



January 17, 2024 Council Agenda

5748

January 17 Council meetings will be held virtually due to the potential for icy conditions. Please see the [Mayor's Emergency Declaration due to severe cold weather](#) for more information.

Members of council will attend remotely by video and teleconference. The City makes several avenues available for the public to listen to and watch the broadcast of this meeting, including the [City's YouTube Channel](#), the [Open Signal website](#), and Xfinity Channel 30 and 330.

Questions may be directed to councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 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

The Consent Agenda was adopted on a Y-5 roll call.

Council recessed at 11:04 a.m. and reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

Council recessed at 12:52 p.m.

Communications

36

[Request of Johnny Cortez-Galindo to address Council regarding raising awareness](#) (Communication)

Document number: 36-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

37

[Request of Wayne Gazzola to address Council regarding TriMet rule enforcement](#) (Communication)

Document number: 37-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

38

[Request of Mike Fearl to address Council regarding safer road infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists](#)

(Communication)

Document number: 38-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

39

[Request of Brad Baugher to address Council regarding gas powered leaf blowers](#) (Communication)

Document number: 39-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

40

[Request of Leta Gorman to address Council regarding noise nuisance from Irvington Club](#) (Communication)

Document number: 40-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

Time Certain

41

[*Waive Conducting Business on City Property or Public Rights of Way Code to allow for a food truck pilot project in the Central City Plan District \(waive Code Section 14A.50.040\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191591

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Time certain: 9:45 am

Time requested: 30 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

42

[Authorize Director of the Bureau of Environmental Services to enter into settlement with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for environmental cleanup and natural resource damage claims regarding the Columbia Slough](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191602

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Environmental Services

Time certain: 10:15 am

Time requested: 30 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading January 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

43

[Proclaim January 17, 2024 to be Ernie Jones Day of Appreciation](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 43-2023

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Time certain: 10:45 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

Consent Agenda

44

[Authorize City Attorney to appeal the consolidated cases of Estate of Ricky John Best v. TriMet and Estate of Taliesin M. Namkai-Meche v. TriMet \(Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Multnomah Cases 19CV23250 and 19CV23020\)](#) (Resolution)

Document number: 37646

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: City Attorney

Disposition: Adopted

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

45

[*Pay property damage claims of Andrew and Shannon Hardy for \\$12,213 resulting from a motor vehicle collision involving Portland Fire and Rescue](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191585

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue and Financial Services; Risk Management

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

46

[Amend Business License Law Code related to Residential Rental Registration Program \(amend Code Sections 7.02.100 and 7.02.890\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191586

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue Division

Second reading agenda item 11.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

47

[Authorize the Portland Housing Bureau to charge direct, indirect, and administrative costs to bureau funds for effective and consistent administration of housing policy and programs](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191587

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Second reading agenda item 14.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

48

[*Authorize grant agreement with Portland Parks Foundation for operational costs associated with fundraising and development services for Portland Parks & Recreation programs and projects not to exceed \\$100,000](#)

(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191588

Introduced by: Commissioner Dan Ryan

Bureau: Parks & Recreation

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

49

[Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Portland Community College for services provided by the Community Legal and Educational Access and Referral Clinic in partnership with the Immigrant and Refugee Program](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191589

Introduced by: Commissioner Dan Ryan

Bureau: Office of Community & Civic Life

Second reading agenda item 17.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

50

[Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement and Amendments between Metro and the City through the Bureau of Emergency Communications for regional mapping and Geographic Information System data not to exceed \\$85,000](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191590

Introduced by: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Bureau: Emergency Communications (9-1-1)

Second reading agenda item 18.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

51

[Approve Council Minutes for December 6-28, 2023](#) (Report)

Document number: 51-2024

Introduced by: Auditor Simone Rede

Bureau: Portland City Auditor; Council Clerk

Disposition: Approved

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

Regular Agenda

52

[Authorize City Attorney to represent the City in legal action concerning a public records request and disclosure of confidential taxpayer information](#) (Resolution)

Document number: 37647

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue Division

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Adopted

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

53

[*Pay settlement of the Estate of Koben Henriksen wrongful death lawsuit for \\$100,000 involving the Portland Police Bureau](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191592

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue and Financial Services; Risk Management

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

54

[Authorize revenue bonds to provide not more than \\$53,430,000 to finance Veterans Memorial Coliseum projects](#)
(Ordinance)

Document number: 191593

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Revenue and Financial Services

Second reading agenda item 26.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

55

[*Accept and appropriate \\$1,900,000 in American Rescue Plan funds from Multnomah County to fund Eviction Legal Defense Program partners for eviction legal defense services and financial assistance to tenants at risk of eviction](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191594

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

56

[*Amend Property Tax Exemption Code and System Development Charges for Affordable Housing Developments Code to temporarily enable homeownership opportunities for households earning up to 120 percent of median family income \(amend Code Sections 3.102.040 and 30.01.095\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191595

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Second reading agenda item 30.

Disposition: Passed As Amended

Motion to add an emergency clause to allow the changes to the SDC waivers to go into effect right away which will help pending real estate purchases move forward: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

57

[*Accept and appropriate grant for \\$389,577 from CareOregon, Inc. for a flexible response program to address overdoses and pilot a mobile Medication for Opioid Disorder Provision Program](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191596

Introduced by: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Bureau: Portland Fire & Rescue

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

58

[Authorize competitive solicitation and contract and provide payment for construction of the SEI Grand Avenue Risers Project No E11489 for an estimated cost of \\$2,458,000](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191603

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Environmental Services

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading January 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

59

[Authorize contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. for design and surveying services to improve safety and access to transit along NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd not to exceed \\$1,011,351](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191604

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading January 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 2:00 pm

Session Status: Adjourned

Council in Attendance: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Council convened at 2:04 p.m.

Mayor Wheeler presided.

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

Council adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Time Certain

60

[Amend the Planning and Zoning Code to adopt temporary suspensions and permanent clarifications to development and process regulations as part of the Housing Regulatory Relief Project \(amend Code Title 33\)](#)
(Ordinance)

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 90 minutes

Previous agenda item 34.

Oral record and written record are closed.

Disposition: Continued As Amended

Continued as amended to January 24, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. Time Certain

Motion to revise Rubio 1 amendment to correct an error to use the same number, 20 percent, for both scenarios to ensure alignment with the Inclusionary Housing Calibration workgroup: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Rubio Amendment 1 - Motion to align regulations with recent state law changes, remove out-of-date language, and change some regulations to align with Title 30 inclusionary housing processes: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Rubio Amendment 2 - Motion to clarify application of the ground floor window requirement in the Central City plan district: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Rubio Amendment 3 - Motion to further reduce Design Review procedures temporarily for affordable housing projects: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Gonzalez Amendment 4 - Motion to reinstate staff's original proposal to temporarily suspend bird-safe glazing requirement in the River overlay zone and Central City plan district when a proposal includes a residential use: Moved by Gonzalez and seconded by Ryan. (Y-Ryan, Gonzalez; N-Rubio, Mapps, Wheeler). Motion failed to pass.

Gonzalez Amendment 5 - Motion to Replace Planning Commission's ecoroof recommendation with staff's original proposal to temporarily suspend the ecoroof requirement in the Central City plan district when a proposal includes a residential use: Moved by Gonzalez and seconded by Ryan. (Y-Ryan, Gonzalez; N-Rubio, Mapps, Wheeler). Motion failed to pass.

Gonzalez Amendment 6 - Motion to temporarily suspend the 35 day deadline to post the neighborhood contact sign and send notification to recognized organizations when a proposal includes a residential use: Moved by Gonzalez and seconded by Ryan. (Y-Gonzalez; N-Rubio, Ryan, Mapps, Wheeler). Motion failed to pass.

Gonzalez Amendment 7 - Motion to amend directive D to add 33.475.235.B, 33.510.223.B, and 33.510.243.B.: Moved by Gonzalez and seconded by Ryan. Motion withdrawn.

Thursday, January 18, 2024 2:00 pm

Session Status: No session scheduled

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
January 17, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.

Name	Title	Agenda Item
Ted Wheeler	Mayor	
Keelan McClymont	Council Clerk	
Carmen Rubio	Commissioner	
Dan Ryan	Commissioner	
Rene Gonzalez	Commissioner	
Mingus Mapps	Commissioner	
Alan Yoder	Deputy City Attorney	
Leta Gorman		40
Wayne Gazzola		37
David McEldowney	RWMP Division Manager, PBOT	41
Leah Tucker	Founder/Executive Director Oregon Mobile Food Association	41
Becca Russell	Owner/Chef, Pidgin Hole and Alchemy Sandwich Co.	41
Changsoo and Megan Kim	Owners/Chefs, Doyaji	41
Liz Werner	CEO & Founder, Suburban Events	41
Deanna Amende	General Manager, Lincoln Property Group	41
Keith Jones	Executive Director, Friends of Green Loop	41
Jackson Pahl	Policy Advisor, Office of Commissioner Mapps	41
Annie Von Burg	Environmental Policy Manager, Bureau of Environmental Services	42
Andrew Davidson	Environmental Regulatory Coordinator, Bureau of Environmental Services	42
Sarah Miller	Project Manager, Dept. of Environmental Quality	42
Shad Ahmed	Director, PBEM	43
Jonna Papaefthimiou	Resilience Office, State of Oregon (formerly City of Portland)	43
Bruce Schafer	Radio Training Liaison (RTL)	43
Ernie Jones	Retiring, BEECN and NET Program Developer	43
Thomas Lannom	Interim Chief Financial Officer	52
Andrew Hoan		52
Scott Bruun		52
Will Rasmussen		52
Bill Manlove	Senior Deputy City Attorney	53

Breonne DeDecker	Rental Services Manager	55
Justin Barrieault	Housing Program Coordinator	55
Stephenie Sullivan	Deputy Fire Chief	57
Holly Ilg	Community Health Nurse, Portland Fire & Rescue	57
Michelle LaVina	Community Health Nurse Manager, Portland Fire & Rescue	57
Sarah Hobbs		57
Kurt Robinson	Engineering Supervisor	58
Liz Rickles	Capital Projects Manager, Bureau of Transportation	59

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
January 17, 2024 - 2:00 p.m.

Name	Title	Agenda Item
Ted Wheeler	Mayor	
Keelan McClymont	Council Clerk	
Carmen Rubio	Commissioner	
Dan Ryan	Commissioner	
Rene Gonzalez	Commissioner	
Mingus Mapps	Commissioner	
Lauren King	Senior Deputy City Attorney	
Patricia Diefenderfer	Chief Planner	60
Phil Nameny	Project Manager	60

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

January 17, 2024 – 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: 17th 2024 session of the Portland City Council? Uh, obviously, folks, due to icy conditions, council is virtual today. Uh, we'd hope to be in our our new temporary chamber today, but that will happen next week, January 24th. Council will return to in-person meetings at the 1900 building, which is at southwest fourth avenue room. 2500. Uh, and colleagues, just a heads up. I'm doing this with a cell phone this morning. So this is super low tech and it'll be a little bit harder, I think, for me to, uh, juggle reading the agenda, reading my talking point, and seeing whose hands are raised. So if I miss you by any chance, just, uh, just give me a shout and i'll. I'll make sure I get to you. Uh Keelan. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Good morning. Rubio here. Ryan. Here gonzales here. Mapps. Here. Wheeler here.

Speaker: Now, we'll hear from legal counsel on the rules of order and decorum. Good morning.

Speaker: Good morning. 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 [Portland dot gov slash council slash agenda](http://Portland.gov/council/agenda). Information on engaging with City Council can be found on the council clerk's web page. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony in. 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 other 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. 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 all right.

Speaker: First up is communications. Uh, first individual please. Keelan item 36.

Speaker: Elmo. Uh. Request of johnny.

Speaker: Um, oops.

Speaker: Good.

Speaker: Request of johnny cortez galindo to address council regarding raising awareness. Good morning. They haven't joined us yet.

Speaker: All right. How about, uh, next individual item 37, request of wayne gazzola to address council regarding trimet rule enforcement.

Speaker: They also have not joined us yet. Okay okay.

Speaker: Uh, we'll move on to item 38.

Speaker: Request, uh, mike farrell to address council regarding safer road infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists. They canceled their request. 39 request to brad bauer to address council regarding.

Speaker: What kind of day this is going to be. Keelan. Item number 40.

Speaker: Request of Lita Gorman to address council regarding noise nuisance from Irvington Club. And we have Lita with us.

Speaker: Uh thank you. Lita welcome. Good morning.

Speaker: Thank you. Sorry. Good morning. Morning is it already my turn?

Speaker: Yeah. Believe it or not, it is. Yes. It's. You're the only one who showed up this morning. So congratulations and thank you.

Speaker: All right. Thank you very much. My name is Lita Gorman. I represent Lisa and Kevin Scott. Um, with the Gorman law firm. Um, do you need my address? I can't remember if we do not.

Speaker: Thank you for asking.

Speaker: Okay. Thank you. So I'm here to talk about pickleball and to tell you that pickleball is a real issue. It is a noise disturbance under both city ordinance and Oregon common law. It is a noise nuisance or outdoor pickleball at the Irvington Club must immediately cease and desist because it is calming, causing harm to my clients. They live 11ft from the outdoor courts, sound studies of which the Irvington Club have done none show that noise. Noise from pickleball courts without mitigation should be 600ft from residences. The Irvington Club has no mitigation at present. My clients are prisoners in their home and the pickleball noise must be terminated. Terminated. There are four points that I would like to address. The first is the noise per city code 1812 010 is, um, noise disturbance prohibited? It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully make continue to cause or permit to be made or continued any continue any noise disturbance within the city of Portland. Now there is an exemption for which the Irvington Club hangs its hat, and that exemption applies, however, to athletic events. However, if you look at the code or the ordinance, ordinances, you will see that events, um, require special permits. Um, and this they describe what events are. Now the Irvington Club is a private

property, so it doesn't need a permit to hold an event on its property. But looking further at the code, you see, like I said, Portland city code 2008 0010 um, talks about what's required if you want to have an event ongoing daily play practice, play, or even individual games of pickleball do not qualify as an event under the city code. Rather what you need to look at is Portland city code 141 or excuse me, 14 a 30 010. And that is unlawful noise disturbance. It's specific states. It is unlawful to make any excessive unreasonable or unusually loud sound which disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood or which injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of any person. Second, let's talk about injury. Oh boy, I'm running out of time. I will tell you that my clients cannot use their outdoor space. They have suffered physical and emotional distress. They have suffered, um, they my 88 year old client has parkinson's. He cannot sit outside because the noise is so damaging to him. The irvington club can move the game inside. Um, and there are alternative courts and also Oregon law creates liability while there may be governmental immunity, every person who allows an nuisance to continue is liable for that noise. And finally, I know I'm out of time, but I have notified the irvington club and the city of Portland, um, at least on three occasions, and I've been completely ignored, ignored the council has a duty to all of its citizens, not just the homeless. All right.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you lita. Appreciate it. Um, and Keelan, I understand one of the other, uh, uh, communications. I want to make sure nobody had their hand raised. I don't see a hand raised. I have my hand. Vice mayor. Commissioner go ahead, please.

Speaker: Uh. Thank you. Um are you still there?

Speaker: Yes, yes.

Speaker: Great. Thank you, Lita, for coming to, uh, speak about your concerns. I just wanted to briefly, uh, respond. I know that you've reached out to, um, the, uh, city attorney's office. And just speaking from the noise, uh, lens. Uh, currently, the city noise code doesn't apply to sporting events like pickleball, however, um, you know, looking at the noise review that we we've been, uh, can, uh, planning for, uh, we've recognized this is a unique issue and we think it should be addressed during the, the current process to update the city's noise code. Noise code title 18. Um, so we would like to really invite you to engage in this process to update this code. And my staff is on and we will contact you. Um and get you connected to how to do that. So, um, we'll follow up with you if you're open to that. Absolutely 100.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Lita. Thank you Lita.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Rubio. Uh Keelan. I understand somebody has shown up.

Speaker: Yes. Uh, number 3737.

Speaker: Great.

Speaker: Uh, requests of Wayne Gazzola to address council regarding trimet rule enforcement. Welcome. Wayne, you're muted.

Speaker: Can you hear me now?

Speaker: We can hear you loud and clear.

Speaker: Okay. Sorry about that. Um, I don't see my video, but anyway, uh, disregard the title. Um, my communication is to do with other things. Um, there's no way to sugarcoat this. Passing on the opportunity to give people an adequate temporary library that was kind of a trashy thing to do. Uh, people deserve a place to go there. It's as simple as that. And I think about the bars, the boulders, the fences that have proliferated around Portland. And this makes Portland feel unfree and unwelcoming and unattractive. Um there's also a fence underneath the

burnside bridge blocking off a public right of way. Now, going back to 2016, before prior to charlie hales street sweeps that place did good things for people. Yet rather than recreate that, ted, you have looked the other way. While a public resource has been expropriated to a private interest for eight years, running now, um, o'bRyant square closing. I pulled the engineering report on that that suggested it be closed. It was not convincing. I suspected nick fish was pulling personal favors. In hindsight, I realized the ritz carlton was being signed right when that park got closed. It sat unused for four years and like magic now, the ritz carlton, carlton is ready to open. Oh, now the city is ready to do something with it. Uh, r2-d2, you in its original location and its original form, which was a true outdoor shelter. It's kind of the same story. It got shut down right when a fancy hotel set up across the street. In all, I think the pattern is this. Ted, you have been using the environment to bully people, namely by depriving them of a place where they can relax around one another. Okay a thought experiment here. Imagine you have a family and a couch, but they're never in the same place at the same time. The first thing to go would be your sense of belonging taken to the extreme. Your very sense of identity would be torn apart. That's stepping, that's going beyond bullying, that's stepping into the realm of spiritual murder. Uh, if you don't know what I'm talking about, that is a privilege you should be thankful for. Uh, as for housing first, it really ought to be called family first, because the private home from its inception thousands of years ago, it it was, it was. And it remains all about the nuclear family. What we're doing, though, is we're taking people from broken families. We're putting them in tiny boxes. And we're calling that a home. And then we wonder why they bug out on blues and then they do whatever they have to do to reconnect to their street family, which is the only family they have. Um carmen yea. Rubio, thank you for stepping up to the plate. I not sure if I agree with going to agree with all your policies. If you

get elected, but something tells me a woman's touch might be what exactly what Portland needs right now. So thank you.

Speaker: I yield my time.

Speaker: Wayne. Thanks. Uh, first of all, thanks for being here and showing up. And I appreciate it today in particular. Kind of challenging. So thank you for that. Um, I appreciate your perspective. I want to differ just for a moment on a couple of aspects of this. Um, first of all, with regard to moving people into the tiny homes at the task sites, I would really encourage you to read some of the news reports from people who are actually residents in those sites. Uh, for the people who are there, they are actually very happy to be there. They're being case managed. They're being connected to service houses and a lot of them have very publicly expressed to independent media that they're grateful for that opportunity to be there in heated units, access to food, access to showers, laundry services compared to where they were previously. Um, with regard to r2-d2, you mentioned that specifically, and I just want to gently correct the record. I respect your opinion. Um, but what actually happened with r2-d2 was that it was on private property, and that property was slated for development. And under my leadership, the council allocated over \$1 million to temporarily move r2-d2 working with the r2-d2 r2 community to the east side of the river, we found a private sector business owner who was open to the idea of relocating adjacent to their facility. They were very chill about it. Um, it lasted there for a couple of years before finally it was moved to an alternative site at the behest of the people who actually lived there. But I want you to know, um, that we could have closed r2-d2 if for no other reason than it was on a piece of property that was being developed. But we actually, as a council, chose to invest, support court, uh, find an alternative location and give them more runway. So I just I want to correct the record gently on that, but thank you, uh, for being

here today. We appreciate your perspective. And I hope we'll hear from you again. Uh Keelan. Did anybody else show up? No all right, so why don't we do this? It is 944. Um, so I will just ask us to wait or, you know, let's go to the consent agenda. Let's take care of that. That'll take a minute. Have any items been pulled from the consent agenda?

Speaker: No items have been pulled.

Speaker: All right, why don't we go ahead and take a vote on the consent agenda? Please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio.

Speaker: I, Ryan, i, Gonzalez. Hi.

Speaker: Maps. Hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: Hi. The consent agenda is adopted. It is now 945. We can go to our first time certain item item number 41, which is an emerging ordinance. We have conducting business on city property or public rights of way code to allow for a food truck pilot project in the central city plan district commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Uh, thank you, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: Colleagues, this item comes to us from pbot. This ordinance creates a pilot project for a food truck program in the heart of Portland. Now, here's some background on this ordinance. Existing city code prohibits food trucks from operating within the central city plan. District however, during the pandemic, downtown property owners were able to request food truck services for their employees and tenants through pbot's healthy business program. Now, the ordinance before us today builds on that practice. Here's why this pilot project is timely and important, and the good news is we get to start with some good news. More and more workers are returning to downtown Portland, and we have some tough news. Um, unfortunately, down downtown Portland's food scene has not

returned to pre-pandemic levels. So returning workers at some locations have limited dining options as the pilot project before us today aims to fill that gap. In addition, in this pilot project will contribute to the vitality of some commercial areas and increase the walkability of the central city plan district and decrease the need for auto oriented transportation. In addition, this program will benefit small business owners who operate food trucks but do not have access to customers in the central city proper. Owners and food truck operators who are interested in participating in this program should contact pbots. Portland in the streets team for more information. Here to tell us more about this ordinance. We have david mceldowney, a pbots right of way management and permitting division manager. Uh welcome, david.

Speaker: Good morning. Thank you.

Speaker: Uh, good morning, mayor and commissioners. Um, for the record, my name is david mceldowney. I'm the right of way management, permitting division manager for pbots. Um, I wanted to start off by saying that pbots is pleased to be able to bring this item before you today. As commissioner Mapps said, this ordinance would allow pbots to implement an almost two year long pilot project that would bring food trucks back into the central city. I'm going to run through a short presentation, and then we have some invited testimony for council, uh, after which time I'm happy to come back and answer any questions that you may have. Uh Keelan. Next slide before I dive into the details of the ordinance, I wanted to add some context and history. Uh, relevant to this matter, commissioner Mapps just covered a lot of it. But uh, I want to talk about the current slide first and make sure that everybody understands we're talking about mobile food trucks that come and go daily. Uh these are not fixed food carts. It's, um. Well, many food trucks are motorized vehicles. A large percentage of the mobile food vending community uses

non motorized food trailers, similar to what you're seeing in the bottom. Uh, well, actually, on the right hand side of your screen in, uh, where they're, they're pulled by another vehicle. Um, i'll talk about city code a little bit more, uh, in a minute. But as commissioner Mapps said, the upshot is, uh, title 14 currently does not allow this type of vending from the right of way downtown. And as you said, it did change a little bit during the pandemic under the healthy business permit, uh, through the emergency directives, we were able to get these, uh, some, some, uh, food trucks downtown. What you're seeing in this photo is right across from city hall. This is at the pac west center. And um, the pac west center was able to request food trucks there. And they currently have services on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. They're um. And I think let's go to the next slide. Slide Keelan. Okay. I wanted to mention the, the contents of, uh, for. A .50.0400 of city code. What you're seeing on the screen is not the exact language in there, but this this constitute that's the, um, the pertinent parts for downtown, for the central city, um, plan district. Um the first thing that I want that the proposed ordinance is requesting of council is a waiver to title 14 that would allow pbot to implement a pilot project in the central city through the end of 2025. If the program is found to be successful, I would anticipate that pbot would come back to council in the fall of 2025 to ask for a permanent program, um, including code and rule changes, much like was done for outdoor dining last fall. Um, I did want to make it clear that the waiving of this portion of title 14 would not result in a chaotic, wild, wild west situation in which any random person would be able to vend food from any parking space downstairs downtown. Instead. Vending would be would only be approved at sites that were vetted through pbot through a set of criteria, one of which would be that the adjacent property owner must invite this activity to occur. This could be something similar to what you saw in the last slide with the pac west center, or it could be a

site adjacent to a city owned property such as Lonsdale Square Park, in which the city would be, um, would provide the invitation. Next slide. The second, uh, key element of this ordinance is a request to align the program fees with those of the seasonal permits that council recently approved for the outdoor dining program. These fees are a very good match for this program and are shown on the current slide. A typical truck requires two parking spaces, which in 2024 will have an annual fee of \$400 per space for a total of 800 per year. Under the interim healthy business permit fees in 2023, that fee was \$1,000 per year. Uh, for the same two spaces. That's a slight reduction. Now and, uh, next slide please. Last in order to implement a successful, uh, pilot program quickly with a minimum impact to existing staff, we are asking council to approve of suburban events. As the lone coordinating committee for this program. Um, suburban events was the one business that obtained permits from Pbot during the pandemic and worked with downtown businesses to bring food trucks into the central city by programming sites with a rotation of different vendors to provide a variety that the property owners were seeking. Well, this would not be a contracted service with the city. Pbot would issue all permits to suburban event as the coordinating committee. The coordinating committee will ensure that the food trucks maintain proper licenses, permits, register stations and insurance. They would work with the property owners to coordinate the days and times of service, coordinate with Pbot on the viability of sites, advertise the locations and weekly lineup of food trucks on their website. The coordinating committee is responsible for permit fees. City approved insurance, and will indemnify the city suburban events does charge a reasonable fee to the food truck owners for their service. So if you have questions or concerns about the fees, we have a few food truck owners that are coming up, uh, next and would be able to provide testimony to that. With that, I'll conclude my presentation

and make room for the invited testimony. First up, we have Leah Tucker, followed by Deanna Amend, Becca Russell, Megan Kim, and Liz Warner. Thank you. I take it that's me.

