



May 24, 2023 Council Agenda

5714

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

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Questions may be directed to councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:30 am

Session Status: Recessed

Council in Attendance: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Officers in attendance: Linly Rees, Chief Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk; Christina Thomas, Acting Council Clerk

Items 404 and 406 were pulled from the Consent Agenda and on a Y-5 roll call the balance of the Consent Agenda was adopted.

Council convened at 9:32 a.m.

Council recessed at 10:21 a.m. and reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

Council recessed at 12:20 p.m. and reconvened at 12:31 p.m.

Council recessed at 1:54 p.m.

Communications

396

[Request of Perla Estrada to address Council regarding Community Based Organization wage advocacy](#)

(Communication)

Document number: 396-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

397

[Request of Jessica Mathis to address Council regarding Community Based Organization wage advocacy](#)
(Communication)

Document number: 397-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

398

[Request of Pia Johnson to address Council regarding United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in our region](#) (Communication)

Document number: 398-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

Meher Kaur and Winston Luo also presented to Council for item 398.

399

[Request of Desmond Overbeck-Gire to address Council regarding United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in our region](#) (Communication)

Document number: 399-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

Blair Combs and Naomi Patel also presented to Council for item 399.

400

[Request of Abigail Andrews to address Council regarding United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in our region](#) (Communication)

Document number: 400-2023

Disposition: Placed on File

Ethan Ngo and Marco Hult also presented to Council for item 400.

Time Certain

401

[Proclaim May 26 through June 11, 2023 to be the 116th annual Portland Rose Festival Focus on Fun Celebration](#)
(Proclamation)

Document number: 401-2023

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Time certain: 9:45 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

402

[Accept the Operational Feasibility Study for Regional Ferry Service, include a Passenger Ferry Pilot Project in the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan financially constrained project list, and endorse the City's 2023 Regional Transportation Plan Project List Submittal](#) (Resolution)

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Time certain: 10:05 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Referred to Commissioner of Public Safety

403

[Proclaim May 2023 to be Mental Health Awareness Month](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 403-2023

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Time certain: 10:25 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

Consent Agenda

404

[Update resolution connecting mental health and substance abuse recovery services to unhoused individuals \(amend Resolution 37595\)](#) (Resolution)

Document number: 37619

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Disposition: Adopted

Agenda item 404 was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

405

[*Amend contract with Central City Concern to increase amount by \\$2,646,475 to provide additional Campsite Impact Reduction Services.\(amend Contract 30007363\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191283

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

406

[*Authorize grant agreement with Legacy Health for FY 2022-23 to renovate the Unity Center for Behavioral Health Psychiatric Emergency Service space to expand capacity for crisis triage and add nine sobering beds/recliners not to exceed \\$335,000](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191291

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance

Disposition: Passed As Amended

Agenda item 406 was pulled from the Consent Agenda to consider a proposed amendment.

Motion to amend the Ordinance to update the number of sobering beds to nine: Moved by Wheeler and seconded by Ryan. (Y-5)

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

407

[*Amend contract with Oregon Department of Transportation to incorporate Right of Way Services during construction for the Portland Safety Projects - All Roads Transportation Safety Project \(amend Contract 30006914\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191284

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

408

[*Amend contract with Portland Streetcar, Inc. to extend the agreement terms through June 30, 2025 and add \\$2,383,621 in compensation \(Amend Contract 30004833\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191285

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

409

[Authorize the Oregon Public Works Emergency Response Cooperative Assistance Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation and others for cooperative assistance during emergency conditions](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191286

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Second reading agenda item 384.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

410

[Authorize a Joint Funding Agreement with U.S. Geological Survey in the amount of \\$1,123,805 for Streamflow and Water Quality Monitoring](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191292

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Water

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading May 31, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Agenda

411

[Amend Joint Office of Homeless Services Intergovernmental Agreement with Multnomah County to extend the term of the agreement \(amend Contract 30005335\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191296

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Time requested: 30 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading as amended

Motion to remove the emergency clause: Moved by Wheeler and seconded by Ryan. (Y-5)

Motion to substitute Exhibit A: Moved by Ryan and seconded by Wheeler. (Y-5)

Passed to second reading May 31, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. as amended

412

[Proclaim May 30, 2023 to be Vanport Day of Remembrance](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 412-2023

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

413

[Appoint Joseph Torres Ortiz to the Portland Committee on Community-Engaged Policing](#) (Report)

Document number: 413-2023

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Community Safety Division; Management and Finance

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Confirmed

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

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

414

[*Approve grant renewal funding recommendations made by Portland Children's Levy Allocation Committee for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191287

Introduced by: Commissioner Dan Ryan

Bureau: Children's Levy

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

415

[Authorize competitive solicitation and contract with the lowest responsible bidder for construction of the Mt Scott Community Center Seismic Retrofit and Expansion Project for an estimated cost of \\$28,300,000](#)

(Ordinance)

Document number: 191288

Introduced by: Commissioner Dan Ryan

Bureau: Parks & Recreation

Second reading agenda item 389.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

416

[Authorize eight grant or intergovernmental agreements related to the Community Watershed Stewardship Program for a total amount up to \\$100,000](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191289

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Environmental Services

Second reading agenda item 381.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

417

[Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Multnomah County Health Department for \\$129,000 to conduct lead-related public health services for the Lead Hazard Reduction Program](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191290

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Water

Second reading agenda item 391.

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

418

[Amend permit fee schedules for building, cannabis, electrical, enforcement, land use services, mechanical, noise, plumbing, signs, site development, and land use services fee schedule for the Hearings Office](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191299

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Development Services (BDS)

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading May 31, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

419

[Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization to allow building-related Stranded Workers to work in the jurisdiction where they are stranded due to an emergency that disrupts communication and transportation routes](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191300

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Development Services (BDS)

Time requested: 10 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading May 31, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 2:30 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.

Commissioner Ryan arrived at 2:34 p.m.

Commissioner Gonzalez arrived at 2:36 p.m.

Officers in attendance: Ken McGair, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Christina Thomas, Acting Council Clerk

Council adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Time Certain

420

[Revise transportation fees, rates and charges for FY 2023-24, amend Transportation Fee Schedule, and fix an effective date \(amend TRN 3.450\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191294

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Transportation

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 3 hours (1 of 4)

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading May 31, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

421

[Revise solid waste and recycling rates and fees for franchised residential collection and the commercial tonnage fee effective July 1, 2023 \(amend Code Chapter 17.102\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191301

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 3 hours (2 of 4)

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading May 31, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

422

[Authorize the rates and charges for water and water-related services beginning July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 and fix an effective date](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191298

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Water

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 3 hours (3 of 4)

Disposition: Passed to second reading as amended

Motion to amend Ordinance and Exhibit A to increase water rates and water-related charges by 0.2% to 7.9% to include a discount under the Portland Water Bureau and Bureau of Environmental Services Regulated Affordable Multifamily Assistance Program: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Rubio. (Y-4 Ryan, Gonzalez, Mapps, Rubio; N-1 Wheeler)

423

[Revise sewer and stormwater rates, charges and fees in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Sewer User Rate Study](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191293

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Environmental Services

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 3 hours (4 of 4)

Disposition: Passed to second reading as amended

Motion to amend Exhibit A to increase sewer and stormwater rates by 0.92% to 4.07% to include a discount under the Portland Water Bureau and Bureau of Environmental Services Regulated Affordable Multifamily Assistance Program: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Ryan. (Y-4 Ryan, Gonzalez, Mapps, Rubio; N-1 Wheeler)

Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:00 pm

Session Status: No session scheduled

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
May 24, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.

Name	Agenda Item
Mayor Ted Wheeler	
Keelan McClymont	
Commissioner Dan Ryan	
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez	
Commissioner Mingus Mapps	
Commissioner Carmen Rubio	
Linly Rees	
Pia Johnson	398
Meher Kaur	398
Winston Luo	398
Desmond Overbeck-Gire	399
Blair Combs	399
Naomi Patel	399
Abigail Andrews	400
Ethan Ngo	400
Marco Hult	400
Marilyn Clint	401
Contesa Diaz-Nicolaidis	401
Audriana Ethridge	401
MaryMer Kansou	401
Abi Crowe	401
M'Ryah Kelley	401
Sierra Dedmon	401
Piper Winder	401
Nikkie Hernandez	401
Lulu Kennybrew	401
Jolynn Ta	401
Alyssia Menezes	401
Crystal Ramsey Roberts	401
Lily St. Martin	401
Emily Welch	401
Elizabeth Tran	401
Deja Fitzwater	401
Tyesha McCool-Riley	403
Courtney Gilmore	403
Daylen Lawrence	403
Jim Atwood	411
Tony Garcia	411
Dan Field	411
Laura Lo Forti	412
Jan Okamoto	412
Doug Handa	412
Ed Washington	412

Christina Thomas	
Dori Grabinski	413
Pastor Robin Wisner	413
Joseph Torres Ortiz	413
Marc Poris	413
Lisa Pellegrino	414
Joel Broussard	414
Elshad Hajiyev	418
Kyle O'Brien	418
Wade Lange	418
Mark Fetzters	419
Matt Rozzell	419
Anne Castleton	419
Josie Kressner	404
Skyler Bocker-Knapp	404

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List
May 24, 2023 - 2:00 p.m.

