend my appreciation to everything that you guys do. I know you guys don't get a lot of, um, positivity thrown your way, but we do appreciate what you guys do.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you, mark. Yeah.

Speaker: Ramzi hattar. Andrew hone. Welcome

Speaker: Andrew thank you. Good afternoon.

Speaker: Co-sponsors Wheeler commissioner Rubio commissioner Gonzalez maps and Ryan. My name is andrew horn and I'm the president and ceo and proud lobbyist of the Portland metro chamber. The chamber is part of the Portland business alliance family of affiliates, including downtown Portland. Clean safe and partners in diversity. I'm here today to urge you to support the passage of agenda item 779. I want to take a moment to particularly thank the leadership of the co-sponsors of this measure commissioners Rubio and Wheeler and your staff, particularly andrew fitzpatrick, chief of staff jillian shawnee and prosper Portland director kimberly branam. We are encouraged by the actions demonstrated by the city of Portland to follow through on the promises that were of these changes. June 28th. Thank you for bringing prosper to bring forth proposals for tax increment financing districts in the central city and east Portland, August 31st. Thank you for enacting an expansion of the enterprise zone program to include the entirety of the

downtown core and today, thank you for considering advanced Portland's call for the enactment of a business license tax credit and for a private sector perspective, these actions send the necessary signals that one Portland cares about its private sector. Two wants businesses to be here and three is willing to go toe to toe with regional communities. That would happily incentivize our businesses to relocate to their jurisdictions as the alternative status fund basic services. We dividends now and into the future. Thank you for being leaders and first to market across the entire west coast. Thank you. Thanks andrew.

Speaker: Appreciate your leadership.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Karen aiken. Charlie floberg. Welcome

Speaker: Thank you. Thanks for being here. Yeah, of course 4,000,000ft², mostly in the downtown core. But I'm not only here speaking on behalf of my company. I'm born and raised in Portland. I'm currently reside in the city and I've been working in downtown for over 20 years and continue to hopefully for another 20 years in my time as a resident and in my career, I've never seen such a dire state. Our city is facing. The sentiment is that our city doesn't care about businesses, support our downtown core, which is proven by the mass exodus to the suburbs or even out of state. We need to change the narrative of what Portland has become. Does care about businesses and I hope continue to. What you say, dan, commissioner Ryan, I'm hopeful that this is just the first step of many to help businesses come, stay and thrive in our downtown again, thank you for your time today. We look forward to having both our city employees and our private sector return to our beautiful downtown. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Matt goodman. Pandemic as a work from home haven. While there are positive attributes to this reality, one incredibly negative one is the devastating

impact it continues to have on our central city with force fueling our city businesses, close public safety erodes and are well documented. Municipal atrophy continues. I applaud how this downtown business program mandates at least some degree of in-person work. Given my limited time, I'll simply say programs like this, which are small steps. Office renewals are sometimes a handful of years, maybe four years is contemplated in this ordinance. Relocate options, however, are often a decade plus due to the intense capital outlay required to build fresh office space. While this ordinance is part of a good start, I hope we will improve it later. Like commissioner Ryan was inferring by offering an additional incentives for companies making long term ideally over ten year commitments to being in Portland. But this program, as I said, is part of a great start. I'm appreciative of the work good afternoon.

Speaker: Thank you, mayor and city commissioners, for the opportunity to be here. My name is Eric Cole. I am the director of the Revitalize Portland Coalition and also a lobbyist, registered lobbyist with the city as an industry. Well, we're the voice of the commercial real estate industry in Portland and as an industry, we like you want to see Portland and our region thrive. We would love nothing more than to see Portland return to the top of the national list for livability, sustainability and cultural activity. We all want Portland to be a world class, livable city. We want Portland to be an international, world class, livable city. The World Economic Forum cites five factors to judge livable cities. One an enhanced quality of life. Two, sustainable economic development. Three, by attracting investment. Four attracting international talent, and five retaining local talent. We would argue the incentives you are proposing today directly and indirectly help us move the needle, particularly on those two factors related to talent. We've been told by more than one local employer among our membership that downtown Portland, even with all of its challenges, remains, is an important driver in recruiting top diverse talent.

