



July 10, 2024 Council Agenda

5773

1900 SW Fourth Avenue, Room 2500, Portland, OR 97201

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Questions may be directed to councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov

Wednesday, July 10, 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: Anne Milligan, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

Item 635 was pulled from the Consent Agenda and on a Y-5 roll call the balance of the Consent Agenda was adopted.

Council recessed at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

Council recessed at 11:29 a.m. and reconvened at 11:34 a.m.

Council recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 12:02 p.m.

Council recessed at 12:57 p.m.

Communications

626

[Request of Hami Ramani to address Council regarding loving streets](#) (Communication)

Document number: 626-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

627

[Request of David Stein to address Council regarding transportation safety](#) (Communication)

Document number: 627-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

628

[Request of Claire Coleman-Evans to address Council regarding Office of Neighborhood Involvement standards, neighborhood associations, and District 4](#) (Communication)

Document number: 628-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

629

[Request of James Lee to address Council regarding sound in auditoriums](#) (Communication)

Document number: 629-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

630

[Request of Christian Schoof to address Council regarding impacts to neighborhood of ongoing drug dealing and violence](#) (Communication)

Document number: 630-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

Time Certain

631

[Amend the FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget to provide a temporary interfund loan not to exceed \\$45 million from Portland Parks & Recreation to Fire and Police Disability and Retirement to provide interim financing for cash flow deficit due to the timing of property tax collections](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Time certain: 9:45 am

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading July 17, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

632

[Proclaim July 10, 2024 to be Portland Neighborhood Emergency Teams Day](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 632-2024

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Time certain: 10:00 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

633

[Accept the Portland Children's Levy 2024 Annual Community Report](#) (Report)

Document number: 633-2024

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Children's Levy

Time certain: 10:20 am

Time requested: 30 minutes

Disposition: Accepted

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

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

Consent Agenda

634

[*Authorize grant agreements with five nonprofit organizations through the Diversity and Civic Leadership Program to support civic engagement services for under-engaged communities](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191815

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Office of Community & Civic Life

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

635

[*Authorize grant agreements with four nonprofit District Coalitions to support neighborhood associations, the Neighborhood Small Grant Program, and eligible community groups supported through City-run offices](#)

(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191828

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Office of Community & Civic Life

Disposition: Passed

Item 635 was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

636

[*Authorize leasing of warehouse space to migrate Bureau of Emergency Management emergency supplies and communication equipment](#)

(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191816

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Bureau of Fleet and Facilities

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

637

[*Authorize conveyance of City-owned real property at 4931-4947 N Williams Ave and 20, 106, and 114 N Alberta St and financing not to exceed \\$11,400,000 to Strong AA Limited Partnership or a Community Development Partners/Self-Enhancement, Inc. affiliate for development of a new affordable housing project](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191817

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

638

[Authorize Letter of Agreement with Laborers' International Union of North America Local 483 to create a pesticide premium for licensed employees](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191818

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Human Resources

Second reading agenda item 613.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

639

[Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Multnomah County to fund three full-time equivalent positions to support the Organized Theft and Auto Theft Task Force not to exceed \\$350,000 per fiscal year](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Police

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading July 31, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

640

[*Pay property damage claim of Jennifer Kim for \\$12,074 resulting from a motor vehicle collision involving Portland Bureau of Transportation](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191819

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Risk Management

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

641

[*Pay settlement of Andrea McNish bodily injury lawsuit for \\$45,000 involving the Portland Water Bureau and Portland Parks & Recreation](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191820

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Risk Management

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

642

[*Pay settlement of Ann Bakkensen bodily injury lawsuit for \\$20,000 involving Portland Bureau of Transportation](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191821

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Risk Management

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

643

[*Pay settlement of Aya Farhoud Lamorell employment lawsuit for \\$40,000 involving the Office of Management and Finance](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191822

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Risk Management

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

644

[*Amend Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation for the NE Halsey St Bike/Ped/Transit Improvements Project \(amend Contract 30006830\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191823

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

645

[*Authorize Bureau of Transportation to acquire certain permanent and temporary rights necessary for construction of the 82nd Ave Crossings: Ramona, Tolman, Lambert, SE Project through the exercise of the City's Eminent Domain Authority](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191824

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

646

[*Authorize contract with lowest responsible bidder for the NE Halsey St Bike/Ped/Transit Improvements Project](#)
(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191825

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

647

[Authorize competitive solicitation and price agreements in support of the Bureau of Transportation Capital Improvement Program not to exceed \\$22,500,000](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191826

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Second reading agenda item 615.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

648

[Authorize competitive solicitation and contract with lowest responsible bidder for construction of the Conduit 3 Ovality Repair Project and the Venturi Removal Project at an estimated cost of \\$3,800,000](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Water

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading July 31, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

649

[Authorize competitive solicitation and contract with lowest responsive and responsible bidder for construction of the Interstate Operations Building Renovation Project at an estimated cost of \\$3,160,000](#) (Ordinance)

Neighborhood: [Eliot](#)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Water

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading July 31, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

650

[Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Oregon for \\$400,000 to fund the design and construction of a segment of the Hillsdale to Lake Oswego Regional Trail](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191827

Introduced by: Commissioner Dan Ryan

Bureau: Parks & Recreation

Second reading agenda item 617.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

651

[Accept corrected voter registration totals for the May 21, 2024, Municipal Nonpartisan Primary Election results report \(replace Report 585-2024\)](#) (Report)

Document number: 651-2024

Introduced by: Auditor Simone Rede

Bureau: Elections Office

Disposition: Accepted

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

Regular Agenda

652

[Proclaim July 27, 2024 to be Jim Pepper Day](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 652-2024

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Carmen Rubio; Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

653

[Amend contract with Gresham Automotive, Inc. dba Gresham Ford to increase not to exceed amount by \\$5 million for purchase of vehicles \(amend Contract 31002055\)](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Bureau of Fleet and Facilities

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading July 17, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

654

[*Authorize Settlement Agreement with the Portland Police Association and Cheryl Waddell to resolve a grievance and employment discrimination claim involving the Portland Police Bureau for \\$29,571](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191829

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Risk Management

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

655

[*Pay settlement of Kelcie Ulmer bodily injury lawsuit for \\$11,500 involving the Portland Police Bureau \(Emergency Ordinance\)](#)

Document number: 191830

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Risk Management

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

656

[*Amend contract with Westech Construction Inc. for \\$1,839,574 including contingency to construct additional improvements on NE 46th Ave and NE Columbia Blvd for the NE 46th Ave & Bryant St Local Improvement District \(amend Contract 30008643; C-10065\)\(Emergency Ordinance\)](#)

Document number: 191831

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Transportation

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea
Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea
Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea
Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea
Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

657

[Amend Water Code to align with the amended City Charter approved by voters in Portland Measure 26-228 \(amend Code Title 21\) \(Ordinance\)](#)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Water

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Referred to Commissioner of Finance and Administration

Wednesday, July 10, 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

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Officers in attendance: Adrienne DeCotto, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

Council adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Time Certain

658

[Create the N Richmond Ave and Crawford St Local Improvement District to construct street, sidewalk, stormwater, water main, sanitary sewer, and railroad grade crossing improvements \(C-10074\)](#) (Ordinance)

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Transportation

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading July 17, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

659

[Report on recent Audit Reports and Ombudsman work](#) (Report)

Document number: 659-2024

Introduced by: Auditor Simone Rede

Bureau: Audit Services; Ombudsman

Time certain: 2:20 pm

Time requested: 45 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

Thursday, July 11, 2024 2:00 pm

Session Status: No session scheduled

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
 Wednesday, July 10, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.

Name	Title	Agenda Item
Ted Wheeler	Mayor	
Keelan McClymont	Council Clerk	
Rene Gonzalez	Commissioner	
Mingus Mapps	Commissioner	
Carmen Rubio	Commissioner	
Dan Ryan	Commissioner	
Anne Milligan	Senior Deputy City Attorney	
Hami Ramani	(Communications)	626
David Stein	(Communications)	627
Claire Coleman-Evans	(Communications)	628
James Lee	(Communications)	629
Michael Jordan	Interim City Administrator	631
Jonas Biery	Chief Financial Officer, Deputy City Administrator, Budget & Finance	631
Kevin Machiz	(Testimony)	631
Jeremy Van Keuren	Community Resilience Manager	632
Marisol Lozano-Peralta	Community Engagement Specialist, PBEM	632
Amanda Westervelt	Operations Specialist	632
Jeff Bissonnette	Board President, Friends of Portland NET	632
Sonia Schmanski	Deputy City Administrator, Vibrant Communities	633
Lisa Pellegrino	Director, Portland Children's Levy	633
Campbell Glenn Garonzik	Executive Director, Portland Tennis and Education	633
Alex Carmona Murillo	Portland Tennis and Education Program participant	633
Sean Cruz	Executive Director Jim Pepper Native Arts Council	652
Annie Von Burg	Assistant City Administrator	635
Mourad Ratbi	Interim Director - Civic Life	635
Kimberely Dixon	Supervisor - City-run District Coalition Offices	635
Hayley Blonsley	Senior Budget and Policy Advisor, Mayor Wheeler's Office	635
DARLENE GARRETT	(Testimony)	635
Jona Davis	(Testimony)	635
Nanci Champlin	(Testimony)	635
Alison Stoll	(Testimony)	635
Lisa Rogers	Deputy City Attorney	654
Carey Caldwell	Deputy City Attorney	655
Marc Poris Portland Copwatch	(Testimony)	655
Priya Dhanapal	Deputy City Administrator, Public Works	656
Andrew Aebi	LID Administrator & Project Manager, PBOT	656

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
 Wednesday, July 10, 2024 - 2:00 p.m.

Name	Title	Agenda Item
Ted Wheeler	Mayor	
Keelan McClymont	Council Clerk	
Rene Gonzalez	Commissioner	
Mingus Mapps	Commissioner	
Carmen Rubio	Commissioner	
Dan Ryan	Commissioner	
Adrienne DelCotto	Senior Deputy City Attorney	
Priya Dhanapal	Deputy City Administrator, Public Works	658
Andrew Aebi	LID Administrator & Project Manager, PBOT	658
Thomas Leaptrott	(Testimony)	658
Brian Wilson	(Testimony)	658
Shaun Jillions	(Testimony)	658
Peter Perrin	(Testimony)	658
Simone Rede	City Auditor	659
KC Jones	Audit Services Director	659
Jennifer Croft	City Ombudsman	659

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

July 10, 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: All right. Good morning, everybody. It is now 930. This is the July 10th, 2024 morning session of the Portland City Council. Keelan. Good morning. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Good morning. Gonzales here. Maps. Here. Yea. Rubio. Here. Ryan. Here

Speaker: Wheeler here. We will now hear from the city attorney on the rules of order and decorum. And milligan is joining us virtually. Good morning.

Speaker: Am 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.gov/council/agenda](https://portland.gov/council/agenda). Information on engaging with council can be found on the council clerk's web page. Individuals may testify for three minutes unless the presiding officer states otherwise. Your microphone will be muted when your time is over. The presiding officer preserves order disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed. If you cause a disruption, a warning will be given. Further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally, council may take a short recess and reconvene virtually. Your testimony should address the matter being considered when testifying. State your name for the record. Your address is not necessary. If you are a lobbyist, identify the organization

you represent. Virtual testifier should unmute themselves when the council clerk calls your name.

Speaker: Thank you. All right. Thank you. And just a quick note, colleagues. You'll notice that the setup is slightly different this morning in the council chambers. July, of course, marks the city of Portland mirroring the new form of government within our City Council procedures. Last fall, council approved the design for the new council chambers, which includes space at the dais for the mayor, the city administrator, the city attorney and council clerk, in addition, of course, to the City Council that aligns with the revised city code, which notes that the city administrator is to attend council meetings and subcommittee meetings as well as meetings for boards and commissions. As such, interim city administrator michael jordan has joined us today at the dais and will attend council moving forward to reflect the future system. In addition to attending council, I've directed michael to help facilitate agenda items from the bureaus. Each commissioner, just to be clear, retains their authority to introduce council items in both the current as well as the future council structure. So michael, welcome to the dais. I've also encouraged all deputy city administrators to attend council when able, especially when there are agenda items that pertain to their service area and they're seated over here. I'd like to welcome them as well. Most all of them are familiar faces to you. Lastly, it's important to me that we build an executive branch that works well within the with the legislative branch. My vision is to design an executive branch that supports council members as legislators in order to govern as a team in a productive, effective way to serve our community. So from there, we'll kick it off. First up, communications. First item please, is 626.

Speaker: Request of jamie rahmani to address council regarding loving streets. Welcome you can sit right here.

Speaker: Yeah.

Speaker: I don't know if you know something. I if you will let me pull my statement up.

Speaker: Morning, morning, morning. My name is jamie rahmani. I advocate for transportation, dignity and justice, not simply because I yearn to see Portland become a safer, more beautiful and welcoming place, but because I know our individual and organizational actions to that end ripple, ripple out to the rest of the world and dare I say, the universe for me, it has never been merely about specific policies. For me, it is the deep feeling and principles that serve as the source of our actions our city, our country, our world. They're all in pain and no degree of policy maneuvering will change that in the moment, because we humans have forgotten each other. Our humanity is tattered behind the facade of social media press statements, corporate double speak and politics. Of course, honesty is, in short supply while gladhanding runs amuck. What suffers from this is justice and love. In this spirit, I want to urge all of you here and the people who wish to be in your position soon. To make an unequivocal statement against the genocide of palestinians whose access to free movement has been eradicated, a project that has been enforced for many decades. But seeing its completion at the hands of zionists today, the ability to move freely and safely is at the core of social justice. I hope that we're all fighting for that. Yet this city has this this city that that has for long buoyed itself on its so-called progressive image. It's failing at all levels. It is clear to me. And others who have had enough of the system that we cannot continue to operate with the current framework to and, and expect justice for all. It is abundantly clear to me that the yard signs, token slogans, and the rest of it serve the very people who are already advantaged. I come to you with a voice from deep within my heart. I come to you with the words of doctor martin luther king jr, who

clearly, if you don't mind. Is that okay? I have a few sentences. I come to you with the words of doctor martin, martin luther king jr, who clearly stated injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. I come to you with the spirit of nina simone, james baldwin, and malcolm x. I come to you because you and I are the privileged few who have a voice with this. With this voice, we must unite to end injustice in Portland, palestine, and beyond. Thank you. Thank you for granting me extra 30s.

Speaker: I appreciate your being here. Thank you, thank you. Next individual please. Keelan. Item 627.

Speaker: Request of david stein to address council regarding transportation safety.

Speaker: Welcome.

Speaker: Thanks for being here.

Speaker: Thank you to the clerk's office for rescheduling this. I appreciate the help. Okay. Good morning, mayor. And commissioners. My name is david stein and i'll ad lib briefly and just say what's happened. Middle east is terrible and complicated and also very far away. And it and some of the language, around it endangers my family and my community. So, a light touch would be, appreciated. So today I come to speak with you yet again about transportation safety. However, this time I will talk about some of the second order challenges posed by the role of land use policy and lack of investment in stormwater conveyance in southwest Portland. Right now, there is a development proposal that will transform the 51 acres containing alpenrose dairy softball fields and a velodrome in the 269 houses, a four acre park and an extension of the red electric trail in the midst of a climate emergency, critical housing shortage and a desire to make Portland more attractive to residents and visitors alike, this is an abysmal failure. This site is worthy of zoning greater than r5,

and with some commercial space mixed in, could also be a destination and attract real transit service from trimet. More than three busses, a day. The lack of density makes transit less economical to provide, and is also a long term liability to the city, as the cost of providing services will exceed the tax revenue generated by this new use of the property. Beyond the site, containing no meaningful destinations and density worthy of a distant suburb, it will also become car dependent due to sidewalks and bike facilities only being constructed along the property's frontage. This is because when a new development goes into the goes in the front. The only frontage that matters is that belonging to the property in question. Any links that would benefit the future residents of the property need not be considered. As a result, there will be a gap of about a third of a mile where there are intermittent sidewalks, dirt paths in one section where there isn't even a shoulder, preventing easy access to the nearest grocery store and a frequent service bus line connecting to downtown Portland and beaverton. Transit center, the gap will be cost prohibitive to build out, in part because to add sidewalks or bike lanes, a green street, though stormwater management facilities next to the road must be built because southwest Portland's runoff goes into creeks and streams rather than a centralized facility like the big pipe, the only alternative for transportation is a diminished facility for walking and bicycling. If we want to provide actual alternatives to driving in southwest Portland, we need a serious funded plan to build out green streets facilities to replace the current network of ditches and goat paths for people who want to walk and bike to school, their local park and other destinations. This will make pbot capital projects in southwest Portland more competitive with the rest of the city and provide an actual network for people walking and biking, stormwater facilities should be provided by bts and need to be budgeted as the essential resource that they represent. Having city funded green

streets will also make local improvement districts more palatable, as around half of properties in southwest Portland have a waiver of remonstrance from developers who shifted their responsibility to future property owners for street frontage. If we're serious about addressing the rampant traffic violence and climate emergency throughout the city, then southwest Portland needs the opportunity to leave the car at home because right now too many people view walking, biking and by extension, using transit as too dangerous for too many people.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you. And David, if I could just chime in, this is a site I'm very, very familiar with and I'm watching it closely too. And I agree with the overlays that you just identified. The main street there is not a safe street. It has been the site of many fatal car, pedestrian interactions and having far more density than currently exists in that location means there will have to be safety improvements. I also agree that they should not come at the expense of bike and pedestrian infrastructure. There has to be a way to make the. We have to be able to coexist, particularly in a residential neighborhood. And then generally, I appreciate you highlighting something that doesn't get highlighted often enough. We hear a lot about transportation equity and equity with regard to pedestrian and biking infrastructure in particular, but it's usually in the context of east Portland. And God knows the people in east Portland have waited a long time for that infrastructure, but it's not as well known that southwest Portland actually has overall abysmal pedestrian and biking infrastructure and a dearth of sidewalks and protections for people who choose not to drive. And so I appreciate that. I'm not as knowledgeable about the zoning issues in that particular area. So I'll educate and inform myself on that. But as people know, and some people don't like me for this reason, I believe within the urban core there should be density. I think we should accept density in an urban core in exchange for protecting the wildlands and the natural beauty that

that brings. A lot of people here in the first place. And so I will look into that just because I am curious and you've piqued my interest, and I appreciate you being here today. Thank you. Commissioner Mapps, did you have a no? You did great. All right. Thanks, everybody.

Speaker: Thank you so much for those words.

Speaker: Next individual, please. Item number 628, request of Claire Coleman Evans to address council regarding office of neighborhood involvement standards.

Speaker: Neighborhood associations and district four players. Joining us online. Welcome, Claire.

Speaker: Hi. Thank you, as some of you know, I have been testifying before City Council since ever since Sweeney was defunded, and my biggest concern. Right now is I have been trying to work with the district for. And I've been trying to work with the city offices to get things done. And unfortunately, I had requested documents and they didn't arrive until 8:09 last night for my testimony that I'm supposed to be doing today. I think the thing that I'm most concerned about also is in reading the ordinance on page two, it says community impacts and community involvement, and it says not applicable yet. This is about district four and what's going to be happening. And all the districts. But I just would like to know how many of the commissioners have actually looked at the video for the February 20th, district coalition information session. Has anybody seen that? I think it's really important because what's happening right now is the services are not being given. They're they're talked about and they're saying that they're being given. But then when you actually need them or you try and get them, they're not there. So we're, we're, we're having to do the services that has to do with administration, and then also just civic life needs to be looked into again, because what happened with Chloe, you daily and Jo Ann Hardesty, there is a repeat. I mean, I'm personally being

bullied. I also am very concerned about there are, people that used to work for one that had a great knowledge, institutional knowledge, and they're actually helping today off the books and the people that have been assigned are not helpful, and they're not getting the information out in a timely manner so that we can do our jobs, which are basically doing the jobs now of what Sweeney used to do. And there's just not enough money. And I am not, you know, a numbers person. But when you talk about 33 neighborhood associations versus 14 and you have insurance district and district, you know, insurance and administrative work, how does that work? I mean, I don't know how you get 33 neighborhoods to all get, the insurance and 14. And when you look at the budget numbers, district one has, 479. And then, district four has 494. It just doesn't make sense to me. You know, we have neighborhood associations, not individuals. And Mayor, I have talked to your staff and they've talked to me, but then there's no follow up. I have talked to Murat, and then there's no follow up. So I bring all these things up. But it's just getting worse. It's getting so it's getting so bad that people are just giving up. And I don't know if you guys know, but I work with the elderly and you guys know Marianne Schwab. If I'm having problems getting through the elderly, clients that I have cannot get through. It is dangerous, of somebody in our board actually called because there was a downed tree on Scholls Ferry. She was put on hold for 20 minutes with 311. Then she was put on hold for 20 minutes with 911. We cannot reach the city to let them know about serious things that are happening. And I'm just saying the communication is.

Speaker: Any, Claire, you dropped out there, but let me respond just a little bit to what you said.

Speaker: First of all, I think all of us agree in this room. Both elected officials, staffers, city administrators, our city administrator, interim city administrator who's

sitting here at the dais joining us today would agree that the customer service component. For the city of Portland is not adequate, but that the public would like to provide. And from my perspective, it's not just that people don't feel that they have a place where they can go that's clear and easily accessible in terms of communicating with the city. What I hear more frequently is what you just highlighted, which is I met with somebody, I expressed my opinion, or I got a call or i, you know, they said they received my email, but there's no follow through. There's no feedback. And that's very problematic. And so one of the things that interim city administrator Jordan and my team are working on is a complete redo of our customer service, if you will, the way we engage with the way we interact with and the way we follow through with you and all of our constituents. And it has to account for two things. Number one, the volume has increased substantially in terms of the amount of requests we get. And number two, the issues aren't just there's a barking dog next door. Can somebody deal with it? They're really complex issues that often require a lot of iteration and coordination and communication amongst different bureaus. And we believe we now have a mechanism to begin to redevelop that process. So, I want you to know, I do hear the frustration you are expressing. I want you to know you are not alone. I want you to know that I agree with the needs that you expressed in terms of doing a better job with regard to interacting with and following through with the public, and that we are in the process of putting together what we believe will be an improved system. And that includes coordinating better with our 311 system, as for 911, that is a significant concern. It's something this council has prioritized to make sure that that we have the proper personnel and the proper technologies in place to improve our call response time on 911, and I believe the last data showed that we have improved significantly. We're not where we want to be. We're not at the national standard,

but we're moving in the right direction, and we will continue to invest as a council to improve that. So appreciate you being here today and highlighting some of the issues that that this council takes seriously and that we're working on. And I thank you for that.

Speaker: Thank you. And I appreciate all of you. I know this is a huge problem, but if we could just all work together. You have volunteers out here that are more than willing to help do anything that you need. We just need to be able to communicate and have access so that volunteers are actually doing the job of the city, because we don't have the finances. And so, yes, and mobilize them and we want to and, and frankly, it's an important part of the social component of Portland and is our first testifier said today, we need those opportunities to connect as a community, and we want to respect that.

Speaker: So thank you. Thank you. Next item 629 please. Next individual request of James Lee to address council regarding sound and auditoriums.

Speaker: Welcome.

Speaker: Thanks for being here, sir.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mr. Mayor, members of council, I'm James Bernard Lee. I reside in southeast Portland and speak only for myself. Thank you for hearing me today. Clerk of council has copies of my remarks. On May 29th, council heard three half hour presentations by real estate promoters alleging improvement to our Keller Auditorium. I request equal time to present alternatives. I graduated from Central Catholic High School to the degree in physics from Saint Mary's College. Did rocket science for the Navy at China Lake for six years, studied architecture at the University of Oregon, took a master's degree in architectural science at the University of Sydney with a thesis on acoustics of concert halls. Since then, I have continued to study this intractable problem, eschewed by two Nobel laureates in

physics, lord raleigh and richard feynman. There has been progress presentations to technical societies publications in this county, country and in europe, in this county, to 40 years ago, I bird dogged the performing arts project before council, annoying many with accurate prediction of intellectual errors of concept design, execution. Now as then, I'm the only person here with detailed knowledge of these vital and problematic buildings. I desire to place a half century of diligent research and substantial achievement before council to accurately inform it prior to decision. My idea is to build a version of boston symphony hall for concerts and a version of teatro alla scala di milano for opera. These are by far the finest venues built over the past 250 years. We should be wise to emulate them. Last year I was scheduled to appear at a special session of the concert hall research group and the acoustical society of America, alongside paul scarborough, who have been charged with rebuilding new york philharmonic hall for the third time over 60 years. A sudden heart issue prevented my traveling to chicago. I would like to present this knowledge to you. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you sir, and you've provided the testimony to the clerk.

Speaker: I also have, some measured drawings of the buildings I spoke of.

Speaker: Is that also included?

Speaker: Yes, that's included in the testimony. Excellent, council.

Speaker: I appreciate it very much. And i'll probably have our dca take a look at it as well.

Speaker: Thank you very much, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: Thank you, sir, for being here. Next individual please.

Speaker: Item 630 request of christian schiff to address council regarding impacts to neighborhood of ongoing drug dealing and violence. They canceled their request.

Speaker: All right. Good, let's see what time is. It's 9:54. We can go to the first time. Certain item, please. Let's do the consent agenda first, just so we take care of that before I forget, I would like. Let's see. Item 635 has been pulled from the consent agenda. Is that correct?

Speaker: That's correct.

Speaker: Right. And I believe that is the only item that is the only item. Consent agenda. Please call the roll on the remainder.

Speaker: Gonzalez | Rubio | Ryan | Wheeler.

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: The consent agenda is adopted first time certain item please 631 amend the fy 20 2425 adopted budget to provide a temporary interfund loan not to exceed \$45 million from Portland parks and recreation to fire and police disability and retirement to provide interim financing for cash flow deficit due to the timing of property tax collections, city administrator jordan, thank you, mayor and council,

Speaker: This piece of legislation, an ordinance on first reading, is for short term funding for the fire and police disability and retirement fund, you see this item every year about this time, as bridge financing for the fund, but we are taking just a slightly different approach this year. And, deputy city administrator jonas berry is here to, and excuse me. And cfo jonas berry is here to explain the item. So.