Name	Agenda Item
Mayor Ted Wheeler	
Christina Thomas	
Commissioner Dan Ryan	
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez	
Commissioner Mingus Mapps	
Commissioner Carmen Rubio	
Ken McGair	
Donnie Oliveira	421
Eben Polk	421
Michelle Carter	421
Cameron Hudson	421
Kari McCullough	421
Jeremy Patton	420
Ryan Sotomayor	420
Paige Barton	420
Rachel Whiteside	420
Farshad Allahdadi	422, 423
Gabriel Solmer	422, 423
Sarah Messier	422, 423
Rob Martineau	422
James O'Laughlen	423

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

May 24, 2023 – 9:30 am

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

Speaker: This is the Wednesday, May 24th, 2023. Morning session of the Portland City Council. Keelan good morning. Please call the roll.

Speaker: Good morning, Ryan here.

Speaker: Gonzales here. Mapps here. Rubio here. Ryan Wheeler.

Speaker: Sorry, I forgot my name. All righty. After six and a half years here, we'll now hear from legal counsel on the rules of order and decorum. Good morning. Holidays yeah, very, very good.

Speaker: Read it. Good at it. Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually.

Speaker: You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at Portland. Dot gov slash council slash agenda info session on engaging with council can be found on the council clerk's web page. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony. Individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated, a timer will indicate when your time is done. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed if you cause a disruption, a warning will be given. Further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected, is subject to arrest for

trespass. Additionally, council may take a short recess and reconvene virtually. Your testimony today should address the matter being considered when testifying. Please state your name for the record. Your address is not necessary. Disclose if you are a lobbyist. If you're representing an organization, please identify it. And finally, for testifiers, joining virtually, please unmute yourself once the council clerk calls your name. Thank you, mayor.

Speaker: Thank you. All right. A couple of quick announcements. We have a lot of important people in the audience today. Are the aardvarks in the house? Yes yes. All right. We have the aardvarks in the house. Welcome. Thank you for being here. And we have the rose festival court here today, and we'll get to them a little later. And so welcome and thank you all for being here. First up is communications. The first item is number 396. Please. All right.

Speaker: 396 request of perla estrada to address council regarding community based organizations, wage advocacy. Good morning. Miss perla here. I don't think they have arrived.

Speaker: All right. We'll move on to the next individual, please. 397. Request of jessica mathis to address council regarding community based organization wage advocacy.

Speaker: They canceled their request.

Speaker: All right. We're moving through these very quickly. 398. Let's see if we get luckier request of pia johnson to address council regarding united nations sustainable development goals in our region.

Speaker: Welcome. Thank you.

Speaker: City Council members, for this privilege of speaking to you today. We are the fourth graders from Oregon episcopal school. We are here to talk about advocacy and to advocate for something we think is very important to our city and

our world. And advocacy is standing up for something we think is right or you think can make a difference. As fourth graders, we have heard from and visited advocates in our city, such as black futures farm, who have advocated for food sovereignty. We have learned that advocates use tools like writing and petitions and letters to show people what is right or what needs to be changed. Advocates can also use art or protesting. One more important part of advocacy is using empathy to understand many perspectives. Our advocates raise their voice like we are doing today.

Speaker: There are many changes we could advocate for, but today we are here to talk specifically about plastic pollution and plastic recycling. Earlier this year, we went to campus when on the Oregon coast and we spent time on the beach all around us. There were pieces of plastic on the ground. We couldn't even take off our shoes because there were so many pieces of plastic. It ruined the experience of the beautiful beach scene. While we were there, we picked plastic up off the beach as an act of service. This mosaic was created from the beach plastic we found that day. By but we didn't want just want to take care of the plastic that ended up on the beach. We wanted to think about how to stop plastic from getting to the beach in the first place. We began researching the united nations sustainable development goals. The sdgs are goals that the united nations has put together for a sustainable future for everyone. By 2030, we first heard about the sdgs from western farm workers association, another group of strong advocates in our city. There are 17 sdgs in all. Each fourth grader researched an sdg and an issue affecting our region. We put on an advocacy symposium for our school to educate them about the goals and issues because of our experience at camp westwood, the whole fourth grade learned about the reasonable camp, reasonable consumption production, sdg, which includes plastic production and plastic recycling. Now today we want to

advocate for how our city can help us all reach this goal. We want you to know that we are trying our hardest to make this problem better, and we really need your help to change how the city of Portland manages plastic. Thank you. Mr. Mayor, if I may, I just wanted.

Speaker: Sure. I just wanted to take a moment to thank pia and abigail and desmond for their testimony today. You did a great job of highlighting why advocacy is important. You also did a really important job of highlighting a specific issue that this council should pay attention to, and also I want to reassure you later on this afternoon or maybe even this morning, this council will take up an ordinance which helps clarify and improve the systems that we use for plastic recycling. So I want the kids who testified today to know that we heard you, we agree with you. And we're moving forward on the priorities that you care about. So thank you very much. Thank you. And we have more correct?

Speaker: Very good. I am 3.99 request of desmond overbeck here to address council regarding united nations sustainable development goals in our region.

Speaker: Welcome.

Speaker: Thanks for being here.

Speaker: Good morning. You have heard from our peers about why we began to investigate plastic next, we want to share some of the research that shows why this is an important issue to the city of Portland. Stresses how plastic is made. The process of making plastic takes a lot of effort, money and time. 99% of plastic is made from fossil fuels, which need to be extracted from the earth after they extracted fossil fuels. Go through an intensive process until finally small particles called nurdles are formed. These are smaller than a pea and are shipped around the world to make plastic products right from the start. The environment is impacted during and transporting of oil and gas can cause oil spills. Fracking can

cause earthquakes as toxins are released into our atmosphere and liquid waste can flow into rivers, lakes and oceans.

Speaker: Once plastics are produced, much of it ends up as waste just since we've been speaking to you, 1 million plastic bottles and 9 million plastic bags have been thrown away. Can you believe it? And where does it all go? 79% goes to landfills. Some plastic like the plastic in a water bottle can take 400 to 1000 years to decompose. 12% of plastic waste is burned, which has very harmful side effects. 9% is recycled. Why so little plastic, recycled? Some recycling plants do not accept all types of plastic. Also, if plastic is not washed out, it is not accepted. Did you know that 1000 different animal species are harmed by our plastic pollution? Even plastic can be found in 9% of seabirds stomachs because fish, eggs and nurdles look almost identical. So seabirds often eat nurdles plastic in the ocean even gets into the very beginning of the food chain filter feeders are animals that eat by stranding little particles out of the water. And this can include microplastics. The plastic moves up the food web from these filter feeders. If no improvements are made in our plastic production and recycling efforts by 2050, there will be more plastic in our oceans than fish. The plastic problem is a global issue. More than one quarter of the world's population does not have waste removal services. We certainly have these services in the united states, but Americans also produce the most basic person over 5 pounds a day. One country can't fix this large problem with too much plastic waste, but we can do our part. We have a chance to make a change right here in Portland to keep this problem from growing even bigger. Thank you, commissioner Rubio, did you have a question for this panel?

Speaker: Oh, I think there is there more? Yeah, there's one more group. I'll wait. Okay we'll hold off. Thank you. Appreciate you. Item 400 request of abigail andrews

to address council regarding united nations sustainable development goals in our region.

Speaker: Now that we know these facts about plastic and recycling, it's time for us to make a change.

Speaker: Let's start with things that we agree with in our city. We've learned that Portland has a 2030 waste management plan. We agree that it's important that waste management will be an affordable service so that all Portlanders will be able have equitable access and all Portlanders can participate in this program, providing equitable access includes hearing from tribal voices, which may share a different perspective on waste management.

Speaker: But we also agree with the living wages and benefits of this plan because it will provide decent work and economic growth, which is another sustainable development goal. We studied the stronger waste management infrastructure gives jobs to people that don't have jobs and gives them the living wages they need. Modernizing the infrastructure is important because it will recycle things better and reduce the need to manufacture new plastic products.

Speaker: Now we'd like to tell you the things we disagree with or hope will change.

Speaker: We don't feel that the 2030 waste management program has clearly addressed the strong need for plastic recycling, as it is only a limited amount of frequently used plastics can be recycled and we believe more types of plastic need to be included in recycling programs. We also think that how the recycling program works should be easier for citizens to understand. The citizens are the ones affected by the plan and if recycling is easier to understand, then all citizens will contribute to solving this problem. By recycling more. We also noticed that there is no clear waste management plan for people experiencing homelessness. One idea would be to incentivize all people, including those experiencing homelessness, to

recycle more things. For example, a 15 cent deposit on cans and bottles may encourage people to participate more. Thank you. As fourth graders, this is so important to us because this is our future and the future of our city and our world are the changes that we are suggesting are important to our city, to its people and the environment. This issue impacts the way we live, breathe and eat.

Speaker: We see plastic in our food and our water.