Folks want to come work in a vibrant, safe, downtown suburban office. Locations are not necessarily what international talent is looking for. We need efforts like this to retain and attract our employers and our employees to boost foot traffic as you've heard. And also know, our cultural and artistic institutions depend on foot traffic and access that this will help and continue. Last week we testified alongside other partners trimet prosper, Portland travel, Portland. As you considered commissioner Gonzalez and the mayor's public consumption legislation, we heard very, very tragic testimony around what's happening with the unfettered drug use that's happening downtown in. But we also have to recognize that all of these issues are interconnected. So I applaud you for taking these moves on in multiple tracks. Our response has to be multifaceted as well. Will we join you in supporting this legislation? And we encourage change and are hopeful as you measure and monitor the metrics that we can include. Other districts of downtown, particularly the pearl and the central east side. We also, considering this is about half of the tax paid by most businesses in Multnomah County of the business taxes paid. We're ready to go to Multnomah County and ask them to provide a similar proposal as well to take care of that other half and to look at the supportive housing services taxes as well. So I appreciate your time today and thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Appreciate your being here.

Speaker: That completes testimony.

Speaker: Thank you. Rebecca andrew, do you want to come back up in case we have additional questions? Colleagues commissioner Ryan, do you have a question? Have more conversation.

Speaker: Mostly I want to talk to the leaders of our economic portfolio on the council, and that would be the mayor and commissioner Rubio. When the conversation came, when you landed at four years and 25, if you will, as you roll it

out for four years, I assume there were conversations that went to a higher extent, maybe 50% or and maybe more years. I just want to hear why we landed on this one.

Speaker: Yeah. Andrew, do you want to talk about that?

Speaker: Yes. I mean, standard leases are three, five, seven, ten. And so four is really shooting for five. And it's based on some of the leasing activity that Mike Wilkerson had shared in terms of what's happening in the market now and the kinds of activity that we'd like to see. We know that not everyone is prepared to sign an 11 year lease, and so we're shooting for something that was longer than a 1 or 2 year, but not quite a 10 or 11 year lease commitment. So it is somewhat of an arbitrary selection, but of course with all the other initiatives that you're adopting in the central city, we are hoping to see market recovery in the next 3 to 4 years such that you don't need to have this arbitrary intervention to support a leasing activity. The central city should be a place that's engendering and driving a lot of that investment on its own without an incentive in the next four years.

Speaker: I see I'm supportive of the step. I'm just exploring how we will take this forward. So when we talked about it, maybe being 50% as opposed to 25, why did it go back to 25% in terms of we have the conversation about it being 50, we in speaking with the budget office, we wanted also to provide some level of kind of long term affordability because we don't know how much of the credit is going to go out and so we're now metabolizing it over the four years in the sense that a taxpayer is realizing it in those equal quarterly increments over four years.

Speaker: So if you had \$100,000 credit, you would see \$25,000 credits over the next four years to make that up. I get it.

Speaker: Just trying to figure out what the conversation was like if we took this further.

Speaker: And another idea, of course, because we have so much uncertainty.

Speaker: So we're trying to provide certainty which we think would then trigger more revenue coming in because of that certainty.

Speaker: So you could try to offer another credit for the next tax year, not just for one tax year, because right now it's an either or proposition 23 or 24 or or as some have suggested, you could try to create another tier so that if you did sign something that was, as matt suggested, 11 years. So we really do see a bigger reward. Those are those are great ideas. But based on what others have said, too, we are leading the country now and doing this. And so we wanted to take a step that we could see some early results from and then modify if we needed to as we go. Andrew if I could just jump in as well.

Speaker: It's a great question and I appreciate commissioner Ryan asking it the way I view this is it's stopping the bleeding. First, we have to stop the bleeding, the trends that that econorthwest put out. And we're betting on the success of the myriad of economic development public safety and livability issues that that we as a council have already supported. The other initiatives that people have discussed. Just so what we need to do is, number one, give them the incentive to stay at. And we didn't peg it at the shortest term lease. The three year, but some really were sort of coaxing people towards the mid range, the five year lease and what we're seeing in the market is a trend towards shorter lease terms, particularly in a period of uncertainty. My hope and my expectation, frankly, is that five years from now, the economic circumstances in downtown Portland will look much better and people will be in a position then to sign longer term leases. But the first step is really to get them to stay and I believe this this has a great chance of success based on what the industry is telling us.