Speaker: Uh, good morning, Mayor Wheeler. And commissioners, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak with you this morning. Um, on behalf of the proposed Portland food truck program. For the record, my name is Leah Tucker. I'm the founder and executive director of the Oregon mobile food association. We represent the more than 3500 mobile food units throughout the state of Oregon, which includes the nearly 1500 mobile units that operate throughout the greater Portland metro area. For the past six years, we have advocated on behalf of Oregon's robust food cart and food truck entrepreneurs, and one of our main goals during that time has been an effort to work with the city of Portland to allow food trucks to do what they do best: meet the public where they're at, and bring them great food. Um, for decades, Portland has benefited from this unique industry environment we've created with mobile food. We created this amazing concept of food cart pods. Uh, that was unlike any other mobile food scene in the world. And it became intrinsically tied to the image of Portland and Oregon as a whole. Inasmuch that we created a replica of it in our airport so that travelers could experience it even if they were just passing through, um, during the pandemic, the mobile food industry became a vital part of the front line in the fight, and food trucks stationed at rest areas along the highway to feed long-haul truckers in neighborhoods, to feed areas that were otherwise food deserts and provided much-needed ways to get food to our houseless communities. And just about anyone else who needed a reason to step out of the confines of their home and still remain as safe as possible. Unfortunately because of because offices were closed and events were canceled, we saw a lot of our fully mobile food trucks close their windows for

good. Uh, fast forward post pandemic, we've seen an incredible increase in regulatory actions aimed at our industry, which has created significant barriers for our still recovering food scene as a whole, but specifically within the Portland area. These barriers have heavily restricted the ability for food carts. The station three um, to operate in the Portland area, specifically. Unfortunately, this has led to an increase in the number of lots where we used to operate. Now being vacant and neighborhoods and areas in the downtown corridor that are suffering with a lack of opportunity to the end and, um, uh, food options, this program is the next best thing to reducing the regulatory burden. We're now faced with. Um, and the food deserts. We're seeing it will allow fully mobile trucks to go to the places they're needed and wanted and leave when they are done serving the community. It provides access to the ever increasing commerce of the downtown area, while ensuring the mobile units safety and the community needs are met. I'm excited that Portland has reached out to Liz with suburban events to head the coordination of this new program. Her expertise and experience with rotational programs such as this is well regarded within our industry here in Portland area, and I can't think of a better coordinator to not only care for Portland's leadership's needs, but those of the trucks and the community they'll be serving. Uh, Oregon mobile food association and suburban events have had a long and wonderful relationship, and I'm thoroughly looking forward to working with Liz and the city, um, on this project as it moves forward with your support. Um and I do hope that we can gain your support and continue this conversation over the next two years. Um, as we continue to grow. Um, I do believe that it is vital for the recovery of Portland's food scene. Um, mobile food has always been the foundation, uh, during down economic times to rebuilding. And it's no different now. Um, and the more we can open that up for Portland, I think the better the recovery will be over the long haul.

So thank you for your time. Um, and I appreciate you guys taking this into consideration.

Speaker: Hello. My name is becca russell. Um, I'm a mobile food truck owner. I own, uh, two food trucks. Pigeonhole and. And alchemy sandwich company. We launched our flagship mobile food truck in 2017. 18. Um, and as Leah mentioned, with the changes, uh, in covid, um, we were faced with a great obstacle for how to remain open. Um, it was because of our relationship with suburban events that we were able to keep our, our doors and windows open. Um, she she, Liz made the quick decision when, uh, when folks moved from office buildings to home to move our business model from meeting people in business parks to meeting them at their apartment complex. And because of that, she quite literally saved our business. Um, in 2022, we. We, um, so from 2017 to 2022, we had kind of, uh, dabbled with this idea of using a third party booking agent such as suburban events. But in 2022, after we'd had the experience, um, uh, through covid, of being able to keep our doors open, we decided we were going to fully invest with with Liz and with suburban events. And in doing so, we saw a 500% increase in our business that year. She allowed us access to markets that we wouldn't otherwise have access to. She um, created efficient booking systems that allowed us, as the business owners, the small business owners, you know, we're we're people who wear many hats, one of which was booking events. And she allowed us to take that hat off, um, to be able to focus our energies elsewhere, which was, uh, wonderful and allowed. That's allowed us for our second brand launch. So we launched our second branch in, uh, launch our second brand. Sorry. In uh, 2022, um, and because of our relationship with suburban events, we had, we saw immediate success. Um, we were we came out of the gates already booked. Uh, we didn't have to do a lot of marketing to get our name out there, because suburban events did that for us. Um

working with a third party, we, um, booking agent allows for a predictable and sustainable business model for us, especially in our slow seasons. So the bulk of our, um, uh, the bulk of our business that I book independently happens through the summer time with all of the city events and, and, uh, festivals and stuff. But through suburban events, access to the, um, business complexes and apartment complexes and these other markets that I don't have the time or energy to create relationships with, it keeps our business viable through our slow season. Um so far, a lot of those, uh, relationships have happened outside of Portland city limits. So we do a lot of stuff in beaverton. We do a lot of stuff in hillsboro. But with this pilot program, it allows us to come back to Portland and keep our business localized, which in essence for us creates a, again, a more sustainable model because it's not putting as much wear and tear on our mobile food trucks having to drive such great distances to get access to the markets. Um I think that's all I have to share. I just am appreciative of the time and the consideration and look forward to growing being, uh, a scene in Portland that is indicative of Portland. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Back up.

Speaker: Hi, everybody. My name is megan kim. Um, I co-own own a mobile food truck with my husband and called d.o.j. Um, our testimony is very, very similar to what becca just shared. We had a very similar experience with, um, starting our food truck in December of, um, 2022. And when you are kind of starting off with something that's so volatile, it's really nice to have something that's so just sustainable and consistent. So much like becca just shared. Um starting with liz, with suburban events, it gave us immediate work, consistent work in the winter when we decided to start our truck so that was really nice to have. Um just some consistency, getting our name out there, being brand new, um, it was like the perfect way to be able to just get our name out, get our branding out, get a lot of

work. Um, but much like becca shared, most food trucks are very old vehicles. Ours in particular is from 1992, and it's already experienced a lot of wear and tear as a food truck. We, um, bought it as like a used food truck, and we've definitely had, um, many different mechanical repairs throughout, like our experience and experiencing so many events outside of the Portland metro. It does cause, unfortunately, a lot of wear and tear, especially on like, freeways and highways and inclines. Um, so we unfortunately have experienced significant, significant enough damage to our truck and wear and tear to our truck that it's forced us to have to stay in the Portland metro and liz has been really great with working with us and trying to, um, mitigate those long, dry drives for us. But it has, um, unfortunately caused, you know, it causes a significant amount of loss and work or it just kind of limits things or, you know, we've had to kind of seek other, um, jobs. Um, and she's been great about giving us a lot of work still, but it's we tend to seem like we like, avoid the downtown area. Just there's not a lot of opportunity. Um, when that was once thriving with food trucks. So it was really nice to revive that. And then, um, another detail is the food trucks, especially mobile ones, are just massive. Um, it's a massive vehicle. Ours in particular is 27ft long, uh, 118 high, 95in wide and it's a beast to navigate on the best of roads. So when we have had rare opportunities to go downtown down, um, it's tight. It's difficult to manage. So when we have designated spots that we know we can pull up to with ease, it relieves so much, um, stress for already difficult vehicles all to manage in tight spaces. So, um, we're very, very, very grateful to have something like suburban events where it provides this set space that, you know, you're able to pull up to. You don't really have to spend a lot of time kind of going back around and around and around with a vehicle that is really hard to navigate. So we've appreciated working with her for many reasons. But just a technical element of, you know, moving these massive vehicles around,

it's really nice to have something so set. So um, everything that becca said, she put it perfectly. So I agree with that. And just wanted to kind of piggyback with adding on like just the wear and tear and emphasizing the, uh, the movement of these big vehicles. It's really, really important for us to have a set spot to go to. So we're very grateful for liz and everything she's provided for us. And we've made it through our first year really well. Thanks to her. Thank you. Thank you. Hi everyone.

Speaker: I'm liz warner and I started suburban events in in 2016. Um, the other speakers did a pretty good job of summarizing what we do in the value that's added to the community. Um, our job is basically to set up pop up events in the Portland metro area that meet the criteria that the food truck community is looking for. All the individual businesses have different schedules, availability, minimum requirements, travel radiuses, for example, and we set them up with events that meet their own particular criteria. Um, I really enjoy working with entrepreneurs in all phases of business, but I think that those that find the most value in our services are the ones that are just starting out. Um, we act as an incubator for new businesses to begin to connect with the customer base, allowing them to fine tune their menu, their service and operations to eventually take their business to the next level, if that's what they'd like to do. Our goal is to keep their schedules as full as possible. Um, or really as full as they want them to be. We handle all of the marketing, each location for the trucks, putting their brand and menus in front of hundreds of people every day. We manage all the scheduling, communication with the properties. We act as a sole point of contact between the truck and the property, making everything pretty easy for everyone. Um, and we also ensure that all of the licensing and insurance requirements of the properties are met. The goal is to really allow the business owner to stay off of the computer and the phone, and to really focus on the food and to provide a memorable customer experience. Um,

once the business is established, the truck owners tend to need us less. As becca was saying, as clients reach out to them directly and book the trucks for private parties, festivals, etc. The initial rotation that we set up for the trucks to keep them busy during their downtime, uh, really does connect them with the long time customer that do call them and hire them directly for events. Once they have a following and have fine tuned their operations, some may eventually expand to brick and mortar restaurants, or there have been a few, again, like becca that have decided to add a second brand to their umbrella. The, um. It's important to each location for us that each schedule has a variety of cuisine types and trucks that are in different stages of their businesses. We currently work with a diverse group of over 40 mobile food vendors, which is honestly the most of them in the Portland metro area. Um, and they are from a number of ethnic backgrounds, and they offer a wide variety of food, um, to name a few. American, mexican, greek, african, korean, hawaiian, an asian fusion, german, vegetarian and vegan cajun sushi, lobster, as well as a few coffee trucks and dessert vendors. Um on behalf of the diverse mobile food food truck group that we work with, I'd like to thank everyone here for taking the steps to allow the city to provide more opportunity for all of us that will certainly have a trickle down benefit and bring more life and community building opportunities into the downtown area. Thank you.

Speaker: Good morning. Um, I'm deanna omondi with lincoln property company. Um, lincoln represents the owner of park west center and wells fargo center, to name two of our largest assets downtown. And I'm here to speak on behalf of the program and how much it's assisted our tenants and their businesses and getting employees to return to work. Um, as you know, there is a glut of services in downtown Portland. Um, and when our tenants first reach out to us for assistance in getting employees back to the office, you know, out of desperation, often, um, we

ask, what can we do? And believe it or not, their number one issue, their employees number one issue to returning to the office. This was lack of food service even before even over security. Although security is an issue. They didn't want to come back without somewhere to go have lunch or I mean, ideally, hopefully at some point happy hour. Um, so given that we do not have the know how the contacts or the expertise we, we reached out to suburban events and I have to tell you, the response to the program has been so surprising. I was even surprised. Um, we are not only servicing our building, wells fargo center across the street, but that, um, occupants from neighboring buildings, including the city, are coming across and utilizing the food trucks. Um, we increase the number of days the food trucks are service at our property. Um, the food truck rotation has increased because the food trucks are doing so well. Sales wise. More of them want to be included in the program at park west. Um my biggest concern if this program isn't continued is the impact it will have on businesses remaining downtown. Our largest tenant, who has been at park west for over 30 years. They have just about 80,000ft² of office space, is looking for our it's out in the market looking for a new location, a location that will provide their employees what they want so that their employees have faction. They can retain them and they'll return to the office. So that would be catastrophic. It would be catastrophic for us. It would be catastrophic for downtown. And they're not the only business that is considering this. Um, you know, how many have moved. So, um, these permits just need to continue. It's too soon. It's far too soon to end them. Um, and we really appreciate having the service and working with liz. Um, i, I care very much about downtown and its recovery. I care very much about the communities that are downtown as does lincoln. Um, as does the buildings located, the businesses located in our buildings and I cannot stress enough how

critical the continuation of this program is. And I really, really appreciate your time. Thank you for your consideration.

Speaker: And I think we have Keith today. Or do we have invited or, um, public testimony.

Speaker: Does that complete?

Speaker: No, I think I see Keith there he is. Hey, Keith. Hey.

Speaker: How's it going? Am I invited? Great. Yeah you're.

Speaker: No, you're i, I think we're I think you're up. Okay great.

Speaker: Um, uh. Good morning, Mayor Wheeler and city commissioners. Um, my name is Keith Jones, and I'm the executive director of Friends of Green Loop. Uh, it's part of this role. I helped to relocate the former Alder Street food cart pod to the cart blocks, which I also manage and have worked with the city on mobile vending issues, public outdoor plazas and downtown revitalization. Uh, I'm here to support this pilot program to allow food trucks to operate within the city limits. Uh specifically downtown. Uh, food carts have played a significant role in our Portland's culture and economy. They also bring activity and vitality to our sidewalks. Uh, most people assume that, uh, food carts are highly mobile. However, this is not the case. Uh, they require hard infrastructure to be in place, like electrical, uh, fresh water, sewer connect and so forth. Uh, that can be expensive and complicated to set up as many of us will know, uh, the carts themselves are difficult to move sometimes it can take a few days to prep for a move and then you need to find a way to tow it and place it. Most carts are set up to stay in a single location when I move the Alder Street food cart pod, some of those carts had not moved in over ten years. Um, since the pandemic, food carts have proven an effective way to help rebuild our economy and revitalize our city in my work with the community to activate street plazas, I'm often asked to bring in food carts.

However without that infrastructure, we talked about it. That's just not feasible. Um, food trucks are more nimble and they are more self-contained. They bring their own power and water with them, and they can go to a disposal facility to empty their gray water tanks. Uh, however, due to the restriction placed on food trucks operating the city limits, they're just aren't enough food trucks available right now. And cart owners who might opt for this type of mobile vending may not invest in a truck because of the limitation to places that they can operate. Um, if you recall, a few years back I conducted a study with Portland state university called food cardiology 2021 recovery in central city that looked at our food cart scene. Its impact on our local economy, and best practices from other cities. And we presented that report to City Council. For your reference, one of the top recommendations was to be more resilient and nimble. We must diversify by adding food trucks and sidewalk vending. Uh, copy of that website is still on my, uh, our website at [pdx green loop.org](http://pdxgreenloop.org). If you want to take a look at it. So I support this pilot program as a first step. And look forward to working with the city on bringing food trucks into the downtown central city. It's good for our small businesses, our culinary culture, and our local economy. Um, I also sort of want to bring up the part about that activation, too. Um, this summer, uh, I looked at clean and safe, um, pedestrian counts and, um, the cart blocks had 864,000 people come to that location. If you know the location, that park is not been, um, a destination for a long time to bring that amount of people to that place, um, shows just what these types of businesses can do. And I know that some of my cart owners would be interested in maybe even opening up a second. Uh business with a truck if able to. So thank you for your time.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Keith um, at least on my screen, I'm not seeing the mayor. Oh, there we go. Uh, hi, mr. Mayor. David, is that. Do we have any more

testimony? David? Keelan. Uh, anyone else signed up, or is that the end of our presentation ?

Speaker: That's all I had invited. Um, okay. I don't know if anybody else has signed up. Good

Speaker: Well, uh, let's let's take care of council questions first before we go to public testimony. Does anybody have any burning questions at this particular moment? Commissioner gonzales?

Speaker: Uh, thank you, mayor. Uh, just super excited about this.

Speaker: Uh, really, uh, optimistic about the way this might be able to revitalize and keep the energy in central city couple just conceptual questions. Maybe this is for you. Commissioner Mapps or someone on your team as much or for commissioner Ryan, but what is the permitting process look like for putting carts in and on park property versus the right of way? And we sort of thought what's, you know, uh, what's optimal from a, from a city perspective and just sort of curious second related question, I'm just sort of curious, like the roadmap to get a permit on park property versus pbot property in central city.

Speaker: I think I'm going to kick that one over to david.

Speaker: Sure. I can tell you I had a conversation with, uh, the parks, their, uh, property and business manager, and he was very excited about this program, actually, because the vibe I got from him was that parks staff really don't want the food trucks in the park. So if they can come next to the park and vend in there, that was much more exciting for them. They even came up with a possible location of trying to activate some space up by the basketball courts in the north park blocks. Um, so we're looking forward to having a great relationship with parks on this.

Speaker: And I mean, I thinking about the diversity of properties in parks.

Speaker: You know, some may lend themselves better or worse to having food carts. I'm just sort of curious if that's I don't know, I can just think about certain parts of our parks that might be revitalized and energized if we had food carts there as well. So again, this is adjacent to what you're doing. I just as we're thinking about going forward, um, i, I'm just sort of curious again, maybe this question for commissioner Ryan, we could take offline another time, but I'm, uh, generally curious what we can do to activate commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: I can, I can I can step in and give a little bit of background on this, uh, for the record, uh, Jackson Paul from commissioner Mapps team. And I think that's sort of one of the things that we're really excited about bringing this pilot forward is the I would say the flexible nature of how these sites can be initiated if parks does want to come forward and partner with pbob on activating streets along their parks, we are ready, willing, able and very, very excited to activate both public and private property. And so I think there's a lot of leeway for us to operate under the process that we've set up. And if you or commissioner Ryan or anyone else on council or from the general public has ideas for how we push this program even higher, I think we are we are very ready to partner on that.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Oh, sorry. Commissioner Gonzales, did you have more?

Speaker: I don't I had one follow up question, but if commissioner Ryan had comments on this, I okay.

Speaker: I um, that sort of the related question in again, I don't know if this goes to commissioner Mapps or to David is how do we leverage this potentially to activate some of the first floor retail that would be adjacent to the you know, the, uh, the food carts, because in fact, one of the images showed exactly the dynamic. We've got a food cart next to a vacant space. Uh, I think that picture is literally across the

street from city hall. And um, just curious if there's been any thoughts on how we can, uh, activate some of the, uh, adjacent real estate with these food carts as well?

Speaker: And again, i'll kick that over to either david or jackson. You guys are doing great. Actually I might I might want to step in and call on, um, suburban events because this is what that sort of, uh, brings up in my mind is how we, how we sort of connect the right food cart to the right space in is a really important aspect of this.

Speaker: And so where we are probably not going to be putting a tie food cart right out in front of a thai restaurant or a nearby, it's something that makes sense for the community. And I think how we how we kind of tie those together is, is a really important aspect of this. So drawing on the knowledge of the community that already exists is, is really important. So can we maybe get some some insight on that from from the liz is on the call.

Speaker: Perfect. Okay. Yeah I'm here.

Speaker: Um, I actually don't have a ton of experience working food trucks right in front of vacant retail spaces, but I do feel like, you know, depending on what type of retailer may or may not want to move into there. If we have a food truck right outside that's bringing population and they want to bring people into their shop, um, I feel like that just opens up opportunity and maybe deanna can speak more to that. Being a property manager of a large, complex with retail space, um, but, you know, more people in the area coming right in front of the store, I would assume would be a good thing for retailers and what someone would want to occupy that space. And if it looks like you're calling in from australia or you're just a flat, um, sort of along those lines and maybe a good piece of information then to um, uh, flesh out commissioner Gonzalez's question is, let's say you're a property owner who'd like to participate in this program.

Speaker: Who do you call, um, or how do you kind of begin that conversation?

Speaker: Sure. Um, I can jump in there. Uh, right now, you would call the pbot's, um, coordinator for this, which is going to be allison madsen or myself. And you know, we can connect with, with, uh, with liz and suburban events and, um, you know, try to get them programed into the schedule, the rotation. Um, same with food cart or. Excuse me, food truck owners. So both property owners or food truck owners should contact us and we'll get them moving along through the process.

Speaker: Great. So if you're interested, would you, uh, just google Portland in the streets? And would that get you there? If you're looking for that information, it should.

Speaker: We you know, we're waiting for council's vote on this, but then we'll have everything up on our website shortly.

Speaker: Okay.

Speaker: I'll i'll be quiet and let us get down to business. Thank you. Um, I think and I apologize, commissioner. Uh, Ryan, for putting in commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Okay.

Speaker: Thank you. That was a wonderful presentation.

Speaker: And I'm all in to vote for this. How about. And I just need to ask this question. Um, it's a good problem. Um, imagine the day when there is a lot of traffic, both foot and car traffic downtown. And the food truck is, um, taking up a couple parking spaces and, you know, dry cleaners are a good example. What you hear from small brick and mortar, uh, tenants downtown is they want to have ready, available parking, um, for customers to come in and out quickly. So what's our thresholds when we get to that place where we have this good problem? And again, this program has merit, especially right now. And it also has long terme merit when we're talking about activating events and such at the ready. So um, I just want

to hear about how we will be flexible all when we want to do all we can for our small businesses who are bricks and mortar and could have a tension point around this. So I know you've had this conversation. I just want to hear about what those thresholds are. Thanks sure.

Speaker: And let me know if I'm not quite answering your question completely, but one of the things that we looked at for this pilot program was, you know, how many, how many food trucks could a site, um, support and with the amount of folks downtown town, um, you know, we first looked at, you know, could we do 4 or 5 of them together, but there's just not enough, uh, business support for them. So we're only going to have one cart per location to start with, and we'll see if, you know, if we can go more from there. So that's the only two, uh, parking spaces off any one block face within several blocks of each other. Um, so as far as taking up existing parking, this won't have a big impact. There as far as businesses who want parking, I think pbot's, um, parking operations team, you know, they they take a look at any requests, you know, business comes in and they want to have loading zones. We look at loading zones if they want to have 15 minute parking, we look at that. So I mean I think that already exists today. Commissioner. Um and I'm probably not the best one to answer that, but but I know from my conversations with them that they endeavor to help businesses out.

Speaker: And I see Jackson has his hand up.