Speaker: Jonas. Great. Thank you. City administrator jordan, mayor and council, jonas berry of budget and finance and the city's chief financial officer, as background, a short term borrowing is required to fund fpd and our benefit payments early in the fiscal year as the fund does not begin with a significant fund balance under provisions of the city charter and also current year property tax revenues are not received until November. Accordingly, each year the fpd and our fund does not have financial resources to meet benefit payments. During the

August to November time period without an alternative funding source. It's for this reason that for decades, the city has issued short term debt for the fpd and our fund. Early each fiscal year. Usually, the city issues short term notes through the bond public bond market. However, the city's debt management division has identified a more efficient approach to reduce financing costs of the borrowing. Instead of using the public bond markets, the proposed ordinance will authorize an internal financing via an interfund loan between the parks system development charge fund and the sfpd and our fund in the amount of \$45 million city interfund loans are allowed under the city's comprehensive financial management policies, specifically fin 2.18, when the lending fund has sufficient resources. The parks bureau has agreed that the parks sdc fund has sufficient resources to lend for the next few months by using an interfund loan. It's estimated that the fpd and our fund will save roughly \$200,000 in financing costs versus a publicly issued short term note in the public bond market. Additionally, the interest costs that would typically be paid to investors outside the city will instead accrue to the benefit of the parks sdc fund. Under the proposed terms of the loan, the borrowing would be repaid no later than June 30th, 2025. However, the loan is expected to be repaid this December after receipt of the fpd and our levy in November, the interfund loan interest rate will be effective. The effective treasury fund rate of the city plus an additional 0.1% that will be paid to the parks sdc fund. The second part of this legislation is a technical adjustment to make the proper budget revisions to allow the interfund loan as a conventional short term borrowing was what was anticipated, during fiscal 2425 budget adoption. We have city staff to answer questions, including matt jirak, the debt manager, stacy jones from dnr, and bob delisi from parks bureau commissioner Mapps,

Speaker: If I have my hand up, it's from the last item. No. I'm good. Okay. And thank you for the presentation.

Speaker: And this this, then, is exactly the same as the anticipation notes that we've approved in previous years. The difference here is the source of the funding. Is that correct?

Speaker: That's correct. Yeah. Internal funding versus external tax anticipation notes. Thanks.

Speaker: Any further questions? Public testimony.

Speaker: We have one person signed up. All right. Let's hear it Kevin matches.

Speaker: Hi, Kevin. It's good to see you.

Speaker: Thanks for being here again.

Speaker: Thank you. I'm Kevin matches. I have no objection to the amendment before you. And I'm not here to comment on your decision to grant a loan from your parks bureau to FPD. Rather, I'm here to comment on the issue of oversight and the closely related issue of transparency. Specifically, I believe the city should fill vacant FPD board seats with trustees who will support a culture of transparency. About one year ago, on August 2nd, 2023, I gave a similar public comment urging council to fill vacant FPD board seats. Unfortunately, the city has left one of five board seats vacant for well over a year now. While the board of trustees is one of many volunteer advisory committees maintained by the city, it is by far the most powerful. More than simply giving advice to the city, the board has the ability to set feeder bureau budgets, control the level of benefits to retirees and, remarkably, to increase property taxes. When the annual borrowing decision has come up in previous years, it has been remarked at council meetings that the decision was not fully understood before the vote to approve. I think this speaks to the need for oversight. Indeed, the city charter does not make filling vacancies on the FPDF board

optional. The charter does not say that the mayor should do their best to fill board vacancies. Chapter five. Article two is quite clear in using the word shall quote. Appointments or elections for unexpired terms shall be made to fill vacancies within 30 days after they occur. End quote. The process is fairly straightforward. Trustees quote, shall be nominated by the mayor and approved by City Council. End quote. As the mayor is currently in violation of the city charter, it falls on City Council to enforce. I urge the council to pass a resolution formally requesting that the mayor fulfill his duties under chapter five, article two of the charter. Thank you, thank you. I did have a question for the city administrator,

Speaker: As was just mentioned, we and you may you may not have the answer, but that I would like it at some point. It was mentioned in testimony that we've had a vacant seat for over a year. Does anybody know why that seat has been vacant?

Speaker: I don't, but I just put a note on here to talk to sam hutchinson about some where up on what's going on. Absolutely. Thank you. We'll do that.

Speaker: And I appreciate you being here today. It's good to see you again. All right. This is the first any further questions on this item. This is the first reading of a nonemergency ordinance. It moves to second reading. Next item 632. We're right on time. This is a proclamation.

Speaker: Proclaim July 10th, 2024 to be Portland neighborhood emergency teams day.

Speaker: Well, as you heard, this is a proclamation recognizing today as Portland neighborhood emergency teams day. I think the mic we have a number of people here today who participate. We thank you for your service. I'm going to turn this over to commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Well, thank you, mayor. I'd like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to serve as commissioner in charge of the Portland bureau of

emergency management over the last 18 months. During this tenure, I've witnessed firsthand the unwavering dedication of its staff and volunteers, particularly during recent weather events like the one we just experienced this week. Their commitment extends far beyond emergency response, encompassing crucial community preparedness initiatives that build resiliency in our community. However, the neighborhood emergency teams stand out as a truly singular program. Today is my immense privilege that I invite jeremy curran, amanda westervelt, marisol lozano peralta, and jeff. And I'm going to try and get this right by bassette not just bissonnette. Bissonnette. God, the french gets me every time. He might be running late.

Speaker: It doesn't appear he's here right yet.

Speaker: All right. To share their insights and celebrate the program's remarkable 30th anniversary, please make sure you introduce yourself and your title. For the record. Welcome.

Speaker: Thank you very much. Good morning. My name is jeremy vancuren. I am the community resilience manager for the Portland bureau of emergency management. That's very nice. And joining me today.

Speaker: Good morning. My name is marisol lozano peralta and I work for the Portland bureau of emergency management, and I work with the community as a community engagement specialist and my name is amanda westervelt.

Speaker: I've been a net since 2019. I work for the Portland bureau of emergency management as well.

Speaker: And to get the presentation started, Portland emergency management is preparing for what will probably be one of the worst days of our collective lives. A cascadia subduction zone megathrust earthquake. The neighborhood emergency team program called net for short, is one of the ways that we are preparing. Okay, a

little background. According to a 2018 analysis by Oregon's department of Oregon, I'm sorry, Oregon's department of geology and mineral industries. That quake will cause between 12 and 18% building loss, thousands of casualties and tens of thousands of displaced persons. And just like that, now you know why us emergency managers are never invited to parties.

Speaker: I want to point out a statistic from Craig Fugate, who ran FEMA from 2009 to 2017 and the immediate aftermath of a catastrophic disaster

Speaker: 90 to 95% of all the people who are rescued will be rescued by a neighbor, not a professional first responder. That tracks with an important analog to what we found. For example, in the 1985 Mexico City quake, data is spotty. But we do know this in the aftermath of the quake, hundreds of everyday people took spontaneous action and saved the lives of many thousands of their neighbors. We also know that many of those spontaneous volunteers were injured, or even lost their lives in those rescue attempts. The Los Angeles City Fire Department took note of what happened in Mexico City and the need to train civilians in basic disaster response skills. They created the Community Emergency Response Team curriculum in 1985, which is called CERT for short. FEMA adopted CERT programming in 1993 and promoted it nationwide. FEMA estimates that there are now 2700 CERT programs in the country, and NET is one of those programs. In fact, Portland NET is one of the most venerable CERT programs. NET got its start when a Portland fire and rescue community services coordinator named Rachel Jackie, who may be in the audience with us today, launched the first Portland class. I'm sorry, the first Portland NET class in 1994, and over 100 Portlanders signed up for Rachel's first class, the purpose of basic CERT training curriculum, which is what NET uses is to prepare everyday people to both safely and effectively render aid in the aftermath of a catastrophic disaster. Trainees learn skills such as search and rescue, basic medical response, utility

shutoffs, small fire suppression, and more to be ready to help their families and neighborhoods. A basic net class runs for a total of about 28 training hours. I titled this presentation building a community resilience ecosystem because I want to illustrate that. Net has become a large, multifaceted and interconnected community gathered around resilience. But to develop an ecosystem, you have to cultivate it somewhere. The graph that you're seeing now illustrates the number of net volunteers. We've graduated over our first 30 years since Rachel's class. When I joined pbem in 2012, I put together a team to focus on graduating more volunteers. I want to acknowledge the work of my colleague Glen Devitt with pbem, who couldn't be with us today, the spike in graduates on the right side of the graph has a lot to do with his work. Until COVID effectively shut us our basic classes down for a while, but we've trained 3889 volunteers and 93 basic classes since 1994. Folks who graduate from basic net join their local team. As the animation demonstrates, we've grown to reach net teams over Portland, and 85% of Portlanders have a nearby net ready to help after a disaster. The gray areas on the map are the only neighborhoods without an active net presence, yet right now, we have a total of over 1200 active net volunteers, and these volunteers are your neighbors and

Portland began with the prospect of a Cascadia subduction zone, or earthquake. I suggested Portland net began with the prospect of an earthquake, but net has always taken an all hazards approach to resilience. One of the nets responded to one of the most significant disasters in our history, which is the 1996 Willamette Valley flood. The newspaper clipping is an Oregonian story about how nets were helping with Mayor Vera Katz, sandbag wall and then going door to door in downtown businesses, assisting them. As climate change has transformed Portland's disaster risk profile, our resilience ecosystem has also changed so that nets are deploying to help their communities during extreme weather events,

including the one that we just had nets deployed during that as well. Nets maintained perimeters around downed power lines when storms knocked them down. That frees up firefighters to take higher priority calls. They volunteer at emergency cooling and warming shelters for homeless persons, and they also assist Multnomah County with standing up. Those shelters before and during the rainy season. They start neighborhood campaigns to clear storm drains and prevent urban pooling. And those are just a few examples. Even though we haven't seen an earthquake yet, nets have been very busy the past five years, supporting pbem and Portland. I'm sorry. Pbem and Portland fire and rescue. We average about 30 deployments every year, putting in about 1500 response hours annually. Looking at the graph, those averages factor out the great outlier that was covid 19, which is probably the most impactful disaster in Portland's history. From March 2020 until the end of 2021, nets logged over 20,000 volunteer hours supporting their communities, to name just a few of the ways that nets serve. They took administrative roles and in emergency operations, in the emergency operations center, and even cooked for response. Staff handed out covid information posters along routes, prepared shipments of sanitizer and other critical supplies for distributing in the community. Volunteered at vaccine clinics and helped arrange the vaccination appointments of older adults and persons with disabilities. One of the most significant efforts the covid response was coordinating with the Portland mask project. And I'm going to turn it over to amanda to talk about that.

Speaker: So, as jeremy mentioned, nets have responded to a variety of deployment requests, including ones we have not could not have imagined. And during covid, one of the ways that net supported the city was to deploy to a small local organization called the Portland, mass. Project, the Portland, mass. Project's mission was to sew fabric masks and to provide any person a free mask upon

request. This deployment lasted 18 months and was the longest deployment in net history. Net volunteers researched and designed these masks for effectiveness, ease of production, and easy care, and use. They made masks in both adult and kid sizes and, it was a huge endeavor. Overall, 68 volunteers worked on this project through this complex process. One set of volunteers cut fabric and built sewing kits, and those kits were gathered and then redistributed to sewing volunteers who used the kits to make masks. Then the masks were gathered, quality checked and packaged and donated to the community for distribution. The amazing Portland mask project team ultimately donated over 20,000 masks to our communities to protect them from covid 19. Jeremy

Speaker: Thank you amanda, and I hope amanda won't mind me mentioning that, for her work with the Portland mask project and several other accomplishments, she was awarded the 2021 national cert volunteer of the year award, that's a big deal because fema estimates there are approximately 600,000 cert volunteers in the country, and her peers recognized her as number one. And then we at pbem post her and made her an employee, part of why nets were effective during the covid response is because pbem worked to increase the number of active volunteers. As you saw earlier. But to be ready and effective responders and disasters. Pbem also invests a lot of time in advanced training that builds off of the basic curriculum skill sets that they learn. So advanced training topics have led us to developing special volunteer units with advanced skill sets. For example, we have hundreds of amateur radio operators. We also have a growing group of disaster medics and a group of volunteers who specialize in mental health response. Collectively, net volunteers put in about 8000 hours a year in advance training. This growing and diversifying ecosystem creates not only a community of disaster responders. We're cultivating community leaders and ownership of community

resilience. Net volunteers have taken charge of promoting preparedness from pbem. Essentially, they serve as pbem's ambassadors, promoting disaster preparedness and resilience in their communities and getting their neighbors involved for example, in 2023, net volunteers logged a little over 6500 hours participating in community outreach. That's the equivalent to adding three full time outreach and engagement staff to our bureau. I would also like to talk up the initiative and the ingenuity net volunteers have taken to community resilience. The shaky grounds cafe is a really cool example of that. Tyler robinson is both a net volunteer and a professional game designer, and he parlayed his experience as a net volunteer into creating an award winning escape room, and he uses it to teach Portlanders about disaster preparedness. In fact, he has it parked just a block north of us, and you can check it out until about 1:00 this afternoon. If you like. The citywide deployment exercise is another great example. Kathy reese is a net leader in east Portland who leads a committee to run these exercises twice a year. Hundreds of net volunteers participate all over Portland, and the exercise has gone statewide. This is a picture of west salem cert volunteers participating with us. And I also asked amanda here today to talk about a training, another training event that she developed when she was still a net volunteer, which is a net summer camp.

Speaker: So net camp is an annual weekend of advanced net training. It's planned and conducted by nets for nets. Net camp offers a variety of classes. Some are taught by nets with subject matter expertise, and some are taught by regional professional responders and emergency managers. Most classes are designed to advance skills taught in the net basic curriculum, but the planning committee also tries to bring novel topics to camp every year to help nets prepare for whatever emergency may come next. Net camp also includes a deployment exercise for skills practice, as well as time for nets to share meals and get to know other nets from

around the city, and to share experience and knowledge. It's also critically important that net can't be for and by all. Net so translators and interpreters have been employed for net camp since 2022 to help work toward meaningful and complete inclusion of our spanish speaking volunteers. The first net camp was held in 2019, and the next net camp will be held in September. And with that, I'd like to turn it over to marisol.

Speaker: Thank you. Amanda. Good morning everyone, I am here to tell you why it is important that we fund and continue to maintain the net spanish program, available and accessible in our community. Our community members must learn about emergency management and the proper skills to assist during a catastrophic event or during an emergency. As it was stated earlier, it is proven that 90 to 95% of emergency situations people are rescued by a neighbor. We already have a program that is serving and preparing the community to become active volunteers, but however, we are also aware that all of the community members have different needs and we must make accommodations. I currently support and coordinate the net spanish speaking community by being the bridge that can connect, can connect them and help them engage with the information, trainings and resources to learn the skills in their own language. On March 12th of 2018, there was a strong fire in the cully neighborhood and there were approximately 55 people evacuated, about five, about 35 of them were children and five elders. And most of them were native spanish speakers. Aside from the fire, the secondary threat was also exposure from the chemicals in the air. The five alarm blaze sent toxic oily smoke blowing west across cully and it took 30 fire engines in 170 firefighters, which is a quarter of the city's force to put the fire out. It was a serious health and safety hazard and according to the news report, some parents stated that their children were coming home from school with red faces and were also, vomiting. Most residents were not

able to get their belongings and they had to be evacuated, and they also had no access to their medications. And also there was a need of a leader to pass the information off to the community and bring the support in their own language. It was also said that this could have been prevented. There had already been reports from the community members about the junkyard that was set on fire, which is why I firmly believe that my problem program helps identify this situations and not only prepares the community for disasters, but it also helps them raise their voice and advocate for their neighborhoods about any hazardous threats. We are aware there are. Community does not always feel that they can trust our emergency responders. This program is an access to help them get the trust needed and to let them know that we can actually act culturally appropriate and give them the guidance, to ask for help and save lives. My program helps create these partnerships and helps them take the burden of the first responders, because I am there to help them and plan for these events and with with all the free trainings that are provided. We also help them empower our community and allow them to become leaders during the type of an emergency. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Marisol. As Portland has grown and I'm sorry Portland net has grown in size and shape over 30 years. The net community is needed. More capacity to build collaborations, access grant funding, field service gaps, and help promote community resilience. Leaders in the net community collaborated to form a nonprofit organization called friends of Portland net. Board president jeff bissonnette is here to talk about that. Jeff

Speaker: Thank you. Jeremy, good morning, mayor Wheeler. Commissioners, for the record, my name is jeff bissonnette, and I'm a member of the saint john's cathedral park neighborhood emergency team, which I have been since about

2015. And I also currently serve as the board president for friends of Portland net, or fpn. Through the course of this presentation, we've been celebrating the last 30 years of net and there's a lot to celebrate. But fpn is looking at the next 30 years before we get to fpn's role in that. Let me say a few words about the organization. We're still a relatively new group, having only incorporated and received our 500 and 1c3 status in the spring of 2022. The primary purpose of fpn is to administer donations that individual teams receive. None of those teams are separately incorporated, so having a fiscal sponsor that can offer a path to tax deductible donations and to receive grants and maintain the financial records, is critical for those teams. While that role is important, it's really only a small part of what we hope for. For fpn, as you look over our mission and key priorities on the screen, you'll notice a couple of key themes emerge that have also been discussed by previous speakers. Fpn wants to be part of making those themes a reality for the Net program and its volunteers first capacity both of teams and volunteers shows up quite a bit 30 years ago, getting ready for the earthquake was the primary training and preparedness driver. While that's still central to the mission of nets, as we've heard, nets are capable of responding effectively to a wide range of incidents and disasters in fact, advocating for capacity building and the advanced training that that requires and then finding ways to use that expanded capacity to meet immediate, to meet immediate needs will all provide the needed skill level after a major disaster that the major earthquake will require. Second, equity appears several times in our founding documents. Most modern scholarship on emergency preparedness and management acknowledges. And as you heard from Marisol, those communities that are historically underserved are in real danger of also being unprepared for major disaster. Fpn has a deep interest in strengthening teams and volunteers in areas that have been underserved and

ensure that these communities have the skills and resources to be as resilient as any other community. As Jeremy noted at the start of this presentation, it's clear that after a Cascadia subduction zone earthquake, that professional first responders are going to be overwhelmed with the vast range of needs that such an event will bring, neighbors will truly have to depend on neighbors to be their first responders in the initial hours or days after an event, and possibly even weeks. Just as the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management trains Net Volunteers to be force multipliers in disaster response strategies, FPN is seeking to be a force multiplier, working closely with PBEM and building the capacity of Net teams and volunteers, and ensuring the program becomes more and more equitable. These two concepts will be central to community resilience efforts in the coming years, and so will be central to FPN. As well. Thank you very much for that, for your time, and I'll turn it back to Jeremy.

Speaker: Thanks very much, Jeff, before we finish, I would like to illustrate the time Net Volunteers have put into the program. All told, adding up training hours, deployment hours, and outreach hours. Nets log an average of 31,000 volunteer hours with a city of Portland every year since 2018. Now, I think it's true that volunteers and the work they do are absolutely priceless. But there is a lot of research out there that is determined that the average volunteer hour in Oregon is worth \$32.37. So if we were to use that figure to demonstrate the return on investment Portland is receiving from Net Volunteers, it would look something like this. Starting from 2018, an average ROI of a little bit more than \$1 million each year. To wrap up, I'm going to revisit this image from the 1985 Mexico City quake is where many of us learned that neighbors and spontaneous volunteers are the ones who will help us after a catastrophic disaster. This picture is also from Mexico City, but taken in the aftermath of their 2017 earthquake. In this picture, there are 12

rescuers. The one in blue is a professional rescuer, the other 11 are all volunteers. And with that, I'll end the presentation and we appreciate you taking time with us today. Thank you very much. And if you have any questions, we are happy to answer them.

Speaker: Thanks very good colleagues.

Speaker: Before I read the proclamation, I'll be turning it over to my colleagues for any comments they have. But before we do that, are there any questions that anybody would like to ask? Very good, commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Sure. Just curious.

Speaker: I know you'll have an answer. We all are going to tell you that was a superb presentation.

Speaker: Thank you. But my question is, when you showed the map and there were a couple gray neighborhoods, meaning that you're trying to build the system there. What are some of your strategies to turn them to a different color?

Speaker: So I think it's important that the that what we offer in. Net is flexible to what is going on in those neighborhoods. And what I mean by that is one of the gray areas that you saw, for example, was probably forest park neighborhood. And, we want to partner with Portland fire and rescue more for firewise programming to get the community more involved in general with some of our work, and then in east Portland, there's definitely gaps there. And I think one of the issues that we have with the cert curriculum generally is that it's not I wouldn't describe it as culturally competent, and that's something that we're working on correcting to make it more and more culturally competent.

Speaker: Very good. Thanks, with that, we'll go to commissioner comments starting in order. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Thank you very much, mr. Mayor,

Speaker: Let me start out by thanking, the mayor and commissioner Gonzalez for bringing this item forward.

Speaker: I also want to thank the panel for today's presentation, as I think, commissioner Ryan mentioned, truly a knockout presentation, also, I'd be remiss if I didn't acknowledge, all of the orange and yellow vests that we see in the audience today, it is truly great to see so many net volunteers out there. Thank you so much for taking time out of your day for joining us. And colleagues, I also want to say this, I am delighted to join you in proclaiming July 10th, 2024 to be neighborhood emergency teams day, I want to start out by thanking, all of the Portland who volunteer Portlanders who volunteer their time and energy to serving on our neighborhood emergency teams, as we learned today, the net program has been established, was established way back in 1994, and since then has emerged into one of the most robust emergency response programs in the nation. I think if I remember correctly, we have something like 1200 volunteers currently participating in the net program, that's amazing. If you've ever tried to organize, volunteers for any sort of event. And I know that everyone on this council has done a fair bit of that. We are truly awed and inspired by the example that you've shown all of us, and i'll tell you when I think back on your presentations, here are a couple of things that really resonated with me, I think if i, if I remember it correctly, you folks have been deployed, 244 times in the past five years. That's amazing. We took a look at the number of hours that you've been out there. That's truly amazing, the kinds of ways in which you go about supporting, folks during emergencies, which include everything from helping emergency response professionals in a crisis to, frankly, engaging with communities on a day to day basis, incredibly important, that's why I want to encourage all Portlanders to consider volunteering for their local net team, I think in today's presentations, we saw some of the places where we currently have

gaps. I think there were some both on the west side and on, especially in the periphery of the city, if I'm recalling that, map correctly, and even if you find yourself in a situation where you can't find the time to volunteer on your local, net team, I do urge all Portlanders to recognize, neighborhood emergency teams day by thanking your neighbors who serve, on this important project, so with that, thank you so much for being here. Thank you so much for your service to our community and, mr. Mayor. I'll hand the floor back to you. Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps. Commissioner Rubio, thank you.

Speaker: Mayor, and I also will, join my colleague in appreciating the mayor and commissioner Gonzalez for bringing this forward, and I also want to thank our presenters today. Thank you. Jeremy and amanda and marisol and jeff, I also want to lift up your the excellent work that you do. And you've been doing this for a long time. You set a very, very strong foundation for the city, and of course, I also want to appreciate everyone that showed up today, to, to uplift this important work and all the members of the 1200 plus volunteers that couldn't be here today, that that volunteer all the time for the neighborhoods as well, working together, especially in the most difficult of times, is exactly what ned is about and what you do best. And I know your work pretty well. I've been watching it for a long time, and I especially appreciate the solid work that you've done with diverse language communities. It's something that in my prior lifetime at a nonprofit, we you were part we were partners together in developing some of that work, and it was new and no one had done it before. And, you all were very proactive about that, and you saw that it was critically important. And that's that's exactly what makes me feel comfortable in knowing that our city will step up and be responsive and that our neighbors will as well. So I continue to be super impressed with nets. And your strong network that's continues to grow, and your commitment to keeping our city safe. And, you're there

in our worst and most stressful moments, and I also want to say you're the quiet superheroes that we might not see all the time, but you're the first leaders that step up when neighbors or neighborhoods are in their moment of need or in a moment of crisis, and you remind us that we're a better city when we're prepared. So, I just want to encourage all Portlanders to please learn about your neighborhood. Net or consider starting one, and even if you feel like your network isn't big, this is exactly the skill that this excellent team at the city does will help you find your network and grow your network, so I want to make sure that we get the word out there. So just thank you again for everything you're doing to the excellent team. Jeremy, your team, also, all the volunteers. Thank you for caring about our city and for caring about your neighbors.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Rubio. Commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Just a special thank you to all the volunteers in the audience. Can we get a big round of applause for you guys? Your efforts equip us, not only to weather a catastrophic earthquake event, but also extreme weather events of all sorts. I would also like to thank net volunteers for assisting with Portland's homelessness crisis, and providing them with support during extreme weather events to help keep them safe. The spanish language net program is particularly important to ensure all members of our community have access to life saving information and training. This initiative not only enhances preparedness, but also builds trust and bridges gaps and makes our city more inclusive and resilience, did hear the call out for cultural appropriate training, and I look forward to seeing how that evolves going forward. Congratulations to all net volunteers for your dedicated service and a special acknowledgment to the pbem staff who tirelessly provide the program with necessary resources. Your combined efforts ensure the program's continued success. I also want to call, make a special call out. Thank you for highlighting the

importance of volunteers during a true emergency. The most likely scenario for most Portlanders is we face a cascadia event. We face a major catastrophe is that it's going to be your neighbor or a volunteer. That's going to be the first one on site. And, we have a robust first responder system in the community, but that is just reality, and to double that home, if we have a cascadia event, the first couple of weeks, it's going to be largely local support. National guard is not going to be there tomorrow. And, ignores fema, unfortunately. So, I think when we think about how the city of Portland's going to be safe for the next 50 years, it is essential that we connect with our neighbors. It is essential that we empower volunteers to help support, with that, thank you once again for the great presentation.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez. Commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Yes, thank you, mayor. And thank you, commissioner Gonzalez, for bringing this forward. That was fun, you're a great presenter, jeremy. I've had the pleasure of being out in the community with you, and you have fans like it's obvious, and I think amanda. Marisol, all of you. It was just. It was so tight and clear and crisp. And then to see the friends network growing and becoming a really legitimate part of this system. So thank you for your service, jeff, as a president of that organization, I just want to say that this is timely. I don't know when it wouldn't be timely, but it's definitely timely after a heat wave, because I don't think there's anyone in this room that hasn't thought about their neighbors deeply, especially as we've learned more and more and more that it's about people inside their home that don't have proper, cool air that are the ones that suffer during heat waves. So I think all of us are learning that's what we do during heat waves. And just knowing that you're this system out there that will keep improving and responding, it makes me so happy, so neighbors do depend on neighbors. It's just so organic and clear. We definitely saw it during covid as well, and really smart that you did the roi

calculation. That was pretty crisp and clear, you will always do well in budget hearings with such data. And I just want to say that i, hope that next year we can hear about how we're moving those from gray to a better shade. And that lipstick video is beginning. That's really good. Yeah. It's funny. Yeah. I thought it was a little risky for City Council, but thank you.