Speaker: I think we all share that. So I agree with you. And I think I've just taking a temperature check on why we wouldn't have a bigger band-aid because we're bleeding so heavily and that would give us more certainty. And then in five years from now, we might have a more robust downtown. So I think what I enjoyed was that I've enjoyed this conversation in general. You can probably tell, and I really thought it was smart that we had some data and some metrics. So I'm just hoping that in six months we could agree that we come kind of the live time every week, foot traffic data that we can gain from places, cell phone data and then from our revenue partners. We'll have hopefully approval activity that'll show some of the lease applications that come in alongside others. So ideally, you'd have like indirect effects of not just people taking advantage of the credit, other people that are indirect benefiting and signing their own leases or seeing increase in customer traffic, which if you'd like, we could probably go to some of those folks and ask them for focus groups of different performance increases absolutely. And we can tie in the small businesses to see if the multiplier effect is truly multiplying.

Speaker: We should. Okay. Thank you.

Speaker: So I'm just supportive. I just want to make sure we had more dialog that this is a toe in the water, a step and steps are important. You've got to do one step at a time. I just want to make sure that we have the urgency up here to keep taking more steps.

Speaker: You commissioner Gonzalez andrew just one follow up.

Speaker: Building kind of glossed over that. It's I mean, but I just want to make sure we're keeping that. And I'm looking at total tax burden city, county, metro.

Speaker: Why, if only we had a revenue director here.

Speaker: Yeah, I'm going to I'm in terms of talent. That I'm neglecting to mention, transportation tax that a given business, depending on the industry of and I think

you hit the nail on the head, but in terms of overall tax burden, you know, Portland is one of the highest. So for both businesses and individuals.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Great.

Speaker: Any other questions? D'ions very good. This is an emergency ordinance. Rebecca, please call the roll. Gonzalez

Speaker: I want to reiterate the heavy tax burden that businesses and individuals face in the city of Portland at a time when the cost benefit analysis for locating living and building businesses in the city of Portland has been significantly disrupted. I fully support this as I believe it will have a multiplying effect on both economic core livability while we look at our tax burden. But I'm just putting but not least, the city is just, sir, on our business as and on our individuals. It is imperative we put the same pressure on our public partners to make concessions. We are responsible for first responders. We are responsible for infrastructure as a city government. And so we can't rob from peter to pay paul. And unfortunately, with increases in taxes from some of our public partners in recent years, it feels a little bit like that. We're taking the first step forward. I commend commissioner Rubio and the mayor for leading the charge on this, but we cannot do it alone. And I look forward to the dialog with our public partners. I vote I maps.

Speaker: I want to thank number one, I want to thank everyone who testified today, including staff for their presentations. Also want to very much want to thank the mayor and commissioner Rubio for pulling together the package before us today. Of course, I'm going to vote I on the ordinance before us and I expect everyone else on council to do the same. And I hope people in this chamber, in this city, in this region, in this country, notice what this council is doing today. Portland, in the last several months has taken some extraordinary steps to make our city a

good place to start and grow a business. You know, today we are creating incentives for you to locate your business in Portland. I remind you, a couple of weeks ago, this council unanimously passed an expansion of our enterprise zone program, which means that if you invest in a Portland business, as this council and this city will invest in you, I expect us to bring forward many more innovative programs which will make Portland an even more competitive city. So, you know, if you're not a Portland heir, but you're thinking about locating your business here in this town, I really encourage you to really give that a hard look. We remain one of the most remarkable cities in north America, and we have really dramatically changed the value proposition of being here. You know, I know it's tough out there and I won't you know, there's no way to ignore the challenges that we have in front of us today. But at the same time, I also truly believe there has never been a better time to invest in Portland, which is why I vote. I

Speaker: Rubio I just want to give a final thank you to the mayor, to Andrew and your team for your leadership and partnership on this.