Speaker: Yeah, and I will I'll I'll definitely jump in on this a little bit and an important thing to realize is this is a two year pilot. So I think we're all aware that this pilot will outlive us. And I think that presents a really interesting opportunity. So for this first year that we are in operation here, we'll have at least one major touch point where to kind of come back, sit down and talk about the essentially what is working well, what's not working well, and tailor this program to the realities of

downtown Portland. And I think what we see the second year. So the up to 25 is this will also be an opportunity for the new council entering city hall after after we leave at the end of this year to take a program that is often running and also be responsive to the downtown community. So we have two years of operation before anything actually becomes final. So plenty of opportunity for us to adjust up, adjust down. And I see another hand popping up. Leah.

Speaker: Hi, this is Leah with the Oregon mobile food association. I just I also wanted to, um, just to point out that this is not this may be new for um for Portland, but this is essentially how food trucks have operated for centuries, um, decades and decades and decades. Um throughout the world, uh, not just in the United States, but in the world and really, Portland is actually kind of an anomaly in that we don't have food trucks rolling in our downtown corridors. So, um, so although it may be new and kind of scary and, um, and, you know, as is always, you know, people don't like a whole lot of competition rolling in, but, um, but I do think that allowing food trucks to operate, um, essentially how they're designed to operate is, is it's not really that new. And, um, it does actually show and studies that it brings us, um, more business to the businesses that they are near. Um, people will follow food trucks. Um, they don't usually follow, um, like their favorite laundry mat or their favorite, you know, whatever. But they will find them simply because they follow the food trucks. They come down to that area when their food trucks are nearby, or they happen to be in that area, they'll come and they will seek them out, um, and suddenly will discover other parts of the city that they've never seen before. And we have seen that over and over and over again with mobile food, uh, both carts and trucks throughout the state. Is that restaurants and local businesses thrive when mobile food is introduced into the community. And I really think that downtown Portland will see that same type of, um, infusion in because the

surrounding areas will suddenly be in, you know, seeking out their favorite food trucks.

Speaker: Okay, for the record, I'm very positive about this. I'm very into food trucks. I was merely talking about a positive development where we have a lot of foot traffic and we have, uh, bricks and mortar small businesses that constantly want to make sure they have access to their bricks and mortar locations. And so we just need to have a process where we're open to those tension points that could come up once it starts getting busy again. And so I merely brought up some, um, store fronts that are very place based brick and mortar. And they do rely on parking that's nearby. That's all. And so I just think it's important for us to be open, uh, to this wonderful problem that we might have hopefully, uh, in 2024 and even in 2025. So I'm all in. I'm just talking about the world that we live in that has tensions and everything is a little bit more messy than we like to admit. So no, no defensiveness here. Just know I'm all in, and I just want to make sure that we're open to the voices of the small bricks and mortar tenants in our buildings as well. Thanks. Thank

Speaker: Thank you so much. Oh, yeah.

Speaker: Any questions? I'd like to move this along. Uh, and get to public testimony. Is Keelan. Do we have public testimony? No. All right. Very good. This is an emergency ordinance. Any other burning questions before we take a vote? Seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Keelan yea. Rubio.

Speaker: Um, I want to thank commissioner maps and the pbot team for bringing this pilot forward. Um, it's a really exciting project, and I appreciate the creative approach to using the public right of way to bring more opportunity to small businesses and more dining options to workers and residents in the central city. Uh, it's such a great way. We've talked about it already to support local food truck

operators, and it enables them to really amplify, see their impact and exposure to. So excited to see this move forward and ultimately to scale if it's successful, I'm happy to vote. I, Brian yes, I thank you, commissioner mounts for your leadership.

Speaker: Jackson, on your staff and David from Pbot. Really great presentation. You really mobilized an incredible lobby of enthusiastic Portlanders who are doing all they can to help our large tenants. I've seen the trucks in front of Park West. Um, just recently I think I was walking with you, Mayor, and I'm like, oh, this is interesting. Look at this, uh, food truck. Right here. Uh, on. And it's, uh, it's mobile. So it's obviously a great innovative idea. It's been it's piqued my interest and curiosity. So I'm glad it's here on the dais. And that we can take a vote today to make sure that it will be solid, um, through the time period allotted through the through 2025. Let's go.

Speaker: I vote yea Gonzalez.

Speaker: Uh, first of all, I just want to thank some of our creators, our entrepreneurs that have created such a vibrant food cart scene in the city of Portland.

Speaker: Um, it's really a wonderful part of our heritage here. And love to see the innovation and continue to support it. Um, I, I, uh, wholeheartedly support this. I'm, I'm, uh, I on it. I do, uh, think we should all keep in mind Commissioner Ryan's line of question here. How do we adjust it as relative demand? Uh, in a particular area or in central city? May uh, you know, they're dynamic markets and, uh, 18 months from here, we may have different problems, but, um, having said all that, wholeheartedly support this I vote yea maps.

Speaker: Um, I want to thank everyone who testified today. Um I think this is a truly uplifting presentation. I also very much want to recognize David for his leadership and helping make this program happen. And also, I think as everyone,

uh, could hear today, the work that liz is doing over at suburban events is, uh, not only critical to this program, but also show a real model for business incubation here in Portland. So I think there are some other broader lessons to be learned here. I also want to thank all my colleagues on council. I appreciate this dialog and I appreciate your concern about making sure that this program is flexible and meets Portland's current and future needs. That's one of the reasons why this is set up as a pilot. Uh, we are explicitly going to evaluate this as it rolls out. Uh, this is one of the happy projects that we get to vote on today, which is why I vote yea mailer.

Speaker: Yeah, I love the way commissioner Mapps just put it. This really is this is a happy this is, um, uh, really a pleasure to have the opportunity to discuss. And I appreciate leah and becca and megan and liz and deanna and keith and of course, the entire the, uh, professional staff here at city hall. Uh, this is great. And I really appreciated the commentary around activation. And as as people know, uh, I've been out on a limb really encouraging people to return to work in the central city core. As you all know, our city employees have done that. And uh, we are waiting, uh, for private sector players as much as they can to bring their employees back. But but I agree, there has to be the infrastructure here for people to want to be here. I saw a great quote. I think it was in the new york times. The other day around, uh, actually it was the atlantic, and it was the rather lengthy article on san francisco and, and their city design there said, look, um, you you, um, if people don't have to be in the central city, what you need to do is make them want to be in the central city and we have certainly all seen that that our city staffs appreciate, uh, the increased collaboration and communication that comes with being together in person. Uh we have seen productivity improvements, which is a good thing. And frankly, people are social and they prefer, uh, in some measure, to be together rather than to be doing what I'm doing today, which is sitting here with my cell

phone propped up on a stack of books, staring at the screen, all day. Uh, but as was noted during testimony, if there aren't those opportunities that make people want to be here, they're not going to come back. It's that simple. So this is a big step forward. And I applaud the food truck industry. I know you guys have had a withering couple of years, and I've watched while some of your key players have stuck it out through thick and thin. And I'm I'm sure it's been tough personally for them. Tough on, uh, their finance is tough on their families, tough on their own psyche. And I'm really glad that we're now on the back side of this, that we're seeing foot traffic pick up significantly in the central city core. We're seeing the crime statistics move in the right direction. We're seeing more opportunities to get homeless folks off the streets and connected to services and this is one more piece to the puzzle, which is bringing the fun back into the central city. Um, and you know, as commissioner Mapps has indicated through his leadership, we want to support this effort any way we can. And the pilot project is going to help us to learn what works best, best, uh, and alternatively, maybe what what dead? Dead ends we shouldn't necessarily pursue. So, um, so this is great. I appreciate it. And I'm happy to vote. I along with all my colleagues, we're all excited about this. So thank you. Thank you all for your leadership. I vote yea in the ordinance is adopted. Uh, next, uh, we will move to item number 42, which is a non-emergency ordinance. Authorize the director of the bureau of environmental services to enter into settlement with Oregon department of environmental quality for environmental cleanup and natural resource damage claims regarding the columbia sloop commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Uh, thank you, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: Colleagues, this item comes to us from the bureau of environmental services. This ordinance and authorizes environmental services to enter into an

agreement with the state of Oregon's department of environmental quality for environmental cleanup and natural resources damage claims regarding the columbia slough. Now, under this agreement, the city of Portland agrees to pay uh \$19.5 million over three years to address storm water discharges and sediment contamination in the columbia slough. The city will also conduct for million dollars worth of alternative remedial measures and complete 15 stormwater management projects over the next 50 years in exchange, the city will be released of liabilities. Um here to tell us more about this ordinance. We have annie von berg, an environmental remediation manager for environmental services, and we also have andrew davidson, the columbia slough cleanup manager for the city of Portland. And finally, we are joined by sarah miller, a cleanup manager with the department of environmental quality. I want to welcome our presenters today, and i'll hand the floor over to you.

Speaker: Great. Thank you so much. Hello, mayor. And commissioners, thank you so much for your time today. I'm annie von berg, the manager of environmental remediation here at the bureau of environmental services. Like commissioner matt said, I'm here with andrew davidson, manager of the columbia slough cleanup program. And also, we're really happy to have our colleague from deq, sarah miller, manager of the deq cleanup program, to present with us today. We're really excited to share with you a proposed agreement that we've been working on with deq to advance cleanup work in the columbia slough. This is a really big milestone for this project that we and many others have been working on for nearly 30 years now. Next slide please, for this presentation today we're going to give an overview of the cleanup site itself. I know columbia slough often doesn't get as much attention as its neighbors, the columbia river and willamette river, but it represents the largest state led sediment cleanup site in the state of Oregon. So this is a really important

body of work. So we'll go over the site. The cleanup approach up to date, a summary of our new agreement and what we're hoping to achieve with that new agreement. The presentation will be really quick today, but we will have some time for questions at the end. Next slide please. So you'll see on this map, uh, highlighted in that bright aqua color, the columbia sloughs main channel runs 19 miles parallel of the columbia river from the city of fairview to the willamette river near the confluence of the columbia. Also having connected 30 miles of secondary waterways. So a really big area that we're looking at here for over 100 years of agriculture and heavy industrial practices, has left widespread contamination in the sediment at the bottom of the slough. Contaminants include pcbs and pesticides that bioaccumulate in fish, making resident fish in the slough harmful to eat. Next slide to address the widespread contamination, deq issued a cleanup plan back in 2005, which included several components for that cleanup plan that was controlling upland sources of pollution, cleaning high levels of contaminated sediment, initial dating, long terme sampling, and monitoring, developing alternative remedial measures that can help reach cleanup goals and importantly, leaving flexibility to modify the plan and the approach as new information over time became available, all the city has been participated since the very beginning, and a lot of work has been done over a long period of time, but we're now ready to transition into a new chapter of this work to make even more progress and really accelerate that progress. Next slide. And I want to make a really quick note of why the city is working on this cleanup site in the first place. So the city owns and operates municipal stormwater conveyance systems that discharge in every reach of the columbia slough. There have been stormwater and wastewater discharges to the slough for over 100 years through what are now city outfalls. Um, so it's basically the public service of owning and operating the stormwater conveyance system over

a really long period of time. That makes us a potentially responsible party at this site. So we're by no means the only potentially responsible party. We're one amongst many in this large area. The next slide, so as a potentially responsible party, um, the city has worked collaboratively with deq under a series of five year inter governmental agreements, or igas, that focus primarily on investigation and controlling sources of pollution that were in city basins. As the city and deq were coming up on our next iga cycle, both agencies agreed that shifting current work with its focused on investigation to more focus on cleanup actions would better support our shared remediation goals, protect public resources and more effectively bring in the community into the cleanup and restoration process. This next slide. So with this proposed agreement, it'll be a little different than the previous iga structures that we've had in the past. This agreement will be done under a consent judgment, which is a settlement. Um this gives the city legal protections against future claims that only a settlement can provide. Um, it also defines the city's role and obligations in the long terme with a work plan, which will result in long terme cost savings for the city. Um, this will also allow the city to gain certificates of completion issued by a dic. So we can formalize all of these important steps in the cleanup as we make progress through this large, complex site. Next slide please. So in addition to making sure that the city is gaining legal protections as we move through this process and that we're meeting our obligations as a responsible party, we wanted to make sure that we're also advancing common goals for our new approach and new agreement. Here with dic. So these goals outlined here, four of them, to really accelerate progress, to meet cleanup goals sooner. So this makes this means making this area cleaner and safer sooner. Um, also more effectively bring in the community to the cleanup and restoration processes and really find ways to elevate environmental justice opportunities.

Having more of a clear plan on when and where these cleanup activities will take place provides more opportunities for bringing in the community and to really take advantage of these environmental justice opportunities. This also the goal here with this agreement is to protect public resources by better defining the city's, uh, contributions and role into the cleanup process. This agreement brings a lot of clarity to our work and how it's really contributing to our end goals here also. And lastly, is one of the common goals we were trying to achieve with this agreement is to really a complete work sooner, um, to manage the risk of future uncertainties like rising cost of cleanup. Um, there are many uncertainties when it comes to big cleanups like this, except for rising costs. It's all but guaranteed. The cost of the work will go up significantly over time, so the sooner we're able to get through this work and get it done, the sooner we're able to manage the scale of these costs. So this sets up the kind of the frame of what we were trying to achieve with this agreement. I'm going to pass it over to andrew and sarah so they can go over quickly. A summary of what will be in the agreement. Next slide. Thank you annie.

Speaker: Thank you. Mayor Wheeler. And thank you, commissioners, for your time. My name is andrew davidson. I'm the columbia slough cleanup manager for bs. As outlined in this slide. The terms of the proposed agreement between the city and deq include two broad categories funding and work that the city will perform. We'll get into the details of each of these bullets in the proceeding slides. But just as a general overview, the city will provide funding to deq to perform in-water sediment cleanup in areas with elevated concentrations of contamination. The city will also provide funding to deq to implement Oregon department of fish and wildlife approved natural resource damage actions, which include things like habitat restoration and then lastly, the city will provide funding to deq for additional source control resources to more effectively identify potential sources of

contamination to the Columbia Slough and refer those sources to an appropriate regulatory enforcement program. Internally, the city will perform alternative remedial measures in collaboration with both DEQ and community. And as Annie mentioned, these are measures that are designed to benefit the overall watershed health of the Columbia Slough. The city is also committed to providing storm water treatment systems and 15 priority outfall basins over the next 15 years, as and then. Lastly, the city will complete a comprehensive fish tissue and sediment sampling event to better understand land contamination and contamination trends. Slough wide. And I should mention that all of these, all of these items and actions have been identified collaboratively with DEQ, who has been a great partner in this cleanup process. And all of the obligations listed here will be funded and performed by the city over the next 15 years. Next slide please, for in-water remedial action, the city will provide \$16 million for in-water sediment cleanups and high priority sediment cleanup areas. And these are areas that have already been shown to have elevated concentrations of some of the contamination. That's really driving risk within the slough. So these are things like PCBs and pesticides and PAHs, the money that the city will provide. The state will go to addressing these targeted sediment cleanup areas. And the state will implement technologies such as capping or dredging. In addition to the \$16 million, the city will also provide \$2 million to DEQ to implement. As I mentioned, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife approved natural resource damage actions. So these are things like flood mitigation, habitat restoration, invasive species removal, and much of this work has already been defined previously but has not been funded or has been underfunded. And so by expediting this work, we're protecting public dollars. Next slide please. In addition to the in-water work, the city is also committed to providing \$4 million of alternative remedial measures and these are things to improve the

overall watershed health. Um, such as habitat restoration, invasive vegetation management, cultural and public events. Uh, improved hydrology, educational or job training opportunities, cities. And one thing that both the city and the state are excited about with regards to the alternative remedial measures, is that it will incorporate community defined actions within environmental justice lens and that these actions will be both planned and implemented in collaboration with both the state and community. Next slide please. And for addressing upland pollution, the city has committed to installing 15 active treatment systems in high priority outfall basins. These are the catchment areas that discharge to the columbia slough that we've identified in collaboration with the state as having, you know, the most, uh, potential for contaminant inputs. And this includes high traffic areas or areas where there are industrial inputs to the municipal conveyance system. As part of this process, the city has been working with deq to identify sources of contamination within these basins and refer these sources to appropriate regulators, enforcement programs. And it should also be mentioned that ongoing programs that bs implements currently, such as our ms4 and tmdl programs, as well as our stormwater management manual and city code improvements, are helping to improve stormwater quality that's discharging to the slough. Next slide. And then lastly, in addition to installing the 15 stormwater treatment systems, the city has worked with the state to identify a closeout process by which the city will control and ensure pollution is controlled in all of our basins. That discharge to the columbia slough by going through this process, the city will gain legal closure for all of the basins discharging to the columbia slough. And to help with this process, the city is providing \$1.5 million to deq to fund a source control position to help with identification and referral of potential sources of pollution. So with that, I'm going to kick it over to sarah miller at deq to talk about the public benefits and that.

Speaker: All right. Thank you. A next slide please. My name is sarah miller and I am the columbia slough. Uh sediment project manager for deq. So i'll provide the rest um, of the presentation here. Um, and so this is a agreement summary. Roll up slide here so you can see that there's, uh, 16 million from the city would go to in water use in water sediment cleanup. Um, the city would also provide 2 million for deq habitat restoration with odf to oversee that. And then, uh, the city would also provide the 1.5 million for additional deq source control resources. The city would implement 4 million of alternative remedial measures and the city would also install um stormwater treatment systems in 15 priority outfall basins over the next 15 years, and evaluate all 209 city basins that enter into the slough, uh, and provide one comprehensive fish tissue and sediment sampling event throughout the slough water uh waterway. Um and then separately, the city would continue to pay a dkk oversight costs until the saw. All the work is completed under the agreement. Under the agreement. And you might be thinking, you know how did we come up with the value of this agreement? And both the city and deq complete, uh, independent evaluations and negotiated over several months about the final value of the settlement and the items in the settlement. So in general, the settlement is based on known costs for remediation in the slough equivalent settlements for natural resource damages, and the cost to implement those projects, along with the need for ongoing source control. Next slide please. So in order for deq to enter into a consent judgment agreement, um, we must demonstrate that the agreed it provides public benefit. And each of the elements in the um, in the new agreement proposed agreement contribute to the requirements of the columbia slough record of decision or cleanup plan. Um, and you can see those are listed out here. Uh, it expedites sediment cleanup to reduce risk to human health and the environment. Uh, prioritizes watershed improvements to benefit communities that have been

most affected by the historical contamination. Uh, increases the capacity to prevent and control all, uh, sources of pollution, uh, such as the funds to deq for that stormwater position. Uh, and then also increases and improves public health risk communication by providing an additional round of fish tissue and sediment sampling. Um, and it also creates the opportunity to use these resources to collect and provide aid, um, and address environmental justice. So deq is confident, based on our long standing relationship with the city and our collaborative efforts over the years that have been primarily concentrated on investigation and characterization activities in the slough, um, we are confident that that will smoothly evolve into this new, uh, kind of active phase cleanup that promises to provide, uh, lasting enhancements to the watershed health, which is a goal of deq and also, uh, you know, city bts and the city itself and, um, next slide please. So with that, um, thank you for the opportunity to present here. And i'll hand it back over to the council for any questions you might have. All right.

Speaker: Thanks. Great presentation. Colleagues any questions? Uh, commissioner Ryan, do you have a question? No. Okay great. Um, good. I, i, I just had one question, and it may not be one that that can be answered here today. Maybe it's just for a further discussion, but I understand, for example, that, uh, on the evaluation of the outfall that the vast, vast majority of that, I think 13 out of 15 of those are slated to be covered by ratepayers. Can you go through that list of agreements in the settlement and just quickly tick off where the funding would come from for that? Or is this all on the backs of the ratepayers, or is some portion of this general fund, or do we know if you could go back to that final slide and just give us your best understanding as of today, of how those costs might be covered?

Speaker: Absolutely. I can address that. Mayor, thank you for the question, Ryan. Yes, all of the cost in this settlement will come from beis, and that is because it's

primarily, uh, well, is related completely to the conveyance system. We do have, um, our attorney, nancy klinger on that can address that more specific. But yes, in total, every component that we outlined today that is a part of this settlement will be paid by beis, the work that's articulated in there as well □l also be managed and completed by beis over the course of 15 years.

Speaker: Okay.

Speaker: And nancy, I appreciate you being here. I think that's that's a thorough enough answer for my purposes today. And so these are commitments we know we can live up to at this point. And that's why we're entering into this settlement agreement. Is that a fair statement?

Speaker: That's correct. This is built into the beis budget.

Speaker: Good. And then one sort of last question. It's just of historical interest and it won't impact my vote on this one way or the other. Uh, but the columbia river slough was contaminated through prior industrial use. As I understand it. Do we have any sense of how much of that prior industrial use was due to the shipbuilding enterprises during world war two, on behest of the federal government?

Speaker: Andrew, do you want to address that?

Speaker: Sure.

Speaker: To be honest, mayor, i, I I'm not certain. Um, I think it I think it might be difficult to suss out. I'm sure there are some contributions from those former activities, but also, I think just largely the 100 year history of the slough being a focus of industrial and agricultural practices. Um, I think there were many, many sources that contributed to the widespread contamination. That's observed in the slough. All right.

Speaker: That's fair enough. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Uh, yeah, just building off of your, uh, question, mr. Mayor. Um, will all the city and the state have other partners in helping us clean up the slough as we move forward, or is the city the main, um, actor in terms of, uh, mediating or remediating some of the damages that we see in this important natural area?

Speaker: Yeah. Thank you for that question. No certainly not. The city is not the only player here. We're one among many. The state deq has established a framework for settlement for parties. And they've had a number of parties step forward. And sarah can address that. And so um, they do have mechanisms that parties can step forward and have the ability to settle their obligations and do their components for the cleanup themselves. There are a number of other parties still out there that are responsible and hopefully this is a way to kind of, um, initiate a lot of parties doing their part and stepping up as well, because this will create a lot of inertia towards those cleanup goals. Sarah. Anything you want to add from deq's perspective? Uh no, that sounded really great, annie.

Speaker: But yes, there are many other partners in responsible parties in the slough. Uh, certainly. And the, the city is not is not just the only responsible party. We've had a settlement agreement framework since 2008 and had that framework has been relatively successful. Well, um, so we've had private industries and now the city, um, uh, go through that settlement process. So, yeah.

Speaker: And that I appreciate that. Let me ask one more question. So let's say let's move 15 years into the future. And we've done all of these things, uh, that are on the list. And they're all good things. And of course, this is the right thing to do to clean it up once and for all. Um, 15 years from now, if we go through this list, is it substantially remediated.

Speaker: Uh, this this will definitely go a long way. Um, the city's, uh, contribution here is substantial. Uh, dick has identified several high priority sites where we

already know some remediation and cleanup is needed. And so we've we've gotten to about 30% design on those particular sites. Uh, and so with this funds, we can kind of go through the next, um, phase of, uh, uh, design and potentially do several cleanups with this funds. Um, we this is just, you know, a, a small piece of the funding that's needed to do the settlement. But we will we will definitely get, uh, quite a ways in addressing all of the inputs. Um, the current inputs, which is very helpful. And then, um, get, get quite a ways in our, um, uh, addressing the high priority sites that need to be cleaned up in the slow sediments.

Speaker: Okay.

Speaker: I'm just I'm a little biased on this just because I've, I've, you know, lived under the shadow of the superfund site on the other side. And and, you know, it's my understanding we're about 40 years into that process. And I realize these things take time, and they're incredibly expensive. And there's a lot of parties involved. Um, but, um, gosh, it would be great if, if our federal partners could, could really just say, look over a reasonable time period here, we'd like to have these resolved, not pass it on to the third generation to continue the effort. But maybe that's just what it takes. Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Uh, thank you, mayor. And I just have a quick question. Building on the mayor's question, um, question that he just asked about, uh, future generations. So once the consent judgment is achieved, then if I'm understanding, then do we as a city hold any further liability in the future, like, will this come? Will something come back again?

Speaker: Good question.

Speaker: So let's see. Do you want to address that component from that legal perspective?