Speaker: What's that?

Speaker: I thought it was a little risky for City Council, but I appreciate jeremy.

Speaker: You don't know. So boring. You don't know us very well. Thank you.

Speaker: If I could take just another risk to. I just noticed in the audience is ernie jones. Do you mind setting up ernie? Ernie is not just a net volunteer. Until recently, he was a member of. He was on our team and he's also done a lot to make this program spectacular. So I'm glad that he was able to join us.

Speaker: Awesome. Thank you. Well, today obviously we're celebrating this incredible milestone of 30 years of dedicated service by the Portland neighborhood emergency response team program. And I want to share my colleague's enthusiasm and gratitude for our net volunteers. Thank you. Thank you, thank you for everything that you're doing that thank you three times in a row is in lieu of the million one that we would be paying you ordinarily. So I hope you enjoy that, look, the net team exemplifies a lot of things that I love about this community. It embodies the community spirit that exists here in this community and community mindedness. And it also exemplifies the innovation and the creativity that we bring to solving problems. For now, three decades, the Portland bureau of emergency management has shepherded, shepherded this vital initiative on behalf of the city, growing from its first class in the spring of 1994. And I was glad that we had that opportunity to reflect on the history of the. Net program to an impressive network of over, as we learned today, 1200 volunteers. I had the privilege early in my

administration. I think it was 2017. To attend an all day training with net volunteers and prospective net volunteers. And, it was something that impressed me markedly. I've never been a net volunteer, but I was a volunteer mountain rescuer for eight years, and I felt a lot of pride for that work. And maybe more importantly, I felt a lot of camaraderie. I felt like I was part of a community. I was part of like minded individuals who cared about what was happening to other people during difficult times. And I saw that in the net program, and I still see it today. And, it's just great to see such an active and innovative program. Not only that's successful here, but as we learned during this presentation, is a leading example nationally of what can be done to engage community, to help community. The net commitment of course, expands well beyond emergencies and sometimes into the bizarre. I think one of the most impressive net responses I've seen during my tenure as mayor was something nobody saw coming, which was a burst water main. Was was anybody here part of the burst water main, scenario in north Portland, it turned the neighborhood into a lake. And, it was clear that our utility workers, our fire bureau, and first responders, they were overextended. And so they were doing everything they needed to do to address the problem. But net folks were johnny on the spot. They were everywhere throughout that neighborhood, helping people whose homes were at risk of being flooded, helping people egress, into a safer places, helping some of the small businesses that were impacted in the neighborhood, even moving furniture and doing things like that. And for me, that was an impressive day. It is one I will look back on as one that truly typified. What is the best about community. And net represents that. And I want to thank you for the 6500 hours that you volunteer, each and every year, preparing neighborhoods for potentially catastrophic events, but also doing training and community outreach. And again, just the vital importance of us being together in person as a community.

And working on common goals. The value of that cannot be overstated in today's environment. I will just simply saying that we're prepared for the challenges of today and tomorrow. I thank every volunteer past, present and those of you who will be here in the future, the city is going to do our part. You are doing your part as representatives of our community, but it's also incumbent upon those of us who are up here, both elected as well as our city administrators and the executive team, to work well with you. Commissioner Gonzalez and I held a tabletop exercise just two days ago, and the goal of that tabletop exercise was to make sure that we, under our new executive team formation, understand what our responsibility is to coordinate our bureaus through the Portland bureau of emergency management. During an incident, and then work with you as our community frontline. Helpers, if you will, and we will continue to do those exercises. I will continue to encourage these dcas deputy city administrators who are up here today to make sure that our bureaus and our service areas are well coordinated through the Portland bureau of emergency management so that we can best support you in your important community mission. That's my commitment to you. That is this council's commitment to you going forward. So with that long winded introduction, I will now read the proclamation on behalf of the Portland City Council. Whereas the vitality of Portland is a deep spirit of civic mindedness and shared commitment to all residents well-being. And whereas the city of Portland launched the neighborhood emergency team program in 1994 and has developed it to become among the largest and most esteemed volunteer emergency preparedness and response programs in the united states of America today. And whereas neighborhood emergency team volunteers have worked tirelessly for 30 years to prepare Portland communities for natural hazards ranging from severe heat and cold to a cascadia subduction zone earthquake. And whereas net volunteers are committed to serve

as immediate neighborhood responders to save lives in the first hours following a catastrophic citywide disaster, and are an integral part of the city of Portland's emergency planning. Having deployed 244 times in just the past five years to support emergency response professionals in Portland. And whereas net volunteers contribute approximately 30,000 volunteer hours, \$1.1 million value each and every year, assisting professional first responders, engaging with communities, and training to respond to emergencies and catastrophic disasters, and whereas, net volunteers have spearheaded local efforts to serve disaster, vulnerable communities before, during and after emergencies, including persons with access and functional needs and socioeconomically disadvantaged neighbors and whereas Portland benefited tremendously from the unwavering support of net volunteers during the covid 19 pandemic, when they supported dozens of vaccine clinics filled critical roles in Portland's emergency operations center. Embedded with the Portland mask project to sew over 20,000 masks primarily to protect lives of underserved communities and children, and provided safety education to Portland businesses and whereas volunteers in the net program have supported houseless persons by becoming qualified to serve in critical roles at emergency shelters and transporting guests to life saving shelters during severe weather conditions. And whereas net volunteers have contributed their time alongside professionals of Portland fire and rescue, the Portland police bureau and other agencies to help keep important Portland events safe, such as the rose festival, the Portland marathon, the out of darkness, walk the pride parade, and many others. Now therefore, i. Ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon, the city of roses, do hereby proclaim July 10th, 2024 to be Portland neighborhood emergency team days in recognition of their 30 years of service and encourage all Portlanders to observe this day. Thank you. So for all of you here who are net volunteers or

want to be net volunteers, we've had a request for a photo right in front here with all of you. If we could, we'll take a three minute recess.

Speaker: For this chair. All right.

Speaker: We are back in session. Item 633, a report except the Portland children's levy 2024, annual community report, before I turn this over to the city administrator, I'd like to recognize commissioner Ryan, who for several years has been administering and leading this program. I wanted to offer him an opportunity for any opening remarks. Commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Yes. Thank you. Mayor. It's been an honor since I've been elected in September 2020 to have this assignment. It's been great to oversee work by director pellegrino. She's been at this work for some time, and yet it keeps saying you're so fresh, like you're constantly making it better. When I came in, there was some feedback from an evaluation, an audit, if you will, that brought in outside voices from that. They built a community advisory board. We successfully went to the ballot last year. Was it a year and a half ago? It was. Yeah. It all blends in and it was very successful at 70% of Portlanders wanted to stick with, investing in our most important asset, our children and our youth. And now we're going through some more, evolutions as we look to having more investments for those who are over 14 up to age 24, the goal is always for all of our youth to be socially and economically mobile by the time they're age is 24. That's our job as society is to set that up. And so it's just such an honor to be a part of the allocation committee. And we have a great group of volunteers that show up for that as well. And so it's just a really good system. So thank you for your, stewardship of this program, lisa, and for your amazing team. It's been quite an honor to provide oversight and strategic thinking with all of you. I turn it over to, I think to you, sonia. Correct,

Speaker: First to city administrator Jordan. Unless you have nothing to say, I'm happy to take it.

Speaker: I think we can just let Sonia take it from here. Thank you.

Speaker: Got it. You're welcome.

Speaker: Thank you, Commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Okay. Good morning. I'm Schimanski. I'm your deputy city administrator for the vibrant communities service area. Very happy to be here and very happy to follow the net celebration with a slightly different flavor of a city community partnership program, thank you to all of you for making time for this, and especially to you, Commissioner Ryan, for your service on the allocation committee and your leadership there. The vibrant communities service area unites the city's recreation, arts, parks and youth programming in one home across our service area. We offer or facilitate programming that reaches tens of thousands of children, teenagers and young adults. Each year. Swim lessons after school programs, nature and art camps, arts education, free lunch during the summer break and new programs like expanded youth employment in the parks bureau and the arts in action initiative from the new office of arts and culture in the web of Portland's social and cultural fabric. Each of these is a connection point where kids and families learn, give and receive support and deepen their investment in Portland and each other, and these programs contribute both indirectly and directly to our priorities of safety, livability, and economic recovery. Today, we're zooming in and highlighting the Portland children's levy, which Portland voters have approved five times since 2002, most recently in 2023, with funds that run through June 2029. Under the very steady and very long standing leadership of Director Lisa Pellegrino, the team works within its 5% admin cap to deliver accountable, effective, responsive services to youth and their families. And Commissioner, I appreciated you calling the feeling fresh in the

organization, there is a deep continuous improvement ethic and orientation among this team, and it shows through more than 80 programs. The levy supports children aged birth through 24 by funding community partners to offer services like high quality child care, parent child activities, enriching after school programs, caring adult mentors, therapeutic supports in times of trauma and crisis, and daily access to healthy food. And with that teaser, I'm very happy to introduce director lisa pellegrino.

Speaker: This is okay. I'll make sure it's on before I hit it, good morning everybody. Nice to see you all mayor and council members, I'm here as as sony just introduced to deliver the annual community report highlights to you all, and it highlights the impact of the Portland children's levy on the ground. So it's a way to hear from the people that are most impacted by these voter investments, including the children, the families and the staff at the agencies. So as sonia just noted, this was levy was first approved in 2002. And the grants went out the following year. And this community report, we're celebrating more than 20 years of being there for Portland's children's and families, if you want to start the presentation, that would be great. Thanks. So in this year's report or. I'm sorry, pictured here on the slide, our current and former foster youth and the new avenues for youth program that is called access to college, on a rafting trip in central Oregon. We're going to hear a little bit more about this program a little further into the presentation if you want to go to the next slide. Thanks this slide, illustrates the Portland children's levy provided 91 program grants totaling more than \$26 million to support grantee part partners working in early childhood after school, child abuse prevention and intervention, foster care, hunger relief, mentoring, community childcare and all of the smaller organizations working in those substantive areas, and the pie chart there on the slide, you can see the breakdown of investments and dollar amounts

and percentages by program area. I know it's kind of small, but you can see that early childhood is one of the largest area areas and focuses of investment over time. Next slide please. So the levy served just over 9600 participants in the five program areas that offer primarily relationship based programing over time. And those are early childhood after school mentoring, child abuse prevention and intervention and foster care. So that includes all of the six of the seven small grants as well. And hunger relief levy programs serve more than 15,000 children and distributed 3.5 million pounds of food at more than 60 locations across the city. So compared to fy 22. So we're looking at progress over time. Most programs met their pre-pandemic goals for the number of children and parents or caregivers to serve in their programs last year. So we're seeing really good pandemic recovery in programing for children and families last year. Next slide please. So this will just give you a little bit of a picture of who we're reaching with the children's levy program. So who are all these 91 programs serving at the top level. You'll see we're reaching the most, the levy's priority populations, which includes those most disproportionately affected by racial inequities. So you can see that 92% of the children and families served had incomes at 185% of the federal poverty level, or less, and just to give you some scaling, 185% of the federal poverty level for that year was 55,000 for a family of four, whereas the median income in Portland is twice that at 106,000 for a family of four, 77% of the children served identified as black, indigenous, or child of color, 44% lived or attended school in east Portland, 33% speak a language, a primary language in their home. Other than english. We just heard how important it is to reach people in their home language, and the last presentation and 7% had a disability, according to the data that is reported directly from grantees. And then we also work with the Multnomah education service district for reporting on who in the after school and mentoring programs, is

receiving special education services or a 504 plan accommodation. And that's at 20. So that gives you a sense for all the communities that we are reaching deeply into with the programing at the levy. Next slide, please. So the first levy in 2002 featured four program areas. We are up to six now, and those were after school child abuse prevention and early childhood and mentoring. The goal then was to support children starting at the crucial early years, by creating safe environments where they could be surrounded by nurturing adults, having a caring and professional mentor can significantly improve a child's life. At the pathfinder network, which became a grantee partner in 2020, the mentoring inside out program supports youth ages 7 to 18 who are impacted by a parent or caregivers incarceration. So jimmy is a program participant you see pictured on the left. With his mentor vic on the right. Jimmy said. Back when I first started working with vic, I couldn't see a future. I just felt like it was always going to be like this and I just had to deal. Whenever I called him, he picked up and he would ask me things like, if everything were perfect right now, what would it look like? There are so many little moments like that with a pathfinder network where I changed over the littlest things. I'm glad I am who I am right now. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else, so it's always really impactful for me to hear right from people's hearts. The programing takes them. Next slide please. Supporting children who require also requires supporting parents and caregivers so they can provide safer, more stable home environments. The family and community alliance from lifeworks northwest has received funding since the start of the levy, which was 20 years ago. This program enhances parenting skills, connects families to resources by providing home visits, case management and parenting classes. And this slide you see elena brown as a program participant. And she said about this program, it wasn't until my third meeting with jessie, who was her lifeworks advocate, that I started to open up

about life, my children, and the help I really did need. Even if I was stubborn about it. I literally looked forward to my meetings to vent, to be helped, and to be okay with being helped. Next slide for school age children, fun and educational activities after school and in the summer can supplement classroom learning while providing safe places for children to further develop social emotional skills. Many programs feature hands on, immersive learning opportunities that can expose children to potential career pathways. The arca science program, which is a program from impact northwest, provides science enrichment classes after school and in the summer on topics like chemistry, biology, physics, engineering, environmental science and more, along with supply kits for experiments and lessons. Tyree and shady are the two youth pictured in this slide from ron russell middle school, said I wish my normal science classes were like arca science, so shout out to all the teachers out there thinking about ways to make science more interesting to kids. Arca science might have some intelligence for you. Next slide please. Community input on emerging needs prompted the levy to add foster care in 2008, and hunger relief in 2012, as new program areas for many foster care youth, the time of transition out of foster care into the early adult years can be very challenging. And as commissioner Ryan just pointed out, that's a very key point in life and in all youth's time. And they're transitioning out of the high school into next steps and new avenues for youth. The avenues to college program helps current and former foster youth access and succeed in college. So that was the picture you saw at the very beginning of the presentation here. Brittany dillard, who's a program participant who is graduating from psu this year, says the program assisted me during my process in applying for Portland state university, taught me the fundamentals when it came to writing a scholarship essay, and provided me with much needed support during difficult times. I couldn't ask for a better program to

be part of my educational journey. Next slide in southeast Portland, a small team at Portland opportunities industrialization center packages food bags, and recipes that are distributed monthly to students and families across all pike and rosemary anderson school campuses and community based programs. Posk also provides emergency food at three school pantries. Pictured here is deshawn knuckles, an associate program coordinator at the oic youth services program. Knuckles graduated from rosemary anderson high school in 2020, and he previously participated in the school's levy funded mentoring program. He said, I appreciate being able to give food out. I hope to inspire somebody like me to give back. It's great. Next slide. Investments made in the in the levy's early years, especially in children's, early and children's early years, can make a lasting impact sometimes across entire families. All four of hilda coos children participated in listos para aprender, which translates to ready to learn. A child development program offered by maurice and child and family services, which has received funding again since the levy started. The program serves latino children from birth through age five and their families, the majority of whom live east of 82nd avenue. Services are all provided in spanish and include home and virtual visits, parent child groups, child development screenings, parenting assessments and other family supports. Hilda, who's pictured here on the right, signed up for the program when she was in the hospital with her first child, michelle, who's now a freshman at the university of Oregon. Michelle is pictured here graduating, from parkrose high school last year. Over the years, michelle watched her young siblings participate in the same program she did herself and here's what she had to say. It was interesting to see my siblings collaborate with other kids and say the home visitations were still happening. Staff would always bring different books that had just come out, and it was interesting to be reading them to my little siblings and seeing how they react.

They love learning. Okay, I'm going to introduce the little video you're going to see next if we're hopefully successful. And I'll touch technological aspects, in response to pardon me response to community feedback, the levy in 2020 developed a small grants program to provide a more equitable pathway for smaller nonprofits to access levy funding for the first time. Nearly all small grants also feature disability inclusion goals to better serve children with disabilities, like the after school program at Portland tennis and education. Portland tennis and education operates out of the out of the saint john's racket center, which is a facility that is owned by Portland parks and recreation, which, like the levy, is also part of the vibrant community service area. As I just heard from sonia in this video, we'll get to meet pedro, which is Portland tennis and education's first wheelchair scholar athlete. And with that, take it away.

Speaker: Hi, my name is pedro. Why play tennis? I feel strongly that we hop. This is how I fit.

Speaker: All right. Oh, and a pedro's are first wheelchair scholar athlete in program. He has, like, a lot of inner strength. If we ask him to try something, to do it with a smile, almost all the time, he enjoys doing things with his friends and brothers around here.

Speaker: So our program, we offer tennis, education, tutoring, some life skills, among other activities before our partnership with pcl, we weren't thinking about individuals with disabilities in such a focused way.

Speaker: And now we are. This grant has helped us become more inclusive of young people from all backgrounds and of all physical abilities. Having a multiyear partnership with the Portland children's levy allows us to really confidently start new programs and know that we can sustain them for years to come.

Speaker: Vote yea I received my voting record for by the us.

Speaker: And last, let's hear from carlos, who graduated from high school this year after being involved in the Portland tennis and education program for a decade. So that's the second video got. Okay. It's coming up. I hope.

Speaker: Carlos diaz, leon, I'm a senior in high school.

Speaker: Carlos started in our program very young, and now he's working for us. He's at the front desk, he's stringing rackets. He's getting on the court with the kids. And, yeah, we couldn't be more proud of him.

Speaker: When carlos is out on the court as coach carlos, the young people in the program see him as a role model and as a mentor.

Speaker: I can relate to the kids because I've also had that experience. I make sure that their hands are right on the racket, make sure the legs are correct, and if they get down, they think they can't do something. Try to give them motivation to make them think that they can.

Speaker: It's hard to imagine pta without carlos and the diaz de leon family. Carlos is the youngest to go through the program. He has older siblings who have graduated. Carlos, his mom, works just down the street at our partner elementary school. She's also a member of our board of directors.

Speaker: We kind of work as a team to kind of help out pta in general.

Speaker: Family engagement is very important to us here at pta, we really try to build a safe environment and create relationships with the families so they trust us with their kids.

Speaker: The best quality of partner is the community. Very good mental support as well as physical and education support. No matter what you want to be or what you want to do, they're going to be there and keep on doing what you're doing. You're changing kids lives and you've definitely changed mine.

Speaker: Thanks, Keelan,

Speaker: Okay, now I want to turn it over to, campbell, who you just met in the video. Glenn glenn, if I said that. Right. And alex carmona murillo, who was a participant in the program, and they're going to tell you a little bit about their experience.

Speaker: Is this on? Yeah, yeah.

Speaker: I think I'm good. Okay there you are.

Speaker: Hi, everybody. Thank you so much for having us here. We really appreciate the opportunity to be here. My name is campbell glenn. I'm the executive director at Portland tennis and education or pta.

Speaker: And i'll let alex introduce himself.

Speaker: Hello, I'm alex carmona. I've been a part of the program since I was in first grade, so about 11, 12 years now, I just graduated from roosevelt high school, and I'm about to go. Go to university of Oregon.

Speaker: Awesome, before we share a little bit more about pta, I want to say a huge thank you to the all of you for making this possible to commissioner Ryan, for your oversight of the allocation committee and leadership within this initiative.

Speaker: It, it was really striking to see that pie chart and to see that a tiny sliver of it is the small grants cohort, which is what we're a part of. And so I can speak and I know alex can as well, to what a difference this initiative and the levy has made for us on the ground. And we are only a very, very narrow part of that narrow gray part. And so it's incredible to just think about the impact. And, we're proud and grateful for the opportunity to be here. I also want to celebrate and recognize lisa and her team. Erica bridgman has been our main partner as a part of the small grants cohort. She is an incredible leader, and yusheng zhang as well, who's snapping pictures. I am just struck by. And you mentioned the freshness and you emphasized that as well. But having worked in the past and, various governmental

systems across Washington, dc and new york city, this is the government entity that I have seen that is the most transparent, the best communicators, the most dedicated to authentic storytelling, and not just trying to celebrate numbers on a page, but really trying to tell people's individual stories. So they are amazing leaders. And we as a city and as a grantee within the city are very, very lucky to work with them. So thank you all and shout out to john kelly as well for his, financial support, so as you hopefully got a bit of a sense of in the videos, Portland tennis in education or pta, is a community hub in north Portland. We are in the saint john's area, as lisa mentioned, we are we run out of the saint john's racket center. We have a 20 year lease for \$1 a year on that building. We are incredibly fortunate to be on the receiving end of that partnership. And, our organization has been around for coming up on 30 years. So the net group has two years on us. We were founded in 1996, but we are, we took over the lease of the saint john's racket center, in 2012, after a couple of years sort of experimenting with that partnership. It's been a really incredible partnership, we are very fortunate that we are able to run our kids program, which we'll share more about our after school and summer program. Out of the three court indoor tennis facility, pickleball is also really picking up steam. And we do pickleball programs as well. But in the hours that the kids are not on site, we are a totally open to the public, non-membership based community hub, safe haven offering health focused activities for people of all ages and all abilities. So we are really lucky to that. That partnership enables us to both serve kids very deeply and to also serve the saint john's community and the racket sports community more broadly. I will let alex share a bit more about his story, but as he mentioned in his introduction, he's been a part of the program for over a decade. You heard the same from carlos in the video, and they each and pedro as well, who's on the younger side of the kids that we serve, have been a part of our

nonprofit youth program. So we have really two big things that we do. We'll focus mostly on the kids program, by nature of being here as a part of the children's levy, but we offer tuition free comprehensive supports for youth ages kindergarten through 12th grade. We are an after school and summer program that over the course of a year, offers 1000 hours of out of school time for young people. And that focuses on a combination of academic support, athletic instruction, life skills, the things that often you don't learn in school, how to write a check, how to check your credit, how to cook fajitas, all sorts of things like that. But we also really support the families of the kids who are part of the program. We know in many cases, the kids that we work with might be making it further educationally than their than their families did. And in many cases, it's really valuable to bring their family into our fold, into a part of our education programs and help them learn things like, here's how to support your young people with the fafsa as they're navigating potential college applications. So in the past few years, I've been a part of a part of Portland children's Portland tennis and education for this is my fourth year, as as a part of pta, but with support from the levy, we've been able to make some significant strides and to grow and to evolve a lot of new needs, especially coming out of covid. So we've added some positions that have helped us really focus on acute needs. We've added an instructional specialist, a youth and family advocate to address some of the culturally specific needs of the community that we serve, we the community of young people that we serve is composed of 91% of kids and families in our program identify as black, indigenous, or people of color. 83% of those come from a home in which a language other than english is spoken. And then between 92 100 of the students in our k through 12 nonprofit come from households where their family qualifies for free and reduced meals. Those who don't qualify fall just above it. And we believe it's really important to provide supports for them as well.

On a sliding scale, one metric that we're incredibly proud of is that since our founding in 1996, 100% of the students who have been a part of Portland tennis and education's comprehensive programs when they were in 12th grade, 100% of those 12th graders have graduated from high school on time. That is a stark comparison to the number that you all know is hovers in the 70% range, especially at the local high school, just down the street from us. So like I said, I think the levy does an amazing job of telling stories and not just giving numbers. And so I'm excited to share that. Just a couple of months ago, we got to watch alex walk across the stage down at providence park, graduating from roosevelt high school, so I will let alex share a little bit more about in the decade that he's been a part over a decade that he's been a part of, and what the program has, has meant to him as a scholar athlete, as we call the young people in our program. So, alex, take it away. Yeah,

Speaker: So I've been part of the program for ten plus years now. The program has meant a lot to my family because, even though I've been a part of it for ten plus years, I think my family has been a part of it for 15, starting with my cousin, who joined a couple years before me, and then my brother, then me, now my sister, who's in the program right now, actually, the program has meant a lot to me because, it gave me the chance to have a support system that I didn't think would be there, if not for the program, they gave me count, countless hours of help from since elementary to now, going into college, sorry, I do recall. Sorry. I'm just thinking about it, when I was younger, a couple of, harder times, like with my dad's, you know, residency status. He, he was not a resident to begin with. And so he had to go to mexico for six months to get his green card. And, I remember that being a hard time on my family and even me, I think I was around the age of six, it was a hard time for my family, but I think having pta, with for my family helped us a lot,

because I got a lot of after school help for my homework, which my mom wasn't able to help me with because she was a full time worker and already having three kids. And so pta like, it just gave me the coaches and the guidance to make me a better to make me a, to make me like, what's the word? Sorry just gave me the guidance that I needed to keep going in that hard moment, and now my dad being back, he's been with us since then. It's been great because we've still been a part of the program, and I still continue to get guidance, even though my situation is better. Yeah. And then, just has like, I've gone countless friends who I've had for decades now. And just as I said, the community has really just made me feel, really intertwined with everyone because I've gotten friends from my age to even, like, people 20 years older than me, so. And, it's just nice having everyone with me and still having the people who I met originally who just recently came to my graduation like a, like, my mentor franklin truong, I think she was a executive director, when I started dennis brown, she wasn't able to attend my graduation, but she sent me a lot of lovely letters and mailed me. So that was really nice, and. Yeah.