Speaker: Animals too shouldn't have to suffer from our actions. You need to take our voices into account. We believe the improvements in the waste management program and to our city's recycling programs should be started as soon as possible, since it will start helping our city and environment right away. This action will help us work towards the sustainable development goals. You can help save our future. Thank you for listening.

Speaker: Thank you. We appreciate you. Commissioner Rubio thank you.

Speaker: I just want to share with all of you that testified. Thank you so much for coming here to share your concerns. I just want to say how impressed I am with each one of you and how proud we are of your advocacy and we got your letter. I know that you sent a letter in a petition to our office, and it was signed by dozens of your classmates and you were expressing really clear ideas and concerns about climate change and the impact on our communities and the environment.

Speaker: And I just want to say, your testimony is very clear and strong.

Speaker: You raise very good points about our waste management team. And i'll carry i'll carry those back to our team so that they hear and understand where your concerns come from. And I just want to share that I oversee the bureau of planning and sustainability, which is sort of the city's central office that works on ways to reduce carbon and deal with resiliency, climate resiliency, but also oversees the waste and recycling. So just keep using your voices as it's very your voices are

important because you have a very unique perspective as young leaders who are going to be leading us in the future.

Speaker: And so what you're saying and doing now really shape takes shape and takes root.

Speaker: So we're very proud of your advocacy. You've been strong leaders and shown a lot of advocacy today.

Speaker: And thank you for being here. Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez, I just want to thank you all so much for testifying today, participating in democracy, speaking up for what you believe in.

Speaker: It's essential for our city. It's essential for our country. So thank you for being good citizens and you got bright futures ahead of you. Keep engaged and keep pushing for what you believe in. Thank you, commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Well, good morning, aardvarks. It's so, um. It's so wonderful to start the meeting with the schoolchildren, telling us what we should focus on and so thanks for telling the stories about going to the beach and about the plastic, and I'm really glad I didn't have a plastic bottle with me today. I'd feel so shamed. So it's really important that we just constantly hear that message. And there's so many good articles on what you're talking about, but there's nothing better than getting live testimony from people that will be influenced and affected by this. The most. So thanks for setting the tone for a wonderful day here at city hall. Appreciate you and all of you up there as well.

Speaker: I want to add my thanks. Thanks to all of you who testified. And thanks to all of you who are here from oyez. All you aardvark s. This really speaks well to you as students and it speaks well to your teachers. These were very thoughtful presentations. They were well practiced. I could tell you maintained eye contact while you were making your remarks and I know that it is very intimidate ing

sometimes to sit at that table in a room full of people and speak to the City Council. And I think you did an exceptional job. Your message is a very important one. And I'm glad that you're focused on it. I want you to know that here at the city of Portland, as commissioner Rubio indicated, as the commissioner in charge of planning and sustainability, this is something we take very seriously. I also want to just add an extra here. Earlier today, the rose festival court, which is behind you, I was asked a question how do you resolve conflict? And I gave my best answer for you, topped my best answer, and so I want to revise my answer and say I appreciate the spirit in which disagreement was brought to this chamber today. You started by saying, here's where we agree. That's a valuable lesson is to talk about where do we agree? And you did your research and you looked at our our climate action goals and our environmental plans and our recycling plans and you said we agree with this, we agree with this, and we agree with this. That's a powerful introduction to get our attention and understand you're coming to us with advocacy, but with the spirit of trying to reach a good resolution for all of us. And then you identified the areas where you thought the plans were weak or needed revision or could be improved. And I just want to say to the rose festival court behind you, I hope you heard that, too. I actually thought that was a really a really good and solid approach. And so I'm going to add that to my answer from earlier this morning. So thank you for the question, kids. Thank you for being here today. And to all of you from oyez, we appreciate you and we thank you for being in our chamber today. Thanks a lot. Thank you. To the consent agenda of any items been pulled to items I've been pulled for zero for and four and six, 404 and 406 pulled. Please call the roll on the remainder of the consent. Ryan hi, Gonzalez. Bear with me one second here. And 404, six, four, four and four six were pulled.

Speaker: Okay. Hi maps.

Speaker: Hi, Rubio hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: All right. The consent agenda is adopted. First time certain item, please. Item number 401, proclaim may 26th through June 11th, 2023 to be the 116th annual, Portland rose festival.

Speaker: Focus on fun, celebrate asian colleagues. Our next item is a proclamation honoring the 116th annual Portland rose festival.

Speaker: I'd like to now pass this to commissioner Mapps to introduce this morning's presenters, commissioner Mapps well, thank you very much, mr. Mayor.

Speaker: I think at this point I am supposed to invite up maryland. I think I missing part of my run of show, so I'm not sure where we're supposed to do here. It looks like maryland.

Speaker: Clint cbo and contested diaz nikolaidis present. Welcome good morning. Good morning. Good morning. Good morning, mayor Wheeler.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Members of the City Council. Thank you so much for having us here. I am marilyn. Clint, I'm the new ceo of the rose festival. The first woman to hold that title. I accepted that position after jeff curtis decided to move on this past year. Prior to that, I have spent decades doing events and communications at the rose festival. Bill it or not, I coordinated my first rose festival parade. In 1976 as the biseni biennial starlite parade. The return of our nighttime parade, all those decades ago, 111 rose festival parades have been coordinated under my event's leadership. Back in 2015, mayor charlie hales declared a parade queen day in my honor to honor my work. And while I've given up that parade management role now at rose festival, I am currently part of a team of a dozen individuals across north America who are putting together parade safety standards for the American national standards institute, a project we hope to have completed in the next couple of years. I am not

only committed to rose festival and its successful comeback, but I'm committed to the city of Portland and its successful comeback. Unlike my two predecessors, as I am a Portland resident, a homeowner, a taxpayer here, and a voter, Portland's vision is my vision, both as the rose festival ceo and as a citizen of the rose city, it is an honor and a great responsibility for me to continue my work with rose festival as its staff leader. Before I introduce you to the leader of our volunteer board of directors, I want to thank you for your partnership. The Portland rose festival foundation is a 500 and 1c3 non profit. The rose festival is our gift to the city of Portland and to the Portland region. We could not do this without your support and commitment and without the hard work of the city bureaus and individual personnel who work with us. I want to personally thank two people today, allison madsen of the Portland bureau of transportation, who's collaboration has helped us continue our hard earned comeback. And over my long career here, I have been privileged to work with many amazing police traffic sergeants and on those parades that I mentioned earlier are one of those is sergeant steve andrusco. And I want to publicly thank him as he prepares for his final rose festival parade this season before he retires from the police bureau at the end of the year. Now, it's an honor for me to introduce one of the most passionate and committed people I know the president of our board of directors contested diaz mykolaitis.

Speaker: Good morning. Good morning. It's a pleasure to be here representing the board and staff and thousands of volunteers of the rose festival foundation. We have a very busy team making big things in our community and we're so proud to play a major role in Portland's continuing comeback story as as the city's official festival this year is very exciting and we're going to focus on fun after everything we've endured these past few years. We need to make time to actively pursue the things that bring us joy. We do what we do because we know the importance of

positivity and joy in our community. And the rose festival is filled with opportunities to create lasting memories, engaging experiences. And most of all, what I'm most passionate about, which is fun. Some of the fun is already underway. And here today with me are 15 rose members of our rose festival court, each representing their high schools and their neighborhoods. These amazing young women are all receiving valuable training and scholarships. One on one mentorship from professionals from unitas, community credit union. They are on a journey of outreach to bring the spirit of the rose festival to our community. Rose festival officials opens this Friday at 5 p.m, when commissioner Ryan will help us cut the ribbon to open city fair at waterfront park. And that night, thousands of people will enjoy our opening night fireworks. Carnival rides and corndogs are what memories are made of. And so generations of families and friends have enjoyed. Exactly that over the years and will continue to do so. There's so much to see and do during this year's rose festival city fair. Three weekends at the waterfront last year, rose festival was able to collaborate with local events who were not able to return by offering represent station in rose festival. Events like the grand floral parade. This year, we have been thrilled to see events like cinco de mayo, the 82nd avenue of roses parade in saint st. Johns return to the streets of Portland back on schedule and in keeping with the spirit of collaboration. In this spring, we announced a new partnership with another Portland tradition. We're so excited that the Oregon brewers festival were thrilled to collaborate this year for a tap takeover during city fair's second weekend, June 2nd through fourth. And we're thrilled that rose festival that we were able to continue to have this event in downtown Portland and welcome the Oregon brewers festival with us this year. Our three parades are ready to get rolling with the starlight parade. Electrifying downtown streets starting on naito parkway, kiddos will be ready to toot their horns and bring their drums

and show the world how fun is done at the junior parade in the hollywood district and I'm probably not supposed to have a favorite, but I definitely do. And that's the grand floral parade, which will continue on the all east side route, starting at the veterans memorial coliseum, and we'll see its way down. Martin luther king junior boulevard and end at lloyd center this year. This year there are so many fun features for the grand floral parade and I can't possibly name them all. The parade will celebrate Oregon culture as well as our shared history. I'm especially excited to see the float entry that allows us to honor women who have welded or riveted their place through history. The rosie the riveters during world war two are here for the American rosie the riveter association annual convention. We will welcome them. The diverse city of Portland and its communities are sprinkled throughout the parade, for example, will awaken 100 foot dragon prior to the rose festival, grand floral floral parade, the royal reunion will return with past princesses and queens decked loads of them in addition to the 2023 rose festival queen who will be crowned the day before on June 9th under at Oregon square. We're hard at work recruiting volunteers. We've been talking a lot about that for all of our parades. Monitor barricades and to help clean up trash and keep the cleanest and greenest festival in the in America to help us decorate the floats in our new building ourselves as marilyn mentioned, we are so incredibly grateful for our partnership with the city of Portland. We truly could not do this without all of you. And we want to thank mayor Wheeler, commissioner Mapps, the entire council for your continued support. We hope you take the time to enjoy this year's rose festival and we hope you can focus on fun. And now it is my sincere and great pleasure to present to you the 2023 rose festival court present by unitus community credit union. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Hello. We are the 2023 rose festival court present by united community credit union.