Speaker: Uh, yeah, I can address that. What the settlement, uh, releases the city from is liability for historical contamination that may have come through the city. Conveyance system that's now in the slough. If there were additional releases in the future and the city had a responsibility for them, the city would still be responsible. But what this is doing, is it is addressing those historical releases and giving us liability, protection and release from that from the state and also from other parties that may seek contribution from the city.

Speaker: That's a clarifying question there.

Speaker: Um, so we're looking at, uh, the potential for future contamination. Um, and I believe as part of this project, we're or I think we have 15, um, distinct infrastructure projects that will happen here. So by virtue of the work that we're about to do, are we decreasing the probability of inadvertent contaminating the slough, uh, in the future? Absolutely

Speaker: Um, part of the settlement is addressing source control, evaluating all of our basins and putting the treatment in the 15 identified basins. And so, um, if there was future contamination, it would be from some unforeseen circumstance that I think.

Speaker: All right. Good

Speaker: Uh Keelan. Do we have public testimony on this item?

Speaker: Uh, no one signed up. Mayor. All right, anything else on this?

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps before I pass it along?

Speaker: All right. Good.

Speaker: Great presentation. Thank you. Everybody. This is a first reading of an emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading. Uh, next item, please. Item number 40 3:00, proclamation. Proclaiming on January 17th, 2024 to be Ernie Jones Day of Appreciation. Colleagues our next item is a proclamation celebrating one of

our very own city employees, Ernie Jones. Ernie's been a public servant for over three decades. The last eight years of which were dedicated solely to the city of Portland. I look forward to today's presentation and celebration, and with this, I will kick it off to Commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Bear with me one second. Mayor. I'm having a slight audio issue. I need about 15 seconds. Not a problem.

Speaker: Take your time.

Speaker: Is my sound okay? Mayor

Speaker: Yeah. You sound. You sound good.

Speaker: Great.

Speaker: I'll dig right in then .

Speaker: Renee, are you trying to share something?

Speaker: No, I'm having a combination. I'm having a little bit of screen issues. I'm just trying to bring up my comments here, and it's a little bit of an issue. Uh, with the single screen. Um is there any way we could take a one minute recess or.

Speaker: Yeah, we've been in session for over an hour and a half. Why don't we take a five minute recess and give everybody a break? And so why don't we come back at, uh, about 11:10?

Speaker: Appreciate it. Single screens. Throw me for a loop here.

Speaker: Managing multiple cell phones here. It's chaos. Any rate, we are in recess. We'll reconvene at 11:10 a.m.

Speaker: Take it away.

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner, can you hear me? Great uh, yeah. So we're here to recognize Ernie Jones, one of our, uh, pbem employees. I see him on the screen. Thanks for coming in, Ernie. Uh, Ernie was one of the first people that I met at pbem. Actually just prior to when I started, even in this job, he gave me a lot of

good insight of what was before me. After I started, though, I learned that even when most city employees were remote, ernie actually preferred working in person at the city's emergency coordination center. So I've actually been fortunate to have many conversations with him that I've enjoyed through the time that I've been here, and he may not know this, but I've actually had a lot of great insight from ernie that has driven policy and process for far beyond just his program and much of this will leave an impact far into the future. Ernie has built a unique program here in Portland. You'll learn a little bit about that here in a second, but it's made our our community actually more resilient and let me put that in context. This is not an understatement. His program is probably the single most important effort that will help save lives and connect Portlanders in the event of a major catastrophe, such as the cascadia earthquake. That's a big, big impact that ernie will will, will have left here for the city. But his reach extends well beyond his own program, and he's helped others in our bureau and in our city achieve a success. And why is that? That's because ernie always asks the right questions and gives his thoughtful, insightful perspective. Ernie is never afraid to interrupt a conversation and ask something to really set us all back and say, okay, we need to take a different direction. And I so appreciate it. Ernie doing that throughout his time. Uh, though we'll miss seeing you here, ernie. And as a pbem employee, we fully expect you to stay in touch and to stop by from time to time so we can catch up and see how you're doing. Uh, I'm trying to find a way to lose your retirement paperwork so we can keep you, but I don't know if that's a possibility. Uh, but really, seriously, thank you for your contributions to pbem. Thank you for improving the Portland communities resilience and being a part of our team. And I'm going to turn this over to, uh, former interim director here for pbem. And currently a chief resilience

officer for the state of Oregon. Jonna papaefthimiou, who has worked closely with ernie as well and can provide a different perspective. Jonah

Speaker: Thanks, shad. Uh, for the record, my name is jonna papaefthimiou and it is such a total delight to be here as a part of, um, as a part of this, to honor ernie, who's been a treasured coworker for most of my years at pbem. Um, as as some folks are probably familiar with, ernie ran the basic earthquake emergency communication node program. The beacon program. Um, these are, uh, program that's designed to connect Portlanders after a major earthquake when other communications efforts fail. Um, and it would be hard to get information or ask for help any other way. The beacons are supply caches that are positioned all over Portland. There's more than 50 of them each hidden away in a neighborhood and staffed with emergency volunteers ready to pop open when we need the most. Ernie is the person who supported, matured and managed that program, which is to our knowledge, totally unique in the united states. And ernie was a perfect person to do this work because he is such a remarkable skill set. He managed site license agreements and real estate rentals for 53 different locations with all kinds of property owners and specific strange concerns and considerations and rules. He managed all the materials in the catches, first aid and batteries and radios. He became very proficient in amateur radio operation that he also learned about public procurement. He learned about material storage. Then he had to recruit volunteers. Hundreds of volunteers, and he had to train all of them and keep them on rosters. And he'd do regular exercises for them to practice. S uh, ernie in his time at the city, has been a real estate agent and a program administrator, a radio operator, a buyer, a recruiter, a teacher, and in all things, a diplomat who really kept his program growing and kept learning, uh, through the entire time. I'll also say ernie is a completely delightful human to work with. He's the guy who puts gas

in the car. He does. He's the guy who empties out the dishwasher in the break room. If he sees you in the parking lot with a box, he will stand there and hold open the door until you get inside. And although he runs his own complicated program, he would never hesitate to show up for any emergency purpose of the bureau, whether it's when or whether shelters or distributing ppe in the pandemic. And I have to say, after working more than a dozen natural disasters with ernie, his go to swear word is still golly gee, willikers no, it is. Um, ernie will be terribly missed at the bureau. Um, but I will he will find many worthwhile pursuits in retirement because he is an avid cyclist. He's a hiker, he's a photographer. He's a world traveler. He knows a lot about music. He's very knowledgeable in natural history. He once sailed around the south pacific to study giant bats because why not? That's a cool job. Ernie has a lot of other lives to live. I know he's a person. There's no danger he'll be bored in retirement. But I just hope that our paths will continue to cross. Uh because I want to hear about his adventures and continue to learn from him as a role model of resilience, lifelong curiosity, and unfailing kindness. Thank you. Ernie. Your friendship meant so much to me the entire time I was at the city. I really appreciate you. Thank you.

Speaker: And, uh, next up we have a community volunteer, but I see commissioner Mapps. Uh, you have a hand up. I didn't know I was just queuing up for, uh, comments later.

Speaker: Uh, please continue with the presentation.

Speaker: Great. We'll turn it over to a community volunteer. Who? Ernie, work closely with bruce schaefer. Are you on? I am.

Speaker: Good morning, everyone. Uh, I've been a volunteer with the Portland neighborhood emergency team program since 2018. I met, uh, ernie the first time during my basic training, and I've enjoyed working with him in many capacities

since he trained me and hundreds of others on roles as volunteers for the beacon program that you just learned about. Uh, I've also benefited from ernie's leadership during many quarterly meetings of what we call the radio training liaison team for the Portland neighborhood emergency team program. His collaborative leadership style has extended to improving the beacon program's support, both at the emergency coordination center and at the Portland fire stations. For we have a radio communication that goes to the coordination center. Ernie has consistently addressed challenges with confidence, together with a positive, collaborative approach. He has made many improvements in services to Portland residences. As you know in the area of emergency preparedness. Ernie leaves behind a huge vacuum, um, which will be difficult to fill. His many contributions will be remembered by me and my fellow volunteers for many years to come, but I look forward to staying in touch with ernie as he becomes one of us retired folks doing volunteer work. Go ernie!

Speaker: Thank you bruce. And you're giving me some ideas of how we can keep him around. Maybe so we'll, uh, convert you to a volunteer and keep you. Uh, and now ernie would like to say a few words.

Speaker: Uh, thank you so much, chad. And everyone really appreciate it. Um, I can't tell you this is a very humbling experience. And again, this is ernie jones, uh, who? And I've been with the Portland emergency management for eight years, as was mentioned. Um, I've really enjoyed working with the really smart and engaged people across the city, uh, especially at the bureau of emergency management. It's truly been a pleasure. Um, I want to say I also was so in 2015 when I was hired, I was the 14th person hired at the bureau, and at that time, that was the biggest the bureau had ever been. We're now at about 22, 23 people. And uh, and it continues to be a dynamic, growing, growing place. And a really positive way. Uh, I'm indebted

to my incredibly supportive, uh, current and former colleagues, uh, especially jeremy vancuren, glenn devitt, and jonna papaefthimiou and, and also of great support have been, um, the, the, uh, to me as an employee of the city have been the, uh, employees resource groups, which we used to call affinity groups and, and, uh, especially the black space group and the always eat together group, which is also a black employee support group. I was, uh, 57 years old when I was hired. And I have to tell you, it wasn't easy getting a good job. Uh, at that age, but, uh, hopefully I've shown that, uh, hiring an older, older worker has been, uh, been a good thing for everyone, including especially me. But everyone. Uh, but most significantly. And lastly, I wanted to say that, uh, organizations, you know, the city and the city government is an organization and organizations are about relationships and the many positive relationships I've developed during my time have continued. And do continue to feed me. And I truly want to express my appreciation for that. Thank you so much. Mayor.

Speaker: I'm happy to turn this hand this over to my colleagues for any comments.

Speaker: All right. Very good. Uh, we'll start with commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Um, well, I first I want to start off by thanking commissioner gonzales for bringing this item forward. And I want to thank ernie for his service to our city. Um, today I think we've learned that ernie is a compelling candidate for the most interesting man in the world. Uh, as we know, he's worked for the city's bureau of emergency management since 2015, where he's been a driving force behind the city's efforts to plan for a major earthquake. Um, mr. Jones is also a reservist with the federal emergency management agency. In that capacity, he's worked over 20 national disasters, including superstorm sandy and hurricane katrina. And nine over 11. And, uh, ernie has also served as an elections monitor for the us state department in places like kyrgyzstan. You uzbekistan and moldova. You know,

careers like mr. Jones's and events like this ice storm. We are experiencing this morning are reminders of how important the work done by our team at the bureau of emergency management is, and that's why I am so glad to take this moment to thank ernie for his service to our city. And I'm so glad to join my colleagues on this council to declare January 17th, 2024 to be ernie jones day of appreciation. Thank you so much, ernie, and please come back and visit us in city hall. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Mapps. Commissioner Rubio, thank you.

Speaker: Mayor. Um, I haven't had the pleasure of knowing ernie directly, but it's been a real pleasure getting to know, um, about you, ernie, through the proclamation and talking to some of your coworkers. And given all the incredible things I've learned about you, I just want to, um, honor you for your steadfast and tireless work over the past three decades in Portland and across the nation. Um, as we've heard, um, and it's evident, um, that you've spent the majority of your, like, making sure that we're all prepared for difficult situations and challenging emergencies. Uh, and you've been a real lifeline to our community at really challenging times. So um, we all owe you a huge debt of gratitude for all of your service. Um I also want to say that what really stood out about your leadership is that you deeply care not just about the work that you're doing, but about the community in general. And you truly go above and beyond and, uh, the call of your work and I want to thank you especially for your work in election monitoring, in delivering ballots to people with physical disabilities and also helping to evaluate um, contested ballots at the Multnomah County elections office. Um, so, um, there's a famous quote by jfk about gratitude that says that we should never forget the highest appreciation is not to just utter words, but to live by them. And you are ernie jones. Live by your words. And so, because you do, you've made such a difference, uh, to countless people in our in our community and, um, we appreciate

you so much. And you've set an important example for this city and for all of us. So thank you, thank you, thank you so much.

Speaker: Yeah. Um, thank you. Uh, ernie jones day, uh, I can see why i, I don't know you well, at all. I know of you, and, um, you're now you're my new favorite person. Just by listening to everyone's comments. And you know, service is so much about relationships and about just being present and when you see a job, it's yours. And you can just tell that you live by those simple values and, and, um, you've just had such a big impact on everyone who testified today. And I was delighted to hear, um, people giving you hints about how they hope that you continue to be, um, connected and in service and in relationship with our city because because we really need you and so i'll just end my comments by saying, I hope that you write a book about service as, um, your kindness, um, is something we really need in our in our city right now. And I just want to thank you so much for being here today and with your humble stance, um, receiving all the love and gratitude that's coming your way. Thank you.

Speaker: Ernie, thank you. Really appreciate it.

Speaker: Thanks, commissioner commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Ernie, I'm proud today. Just like the prior speakers to honor you on not just your accomplishments here at the city of Portland, but for your amazing commitment to the Portland region through your work with the city of Portland. You made this whole community a safer place to live. I wish you rest and relaxation in your retirement, although hopefully it's not a full retirement and know that you've left the city in better shape than you found it. Back to you, mayor. Thank you.

Speaker: Uh, and, ernie, I want to jump in here, too. And just say how much I appreciate your service. Not not just to the city of Portland, but in all of your

endeavors over many, many decades. And I'll just say on a slightly humorous note, um, I think one of the most productive groups of people in our community, the people who give and give and give, uh, tend to be people who have failed at retired point. And so while I wish you very the very best in your future endeavors, I have a feeling you're not going to be one of those guys who just sort of settles down in retirement. Um, and I hope you will continue to stay as engaged as you have over the years. And I think it's actually a really good thing. Commissioner Gonzalez that you brought this forward today, because we just saw the importance of emergency management. Nobody thinks about emergency management at all. Uh, until, uh, the proverbial whatever hits the fan and, and then all of a sudden we are all completely dependent upon the success of those operations. And so I want to take this moment, Ernie, not only to thank you, but all of our first responders, our PBO folks, all the line workers, uh, all the people who are out there right now, uh, trying to recover, uh, the greater Portland area from snow and then ice and wind and whatever else is happened that I don't know about it. Uh, it takes planning. These events don't just happen. And then everybody springs into action, as you well know, through your dedicated service, uh, it requires a lot of advanced planning and tabletop exercises. And what if scenarios and, and, uh, you know, the folks who do this work really don't get the appreciation that I think they deserve. And Commissioner Gonzalez, I want to personally thank you for bringing Ernie Jones Day forward, because honestly, our city employees don't get the credit they deserve. It is very much in vogue right now to be hyper critical of public employees, particularly at the local level, and it's not unique to Portland. This is something, you know, my mayoral colleagues and I discuss about just national trends. Uh, the people who do the hard work at the local level deserve credit for their dedication and their service to our communities. And, Ernie, you were an exemplary, incredible

guy. But as you all know, there's lots of people out there like you, with you doing this hard work day in and day out. And by recognizing you, by extension, we're recognizing their good works, too. Uh, john, it's great to see you. Uh, here. Uh, virtually. You just can't get out of our vortex, can you? Um, so, uh, john, as I should just mention, while she's in front of us, is going to be the, uh, the governor's primary contact during this upcoming 90 day joint emergency declaration around, um, uh, the joint declaration around fentanyl. And so she's already been working closely with my staff and, and the county staff and others to help coordinate. And so, john, I just want to acknowledge your hard work here, too. So uh, sorry, a little more long winded than I want. That's what happens when there's nothing between me and my caffeine. Uh. Uh commissioner Gonzalez. You are going to read the proclamation on behalf of all of us, and I think I'm going to take up the last paragraph. Is that correct?

Speaker: That sounds good to me.

Speaker: All right, sir, go ahead. Whereas ernie jones spent the last 30 years of his career as a public servant, the last eight of which were with the city of Portland for the Portland bureau of emergency management.

Speaker: And whereas ernie jones built our community's basic earthquake emergency communications nodes, beacon program from falling into disaster like an earthquake, community members will be able to call for emergency assistance from a beacon, whereas ernie trained hundreds of volunteers across the Portland metro area on amateur radio use for emergency communications and where, as ernie was a steadfast city of Portland employee staffing, the city's emergency coordination center through some of the most difficult and challenging times in recent memory, including the unprecedented global covid 19 pandemic. And whereas, as prior to his time at pbem, ernie worked 555 presidentially declared

emergencies in more than half of the states in the united states and one terror territory for the federal emergency management agency. Fema and whereas, ernie has also served Multnomah County and the global community through his work in election monitoring, delivering ballots to people with physical disabilities, and helping to evaluate contested ballots for approximately a dozen elections at Multnomah County elections office and whereas, ernie served as a us, us state department election monitor since 2005, this work has taken him to far reaches of kazakhstan and uzbekistan, moldova and beyond. And whereas during ernie has demonstrated an exemplary commitment to the city of Portland and to Portlanders, and has modeled true public service throughout his career by making his community a more prepared and resilient place and whereas ernie is retiring today from pbem, where he has served under six bureau directors and four elected officials, now, therefore, i.

Speaker: Ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon, the city of roses, do hereby. Proclaim January 17th, 2024 to be ernie jones day of appreciation in Portland and encourage all Portlanders to observe this day. Thank you ernie. Thank you commissioner.

Speaker: Thank you so much.

Speaker: Okay. All right. The next item is to the regular agenda item number 52, please. And that is a resolution authorized city attorney to represent the city in legal action concerning a public records request and disclosure of confidential taxpayer information. Colleagues. The city of Portland takes the confidentiality of all taxpayer records very seriously. Be that the taxes of a community member or small businesses or larger businesses. This is why the city of Portland, like every other taxing jurisdiction across the country, includes the state of Oregon, has a code section expressly prohibiting the release of income, taxpayer information yea.

Ryan. Unfortunately a recent legal ruling states that Oregon state law override guides our local ordinance compelling the city to provide personal and highly sensitive records for individuals and businesses alike. In the event that we receive a public records request, most Portlanders have every reason to expect that their personal financial records will remain confidential when they file taxes. The city of Portland cannot and will not break faith with its taxpayers around this core tenant of income tax administration. This ordinance authorizes the city's attorney's office to take steps to take steps to ensure the continued confidentiality of taxpayer records, records thomas lannom interim director for the bureau of revenue and finance, and tyler wallace, interim director of the revenue division, are here to walk us through this item. Welcome, thomas and tyler. Thanks for being here.

Speaker: Thank you, mayor Wheeler, and good morning, City Council members. I'm thomas lanham.

Speaker: I'm the interim thomas.

Speaker: Uh, commissioner gonzales, did you have a comment up front here? No. Good. Okay. Thank you. Sorry, thomas. Go for it.

Speaker: Perfectly okay. I'm thomas lanham. I'm the interim chief financial officer. Um, and I'm actually on a backup generator right now, so I'm kind of channeling ernie jones. Uh, ernie, if you're still on, congratulations. Uh, if I drop off tyler wallace, we'll pick up where I left off. Mayor Wheeler, you covered it very well. And the resolution findings speak for themselves. Uh, so i'll keep this very brief. Stay off of Oregon. Income tax records are exempted from public disclosure under Oregon public records law. The exemption is both sweeping and explicit. And the reasons for this are obvious. Taxpayers have a right to confidential reality in this right is recognized across every jurisdiction in the united states. Unfortunately a recent legal ruling has ruled that this exemption does not apply to local tax records, even

though we have a very similar confidentiality clause, uh, and provision in our city code, local tax records are identical in every respect to state and federal tax records. Our local taxpayers deserve the very same protections as those enjoyed by other taxpayers across the us. At its core, this resolution is about basic fairness and uniformity of treatment. But we are not asking for anything more than that. This resolution is needed to authorize the city attorney to file suit in Multnomah County circuit court to oppose the disclosure of these sensitive records. Uh, that concludes my remarks. And I will be, uh, remaining online, of course, for any questions that you may have. Mayor and council.

Speaker: You got it. Uh, colleagues, any questions at this particular juncture? Keelan do we have any public testimony on this item?

Speaker: Uh, we do. Mayor. We have four people signed up. All right. Thank you. First up, we have andrew home.

Speaker: Welcome, andrew. Andrew, we can't hear you. Or are you unmuted? Yeah.

Speaker: Apologies. I just got promoted to the panelists, so appreciate that. And thank you for your patience and hello from the frozen in frozen hill. So my name is andrew home, president and ceo of the Portland metro chamber where greater Portland's chamber of commerce and we represent well over 2300 businesses, many are impacted by the potential for confidential taxpayer information to be released if the city did not appeal. And so I'm speaking on their behalf. And of course, for the many that are, uh, taxpayers who could have an impact as a result of this ruling, the chamber wants to strongly urge this council to support the resolution. I particularly thank the revenue bureau and the city attorney's office for their position related to the recent public records request and want to commend bureau director lanham and city attorney mcguire for their work in opposing the

release of this confidential data. Many of our members who are impacted were alarmed when they received the notice. The potential to have their confidential tax records shared openly with the media. I'm sure as all of you are aware, the Portland metro chamber and Oregon business and industry, or o.b, joined in the city's opposition to the release of this information. And while we did not outright succeed in preventing the release, we have raised some issues that we evaluate the chamber does as having the opportunity to prevail in court. While the current ruling did not acknowledge our mutual position, uh, and amend the data release, it is not sufficient to protect protect what we would, to our knowledge, be the first in any location to be able to reveal confidential tax information in the consequences of not appealing. This ruling would set Portland apart from every other tax jurisdiction in the nation. In making our tax data open to anyone who requests it. If the ruling by the district attorney's office stands, we know the following. Our businesses and residents that all pay definitively. Some of the high highest taxes in the nation would be compelled to add the complete availability of their data to the public and would place our beloved city and our region once again at a disadvantage relative to our peers. So imagine anyone or any tax being available to anyone at any time. While no single other location would face the same predicament as our businesses compete in a global marketplace, their confidential tax information would disadvantage our community versus others. We cannot allow that, and we urge you to vote to approve the resolution and empower your attorneys to pursue an appeal. I want to make sure all of you are aware that you have the business community as your partner, and we want to thank you again for the consideration and the work of your teams. And with that, thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Uh, next up we have scott brown.

Speaker: Yeah. Hi. Good morning, mayor and members of the council.

Speaker: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of item number 52.

Speaker: My name is Scott Brown, and I'm the VP of government affairs for Oregon Business and Industry, or OBI. OBI is a statewide business association representing businesses from each of Oregon's 36 counties. In addition to being the statewide chamber of commerce, OBI is the state affiliate for the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Retail Federation. Our 1,600 plus member companies, more than 80% of which are small businesses and employ more than 250,000 Oregonians. OBI's primary mission is to strengthen the business climate in Oregon and protect jobs toward that. OBI strongly supports the city's resolution authorizing its attorney to appeal the Multnomah County DA's January eighth decision related to public records. A few points. First, the January decision misses larger law and precedent at the federal and state levels, which prohibits disclosure of taxpayer information through public record requests to the best of our knowledge, as has been stated, should the DA's decision stand, Portland would be the only jurisdiction in the country where this is allowed. Second, it would set a precedent and path to the release through public record requests of other now confidential taxpayer information managed by the city of Portland. This would be harmful and unwelcome to regional taxpayers of every size and stripe. And finally, let me say that the private tax information of the business is also a trade secret and is treated as protected by federal and state governments. Any required disclosure of that information would be completely detrimental to Portland companies, as it would disclose to competitors exactly what those companies are doing or not doing in the region on this issue. Considered alongside the significant tax burden and recent tax increases that Portland businesses must already contend with provides, yet one more reason for businesses to consider investing and creating jobs somewhere else. This resolution is a very positive step to avoid all these outcomes. It

defends Portland businesses and job creators and its positive outcome would simply and appropriately match what is well established. What is the well-established norm everywhere else in the country? Obi is very grateful for your support of this resolution and I'm happy to answer any questions. Thank you. You.