Speaker: Awesome. Alex is the only person up here with no notes.

Speaker: That's true.

Speaker: Well done.

Speaker: Yeah, yeah. The young people will save us all, so thank you, alex. Thanks for being willing to share your story. And, and, yeah, alex and his family have been a really important part of our pta family for many years. As sister eileen is still in the program, as he mentioned. And part of what I think is striking about about what alex shared, which was just straight from the heart, as you know, is there was little mention of tennis, tennis is, of course, a critical part of what we do. Tennis is, I call it the hook that we use to bring people into our community and get them excited about moving and playing, and we go into Portland public schools pe classes and

do little tennis demonstrations to get the kids fired up about being a part of a new sport, but really, it's about the community. It's about the comprehensive supports that we provide. And the levy has been amazing in funding various parts of what we do that are well beyond the sport of tennis, something that I think is incredibly powerful about the community hub that we're, that we have in saint john's is that for so long, tennis and racket sports and many sports in general have been access to those sports has been based on the resources that you have and, and what you look like and the people that, you know. And so it is critical to us and incredibly powerful to see that in saint john's at the saint john's racket center, at pta, the people who are playing tennis there are not necessarily the people that you typically see out on the courts. And we think that is so important to be a model of who who can have access to things like this. Can you do you have to be a member of a country club? Absolutely not. So we really believe that. And something that is really important to us as well is in addition to serving the young people who we agree are the future of, the future of everything. And how important it is to invest in them. But our program also or our, our facility, as I said, in the hours that we're not supporting young people, is open to the public. No membership, low cost, accessible access, accessible sport and opportunity for people of all ages, backgrounds, identities, physical abilities. And you met pedro in the video, who is a young man who uses a wheelchair, we offer adaptive tennis for young people in partnership with shriners hospital. We also offer adaptive tennis for adults, and those are free clinics that are we're able to offer and in part thanks to funds from the levy. But we really see tennis and pickleball now as a vehicle for, for access for the life skills and the character building that can come from being a part of a sport and a community. So we've also been really focusing on, culturally specific groups who have historically been marginalized from the sport and other opportunities.

We've been doing things like bipoc pickleball night or an lgbt pride night to bring people in to play tennis again, but really as a vehicle for community and connection. So, we are again, just continually grateful for the support that you all have provided and the levy has provided, I could go on and on about what I think makes this program so special, but, but i'll pass it over to alex in case he thought of anything that I missed that you want to share about what makes pta a special place to be? Alex is also a member of our staff and works to welcome people who are a part of the public patronage, so anything else awesome about pta that you want to highlight,

Speaker: I think one thing that I didn't really talk about was like some of the opportunities that they have, like, I remember when I was in elementary, I don't recall if it was the now mayor, but the mayor, he came to us, he came to our facility and was just like talking to us. And I remember at the time being, like, really scared of, like, the big mayor, like, like he couldn't have been me. Yeah, no, I do, and then I remember him walking in with I remember white sneakers and being like, oh, he seems like a nice, chill guy. So i, he was just like nice, like meeting different people. And, just, just having the opportunities. I didn't think I would have if not for the program. Like I remember also like when I was starting, like, being nervous to, like, play tennis because, like, me playing tennis, I it felt weird and like I did get a little made fun of from my friends at the time, but I grew to love it, and I still play to this day. So yeah, very good.

Speaker: Great.

Speaker: Yeah, he's very humble. He made it, he made it a long ways in the district tournaments this year and also also toward the very top of his class at roosevelt. So a true scholar athlete.

Speaker: All right. Thank you so much for being here. That is the end of our presentation. I know we're over time. Thank you, testimony and questions. And then I think we'll accept the report.

Speaker: Keelan. Do we have public testimony,

Speaker: No one signed up.

Speaker: I'll entertain a motion. So moved commissioner Gonzalez moves to accept the report. I'll accept a second.

Speaker: Yeah.

Speaker: Second.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan. Second. Any further discussion? Seeing none. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales.

Speaker: What a great report. Thank you guys. That was fantastic. Thank you for testifying. I vote to accept the report. Maps

Speaker: I want to thank the mayor and commissioner Ryan for bringing this item forward. And thank you so much for this uplifting presentation. It's always great to check in with this program. I vote yea.

Speaker: Yea. Rubio, I want to thank. Excuse me. I want to thank, the director pellegrino and our our guest today is a great report,

Speaker: I'm a huge fan of the children's lobby. I've seen firsthand how it improves people's lives, also, these investments are very thoughtfully made and intentionally made, and the assessment is just rigorous in a good way and invested in trusted organizations so voters can be proud of that. So very happy to vote. I Ryan.

Speaker: Yes. I want to start off by just acknowledging you, lisa. It's really good to see how the program has evolved under your leadership. Erica I'm glad the small gifts program was lifted, and that we had a testimony from one of the guests. It

was, I came into the program overseeing it when that was being launched, and it really is making a difference. So I'm glad that was called out. Campbell, your enthusiasm is, wonderful to be around. And pedro or not, you're not pedro. Pedro was in the video. You're alex, thanks for being here. And thanks for being yourself. And no need to ever apologize. Where you're taking some time to just make sure that you're speaking your truth. It's really refreshing, actually. And, good luck with your transition to university of Oregon. I get to be the only one up here that says, I went to roosevelt high school and then university of Oregon, so I feel connected to you in that way, and I'm just really thrilled with hearing how the program will continue to evolve. I hope in two years, you know, i'll probably say something like this. I hope to hear about more programs from those 18 to 24 year olds that are finding their way, maybe in the trades and hearing those stories as we do all we can to make sure our youth are set up for social and economic mobility by the age of 24. Thank you so much, children's levy I vote yea.

Speaker: We are so this is the last report I'm going to hear from the Portland children's levy.

Speaker: So there's a couple of things I want to say. First of all, I've had the pleasure of serving on the allocation committee not once but twice in two different elected roles. First as the chair of Multnomah County and then later as the mayor of the city of Portland and, I want to say something about you, lisa. This you exemplify what is possible as a public servant, and you don't get a lot of attention. You don't get a lot of thanks for the work that you do, but the children's levy has been your life's work, and you have done brilliantly. And just looking at the slides that were presented earlier and considering the 150,000 people that in some way received services basically in one year, I think about the now decades of service that you have provided to the children's levy. And I think about the hundreds of thousands

of people who have received support and encouragement from you and your team and the work that you have done diligently and it's a good thing we don't hear much about the children's levy. There are a lot of programs that I wish we didn't hear about as often as we hear about, but you you have been an excellent soldier. You have Marched forward, you have helped young individuals like alex blossom into successful and excellent adults. And become, in turn, engaged and invested in our community in a positive way. And I just want to say that before I disappear into the sunset, that I see the work you've done. You have mattered, and you will continue to matter, and your whole team will, as well. I would also be remiss if I did not remember dan saltzman and his significant contributions to this effort, and I think it's a good example for all of us that what may seem like a small idea or just a thought at one time as the years tick by, those ideas suddenly become central to what we are as a community. And I don't know, dan probably doesn't listen to these presentations anymore. Maybe he does, but dan, if you're listening, I see what you have done here as well, and it's impressive. And it's developed into something that's now integral to the service delivery to young people in this community. And I want to acknowledge your contributions and your, and accept my gratitude to you for the hundreds of thousands of young people in this community who have received support. Finally, I want to tell a funny story. Well, at least it's funny to me. It may not be funny to any of you, but I have the mic, so that's that. Years ago, nancy pelosi came to Portland, Oregon to stump for barack obama when he was running for president. I honestly don't remember if it was first or second term, but she came to my house and she was fund raising for the obama campaign, and she was late, as is often the case on the campaign trail. And there's a house full of people waiting to hear her speak. And rally the troops, and she pulls up out front. She gets out of her car, and she's quickly working her way up the stairs, and then she stops

and she points and she goes, what is that? And what she's pointing to was a children's levy campaign sign that was stuck in our front yard. And for five minutes we're outside talking about the children's levy. And she's like, that's a great idea. That's brilliant. This is exactly the kind of thing that communities should be doing, and then she remembered she had a fundraiser, and then she went and she started her fundraiser by talking about the sign she'd just seen for the Portland children's levy, and how what a great, innovative Portland thing that was and how other communities should take note of what was being done in Portland, Oregon. So I share those with you by way of saying this is a program that is important. I hope the City Council will continue its strong support as it has over many, many years of this program going forward. And I want to acknowledge all of the people who work for the children's levy, the volunteers who support and the hundreds of programs and the thousands of adults and young people in this community who work alongside as allies of those organizations to make them successful. Because what are we as a community if we don't take care of our young? And this program is proof that in Portland, Oregon, we do I vote yea. And the report is accepted and some of us will see you next year.

Speaker: Thanks very much.

Speaker: Thank you for your kind words.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Move to the do we need to take a break? Where are we, why don't we take a couple of minute break? Why don't we take a three minute, four minute ish break, we're in recess. Okay. I. Two.

Speaker: We're back in session. We'll move to item 652, please.

Speaker: Proclamation proclaimed July 27th, 2024 to be jim pepper day.

Speaker: And I will turn this over to commissioner commissioners Rubio and maps for their opening remarks. Commissioner Rubio, jim, I don't have any formal remarks, but I do see shawn in the in the audience.

Speaker: Shawn, do you want to come up? And if there's anyone else who is part of remarks. Okay. Go ahead. Yeah.

Speaker: Thanks, colleagues, it's an honor to be here today recognizing the life and work of jim pepper, last year, I was proud to join congressman blumenauer and the bureau of planning and sustainability's historic resources program. And shawn crews of the jim pepper native arts council to add the pepper family home in parkrose to the us national register of historic places. This long overdue addition recognizes the home's significance as Oregon's first historic site designated for contemporary indigenous history, and shawn had asked City Council to support the nomination of this property. To the national register as a part of our commitment to equitable, historic preservation. So I'm thrilled that there was an enthusiastic support for this from our colleagues on council and in the bureau's, and we were proud to put this resource, where it needed to make it happen. So it's my hope that this effort has opened the door to wide to be as wide as possible for other indigenous stories to be brought forward about our cultural landscape here in the city. So, just a little bit about the peppers, the peppers are an important part of Portland history. Floyd and gilbert pepper purchased the parkrose house in 1949, just a year after being evacuated from the infamous vanport flood, and their son, jim was only seven years old, and jim was deeply shaped and influenced by his car and muskogee creek roots, and his home served as the backdrop during his adolescent and young adult years, and during his life. His innovation and collaboration touched countless lives, not just here in our city, but across the country and internationally as well. So today we give a special honor to the pepper

family, jim, and also special recognition to shawn crews and his long time advocacy in our community. So with that, I will stop there and turn it back over to you,

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, thank you for those excellent remarks. I'm very excited for this day. I'll tell you, folks, I used to sit on the board of directors for the jim pepper native arts festival. So this is one of the things that, is near and dear to my heart. And I will tell you, folks, if you haven't been exposed to the jim pepper native arts festival, or jim pepper, we have probably the world's four foremost scholar and advocate and fan of jim pepper with us today, shawn cruz. Shawn, it is great to see you here today. If I recall correctly, you used to also be the chief of staff for avel gordly. I've been in your home many times, which, if I remember correctly, is also the, the home of jim pepper. So I'm so glad to have you here today. And i'll turn the floor over to you.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you, commissioner Mapps and commissioner Rubio for your support and wonderful comments. And, I've been a Portland resident since 1996. And, I'm very grateful for the action that the council has taken today and the support in the past. And, and on behalf of the family of jim pepper, who are all in oklahoma now, I want to, convey their gratitude at this honoring and I'm grateful for the for the trust and encouragement that I've gotten from the jim pepper, family. And I also am grateful for all the help and support that I've gotten from people along the path. Organizations along the path and most particularly my hard working and, courageous and, other good things. Board of directors, past and present, currently led by rebecca warnke, a citizen of the cherokee nation and, because none of this would be happening without all of you. All of you. And, the jim pepper native arts council is a small 500 and 1c3 nonprofit with minimal staff but large vision of transforming k-12 education in the state of Oregon. And, our mission is we've always had an educational mission, and that is to improve access to

culturally relevant music education. And jim pepper's name and reflecting the educational legacy of his mother, floy pepper and, floyd, is credited with being the writer of indians and Oregon today, Oregon middle school high school curriculum for the Oregon department of education. She authored several books and monographs, and received the us department of education lifetime achievement award for her dedication and outstanding contributions to improving education for all children. Since 2014, we produced 11 annual jim pepper native arts festivals on the campus of parkrose high school, and those events have always been free admission. Family friendly, featuring native artists, musicians, activists, vendors, foods, indians, modeling success, and, healthy living. And, they've always been free with opportunities for students to perform and, in 2002, I found myself living in the house that I bought and I was living in, and I learned that it had been the pepper family home for 50 years. And that was in the spring when I met the pepper family. And floyd pepper for the first time. And she was in her mid 80s and in the fall of that year, senator gordly hired me to serve as our legislative staff, which I did for the next six years. And I just wanted to say that the influence of those two outstanding women have are in everything that I've ever done since everything it's those two. And, i, I feel really, really fortunate that it was me that fell into this. And, what I want to say is, we began developing, concepts for culturally relevant music education about seven years ago. And aware that in k-12 schools, there's an utter absence of music that's culturally relevant for native students. And this absence contributes to, the high dropout rate and other negative indicators that native kids deal with in their urban setting. Their tiny minority in every school that they're in and in an environment that's full of stereotypes and in country, in rural settings, well, they're far from resources and still a tiny minority, the native population in the state has been reduced to somewhere between 0.6 and 1.6% of the state's

population. Yeah. And so, we, raised funds and we hired, a team of indigenous educators, four with phds, led by doctor brooke collie, phd, who is chair of native American studies at southern Oregon university. And she put together this incredible team that we've been fortunate enough to work with. We built the council, built an archive of native music, musicians, songs, bands that would be relevant. And with the mission that we had to create a class that would actually draw the kids in and particularly now, you know, with the state chronic absenteeism, rate at 30% statewide and, and, well, you're all aware of the problems happening in k-12 schools everywhere. And but if we didn't find a way to draw those kids in the classroom and engage in learning, well, everything is failing. So we created a class where the kids are going to come in and they're going to study the musicians and the music that they know and love and get academic credit for that. That really shouldn't be a complicated, you know, but also when you look at the music that native music is rich regardless of genre, is rich in cultural and historical topics, history and, you can't study their music without actually getting into those topics and those topics are all, you know, in another bucket than music. But we call our curriculum speaking native. And in that class, we welcome in not only the music that these kids love, but also indigenous languages. And I'm not sure if we're the first. Our strategy is the first to actually welcome indigenous languages into the classroom, but that's a fundamental part of who these kids are. When we were, volunteering at indian school in salem before covid, we had a band building program there, and we surveyed the kids who come from Oregon, but all over the western united states and all kinds of circumstances and, we asked them if they spoke their tribal language. And of the 34 kids that turned in surveys, 26 of them said, yes. And among them they named 14 different languages, 14 in 1 class. And there is no way to know what languages are spoken in students homes. And native

homes in the Portland metro area, because I don't think anybody is tracking that in their schools. But in our class that that's a fundamental piece. And the Oregon department of education has been evaluating my concept for a year and a half now, and we are now in contract with the department and southern Oregon esd, to, edit and write new curriculum for grades k-2, three, five, six, eight and 912. And those classes will be available statewide and free of charge. And, any student who requests access to the course should have access. And that's the department's, the department's stand on that, we couldn't be happier. And I could talk more about that, but I asked gordon lee, pianist and composer who worked with jim pepper for many years, to provide a statement from his perspective. And I and I'd like to read that into the record. And so when I say I or me, I'm actually speaking for gordon lee before I say that, there is. Jim is remembered and recognized, all over, you know, in europe particularly and indian country, of course. And one of the ways that he's remembered and honored in new york city, is that the American indian community house there, where they say jim pepper is remembered for his contributions to the jazz music scene and the native music scene, and for expanding perceptions and expectations in both genre. And I've always loved that. And it just describes well, you'll hear what what gordon had to say. Jim pepper was the most powerful, powerful artistic influence in my life. I have played music with many great musicians, but it was jim pepper who left the most profound impressions on me and how to create music. I first met jim in 1978 and played with him for 14 years, until his death in 1992. We played all over the us and europe and at the national conference of American indians in 1981. In 1984, he introduced me to many great musicians such as don cherry, bob moose, bill frisell, and elvin jones. I got to know him very well. We were even roommates at my apartment in brooklyn in the early 1980s. He became like a big brother that I had never wanted, but his criticisms of

my playing were always accurate, even if they hurt me. Watching him slowly succumb to cancer at the age of 50 was devastating. I played his last gig with him at the grocery walmart in downtown Portland, only a couple of weeks before he passed. Jim moved to new york city in the early 1960s, and by 1965, the future legends larry coryell and bob moses, along with Portland's chris hills and columbia's chet baker, formed the free spirits, credited with being the first jazz rock fusion band in music history. Years before miles davis endeavors in that realm. His 15 minute sonic depiction of the battle of the little big horn he named custer gets it. Recorded in 1967, an all star band is a masterpiece of free jazz and spiritual. Along with don cherry, he was an early contributor to the genre that came to be known as world music. Encouraged ornette coleman and others, pepper began bringing tribal sounds into his music. His blending of American indian music, jazz, and rhythm and blues was completely unique, and he recorded his first album as a leader, jim pepper, in 1971. He was the first human being brought these different sounds from different cultures together. He was an American original on a train in austria. He told me, I'm quoting in the end, it doesn't make sense to not be yourself, unquote, to not play your musical self, no matter how difficult or thorny that self is. Indeed, pepper is stylistically gentle about jazz to gospel, country effortlessly and very naturally, despite many people and critics saying you can't do that. Maybe pepper's greatest lesson for me as an artist was that he was placed at the bottom of your soul every time you play. It didn't matter how you felt, how much money you made, who was in the audience and who wasn't in the audience, all that was superfluous from the fact that expressing yourself musically was a spiritual act is bigger than you. It must be pure action. In many ways, jim was not a very spiritual, spiritual person. He had a frequent reaction to his music with people in the audience crying because of the spiritual feeling that arose. Jim pepper moved people to tears with

the beauty of his music is very good that the city of Portland is recognizing this unique artist. Sign, coordinate and I what the plaque, perhaps get a more accurate. Absolutely. And this is jim pepper's pow wow. And, recorded in 1971. And I actually had heard jim in 1970 without knowing it. And mind blowing concert, larry coryell was playing and I had no idea i, I forgot the name of the saxophone player in that band. So when I looked for him, the only clues I had was in larry coryell's. Man, I know he looks like. He sounds like. And I never found him. I looked for him for years, and then, you know, 30 odd years later, I find myself living in this house. And I just met his mom and she gave me this record, her cd of this record, which connected me to larry coryell and that particular experience. And that's how I came. And I thank you all. Thank you.

Speaker: All right, colleagues, at this point, I will open it up to comments.
Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Sure. Shawn, I want to thank you for coming in today, and I appreciate your advocacy on behalf of jim pepper. East Portland and the native American community in particular, you know, your old boss, senator gordly, watches these sessions. And I know that she's, listening in now and proud of you, and I will tell you, I've known you for more than a decade, and we've worked on many projects together, and I'm awfully proud of you, too, and I also want to say this. You know, colleagues, I'm delighted to join you in proclaiming June 27th, 2024 to be jim pepper day here in Portland, Oregon, the purpose of jim pepper day is to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of jim pepper, who was a great Portlander, native American, and influential figure in the world of jazz, as we've heard, jim pepper was a master of the saxophone. But beyond his musical achievements, jim pepper was also a passionate advocate for indigenous peoples rights. His legacy is celebrated here in this room today, and through multiple awards and recognitions, including,

inductions into several music halls of fame and being honored at several major music festivals, including the upcoming 12th annual jim pepper native arts music festival, which will be held on July 27th, at columbia park annex, which I guess is a new venue for us. I'll tell you folks, a while back, I used to, used to be one of my annual rituals to help shawn, pull this event together. It's always so much fun, it's educational. It's community building. It's free. I encourage everyone to go out on July 27th at columbia park annex, it really is a remarkable and unique Portland experience, and I want to thank shawn and his team for helping make it happen, thank you, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Yes, thanks,

Speaker: First of all, thank you, shawn. That was so well done. It was really easy to follow along and listen to every word you had to say. It was really compelling. And I want to acknowledge the heavy lifting that you've all done to actually move the Oregon department of education. That's no small feat. So I didn't want to, let that go by without just mentioning how appreciative I am of your advocacy, I can only imagine how many years that you've worked on that. And so congratulations.

Thank you. That's a really big deal. And I also want to say that, anyway, he died too soon, obviously. And you had so many great stories there, so I won't repeat them.

And like, commissioner Mapps, I'm looking forward to the event on the 27th of July at the at the, columbia park annex. It'll be a great day. And now it'll have so much more meaning to me because I listen to you today. Thank you, thank you, thank you commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Thank you, shawn, for your presentation,

Speaker: Really a celebration of life. And, of both our city's rich arts history and our indigenous ties. Thank you.

Speaker: All right. Very good, and I also want to thank you for bringing the historical perspective as well as helping to inform us and educate us on the importance of the work of jim pepper. It's now my honor to read the proclamation on behalf of the City Council. Whereas james gilbert, jim pepper was born in salem on June 18th, 1941, to gilbert pepper of the kaw nation and flossie pepper of the muscogee creek nation, both educators at chemawa indian school. Whereas jim's family relocated to the parkrose neighborhood following the 1948 vanport flood. Having previously moved to vanport for, gilbert worked in the shipyards and whereas jim pepper emerged as a pioneering musician and composer known for his mastery of the tenor and soprano saxophones, the flute, and his contributions to jazz, rock fusion with his band the free spirits, and later recordings including jim pepper's pow wow. And whereas, jim gained international acclaim with over 50 albums and his collaborations extended across the united states, canada, europe and africa with jazz legends, numerous Oregonian musicians enhancing the music scene here significantly. Whereas jim pepper advocated for indigenous people's rights through the benefit concerts, he provided, and is a musical director for the night of the first Americans at the john f kennedy center in 1980. And whereas jim pepper passed away from lymphoid cancer in February of 1992 at his home in Portland, Oregon, at the age of 50. And whereas his innovative fusion of native American song with jazz, african, south American and caribbean rhythms left a lasting legacy. And whereas jim pepper's legacy was honored with multiple awards, including posthumous induction into several music halls of fame and was celebrated at events such as the Portland jazz festival and the cathedral park jazz festival. And whereas, the pepper family home was listed in the us national register of historic places in 2023, recognizing its significance as Oregon's first historic site designated for contemporary indigenous history. And whereas, the jim pepper

native arts council is working to advance culturally relevant music education across Oregon through its speak sing native curriculum dedicated to the memory and the spirit of floyd c pepper. And whereas, on July 27th, 2020, for the 12th annual jim pepper native arts festival will be held at columbia park annex, produced by Portland parks and recreation's summer free for all program. Now therefore, I ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon, the city of roses, do hereby proclaim July 27th, 2024 to be jim pepper day in Portland and encourage all residents to observe this day. Thank you. Commissioner Mapps,

Speaker: Well, two things. Shawn, did you want to get a picture with council on the plaque? Sure.

Speaker: It's his reputation.

Speaker: I know.

Speaker: We'll take a one minute recess. Are back in session, we had one item pulled from consent. Typically, pulled items go at the end of the agenda, but we have a couple of, citizens who would like to testify and they've been waiting very, very patiently. So, if there's no objection, I'd like to move 635 to the next item, please authorize grant agreements with four nonprofit district coalitions to support neighborhood associations.

Speaker: The neighborhood small grant program, and eligible community groups supported through city run offices.

Speaker: Colleagues. Over the last few days, my office and the office of community and civic life have received a few questions from the community about these grant agreements specifically, it's for that reason that I decided to pull this item off the consent agenda and give staff the opportunity to provide an overview. I want to start by welcoming our new interim assistant city administrator, annie von berg, who now oversees civic life and the to be hired incoming engagement officer. She's

joined by civic life director murad rot. Be district coalition office program supervisor kim dixon and haley blonsky from my office. With that, i'll hand it over to annie to kick us off.

Speaker: All right. Thank you. This is on. Thank you so much for that. Welcome for the record, annie von berg, interim assistant city administrator, I've only been on the job for a couple days here, so I'm going to pass it over to the experts that have been working really hard on this. But before I do that, I did want to acknowledge that we have I personally have heard some questions and concerns from neighborhood associations, about and around sustainable support and services from the district coalition offices, especially as we transition into this new model. So I wanted to give a brief overview of just a couple steps that we'll be taking this year as an update, both to address those concerns and questions that we've received, and then also to follow up and deliver on some of the things that we heard from council conversations and feedback, especially during the budget 2425 process. So with that first, want to let you know that we're working still really strongly on getting the engagement officer hired. So the transition team has completed now a recruitment plan and timeline. So we'll and has kicked off an internal engagement process to support that. We'll also be going out to community and doing engagement. Those engagement processes will inform kind of the definition of this position that we're looking for. It'll also inform the authority levels and the expectations for how this officer will be working with our new service areas, and so that we look forward to as we wrap up those engagement processes. Ideally, we're looking to have somebody in place at the end of this year, beginning of next year. The second step that we'll be taking this year to address some of those questions and concerns, is going out to all of the neighborhood associations within the four districts, and that's to solicit feedback on how we would revise our own standards.

So long overdue revisions to the standards that you all know that do guide requirements and expectations for district coalition offices. We'll be doing that also in conjunction with an internal process to look at our code and rule on revising that, sinking that, and making sure that we're able to go into this new system with standards that represent a more modern program. Third, also with those, engagement processes, we'll be looking at gathering feedback on a new request for proposal or rfp process. That's to get the process set for these district coalitions and really defining expectations for what that support looks like. That will also guide, contract packages, funding decisions that go through budget processes. And again, expectations for the delivery of services. So that's a lot of work that we have planned for this year. But we really are looking at this as a great opportunity. As the mayor said, as a reset for some of this programing and to transition this into a more robust, sustainable and modern program to better deliver services to neighborhoods throughout the city. So with that, i'll switch it over to maura. All right.