Speaker: We'd like to introduce ourselves and tell you what's happening during this year's rose festival. Audie hi, my name is audie etheridge and I'm currently a senior at ida b wells high school, where I serve as asb director of communications and president of our communicate programs.

Speaker: I'm also an avid book reader and love working with children through volunteering. The Portland rose festival would not be possible without the support of our several volunteers. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit the rose festival website at mary baer.

Speaker: Hello, my name is mary. Mary kuenzel and I'm from roosevelt high school. One thing I am most proud of is being part of my school's pacific islander club. The rose festival is back for showing how we can pass down traditions, honor diversity and celebrate unity. This year's theme is focus on fun, and we cannot wait to see you at this year's rose festival. Abby.

Speaker: Hi, I'm abby from franklin high school, and next year I plan to major in engineering at Oregon state university, my favorite place in Portland is mount tabor park because it's where I run with my cross country team, and it provides a beautiful view of the city. Speaking of beautiful views, make sure to come to the Portland waterfront park on may 26th, this Friday to see the biggest and baddest opening night fireworks. Mariah. Hi, I'm Ryan.

Speaker: I'm a senior at grant high school. I love to play volleyball as well as being on my school's varsity team. And I was also on second team all league for volleyball during the festival. You can meet mr. Professor fun and he will be at city fair in all of our parades. He taught me a fun fact that having fun is an important part of our well being. And scientists have found that when people have fun, they tend to lose

track of time, which proves that while having fun time flies when you're having fun.

Cbo

Speaker: Aurora.

Speaker: Hi, I'm sierra. I'm a senior at central catholic high school. I am an all-American cheerleader in the 2022 youth of the year for the for the for the metropolitan area, for boys and girls school.

Speaker: Please join us down at the waterfront.

Speaker: June 10th and 11th for dragon boat racing as they fill the willamette with a vibrant display of color and culture. Hi there.

Speaker: Hi, I'm piper. I'm a senior at saint mary's academy.

Speaker: I've been on my school's all female robotics team, the beta blues. And in my free time I enjoy watching tutorial videos on coding and technological innovations. If you also enjoy illuminating technological technological achievements, then come join us downtown on June 3rd for the Oregon starlight parade with your friends and family starting at 8 p.m. Nils.

Speaker: Hello, my name is nikki. I'm a senior at david douglas high school. My favorite place to visit in Portland is the peninsula rose garden. I love seeing the many different colored roses in the summertime. Another beautiful rose field place in Portland is the international rose test garden.

Speaker: Why are you there? Be sure to stop by the rose test store. Lulu. Hi I'm lulu, a junior at benton polytech high school.

Speaker: I spent a lot of my time dedicated to basketball, but when I can, I love visiting downtown Portland. I love to experience the city vibe, the local businesses and the culture along the waterfront in downtown Portland, you'll find the rose festival city fair. Enjoy your favorite fair foods carnival rides and shows every weekend from may 26th to June 11th, jodie inman. Good morning. My name is joe

lin and I'm a senior at parkrose high school. Filmmaking is a big passion of mine and it's something that I enjoy working on both inside and outside of school. On June 11th, the hollywood theater will be filled with youth from around the world celebrating the international youth silent film awards. So please come stop by and enjoy these youths inspired works. Alizia. Hi I'm alicia. I'm a senior from lincoln high school. I'm the president of my school's business club speech and debate team. Indian student union and captain of our girls varsity golf team. When I grow up, I'd like to run a business. The Portland rose festival's grand floral parade is one of the world's most diverse parades. Watch out for our sister city, kaohsiung, and their award winning shoot high school Marching band crystal.

Speaker: Hi, I'm crystal. I'm a junior at jefferson high school. My favorite part of rose festival is the community service and the parades because I like to see the smile on people's faces. And in fact, I'm on others. On June 7th at the hollywood district will be filled with smiles and laughter at the fred meyer junior parade. Come out and enjoy the oldest and largest all children's parade in the nation. Lily I'm lily.

Speaker: I'm a senior at mcdaniel.

Speaker: I'm a reporter and manager for my school newspaper, the oracle. This year, the Portland rose festival is partnering with pamplin media group to print out coupons in the Portland tribune and other local news sources for free entry on Fridays for the city fair. I make sure to be on the lookout for those. Emily hi, I'm emily, and I'm a senior at cleveland high school.

Speaker: I'm the president of my school's red cross club. And my career goal is to become a nurse. The rose festival is excited to welcome some of our own frontline defenders from the us navy and us coast guard and royal canadian navy for one of the premier fleet week events in the country. We elizabeth. Hi everyone. My name is elizabeth and I'm a junior at clackamas high school representing metro east. I

love seeing acting as well as watching films and plays. The Portland rose festival is excited to partner with dragon theater to provide a variety of performances and activities for kids in this year's kids zone within city fair. Hello, my name is deja.

Speaker: I'm a senior at Tigard High School representing Metro West. What I'm most proud of from my high school career is being a member of the Intercom program, which is a leadership program that helps mentor eighth grade students to prepare for their high school success. On behalf of the 2023 Rose Festival Court, we would be honored to have you join us at Oregon Square Park at 11 a.m. on June 9th for the Queen's coronation presented by Unitus Community Credit Union. Thank you for hosting the 2023 Rose Festival Court presented by United Community Credit Union.

Speaker: We hope to see you at this year's Rose Festival. Thank you. All right.

Speaker: We'll hear from some of our colleagues.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps, why don't you go ahead and start us off, please? Sure well, thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Speaker: Um, here we are again. And what a pleasure it is to have everyone in council. Now I am delighted to join my colleagues on this council and proclaiming May 26th through June 11th, 2023 to be the 100th and 16th annual Rose Festival celebration. The theme for this year's Rose Festival is focus on fun. As always, it is great to have the Rose Festival Court with us in chambers today. Since the 1930s, Portland's Rose Festival has included appointing a Rose Festival Court. And one of the things that I try to do every Rose Festival is to read the speech is delivered by members of the Rose Festival Court. And the theme for this year's Rose Festival Court speeches is how are you focusing on fun in 2023? So now, colleagues, what I'd like to do is just take a moment to share with you some of the ways our Rose Festival princesses answered that question for example, Princess Etheridge from Ida B Wells wrote, the best way to prioritize BTYS Fund in 2023 is to prioritize my self and to

listen to what I need and princess can sue from roosevelt wrote this year I plan on focusing on fun by living in the moment. I also plan on focusing on things that bring me joy like school activities is and princess crew from franklin wrote that you have to make your own fun. Fun isn't a feeling that you chase it is a feeling you create it and princess to from park rose wrote focusing on fun to me means being present and enjoying those these next few months with my community before walking across that stage and receiving a diploma in our princess from lincoln high school wrote for me, my idea of fun is trying new things. Our princess welch from cleveland wrote to me, fun is to find in two ways your attitude and the people that you're having fun with now, colleagues and everyone who can hear my voice. Those thoughts also capture what this year's rose festival is all about. The rose festival is an opportunity to have fun with friends, family and community. This year's rose festival is an opportunity for our community to come together. This year's rose festival is also an expression of our city's resilience and this year's rose festival is a reminder that Portland's downtown is open, clean and safe, which is why I'd like to close today by thanking the rose court for teaching us about the meaning of the rose festival and colleagues. For that reason and more, I am proud to join you in proclaiming may 26th through June 11th, 2023, to be the 116th annual rose festival celebration. Thank you very much, mr. Mayor. Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps commissioner Gonzalez well, I want to thank everyone for joining us today.