Speaker: Uh, next up we have will rasmussen.

Speaker: Welcome, will.

Speaker: Good morning. Uh, thank you. Mayor. I'm will rasmussen. I'm an administrative law partner at miller nash in Portland, and I'm here today on behalf of the chamber and obi. Uh, I want to thank the mayor and director lanham and the city attorney's office for their prompt attention to this matter. I just want to touch on two points today. First, just how if the port if Portland were required to disclose this information, how unusual that would be for tax information. And second, just a brief word on how disclosure would be so damaging for Portland's competitiveness. Uh, the mayor mentioned that the city code makes this information confidential. Director lanham mentioned that the state law makes tax information confidential. The only reason that we're here at all is that there seems to be a little bit of ambiguity on how those interrelate. What they didn't mention is what we all I think know is that at the federal level, this information is confidential. And in fact, under the internal revenue code, not only is it confidential, but it's willful disclosure is made a felony, uh, punishable by five years in law. Uh, that is for very good reason. Taxpayer have a reasonable expectation of privacy. We taxpayers don't want their private business information shared and potentially most importantly, if jurisdictions gave up people's tax information, it make it extremely hard for them to get the complete and accurate information they need to fairly assess taxes. Secondly this disclosure would be incredibly damaging to Portland's competitiveness. This would have a much bigger impact than just disclosing this

pcef information that would be requested. This would create precedent that would make income tax under preschool for all disclosable payroll tax under trimet. Uh, disclosure bill. And that would have an extremely detrimental impact for local businesses as, uh, just as one example in the space you can consider my firm, uh, we've been in Portland for over 100 years. We just sign a ten year lease in downtown for a couple of floors of office space, and we did that because we see the green shoots growing downtown. You know, we see kids coming downtown to go ice skating. Uh, we see foot traffic, visitors coming into town, uh, and we see homicide rates receding, making this local tax information public would be in extremely harmful to these businesses as we go and recruit it. Top top law schools. And we say, come to Portland, our competitors could go and request our firms income. And every partner and attorney's income and try to skew that data and say, don't come to Portland. You know, here's one person that gets paid less than somebody in Seattle. Don't do that. So this is really about Portland's competitor liveness. We appreciate your attention to the matter. And thanks for the opportunity to chat and will, before you disappear, I want to thank you.

Speaker: And I want to thank your firm for acknowledging what all of us up here at the virtual dais understand, which is the recovery is well underway in Portland. We appreciate you and your colleagues signing a new lease for ten years. Thank you for that.

Speaker: Thank you. Mayor glad to be here.

Speaker: Mayor, that completes testimony.

Speaker: All right. Very good. Colleagues, any further questions or comments? This is a resolution Keelan. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio.

Speaker: Uh, robert, thomas and tyler, thank you for your work on this. And I agree that Portlanders have every reason to expect and demand that their personal, financial records will remain confidential when they file their taxes. So I'm happy to vote aye.

Speaker: Ryan.

Speaker: Yes. Thank you. Team and I really appreciate the testimony from andrew scott and will, uh, we hear you. We see you at and, uh, this is very easy to support.

Speaker: I vote yea gonzales a maps high Wheeler.

Speaker: Uh, just a couple of quick points. Number one, this is not a beat down of the press. I want to be very clear. The door was left open for the media to file a public records request. They probably would have been somewhat negligent in their responsibilities as the free media had they not filed a public records request. Um, so I want to be very clear here, um, that this is not aimed at them or their actions as, uh, I also want to add one more reason to the list. Um, and that is, we want people to pay their taxes, and we want people to understand that by paying their taxes, they're not exposing themselves to undue to public scrutiny. And we have control laws in place. And the irs has controls in place and personnel who ensure that people pay the taxes that are due. And as everybody here knows, the penalties for tax avoidance are significant. Uh, just ask al capone. So any rate, um, and one last thing. Somebody had suggested that that I might support this because I have a personal interest in it. I want to be clear. I've actually released my personal tax records to the media previously when I was running for public office. Uh, but I did so voluntarily and this ruling, if it stands, would make it, uh, a mandate that people turn over their tax records, their confidential tax records to the public. And that is not appropriate. That is not precedent. That is not what has historically happened. That is not what is happening in every other jurisdiction in the united

states. So it is imperative that we take up this fight. I vote I and the resolution is adopted. Thank you everyone for that. Uh, we'll move to item 53, which is an emergency ordinance pay settlement of the estate of koben henricksen wrongful death lawsuit for \$100,000 involved the Portland police bureau colleagues. This emergency ordinance resolves a lawsuit that was brought against the city in March of 2022. We have deputy city attorney bill manlove and senior claims analyst joseph jesse here to walk us through the ordinance. Uh, good morning, bill and joseph.

Speaker: Morning, mayor and council. Um uh, senior deputy city attorney bill manlove with the city attorney's office on December 8th, 2019, at approximately 1:40 p.m, seven different citizens began calling 911. The citizens reported that a man was holding two knives and engaging in threatening behavior in a public place near a coffee shop and southeast Portland. The man was cobid hendrickson. Officers from the Portland police bureau responded to the scene. Mr. Hendrickson began walking towards the officers. The officers told mr. Hendrickson to stop and to drop the knives. However, mr. Hendrickson did not drop either of the two knives that he was holding, and he continued advancing towards the officers. When mr. Hendrickson was between 15 or 12 and 15ft away from the officers, one of the police officers fired his weapon at mr. Hendrickson, killing him. Such to the shooting. Mr. Hendrickson's father fought a lawsuit asserting claims for violation of the fourth amendment battery and wrongful death related to the shooting and death of his son. After evaluating the facts of this lawsuit, the city attorney's office and risk manager determined that it was in the best interest of the city to resolve this lawsuit. The parties have negotiated and formally and have agreed upon a settlement of \$100,000, inclusive of all costs, attorney fees, and any outstanding liens to resolve this lawsuit, the city attorney's office and risk management

recommends that City Council pass this ordinance and authorize the settlement of this lawsuit. Thank you.

Speaker: All right. Thank you. Colleagues, any questions at this point, seeing none, do we have any public testimony? Keelan

Speaker: We have one person signed up. Mark porath, Portland, copwatch.

Speaker: All right. Welcome mark.

Speaker: Thanks, sam. Can you hear me? Yep. Great uh, good morning, mayor and commissioners. My name is mark poris. I use he him pronouns, and I'm with Portland copwatch. We understand the parties have come to an agreement and we have no objection to the city paying \$100,000 to settle this wrongful death lawsuit. We appear before you on these police brutality settlements in order to prompt you to discuss the policy decisions that lead to these incidents, according to court records and the police review board report about the incident on December 8th, 2019, mr. Hendrickson was suffering from mental health issues at southeast 103rd and stark. He was wandering around the street with two knives in his hands. Ppb officer justin raphael, who arrived with other officers, shot mr. Hendrickson three times less than a minute after arriving on the scene twice in the torso, once in the head, officer daniel leonard simultaneously shot mr. Hendrickson with a less lethal projectile. In less than a month before officer raphael encountered mr. Hendrickson in similar circumstances in roughly the same location that time, though, ppb officer ben davidson convinced mr. Hendrickson to put down the knives and sit on a nearby bench, the officers put mr. Hendrickson on a peace officer hold and took him to a nearby hospital for mental health services. Raphael the same cop who had given his partner enough time to avoid killing mr. Hendrickson a few weeks prior, this time shot him to death after just arriving on the scene. This unnecessary death at the hands of ppb is exactly what the us doj versus

city of Portland settlement agreement is, all about excessive use of force against individuals with actual or perceived mental illness. As we've pointed out before, looking at the data provided by the group in its reviews of deadly force incidents, ppb shootings and killings of people in crisis have gone up since the doj came to town. The behavioral health unit advisory committee was formed as a requirement of the settlement agreement to provide guidance to assist the city and ppb in how they respond to individuals with mental illness or in behavioral crisis. The huac should be offering feedback on how to make sure these tragedies stop. However, they either seem uninterested or afraid to offer this feedback to the city. In October 2021, we had to remind them that they are the experts the doj and community must rely on to make recommendations specific about mental health in the police. It took 17 months for them to hear a presentation by the bureau about deadly force cases. They continue to claim their mission is not to make recommendations that could change police policy, training and tactics to avoid unnecessary violence. Their only recommendations, as affirmed in their quarterly public meeting earlier this month, was to add a mental health expert to police review boards. By the time those boards meet, it's too late. Future lives will be saved. If this committee is empowered and required to offer their feedback on deadly force incidents. The huac made a good suggestion that the deadly force presentation given to them by police should be recorded and posted to the web for the general public to view. Pb said they agreed for this year at the regular boec meeting. Uh, the regular boec meetings are held behind closed doors, so there is no public record of the 2023 presentation. Most recent group report on pb shootings and in-custody deaths was done in January of last year and covers deadly force use through July 2019. Mr. Henriksen's death has not yet been reviewed by an external group, and we understand our group has not yet been commissioned to review more recent

incidents that should be remedied as soon as possible. Mr. Hendrickson was killed by pb over four years ago. The community deserves to hear analysis of ppb's deadly force, actions from an outside group and the police bureau needs to hear and act on their recommendation. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Mark. Uh any further comments? This is an emergency ordinance. Please call the roll reveals.

Speaker: Hi, Ryan. Hi, gonzales. Hi. Maps hi, mueller.

Speaker: Uh, I'm going to vote for the ordinance. And unrelated to this incident, I also just want to make a comment. As long as we as a state and as a county and as a city, continue to rely on police to be the mental health safety net, we're going to have issues is the bottom line. And we've said this till we are blue in the face here at city hall is we need a mental health system in the state of Oregon. We know that we need mental health treatment beds as well as substance use disorder treatment beds. We know that we need outreach workers as which we at the city level have put into place not only the chat, the behavioral health unit, the Portland street response, uh, but now we've got a new team that pairs up police officers with mental health workers to go out onto the streets, uh, in the central city as a pilot on that, I hope will continue to expand. Uh, but fundamentally, we as a state, we continue to misdiagnose the problem. Um, uh, the problem is we don't have a mental health system. And so people who have significant behavioral health disorders are relegated to the streets of our communities all across this state. And what that means is that in communities, all across this state, the police are going to be the ones who interact with these individuals. They often know them by name. They are often the only people who have made any effort whatsoever to reach out to them or connect them with services, and they're the ones who carry the lion's share of the blame. When something goes wrong. Wrong. And so I just want to say,

speaking generally not to this particular case, because I support legal counsel, I support the families decision. They reached a settlement and I'm certainly fine with it. Uh, but bigger picture for mark and others is, uh, I hope you will join us in going to salem and actually fixing the problem. And again, just to underscore it, the problem is in Oregon, we have willfully over a period of decades, ignored the need to build a fundamentally successful behavioral health system that's the bottom line. So I vote yea and the ordinance is adopted, item number 54. Also also an ordinance. It's a non-emergency ordinance, though authorized revenue bonds to provide not more. Than \$53,430,000 to finance veterans memorial coliseum projects. Colleagues. As a reminder, uh, well, this is a second reading. Um, is a reminder this ordinance authorizes the issuance of limited tax revenue bonds as part of a multi year process to complete the veterans memorial coliseum renovation project, led by our spectator venue team. Does anybody else have any more thoughts, questions, anything? This is a second reading. We've already heard a presentation. We've had an opportunity for public testimony. Please call the roll reveal.

Speaker: I want to thank, uh, carl and matthew for working on this project and the whole team in the spectator venues. Team um, as the liaison to the visitor development fund board, which oversees the vta. I want to reiterate that this item does not by any means authorize a new tax and that the payments for this bond will come out of the visitors trust account in other words, not from the city's general fund. Um, so, um, that leads me to remind everyone of the wonderful programing available at the memorial coliseum, including our mighty winter hawks games, which, of course, if you have not attended, uh, we encourage you to do so. So thanks again. I vote yea Ryan.

Speaker: Yes. Um thank you, Carl, for your presentation last week. I'm very pleased to see this project moving forward. The Veterans Memorial Coliseum is beyond time for modernization, and these upgrades, these upgrades will make a noticeable difference. I'm particularly pleased for my friends at the Portland Winter Hawks. We must keep our entertainment venues, um, attracting and attract people to them, whether they're for sports or arts or both. They ought to be in good condition. Um, it's exactly the kind of, uh, showcase of talent that we all love and appreciate in this city. And let's face it, it's definitely an economic driver that we can count on at this time. And in the future. I vote yea Gonzales, fully supportive.

Speaker: Uh, sports are essential component for not just economic activity, but the reestablishing the social fabric in the city of Portland. I hope heartedly vote I maps high Wheeler.

Speaker: Yeah, i, i, uh, appreciated the presentation last week. This is a good thing I vote I in the ordinance is adopted. Next item 55. It is an emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Accept an appropriate \$1,900,000 in American rescue plan funds from Multnomah County to fund an eviction legal defense program. Partners for eviction, legal defense services and financial assistance to tenants at risk of eviction.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio thank you, Mayor.

Speaker: This ordinance will allow the Portland housing bureau to accept over \$1.9 million in federal American rescue plan funds from Multnomah County. These funds were appropriated by the county in this year's fiscal budget, and will go to the city's eviction legal defense program partners to provide eviction. Legal defense services, and financial assistance to hundreds of tenants who are at risk of eviction. The city's pandemic era investments in eviction defense have run out, so these federal funds will provide much needed relief to families that, for example, have lost their jobs during the pandemic and fell behind on their rent and have not still

yet fully recovered. I'm grateful to the county for stepping into this space and to the housing bureau for their willingness to get these funds out the door by the end of June, so i'll now pass it over to the team at fb. Brian and Justin, to provide more information on.

Speaker: I thank you. Um, Justin, are you able to share screen for the presentation? Wonderful. Good afternoon. Commissioners, the mayor and members of the public. For the record, my name is Brian Decker. My pronouns are she, her, and I manage the rental services office at the Portland housing bureau. I am here this afternoon, along with our ISO staff, Justin Berrio, to talk about the eviction legal defense program, which was launched by the ISO in December of 20th September of 2021. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program currently serves low and moderate income tenants within the city of Portland who are facing eviction or the termination of their housing subsidy. This presentation will provide a brief overview of current and historic historic eviction filing trends in Multnomah County. Highlight program service data and describe the impacts that the county ARPA funds will have on the program. Next slide. Eviction filings remain elevated from pre-pandemic levels in 2019, 5904 eviction cases were filed in Multnomah County in 2022, 6600 evictions, six 6608 evictions were filed and in the first ten months of 2023, 7327 evictions were filed. This is a 24% increase in eviction filings from 2019, with two months of filing data. Yet to be included. These elevated levels of eviction filings are troubling because evictions have long-term consequences for tenants, including homelessness. The loss of personal possessions, job loss, decreased physical and mental health, poor school performance for children and barriers to finding stable replacement housing. For all these reasons, evictions can force low-income tenants further into poverty. Studies have shown that evictions and their resulting negative impacts disproportionately affect Black and Latino

households. Households headed by women and households with children. Next slide. This slide compares Multnomah County eviction trends over the last five years. The green line in the middle is 2020. The purple and blue lines at the bottom are the um 2020 and 2021. The dark blue line that begins towards the bottom and rises sharply in the middle and towards the end of the year is 2022. And the red line that is consistently the highest is 2023. What is most notable is that most of the eviction filings contributing to the historically high rates have occurred since the summer of 2022, when the last of the pandemic eviction protections began to expire. When they all, you know, fully expired in October of 2022. The enactment of house bill 2001 at the end of March 2023 restored some of the expired protections and resulted in a temporary slowdown in eviction filings. However, by may of this year, filing rates climbed again and have continued to outpace pre-pandemic levels by hundreds per month. I'll now turn it over to housing policy and program coordinator justin berrio, who will describe the current program, its impacts so far and how the county funding will expand our services for the rest of the fiscal year.

Speaker: Thank you. Brian and hello, commissioners and mayor. Uh, the goal of the eviction legal defense program is to increase access to legal representation for tenants facing termination of their housing subsidy or eviction from their housing, while also improving court outcomes for the tenant. Currently the eviction legal defense program consists of three legal service providers, which are Oregon law center, Portland community college, clear clinic, and the metropolitan public defender's, as well as a fiscal sponsor of united way of the columbia willamette tenant to access services is through the eviction legal defense program, can receive legal representation, financial assistance, brief legal counsel and advice, and referrals to other service providers. And the php eviction legal defense program

maintains a public facing dashboard displaying the impacts of the program. So far, this dashboard is currently being updated on a quarterly basis. Since program launch and September 2021, the program has served 976 households, 44% of which identify as bipoc. The map on the right side of the screen over here, um, provides information on the geographic breakdown of the households that have utilized program services there. Darker blue areas denote higher service levels with east Portland receiving a high concentration of services. You know, the only the darkest blue area. Of course, being out here in east Portland, these neighborhoods are some of Portland's most diverse communities. And they are also the communities with the highest number of eviction filings, according to data compiled by doctor lisa bates at Portland state university in 2021 and 2022. Four out of the five zip codes in Multnomah County with the most eviction filings were in north northeast Portland and east Portland. United way of the columbia willamette engages in targeted outreach efforts in north, northeast and east Portland to ensure that the program reaches vulnerable bipoc populations. If adopted, this ordinance will significantly expand services. It will allow the rental services office to contract with the commons law center. Commons law will be offering a new suite of services, providing tenants with access to negotiation assistance and support, navigating the legal system. Um, on the day of the tenant's first appearance at eviction court, the pool of available financial assistance for tenants will increase by roughly \$1 million, as well, the combined impact of the new contract with the commons law center and the additional financial assistance will result in at least 700 households being served. Lastly, the program will expand. Um will expand for the remainder of the fiscal year to renter households in all of Multnomah County, rather than just the city of Portland, which we serve now. And that's all we have. Open up for questions.

Speaker: Very good colleagues. Any questions at this juncture. Uh, let's see, I do not see questions. Uh Keelan. Do we have anybody signed up for public testimony on this item?

Speaker: No one's signed up, mayor. All right, this is an emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Please call the roll yea. Rubio.

Speaker: This is a great example of partnership between the city and county that will keep hundreds of families in their homes. So I want to thank the county chair and other county commissioners for appropriating these funds. And also thank the awesome team in the rental services office at fbe and our community partners for your willingness to administer these funds countywide. Thanks for your great work, I vote yea Ryan.

Speaker: Yes, um, with our high rent and housing costs in general, it provides a little relief to know that we are maintaining a fund for our eviction.

Speaker: Uh, legal defense program for tenants at risk of eviction. I want to also bring up what else we need, and that's more housing. We need more affordable housing. So I'm pleased that this will be part of our tools. I urge the colleagues to keep all these complexities in mind. The connection between all of these issues and the urgency to take action now to build housing I vote yea Gonzalez I echo commissioner Ryan's call for, uh, steady, fast commitment to bringing additional housing online.

Speaker: We also have to talk more about economic opportunity for all Portlanders and shared economic prosperity. It's one of the best ways to prevent, uh, these type of landlord tenant, uh, challenges. Uh, but I've wholeheartedly support this program. I've I maps.

Speaker: I want to thank commissioner Rubio for bringing this item forward. I'm glad to see these dollars hit the street. I vote yea Wheeler. Yep.

Speaker: Good program. I vote I the ordinance is adopted. Item number 56, please. The second reading of an emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Amend property tax exemption code and system development charges for affordable housing developments code to temporarily enable home ownership opportunities for households earning up to 120% of median family income.

Speaker: Very good colleagues is a second reading. Does anybody have any other business on this particular item?

Speaker: Um, I do, mayor, commissioner yea. Rubio.

Speaker: So colleagues, as a reminder, the legislation offers temporary flexibility for the city's two main development incentives for home ownership, which is the home owner home buyer opportunity limited tax exemption referred to as the holt program and the system development charge, or sdc exemption program. And last week we had a presentation from staff, uh, then the council took public testimony, and then we voted to remove the emergency clause to allow time for more internal conversation with sdc bureaus about potential impacts. And those conversations have happened. So we are back today for a final vote. And with the support of commissioner Mapps, I would like to add the emergency clause back in and doing so will allow the changes to the sdc waivers to go into effect right away, which will help pending real estate purchases move forward.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio moves. Can I get a second? Commissioner Mapps, you have your hand raised.

Speaker: Yeah, well, mr. Mayor, I will second, um, commissioner Rubio's motion and I also want to take a moment to thank commissioner Rubio and her team for creating space for the infrastructure bureaus, uh, to dialog with other city bureaus about, uh, um, some of the challenges, the unique challenges that the infrastructure space faces. Um, as we try to bring more housing online. Uh, I think

that was a great dialog. And we have, I think, a better understood finding of the unique spaces that are different bureaus are in, uh, glad to see this move forward. And I want to personally thank commissioner Rubio for creating time for that, uh, conversation.

Speaker: Very good. Thank you. Commissioner Rubio. So moved, uh, the addition of an emergency clause. Commissioner Mapps second, any further discussion on the amendment? Seeing none. Please call the roll on the amendment.

Speaker: Rubio I Ryan. Hi gonzales. Hi Mapps. Hi. Mueller

Speaker: All right. The main motion is now amended any further discussion on the main motion is amended.

Speaker: Seeing none. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio, as I shared last week, this is one small but helpful thing we can do to show that we're paying attention and that we understand the challenges that builders and home buyers are facing and will act quickly to make temporary, sensible adjustments to our programs.

Speaker: In response. So thank you to the staff who pull this together and to those who provided testimony last week. And I also want to again thank county chair jessica vega peterson for working with us to find a date for the county to take up these changes to the holt program next month. I vote aye Ryan.

Speaker: Yeah. Great work. Uh, commissioner Rubio and your team, um, I'm really a big fan of the holt program. I appreciate the agility in this legislation on let's keep building and let's keep providing access for first time home buyers, which is definitely, um, a really big opportunity for when we have first generation home buyers. We have, uh, generational wealth that we haven't had in the past. So I'm a big advocate for this program. Excited to see this development. I buy Gonzalez I vote yea Mapps, a Wheeler.

Speaker: I want to thank you, commissioner Rubio, for your leadership as well as the staff at the Portland housing bureau for their willingness to act with flexibility and responsiveness in the face of, uh, very rapidly changing market conditions. And, of course, our ongoing housing emergency, adjusting the income level thresholds for the holt program as well as the sdc exemptions, I think collectively will expand homeownership opportunities, particularly for low income and moderate income. Portland hours. Uh, we also know that housing affordability is a significant challenge facing Portlanders right now. And I appreciate the continued progress we're making to address, uh, this challenge with thoughtful and well vetted reforms like this housing costs, of course, impact our residents quality of life as well as our, uh, community values to advance economic as well as social justice for all of all of us here in Portland. Uh, we also know and appreciate owning a home is probably the best opportunity that Americans have to create wealth and to share wealth on an intergenerational basis. And, uh, frankly, to achieve economic mobility. So I appreciate our effort here to expand access to this opportunity. I vote I the ordinance is adopted, as amended. Thank you. Item number. If I can get up to it, here. Let's see. Hang on. One back here. 57 please. Which is, is a, uh, emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Accept an appropriate grant. For \$389,577 from care Oregon incorporated for a flexible response program to address overdoses and pilot a mobile medical for opioid disorder provision program.

Speaker: Very good. Uh, the fire bureau and commissioner Gonzalez's office have secured additional resources for the addiction crisis on our streets. I'm pleased to see these funds from care Oregon being used in this way. And i'll pass it over to commissioner gonzales to tell us about it. Thank you, commissioner.