Speaker: Mayor, commissioners.

Speaker: Administrator, I'm glad to be here today. My name is murad. Rabbi. For the record, the director of the office of community and civic life. So we have prepared a presentation pretty much summarizing, the work that has been taken, for the last fiscal year leading to the ordinance being presented today. And with no further ado, i'll get back to, kimberly dixon, the program owner for the district coalition offices.

Speaker: Well, it's no longer. Good morning. I was ready for good morning. So good afternoon.

Speaker: Good afternoon,

Speaker: Mayor Wheeler, fellow City Council commissioners, city administrator Jordan, so happy to be here. And it is with a great sense of accomplishment that I get to speak out to you about one of my favorite topics, our communities within the city of Portland, and more specifically, I'm ecstatic to talk about our neighborhood program and its new four district form. As we know, our city is made up of 94 neighborhood associations that were formerly in a seven district model. Clustering with our charter reform efforts, our interim director saw a path of aligning our program with the redistricting efforts at hand, so if you look at next slide, slide three, this slide, provides our official date of July 1st, 2024, to be our change to a four district model. But I want you to know and our public at large, to know that we at civic life under the leadership of our interim director, Rod Ravi, began this heavy lift with our four external nonprofit partners, district coalition offices back in January. And under that direction, we did not wait until the last minute to be strategic, inclusive, responsive and innovative. Director Ravi made space for me to lead the charge of the organizational culture development internally and externally with our partners. You see on this slide, is what we believe the alignment of the redistricting would do. It would ensure the DCOs district coalition offices would serve roughly equal populations, increased DCO's ability to advocate for those in their area, increased DCO's ability to coordinate with city liaisons, to navigate policy and code, which, by the way, is, I think we all know is no small feat on any given day and ensure especially that City Councilors now and in our near future can work with the offices to engage with constituents. We. I believe that the latter is one of the most profound answers to the voices we have heard over time. What you don't, quote unquote see, hear, and perhaps you heard about is our staff and our nonprofit, DCOs hosting four different info sessions beginning back in January to bring the messaging around redistricting services and support across the city. We

utilize technology, social media, and good old fashioned word of mouth in this effort to share and engage. Now, our how of all of this amazingness is through our change agency approach, part of which is helping to de silo ourselves. The offering and implementation of services and resources that build the bridges for folks to be heard and engaged and part of making our city its best self. This carried over into our engagements with other bureaus and committees such as gtcc. Next slide. I'd be remiss. I was not there. Never mind, we admitted that slide. But let me chat about this. I'd be remiss if I didn't mention that our neighborhood support and outreach program would be impossible without our engagement coordinators. They focus on five specific verticals that are found in the scope of work for each of our district coalition offices. No surprise, we led with civic engagement in district capacity building, communications, operational support, and, of course, direct investment into community through small grants. My team is made up of some talented and skilled individuals who are what I like to call the four c's conduits, conveners, connectors and conveyors. What's a day in the life of an engagement coordinator? Well, I'm so super glad you asked. We partnered to ensure every neighborhood knew this. Excuse me? The steps to put themselves in good standing as a 500 and 1c3. We have engaged with those who want to bring back their neighborhood associations and engage with the city. We've been an ear to field frustrations and complaints. Not that we ourselves could always bring complete resolution, but we could support an outline steps for folks to follow, walk through and engage with processes. We've seen projects come to fruition to help navigate the grants process and funding some amazing projects to support our city being safer, healthier, and overarchingly fun. So now here I'm going to show you on this slide just a snippet of what these each of these five verticals entail, with examples of the deliverables. It's a lot of words there. And nobody wants me reading slides to

them. So I'm not going to read the slides to you, but before I move on I want to do yeah, I'm going to off road and I've been known to do this. I'd like to take this moment to say thank you. Thank you all for your dedication and your public service. Commissioner Ryan, thank you. And your staff in particular, tj mchugh, for your care of the office of civic life. And our 94 represented neighborhoods, and especially to our current interim director, murad rapp, for being unwavering throughout this tremendous time of change and transition. Mayor Wheeler, thank you and your staff for endeavoring with us as we continued to evolve and find efficiencies. Thank you for continuing to champion the people of this great city in our 94 neighborhoods. Interim assistant administrator on burg. I say a thank you for you for picking up the baton for the next leg of this marathon. We look forward to serving alongside you. Thank you to the amazing executive directors that I've had the pleasure of creating better with allison stoll of cnn, darlene urban garrett and w and w, johnna davis and leanne, nancy champlin, soul, your dedication and resilience is more than appreciated. I'd also like to take note that since we as a city have partnered with these four organizations since 1974 under the neighborhood outreach and support program, 50 years of investment, 50 years of relationship building, 50 years of partnership. I'd also like to thank volunteers that we've seen earlier today as an example, who helped support us all throughout the city with their time, their talents. We see you. Thank you to the businesses who continue to pour into the city with their ingenuity and grit. And finally, I'd like to thank the entire staff of the office of community and civic life, including those most recently moved on from us. We have truly stood upon the shoulders of those who labored before us and have galvanized to carry forth our mission to connect Portlanders with city government, to build inclusive, safe, and livable communities. With that, I'd like to show you my final slide. Well, the one I like to say. Let me show you the money

more specifically, where is it going? I think of significance when I look at this slide, is the two columns. I know you've seen budgets, etc, but the two right hand columns represent one time funding that you have agreed upon, the charter reform support and the redistrict insurance related expenses. And I don't know if you want to go into a little bit further detail on that at all,

Speaker: Yeah, I can provide like a very, very brief overview on the numbers. It's hard to follow up pretty much on your great presentation. So i'll do my best here. And here we can see a breakdown pretty much of the different fundings as they will be allocated per districts. As mentioned by kimberly, we will be working with the four nonprofits listed on the screen, the voting, the district voting, reform presented like a unique opportunity for the office of community and civic life and for the city at large to finally ensure some type of equality in the allocation of the envelopes. As we all know, the voting districts have been created, somehow equally from a demographic perspective, and our office specifically relies on a partnership with the Portland state university's data and research center to ensure, that, the adequate, envelopes will go to each district. So on the screen here, we have four columns, the two first ones are showing pretty much the base funding for the four separate grants that we have with the four partners or the four nonprofits that will be providing, the neighborhood services as listed in the five verticals mentioned by kimberly earlier, the second column shows pretty much the amount of, the small grant competitive, structure that each of these nonprofits will be providing to their respective in-district neighborhood associations and community based organizations. For the very first time, we were able to come up with a more standardized approach as far as the different fundings and allocations. The second column represent 10% of the first column, and it is also the very first time that we have a standardized, scope of work for all organizations. So, again, thank you to the

four nonprofits for their flexibility and for their understanding through these massive transition and reform times. And lastly, thanks to the mayor's office, support to the neighborhood services, to the nonprofits and to the office of community and civic life, following the some decision packages, we were able to secure additional funding to support some of the extra activities that will take place this year as they relate to the charter reform broadly and more specifically to the upcoming election. So i'll pass it back to you, ken. Thank you.

Speaker: And with that, one of the things I hope you do is that when you look at these numbers, I'd love for you to look really super close, because what I hope you see is you. I hope you see me within these numbers, because that's what they represent. It represents an investment into community. It represents the city's commitment of investment into community. These dollars are part of supporting life here. And I believe we all have that as our priority. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. And does that complete the presentation? It does. Yes. Very good. Colleagues, any questions at this point, commissioner Mapps,

Speaker: A quick question, I was just looking at the ordinance. I don't know if it explains why it's an emergency. Do you want me to take it?

Speaker: Yeah, so we were working. Really hard to get those scopes of work done, but because there were just some challenges for the district coalitions to correct bylaws within the neighborhood associations in their own to make sure everybody was actually grouped appropriately. That was a large portion of their work. This spring, and then also putting their budgets together based on the neighborhoods that they were going to be representing. So those new totals pose some different challenges from them for legal and budgetary perspective. And so we were working really hard with them in March and April to be flexible, to get the scopes of work done and adjust their budgets accordingly. So we've just been working through our

attorneys to get the reviews done and through before the end of the fiscal and this is as quick as we could get it done. But we want to make sure that we execute immediately to get the funds out to those district coalition offices so that there's no service disruption.

Speaker: Okay. Well, I may at some point ask the city attorney to, to clarify if that counts as an emergency for our purposes. And here is where i, here's why I ask, I actually don't exactly know what's going on here, but I do notice that I think that the heads of, all four of our coalitions have signed up to testify today, I don't know if they're here to say this is this looks great, or they raised or if they're going to raise some concerns if they raise some concerns, obviously, I want to hear the nature of the concerns. And if we need maybe another week or so to talk, I may want to create some space, to have those conversations which may mean I vote no, depending on what we hear in public testimony. Again, the point of that no vote will not be to derail what happens today, but rather to create some space for continued conversations. If we hear some feedback from folks who actually do this work, that there are ways to make this better.

Speaker: To clarify, we did invite them here today, okay? Because our office pulled it so that we could have this more open discussion. So we asked them here, great, I appreciate that.

Speaker: So I may be a yes vote and I am eager to hear what the district coalitions have to say. Thank you, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: Very good, with that, we have public testimony. Why don't we hear the public testimony? And we might ask a couple of follow up questions? Thank you.

Speaker: First up, we have darlene garrett.

Speaker: Welcome, darlene. Thank you for your patience. We appreciate it very much.

Speaker: Can I ask a question? Just a procedural question, at least for the people who are in the room. Would it make sense to have them come up at the same time? Totally. I would put it, make it. I'll leave that up to the to the mayor and to the folks.

Speaker: What's up? It's up to you if you'd like to come up at the same time, that's fine, go ahead and announce the other individual,

Speaker: Darlene garrett, john davis, nancy champlin and allison stoll. Great

Speaker: Good afternoon. Council, my name is darlene urban garrett. I'm the executive director of the new just district four coalition. Is their feedback their are you hearing? Okay, good.

Speaker: It's a little funky, but we hear it. Thanks.

Speaker: Okay. I'm here to ask you and to thank you in advance for continuing to fund and support our wonderful neighborhood infrastructure. I am disappointed and sad that it got removed from the consent agenda, but I'm thankful that you're going to continue to consider our funding needs, through funding the district coalitions we can continue to support our army of volunteers that make this city great. Through this funding, you show support for the thousands of volunteers who so willingly, serve us every day in the district four coalition, I am showing that I have, about 14,000 members signed on to and belong to neighborhood associations. I work with 3233 neighborhood associations with 14,000 members estimated, we know that there are a few people in this ecosystem that choose to create issues for all of us, and I am, because I'm working with so many neighborhood associations, I feel compelled to let you know that only a few there are only a few, and I can think of 3 or 4 right now in that 14,000 that are, for lack of a better word, somewhat of a dis. I'll call them disrupters in a way, I can't and you can't either. We can't do anything about that. And so many times I do learn from the people that bring their issues forward. So I don't want to denounce that. But, I

want you to hear that the neighborhood ecosystem doesn't have a lot of problem folks in it. It only has a few. And there are so many more that are working for our city every single day to do what you need them to do and what they need to do to take care of the communities that live within the boundaries of their neighborhood association. I want to I want to thank murad rodby and kimberly dixon of civic life. They are amazing staff. I want to thank my own amazing staff. I want to thank john davis, nancy chaplin and alison stoll and the other district coalition directors. This was not easy and you know it. The transition has been difficult for all of us. And so not all of us stepped out on our best foot forward as this transition has been taking place and by tripling my organization's size, I'm working to keep caught up, the district representatives and murad and kimberly and haley. We collaborated. We argued. I'm done. I guess. Is that right,

Speaker: Mr. Mayor, can I commissioner Mapps. Yes. I have a quick question. Would you mind, in, like, 30s just wrapping up your comments.

Speaker: I only have about 30s.

Speaker: All right. Go.

Speaker: Okay. I just wanted to say we collaborated. We argued, we discussed through the thick and thin. We were able to create a scope of work. We were able to create budgets, albeit limited. But we created budgets that can work for us. We created your new district coalitions as requested. I want to thank you for allowing me to speak. We look forward to Portland's future. Thank you.

Speaker: Just mayor, I oh, go ahead, commissioner, just a quick question,

Speaker: So I'm clear. So you support the ordinance before us today?

Speaker: Oh my gosh. Yes. All right. Absolutely excellent. And so do the 92 neighborhoods or 93 neighborhoods that are out there. That's a lot of people that you're serving with this budget.

Speaker: Thank you so much, commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Mayor, I just had a quick clarification. So this is invited testimony or was, I was invited testimony or are these wanted to come that they could come, but they're not okay. Technically invited. Okay. That's why we have a time limit. That's all. I was trying to clarify. I, you know, we've had a little bit of uneven in the length of the presentations today, and I think that's something we need to think about. I certainly have someone's invited or encouraged to testify. We might give them a little bit more time and tighten up some of the other presentations that we've heard this morning, and i'll leave it at that.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez,

Speaker: Next up we have john davis.

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor Wheeler and commissioners, my name is john davis. I serve as the executive director of the district two coalition office, the northeast coalition of neighborhoods. I'm here today to ask for your support of item 635, to approve the contracts to ensure services to our neighborhood associations and community based organizations. In 2019, I had the wonderful opportunity to return to full time work and public service in inner northeast Portland in the same area in which I previously lived for decades. And while much of the area has changed over the years, the legacy of the community impact of the northeast coalition of neighborhoods has remained. Northeast coalition of neighborhoods continues to be a community staple, a place of gathering a place of shared resources, a place where many old and new can come together and work on issues near to our hearts. We have and will continue to partner with groups far and wide to fight social, economic, racial and environmental and climate justice, as well as address land use and livability concerns and the many, many other issues that

our neighbors face. As you have already heard, in January of this year, necn began meeting with the community members about the changes to the dco program. Despite the challenges, we, along with the three other district offices, stepped up to the plate. We have been working tirelessly ever since without receiving additional funds for the transition. Now we need the city to honor its commitment to quickly execute the contracts so that we can continue this much needed work. Any delays in contract approval will hinder our ability to continue our efforts to help make this transition a smoother transition. Our current and future programming will suffer. Cuts may have to be made to this agency, which is already stretched very thin, and that's why I would definitely say this is an emergency ordinance and qualifies. And more than qualifies council members as Portland continues to grow and evolve, we expect that improvements will come to the neighborhood. Program will continue as well. The district coalition's offices have and will continue to stand ready to serve. We have and will advocate for diverse voices to be included in the stakeholders. Working on this transition. We will work alongside the deputy city administrator, the new commissioners, the bureau and, civic life to, continue this work. And let me say, I owe a huge thank you to our bureau director, interim director murad ravi, and our program manager, kim dixon, for being so readily available to meet with us and to answer our many, many calls. And so, if I might, in the next 10s wrap it up, I'd like to also thank the city of Portland, the City Council, for bringing this ordinance forward. And I strongly urge you to proceed expeditiously to approve the contract for the work we've already begun for this fiscal year. It's imperative that the district coalition offices be empowered to move forward quickly as the fall season is just around the corner and there is important work to be done to support our neighborhoods and assist with the much needed voter education and outreach. You've called us here to help. We are here. Let's go.

Speaker: Next up we have nancy champlin.

Speaker: Thank you, and good afternoon, mayor Wheeler and commissioners, my name is nancy champlin, and I'm here today as the executive director of southeast uplift neighborhood coalition to thank you for considering a grant to support our services to the neighborhood associations and community based organizations in the new City Council district three, as well as to administer the community small grants program for groups that will lead community building projects throughout the district over the next fiscal year. First, thank you for your steadfast leadership and navigating Portland's transition to a new city structure. As we all prepare to usher in this exciting new form of government. Thanks also to the leadership in the office of community and civic life interim director margot robbie and program manager kimberly dixon and her team, as well as haley blonsky and the mayor's office for helping us to navigate these uncharted waters. My key takeaway for you today is that this grant is an excellent and very cost effective investment in continuing a critical piece of Portland's civic engagement infrastructure that this year marks its 50th anniversary and has become a model that has been replicated in other cities throughout the country and beyond. It will provide resources necessary for us to continue to build more informed, inclusive and participatory communities that will encompass just over a quarter of Portland residents. For example, the grant will fuel our work to educate district residents about the changes coming to how Portlanders will elect city leaders starting this November. It will help us support the thousands of volunteers engaging in our district's 19 neighborhood associations that do things, such as organize community cleanups, host movies in the park, run plant cells to keep neighborhood community centers open, and to create a conduit through which any resident may learn how to advocate for a safer, more equitable, more resilient, and more livable

neighborhood. In addition, through our fiscal sponsorship program, we will provide the training and technical assistance that will build the capacity of over 30 groups that work in service to the people throughout the district and through the community small grants program. We'll continue to invest in the dozens of grassroots driven projects that do things such as cultivate youth leadership, enhance arts and culture, promote housing stability, address the impacts of climate change, and help our neighbors to become more food secure. With your continued support, the city of Portland will reaffirm its commitment to fostering the civic fabric of our city, which is a critical aspect of a healthy democracy. On behalf of all your district three neighbors here in inner southeast and northeast Portland, southeast uplift looks forward to continuing this work in support of the common good. Thank you so much for your time, and I'm available for any continued conversation. As council determines is needed.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Allison stoll.

Speaker: Good afternoon, council and mayor. My name is allison stoll and I'm the executive director of central northeast neighbors. I am always everybody always says she's been doing it the longest. I've been doing this work for about 34 years. I started out as a crime prevention coordinator and moved into the executive director job. I'm not going to go over what everybody just went over, other than to tell you that it is so important that we continue this work. There are so many changes happening right now in Portland. We've just gone through the challenge of covid, and now we look at the challenge of electing 12 new commissioners and a new mayor, and how to educate our folks in a very short time on ranked choice voting. We're doing that work and we would like to continue to do that work. And for us, that means getting this funding through. We also provide for all of our

neighborhood associations and cbos that ask for a nonprofit so that they can go out and increase their funding through grants, and in order to find those grants and get those grants, they need a nonprofit to be working with. And that's exactly what the coalition offices do. We provide that opportunity. We also provide, insurance to all of our neighborhoods and even some cbos that are part of our our coalitions, this is through liability insurance and also directors and officers insurance. This is so important for these organizations to have because we can't even have an event in a park without that insurance. And so I would just say to you that over my years of working with all of these neighbors, I want to thank the thousands of volunteers that have worked for this city and the amount of money that has been given to these volunteers is really minuscule. And yet it comes back to you. I think I heard earlier today that the amount that volunteers are whatever money it is, is like \$34 and something cents. Imagine how much money she just told you. There are 14,000 members. That doesn't mean population. That means people have actually signed in at a neighborhood association and are part of how many hours they're giving to the city, and how much money is coming back to you. And now, with my last 30s, i'll just say, like everyone else, I'd like to thank my volunteers. I would like to thank each of you for your service. I know that your terms are coming to an end, and so we're going to be getting a whole new group of folks. But thank you so much. Thank you, commissioner Ryan and tj, thank you, mayor and haley and thank you, moorad and kimberly dixon. And thanks to my fellow coalition directors. We've all worked really hard and we want to continue that work. So please vote yes. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: I appreciate everybody's testimony. Is that complete testimony? Does any further questions, yeah.

Speaker: I'll just jump in here. I want to thank everyone who testified today. I'm delighted to see that everyone's in support of this particular ordinance. And I'll let my colleagues know that, if we call the vote, I'll be voting in. Great thank you.

Speaker: Keelan. Call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales. Hi, Mapps. Hi, Rubio. Hi, Ryan. Well I have to say a little bit more than I.

Speaker: It was quite a year. We only had the assignment for one year, and, I do want to also acknowledge, TJ Mchugh for the leadership and it was a lot of, culture change that we had to do to prepare for where we are today. And so one thing you can count on in life and change and one thing that we ask of all leaders is to be adaptable. So thank you all for being adaptable. Your testimony today was well received, but I've also listened to along the way in this journey. It hasn't been easy because it's been a lot of change and I know when we had the assignment, we were doing the best we could to figure out how to take what the voters approved and the four district model, and then make that adaptable so we could hit the ground running, when everyone is up here, 12 people up here plus a mayor. So it's really important that we did this, very difficult work. And I want to thank Barratt and Kimberly, especially the two of you, for hanging in there. I've been at a few spirited meetings out in the community, and, so, anyway, we hand it off to the mayor's office at the beginning of 2024. So I'm a little bit less versed on the last six months, but I just want to acknowledge that I can. I'm experiencing how far this has come in a short period of time. I vote I Wheeler.

Speaker: Well, I want to thank all of our district coalition folks for being here today and showing their continued support. Thank you for the great work that you do in the community. You were here earlier today when we were, giving, hearing a report from our net volunteers. And you heard us talking about the importance of civic

engagement, the role that community plays in community. And you're central to that. And so I'm very happy that we're in a position that we're able to continue to press forward to respect the work that is being done at the neighborhood level. We have a lot of work to do, but I believe these are important steps in the right direction. I want to thank you. I want to thank staff annie murad and haley for your terrific work on this, and we will continue to push down what I think is a clearer path forward for better service delivery in our neighborhoods. Very happy to join my colleagues in voting i. The ordinance is adopted. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, thank you so much. Thanks for your patience.

Speaker: Yeah.

Speaker: I actually like attending these really?

Speaker: We have good news for you that leaves me speechless.

Speaker: Yes. We're not done. Please feel free to take a seat for council seats.

Speaker: You know, it's all right, colleagues.

Speaker: We'll move on to the regular next item on the regular agenda. Item six five, three. A first reading of a nonemergency ordinance.

Speaker: Amend contracts with gresham automotive incorporated, dba gresham ford, to increase, not to exceed amount by \$5 million for purchase of vehicles.

Speaker: Michael, i'll turn this over to you.

Speaker: Thank you, mayor and City Council, this item is an ordinance. It allows the chief procurement officer or their designee to execute a contract amendment with gresham ford to increase, the not to exceed amount of the contract by \$5 million. Taking the total contract value to a not to exceed amount of 27,500. The item is brought to you by city fleet, they are the group that, maintains and purchases vehicles for all city employees for their work. And, as you know, vehicles age out from time to time, and there is an optimum moment as vehicles lose value

and as the cost of maintenance increases, there's an optimum time to replace vehicles. And, aside from that optimum time, there are, fairly significant vehicle shortages by the suppliers of these vehicles, in this case, gresham ford. And the window for placing an order has gotten smaller and smaller to be able to get vehicles delivered at the appropriate time. So fleet has asked for this. It is a relatively routine item. We do this from time to time to be able to have fleet have an active purchase order in place so that they can replace vehicles in a timely manner, ray clayton, the business operations manager from city fleet, I believe is online, and, deputy city administrator sarah morrissey. Overseeing city operations, is also here. If you have questions, great colleagues.

Speaker: Any questions, any public testimony.

Speaker: Sorry, no one signed up.

Speaker: This is a first reading of an emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading. Thank you. Next item 654. This is an emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Authorized settlement agreement with the Portland police association and cheryl waddell to resolve a grievance and employment discrimination claim involving the Portland police bureau for \$29,571.

Speaker: Colleagues. This ordinance resolves a claim filed against the city in November of 2023, and a grievance filed in January of 2024, deputy city attorney lisa rogers and senior claims analyst rose redeker here to walk us through the ordinance.

Speaker: Welcome.

Speaker: Thank you. Good afternoon, mayor and commissioners, as the mayor just mentioned, my name is lisa rogers, and I use she her pronouns, first, my apologies for appearing virtually this morning, but I do have a bit of a cold, and I didn't want to spread it to anyone who was in person today.

Speaker: Sorry to hear that. Thank thank you, thank you.

Speaker: The settlement before you today resolves a Portland police association grievance and employment discrimination claim from current Portland police bureau employee, detective cheryl waddell. After evaluating the facts of the claim, the city attorney's office and risk management services assessed there was risk to the city on the employment claim, which warranted a global resolution. The global settlement includes the union's dismissal of the grievance detective waddell's agreement not to file her employment discrimination claim, and detective waddell is entering into a global release of claims. Although there is one small exception to that release. That's very unlikely, but I can explain that if any of you have any questions in exchange, the city will provide detective waddell back pay for on call and coaches pay totaling \$24,571.36 and \$5,000 in attorney's fees for a total settlement of \$29,571.36. The police bureau, risk management and the city attorney's office believe this outcome is in the interest of the city and recommend approval of the settlement. I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Speaker: Colleagues, any questions? Is there any public testimony on this item?

Speaker: We have two people signed up.

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: First up, mark paurus, Portland, copwatch. Hi, mark.

Speaker: It's mark signed up for this one or the next.

Speaker: Yeah, I think I'm signed up for, the next settlement.

Speaker: Sorry. My mistake. No one signed up for this item. No one,

Speaker: This is an emergency ordinance. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzalez. A Mapps,

Speaker: I although I also want to add that the facts of this case suggest that there might be, cause to look at the bureau's procedures in situations like this, but, having said that, I vote yea yea. Rubio.

Speaker: I, Ryan Wheeler.

Speaker: Hi. The ordinance is adopted next. Item 655. An emergency ordinance.

Speaker: Pay settlement of kelsey ulmer bodily injury lawsuit for \$11,500 involving the Portland police bureau.

Speaker: This ordinance resolves a lawsuit filed against the city in July of 2022. Deputy city attorney Carrie Caldwell and senior claims analyst Joseph Jessee are here to walk us through this ordinance. Welcome

Speaker: Thank you. Good afternoon. My name is Carrie Caldwell, deputy city attorney. This lawsuit arises out of injuries to Kelsey Ulmer during a June 30th, 2020 protest near the Portland Police Association building and North Portland. Ulmer was among a large number of protesters who remained near the PPA building after the PPD had declared an unlawful assembly and ordered the crowd to disperse. PPD injured Kelsey Ulmer's tailbone, backside and leg when it eventually dispersed, the crowd. Ulmer filed a lawsuit against the city of Portland and Multnomah County circuit court on July 7th, 2022, asserting claims for battery, sole negligence and false arrest all resulting in the aforementioned physical injuries. The parties negotiated and agreed on a settlement of \$11,500, inclusive of plaintiff's attorneys' fees, to resolve the matter. PPD risk management, the city's attorney's office recommend approval of this settlement, and I'm happy to answer any questions. The best of my ability.