Speaker: Also to director Branam and her team for all their great work on this issue. Every day, also to our budget and finance staff as well. And to Econorthwest. This isn't the first analysis that you've provided aid to help us navigate this time in our history and the data is really critical to our work. So I want to lift that up. I'm also hopeful that this policy sends a strong signal that we're serious about Portland's economic recovery and I have high hopes that this will work. But it will also take trust and decisions by those outside this building to continue to recommit to our city. So that's what I that's what my hope is for our businesses in this city. Portland can't fully recover without you and your employees. But together, through our action, through this action in concert with all the other actions current and future and especially community safety, we can get this done. Finally, I want to

acknowledge that prior to this meeting and also during this meeting, as we heard in testimony, and we've also we've already heard some requests for expansion of the program or even further ideas. And I personally would like to revisit those ideas. And also my colleague, commissioner Ryan, you know, suggested as much as well. So I'm very interested to revisit this as we see this play out and track the costs of the city. It's also important to send a strong signal that we're serious and continue thinking about creative ways and doubling down on our future. So for these reasons, I'm very happy to vote i. Ryan. Oops.

Speaker: First, I'd like to thank mayor Wheeler and commissioner Rubio. My very capable, smart colleagues that I work with who lead economic development on the council and the staff. Really good presentation. I enjoyed the conversations and anyway, I really think you're putting this proposal together. It's a really good step and makes me miss having this portfolio. I got to admit, we're in a time of crisis and incentives like this one represent smart policy. The smart policy can only help keep living wage jobs in our city. The smart policy leverages collaboration on that was evident today in innovation in the smart policy is intentional and uses common sense to achieve common goals. It was funny to listen to revenue like revenues, revenue and the faucet's been off, so we have to everything we can to get it flowing again. And so you're going to probably see more money come in the more we consider these incentives. I'm also encouraged that this proposal has broad support from business owners to seiu local 49. When business and labor on the same page, we can truly build forward with some wind behind our backs. I hope to see in the near future a program like this one for our small businesses with ten or fewer employees as these store owners and their hard working staffs are often left behind by larger organizations with more resources and small businesses along with hospitality, are those gritty survivors of the spiral that escalated during the

onslaught of covid and in Portland's downtown due to consistent, intolerable crime on our streets. In other words, small storefront retail businesses and restaurants have had to show up, and we must extend as much relief and incentives to them as possible. I get the foot traffic goals. I get that those are helpful, but I look forward to seeing the metrics to make sure that that actually is ringing true. That said, this is a great step. We as elected officials on City Council are sending a message to Portlanders, especially those that are living downtown and those who are entrepreneurs, investors and businesses that Portland believes in its future. And we are going to invest with you. We believe in you to be a part of this economic resurgence with hope that we will include small businesses and more directly with reward, with rewards to long term loyalty, with extension of years or percentages, or both with hope that we return after the analysis of the first six months of data with engagement from our stakeholders that include small businesses, we learn from that. We meet here in in about six months to adjust this policy. So the implementation, the practices is that gives us the necessary results we need to turn downtown around. Is taken into consideration. Knowing those steps are in motion. This is the right direction. And with that hope I vote. I

Speaker: Wheeler well, first of all, I'd like to thank everybody who had a role in this.

Speaker: That's just about everybody who's sitting in this room. I want to thank you, commissioner Rubio and your team, jillian, I know she had to go off to other things, but but I hope you'll pass my gratitude along to her, my team. Andrew, thank you for your continued terrific work on this. And of course, our budget and revenue folks, we don't often put you right in the hot seat, but I really appreciate the hard work you put into this proposal. And tim, you're probably over there just fuming that I called on you unexpectedly. The good news is you always dress well, so you are ready for the occasion. You never know when you're going to get it

called on and ask to be on tv to answer a tough technical question. So so thanks to you and all of our our community partners who worked really hard on this, kimberly prosper, Portland, the whole gang there can continue doing to do great work. I want to second the comments about econorthwest this is a data driven action. This is not a random plan. This is not a stick our finger in the wind and see how things are doing. We are attempting to maximize size. Our bang for the buck in terms of economic recovery with limited resource and to do that, we really relied on the good quantitative analysis provided to us by econorthwest. This is a significant investment point. I want to underscore that it is leading national responses. I also want to commit that we will monitor its performance closely and that we will ensure that data is shared with council. So if there's any improvements or enhancements or new ideas that the data suggests we should pursue, then we will. This innovative credit program demonstrates what I think is the kind of vision combined with concrete action on that we need to recover our central city and drive greater prosperity for all Portlanders. We're going to continue to pursue other initiatives like this. We're not going to stop. We're not going to let up at all. I vote aye, this ordinance is adopted. Rebecca, thanks for doing a great job today and we are adjourned.