Speaker: Volunteers at the rose festival. I do want to call out as the commissioner of public safety to protect our participants, it is imperative that we have sufficient volunteers for the parades coming up. So please reach out to the rose festival team. If you're interested in volunteering is absolutely essential that we have numbers on the streets to allow everyone to participate safely. As a reminder, the

Portland bureau of emergency management will have our net teams out. That's our neighborhood. Emergency teams will be volunteering throughout the festival. But we need more numbers collectively. I do want to also highlight the work of the bureau of emergency management with working with the rose festival to make sure each parade is fully staffed. In particular, katie wolf, operations manager and jeremy van buren. I hope I pronounced that right. Community resilience manager. And if my office can be of any assistance in connecting with volunteer opportunities, please reach out to commissioner renee Gonzalez's office. Grace czapek is our contact there. Thank you again for all you do.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner. Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Thank you, mayor, and thank you, commissioner Mapps for bringing this really bright acknowledgment forward today. I want to thank marilyn and contessa and the rose festival association as well as the board of directors and to the esteemed court royalty who joined us today, I just want to say congratulations to each of you. You make our city proud. Absolutely proud. And we're so excited that we have the rose festival back and force full force this summer. Very, very excited for it. All of us have a lifelong memories about going to the festival and in addition to being a Portland tradition, it feels like a family tradition to all of us as well. And this year is so important because it's an important sign of Portland's vitality and recovery to so very eager to feel that connection again. I also I want to also thank all the dedicated rose festival volunteers. There are hundreds of them who do everything from creating floats to organizing parade routes. As you mentioned, marilyn, it takes so many hundreds of hours of planning and execution to create these amazing memories for Portlanders. So we're very fortunate to have that in our community. And then last, I want to join my colleagues in giving a big appreciation to city staff who've also worked really hard to ensure a great event,

and especially our police officers, emergency management staff who work together on public safety events, transportation staff, our events at our events staff at prosper, Portland, and also the parks staff who tend to the waterfront park grounds and other parks during the festival. So just happy festival, everyone, and my family and I will see you down there. Thank you, commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan. Yes thanks, mayor.

Speaker: Good morning. It's so good to see everyone. Marilyn you are the parade queen. Although my spouse would say I'm also a parade queen and contessa, you're such a great volunteer, your energy is amazing. And I'm so happy that your other presidents great to have this girl power at the top of this year. I also want to just acknowledge that my very first rose bloomed just yesterday, so I brought it in today. Yeah, I've been growing these things for a while and because of the cold, remember how cold it was for a while I was worried. Were you worried? Yeah so opening night, I'm looking forward to playing with all of you. The rose princesses. We get to. It'll be better than last year just because the weather gods wasn't it? Like it was like thunder? Lightning everything. And really, really wet. I'll never forget it. So it was really hard to enjoy the rides. So I'm looking forward to coming down on Friday to help and kick off. And also, I'm hoping the weather gods stay good to you because I think all three weekends last year were damp and that's really bad for the gate receipts at the fund center. So let's hope that we're lucky all three weekends and I know I'm looking forward to the rose parade, the junior rose parade, the coronation. An and I really last year when I was in the role of commissioner Mapps, I became a big fan of those dragonboat race races. So that'll be fun to be down there for that. Anyway I'm a little kid excited about the rose festival, so I used to get up really early with my grandma, like really early. Um, as early as back in the day, you went strawberry picking, you had to get up at like 5:00. And then also for the

rose parade. And so it was much more fun to go to the rose parade and sit on the blanket and wait for it to begin. So I'm really excited that this gives our city a chance to just celebrate being a joyful place, activate our streets and you're going to be a big part of the rose court that really brought our city back out of, I think, officially out of covid, out of the slumber that we've been in. And we'll get some joy back on the streets with all of you. Amazing young women leading the way. So thank you. I look forward to seeing all of you the next few weeks. Thank you. And I'd like to keep my remarks short.

Speaker: I know you have to go back to school, and I know that the kids from ohs probably have to do likewise. And by the way, I forgot to mention bobby lee. Bobby, come out here really quickly. Bobby lee is my chief of staff, meaning he's my most senior administration official. He is a graduate of ohs. So fellow aardvark, I'd like to begin again with a special thanks to this year's rose court for being here, along with you, marilyn and contessa. Thank you for your leadership earlier this morning I had the opportunity with commissioner Mapps to meet with these bright young students who make up the rose court. I have to say, you're truly an impressive group of young people. And it was an honor to meet you all and to share some thoughts and ideas and to answer some of your questions for over 100 years, the annual rose festival has been part of our city's cultural fabric. And, leslie, I always forget exactly what year my grandmother was on the court, but I believe it was 1923. That would mean that this would be 100 years ago. She she stood in your place and so this is an important tradition for us and our households beyond a family friendly way to kick off the summer season. The rose festival represents a time for our community to come together and to uplift each other. And I think we can all agree that's something that is very, very important right now. The rose festival embodies the best of our city. It demonstrates our diversity, our inclusivity

and our unwavering spirit. And I hope Portlanders visitors alike can take part in this year's festivities. I love the focus on fun, as this year's theme urges us to do. I want to thank you and the many event organizers and volunteers who make this tradition possible. Now, on behalf of the Portland City Council and by extension, the city of Portland at large, I would like to read the annual proclamation in honor of this time. Whereas in 1905, Portland mayor Harry Lane called for an annual festival to put Portland on the map and brand it as the city of roses. And. Whereas the Portland rose festival was created in 1907 with a mission to drive economic activity for the region, celebrate Portland's incredible rose climate and to provide citizens with a common celebration. Whereas the Portland rose festival has been produced by the nonprofit Portland rose festival foundation. For 106 years as an annual gift to the city of Portland. Throughout the evolution and growth of the city of roses and in 2010 was adopted as Portland's official festival. Whereas the Portland rose festival continues to keep hope alive by producing programs like the rose festival court, the queens coroner, Asian City Fair, Fleet Week, Starlight Parade, Junior Parade, and of course the Grand Floral Parade. And. Whereas the Portland rose festival continues to provide an opportunity for people of all backgrounds in experiences and cultures to join together to celebrate Portland's rich diversity and common humanity. Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the City of Roses, do hereby proclaim May 26th, 2023, through June 11th, 2023, to be the 116th Annual Portland Rose Festival Focus on Funds Celebration in Portland and encourage all Portlanders to come out of their homes and participate in these amazing events. Celebrating our city. Thank you. Appreciate it.

Speaker: Thank you for your time this morning.

Speaker: We appreciate it. We look forward to seeing you out at the rose festival.

Speaker: Will give us the wave on the way out there. You going practice? There you go. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Colleagues, we have a bit of a gap. I understand, commissioner. Maps. Are you going to pull for. Okay, let's go ahead and read 402 time certain except the operational feasibility study for regional ferry service include a passenger ferry pilot project in the 2023 regional transportation plan.

Speaker: Financially constrained project list and endorse the city's 2023 regional transportation plan project list submittal.

Speaker: Mr. Mayor, I'm going to pull this one back to my office without objection.

Speaker: An and colleagues, our next item is a time certain at 1025, which is in about 3.5 minutes, rather than do something else, let's just take a 3.5 minute recess and reconvene at 1025 so that we keep the agenda in order. We're in recess.

Buddy. We are back in session. Thank you all. Item number 403, please proclaim may 2023 to be mental health awareness month. Colleagues, our next item is a proclamation in naming may of 2023 as mental health awareness month. For this morning's presenters, we're joined by courtney gilmore, the wellness program manager for taisha, michael riley. The mental health program specialist, and dylan lawrence, business services administrative specialist. Welcome. Thank you for being here. Come on up. Good morning. Good morning. It's good to see you.

Speaker: Awesome. I feel like I haven't said here in a while.

Speaker: So can we begin?

Speaker: Yeah, please.

Speaker: At your convenience.

Speaker: Thank you. Good morning. I am taisha mccoool riley. Mental health program specialist, housed in the office of civic life. And I would love to think that I could remember everything I need to say this morning, but I am going to read some

things as we come together and acknowledge may as mental health awareness month. Today we gather in solidarity, acknowledging the prevalence of mental health disabilities and promoting the significance of mental health, education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma related to mental health disabilities. We declare today and this month and days to come that we all can play a part in because we have a chance to ask ourselves, what do I need? Or what does the person I care about need to be? Well so today, as we gather in honor of mental health awareness month, we acknowledge that we must center our mental mental health and our wellness far beyond just one month out of the year, that this must be an intentional endeavor that must seek after for a daily basis. We must seek after on a daily basis and for many of us, on a minute by minute basis, seeking to normalize conversations about our mental health and our mental being, we then acknowledge our humanness and that we as human beings are impacted by our experience sciences, our thoughts and our emotion means recognizing that we are not exempt as city employees from experiencing distress, crisis, trauma, to hurt, pain and disappointment in our humanness, we are complex beings deserving of being acknowledged, validated and included and nurtured in ways that make us feel valuable, supported and appreciated. Today we all stand in solidarity, saying that our mental health matters, our mental health is a priority and tending to our mental health is a necessity. Affirming that taking care of our mental health is equally as important as taking care of our physical health. We can no longer afford to neglect ourselves as our neglect has began to fester and infect many aspects of our lives, leaving us feeling overwhelmed, stressed, anxious, hopeless, burnt out, restricted and powerless. The past several years have, without a shadow of a doubt, taken its toll on each of us in unique ways. We have inherently siloed ourselves to merely survive the storm, resulting in the loss of our connectedness and