Speaker: Very good. Thank you. Colleagues, any questions at this point? Public testimony?

Speaker: Yes. Okay Mark Paurus, Portland, Copwatch. Mark, welcome back.

Speaker: Thanks, good afternoon, mayor and commissioners. My name is mark paurus. I use he him pronouns and I'm with the group Portland copwatch, we understand the parties have come to an agreement, and we have no objection to the city paying \$11,500 to settle this bodily injury lawsuit due to the harmful actions of ppb rapid response team officer brant taylor and other Portland police officers. It's been over four months since we last testified on a police brutality settlement stemming from the 2020 protests. The total for 2020 protest settlements alone is now more than \$2.565 million. The total dollar amount and average settlement cost may seem low compared to other cities, but the number of lawsuits is high and it continues to rise, according to court records. On the evening of June 30th, 2020, kelsey ulmer was at a protest near the ppa office on north lombard street shortly after ulmer arrived, the line of officers in riot gear charged the crowd. When police charged, ulmer turned to run with the crowd to avoid being attacked by the officers. After ulmer took a few steps, police shot them three times from behind with impact munitions. Court records say that ulmer was yanked off their feet and landed on their tailbone, causing immense pain. An unknown officer then dragged them backwards by their collar, and two officers knelt on them while they were being handcuffed, and ulmer limped to the police car. Ulmer was arrested, but no criminal complaint was filed. Court records say. Officer taylor testified that he fired his impact munition weapon 40 to 60 times within just a few hours that day, and videos depict him frequently firing multiple rapid shots into the crowd. For days prior to this incident, judge hernandez signed a temporary restraining order restricting the exact unnecessary use of force that pbs's brant taylor used on kelsey ulmer. His actions on June 30th violated the order. We're encouraged that officer taylor does not appear to be on the newly reformed rapid response team. However, from the explanation we heard at the press conference announcing the

new rbt, it is possible that Taylor could be called upon to assist at future protests. Judging from his track record, that should be as disturbing to you as it is to us. Independent Monitor LLC called for a transparent introduction of the new rbt. Instead, PPB conducted a hastily assembled news conference without notifying community members, including, we believe, the Portland Committee on Community Engaged Policing. This is important because at a June 3rd set meeting, Chief Day said he was not sure how the introduction would happen at the following week's meeting on June 10th with PPB members and a Mayor's aide in attendance, nobody mentioned the press conference that would occur the next day. At a recent Citizen Review Committee meeting, Chief De questioned whether it even makes sense to discipline officers for actions that occurred four years ago. That attitude is disturbing for many reasons, not the least of which is that these dangerous cops should have been disciplined and in some cases, fired long ago. It is also why it is so important for the new police oversight system to be entirely free of influence from police and their bargaining units, including in the nomination of board members. As always, we appear before you with the hope that you'll discuss the policy decisions that lead to these incidents of police brutality, and we look forward to learning how we can be sure that the new rapid response team will be different from the old one when it is staffed by many of the same members that caused so much harm in 2020.

Speaker: Thank you, Commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Mayor, I just want to say I strongly object to continuing to platform abolitionists that cannot testify on the matter before council, we have done this for a year and a half while I've sat on council. They have no constitutional right to testify on matters not before us at this point. They're welcome to sign up for public

testimony at the beginning of council. And we have repeatedly platformed this nonsense. So I strongly object going forward. That's it. Thank you,

Speaker: Juan chavez.

Speaker: Oh, great. Here's number two.

Speaker: This is the lawyer. I think, juan chavez.

Speaker: Thank you. Submitted in writing as an alternative.

Speaker: Okay, that completes testimony.

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: Any further questions or discussion? Seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales. I maps I Rubio, I Ryan. Hi

Speaker: I the ordinance is adopted next item 656 an emergency ordinance amend contract with westech construction incorporated for \$1,839,574, including contingency to construct additional improvements on northeast 46th avenue and northeast columbia boulevard for the northeast 46th avenue and bRyant street.

Speaker: Local improvement district.

Speaker: Mike, mister mayor, this is your last item. This morning, or I should say this afternoon. So I'm going to turn it directly over to deputy city administrator priya dhanapal. And a very patient, andrew avi, who's here.

Speaker: Thank you. City administrator jordan. Mayor and council, I'm priya pal and the deputy city administrator for public works. And thank you for your attention to this item. The northeast 46th and bRyant local improvement district is providing street, stormwater and sewer improvements through two phases of construction. The formation of this entity has also laid the groundwork for trimet to establish a fourth bus base and secure a significant 25 million federal grant for the operation of electric busses in the city. This this project exemplifies efficient collaboration between trimet private property owners within the lid and our city's

infrastructure bureaus, pbot and bts, and by leveraging these partnerships, we achieved substantial economies of scale and maximize the project's impact. Council awarded a construction contract on November 15th, 2023 for the first phase of the construction work. Currently, construction is underway. The lid administrator recently executed an extra work agreement to add additional sidewalk and frontage improvements to the lid, fully funded by baker petroleum, which will reduce the sidewalk coverage gap in the cully neighborhood. This amendment also includes additional work that trimet has requested to optimize construction efficiency and minimize disruption. We propose consolidating these efforts and amend the construction contract with westech. This was. This will accelerate the delivery of a street improvements at competitive rates using the contractor that is already mobilized on site. Additionally, this contract amendment marks a pivotal step forward for a community. It will transform the southern end of northeast 46th avenue from a gravel road in an industrial area to a more accessible thoroughfare, benefiting local small businesses and residents. I'm pleased to now welcome andrew abbey local improvement district administrator, to provide additional details and answer any questions you may have.

Speaker: Thank you, deputy city administrator, I appreciate that introduction. I'm andrew abbey, local improvement district administrator. So, as she mentioned, this construction contract is already underway.

Speaker: We were fortunate that after we started construction, I had a property owner in the lid that came to me and approached me for additional frontage improvements, because they're going to be building a new small business at the intersection of 46 and columbia.

Speaker: And it made a lot of sense for them to have their sidewalk and their frontage improvements done. So the key reason for bringing this forward to you is

twofold. Number one, we don't want to have two phases of construction at the 46th and columbia intersection. And we also right now we have, columbia boulevard necked down from four lane, two lane, because we're putting in a new traffic signal so people don't have to run across columbia boulevard without a traffic signal. So we just didn't think it made sense to have two contractors working at the same intersection. We thought it made sense to pull some of the second phase construction work into this contract, and at the same time, take care of this newly developing small business in the columbia corridor. The other urgency to this ordinance before you and I will just note that the ordinance does increase the lid funding by \$800,000. And in the exhibit trimet is requesting these changes and has agreed to this additional lid funding. The other urgency is last night I was pleased to join trimet at a celebration. Trimet was just awarded a \$25 million raise grant to actually develop the columbia bus base. And on top of that, they got another federal earmark of \$5 million for the site prep of the columbia bus base, bringing the total federal investment to \$30 million. And it's important for us to be able to build the fencing work and the embankment work along the south edge of the columbia bus base. So when they start that work, all of that will be secure. And then again, we don't have two, two phases of construction along columbia boulevard, where we're flowing freight traffic and people passing through the area. So, if council approves this ordinance between the federal grant and the increased lid amount to 15.3 million, the total investment, local and federal, not including trimet site development work that isn't funded by the federal grant, will be \$45.3 million. And when this project is all done, trimet will be able to build a better bus system with battery electric busses and renewable sources like wind, solar or hydropower powering those busses instead of diesel. So this is part of climate action and climate justice and bringing much needed infrastructure improvements to the cully

neighborhood. I hope you'll approve this emergency ordinance today, and I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

Speaker: Very good colleagues, any questions, any public testimony.

Speaker: No one signed up.

Speaker: All right. This is an emergency ordinance. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Gonzales I maps.

Speaker: I want to thank Andrew and Priya for both their patience and their presentation today, I'll tell you, I've seen a lot of lids come out of Andrew's shop, and they're consistently great. And this is one which I and the entire city should be really proud of. Great way to start your first. And Deputy DCA, it's a great way to start what I hope is a long career here at the city of Portland. I am glad to vote I yea. Rubio I Ryan.

Speaker: Welcome Priya and thank you Andrew. What's not to like?

Speaker: I vote yea Wheeler I always feel sorry for you.

Speaker: You always get stuck at the end of the agenda, but you probably know more than just about anybody else, because you tend to sit here and listen to the agenda. So thank you for your patience, as well as your stamina, I vote I the ordinance is adopted, please read six, five seven amend water code to align with the amended city charter approved by voters in Portland.

Speaker: Measure 26 228.

Speaker: Colleagues, I'm referring this back to my office. We're adjourned

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

July 10, 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: Good afternoon, everybody. This is the Wednesday, July 10th, 2024, afternoon session of Portland City Council.

Speaker: Good afternoon.

Speaker: Keelan, please call the roll.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Gonzales. Here. Maps. Here yea. Rubio here. Ryan Wheeler here.

Speaker: We're going to hear from legal counsel on the rules of order and decorum. Good afternoon.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Mayor. Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You may sign up in advance on the council agenda at [Portland gov slash council slash agenda](https://portland.gov/council/agenda). Information on engaging with council can be found on the council clerk's web page. Individuals may testify for three minutes unless the presiding officer states otherwise. Your microphone will be muted when your time is over. The presiding officer preserves order 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 when subjected is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally council may take a short recess and reconvene

virtually. Your testimony should address the matter being considered. When testifying, state your name for the record. Your address is not necessary if you are a lobbyist, identify the organization you represent. Virtual testifiers should unmute themselves when the council clerk calls your name. Thank you.

Speaker: All right. Thank you very much. First up is item 658. This is the first reading of a nonemergency ordinance.

Speaker: Create the north richmond avenue and crawford street local improvement district to construct street, sidewalk, stormwater water. Main sanitary sewer and railroad grade crossing improvements.

Speaker: All right. I'll set this over to priya dhanapal, who's our public works dcca. And andrew abbe is our pbot forecasting and special projects analyst. Good afternoon, both of you. Welcome back.

Speaker: Thank you. Mayor. Good afternoon, mayor and council, as the mayor mentioned, this is regarding the creation of a north richmond avenue, crawford street local improvement district, identified as c10074. This project leverages significant economies of scale through robust public private partnership involving property owners, union pacific railroad and our city's essential infrastructure bureaus, pbot water bureau and bts. This collaborative effort ensures that our infrastructure improvements are comprehensive and cost effective, moving us away from costly, piecemeal solutions. The project also significantly reduces risk and enhances efficiency for a water bureau and bts by eliminating utilities underneath a live railroad track and combining utility relocation with the lid of a significant savings to ratepayers instead of standalone, siloed projects by each infrastructure bureau. If approved at an upcoming second reading, this will mark the largest local improvement district in our city's history, with the total investment of about \$13.8 million. This funding is complemented by an additional \$1.9 million

provided by pbot, bts and water bureau, reflecting a collective commitment to enhancing communities, infrastructure. Council's initial approval of this lid on may 26th of this year was met with majority petition support, underscoring its alignment with community needs and priorities. We've also made adjustments along the way to accommodate specific circumstances, such as reducing assessments for st. Johns trucks by \$279,000. This adjustment is for deferring a sidewalk requirement until development permits. The ordinance also directs pbot staff to pursue a street vacation for north charleston avenue, potentially reducing assessments for wayne peterson by 500 by \$279,000. Demonstrating our responsiveness to community feedback and collaboration. And with that, I'm pleased to pass it on to andrew obey, a local improvement district administrator, to provide additional details and answer questions.

Speaker: Good afternoon council andrew. Abby, local improvement district administrator, feels a little strange to be going first rather than last on the agenda today, why don't we go ahead and switch over to the presentation, next slide please. So here is a map of the lid. This map has not changed since the initial approval of the lid on may 29th. Next slide please, I have circled the properties in green that are owned by saint john truck. So as our dca just, noted, there has been a just an adjustment made to the lid where due to a building encroaching in the right of way, which does not have a permit to encroach on the right of way, we don't want to be in a position of having to tear down that building to build a new sidewalk, so the modification that's been made to the lid is to drop the sidewalk improvements and defer those until an eventual building permit is obtained for that property. After the lid is completed. So there would be a there is an immediate reduction of 26% for that lid assessment that's baked into the ordinance that's in front of you today. Next slide please, this is the other, major adjustment from may

29th. The ordinance contains the directive of our dca just mentioned to, for pbob staff to work on a verification of north charleston avenue from crawford street to decatur street, the reason that the directive doesn't effect the street vacation is because we have to follow state law on that, and we have to follow state law procedure in terms of going through the planning commission and going through all the proper steps before we actually vacate that right of way. I do want to note that the block of north charleston avenue between crawford street and edison street, that's shown in white at the top of that map there was vacated many years ago. I'm guessing, or 30 to 40 years ago. There's now a bunch of row houses in the way of where north charleston avenue, was vacated many years ago, for pbob, the key objective is to improve north china avenue, which is in the middle of the map, because that is equidistant, equidistant between the two neighborhood collectors. Burlington avenue on the left side of the map, and richmond avenue on the right side of the map, we don't feel that, given the expense involved, to build charleston avenue, although it is currently, incorporated into the lid, we don't think there's nearly as much value to design and build charleston avenue as opposed to john avenue, which is why the ordinance directs pbob staff to begin working on the street vacation, if the ordinance is approved at the second reading next week. And I would also just note, I know we have the owner of the pink property there on the east side of north charleston avenue here with us today, if and when we bring that street vacation back, and I'm assuming we would with planning commission approval, we would also be adjusting the lid to re-apportion the, formulas by assessment zone. And in particular, that pink property. I would expect to get an approximate 70% reduction in the lid assessment. Next slide please. And then, before I just move on to the grade crossing improvements, I really do want council to understand this is not a uniform assessment rate per square foot, I did go out of my way in crafting

the original led petition to put a larger burden on developing properties and to put a smaller burden on non developing properties. And to the extent possible, to defer additional, frontage improvements until the future. So with all of these changes baked in, if you look at the ratio of the maximum assessment rate in the lid versus the, green and pink properties that just elaborated upon, the ratio is roughly 8 to 1 or 13 to 1. Assuming that the street vacation ultimately gets subsequent planning commission and City Council approval, the two intersections that I have circled here are burlington and bradford and richmond, and bradford. Bradford really is a public right of way. But over 100 years ago, when this was city of saint johns, the city of saint johns basically granted an easement to union pacific railroad to operate train tracks in the area. So this will never bradford street will never be improved to the street, next slide please. One of the things that we're excited about and I didn't touch on this on may 29th out of, time limitations, but we don't have a particularly safe, grade crossing here for the railroad improvements, the trains have to operate through here blowing their horns, and there's some recent development here. A matter of fact, last night, I briefed the cathedral park neighborhood association on the slide. And as we were discussing the lid, we were sitting in a building that is across the street from the building shown on the right side of the screen. There and the union pacific railroad trains were heading through. As we were discussing the lid blowing their horns, and they shared with me that it isn't a lot of fun to live in that brand new building and be woken up at 3:00 in the morning with trains coming through. So one of the advantages of putting in the warning gates and the bells is this now sets up the neighborhood for a quiet zone, so if you're a resident of, of, cathedral park, you might actually start getting some sleep at night, arguably even more important, when I was out on site visiting with union pacific railroad to discuss the safety improvements that the city would bring, this woman was making

her way down to the river to enjoy the waterfront and you can see she uses the mobility device. If you look at the picture on the left, you can see that little depressed area where that little storm grate is. It's a pretty hazardous situation. You use a wheelchair or a scooter and you kind of fall upside down. You could be down there mobility impaired with a train coming down the track and so one of the things that this lid will do is completely replace the grade crossing. And again, put in the warning lights and really make this ada compliant and give people of all physical abilities, the ability to access the river. So I think I've recapped all the changes to the lid since may 29th. We have a few folks here to testify, but I'm also happy to answer any questions that council might have. Oh, and one other thing. We did not receive any remonstrances against the lid formation by the filing deadline of last July 3rd at 5 p.m. Do we want to turn it over to public testimony?

Speaker: All right. Any questions at this point? Do we have public testimony,

Speaker: We have four people signed up.

Speaker: All right, let's hear them.

Speaker: First up, we have thomas liptrot.

Speaker: Welcome, thomas. Thank you. Come on up. Come on up. Thanks for being here. Sure.

Speaker: I was here last time, but I just wanted to be brief. I'm tom liptrot, one of the property owners inside the lid. And thank you for letting me testify today to show our support for the lid ordinance, basically, the talking points of why this is important. Obviously, it's going to stimulate development and improve the overall livability of the neighborhood, the current infrastructure is very poor. And needs this investment. The current water line underneath the railroad track is over 100 years old. And needs to be abandoned and replaced. If that line was to go out, it's going to have significant, impact on the railroad and the neighborhood. This

investment will also lead to multifamily housing, which will increase the supply of housing in the neighborhood and the overall city. I would estimate somewhere between 6 or 700 units will be going up within the lid area within the next five years, it also enhances the connection between the neighborhood and the willamette river, because on the waterfront area of about 1000ft, there will be a continuation of the bike path. Which will in essence connect eventually through to the up and up to that way in the city, obviously the cell id will stimulate hundreds of millions of dollars to the tax bases and create hundreds of construction jobs over the next decade. And this development is in alignment with the your city master plan. So this isn't something new and different. It's what you guys kind of envisioned. And lastly, it's going to improve public safety. I think, andrew just went over the railroad crossing and how dangerous it is right now with just lights with no crossing bars and going across the tracks is very hazardous. In conclusion, I just want to thank the Portland police and fire over the years, they've been great, I just, you know, sometimes they don't get enough credit, and they've been really good over the years. We've had some fires. We've had some police issues, especially during covid, and they've done an excellent job. And also, I really believe in the lid program with this private public partnership, because it really is the most effective use of funds to get the biggest bang for the growth and livability of Portland. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you tom. Appreciate it.

Speaker: Next up we have brian wilson.

Speaker: Hello, brian.

Speaker: Hello everybody. Nice to be back. Commissioners mr. Ryan, good to see you, I previously testified in support of this. That certainly hasn't changed. I want to thank you all for your paying attention to this. And also for all the great staff work

that's been done around this. It's just been great. One thing I want to point out, the amount of basis that this is going to add to properties is going to challenge development. Development hasn't occurred in this area primarily because the infrastructure has been so poor, and off site improvements have been, tough to figure out how to get finance and to get things built. So this is an excellent step forward. I think that's going to have a good impact on attracting development. But as I said, the basis of the land is going to go up. So one of the things we're going to have to keep a good close eye on is do we have sufficient density programed in the current cm three zoning code? That will help offset some of that basis increase? It's something we'll just have to keep an eye on over the course of the next couple of years. As we go through this process, but I'm very excited to hopefully see development occur in this area, especially on the properties that I represent, but all the way around and open up access to the river. Again, I sometimes refer to this when I speak to capital outside of the city of Portland. It's kind of like the missing tooth in a beautiful smile. And so let's get that tooth put in place and open up this part of the river to the community. Again, thank you very much.

Speaker: Thanks, brian.

Speaker: Next up we have sean. Jillian's. Welcome.

Speaker: Thank you, mr. Mayor. And members of the council for the record, sean, jillian's today on behalf of saint john's marine and saint john's trucks, you heard from us in the first hearing about the cost impacts, that would affect these two long standing, small businesses, at the outset, mr. Mayor, I want to thank pbot staff, particularly mr. Abe, he has been excellent to deal with. I'm sure you all are not surprised with that as we sort of work through and, commissioner Mapps your staff as well, what truly should be borne by these existing businesses and then what should be borne by the new development coming in there, it's been very interesting

for me. As you likely know, mr. Mayor, I've represented development for a long time in the state level and the and the metro region. And this is the first time I've really been on the other side where you have existing businesses that are there that are seeing a transition of a neighborhood, and it's much more difficult when I go back to these existing businesses and say, look, hey, I got your assessment reduced down from 1.8 million to \$600,000. And they go, but we don't have \$600,000. And as you heard from mr. Wilson, it's going to be difficult for them to incorporate. They need to increase the density of their project in order to be able to make these projects pencil. These businesses can't simply increase their revenues. They've been there for 50 years. And so while I absolutely appreciate the work that's been done, I do want you all to recognize this is still a significant financial burden for these two businesses. We're talking about an additional, effectively mortgage on their properties of between 5 and \$600,000 and \$800,000, and that will be at a relatively significant interest rate over the next 20 years, the other thing I would say on that, too, you heard from mr. Abe about the street vacation. That is absolutely imperative. I can guarantee you right now, if that does not go through, saint john marines is out of business. They cannot afford that. And if you look at the maps, and I know mr. Abe went through it pretty clearly, there is no need, really, for that street. There directly north of it. The street's not there. This would divide what's so-called superblock, in one street over and still sort of fits there. So you do have, a letter in your packet from mr. Peterson supporting the vacation, of the street ordinance, and we'd really, really encourage you to move forward with that once this process is done, the one last thing I would say, about this and the benefits of development, let's remember what this is actually zoned for at the at the current time, general employment and commercial mixed and so when I'm up here sort of telling you, well, these folks are saddled with the significant costs, they were in the

right spot, it's a boat shop that's two blocks from a boat ramp. It's very important that they be there, this is a changing neighborhood with them. And again, significant cost. But appreciate the work that's been done by pbot staff. Happy to answer any questions, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Yeah, mr. Jillian's, thank you so much for the testimony today. Can you boil down your at what is your ask?

Speaker: Here's what I said when I walked into the first meeting with your staff and mr. Abe, take these two existing properties out of this. They really don't benefit from this long term with their properties benefit for redevelopment. Absolutely. I'm not disputing that. But if they're going to maintain their existing businesses, there is literally no benefit to an increase or enhance charleston street with ada sidewalks for these businesses that already have access to streets that have, okay, sidewalks, and you know, for trucking company, that's you don't get a lot of walk in business, these aren't traditional commercial activities. So, they ask, take them out.

Speaker: Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate your crisp answer.

Speaker: I just had a follow commissioner Gonzalez can you reiterate what the cost of these businesses will be based on your calculation? Yeah.

Speaker: So if under the existing ordinance right now, st. Johns trucks is going to be about \$800,000, a little over \$800,000 under the existing ordinance, which does not include the street vacation st. Johns marine would be 1.8 million, now, as you heard from mr. Abe, if the street vacation goes through, that's a about 70% reduction. So it's about 535,000 is what they would end up with if the street vacation is approved.

Speaker: Ultimately, if the. Okay. Okay. Thank you, thank you, thank you all.

Speaker: Peter perron welcome.

Speaker: Thanks for being here.

Speaker: Sure, i'll be brief. Thank you. My name is peter perron. I own a property at the intersection of richmond and crawford. I testified at the previous hearing in may, in full support of the lid. I just wanted to reiterate my support today for the lid and I encourage council to do the same. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Speaker: That completes testimony.

Speaker: All right. Very good. So, andrew, could you come back up for just a moment and could you give the council a little bit of clarity in terms of what was mentioned with regarding the two businesses that currently exist? Some of the economic hydraulics impacting those businesses and what allowances, if I can use that word, are built into this kind of a structure to accommodate businesses like that?

Speaker: Yeah. Well, a couple of things, I appreciated the meeting I had with mr. Jillions and commissioner Mapps before we transitioned to the city administrator's structure on July 1st, and we spent over an hour discussing the lid. So I think it's fair for me to characterize there was a lot of support for the 26% reduction at the west end end of crawford street, and there was a lot of support for the 70 potential 70% reduction on the east end, which, again, I can't imagine that wouldn't go through planning commission and subsequent City Council approval. So I think that gets gets us a long way there. The remaining assessment amount, keep in mind, does include contingency. And what we did see on the burlington and edison lid to the north was some pretty significant savings on that lid, due to the economies of scale of building a really large project. And as was introduced at the outset of this item, this would be the largest lid in the city's history outside the central city, we do not adjust the unit prices down to reflect larger quantities of concrete and asphalt and everything else we're building, that said, contingencies are our best friend, and we

don't get into the game of low balling these estimates to make people feel good about the numbers and then come back later and say, oops, for the cost went up because we were a little too optimistic on the assumptions. So I will just tell you that if council approves this at the second reading next week, I will work very hard, even though I won't be the day to day project manager, I will be administering the lid and I will continue to be arguably the most frugal person in the city bureaucracy, and I will work really hard to try to keep the cost of this lid down to the extent that I can influence that. Andrew.

Speaker: Thank you, could you also just discuss the question of the street vacation and what what level of commitment are we able to give on that point?

Speaker: It is just simply something that needs to go through the planning commission and come back to City Council. I want to be really reluctant about binding a future City Council to saying they're going to approve the street vacation. That said, mayor, I would also say that, there are other dispensations that would be available to the future City Council if for some very strange reason, the street vacation were not approved. I mean, honestly, I think the odds of the street vacation, not that I'm a political prognosticator, but I just think that the odds of the street vacation not being approved when you have the precedent one block north of that street vacation being approved 40 years ago, and particularly when I reached out to our fire marshal last year and we talked about building a new fire hydrant and proving fire suppression capability in that area, breaking up the street grid. I mean, building john avenue is gives us most of the benefit we need in this area for the street connectivity. So it's a line on a planning map, right now. I just couldn't, in good faith, write something into the ordinance that just absolutely promised that the street vacation.

Speaker: But you've made it. You've made a compelling case, and I appreciate it. Thank you so, mr. Mapps, happy to answer any any further questions you might have.

Speaker: Otherwise we would pass this to a second reading for a final vote next week.

Speaker: Great. A couple more questions, commissioner Mapps. Andrew, number one, thank you so much for all the again, another great lid,

Speaker: And I really appreciate your flexibility and creativity between the last time council saw this and, today, also, can you remind me how businesses pay the costs associated with this lid? You write out a check every month, is it possible to put off these payments until you sell the building? I how do you manage or what's what options are there in terms of just managing the costs that come up for the on the on the private side? What what are your options for paying this off?