Speaker: Thanks so much, mayor. Colleagues today will vote to accept and appropriate a grant from care Oregon to begin a pilot program with Portland fire chat program. The rise in substance use disorder cases, overdose deaths and the easy availability of deadly opiates like fentanyl has crippled our first responder system, available resources and inundated our emergency rooms. This grant will allow chat nurses and the pilot overdose response team, which launched in old town chinatown yesterday to begin treating overdose victims with a highly effective medication that lessens severe opioid withdrawals. Buprenorphine sometimes called bupe, joining us online to present this item are stephanie sullivan, Portland fire community health lead michelle levine, chap manager and holly ilg, chat nurse. I'll turn it over to you, chief sullivan. Hi

Speaker: Thank you all for being here today. I appreciate it. Um, it like I said, we are here to accept these funds from care Oregon for this mobile medication for opioid use disorder pilot. It is a cutting edge program. Um, and I'm really excited to be able to offer it to some of our citizens here in Portland. Um, what? This pilot is going to do is it's going to help treat people, um, who have overdosed in the community immediately with this buprenorphine in like commissioner Gonzalez had said, it's a life safety intervention. Um, that is really going to help save lives. And treat the folks here in this community. I'm going to go ahead and pass it over to our nurse. Um, holly illg. And she can tell you a little bit more about the program. Um, thank you, stephanie, and thank you, everyone, for being here.

Speaker: Um, I just wanted to, uh, point out that this is an initiative between Multnomah County and care Oregon, who's funding our program. We're also working with central city concern and, uh, peripherally, the Oregon poison control center. Next slide please. Um, why do we want to do this? We all know that we are having a crisis on our streets right now with an increase in fatal overdoses, mostly

involving fentanyl. Um, we want to have an innovative approach, a trauma informed care approach, and be able to provide immediate access to this life saving medication called buprenorphine or suboxone. As most people have heard it. Next slide please. Um, so you can see here on this, um, chart from the oha, um, the increase in Oregon opioid overdose deaths. This is just for Oregon. So you can see at the very bottom the blue line was 2019. And you can see the total was 280 deaths at the time of data collection. It ended may of 2022. And you can see that we were on track to surpass 2021, which. Included 745 unintentional opioid overdose deaths. Next slide. That just proves we have seen an increase in 600% over 2019 to 2021, and overdose deaths in Oregon, and most of those are driven by fentanyl. Next slide. Um, I think the starting point here is that opioid use disorder is not a moral failing. It is a chronic illness. And most chronic illnesses require medication to, um, control all their our, um, their let's, let's talk about like, if you are diabetic and you have to take insulin, we're not going to give take away your insulin because you ate a piece of cake. Right. So chronic illnesses require medications to, um, contain all the illness. Next slide please. All right. Buprenorphine or suboxone decreases the risk of opioid overdose use. And it helps to delay grease cravings. Um, it helps the symptoms of withdrawal, which is really important in our subset of, of patients because when we get there and we give narcan, we put someone in withdrawal. It's a very difficult and painful thing to go through. So what we want to do is provide the buprenorphine there on scene at the 911 call to help the withdrawal symptoms. So then we can get them to services. Next slide please. Why use medication for opioid use disorder. It's a life saving treatment. Um methadone and buprenorphine treat acute withdrawal symptoms. And people on medication for opioid use disorder, such as suboxone or more likely to reclaim their lives. When you take suboxone, it helps again to reduce cravings, but it doesn't create a

euphoria. So you can go to work. You can operate machinery or you can drive your kids around. It's a way to get back to life. Next slide. You can see here that, um, the death rates for opioid use is much higher and than the general population. But people on medication assisted treatment don't have a much less mortality ratio than people who are not on medication assisted treatment. Next slide. So individuals who experience a non-fatal overdose have a 13 fold increase in mortality compared to the general population. And a very important part of this is that the greatest risk of death is in the first 48 hours after a narcan administration. That's why it's so important for us to be there on scene after narcan administration to offer a medication that can help with their symptoms and help them get through that first withdrawal phase. So they don't go and seek another high in order to deal with those withdrawal symptoms. Next slide. Basically what it'll look like is we respond to a 911 call for overdose. Narcan has probably been administered by bystanders, which is great. Or maybe even even ems. We are going to offer buprenorphine or suboxone, and as long as the patient consents to that, we will administer it there on scene and then help get the patient to a clinic. And in this case, we're using central city for this pilot as our community partner. Um, we can do that by sending them by cab, by bus. And then what. We will do is meet them there at the clinic for a warm handoff. So that way we can help with any kind of intake paperwork, um, administering more buprenorphine if they start to exhibit withdrawal symptoms again. And in that way, we can connect them more personally to the clinic. One of the biggest reasons why people don't use medication assisted treatment is because of the barrier to getting it. Um, sometimes just getting to the clinic to ask for it is a huge, huge barrier. So what we want to do is provide it. There on scene so they don't even have to go to the clinic first. Um, we can provide it there and then help them get to the clinic. Our aftercare

team is going to do a 90 day follow up on these patients, and we'll be collecting data having daily contact by phone, in person and making sure they're attending their regular appointments. Next slide. Our aftercare team is made up of a registered nurse, an emt, a paramedic. A community health worker, and peer support specialist. And we found in our work right now within the city, one thing that really helps to connect people back to their health care system is frequent and often contact and that's what we're good at, and that's what we plan to do here. Um, we're going to partner again with central city concern for the medication treatment. They're going to need a prescription for it. It's a very low barrier medication. It has very low street value, very low risk of overdose and a very low diversion rate. So it's safe to have, um, they're going to provide wraparound services again for this, these patients. But we're going to work in conjunction with central city concern to make sure that for that, 90 days after the first 911 call, we have constant and continuous support. And the last piece of the after care team is data collection and chart reviews. And next slide, please. And that's it. So I know there's probably a lot of questions. That was a very high level overview, but here are some contact information. And love to answer some questions. Thank you.

Speaker: Great presentation commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Um I want to thank you for the presentation and I want to congratulate, uh, commissioner gonzales for his leadership bringing this program forward. Sounds great. I'm going to definitely vote for it and watch it. Uh really closely. Um, one thing which does give me a little bit of concern in, um, in how this program is rolls out, is getting our clients from the streets, uh, to the clinic. I think you said we were, uh, maybe putting people on busses or in cabs. Uh, i, I'm wondering I'm wondering how much experience we have with that kind of, um, inter tension. Uh, the other thing that, um, I'm thinking of is I seem to recall probably within the last

year or so, council will, uh, set aside maybe \$1 million or \$2 million for mobile mental health, um, service. Um, I'm wondering if that might be, um, a potential resource or add on here. Um I'm not sure who this question should go to, but. Or if that's even a question or an observation, but i'll put that out there and see what people say.

Speaker: Chief boone. So great observation. Go ahead.

Speaker: I was just going to say we're used to we right now currently will sometimes treat someone on scene if they have a non emergent, uh, problem. Then we can put them in a cab, follow the cab over to where they're going and then keep assisting the patient. We're not allowed to transport the patients in our units, but that's an alternative way. We've we're using to get patients where they need to go. Okay

Speaker: And has that worked. Has that worked fairly well so far? How has that working. It seems a little bit dodgy, but commissioner Mapps do you mind if i, um, jump in here too?

Speaker: So, uh, community health oversees both chat and Portland street response. Um, and Portland street response is quite used to this as well. So we take folks and we take them to clinics. We take them to services. We, um, we assist it without actually transporting them. So we have been able to navigate these alternative ways to get them for quite a while. Um, so we have contacts with, um, with cab with, um, other places that can help get them to the, the places where they need to get so it's worked so far. It's just we need more options.

Speaker: Uh, I'm glad to hear it.

Speaker: Thank you for that clarification, commissioner gonzales.

Speaker: I just wanted to add one point. Uh, that that commissioner Mapps is getting at a little bit. There's going to be an ongoing conversation, I think, for the

city, uh, as to what our role in transportation should be with those, uh, of higher acuity, both on the medical side and on the behavioral health side. There are some liabilities issues associated sometimes with the city taking on that direct transport. But I think I would just for my colleagues and for those listening at home, this is an ongoing conversation. I think we need to have about what's the best way to, um, really support transport, particularly when the county's uh, uh, amr ambulance situation is so dire right now. And so I think the fire bureau has found a very good solution here, uh, leveraging cabs. It's working well in many cases. Um, but it's just something I think we're we're it needs to be part of our long term public safety strategic plan to kind of map out, um, what is the solution for transport on a whole number of issues, including high acuity, uh, behavioral health issues? I'll leave it at that for now.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Yeah, I just want to jump in here to understand. And, uh, commissioner Mapps, thanks for bringing up that question. And I'd love, um, what I'm hearing so far. Can someone from your team get into the cab with the person who needs the service?

Speaker: We have done that in the past, and we have been able to facilitate maintaining patients, um, stability and comfort level to the facility and being able to give a warm handoff to the facility itself. So that has been successful.

Speaker: Okay. That makes me happy. In the reality of this situation. It just seems really necessary at times. Holly, did that make you answer, uh, raise your hand to clarify or.

Speaker: Yeah, I just wanted to clarify. This particular medication usually is started in a clinic where you get the first dose and then what they do is normally send you home and say, take more doses. And so it's a very safe medication to administer

yourself at home. It's not really a medication that needs to be more monitored or that can, um, have adverse events. If that happens, we can transport and we'll know immediately if that's going to happen. So just it's a very safe medication that a lot of people take home and start on their own.

Speaker: No, I get that. I hear that it's just the discipline of the person in need and actually doing it. And having that that support and obviously the word home is a challenging one to consider because some of the people you're administering this are currently not in a stable home environment. So I just think the more that we're hands on, the better. And to hear that you can actually get in the cab that, that that helps. And I also appreciate that we're going to learn. You're going to learn a lot as you implement this. And you will take that continuous improvement and give us some updates and it'll be great. Thanks so much.

Speaker: All right. Very good. Keelan do we have any public testimony on this item?

Speaker: Yes, we have sarah hobbs.

Speaker: All right. Welcome, sarah.

Speaker: Okay. Can you hear me?

Speaker: Yep. You sound great.

Speaker: Oh, I do, um.

Speaker: Did did she drop off Keelan?

Speaker: Um. Oh, no.

Speaker: Looks like getting reconnect did. Okay. Sarah can you unmute?

Speaker: Um. Better be stayed up on it for all three of you. I'm coming to this issue for. Can you hear me?

Speaker: Yeah. You sound good, sir. Go ahead.

Speaker: I am coming to this. The perspective as someone who was the lady in the apartment right to the left of mine three months ago to an overdose. I'm just going to give you a heads up of where my perspective is coming from. I do have questions. Um, of how do you expect people who have no home, um, to take their medication home? How long do you follow up with the people? People you get to initial care. Where do you go out to the streets and look for them to make sure they're following up? Or is that going to be central city's concern? My concern is without looking at the broader issues of the need for housing. To port, of housing, we're just going to be, for lack of a better way to describe it, chasing our tails. So to speak. My neighbor was house. We. I live in a public housing home for building, but we've got no support of services here. This medication sounds like a great step after the initial crisis, but I'm very concerned about what the long terme follow up is going to be. You can take him to the clinic every day, but are you going to follow them to county health department or go out of somebody tested positive for tb and go look for the person and make sure they're taking their medication? Are you going to do that too? What's the follow up going to look like? What what's the long terme going to look like? We can treat people, you know, the tip of the iceberg with a little initial all. Oh well treat the overdose. But are we treating the mental health problems that they may be dealing with that are causing them to do drugs? Are we treat helping them get in the long terme support services, whether it be supported housing, sober house and low barrier housing, housing at all. These are my questions. The medication is good, but I am extremely concerned about what what the follow up with this pilot project is going to be. There was no support for my neighbor, none. I tried to get it for her. It was there and I found her dead in her apartment. So yeah, it's my concern and thank you.

Speaker: Thank thank you, sir. Commissioner Gonzalez I think would have some answers. Commissioner.

Speaker: Yeah, and, sir, thank you for your questions and comments. I think it at a more structural level. I'm going to hearken back to something the mayor said earlier today on on a separate issue. But just one of the many manifestations of our failing behavioral health system, um, uh, in, in the state of Oregon, frankly, in our county, um, is that there are many holes to fill, um, and the long term solutions for both substance use disorder and, and mental illness and for those unfortunately, many are struggling with both uh, simultaneously. We, uh, we need a holistic state solution to that. Um, our, our role as as the city level not to be overly narrow, but we're first responders. Uh, we're there to save lives. Um, and to do what? Intervention we can, uh, on the at the street level and, um, unfortunately, we see the brutality every day of the failure of a behavioral health system, uh, manifest itself, whether it's Portland fire chat, uh, or Portland police. Um, so I do want to acknowledge your point that there, um, whether someone is housed or unhoused, we're struggling as a state to address your behavioral health needs. There's no two ways about it. This pilot is, um, trying to connect one particular, uh, piece of the equation. We um, both Portland street response chat and our Portland firefighters all have, um, narcan, and we have a recently approved a narcan leave behind policy that's literally saving people's lives in the moment. Uh, many nonprofits also have narcan, but what we're trying to do is then connect the next step from someone on the street, how to get them connected into, uh, to a pathway that weans them of the addiction. So it's just one piece of the puzzle. It's not going to solve our state's behavioral health issues. It is literally taking first responders, connecting them into a system and a pathway towards recovery. Um, but we've got a lot of people hurting. And the solutions, uh, are going to have to be comprehensive.

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner

Speaker: Uh, do we have anybody else signed up for public testimony on this item that completes testimony?

Speaker: Mayor, all right.

Speaker: Very good. This is an emergency ordinance. Please call the roll yea. Rubio.

Speaker: This is a very promising pilot that is one vital piece of a more complex behavioral health and addiction treatment systems. And I want to thank Chad and the Portland fire bureau, Multnomah County and Care Oregon, for their collaborative work in pursuing this grant and for leading with a human lens. Related to opioid use disorder. I especially want to recognize how innovative the program is. Um, it appears that nationally, some cities are utilizing this treatment, so we have the opportunity to try something new here. And that it bridges a very important gap in our delivery of services. So I'm hopeful that the data from this pilot will support our ongoing efforts to address the opioid crisis. Here um, and demonstrate that there is another way to expand the reach of treatment to patients and meet them where they are, and hopefully see more people willing to continue treatment.

Speaker: I vote yea Ryan.

Speaker: Yes. Um thank you for bringing this forward. And to Eric Hunter at Care Oregon. Thank you for being a leader in this space and for being a good partner to the city. Your fiscal sponsorship from Care Oregon for this pilot is so greatly appreciated. And to the presenters from the fire department, uh, Chief Stephanie Nurse Holly, thank you for piloting this program. Your openness, your willingness. I can tell is there and your dedication to public safety. I just really enjoyed the dialog we were having. Uh, we all know that we're in the midst of a very poisonous drug crisis. Um, at levels that we've never seen before. And I think it's so important that

we get in touch with this reality and continue to do things very differently than we have in the past. Nothing like the data that says 600% increase in overdose deaths in the past two years, like just let that sink in, people. 600% in the past two years, we've never seen anything like this before. And so we have to keep trying things differently. In this pilot is set up to do that, and there are so many people out there, I know who are trying to get this right. It's like, what action do we take after administering naran? Right? That's been the question, I think, for the past couple of years is once we knew that naran was a great tool, but it's like, what do we do after we administer it? So having the right partners at the table chat, um, central city concern care, Oregon, Multnomah County and the right action. I really want to specify the 90 day follow up. That's what made me the happiest about this pilot so far. So thank you. Providing hope during this, um, extreme poisonous drug crisis. I vote yea gonzales I just want to thank all those who have worked to find alternative ways of addressing our overdose, our addiction crisis on the streets of Portland.

Speaker: Head on. This valuable partnership between care Oregon for the funding for their work on the ground and Multnomah County central city concern for follow up wraparound services will make a material difference in the lives of those living on the streets with substance use disorder. Portland will be among the first cities to address opioid overdoses, with both naran and buprenorphine. Uh, and I do want to call out that this is, uh, may be the first program in the country that is specifically targeted to folks on the streets. Uh, that has true field outreach when we're talking bupe, uh, by lessening the withdrawal effects from the deadly drugs circulating on our streets, we hope that many living in this endless cycle of use and withdrawal will, at least at last, feel a sense of normalcy and hope for a better future. I'm excited to track the progress on this innovative pilot as time goes on, and I'm happy to accept an appropriate this contract today. Do you want to give a

special call out to commissioner Ryan, who was so instrumental in, uh, care Oregon's continued support of Portland fires chat program? Graham. And with that, I vote I Mapps um, I want to thank commissioner Gonzalez for bringing this item forward.

Speaker: I also want to congratulate the fire bureau for leaning into for a really innovative, maybe first of its kind in the nation, uh, program. I'm excited to see this unfold, which is why I vote yea Wheeler.

Speaker: Yeah, this is great. Uh, easy one to vote for. I appreciate that we are, uh, accepting the grant that it was offered by carol Oregon. I appreciate that. Uh. Uh commissioner gonzales, you and the fire bureau took this opportunity to find ways to support these services. Uh that don't necessarily come out of the general fund. This is really great. I'm happy to support it. And I vote yea the emergency ordinance is adopted. Next item is 58, and it's a non-emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Authorize competitive soliciting and contract and provide payment for construction of the city grand avenue risers project. Number e11489 for an estimated cost of. \$2,458,000.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Uh, thank you, mr. Mayor. Colleagues this item comes to us from the bureau of environmental services. As this ordinance authorizes a competitive solicitation and contract with the lowest responsible bidder to stabilize soils and restore pavement at six street intersection along grand avenue between northeast davis and southeast salmon street. Um, this work is designed to stabilize soils and pavement around maintenance holes. We use these maintenance holes to allow workers to access one of Portland's largest sewer pipes. Uh, as we heard, this project will cost approximately \$2.4 million. Work is expected to begin in June of this year and will be completed within five months. Here to tell us more about this

project, we have brandon wilson, interim design division manager for environmental services, and I believe we are also joined by kurt robinson, a project manager with environmental services. Uh, i'll welcome our presenters and hand the floor over to them now.

Speaker: Hey, thank you, commissioner Mapps, and good afternoon. Uh commissioners and mayor Wheeler. Uh, my name is kurt robinson. I'm a senior engineer with bureau of environmental services and the project manager for this project. Uh, mr. Brandon wilson is not able to join us today due to inclement weather and a power outages house. So i'll be, uh, going solo today and hopefully can cover both of us if you have any questions, i'll have a brief slideshow and then entertain any questions about the project. The, um, this project is basically a pavement improvement project along grand avenue. Um, it follows the corridor of the southeast interceptor, which is a 72 inch diameter pipe that is been in place for about 70 years. And what's happening is that pavement over the southeast interceptor is failing, is cracking, and differential settlement. And this is due to the soil consolidating and settling, uh, directly over the interceptor, but principally around the maintenance holes and other as commissioner Mapps mentioned, there are six maintenance holes that require stabilization. The method we're proposing for this is, uh, permeation and grouting to improve the soil strength and permeation. Grouting is a trenchless technology, so we're not digging up the pavement. Excuse me? We're actually drilling down through small diameter ports into the soil and injecting grout. The grout is a formula that sets solid when it's when it's cured, thereby supporting the overlying pavement. Now, this project will have some public impacts. Uh, we're mitigating those, uh, through, uh, a campaign of notification. We're notifying all residences and business owners within a two block area of each intersection. Yea. Ryan. We're identifying any vital access points,

such as those requiring medical deliveries. Uh, we've also created and maintain a project website to keep the project public informed about the project schedule and other impacts. Uh, we've also entered into an interagency agreement with the pbot, uh, who is augmenting their Portland streetcar with bus shuttle service whenever the Portland streetcar service is suspended. And, uh, to date, no, uh, critical responses or concerns have been received, which is a good thing. It shows that our mitigation is working. Uh, this project will require extended work hours. We're proposing work be performed during the evenings from 7:30 p.m. To five. Uh, in the morning. Uh, bs has applied for a noise variance to work evenings for up to 12 weeks. Over this period, our, um, estimated cost for this construction contract is 2,458,000. Uh, we do have a high confidence level in this. Having done considerable outreach to the community who performs this work and verifying our costs. Uh, we're hoping to advertise this project this month. By the end of January, we, um, of this year, uh, beginning construction in June of this year, 2024. Uh we're expecting a duration of work of about 150 days and completing all work by October 31st of this year. And with that, I'm happy to entertain any questions about the project.

Speaker: Uh, colleagues, any questions at this point? Not seeing any. Do we have public testimony on this item?

Speaker: No one signed up all right.

Speaker: This is a first reading on emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading. Thank you everybody. Uh, next is item number 59. It's also anonymous urgency ordinance authorized contract with hdr engineering incorporated for design and surveying services to improve safety and access to transit along northeast.

Speaker: Martin luther king junior boulevard, not to. Exceed \$1,011,351.
Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Uh colleagues, this item comes to us from pbot. This legislation authorizes pbot to contract with hdr, xr for design and surveying services for the northeast. Martin luther king junior boulevard safety and access to transit project project now, the purpose of this project is to improve safety for people walking along or trying to cross martin luther king boulevard. This project is also intended to improve access to critical transportation services, specifically the trimet bus line number six. This project will also help kids get to woodland elementary school safely. Uh, I also want to mention this. This project is an example of how pbot can successfully leverage funds from multiple sources to complete critical transportation safety improvement projects. Acts. Now for your background. The mlk project is funded with federal dollars system development charges, and the fixing our streets program. I mentioned that the sources of funds for this project for two reasons. First, I want to take a moment to thank our partners at the seoul business district association for their partnership and helping secure the federal dollars, which are the primary source of funding for this project, and second, this project is also funded with dollars from Portland's fixing our streets programs. Now, next week, i'll bring a proposal to council to ask Portland voters to renew the fixing our streets program. The ordinance before us today is an example of the important work funded through fixing our streets. Now now I'd like to introduce liz rickel, who is a capital projects manager with pbot, who will tell us more about this project. Welcome, liz.

Speaker: Thank you. Good afternoon, mr. Mayor and City Councilors.

Speaker: For the record, my name is liz rickels. I am a capital project manager for the Portland bureau of transportation, or pbot. I am here to share some good news with you about an upcoming project on northeast martin luther king jr boulevard. The purpose of the ordinance before you today is to allow pbot to contract with hdr

engineering for design and surveying services. Our partners at HDR engineering are ready to begin the civil design phase of the project. I'm going to walk you through the project with a short presentation and why we're excited about it. What you see on your screen now is what northeast buffalo street currently looks like as you approach it, going northbound on northeast martin luther king junior boulevard or mlk boulevard this crossing is one of the three that pbot plan is to enhance with push button activation, so families crossing the street to get to and from woodlawn elementary will push a button at the enhanced crosswalk that we're building that will activate new flashing red lights above the street, clearly signaling vehicles to stop. The initial project. The initial scope for this project was developed in partnership with the sole district business association, the sole district business association. Asian represents the northeast mlk junior boulevard corridor, as well as broader economic and small business development ventures in the greater albina area of north and northeast Portland. Pbot staff have also tabled at community events in north and northeast Portland since securing the projects. Funds to raise awareness about the project and discuss potential future phases of the project. Staff have been providing regular updates and presentation to various area stakeholders as requested, and more work of this type is planned for the upcoming year. Uh, so what safety enhancements does this project include? One part of the project is constructing signalized crossing and enhancements at three intersections to help people safely and comfortably cross northeast mlk boulevard. The new crossings will be constructed at northeast mason, northeast cooke, and northeast buffalo streets. These locations were selected for their volume of crossing and proximity to line six. Trimet bus stops and community input. The other safety element of the project may seem a little minor and technical, but it does make a big difference. We're going to update the unprotected left turn traffic

signals at both northeast killingsworth and northeast fremont. This means we'll change the light system so that left turners onto mlk will get a green arrow indication and oncoming traffic will have a red arrow. Oh, excuse me, just a red indication when you can see the conflicts that we're living with right now on northeast killingsworth and fremont. In the image on the left. But there's a lot of places for a. Driver to make a mistake at a high speed right now, that left turning car needs to wait patiently for a safe place to turn across these oncoming cars while navigating the people crossing the street. In contrast. What we'll be installing is basically what already exists at an intersection like alberta and mlk. In the picture on the right. So here the left turns onto mlk, have a green arrow indication of an oncoming traffic, and people walking will have a red indicator on. The project I just described would cost about \$5 million for design and construction on pbot was awarded federal funding for the project through a competitive metro grant process. The project is also funded with dollars from Portland's fixing our streets program. General transportation revenue, and system development charges. The purpose of the ordinance today is to allow pbot to contract with hdr engineering for civil design and surveying services, and we expect to be ready for construction in 2025. Looking forward to getting started on the design of this important project. Thank you for taking the time today to hear a bit more about safety enhancements coming to mlk boulevard.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Uh, any questions at this point, colleagues, any public testimony? Keelan anyone signed up?