community. If we are honest, many of us can speak to that reality. Unfortunately many have exhausted much energy seeking support and resources in an effort to maintain their sanity, build resilience and center their well-being and there's a quote that I wanted to share. It says, hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all. In our deepest struggle lies our greatest strength, our wounds can become our wisdom. We can turn pain into medicine. We can feel the light sneak through the cracks in our armor. Let's stay a while longer and hope the future listens to hope. This quote truly reminds us to embrace the feeling. A feeling of expectation, and a desire for certain things to change and occur, and to have faith that it can and it shall come to pass. In light of mental health awareness, let us all grab a hold of a desire for peace, tranquility, joy, togetherness, peace, motivation and meaning, and allow ourselves to nurture that reality for ourselves. Our colleagues, and our community. At large through to through community, our community acknowledging and sharing our past traumas. It's important for us to share our truths, give one another space for authenticity, while also building one another up. Ultimately strengthening our relationships and building our ability to endure the difficulties. Life continues to throw at us because as we know, life just keeps on laughing. Your ability to see a person, hear a person and empathize with their reality is a great starting place, and i'll close with this today. I'm reminded of a story that I heard Saturday afternoon while attending a ted talk, and it was emily stutzman. It was her time to stand on the x and to give her ted talk and she really spoke about the idea of technology eliminating our connectedness as a community, our ability to really be one with one another and in that she she really talked about how we are often really lonely, but we claim that we're connected because of technology and so she really put a twist on it. And she really talked about community engaged isn't about how we actually

commune with one another as human beings. Right? And in that, what she talked about is one day coming home from school and coming home to seeing her mother being carted out on a stretcher, put into an ambulance and swept it off to the hospital from having an aneurysm. And she says her mom made sure everything in the house worked. Dad made sure the bills were paid. But mom made everything work and she said she remember for two years straight, they never had to cook a meal. They never had to worry about how they were going to get to school. They never had to worry about how they're going to get to soccer practice, basketball practice. But they never had to worry about how they were going to continue to do life as their mom was recovering from this illness. And at the core of that, it wasn't that because dad stepped up and did everything by himself, it was because the people around them saw that there was a need and they stepped up and said, we want it too. We want to support. And so today, as we honor may as mental health awareness day, let's talk about what community engagement really looks like for us to commune with one another as human beings on a human level, recognizing that we all endure some hard stuff in life and if we have people around us that truly care and lean in towards our struggles to support us, we all can make our communities a better place. And that goes for us as employees at the city of Portland. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Good morning. My name is courtney gilmore and I am the city. Strong health and well-being program manager and I'm here today to discuss mental health mental health awareness month. And a few years ago when we did the mental health awareness proclamation, tasha did a beautiful speech on my why am. And so I thought about that over the last couple of years and my why when it comes to mental health, mental well-being, not just for my community, but also with in the workplace is stigma chain shame.

Speaker: I have personal experience, live experience when it comes to mental health challenges, mental health crises within my family, my circle within the workplace as well. Um, so one of the things that I want to talk about when it comes to the workplace is that as a collective, we need to talk, talk openly about mental health in the workplace and to reduce stigma and discrimination for people who are less capable to cope. For many of us work is an essential part of what we do every day. We have to show up and serve the people, make sure that the workplace is a safe environment where we can discuss and talk about mental health issues will help mitigate the impact of the past three years. A lot has happened over the past three years. Social unrest, a pandemic that impacted everyone 21 degrees or the other, and it has impacted our life personally and professionally. But that has made us more resilient. However we have a role to play by caring for and supporting thing our families, our friends and our work colleagues by continuing to look after ourselves, our well-being and not being afraid to talk, talk and seek help when needed. Regarding mental health and mental well being. So what are we doing as far as taisha, taisha and myself and city strong are benefits team? We are continuing to provide information and resources from our plan providers, our eap and within the last year we have trained five additional mental health first aid instructor\$ you may be wondering what is mental health first aid? This is a program that has been in effect for the last four plus years. It started off with taisha and myself and then we train and daylan along with four other people. Mental health first aid is something very similar to physical first aid. We assist someone that may be in a mental health crisis. We're not therapists. We're not, you know, trying to fix the problem. We're assessing and then we're going to move them on to a professional. So this has been an ongoing project that we have been working on for the last couple of years. And I'm glad to say that we have or have

started rolling out trainings to different work groups, bureaus and the lead program as well to train our managers and supervisors on how to handle an employee that may be in a mental health crisis. There are employees who are who come into the office or come that work in the field that might be may be in crisis. And so it's important for our leaders, our managers and supervisors to be able to have those tools and skills when it comes to that. In addition, in for mental health awareness month, we do have one. We have a couple of activities. We have an event this this morning after the proclamation where you can meet in a meet and greet where you can talk to us. We have resources is for mental health for city employees and then we also have a diy self care workshop tomorrow from 12 to 3 as well. So thank you for having me here and I would like to pass it on to daylen and those things will take place in the Portland building on the first floor in the Portland building. Excellent. Thank you.

Speaker: Yes, good morning. Morning.

Speaker: My name is daylen lawrence.

Speaker: I'm housed in the bureau of human resources, specifically the business services team. But I'm also, as courtney mentioned, I'm a certified mental health first aid instructor. So first I'd like to just say that may is my favorite month of the year for multiple reasons. One, flowers become in full bloom. It's also the month of my birthday, but for this purposes, for today's purpose, it's mental health awareness month. So like a flower, mental health starts off as just a budding seed that you water, you fertilize, you leave it in the sunlight to grow. In order for us as individuals, as humans, to bloom into our best selves, we must tend to our own mental health. In the same way you attend to our garden. With that being said, I hope that city employees City Council join me in help watering the garden that is

the city of Portland and I hope that I get to see you in one of my mental health first aid training classes. And that is it.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: And does that complete the presentation? Yes, thank you, all three of you. We appreciate it. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Sure. I want to start out by thanking the panel for their work in this field and today's presentation session. And to my colleagues on this council, I just want to say I'm glad to join you in proclaiming May 20th, 23 to be mental health month here in Portland, Oregon. This month, we renew our commitment to ridding our society of the stigma associated with mental illness. We encourage those living with mental health challenges to get the help they need. We reaffirm our commitment to ensure that those who need help have access to the support, that acceptance and resources they deserve. And we pledge solidarity with the families who need our support as well. In 2019, nearly 52 million adults experienced some form of mental illness. Is today that number is likely much higher. The pandemic and the resulting economic crisis has impacted the mental health of millions of Americans and to make matters even worse, Oregon's mental health system is famously amongst the worst in the nation. That's why Portland needs to commit to ensuring that people living with mental health conditions are treated with compassion, respect, checked and understanding this council, our partners at Multnomah County and the state of Oregon and the federal government must work together to do a better job of addressing our communities. Unmet mental health needs. So let's strive to ensure that people living with mental health conditions know that they are not alone and that help exists, and that the possibility of healing and thriving is real. We must also work to ensure that everyone, especially underserved communities, has access to affordable, high quality and evidence based mental

health care. That's what that's why this mental health month we should call upon citizens, government agencies, agencies, health care providers and research institutions to raise mental health awareness and to continue helping Americans live longer, happier, healthier lives. Thank you, mr. Mayor. I'll hand it back to you. Great. Thanks, commissioner.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan. Thank you, mayor taisha, thank you so much for that really wonderful way to center us and reminding us it's about the why and what a resource you are.

Speaker: So anyway, thank you, panelists, for a great way to acknowledge such an important month that we today firmly acknowledge. Last week I was at the opening of a safe rest village peninsula crossing and it was getting a little heated, so I thought I'd do something and ask the audience how many of you love somebody, including yourself and someone in your family or friend network that suffers from either behavioral health or mental health. And about half the hands went up really quickly because they're confident they've been doing their work and their stigma work has been you could tell they were on it, but I noticed how others slow ali raised their hands so the fact was, most of the group is outside had their hands up and I think that's just a great visualization of lifting the stigma. It's just absurd to think that we're separate from it. And I really appreciate that. You brought up how important it is to have real in-person contact. I really do think. Can you see it? Definitely in the middle schools and the schools in general? Children don't lie. So what we're experiencing in our schools right now from coming out of the pandemic and being holed up, not having the chance like these wonderful kids to be in person and experiencing life. And I think supposed to be lived. So I just think it's such an important time to go hard on this topic. And I think, as commissioner Mapps mentioned, we just live in a state that has been so behind on doing the work. I

always say my state, my city gets locked up in perfection and because of that we don't focus on the good. And this is messy work. And just like anyone that experiences mental health, we know that we might fall down. We're going to be in a whole. But the fact is, we know that we can surrender to. We know we can ask for help, and we know that we can rise up. And that's how we should be measured in life. It's not that we fall down because that's inevitable. It's how we get back up. And so I think it's that compassion that good people like you are help promoting. Just a couple more stats on Oregon, as mentioned, we actually do rank last 51 because we include d.c. In terms of mental health and substance use and also in access to care. That's embarrassing. We should all feel ashamed about that. And I think what always puzzles me is how we only have one psychiatric hospital one, and that's in salem, the Oregon state hospital. In 95, we closed damaged state hospital because there were some things that needed to improve there. But we just closed it. And that was in 1995. And 28 years later, we have nothing to replace those 400 plus beds. So when people look around and they wonder why we have so many people suffering on our streets that clearly need extensive help, it's because we're not providing those services and so I just think it's so important that we continue to just tell that true story and I'm really proud to be on a City Council that's acknowledging the truth of this crisis that's now showing up in such uncomfortable ways on our street and the denial must go away. And again, we all know somebody that's suffering. And so I stand in solidarity with all of you. I'm grateful that you're here today and I'm grateful as a council that we took some time today to acknowledge mental health awareness. Thank you so much.