Speaker: Well, we don't we don't commonly see people write checks to fully pay off their lid assessment. So it's typical for folks to finance those over 20 years. There is a financial obligation, which is exactly why I worked as hard as I did to try to keep the numbers down as much as as possible. You know, I had a good conversation with mr. Jillian's in your office when we were discussing the lid, you know, I can't, in good faith, recommend a council. That council make a finding of no benefit that by virtue of building a street building curb. In the case of mr. Peterson building, sidewalk along the frontage. I mean, for me, as allied administrator to sit here and say, well, the property receives no benefit when the property across the street may have an assessment rate that's between eight and 14 times more per square foot. I don't know how I make the argument that, well, the property across the street should pay 16 times the rate per square foot, and then this other rate should be zero. I mean, I get that the desired outcome would be to pay zero, but I don't. I

don't know how council would would with a straight face make a finding of no special benefit to those two properties. I would also just say it's pretty unusual on lids. I'm not usually able to bring cost down between 26 and 70. I think we had some unique opportunities here that we seized upon, but we don't typically find those opportunities not only to save 26 to 70, but pull your funds with your neighbors. I can't get it down to zero. I wish I could, but I can't. We don't have a deferral option built into this. Okay,

Speaker: Thank you very much. I appreciate that clarification and your work on this.

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Could you, just reiterate the point about projections on costs for smaller projects versus larger? So you don't currently have a mechanism to take into account economies of scale and putting together your projections, that sort of gets into the weeds of our engineering templates.

Speaker: And I'm not an engineer. I'm I have other roles, finance roles, etc, but I'm not an engineer. So we have a standard template that we use for all pbot projects, and we generally don't adjust those unit prices.

Speaker: So I just want to reconcile what you testified to with what you're saying here. So I understand you don't want to update projections based on political pressure. I get that, but I think you did highlight you do see substantial variance in unit costs between or, you know, you do experience economies of scale on larger projects. So I'm just mystified why we don't reflect that in our, in our, in the way we estimate projects.

Speaker: Yeah. Thank you. Commissioner. I wouldn't say we do a bad job of estimating, it's just engineering projects are a little bit interesting. You may get a really good bid on, on a project you didn't expect. And then the converse happens

where you budget x amount and then the amount goes more. And so in general, when we when our engineers put together the estimate, they're trying to use unit prices that are kind of toward the high end of the pack, just so that we don't get into a situation where we're budgeting all these cip projects optimistically, and then the bids come in higher than we expected. We've incurred all these survey and design costs. Now we don't have the money to build the projects. Here's what I want to tell you, though. Commissioner Gonzalez. When we built the burlington and edison led to the north and we just closed that lid about two years ago, we built john avenue from, edison street down to john avenue. Excuse me, decatur street. That came in massively below budget, way below budget. And part of the reason it came in below budget is because we built the street in advance of any development. So it was really I'm really getting into the weeds now, but I want to answer your question for the contractor was really easy piece of work. It was basically a hillside. They could go out there with their curb machine and just put the curbs in in a couple of days, put the rock down, pave the street. They were in and out of out of there. And so when the contractors are looking to bid on these things, they, you know, they tend to look at how many days of their crews are going to be out there. And if it's a really hard project, they're going to bid a higher number. If it's a simpler project, they're going to bid a lower number. John avenue will be a little bit of a challenge to design, but there's nothing there. It is an open hillside, so it should be a really easy piece of work for a contractor to bid on. I can't sit here and tell you what a contractor may bid on in 2 or 3 years, but it to me, it looks like a very attractive piece of work.

Speaker: Okay, well, it's just, you know, as we're trying to deliberate as a body, trying to understand, you know, is there a really substantial potential for this to come in below your projections or not? That's a relevant factor. I projections are

projections. We don't know. That's the whole point. But it's so I don't know, i, I guess the second question then really the final question is, you do a in your methodology, what is your methodology for determining there's no economic or, a benefit to the property. So I think the simpler answer to that question is, is the general rule.

Speaker: If a property abuts the street to be improved, that it would be extremely unusual to completely exempt that abutting property from assessment.

Speaker: And do you employ any methodologies adopted by appraisers when you're making that assessment, or is it essentially a based on your years of experience? You're kind of making it's the latter.

Speaker: Okay, I will make one other note, council approved and applied last year for northwest read drive in the forest heights neighborhood. That bid came in 53% below the engineer's estimate. Now, I will be the first to tell you that past investment results do not predict future investment results. But again, I think if pbob staff work on putting together an attractive piece of work that's constructible for a contractor, it enhances our chances. The chances of the bid coming in lower. But I also really think it's important for council to understand we don't get into a practice of exempting properties based on current land use, because if we did that, the gavel could drop on the cell id at final assessment, they could be in the door pulling a building permit the next day to put a couple hundred apartment units in, and they've been exempted from assessment based on the current land use. So I very much appreciate the economic situation of small businesses, but under state law, we really do have to look at the future and potential benefit. Special benefit afforded by the street improvements. And with the fairly uniform zoning in the area, it's hard to look at these two properties and say that they don't, to some degree, have the same potential for future redevelopment as the neighbor across

the street who's paying 12 to 14 times the assessment rate per square foot. I think we've been really generous in keeping the burden to an absolute minimum here.

Speaker: Yeah, I mean, well, if we can get the 70% reduction from the vacation, I certainly understand, but this is not a small amount of money. We're imposing on small businesses at a really difficult time in our community for small businesses. So I just submit that from a policy perspective. I'm good right now. Thank you.

Speaker: And the 70% reduction isn't what a contractor build. That's just simply passing another ordinance next year to vacate the street. 70% off the table. We're done. So it's a pretty easy 70% reduction.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Commissioner Mapps, one other quick question.

Speaker: So we do offer financing, for someone who, takes on a lid. What's the current interest rate for 6.2? 6.2. All right.

Speaker: Unfortunately, we're not in a great interest rate environment right now.

Speaker: Right. All right. Thank you very much.

Speaker: All right. Very good. Anything else? This is a first reading of a nonemergency ordinance. Moves to second reading. Thanks. Thank you. Appreciate it. Thank you. Next up is item 659. This is a report. This is our auditor. And ombudsman report. So just an administrative note. We will not be voting on this. This is think of it as a presentation and an opportunity to ask any questions you'd like to ask. Welcome, auditor rede. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Thanks for that intro.

Speaker: Sorry, mayor. Sorry to interrupt. Sorry to read it. Yes. Sorry sorry, report on recent audit reports and ombudsman work. Thanks, madam auditor.

Speaker: Thank you, good afternoon, mayor Wheeler. President Gonzalez and commissioners, I'm Simone Ready City Auditor. And with me today are audit services director Casey Jones and city ombudsman Jennifer Croft. And we are here to present

the results of our audit and investigation work from the past year. And also to give you a few updates, on work that's underway. Our offices had a past practice of delivering presentations like this. And I'm really happy to revive that and expand it. To include our investigation work and other updates from my office in the future. And as mayor Wheeler stated, our intent today is really to inform you and to give you and members of the public an opportunity to engage more with our work, we won't be asking you to accept these results, as the results have already been published, but we do welcome your questions, and we also, have an opportunity for people that are watching. They can sign up through our website to receive reports as they're released, next, I'm going to give you a preview of what this presentation will cover. I'll start by giving some brief explanations of what audit services and the ombudsman does. And then I'd like to provide some context and updates on the audit schedules that I've released. Then I'll invite director Jones and ombudsman Croft to tell you more about our recent audit and investigation work. And I want to let you know that we've built in opportunities for you to ask questions at the end of each section of this presentation, so we can respond to you as quickly as possible, or at least as close to real time as possible, so I ask that you please hold your questions until each of us has finished speaking. Next slide. So, as you're aware, my office is responsible for conducting performance audits. Performance audits provide objective analysis to improve program performance and operations. They follow professional standards from the US Government Accountability Office, and they look for ways to improve efficiency, effectiveness and equity in city programs. Director Jones is going to highlight findings and conclusions from some of our recent performance audits momentarily. Next slide. My office also houses the ombudsman, which responds to complaints from members of the public, businesses and city employees about city services. Responding to complaints often

involves informal resolution and sometimes it involves impartial investigation. The ombudsman may decide to initiate a systemic review when a complaint has the potential to impact a large number of people. The ombudsman follows professional standards from the us ombudsman association and ombudsman croft is going to highlight what her team accomplished in 2023, as well as preview some upcoming projects with you. During her portion of the presentation. Next slide. So, unlike the types of complaints that the ombudsman handles, performance audits are planned very far in advance. We use a risk assessment approach and ideas from community members as well as audit staff, to commit to a limited number of topics on an annual basis. We call that the audit schedule, and it consists of areas that represent the greatest area of concern for Portlanders and potential to build trust. Last June, we committed to five new topics across the city's service areas, and director jones is going to provide updates on those projects during his portion of the presentation. This June, we added three more topics to the list and those topics are going to be initiated this year, and other topics may be initiated at my discretion. I want to note before I turn it over, that last year, we heard concerns about the city's use and support of advisory and oversight bodies, and at that time, I committed to find ways outside of performance audits to address those concerns. So consistent with that commitment, the ombudsman has begun planning a review that will evaluate how transparently those bodies conduct their business and influence city decision making. That concludes my high level overview of two of the accountability functions in my office, are there any questions on what I've shared so far?

Speaker: Colleagues questions.

Speaker: All right. I think we can move two slides forward.

Speaker: Okay, hi. Good afternoon, mayor, commissioners and city administrator. My name is casey jones, and I'm the audit services director for the city auditor's

office. Our division conducts performance audits of city programs, staff the staffs, the city's hotline for tips of fraud, waste, and abuse, and manages a contract with an outside accounting firm for the city's annual financial audit. Our division is made up of two managers and eight performance auditors. Today, I'll briefly present the results of three recent performance audits, pictured here, released earlier in 2024, this is a relatively high level overview, so if you'd like more specifics, I'm happy to engage more after this meeting. I've reserved time for questions here after I'm through presenting all three audits, next slide. First, we'll begin with our audit of Portland fire and rescue community health programs, which was released in January. All of our audits start out with a scoping or planning period to identify a specific objective that we can dig deeper into in the case of this audit, we identified the community, the bureau's community health programs, as a new area for the bureau. These programs were meant to improve health outcomes for community members and address the bureau's growing, nonemergency call volume. A consultant report commissioned by the fire bureau indicated that this could help reduce demands on firefighters. So we saw an opportunity to take an early look. Next slide. So I recognize that some of the programs have changed since this audit was released in January. But the programs in the fire bureau's health community health division, during our field work included Portland street response, which sends mobile crisis teams of three or more professionals to non-emergency mental health, behavioral health and substance use calls. Community health assess and treat or chat, which sent a team of two medical responders to low acuity medical calls and community connect, which sought to improve health outcomes for community members who were high utilizers of 911 by connecting them with health and social services that they were unable to access on their own. Our audit objective was to determine whether the fire bureau was strategically building the

community health division to shift workload from fire crews by taking an early look at how the fire bureau was building and managing this new division. Our goal was to help the bureau make any needed course corrections as it developed these important programs, next slide. So our first finding had to do with goals for the division. So it's vital for government programs, especially new ones with important missions, to have clear goals so that staff, elected officials and the public understand what the programs seek to achieve. Our audit found that while specific objectives existed for the individual programs that made up the community health division, the fire bureau had not established clear goals for the division overall. The bureau also did not have a plan that linked the program's objectives to bureau wide commitments and initiatives that may have some overlap. This slide gives an example of some program goals that could have been rolled up into larger strategic goals for the division, and then been slotted in to complement other bureau wide goals, next slide. We also found the bureau did not systematically adopt performance measures to aid in assessing the program's results, similar to how each program had goals but no larger strategy holding them together, the bureau put targets and measures in place for some aspects of the individual programs, but there wasn't an overarching plan for what to measure or how to do so. We also found there wasn't a process to adjust programs based on performance. These programs weren't developed at the same time by the same entities, or with the same goals. So given these factors, performance measures may need to be reevaluated and adjusted. But the bureau didn't have a process for adjusting performance measures if they were not useful or for making programmatic adjustments to refine program strategies. So to address these issues, we made recommendations to the bureau. Our first recommendation was to clarify to what extent the bureau is committed to operating the programs of the former

community health division and work with City Council to find the appropriate home for them. If not, we also recommended that they set clear goals for the programs, create a plan for the programs to achieve their goals, measure the progress of the programs toward meeting those goals, and if one of the goals is to reduce emergency operations, fire crew workloads, the bureau should measure how much the programs taken as a whole do so. The bureau should also adjust the programs based on whether or not the goals are met, and develop a process to review performance measures on an ongoing basis, we included in our recommendations that the bureau should consider whether these programs reduced emergency operations, fire crew workloads, and in the fire chief's official response, they took issue, claiming that these programs were not created to do so, the idea behind that came from that consultant report that we referenced earlier, they were hired by the bureau prior to our audit and highlighted this possibility. And we believe the emergency response system and public safety system, as a whole could still benefit from such goals and measures around how these programs reduce workload of public safety partners, next slide. Next, we'll move to our audit of the joint office of homeless services shelter services released in April of this year. The joint office was established by the city and county in 2016 to centralize planning, policy and funding for homelessness programs. They coordinate services to address homelessness, including shelter, and they fund a network of nonprofit organizations to run shelter programs. Our audit objectives were to examine whether the joint office funds the right number and types of shelter, whether people know how to access shelters that meet their needs, and whether shelters are an effective gateway to permanent housing. We also looked at whether the joint office programs overall are designed to eliminate racial disparities. In terms of our audit scope, this audit looked a year round shelters managed by the joint office, serving adults and families. The joint

office also oversees or funds shelters that were not part of our review, including youth shelters, safety focused shelters for survivors of domestic or sexual violence, severe weather shelters, temporary winter and seasonal overnight shelters, and daytime resource centers. Shelters that serve people experiencing homelessness in our community without joint office funding were also outside of our scope. We conducted this audit during a time of rapid growth and transition at the joint office, as well as with city programs that address homelessness. We acknowledged some recent joint office efforts in our audit report, such as the new joint office shelter dashboard and its efforts to develop a shelter strategy. But newer programs that launched after our audit began, such as behavioral health focused shelter beds, micro villages and the city's temporary alternative shelter sites, were also outside of our scope. Next slide. So we noted significant expansion of the shelter system since the joint office was created in 2015, Multnomah County reported 521 year round beds, and in fiscal year 2024, the joint office budgeted for 3220 shelter beds. Locations have spread more widely across the county, and the joint office funds a range of shelter models. Next slide. We found that shelters were generally full and had long wait lists, and there's not enough shelter to meet the need. Pictured are the perspectives of a shelter provider and a person experiencing homelessness that we spoke with. The joint office had some information and data to work with when determining the right amount of shelter to fund, but they did not have a systematic process for evaluating this information. To identify the unmet need for shelter, and the joint office was not able to rightsize shelter supply to meet demand. Next slide. We also found shelters could be hard to access to understand and illustrate some of these barriers, we conducted outreach at shelters and contracted with street roots to gain perspectives of those who had engaged with the system to understand their experiences and barriers to enter a joint office

shelter, a reservation or referral is required. Families can use 211 and be put on a waitlist. A navigator will contact them when something is available, but for individual adults, there's no centralized reservation system. Many adult shelters must be contacted individually for a reservation or to join a waitlist. People seeking shelter can also be referred by a community partner or through a public safety agency. Offering several ways to access shelter is a positive if there's no wrong door to entry, but the lack of shelter availability that I spoke to in the previous slide means there's often no right door either. Next slide. In terms of transitioning to housing, we found that according to fiscal year 2023 data from the joint office, there were more exits from shelters to homelessness than housing, with a significant number of exits unknown in the red bar. Here, we looked at the joint office's goals around housing to learn more, and found no targets have been set for overall exits to permanent housing for the shelter system as a whole. Next slide. So we then turn to provider contracts to see what the housing goals for individual shelters look like, and found that goals around housing outcomes were missing, inconsistent, or had unrealistic targets and overall strategy showing how variety of shelters fit in to overall housing goals is important to account for the differences in populations served and unique needs, and to ensure that all shelters are contributing to that goal. So we had recommendations to address each of these shelter findings. So to help ensure that it funds the right number and types of shelter, we recommended that the joint office develop a systematic data informed process to analyze the need for shelter, the current inventory of shelter units, and existing gaps, and use that analysis to develop strategies for rightsizing shelter supply based on need. We recognize that without expanded shelter supply, it may be difficult to improve shelter access. So once shelter supply is expanded, the joint office should evaluate shelter access to understand where people encounter

barriers to finding a shelter that meets their needs. Then use that evaluation to develop strategies to improve access to shelter, and then to ensure that shelters create effective pathways to permanent housing. The joint office should establish consistent, realistic and meaningful housing outcome performance targets for shelters. Measure and report shelter, progress toward meeting their housing outcome, performance targets, and use the data to evaluate shelters housing outcomes and develop strategies to increase successful housing placements. We noted in our report that strategies to address some of these issues have been incorporated into the new iga, with the county around homelessness response, but they were new and not implemented at the time of our work, so we've not evaluated them. Next slide. So we also looked at whether the joint office was designing its programs with equity in mind. Overall, we found that the joint office did design programs to reduce racial disparities, and their approach followed many best practices in incorporating racial equity into program design. But there's more to be done. Some communities of color continue to experience disproportionate rates of homelessness. Homelessness is increasing in some communities of color, including people who are black, latino, native hawaiian or pacific islander. So we recommended that the joint office continue to design these programs to reduce racial disparities and evaluate the performance of its racial equity efforts to learn more about where there are gaps and continually monitor and adjust strategies as needed to better achieve racial equity goals. The joint office largely agreed with our findings and recommendations, and noted where they were working to address many items through the new homelessness response system. Next slide. And finally, I'd like to share the results of our audit of the inclusionary housing program, which was released in may. Next slide. Portland's inclusionary housing program went into effect in 2017. The program aims to integrate affordable housing into

market rate residential buildings that would otherwise not include it. Residential buildings developed in Portland with 20 or more units are subject to the requirement. The city established four goals for the program, summarized here. Increase the number of units available to households earning 80% or less of median family income or mfi, with an emphasis on households earning 60% or less of mfi. Responsibly allocate resources to increase housing opportunities for families and individuals facing the greatest disparities. Create affordable housing options and high opportunity neighborhoods, and promote a wide range of affordable housing options with regard to size, amenities, and location. Our audit objective was to determine whether the program was meeting its goals, but we found the goals lacked essential elements needed to determine if they were met, like the amount of housing to be built or defining what's meant by the greatest disparity. So instead, we analyze the program's outcomes as they relate to the goals we also looked at whether the housing bureau was prepared to identify when property owners are out of compliance with program requirements. Next slide. We found that the inclusionary housing program had helped to produce affordable housing in high opportunity neighborhoods. These are parts of the city with superior access to quality schools, services, amenities and transportation. There are new apartments and condominiums available to households, earning 60% and 80% or less of mfi as a result of the program. From the beginning of the program, 566 apartments for rent in 78 buildings had been built, with 1157 more anticipated. The majority of the new units built and planned are affordable at the lower 60% mfi tier. We did find, however, that smaller units like studios and one bedrooms are the most commonly produced units by the program, and those units are already affordable outside of the program for some families. Next slide. So we found some issues with the program's goal to increase housing opportunities for families and individuals facing

the greatest disparities. So we found that the program has created new housing opportunities for moderate income families, those making 60 and below, below 60 and 80% of mfi, not Portlanders facing the greatest economic disparities, 22% of Portland's households had incomes of less than 35,000, according to the 2022 American community survey, a family of four with this income would be just above 30. Mfi, highlighted here on this graph. On the left side, the program was not designed to serve those with the lowest incomes. Next slide. We also found that Portlanders facing the greatest racial disparities may qualify for the program, but may not always be able to rent units created through the program. The program's mfi requirements place a ceiling on the amount of income that a family can earn and still be eligible for the program, but the family must also demonstrate to property owners that they can afford the rent. This places a floor on the income a family must earn to qualify. We analyzed median family income by race in the Portland area to understand how accessible the program was to renters of different races. Renters of color were more likely to be eligible, so below the ceiling, because their average mfis were less. However, the median income of black renting families was often not enough to meet the income to rent ratio for inclusionary housing. Apartments big enough for their families. For example, as shown on the slide, black and latinx renting families of three were the only groups with median incomes below the program ceiling for two bedroom apartments. While the median income of latinx renting families was enough to meet the income to rent ratio, a property owner could require the median income of black renting families was not to address these issues, we recommended that the bureau improve program goals so that they are specific to the program attainable based on who the program is designed to serve and measurable. We also recommended that the bureau determine and document if various incentives related to the size of units could

advance city goals. Next slide. So as I said, we also looked at compliance. So in this program property managers are responsible for marketing the affordable units, determining whether applicants are eligible and continue to be over time and for charging below market rent. During our audit, we interviewed property managers representing 20 buildings with inclusionary housing. Several managers said that marketing inclusionary housing units and finding qualified tenants was difficult, and as a result, inclusionary housing apartments have been harder to fill and vacant for longer than market rate ones. In the same building, according to three property managers, 12 three bedroom apartments, the equivalent of 23% of the total three bedroom apartments constructed through the program so far were vacant for more than a year after their buildings opened. Most property managers we interviewed also said that they do not have enough information about the program or the leasing, and reporting requirements they are expected to follow. Some property managers said that turnover and building management left them uninformed about the program. So this this slide kind of illustrates how far a new, new building manager who's kind of responsible for enforcement may be from that that initial property owner who signed and agreed to the inclusionary housing covenant, and then others said that the information provided by the bureau was difficult to navigate. And didn't help them fulfill their responsibilities and comply with program requirements. Bureau staff have worked with some property managers on compliance problems, but said they'd been unable to provide general training to property managers about fulfilling program requirements due to heavy workload. Property owners and managers of inclusionary housing units are required to report to the bureau on an annual basis. Bureau staff said that they rely on the honor system for reporting, but then two two systems test if the reported rents were below the maximum and that tenants met income requirements.

Bureau staff review the results, manually test exceptions and testing errors, and work with property managers as needed to resolve questions and compliance problems. But as of May 2023, the bureau was two years behind in its compliance reviews. If the planned buildings in the inclusionary housing development pipeline are built, the bureau's monitoring responsibilities will more than double without additional resources dedicated to monitoring, the bureau will likely fall further behind and will not be able to effectively identify and respond when program managers are out of compliance or need assistance. So to address these compliance issues, we recommended that the bureau develop methods and guidance for property owners to help ensure marketing is effective and fair, and improve compliance monitoring, education and support for property owners and managers. During our audit work, the bureau revised the goals of the program, but we would urge them to look again with our findings and recommendations in mind.

Next slide. So as auditor rede noted, we just released our audit schedule for this next fiscal year, which lists our projects that are underway. We're wrapping up reports on our audits of vision zero and technology acquisitions. Those should be released in the next few months. We're wrapping up planning on our audit of parks fiscal management. We've just started work on our audits of asset management and climate justice, and we are also poised to start our audit of the city arts program. We've also added rapid rehousing efforts to reduce gun violence, cyber security, 911 emergency communication and pbot street improvements as new topics to start once some of these projects wrap up next slide. So if you would like to participate in any of these projects or want to contact us with ideas or otherwise contribute, please don't hesitate to contact me, and I'd either be happy to talk to you or connect you with auditor in charge of the specific project. And next slide is for questions.

Speaker: Very good colleagues. Any questions?

Speaker: I have a few quick ones, number one, thank you so much for the presentation today and the work that you do every day. A couple of quick questions. I think, first about chat and then the joint office. If I understand your findings, on the chat program, you basically come to the conclusion that there have been some management challenges, over at chat, you know, both trouble setting goals, and maybe some ambiguity in metrics. And if I understood how fires responded to that, and commissioner Gonzalez has responded to that, it seems like they largely agree with you and have said that the solution is to move chat into essentially fires, training division, I don't know if I have that completely correct, but that's my intuitive sense of what's happening there. Do you have, an evaluation of our plan forward in terms of resolving the issues that we've had historically with chat?

Speaker: Yeah, we try not to kind of make policy decisions for you all. So our our first recommendation to kind of reconsider commitment to the program was to kind of prompt that, that discussion, and then, like I said, I think, you know, figuring out kind of from, from a community safety perspective where these various needs fit in with each other and maybe with with county services, too, is, is should be part of that consideration.

Speaker: Okay, thank you very much. Commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Yeah. We also have a couple of our chiefs here that could probably speak to that. Do you want to clarify what, chad, one of the probable disagreements between the auditor's office and the fire chief on this is what as to what are the real goals of chad? Right. The and it in reviewing the audit, I by the way, I think it was helpful. There's some really insightful elements, but I think there has been an interpretation not just in the auditor's office, sometimes in budgeting and finance,

that investment in alternative responses depletes the necessary investment in core fire and police. I think that is an assumption that has been permeated the city in recent years. Based on my 18 months in the saddle, I think that assumption probably fails, a sniff test, if you go back and look at the city gate report 2022, they were really looking at a fire department that had had substantial underinvestment in, first sort of mid-level management. And sort of your real infrastructure in the fire department, not front line, but kind of your, they were also looking at response times in east Portland, and they basically included, we probably need a couple more fire stations in east Portland given current span, but some of the investments we're making in chat could not, would allow us not to have to make those investments. Now additional in additional fire stations that is sometimes been interpreted. That means that you invest in chat. You alleviate our existing staffing needs. And I can get into all the ways. That's not really what we're seeing in the data. Psr is a little different story there. Those goals were, you know, largely designed by my predecessor, with help with mayor Wheeler. It's pretty well documented in the, the way the goals were designed, you know, should that have ever been put in Portland fire, you know, I question it, it it we don't see any evidence that it's relieving, fire calls in any material way, a substantial percentage of its calls would have otherwise been police calls, so that's the good news, the challenge we're facing is that, notwithstanding substantial investment by this council in alternative response, chat psr, you're still not seeing a decrease in overall 911 volume in the system. And so that's just something we have to get our hands around. Yes psr is responding to a lot of calls that used to go to police, but we're not seeing that result in a reduction in police calls. And so, you know, we could get into a lot of speculation on that. Why that is you look at what central city concern has done in assessing the general illness, in the community right now, and one of

my hypothesis is, yes, we send psr to call that used to go to police, but that same person is going to be back two weeks later. A month later, six weeks later, on a more serious instance, if we don't have any place for psr to take them, if we don't have. But that's hypothesis we, that's i, that's just me looking at the data we're making, all these investments, they're responding to a lot of calls, but we're not really seeing reduction in core demand for either police or fire. So how how how can we reconcile those, those two truths. And, so that's that's my hypothesis. But that's something I think we have to bore out with some time,

Speaker: Thank you for that. That explainer and all that makes sense to me, both intuitively and from what I've experienced on council, commissioner, how do you feel about, you know, the concerns with specifically about chat and management and goals and whatnot and the fire, the fire bureaus with your consents, decision to move that over into the training division, is that going to kind of clean up some of the things that that the auditor is pointing towards or.