Speaker: Mayor.

Speaker: All right. Very good. Everybody this is a first reading of an ordinance urgency ordinance. Thank you very much for the thorough presentation. Then it

moves to second reading. And I believe that completes our work for this morning. Is that correct, Keelan?

Speaker: All right, good. We are adjourned until 2 pm. Thank you. Everybody.

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

January 17, 2024 – 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: Okay, good. Uh, thank you for your patience. This is the Wednesday, January 17th, 2024 afternoon session of the Portland City Council. Keelan. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Yea. Rubio here. Ryan. Here gonzales here. Mapps. Here. Wheeler here.

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

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. Portland dot gov slash council agenda. Information on engaging with the City Council can be found on the council 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 ejected is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally, counsel may take a short recess. Your

testimony today should address the matter being considered when testifying and state your name for the record. Your address is not necessary. Disclose if you're a lobbyist. If you're representing an organization, please identify it. And for testifiers joining virtually, please unmute yourself. Once the council clerk calls your name, great.

Speaker: Thank you and colleagues, before we get into our item this afternoon, I just want to state another remind for the public. I know everybody's going stir crazy. We all want to get out of wherever we are ensconced, uh, in a sheet of ice. It is still very treacherous out. And I know the forecast is for continued thawing over the course of the afternoon and into the evening. Uh, but I just want to reiterate that it is still very treacherous out side once you get out of the downtown core or off the main routes. Uh, it is a sheet of ice out there still. We have trees that are fully loaded. We have power lines that are coming down. Um, there is a very tragic situation that took place just over the lunch hour on northeast siskiyou. And I really want to thank, uh, all of the first responders from police, fire boec, uh, the pbot folks, the folks from, uh, the power company, uh, and others who responded to that situation. I know it is extremely traumatic for all of them, as well as the neighbors in the immediate vicinity. And by all accounts, that I'm receiving, people were very, uh, you know, very cooperative and very helpful with the first responders. Unfortunately uh, the public information is that this time there there were three people who are deceased when a tree fell and the tree had live power lines in it. Somebody, um, had come to assist. And that individual was also impacted. So I just, you know, at the risk of sounding, um, maybe a little overbearing, just really want people to understand it is still very dangerous out there. And to please exercise extreme caution. Commissioner Mapps. Uh mr.

Mayor, thank you for, um, that aside, and I although you touched on this in your comments, I just wanted to take a moment to, uh, recognize my teams over at pbot.

Speaker: I, they have been working around the clock. Um, we work closely with fire, too. I know fire has been going around the clock. Uh true of all, everyone who has to show up for work. Uh, I want them to know that, um, this City Council sees them and really appreciates the work they do. And we want to. I'd like to ask the public, as the mayor just did, to please help us out by, uh, staying home until the roads get a little bit more clear.

Speaker: Thank thank you, commissioner. Um, so with that, we have, uh, one item this afternoon. It is, uh, anonymous urgency, ordinance land, and that is item number 60. Please.

Speaker: And then the planning and zoning code to adopt temporary suspension and permanent clarifications to development and process regulation as part of the housing regulatory relief project.

Speaker: Colleagues, today, we're continuing our conversation on the housing regulatory relief project. Uh, as you'll recall, this project was brought to us by the bureau of planning and sustainability and the planning commission in as a reminder, last Wednesday, January 10th, we had a briefing from the bureau of planning and sustainability on the proposal and we heard a description of seven amendments brought collectively by commissioners Rubio and Gonzalez. We also heard several hours of public testimony. The record was then closed. And the oral record rather was closed. The written record remained open until Friday, January 12th. This item was continued to this afternoon for the council to vote on the seventh amendments, which are currently on the table, meaning that they were proposed and they were seconded. And today staff will remind us where we left off and what amendments were moved and seconded last week. Uh, I believe

commissioner Rubio needs to make a minor correction to one of her amendments as well. So, uh, then we will discuss and vote on the amendments, uh, each in turn, because because this is land use legislation we won't be taking a final vote on the overall package today. I'll provide more information on next steps at the end of today's meetings, because the record closed on Friday, January 12th, we will not be hearing public testimony today. So with that, i'll turn this over to commissioner Rubio to introduce our presenters and share, uh, any additional remarks she would like to make.

Speaker: Great. Thank you, mayor. Um, I'd like to introduce, uh, staff patricia diefenderfer, sandra wood and phil nnamani to, uh, do a short presentation, um, of our amendments and catch us up.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Rubio. Oh, go ahead, patricia, I was going to just say that I'm handing it over to staff.

Speaker: No problem. Keep coming. Thank you.

Speaker: Oh, thanks. Uh, mayor Wheeler and, uh, commissioner Rubio and the rest of the commissioners and, uh, after hearing this updated, uh, weather news, I feel like, uh, this presentation kind of pales in comparison in terms of importance. Um, but, uh, I know out here in northeast Portland, rose city, hollywood area, it's still also just turned 33 degrees and it's still very icy, but, uh, my thoughts are to the folks here on northeast siskiyou. Um, but, uh, just to kind of give you an update, we are once again back in front of you. Um, to continue the discussion about the housing regulatory relief project and those amendments. Uh Keelan. Uh, we do have a short presentation. She's going to share that with you. Um, last week as, uh, as mayor Wheeler mentioned, we had a spirited, uh, hearing with, uh, several testifiers and, uh, and discussed the proposal and also, uh, put, uh, several amendments on the table. Um, we're going to do a quick summary of that package.

Uh, what we kind of heard through the testimony and the amendments that are, uh, under consideration. Uh, next slide. Uh, just to kind of bring everybody back into the loop here, that the housing regulatory relief project, or hra, is the acronym we're using, is the result of a combination of things, including, uh, housing production survey that was done by, uh commissioner Rubio and bts in the spring. And the results from that survey, as well as, uh, ongoing discussions with bds, uh, who, of course, do all the implementation of the permitting, uh, the intent of that, of this project is to lower the cost of development through some regulatory relief. Uh and also to consider, you know, reductions in some processing, uh, processes of the, of the permits and land use reviews. Uh, many of the changes are temporary in nature and would expire on January 1st, 2029. And a provision in the ordinance would also, um, provide opportunity for existing permits or land use reviews to take advantage of some of this relief. And we'll talk on that a little bit detail on a future slide next slide. I just want to reiterate that there were 15 issues that we were looking at. Uh, this was the issues that came out of the planning commission's recommendation, uh, during last week's presentation, we went through and provided a little more detail on several of these amendments, uh, such as the bicycle parking ground floor, uh, the neighborhood contact and a couple others. Um, next slide. One thing that's unique about this package is in addition to the, uh, amendments that were proposing are a couple directives that are in the ordinance. And, uh, these are specifically tailored to assist permits or land use reviews that are finding it difficult to begin construction. Uh, as some testifiers noted in some of the written and I believe also some of that oral testimony, there are permits that are currently under review and out there that are not feasible due to some of the financial conditions and some other issues. Uh, and this the testimony was, uh, stated that the providing some of this relief may allow them to get over the hump

to be able to get those, uh, permits issued and start construction. Uh, normally, uh, projects are, uh, are reviewed at the time that the permit or land use review comes in. And so since this, uh, set of amendments would norm, uh, don't, wouldn't come into effect until March 1st, uh, they wouldn't apply into to permits that were came in before that, but this, uh, uh, direct give would allow some of these revisions to apply to permits that are already in the queue. Um, the second directive that we're, uh, doing would further extend the approvals. Um for land use reviews that were already, uh, granted and, uh, extend the, uh, timeline that was given during the covid emergency, uh, so that these have a little bit more time to get their permits in order and get their financing. So these two, uh, uh, directives sort of allow some things that are already in the queue to continue working towards getting permits and also, uh, to potentially take advantage of some of the relief. Next slide. As you saw, we did have a quite a bit of testimony. I think there was approximately 50 people that had testified in person. I wanted to also give an update on the written testimony that was, uh, uh, provided, um, we got between December 20th when we opened up the testimony and January 12th, we had more than 400 pieces submitted. And just to let you know, the about 200 of those pieces were just submitted the last couple days. So, uh, by extending the written testimony that extra couple of days, we pretty much doubled the amount of written testimony. Um roughly probably 70 to 75% of the testimony submitted was addressing concerns about further relaxing the bird safe glazing standards or the eco roof standards. And generally expressed the support for what the planning commission had recommended on that. I did want to also mention, though, that there were a lot of other pieces of testimony that came in, uh, some of which were supportive of the regulations in general. And, uh, pointed out how some of the, uh, regulations could help with cost reductions. Uh. Other comments that came in were concerns and,

uh, kind of see on the side deck there what some of the concerns were. But they kind of focused on issues around the ground floor window and ground floor active use requirements as well as some of the ground floor design requirements and the design oversight. Uh, there was a concern that reducing some of that oversight could, uh, impact the design of ground floor spaces and street environment use. Uh, there was a concern over further eroding the communications between developers and impacted neighborhoods, which is partially addressed through the neighborhood contact piece. Uh, there were some comments about the impact of bike parking, both positive and negative. And then lastly, there was a couple comments related to the vehicle parking, which were not really addressing here, except for the fact that we're, uh, providing some changes to the approval criteria for a lot of conditional use reviews. Um, next slide. Okay. We're going to go on to talk about the City Council amendments. Um, there were several, uh, amendments that were proposed, uh, prior to the hearing. Um, and we're going to go through those sets of amendments, uh, in the upcoming slides here. Next slide. Uh, the first set of amendments were a set of three that were, uh, proposed by commissioner Rubio. Uh, the first amendment, uh, adds a series of permanent changes to the inclusionary housing chapter. Uh, one change would ensure that our regulations align with state law. And then the other changes reflect the updates to the program. And findings that were made during the housing bureau's assessment of the current code as it relates to, uh, the inclusionary housing program. Uh, the idea was to provide some, uh, uh, changes here that implement the suggestion was made by the inclusionary housing work group. Uh, the second amendment was really a technical fix, uh, to align the central city's ground floor window requirements so that they're, uh, in keeping with this, based on, uh, ground floor window key requirements. And then the third amendment that was proposed by

commissioner Rubio provided additional temporary flexibility, uh, for the design review of affordable housing projects. Um, and this flexibility is above and beyond what was proposed from the planning commission's recommendation. And the amendment further reduces some process steps for affordable housing. Next slide. Next set of three slides was uh presented by uh commissioner Gonzalez. Um and these I'm labeling these as four through six. Um there's a total of seven amendments. Um, but we kind of wanted to keep them as, as a set of seven here. So uh, I know last week we were kind of saying Gonzalez one, two and three, but, um, for the purposes, I thought of going through and voting, uh, just to avoid confusion. And I thought we'd just number them consecutively. Um but of the of those, uh, Gonzalez amendments, the fourth amendment, um, consider reinserting the temporary suspension of the bird safe glazing, uh, standard. Uh, that applies in the central city and along the south reach of the river. Overlay zone. Uh, when housing is proposed and, uh, the fifth amendment, uh, would consider revising the eco roof, uh, standard to be a simple suspension of that standard when housing is provided. Um, in other words, it would kind of over ride what the planning commission recommended, which was substituting solar panels for eco roofs and instead just, uh, temporarily suspend the eco roof requirement entirely in the central city, uh, when housing is provided. And then the sixth amendment would temporarily remove any advanced notice or posting requirements of the neighborhood contact process. Uh, when the project includes housing. Currently, there's a requirement that the site be posted at least 35 days in advance, and the, uh, um, emails get sent to the recognized organization at least 35 days in advance of submitting a permit or land use review. Um I do want to mention, um, before moving on to the next slide that I know at the end of the hearing, there's some conversations as well about whether we should be focusing more on incentive

based, um, options versus mandatory based options. I do want to just kind of, uh, state that we do have quite a few incentive based options, uh, where we increase floor area and height. Uh, those incentives are generally, uh, required, uh, provided when people are providing affordable housing, as that's the focus of, of, uh, of those, uh, bonuses. I also want to mention that, uh, we did provide the commissioner's assistance with some information on, on, uh, the central city eco roof reviews that have gone on. Uh, we looked at, uh, the design reviews that had occurred since the central city plan. Uh uh, districts, uh, amendments had gone in in 2018 and found that, uh oh, a little over 20% of those reviews had asked for eco roof modifications, generally to reduce the number of, uh, the amount of roof area that's used for the eco roof. Um, and, uh, the planning commission's recommendation essentially looked at substituting solar panels for eco roofs. So, um, with that, uh, I think the idea was, you know, the incentives that we do have already do kind of focus on affordable housing. And so I think there would need to be some greater discussion that occurs, uh, for other types of incentives. Uh, next slide. Uh, this is the last, uh, amendment that was proposed. And uh, and I do want to mention that this, uh, uh, amends it really is dependent on what happens with the amendments. Some of the other gonzales amendments, specifically amendment four and five. But uh, this amendment essentially expands the directive so that, uh, the suspensions of eco roofs and the suspensions of bird safe glazing could be, uh, used by existing, uh, submittals that are in the queue at and, uh, this was a directive was approved at the conclusion of the hearing. And, uh, we did send out a memo last Friday about that. And and just kind of to reiterate, if, depending on what happens with amendments four and five, we may have to come back and readdress, uh, amendment seven here and possibly reword it. Next slide. So that's it concludes our quick presentation. I'm coming out to update of what

happened last week. Uh, we are available for questions. Um, and also, uh, we are going to have some, uh, ability to bring up the amendment memos in case those are necessary during the discussion. At this point, I'm going to turn it back to, uh, commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Mayor, is this where I go ahead and proceed with my amendments?

Speaker: Okay. Yeah. Why don't you go ahead? Uh my understanding is you have an amendment to your amendment. Why don't you tell us a little bit about that?

Okay

Speaker: Great. Thank you.

Speaker: Then you can move it.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Um, as a reminder, amendment one advanced is the recommendation of the housing bureau's inclusionary housing calibration workgroup, which finalized the recommendations in a letter dated July 27th, 2023. And as staff shared last week, one of the changes is to the options for providing off site, affordable units. And I have one edit to make to that language, which I believe staff have for you to see on a slide. If you can put it up, please. Thank you. Um, currently the code requires a different percentage of affordable units for applicants who want to provide their units in another building nearby, depending on whether they do so in an existing building or in a new building. The workgroup recommend simplifying this to use the same number in both scenarios, however, there was a bureau of staff error when this amendment was drafted, which they recently caught and brought to our attention. So we need to revise my amendment number one to use the same number 20% for both scenarios. This is a friendly revision to ensure that amendment one aligns with the inclusionary housing calibration workgroup. So I am asking, um, I'm making a motion and asking for a second to reflect the workgroup recommendation.

Speaker: I'll second that. Commissioner Rubio moves commissioner Mapps seconds.

Speaker: It's an amendment to amendment one. Uh, is there any further clarification needed or discussion on this amendment? Please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio. Hi Ryan. Hi gonzales. Hi maps. Hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: And for the record, I am not calling for testimony on this because this is tantamount to a scrivener's error. I vote I the amendment to the amendment is adopted. Uh, thank you, commissioner Rubio. So at this point now we'll go through and discuss and vote on all the amendments that were just presented by staff and i'll go ahead and use the numbering, just the sequential numbering that staff had recommended, just to keep everything on the up and up and easy to follow here. So the first amendment, uh, to remind everybody is Rubio. One, it relates to inclusionary housing. Is there any further discussion on commissioner Rubio's amendment seeing none. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio. Hi Ryan. Hi gonzales.

Speaker: Hi, Mapps.

Speaker: Hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: Uh, i'll just give my semi-long speech here, but i'll try to keep it short. Um I'm obviously going to support this, and I want to thank commissioner Rubio. Um, this is a yeoman's effort to bring forward all of this package. Um, there are have been, uh, I think she took into account the spirit of the conversations that were had by the planning commission. She and her staff have further reached out and refined through some of these amendments. Things that that she and her team have heard that I support. And I know that when we get into these issues of development and housing, there are lots of different opinions on a lot of different issues. Uh, but this is a really solid package, commissioner, and I appreciate you

bringing this forward. I vote I on amendment one, amendment one from commissioner Rubio passes next. We'll go. And that's the amendment as amended. Just for the record, Rubio oh two, is the central city ground floor windows. It's a technical amendment to clarify application of the ground floor window requirement in the central city plan district. Uh, is there any further discussion on this amendment? Seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio. I Ryan I Gonzalez I Mapps I miller I the amendment is adopted Rubio three was uh to offer affordable housing projects a lower design review procedure type.

Speaker: Is there any further discussion on this amendment? Commissioner Mapps yeah, I have a I have a some feedback.

Speaker: I'm going to vote in favor of this. Um, I did have some technical concerns, which I wanted to share with commissioner Rubio's office, but frankly, given the events of the past seven days, we didn't really have a chance to fully connect on this. Here's what I'm hearing from my infrastructure staff. Um, about amendment three. Um, there's concern about, um, uh, skipping or let's say for the this is commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: You're frozen on my screen.

Speaker: Oh, can you can you guys hear me? Yes yeah. Okay. Renee, are commissioner Gonzalez. Can you hear me now? I think we might be freezing on each other. I'm going to proceed. Um uh, assuming that folks can hear me, uh, commissioner Rubio and colleagues, um, one of the concerns I hear from infrastructure infrastructure bureau staff is that with amendment three, we might be skipping some early consulting session conversations, which actually kind of avoid, uh, problems down the road. Um, I'm willing to kind of on an act of faith, go forward with this. But one of the things I sure hope that we can do is conduct an

evaluation before we get to the end of the five years here, to see if we are starting to see, uh, problems emerge with these kinds of developments. Uh, um, you know, it's very easy specifically with, like, sewer pipes and water pipes. Uh, um, if you skip some of the early detail work you get for fairly far down the road, and then my folks will tell you you need to put in a bigger pipe or something like that. Um, i, I'm not going to ask us to fix this now, but, uh, and I don't think we need to fix it in, uh, statute, but I think that if the bureau is just mindful of this and evaluates how this thing unfolds, um, I think that would be good policy. Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Um, I just want to thank commissioner Mapps thank you for your feedback. I hear it, and I think that's a good idea. And we're we'll we're, uh, ready to engage with you and your teams afterward.

Speaker: Great. And if I can jump back in here, i, uh, I didn't do my staff will do a better job of articulating my specific concerns. I'll get my team together with your team, and we can flesh out, uh, um, maybe some of the things to keep an eye out for. Thank you.

Speaker: Very good. Any further discussion on Rubio? Three, please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio. I, Ryan I gonzales.

Speaker: Hi. Maps hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: Hi. Rubio. Three passes I uh now we'll go to commissioner gonzales amendments. And I just have sort of a general question. Gonzales. First of all, I want to thank you for the time you've taken with me in the last couple of days to, uh, to go through your amendments in the genesis and you're thinking on them, um, we last night had toyed with the possibility of potentially going through a work session and having further public discussion on these amendments. So I'm wondering if you'd had any further thoughts on that.

Speaker: I'm completely supportive of it. Um, I you know, the I think this these topics have been pretty fully discussed to date, but I um, it if, if we can create further space to, uh, read, look at the comprehensive burdens we're putting on development versus the societal benefits, uh, and also how to provide more clarity, a clearer signal to the development community that we're open for business, uh, without abandoning some of our core values as a city, uh, in terms of sustainability, if my colleagues, you know, find would be supportive, I'm supportive of it. Um, and, um, I would my only caution is the same one I gave, uh, last night, mayor. And just putting on the record, um, I feel like this council has a very small window to be impactful here. And I have greater confidence in what this group can do for, uh, right now than the unknowns of what occurs after January 1st, 2025. Uh so the fundamental point is we are on the clock and we have a, a limited window to have impact. Um, so that's my only caveat on, on that discussion, but I'm open to it. If my colleagues are supportive.

Speaker: Yeah. And I appreciate that. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Um, I just want to jump in here and say I appreciate this dialog. And I appreciate, uh, commissioner Gonzalez's openness, uh, continuing this discussion, i'll tell you what, the amendments that commissioner Gonzales put on the table, I'm very, uh, sympathetic to, um, I we need to make it easier to build in Portland. And, um, at the same time, especially as your commissioner in charge of environmental services, I'm concerned with with, uh, some of the details that are on the table here. Um and at the same time, I kind of share commissioner Gonzalez's desire to move us towards, um, an incentive based, uh, uh, um, approach to promoting, uh, development, especially economic or ecological friendly development. Um I think we can get there. Um, you know, for example, earlier in today's presentation, we heard from staff who said, you know, guys, you have, um, incentives for affordable

housing. Um, and it might be possible to think of, uh, do something similar around, um, environmental friendly development. You know, I don't know if that means looking at floor area ratios or whatnot. Uh, but that's one idea, which I'm excited about. I'd love to delve in more. Uh, pledged to get my people at the table, um, and try to move us forward and make a meaningful, uh, dent in, um, some of the bureaucracy and costs associated with, uh, getting stuff built in Portland. So I just wanted to share that. And I have very much appreciated the conversations of the last week or so.

Speaker: Thank thank you, commissioner commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Uh, just to chime in on one piece, we have, uh, we've alluded to over the last couple of weeks and, uh, have continued to evaluate as an office, uh, some sort of resolution directing staff to identify further incentives.

Speaker: It's really not ready for prime time. Uh, to be candid. Um we want to, uh, on that piece, uh, that isn't subject to the, uh, some of the time constraints. It's, uh, we want to create some space to really evaluate that resolution. We have a draft started, but we're not quite ready to circulate to others. We hope to do soon if we, um, if we want to make that part of the work session, I would be totally supportive of it. And, um, uh, just to further the dialog, I do want to, uh, build off of one point that commissioner Mapps was getting at, um, and it harkens back to staff comments. I think as a body, we've been pretty intelligent in thinking about the incentives for affordable housing. But part of our problem in the market is we're not generating enough of market housing either. And that has a that puts pressure on all Portlanders in their affordability and certainly has a downstream impact on those in the lowest income rungs. So we don't have sufficient market. Uh, uh, supply. It impacts everybody, uh, including those in the low income bracket. So um, I would be very, very open to thinking about smart incentives across the

development, uh, continuum. We're not here to incent, devise high, highly expensive apartments or, uh, or housing, but but I do want us to think about overall, if we're not meeting our housing production goals, what is this total package we need to look at to drive that holistically? And i'll turn it over to my colleagues who are from their, uh, commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: And commissioner Rubio, um, I was just going to ask commissioner Rubio, uh, um, since she's had she has been our champion and our sherpa on this one.

Speaker: Uh, I was I was curious to see what her thinking is in this space. I'll lower my hand and listen.