Speaker: Thank you. Thanks. Commissioner Ryan, commissioner Rubio, thank you.

Speaker: And thank you, mayor, for bringing this forward again today. And I just want to thank each of you for your presence here and for raising this up. I just want

to affirm what you've already said, that this is truly about seeing people and implementing trauma informed practices here, that center these voices and experience of people living with mental illness and mental health challenges, and especially when it comes to our employees who who we are seeing pour their hearts and their energy and their time into the city every single day. And in previous years, you've talked to us about how clearly the pandemic had an impact on that for a number of our employees and our families. So I appreciate you reminding us about our responsibility to take active, conscious steps to support our staff and especially now and also I encourage us, all of us to follow the advice that you all shared about what we know. We have a responsibility to be informed and also to be trained for ourselves, but also for our teams and for our colleagues as well. So just thank you for continuing to lift this up. Um, it has now taken hold and it is a part it should be, but I see that developing more a part of our workplace culture around wellness. So and I thank each of you for that. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzales. I just want to thank you for your lovely words. And I also want to acknowledge the comments by my colleagues highlighting the more acute manifestations of mental illness that are very much in our face on a daily basis on the city. But I do want to reiterate, if we want to raise up our community and really address mental health, we do have to fully acknowledge that. I think we're all fragile right now. I think post pandemic post response to the pandemic, there are scars maybe in all of us and that's more complex to solve. That's sometimes as it manifest itself clinically, it's how we what we do day to day on our everyday lives. And I guess it's just a call out a little bit to our community. The essential part of giving each other grace is recognizing there's fragility throughout our community, whether someone's manifesting it, manifesting itself in

a real expressive way or it's under the hood. Certainly for our employees, as I understand sometimes the fear to return to the office, but simultaneously we've got to find a way to work together again and to play together again. Sometimes to cry together again. The importance of that connect in that tangible piece. And it's also a reminder that the essential work of building communities and building cities and sometimes rebuilding them. And that's essential for us to return to a healthier time, much less address some of these scars. So thanks again for your lovely words. Thank you. I'd like to also express my gratitude to you.

Speaker: I think we've all seen mental health issues being highlighted in recent years. As you all indicated, this has been a traumatic period in the history of our city and our nation. And indeed, at the household level, we've been challenged in ways personally. We've never been challenged before. I like the two pronged approach here, acknowledging that our community needs us as leaders, as civic leaders to work with the community, to work with other governments to help address the withering behavioral health needs in our community, and acknowledging that substance use disorders are also complicating the mental health issues for many on our streets. But I don't want to lose sight of the fact that this has been a very difficult period for public servants, as our society has been challenged at every level. There is a human tendency to ask who's to blame and it is disappointing to see that people who serve the public in a variety of capacities, including public servants, are often the recipe points of some of the anger, the frustration and the anxiety that the public feels. I'm not saying it's exclusively public servants. I mean, how many times do we have to read about flight attendants being attacked for serving the wrong peanuts to people on an airliner? Yeah, but public servants right now seem to be in the target. And so it's up to us as employers collectively to make sure that the people who work amongst us and in our ranks are well cared for and

are seen and heard and understood as they not only struggle with the challenges of their employment, but they also have the dual responsibility of struggling with challenges at home and that is no small feat. And I really appreciate this opportunity to level, set and re acknowledge that truth. So it's my honor on behalf of the City Council to read a proclamation asian underscoring all the great comments that you three made. Thank you. Where as the city takes pride in joining Americans throughout the country and recognize rising may 20th, 23 as mental health awareness month. And. Whereas the city affirms that mental health awareness month promotes awareness of the importance of tending to our mental health as it's essential and acknowledges that those living with mental health disabilities are deserving of care, of understanding, of compassion, and of pathways to hope, healing, recovery, fulfilling and inclusivity and. Whereas, the city acknowledges the continued growing need to dismantle systems of oppression for members of our workforce and communities that experience discrimination glisan or barriers for accessing mental health services. And. Whereas, the city commits to establishing an ongoing dialog with advocates and community organizations and government entities with the intention of taking collective action towards supporting a healthy society and. Whereas, the city supports mental health awareness as an opportunity to inspire and embolden meaningful action within our organization, to reinforce the health and safety of the greater Portland community. And. Whereas, promoting a psychologically healthy culture is a priority through training and building leaders skill sets that support mental health and positive relationships, and equipping workers to manage daily stress and handle the inevitable challenges that affect their mental well being. And. Whereas increased awareness and understanding support tools, resources and capacity building help to build a healthy foundation from which the city workforce can build upon to

strengthen ourselves, to build resilience and collectively cope and heal from past adversity and be better equipped to manage future adversities. And. Whereas, we recognize the importance of providing employees with a voice to be able to identify their needs and express how they would like to be supported, creating space to foster a sense of well being. That's felt throughout, promoting feelings of being part of an environment that recognize, uses and values employees, contributes to breaking down barriers and enabling employees access to various learning and development opportunities focused not on collective healing and holistic well-being from varying perspectives to ensure inclusion and a person centered approach to elevating mental wellness. Now, therefore, i. Ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon, the city of roses, do hereby proclaim may of 2023 to be mental health awareness month in Portland and encourage all residents to observe this month. Thank you. Excellent presentation.

Speaker: Thank you so much. Thank you. Can I shout out is it matt was matt's last name courtney walker's blancus?

Speaker: I want to shout out matt. Matt and myself coauthored the proclamation and I just want to give matt props. He's not he's not able to join us today, but I just wanted to make sure he got his, his props for contributing to the writing to you and thank you to matt.

Speaker: It's beautifully written. Well done. Thank you. Thank you. All right. Thanks, aardvarks. Bye bye. Have a good day.

Speaker: Take care. Are you going back to school now? No. I'm the base.

Speaker: Are all right. Mixed answer to one.

Speaker: Be sure to tell your parents. I said you should go back to school. See, this is how we get in trouble, right. All right, colleagues, we will go to the regular agenda, please.

Speaker: Item for one one amend to joint office of homeless services intergovernmental agreement with Multnomah County to extend the term of the agreement. Colleagues, our first regular agenda item is 411. An amendment to extend the intergovernmental agreement between the city of Portland and Multnomah County. With respect to the joint office of homeless services for one more fiscal year, fiscal year 2324. Like you, I'm disappointed by the underspent resources by the joint office of homeless services. These substantial funds that we learned last week went largely unspent are from our regional supportive housing services tax measure far too many in our city and live are living in dangerous and squalid conditions as this is a humanitarian catastrophe for our unsheltered neighbors. And it also creates public health, safety and livability concerns for the community at large. We're in an emergency situation and we must expend the funds available to us for the purpose for which they were intended, which is to address the crisis we also learned of additional unanticipated, stated resources totaling \$25 million. I'm grateful that the county chair, jessica vega peterson, agreed to advocate for \$20 million of the unanticipated funds to go towards the city's temporary alternative shelter sites on an ongoing basis. I appreciate that the chair will champion this funding for the temporary alternative shelter sites to the board of county commissioners. This funding is on top of the wraparound services the county has agreed to provide to these sites behavioral health services, substance disorder, treatment services and housing placements. Sherri peterson is a great leader and a great partner and I'm honored to co-champion this necessary addition to our continued form of care alongside her, the renewed partnership between the city and the county gives me hope that we can build a system of care for all Portlanders, especially our most vulnerable. I also want to thank governor tina kotek for her steadfast support of our temporary alternative shelter sites. Governor

kotek provided funding for 140 pods and six months of operational costs for our first site through executive order and the all in plan, we're moving in the right direction. And I look forward to the continued strong partnership from the county. The joint office and state as we work together to reduce unsheltered homelessness and provide services to people experiencing homelessness. All across our city. However however, we must remain accountable and clear eyed while we've made progress over the last five months, we need to continue seeing operational and policy changes to keep this relationship intact. Act as such, this amendment, unlike previous extensions to the iga with the joint office of homeless services, contains clauses stating that the city will review its relations with the joint office in December of 2023 to determine if steps should be taken to dissolve the partnership ship or alternatively, to commit to a longer partnership. The amendment also contains a clause stating that the city and the county must provide any information requested in writing by the other party. Another important change this year is the hiring of dan field as director of the joint office of homeless services. Dan is the right person for the job and he knows that there is no easy task. Dan is here. Where is he? I don't. Dan is here. Dan, welcome. Thank you for being here today. We appreciate it. We appreciate your leadership. I'm glad I said nice things about you with you standing right there. The chair. Vega peterson and I have full confidence in dan and his leadership and the chair and I have pledged that we will continue to support you and work with you and help overcome the inevitable challenges that you will experience in this new role. The chair and i, along with our staffs, will support. I already said that this extension provides an opportunity for a restart between our government s and for the joint office of homeless services. Before moving on, I'd like to move an amendment to remove the emergency clause on this item. Can I please get a second? Second. I have a second from commissioner Ryan. Is there any

further discussion on the removal of the emergency clause ? Seeing none, please call the roll. Ryan hi, gonzales.