Speaker: Well, the, the when you go back to late 2022, the league of community health division went on administrative leave for a reasons outside of management of the division.

Speaker: That's just an unfortunate time of the overlap with the audit. You actually didn't have a lead in the community health division. It was a air dispute with the then fire chief that is now, well, established in the media. And so you had a substantial portion of the audit period where you actually just didn't have a functional lead. The community health division. Now, chief gillespie was put in as a temporary lead by me. I think we did that in February or March just because we were seeing a vacuum. Even without the auditor's report, we needed someone leading that division. And it was really hamstrung because you had a chief and the person on leave that we're in a dispute. It made the intervention complicated, and

so, you know, beyond that, I think there's a lot of fantastic things chat's doing, but the goalposts are moving a little bit. It was, you know, and I'd say this for psr two, like the, you know, you have a original hypothesis of what's going to do. You go and test it, both of the programs grew really fast. And I think that's one of our additional critiques. We grew these things really, really fast, and we were adjusting goals and purpose and therefore cpi kpis on the fly, and, so I that's just you learn some things with the growth, I don't know that chat is truly ever going to substantially reduce, core fire calls in a way that leads to justifying redeploying dollars from core fire to chat. But what chad is attempting to do is alleviating the overall medical system. The overall 911 system, and does that mean outside funders are willing to support it? And in some ways it's not even really for council. Right now to make that assessment of its worth. It's whether care Oregon in some of these other folks are continuing to willing to fund it, I don't mean to wash our hands of it, but it's a, it was largely supported by outside non-city dollars last year. And if we're checking their boxes, I think that's partially the assessment. Having said all of that, it's now very much involved in our intervention on the streets. It's doing the endorphine pilot. It's offering an alternative. Overdose response. And I think going forward, goals need to be assessed on that. But I have I have good confidence in the fire bureaus of, stewardship of it at this point. We just went through at least a six month period where there was simply was no leadership in that division. And that's since has been filled,

Speaker: Thank you very much. That clarifies a lot of, my questions and concerns around chat. I want to make it clear for everybody in the room, especially our partners over at fire. I think she has done a great job. I think part of what's happening in the city right now is we're standing up sort of an emergency response system for the 21st century, and that's going to look different from what it looked

like 50 years for 50 years ago, or 100 years ago. Although fires, one of our original public services, I do have I have a question about the joint office, but I see commissioner, Ryan has his hand up. Yeah great. Let me, on the joint office, and I realize this is a little bit outside the scope of your, audit, although you did touch on it very briefly in your presentation. What, I don't know if it was last week or the week before this council passed the new iga with the joint office, is it your sense that that the new number one. I don't know if you had a chance to take a look at the new iga. If you didn't, that's more than fine. But if you did, does that document address the concerns that you've raised,

Speaker: They the joint office did connect some some dots for us. So we did note in the report where, you know, we thought things that they had put forward, I think, you know, as early as March when they announced the strategy, so in terms of, amount of beds, there's a commitment in there related to that, and then more commitment to data analysis and evaluation capacity, and then, they are at least taking some, some tentative steps to commissioning a study to assess the benefits of a coordinated entry process. So that's kind of the access piece that that I spoke to, and the, new shelter strategy, did establish goals, around moving into housing and those sorts of things. So, you know, to the extent, you know, we highlighted the lack of those things, there are commitments to those things. But, you know, like, they came came out relatively late in the game. We didn't evaluate them fully. And, you know, the iga has not been signed and hasn't implemented yet. So stay tuned for tomorrow.

Speaker: Yeah, thank you. And, the last bit of the last thing i'll say today, hopefully, is just some feedback on the joint office, audit. I appreciate it. I think everyone on council, probably agrees with it or recognizes that it, it resonates with our experience in this space, too. However, in your presentation, I would say, I find

something a little bit off on the framing. I think you tend to approach the joint office as if it were a regular city program, and the joint office just is not a regular city program. It's not like we could sit down here today and decide, okay, we're going to have 6000 shelter beds and, you know, the mayor bangs his gavel and, staff goes forward and make it. So that's one of the critiques I've been trying to or one of the observations I've been trying to bring to the joint office discussion. I would argue that it's unlikely we're going to get this right until we recognize that the management structure that we created in this space, is highly unique and has yet to proven itself to be successful, which makes it kind of hard to, you know, I can't I can't take the feedback you've given us and the management structures that we currently have and actually do a whole lot with it. Sure. Our fault. Yeah. Just what is what it is until someone decides to do something different and yeah, in that case, maybe our, our audit authority is maybe more expansive than council's authority to weigh in.

Speaker: So the iga has an audit clause that gives equal rights to us. And the county auditor to look at any aspect of the joint office. So not just stuff that city dollars go to. So we do maybe have the ability to, to scope and look at something, and make recommendations directly to them, so are you going to do this road show or at least the joint office piece present that to the county, we have engaged with the chair's office, but we haven't, we haven't offered that. But, we have engaged with the chair's office throughout the monitor.

Speaker: Can I ask you how the.

Speaker: Oh, I think that's a great idea. We haven't considered, taking that particular audit, to that body, but it's something that we could consider. I hope you would, because i, you know, I think, our colleagues across the river are in a much better place to, operationalize and move forward on your recommendations,

Speaker: There's not a whole lot more I can do with them other than to share your good work with them. I they don't take orders from me, and with that, I will, hand the floor back to the mayor,

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan, then commissioner Rubio. Madam auditor, you're on a tight time frame. Is that my understanding?

Speaker: Oh, I just want to point out that we do have one more portion of the presentation, which is the ombudsman's work.

Speaker: Very good. Okay. Commissioner Ryan, then, commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Okay. I think this is more under the auditor, frame. So that's why i'll go now. Thank you, madam auditor. Thank you, director jones, you know, i, I love continuous improvement. And so therefore I really do like audits. And it was an an enterprise that it's been very clear that we need to improve on customer service. I do think that audits are really helpful tool if we actually use them and if we actually are transparent about them and if we connect the dots between when we receive the audit and then how we are improving policy and more importantly, practices, because that's what you really get at. So i'll always remember when I first got the assignment for bts, the audit came out that said, what audits have for some time, which is that our permitting system is terrible. When you when you look at it across the board, they were never it wasn't a kind audit. It basically said, this isn't working very well. And in that audit that meeting, I had to dig a little bit to see this, but it was really the handoffs because it was an audit on bts. And I called out that this is incomplete. It really should be looking at all of them. And the nonverbal. I don't think it was you, but someone gave me some nonverbal that kind of said, you're on the right track. So with that, thank god commissioner Mapps said, yes, i'll co-chair this. The improvement, task force with you. And now, you know, two years later, we now have something to show for it. So I'm proud of the council for actually working

with that. And I'm obviously proud of the fact that I spent two years, like digging into that. My point is, that was a good example of how it was used properly. You took a little bit of my thunder because I was going to say I found it. No it was good, that wasn't a that wasn't bad. It's like I was sitting here thinking, we just had three weeks of spirited, very healthy, creative tension around something. We should have a lot of spirited, creative tension. And that's the way we are serving those who are on our streets and those impacted by that. And we're divided on many of those topics because it's an important issue. But then when I'm reminded, because I was in some of those intake interviews and I was surprised that it really didn't come up much while we were having the iga conversation. And so to commissioner Mapps point, this intelligence should be shared with the county where they have 95% of the influence on the operations of homelessness. We're a donor to that program, basically. And then because that program at the county wasn't doing in my opinion, enough for those who are homeless, that needed shelters that actually had services. They say yes to, we were able to use the arpa money to get the safe rest villages started, which I think he meant to call out. Why you said micro villages, but it's like that's what's happened. But it wasn't in our dialog last week. Can you tell me why we're not connecting the dots? Sometimes when you when we have those kind of spirited conversations, when there's been recent audits, and is there a wall up for you to not tell us that we should be looking at that?

Speaker: Well, I guess i'll start by responding at a high, higher level that, we hear from community that and I know that you would agree houselessness is the number one issue affecting Portlanders. So it's incumbent on us to use our audit authority where we can to get objective information and answers about how well the system is working. And I've noted in the last audit schedule that should the city not renew the homelessness response, iga, that we would pivot to auditing

Portland solutions instead, because Portlanders still want answers about what we as a region are doing to address homelessness.

Speaker: And, during the joint office audit, specifically the joint office is the oddity. So they are they are actively engaged. We're making our recommendations to them. And the chair's office and joint office provided the official response as the oddity. We were coordinating with sky and sarah morrissey in the mayor's office, kind of in their liaison role there, but I agree kind of back to the same point. Like the management role of that function is, is unique enough that, yeah, I think we're, we're maybe needing to be more cognizant of like making sure it's on the county's radar, maybe more as an outreach sort of thing rather than a reporting our results to those charged with management sort of thing.

Speaker: Like, I respect that the auditor's office is independent. I think we all are independently elected. So I think there's also that. And that special interest shouldn't influence your work as much as, broad objective community voice. And so in that where can we have more transparent dialog where the council, who's taking on the priorities of this city and stays focused on those priorities? And I'm proud to be of a council that's been doing that. Where do we fit in? Where there is some dialog about your calendar and what your focuses are? Is there such a engagement of dialog, or have I just missed out on that?

Speaker: I think we tend to, thank you for that question, commissioner. I think we tend to, engage different bodies when we're presenting the results of, of our work, I know there were a number of meetings jointly between the county and city to address this issue, I would welcome, you know, opportunities to be part of those agendas. Certainly, county auditor mcgurk and I worked to make sure that our audit rights were preserved in this new iga that's being considered. So I would welcome the opportunity to have more dialog and share our results.

Speaker: And if people want to track what your calendar is, what your plan is, what's the best way to stay current with what the auditor's office is up to in terms of upcoming audits?

Speaker: Yeah, thanks for that question. We have a dedicated page on our website, that provides the contact for each audit lead. And then a status on where we are in completing those projects.

Speaker: And so independently elected officials, public servants like myself, we could track that and then meet with you to see if we could have an opinion or two about what the plan is.

Speaker: Sure about the plan, or on an individual project. Historically, we've engaged our elected officials during the scoping part of every project, with a new form of government. I think we'll have opportunities to engage our city administrators in greater depth. So we do welcome your input in scoping these projects and informing the conclusions.

Speaker: Yeah, I hope to be a part of helping connect those dots, since I've been here for four years, it seems like I've had to go out of my way to try to figure out how to connect those dots. The system doesn't seem to flow like I wish it would in terms of improving. Government and doing better continuous improvement work. And we really need you because you have the bandwidth to do this type of investigation. If you will.

Speaker: Yeah. How we engage with future council is, is something that we're kind of constantly thinking about. So yeah, I'd be happy to talk about ideas for how to do that.

Speaker: That's real charter reform. All right. Thanks yea. Rubio.

Speaker: Thank you, first I just want to say, to madam auditor rede and casey and ombudsman croft, thank you so much for all the work. That's clearly a lot of work

that you undertook, and i, for one, really appreciate audits. I don't know if it's the nerdy nonprofit director in me, but I looked forward to our audits every year because it really laid out clearly where our work at work was, to do and to focus on, to make sure, like, like, other commissioners have said that continuous improvement continues, I just want to bring up one question, and then I have a comment, so I'm just curious, on the audit for the inclusionary housing, have you since had an opportunity to connect with the housing bureau about what steps they're taking? Since that? There's been a number of things. So I'm just curious if there's was an opportunity to touch back on that.

Speaker: There were some things that we discussed with them, at our exit conference where we kind of went through the findings and then, went over the draft report. So we did adjust some things in the draft report, kind of based on their their feedback, but our normal follow up process is to come back a year after the project is released, and that's when we would ask for additional documents, evidence, that sort of thing, especially since some of these things are moving, new, new initiatives are being announced, kind of getting a clear sense of where those things are, so there is like a clear point where we check back in and we do that for a five year period.

Speaker: Great, great. Good to know. And, other another thing, and this is not so much some my comment is not so much something, in connection to how we've worked with you on this, this particular report, but rather how it's landed in, in the public and in the news and some strings that get pulled out sort of without context. So I'm saying something for the record, just that I wanted to, to talk about how, that we've learned that when the previous council and bureau leadership set up the inclusionary housing program, the costs related to operating that program was not explicitly taken into account or outlined. And so, in other words, the program was

created, but what wasn't outlined was how it was paid for. And so thus that that meant that the bureau was left to allocate, you know, administrative funds from the revenue of the program. Or other bureau funds to, to run the program itself, which clearly is, is an issue for us to look at now. And, the current housing director and myself strongly agree that those funds should go back into the program. So just for the record and for the public, want to, make that clear and, and we appreciate that the audit also lifted that up for us to take a look at. Yeah.

Speaker: It wasn't the focus of our work. And I think that was that was clear in what I presented today. So yeah.

Speaker: Okay. Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzalez I just had a general comment that builds off a little bit of I actually maybe all of my colleagues questions, but, when you're thinking about the scope and description of an audit, do you know, I think you mentioned earlier in the presentation that newer programs sometimes are more ripe for audit, you know, i'll those weren't your exact words, but I'm sort of summarizing it. You know, i'll say in my organizational life, the difference between a new program, an existing program, and actually dramatically changes how you define kpis, how you set goals, and frankly, how you assess performance. It's just, you know, if you're doing a startup in just about anything, you, you know, you're going to do a pivot at some point, including your goals, your kpis. And so I guess I would just sort of it's mostly a question going forward, maybe with the new form of government, when we think about how we scope these things for, because, you know, they're just different bodies. When something's been around for a number of years, it has a well understood, purpose, probably agreed upon goals. I think that's a that's one kind of exercise. To audit its performance, and for startups, it's just a different ball of wax and to commissioner Mapps, since there's certain extent

commissioner Ryan's comments as well, I when we're part of an iga, it's own separate. We don't quite have the agency that, we would otherwise it doesn't mean. So it's trying to figure out what we can do with your audit to make it actionable as given the fluidity of those kind of some things are less and more fluid, just depending on where the program is, so that's kind of a comment and kind of a question. Yeah.

Speaker: So we do we do kind of take maturity into account there, especially with the fire audit, we really approach that as readiness, like what might get in the way of these programs kind of accomplishing what the what they're intended to do, and kind of with the way we work, if, if some of those kind of big guiding strategies aren't in place, that's kind of a first stop, for, for some things, I think you highlighted maybe some of the leadership gaps that, that, that got in the way of, of that happening, and then for more mature programs or evolved programs that can be about like unintended effect and like really kind of things that, that have, me like happened or, or maybe context that has been added and that sort of thing. So it does, it does look different to us.

Speaker: Yeah. Well, and again, hopefully there's opportunities in new form of government to identify the things that have longer fuzes. You know, theoretically you don't have the turnover in sort of ownership because in each of our cases we're sort of dealing with, well, we inherited programs created by somebody else that and may have different goals for it. And it's, it's, I mean, even hearing that in inclusionary housing to a certain extent. So it's a, interesting problem as we think through, that maybe can be solved in any form of government. Leave it at that.

Speaker: All right. Good.

Speaker: Yeah. So I think we have one more portion that our ombudsman croft is going to take us through. Go ahead.

Speaker: Thank you, good afternoon, mayor Wheeler. Commissioners city administrator. My name is Jennifer Croft. I'm the city ombudsman, and I've been in this position since the end of 2022. And I'm excited to be here today and share with you the results of our work as captured in our 2023 annual report, next slide please, before jumping into those results, I'd like to just do a brief intro or recap about what I do as the ombudsman, the word ombudsman. It's actually a Swedish word. It's gender neutral. And ombudsman offices of different types exist all over the world, but ours is what's called the classical ombudsman model, which means that we investigate complaints about government. As Auditor Rede mentioned, we take complaints from people who feel they've been harmed or unfairly treated by the city. And then we consider whether we can resolve those informally or whether we might need to conduct an investigation. And we can make recommendations to bureaus and issue reports as part of the auditor's office. We're independent and impartial, so we're not an advocate for the complainant, and we're not an advocate for the city. We're an advocate for safeguarding people's rights and for high standards of fairness, competency, efficiency and justice in city services, the year 2023 was an anniversary year for us. It marked 30 years since Portland has had an ombudsman, Portland has actually just one of a handful of US cities that has this unique position, which has been enshrined in the city charter since 2017. Next slide, please, so our small team, which is three staff, though we just last this week had a Hatfield Hatfield fellow start with us. He'll be with us for nine months, our small team last year received a little bit over 600 complaints. And out of those, a little less than 400 were complaints about the city or jurisdictional complaints. We received complaints about lots of other things, and we try to direct people to the right place as much as we can. These complaint numbers last year were an increase over the previous year, although that overall number of total complaints has stayed

fairly steady, and we try to get out the word about our services through ads on social media and outreach activities like meeting with community groups, next slide please. We accept complaints from any source, that can be from individual community members, an organization, business or city employee. But the vast majority of our complaints are from members of the public, we have a pretty informal process. Complaints can be taken by phone, email. We have an online form. And once in a while we get a walk in to city hall. Next slide please, it's, particularly a priority for us to make sure that underserved and marginalized communities know about our services and can access them equitably so as part of those efforts, we collect demographic information on a voluntary basis from people who contact our office and not everyone chooses to provide that information. But the data we do have shows us that we still have some work to do to reach, Portlanders in all their diversity and in all parts of the city, so the next slide, please, also shows that we do have some gaps, as the previous graph showed in asian and latinx communities. And this map shows some lower complaint rates in parts of east Portland. Next slide, we receive complaints. About almost all bureaus, really covers the broad spectrum of city. Services and offices. Complaints sometimes can also involve sometimes more than one bureau. This graph shows the six bureaus that were subject of the most complaints, and if we look at this through the lens of the new city structure, the highest concentration of complaints was in the public works service area, which made up about 40. So when looking at the bureaus, I think it's important to mention that we aren't a replacement for whatever kind of complaint or grievance process or appeal process. A bureau has, we do want those processes to be working well. So we often direct people back to the bureau first to see if they can use that process. And that can be a more efficient way to address the concern. But if someone has not been successful at resolving their concern with

the bureau, we might see if we can help facilitate a resolution. So that might mean connecting the complainant with a bureau supervisor, maybe doing some research to give someone the context so they can understand the city's decision, or asking the bureau to expedite the issue. If the complainant has already had a significant delay. Next slide. We would generally conduct an investigation if a complaint doesn't lend itself to informal resolution and raises our concern that a city action or decision may be causing harm or unfair treatment. And when we prioritize our limited investigative resources, we also consider factors such as whether the complaint involves egregious individual injustice, affects the complainant's basic human needs, such as the need for shelter, comes from a member of a historically marginalized or underserved community, or raises an issue that might have inequitable impacts. And in an investigation, we're gathering all the facts from the complainant, from the city, and our guiding star is fairness. So we're not just looking at whether a city action was technically correct or was in line with city code. But we're also looking at whether the result was fair and the city, and whether the city is being reasonable and transparent and accountable. Under city charter, we have the authority to access any staff and records we need to conduct our investigations. And in 2023, we completed 34 investigations that represented about 9% of our jurisdictional complaints. And we made recommendations to bureaus in 15 cases where complaints were substantiated. And in all those cases, bureaus accepted our recommendations. Next slide, here you can see some quotes from people we were able to help during the year. Sometimes we helped to relieve an administrative burden and emotional burden. Sometimes the financial burden. And for example, removal of city liens or refunding fines or fees. And last year, these savings totaled approximately \$70,000. That came about because of our interventions and recommendations. Next slide. Sometimes a single complaint or a

pattern of complaints, we receive point to a system wide problem that is impacting, or might have potential to impact other people besides the complainant and this is when we might decide to undertake a systemic investigation. We also have the authority under city charter to undertake investigations at our own initiative without a complaint. Last year we published three reports about systemic investigations and these all stemmed from individual complaints. The first report was about, the police bureau's handling of eu visas, which are visas intended for undocumented victims of crime, cooperate with law enforcement, and those visa applications need to be certified by a law enforcement agency. So we learned after looking into this, after receiving a complaint from someone whose certification request was turned down, we dug deeper and learned that the police bureau's rate of certifying applications had dropped significantly in a recent period. So we recommended changes to improve the bureau's processes for handling requests for training, we also recommended that the police review a number of applications that they had not certified initially. And we're in the process of monitoring implementation of those recommendations, the second, report on the slide, this was about, emergency board up services. We found that gaps in city oversight of a contract led to property and business owners being overcharged for emergency board up services. They received after their properties were vandalized or broken into, we recommended the community safety division take some steps to hold the board up contractor accountable and to improve its own oversight of the contract, all the recommendations were accepted, and unfortunately, not all have been implemented. And, the last is a report we did after finding that Portland parks and recreation had towed a number of boats from public docks without following the requirements set out in city code and state law. And the result was that some vulnerable Portlanders lost their property and in some cases, their shelter. The city

has been implementing our recommendations, which included, recommending putting in place safeguards to make sure the correct process is followed and documented, and these reports, as well as the annual report that I described, are all available on our website in terms of, current work we're working on a systemic investigation that we hope will inform recommendations to bring more fairness and equity to the city's towing practices. This is an area that's been a recurring subject of complaints. And for this project, we also have been inviting community members to tell us about their experiencing experiences with towing, which has given us a lot of valuable insights. Next slide. In closing, I'd really encourage anyone who has concerns about fairness and city services to contact our office, and we also always welcome and appreciate when people within the city refer community members to us. Thank you for your attention and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps, thank you so much, thank you so much for your presentation and the work that you do today, given the hour, i'll let me make a couple of statements or suggestions, in terms of given where your complaints are coming from, which bureaus are attracting a lot of them, and I certainly I noticed that transportation, is at the top of the list, and I and I think I understand why we throw a lot of cars in that space and, and other things. I do hope that, if you haven't had a chance to have a cup of coffee with our new dca for public works, I think would be really great for you and priya to have an exchange of information and hopefully a close working relationship, and second, your office, like, I think, many city services, often struggles to, fully engage communities of color. Well, first let me i'll put this as a question, what strategies are you using to reach out to, underserved communities that seem to be especially communities of color, who, according to

your stats, seem to be, not as engaged with your office as they could be. Yeah, I would say it's definitely an ongoing area of work.

Speaker: We have a, a strong communications outreach team, fairly new within the auditor's office. New team came on board last year and is supporting us and other divisions of the office in those efforts, I would say, yeah, identifying meeting with community organizations that can maybe help as, serve as intermediaries, people who organizations that are maybe interacting with low income homeowners, with communities of color and hearing about problems. People have people who may not think that there is an office in the city that could help, but maybe could say, oh, look, there's this, office called the ombudsman and can point them in our direction. So, yeah, I would say trying to attend community events, make presentations to community groups. And auditor rede wants to know, I would say that, yeah.

Speaker: A commitment that I've made, since my term began, is to make sure that there is more community voice and input, in the projects that we take on. And so we have a team that works across divisions of my office to make sure that we're building those connections. And creating those pathways to hear directly from Portlanders,

Speaker: Great. And I appreciate you leading into this work, and it's challenging work every, every bureau, is, facing the same challenge here. I don't know if you if you've done this yet, but, one strategy, which I'd encourage you to try is to, invite the, heads of our district coalition offices out for a cup of coffee and a get to know each other session. If you haven't done that, I used to work in those spaces. They're. They have, feet on the ground in all 94 of our neighborhoods, and they tend to be centers where, frankly, grievances about the city, get shared. And if I think they could be real resources for you there, especially as you take a look at the

periphery of the, of the city, and again, thank you for the presentation. And, mr. Mayor, I will hand the floor back to you.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, I just a quick, comment and then a question, so I just wanted to appreciate the report on protecting and, undocumented victims of crime. And particularly, lift up also the engagement with tony green on this, this work as well, that report directly led to my office leading a meeting with the mayor and the chief of police and the latino advisory council, and the Portland police bureau, to address some of the issues that were identified, and also to follow up on results. And so we still have more work to do, but, I'm really glad that ppb leadership and community leadership, it's a it's an opportunity to do some problem solving and relationship building together simultaneously. So, in that respect, things are moving in a better direction. So thank you for that, my question is, do you do follow ups to these reports in the same way that you do the audits? And would you maybe consider that if you don't?

Speaker: Yeah, our process is, we don't have, there is no formal requirement or standard to have follow ups, but certainly we want to see that our recommendations are implemented. So, we yes, are, we do try to follow them up when we see that there, that there. It's important to have transparency around that. And when we want to, highlight when recommendations are, aren't being implemented. But our approach is can be more flexible than with audits.

Speaker: I think it would be, highly supported by the community if there I mean, at least on this particular issue. Great

Speaker: I believe we have run the course, madam auditor. Does that complete your presentation for today?

Speaker: It does. I have one more slide that shares our contact info. So I just want to reiterate, there are many ways to reach our office, we're located in city hall, and

folks can again sign up to receive our reports if they want to, get immediate results. That's available on our website.

Speaker: Thank you. Thanks all three of you for a great presentations. And thank you for your thoroughness and your willingness to answer lots of questions. We all appreciate it. Colleagues. We're adjourned.