Speaker: Uh. Thank you. Uh commissioner Mapps and, um, I just want to, uh, appreciate, uh, the interest in the conversation. This is one that has been alive and happening for many, many months. In fact, I just want to read mind everyone, that this has been a very, very long process from our first conversations. Um, in my office, probably even I all I know preceding my office to when, uh, commissioner Ryan even had, um, the bureau also with stakeholders hours and to uh, from stakeholders uh, conversations to the bds survey to the planning commission to at this point, uh, and it's been about a year's, um, complex and painstaking work by staff and our stakeholders and the planning commission and bureaus. And they've examined, discussed multiple scenarios and ideas, um, that said, if there's new information or ideas that the staff has not considered to chew on, um, uh, we're open to hearing those ideas. It's important, though, and I really want to underscore this, that we acknowledge and respect the years plus work that has already been undertaken in the conversations and the work that has been had. Um, I also want to strongly, uh, recommend that any new conversations would ensue after we have a good idea of what the governor and the legislature are going to do, um, and who

have also been working on this for almost a year. And what they're bringing forward so that we don't have to go back and start again. And I also want to just note, for the record that if any proposal is, um, come from future conversations, um, they will in fact be land use decisions again and will require going back to the planning commission. So with this in mind, and, um, my team and I are here for any follow up conversations and next steps.

Speaker: Uh commissioner Gonzalez. Thank you, commissioner Rubio. Yeah no, I think there was were a well said.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, I do want to point out one challenge with the state legislature on this subject and harkening back to the 2023 session, you know, the governor pushed very hard for substantial housing package that ultimately failed. On the last day of the session. And I just want to acknowledge that many of the same forces that came into play on the eco roofs and the bird glazing thing, uh, I that appears at the planning commission, uh, really sunk the governor's housing package in the last session. So i, I share, um, the, the perspective that we need to take into account what's occurring at the state, uh, but also acknowledge that that's, um, predictable, um, and that they are subject to some of the same, um, pressures that apply in our case. And you know, from my vantage point led to suboptimal outcome. I think the governor would argue it also led to suboptimal outcome in the 2023, uh, state legislative session. So um, the and last but not least, you know, certainly our first two amendments, we felt were actually respectful of the staff's work. We were bringing back what we perceived to be their original recommended lens. I know there were twists and turns in that discussion. Um, but it was not meant to. Anyway, second guess staff. We felt like we were actually supporting, uh, a direction they were originally going.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez. Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Um, sorry, I didn't mean to, uh, keep my hand up, but I will say, since it was up, um, well, the good thing is that this is a short session, so it shouldn't be that long to figure out, uh, what that direction will be. Um, and also, once the state puts into place, uh, what it is going to, we can have that information to do an analysis. And also as our housing production strategy takes more shape, um, this spring, we can have further conversations about other levers that we can pull or changes that we can make at the local level. So I'm happy to make that commitment very good.

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner. Commissioner Mapps, maybe i'll let it lie now.

Speaker: I'm sorry. I'm good.

Speaker: Okay, good.

Speaker: So let let me see if I can clarify where we are, because there's, there's two divergent paths. And ultimately we. Uh commissioner Gonzalez. These are your amendments. So you get to decide, um, one path is that we wait and see what the legislature does. We agree that we will hold a work session, or at least one work session, whereby why we would go through and thoroughly vet the proposals and potentially amend or add other ideas to the table. Uh and then it would be brought back to council if there's still an interest on your part or other commissioners part to bring it back to council as an ordinance that would obviously take place subsequent to February, so that we would have the opportunity to hear what the legislature does. That's that's one path. Another other path is we move forward and vote on the amendments today, and i'll leave it to your discretion to decide. Uh commissioner Mapps may have a comment as well.

Speaker: The only thing I want to say here is that as the commissioner in charge of the bureau of environmental services, I would very much appreciate having a work session where we explore, create incentives to incentivize, um, uh, environmentally friendly, uh, development. I think that's a conversation that we have the talent in

the room to have. Um, I'm although I'm interested to hear what happens down in salem. I think we can also shape our own fate in this space.

Speaker: All right. Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez. You know, I think, uh, maybe maybe these are two paths aren't mutually exclusive.

Speaker: Um, you know, I it is conceivable we can vote now, um, see where everybody is that keeps that part of the process moving along. Uh, and then, uh, create the space for work session, uh, to, to revisit these pieces, um, and, and, uh, adjust as we as is necessary and yes, we I as commissioner Rubio suggested, we can incorporate the suggestions or or incorporate what we learned from the state legislature. Short session. Um, and so I think maybe the vote now and, and the work session are not mutually exclusive.

Speaker: All right. So, uh, I take it then that we will move forward on the vote. Is that correct?

Speaker: Uh, I'm I'm fine with that.

Speaker: Okay. Very good.

Speaker: So first up is Gonzalez one. And just as a reminder, I'm sorry. We were going to change the numbering. It's now on. Uh uh, this is amendment number four which is Gonzalez number one which reinstates the staff's original proposal to temporarily suspend bird safe glazing requirements in the river overlay zone in central city plan district when a proposal includes a residential use. Any further discussion on this item? Uh, i'll just put my \$0.02 in this. Uh, as you may have guessed from my, uh, my comments earlier, the, uh, I believe we can get farther as a council if we take some time to thoroughly look at this in more detail than we've had the opportunity to do. So so I don't see this as an all or nothing strategy. I think there are probably intermediate things that we should at least look at. I understand that we and i, in all fairness, I was here, uh, as part of the council that voted for this

initially. So I want to be clear on that. But I also know a lot of cities subsequently did similar projects, but they had the benefit of science as well as, uh, exception science. And that led some cities, as I understand it, with my rudimentary knowledge here, to pursue different strategies, maybe above certain levels, uh, you know, further evaluation of migratory patterns. Um, and further cost analysis. We heard a couple of cost estimates, or at least a cost estimate during public testimony. Tony. Uh, but I've not had a chance to ask our staff about the relative of additive cost. Uh, I am very hopeful that bird glazing alone is not the sole impediment to people developing in this city. I understand we're looking at a bigger picture here. Uh, but I just want to be very clear. Um, for my part, that i. I think this can be further refined with more public discussion or at least expert. Um, uh, and diocese, uh, and at the very least, having our city staff have the time to take a harder look at this. Um, so I just want to be clear up front about that. But with that, please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio.

Speaker: Um, first, I want to thank, uh, the mayor. Thank you for your comments. And I agree with a lot of what you said. Um I'm also going to be a no on all three of these for a few reasons. Um, some I've already mentioned, uh, first and foremost, these are all really complex policies that the planning commission took the time to dive into and vet for us. And I want to honor I want to honor their expertise and their work. I also have concerns around the idea that we have to, um, as the mayor referenced, like we don't have to, uh, make a choice between environmental sustainability and housing. We can and we must do both. And that is the way forward. And finally, this has been a long, very public process. And what has been important to me in shepherding this project is that we have a transparent process where council officers and external stakeholders and other members of the public

have the opportunity to track what's going on, and also provide input. So with these amendments, some, um, you know, we know are controversial to some folks, um, being posted online less than 24 hours before the public hearing. Um, you know, it causes issues with the public's trust in us or exacerbates existing, um, uh, perceptions of that which is bigger than any one of us or any one issue. So, um, it's just in general. So for everyone who provided testimony on these items, both in support of the changes and oppose, I want to thank you for your time. Um, um, thanks for engaging with our office. Um, over the course of the year, um, and, and I hear you and I appreciate, um, the healthy tension and this is the place where we have to come and sit at the table and work these things through. They're tricky issues. And I know that none of my colleagues on these council, on the council take these, uh, decisions lightly. In fact, it's very clear that we very much care, and we're committed to finding a way through. So with that, I vote no.

Speaker: I didn't hear my name I muted sorry Ryan.

Speaker: Uh I will do my remarks on both four and five with, uh, amendment number four, like the planning commission, it looks like we're split today from watching the planning commission meeting. Uh commissioner Gonzalez's amendments resurrect the original proposal that I was hearing when I was listening to the planning commission meetings that came from staff. As such, the dialog is not last minute today. The council is the last resort to bring back that original legislation. So I want to thank the staff at bts from watching the planning commission meetings. I have so much more deep respect for three of you that I can see on the screen. So thank you, sandra, phil and patricia, the way that you, um, it was so impressive to see when real time um answered the questions as the debates loomed because, again, these were the topics that had the planning commission split. And as one member from the planning commission said, it was

the first split vote on a project they had ever experienced. So please know we're in a we're in a different time in terms of, um, having some robust, um, debate about something so important as housing. Again, it's no surprise that the council then is split at this time. We all want to protect the environment, and we also all want to accelerate housing production. For years now, we hear the objective data that we received for over two decades, I've been seeing this data that we have a supply problem, and we do need to partner with the private sector to rapidly increase the number of housing units. That's the balance. Testimony also reflected the split that we received last week. It was very good testimony at the meeting. We had last Wednesday afternoon. We need 120,000 new housing units by 2045. We must innovate to accelerate housing and treat this like the emergency. It truly is. As mentioned in the pre amendment vote dialog was taking place with my colleagues and I do hope that piece up and be as can come together and provide incentives for our builders. Right? Today, I just hope that we go, let's start building I vote yea. I.

Speaker: Gonzalez.

Speaker: Uh, we need to increase housing production in Portland, plain and simple.

Speaker: And I'm going to speak generally to the three amendments and the some specific comments on number four for, uh, we need to lower the cost of housing for all Portlanders and provide for the housing needs not of our most vulnerable. And as well as through the middle class that necessitates taking a hard look at how we incentivize and not disincentivize development of both affordable market housing while balancing other critical concerns like the environment, and protecting our natural resources. I'm pleased, in general to support the housing regulatory reform reform package, as it is an important step to lower barriers to housing production in our city. I do want to thank commissioner Rubio and her team for all their work

to get us here, but I would also add, we have a small window to operate as council and as, um, I'll reiterate my earlier comments. I have greater confidence in the ability of this council to be pragmatic in a very complex tax topics, uh, than whatever may come next. Uh, and with respect to the process that occurred here, um, I think folks are going to look at this history, see at least some in a way that is different than commissioner Rubio characterized it. The development community felt like an end around was put on them at the planning commission. They were not given the opportunity to comment. Uh, once the planning commission amended the original package, uh, they felt excluded from that process. And you know, again, I think there's many different perceptions on how we got here. Uh, but I do want to be clear that with least with respect to amendments four and five, this was consistent with the original staff recommendation. Uh, we also heard extensive testimony from the community last week on the cost created by glazes and eco roofs. Um, and the fundamental point here is not the incremental cost of any one of these requirements. It's really the death by a thousand cuts. And in the aggregate, the impact on development. And last but not least, what message it sends to the development community. I worry that we missed an opportunity here. Uh, in really our one of our, you know, last remaining two opportunity to meaningfully address as a council how to attract capital, how to attract development in the city of Portland. Um I will and I do want to hearken back again to, uh, the 2023 general session. Um, that precisely what happened here happened there, uh, special interest, uh, were able to, uh, uh, really land late in the game. In that case, it was environmental movement. Uh, that's what's occurred here, at least at the planning commission. Um I do look forward to bringing resolutions back to council. Uh, to look at the incentives, as we alluded to earlier, including, uh, how we

find, you know, continue to balance incentives in the overall equation. I think with that, I will, um, I'm voting I on this amendment. Thank you.

Speaker: Maps.

Speaker: Uh, I'm going to vote no on this one. But I do want to say I very much appreciate, uh, the conversation that commissioner Gonzalez has provoked. And I'm deeply sympathetic, uh, um, to the policy direction that he wants to move us as a city in. And, um, I think I would much rather run the city on the basis of a series of incentives, as opposed to a series of unfunded mandates. I actually think that, uh, this policy space is exciting because I believe that, uh, this council could come together, which and develop a series of incentives that would promote economically, um, uh, that would promote, uh, environmentally friendly development that, um, I think we heard some ideas even from staff today. Maybe look at floor area ratios and exchange for installing, uh, um, uh, eco roofs or bird safe glasses. I'm sure there are other ideas too. Um, in general, I reject the notion that, uh, protecting the environment and promoting development or at odds. I think, uh, Portland's future has to include, uh, doing both. I think we can, um. And that's why I look forward to our work session where we explore these ideas in greater detail. Uh, but for the moment, I will vote no on this one. Wheeler

Speaker: Yeah. So, uh, I also just want to say I appreciate the conversations that these amendments have sparked and commissioner Gonzalez, again, I want to thank you for reaching out and taking multiple calls and taking the time, uh, even when we were all managing ice storms, everything else. And response, uh, I appreciated that opportunity. So here's how I sort of look at the bigger picture. And i'll get to the specific amendment in a minute. But I do want to talk to the bigger picture for, uh, this proposal morphed and it morphed fairly significantly. Uh, from my perspective, in terms of what I was originally planning to hear, which was

commissioner Rubio bringing forth the planning commission recommendations after a lengthy stint process with some minor staff amendments. And what happened was, um, this became a much larger discussion about incentives, about costs, about what what generally and specifically do we need to do around development. And the problem with that, from my perspective, as I indicated earlier, is we're we're not giving the broader conversation the full discussion that frankly, it deserves. And I agree with commissioner gonzales that this council provides a unique opportunity to look at this, uh, in a different way than potentially future councils might. Um but I'd like to give it the time and the energy. And frankly, uh, the, the, uh, depth of, uh, analysis that it deserves. Uh, I don't see this as our last opportunity. Again, I think there's plenty of time to bring in other ideas to this council subsequent to the February session. I agree with commissioner Rubio. Be wise for us to wait and see what happens. Commissioner gonzales, I also agree with you that we don't know what will happen. And the answer may be nothing. Uh, but nothing ventured, nothing gained. Uh, we still don't lose out if we wait till after the February session. I am, uh, also mindful of the fact that these three items that were discussing today aren't on the list of things that I have heard about over the last seven years as mayor, as being significant impediments to affordable housing development. And I want to go back into the way back machine, just for a moment. Since I've been here the longest, first during central city 2035, which was a complete rework of our central city zoning. Uh I listened to the development community and I was persuaded by the arguments of the development community that height and density in the central city core were essential to the development of housing. As well as commercial space in this city, and that if we pass central city 2035 with significant amendments, many of which I introduced personally on behalf of the development committee community, we would see the kind of developments that

the city of Portland needs. And I'll just remind people, I burned a lot of my political capital very early in my administration on central city 2035, including effectively spot zoning parts of our city where we thought we could generate substantial height and density, particularly around housing. And we had developers come in and testify that if we pass these amendments, they would build. And I'm still looking at a lot of parking lots where my political capital was burned, but no housing was developed. But after that, I was told if only we pass better housing by design and that I offer a strategy there that would enable further development in our many disparate neighborhoods. The housing would get built. So we passed better housing by design. Then there was the residential infill program. And you know, I by the way, I agree with this philosophy in the urban core. We absolutely should build. Hi, we should build dense and we should have infill, uh, because that protects the environment around our city, which is one of our greatest assets. As a community. Frankly, in my opinion, uh, we passed the residential infill program, and that was probably the most controversial of all, because that led to increased development and increased density in our residential neighborhoods. And it did change the character of our city, and we knew it would change the character of our city because our city was growing, frankly, and we needed to be able to create housing. So we pushed through their, um, then what I heard loudly and clearly was it was the permitting that was causing the problems. And I've seen not one, not two, but three of my colleagues here on this City Council, uh, in sequence, try to tackle the permitting issue at the city of Portland and simplify it, reduce the cost, reduce the hassle factor, and a lot of good work has gone into that. Not just here on the public sector side, but our private sector developers have invested a lot of their time and their energy to address those permitting issues, as well. Um, then of course, from there, we got to our core mission around homelessness, around

public safety, around livability, around economic recovery. And this council has fought tooth and nail to make those changes. Uh, of late, we've even created tax incentives. And we've asked other jurisdictions to hold the line on tax because we were told that was an impediment. And uh, you know, that doesn't even get to some of the macroeconomic issues, which are really the main drivers, which are interest rates, inflation and labor shortages. You know, we don't impact that stuff really to any great degree at all. Uh, but now here we are talking about bird glazing, eco roofs and neighborhood contacts as though they were the primary impediments to affordable housing development in our community. And while I agree that if you add these things up collectively, it can put us at a competitive disadvantage, particularly given those macroeconomic issues. I just mentioned. Uh, if we're going to address these core issues and we're going to say, okay, if we just get rid of the environmental protections and we just get rid of the wildlife protections, and we just get rid of the public involvement, the native contacts piece everything is going to be great. Um, I personally don't buy it. And if we're going to address these issues, I would like us to take the time, um, to bring thoughtful, measured, vetted proposals to the City Council that, uh, don't as commissioner Mapps, I think more eloquently than I could state said we don't have to make that trade off between the environment or housing or wildlife and the environment or public involvement and housing there. There's probably better ways we can do this. And I'm just asking for patience as we do that. So I'm, uh, mindful of the fact that we do have more time to bring back thoughtful proposals and maybe beyond these three, uh, I vote no. So. And the amendment fails. So the next one is gonna sa number two, which is actually now amendment number five pertaining to eco roofs. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio. No Ryan I Gonzalez. Oh the audio on this one I apologize I'm just gonna I did have some slightly additional comments on the eco roofs.

Speaker: Um, extensive requirements for eco roofs and central city residential development was cited as a top barrier from developers. I think it was number 12 on the overall list, and the housing production survey commissioned by commissioner Rubio. Again, the planning commission essentially ignored the staff recommendations here. And uh, suggested supplementing panel uh solar panel installation in lieu of the eco roofs as an alternate live uh, that's despite it being a higher cost alternative than eco roof requirements. Uh, again, ignoring the cost concerns raised by housing providers. Uh, temporary moratorium on eco roofs will allow the flexibility needed to balance out multiple objectives for a project. For example, some projects may prioritize solar array over a roof or a white roof that reflects light and provides passive cooling for the building. This proposal, what we put forth, uh, will enhance the project's viability by letting the market drive these, these these decisions which may also have greater positive impact on climate concerns. And let me just be crystal clear on this point. Eco roofs are not going to be built unless we have new construction. Whether it's often whether it's a requirement or an option. And it we need new construction to drive the introduction of these eco roofs. Uh, i, I do want to emphasize to the mayor again, uh, neither of these two, uh, proposals, uh, amendment 4 or 5 are last minute. They were originally staff proposed nils. Uh, and I'd, uh, you know, I take some exception to your characterization there. Uh, the these were well vetted and, uh, the public, uh, commented on what we have essentially proposed on amendment four and amendment five to the planning commission on, uh, the elements that were outside of the light of day were, uh, in the sense of giving an opportunity for comment were the, uh, planning commission's, uh, choice to ignore the site

recommendation or staff's recommendations here? So I do want to emphasize that point as I vote yea. Thank you.

Speaker: Maps.

Speaker: Um, as the commissioner in charge of working with the teams who manage our stormwater, I got to share this with my colleagues and the people of Portland. Our wastewater engineers and our stormwater engineers. Tell me that, uh, moving away from our, um, eco roof program is a bad idea. Uh, you know, just in the downtown area, we're trying to manage about 2.5 million, uh, square feet of impervious, uh, areas. All that water is coming in. Equal roofs are an important tool for managing that. Um while I what I want to do instead of moving away from icarus. What I'd like to do is create programs that makes it easier for people to install eco roofs. It's one of the things that keeps us from dumping, uh, dirty water in the river. Um, which is why I'm going to vote no on this one. However, I do look forward to a future work session where we can explore, um, incentive programs that will make it easier for, uh, building owners to install these important, uh, stormwater management tools. So with that, I vote no Wheeler.

Speaker: So.

Speaker: So, um, first of all, I do not agree with removing the eco roofs. Part of this proposal i, I support eco roofs. Uh, I think they serve an important role in the future of our community. I think they're also critical to our climate action goals, which we, uh, a council, have universally supported in the past. I would not want to backtrack, but I also want to note that, uh, uh, this was well vetted by the planning commission. And it's my understanding that what we're voting on today is, in fact, a compromise. It's already a compromise proposal between those who support, um, uh, eco design and the development community. And that's why there's more flexibility. What we had originally passed at council was eco roofs, but now it's eco

roofs or solar panels. So there's some flexibility there on the part of the developer hours. I thought that was a good compromise that I certainly support. Um, but but I do not support backtracking on eco roofs. I think that's a move in the wrong direction. And therefore I vote no. And the amendment fails. Uh, now we'll vote on, uh, amendment six, which is Gonzalez three related to neighborhood contacts. Is there any further discussion on this item? Seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Rubio.

Speaker: No. Ryan

Speaker: Yeah. I think neighborhood should have a voice in the development.

Speaker: Uh, that's being proposed. I think that, um, I realize this as a potential for adding a little bit of time, but it's such a critical step and engaging with the neighborhood where you're building is just part of doing business. So, um, and it's my experience that you've learned some real additive, uh, you learned some additive information when you're having that type of engagement with the neighborhoods. And usually there's a nugget in there when you're in the in those conversations. So and I also was a little disappointed I didn't hear about a lot of outreach to the district coalitions or uh, via um civic life. So on this one, I will vote no.

Speaker: Gonzales.

Speaker: So the basic concept here is that I'm going to make sure I'm not on mute. Uh, is that you still have to post notice. You just don't have to wait at 35 day period, uh, to file for a permit. That's the basic concept here. It's not to circumvent that, uh, public engagement. It's just to, uh, compress the development cycle. Um and by some estimates, this increase is construction costs by 1. The 35 day delay. Um, it's just the value of money right now. The time value of money, uh, in our current interest rate environment, um, with that, I vote I maps.

Speaker: Um, this is when I've gone back and forth on again. I appreciate what commissioner Gonzalez is trying to accomplish here. Um, at the same time, um, I actually found, um, commissioner Ryan's comments on this, this, uh, to be compelling. I certainly hope that important. And, um, dialog with your neighbors about, um, about development will actually make projects, um, better for, um, that doesn't mean that I believe that our current neighborhood contact, uh, protocol is ideal. I am more than open to sitting down and having a thoughtful conversation about how we can make this better, how we could make that contact process better. Uh, for everybody. Um, but eliminating or dramatically cutting it back, I think, um, doesn't get us to where we need to go. So I'm going to vote no on this one. However when we get to the work session, um, although I'm primarily focused in on the environmental pieces there, I would be very open to having, um, a creative dialog about how we could make our public contacts. Uh processes better. So so, uh, with that, I vote no Wheeler.

Speaker: Yeah, I don't I don't support getting rid of the public contact requirement. I'm not sure if 35 days is necessary either. So I'm certainly open minded about where that lands. Uh, but in this current form, I vote no in the amendment fails. Uh, so thank you. Colleagues, are there any more comments before I continue this item to January 24th?

Speaker: There's one more amendment, mayor.

Speaker: Uh, it's dead.

Speaker: Yeah. I don't think it's depending. Oh, it's dependent on.

Speaker: Thanks for explaining that right now.

Speaker: Got it. Yeah

Speaker: I think that the patricia.

Speaker: Yeah.

Speaker: The commissioner Gonzalez just needs to withdraw the amendment. It would have no effect if you could just withdraw it for the purposes of.

Speaker: I'm happy to withdraw.

Speaker: I just wanted to see if patricia had comments first before i. Okay

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez. No, I was going to just echo what, um, city attorney tim has said. Thank you.

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: I withdraw the amendment.

Speaker: Okay. Thank you. Uh, any further comments before we move this seeing none. Uh, thank you. Colleagues, this item is continued to a hybrid meeting on January 24th at 3 p.m. Time certain the physical location will be okay. Now I'm confused by my own talking points. It says it's hybrid. So why is there a physical location? Maybe legal counsel could help me out here?

Speaker: Uh, because they'll be both people can appear virtually, and then council will be in person beginning.

Speaker: Oh, okay.

Speaker: That's what I how I read this at all. Okay, so this item is continued to January 24th at 3 p.m. Time certain the location for those who wish to be in person will be 1900 southwest fourth avenue. Room 2500. At that time, council will vote on the amended documents and findings to reflect the amendments passed today. In the testimony, we heard we will not be taking additional testimony on January 20 fourth, as the oral and written records are now closed.

Speaker: Thank you. All that concludes today's meeting. We are adjourned.