Speaker: I think it's important that we create some space for the city and county to work through some very difficult issues with respect to this agreement and the overall all flow of funds.

Speaker: For that reason, I vote, I maps. I Rubio, i.

Speaker: Wheeler all right. The amendments adopted.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan, I believe you also have an amendment you'd like to propose. Is that accurate? Yes, I'd like to make a motion to substitute exhibit a in the proposed ordinance by the mayor with this version.

Speaker: So. So do I start reading from whereas see?

Speaker: So commissioner Ryan, I think to in the interest of time, I think you would just highlight the sections that are added based on the exhibit a that was submitted with the mayor's ordinance. I mean, you could read the whole thing if you want, but if you just my understanding it is recitals. See and d and directive three, two or directives or agreements, sections two and three. Thanks

Speaker: Okay. Whereas measurable community wide indicators is intended to assess and improve the rate of homelessness, have yet to be determined. City Council directs the chief administrative officer to commence a comprehensive review and assessment over the next six months of the joint office of homeless services. Inter governmental agreement between Multnomah County and the city of Portland. As referenced in exhibit a encompassing but not limited to the following areas of evaluation. Collectively, the measures. One can produce quantitative community wide indicators so we can align on shared goals and monitor progress towards agreed upon goals to one. This community wide indicators are determined and in order to reach population results, the city is

requiring the joint office of homeless services to establish subindicators as a provision in service provider contracts and three because as different population gains deserve different strategies. The joint office of homeless services will coordinate with the city and community solutions to determine effective and efficient intervention strategies. Is targeting specific segments of the city and county's homeless population, including, but not limited to individuals who are chronically homeless. Essential frontline workers experienced in housing, hardship and individuals living on fixed incomes. Inclusive of people with disabilities, elders and individuals with dual diagnoses for mental health conditions as and d whereas, following the evaluation of the chief administrator, officer shall produce a detailed report outlining the findings of the review and assessment, including recommendations for potential modifications or improvements to the joint office of homeless services intergovernmental agreement. It now I go down to c linly annual budget annually. This has changed a lot over the last two hours. I hope I have the right one. Can I just clarify?

Speaker: I believe there's is there a new language in two or is it the same? Could somebody clarify, tony, I believe it's the same. It's the same. Okay. So you're correct then just three annual budget, right?

Speaker: Annual budget annually, the county will present the joint office portion of the draft budget to the city. Their review and feedback for to the review for there should be there for their review and feedback starting in fiscal year 2324 county will include in their draft joint office budget presentation a plan for spending down any city. Total spending accounts carried over or unspent from a prior fiscal year as a condition precedent before the county expends any funds appropriated by the county for the joint office for fiscal year, the county must first receive from the city a resolution adopted by the Portland City Council agreeing with the county's budget

appropriations for the joint office for the fiscal year. I think that completes it.

Correct. All right. Very good.

Speaker: Is there a second or any discussion, commissioner? I have one question.

Have has this been shared with the county?

Speaker: Yes, we had a meeting yesterday afternoon with commissioner with chair vega peterson.

Speaker: And what was the chair's reaction to the chair's reaction in that conversation, which we shared with your staff?

Speaker: Through my chief of staff, was that they were very appreciative of the dialog they really were all in for, especially one, two and three. The chair shares our desire to have accountability to let voters and investors who are taxpayer nils know where we are and where we're going and the accountability and the streamlined to the provider contracts that will also look at those subindicators that they will measure in their contracts for more accountability. Very good.

Speaker: I'll second it. Do you want to leave this open through testimony or what's your preference?

Speaker: I think it's always important to keep it open. Okay. When we're doing testimony, we'll leave.

Speaker: We'll leave this open. Very good.

Speaker: And more importantly, there's also been dialog with danfield himself. Okay. As we bring in a new leader.

Speaker: Good. And do we have actually a presentation on this or are we going straight to public testimony? Do we have people signed up? Keelan we have one person signed up.

Speaker: Very good, jim atwood, welcome.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: And if you could just even though it's redundant, could you state your name for the record?

Speaker: I'm half deaf. Could you speak up?

Speaker: Yes. Could you please state your name for the record? Oh, thank you. It's required. Thank you. Good morning.

Speaker: Good morning.

Speaker: I'm jim atwood, and I want to support your. The mayor's. Advocacy for more campsites for our unhoused people. And I think that some of these are better off in pods and camp sites than they are in multifamily buildings. I think you have an item later on the agenda connecting mental health and substance abuse recovery with these services in their camp, camp sites and pods. And I want to support that as well. And I think that a lot of these folks simply will be happier in their campsites and pods than they would be in multifamily buildings. As you know, I'm an advocate for downtown housing and brick buildings. And so while I'm here, I'd like to make a little pitch for brick buildings. Take, for instance, the fire, the may apartment fire last week. Now, we still don't know who started that fire, but we do know that a lot of homeless people from the blanché house recently moved into the building and I want to emphasize, we don't know that any of them started it. But if it turns out that one of them did start it, I think it would give you reason to reconsider the some of the housing first policies that the county has peddling and more importantly, I keep hearing city employees refer to the may as a dangerous building. I just want to point out some of the good qualities of that building. It was a historic brick building. The fire started one morning last week. It burned through the night and into the next morning. Had that been a frame construction on the building would have burned to the ground very quickly. And we'd have no time to rescue the many residents that were, in fact, rescued from the building. When I

went by the way this morning and the building is still standing, had it been a frame construction, it would be a pile of ashes and quite likely human bones in the ashes. So there is some benefit to brick buildings. And they also took credit for saving the adjoining buildings, which are frame, and they would also be a pile of ashes. But I think it was the brick buildings more likely than not that saved the adjoining frame construction buildings and quickly, with regard to earthquakes, all the pictures I saw, the collapsed buildings and the recent Turkey mega earthquake where pictures of cement slabs and tangled steel rebar fell and people were buried and waiting for heavy equipment to rescue them. I read one heart wrenching story of a man who held his mother's hand while she died, waiting for heavy equipment to uncover her. If someone's buried under a pile of bricks, family, neighbors and other rescuers can lift bricks. So so again, it's the rich architects and engineers who stand to benefit financially from seismic retrofits that are bashing brick buildings as they are. You'll notice that they haven't offered to design these retrofits pro bono and in conclusion, I want to mention brick buildings have architectural and historic significance that newer buildings simply don't have. They're an important part of the fabric of the city of Portland. And they well, they make Portland, Portland brick buildings have important safety features over other types of construction. All construction has its pros and cons. But in conclusion, I'd like to say that we should show brick buildings the love and respect that they deserve. Thank you very much.

Speaker: Thank you. Appreciate your perspective on that. That's helpful. Thank you. That completes public testimony. All right. So this is obviously a first reading, but we will call the roll on the amendment. Any further discussion on commissioner Ryan's amendment? Commissioner Mapps, then commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Frankly, I'd love to hear some dialog from my colleagues, especially from my colleagues who have been involved in the negotiations with the county. So I'll defer to commissioner Gonzalez. And Mr. Mayor, if you have a perspective on the amendment, I'd be interested in that too. Commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Sure. So I want to break down a couple of pieces in the amendment. What's been discussed over really the last 24 hours, what's included here, what's not included? First of all, we have a review mechanism really championed by commissioner Ryan's office. And I'll let him speak to what that's attempting to address. Although I think it's somewhat self explanatory. Two other items that were part of the discussion is one, general government governance piece. You know, how are key decisions made at the joint office? What is the city's involvement in that? Changes to governance are largely excluded from this proposed amendment, and that was in response to comments from the county. As I understand it, I'm not sure that sits well with me, but there's there is a partial analysis of necessary as to what are our existing rights, contractual be with the county that we are not fully leveraging as a city in the status quo before the amendment. And so I think to create some space to fully, you know, to appropriately make an assessment there, we need to go back, reopen the existing agreement, evaluate what rights we have there and make sure that we're fully leveraging them effectively as stewards for city \$ the next piece is the annual budget mechanism and. This is section three of the amendment. There's really two portions of this. There's sort of a pre review of a budget by the city and then second, there's essentially approval rights once it goes through the county budgeting process. I think the county has seen some of this. I'm not sure they've seen this exact version. So we'll see what their comments back are on it. I would, you know, would like to acknowledge we discussed some further firmness in our

ability to engage in the budget process before it's circulated. And, you know, whether we'll have rights to earmarked or specify specific categories. I'm not sure the first sentence gives us those rights to the extent, you know, in an ideal world, I would ask for, but I do appreciate that we have the right to do the word is not used in the amendment, but the right to veto the budget once it goes through the county's process. So that's where this sits. I think the county has looked at versions of this. I'm not sure they've seen this entire version. And I think they're what I would encourage everyone to do is to make some space over the next week or weeks for the city and county to continue to find common ground on this going forward. I want to emphasize one last piece is the status quo is not sustainable. I will not support extension in of this agreement tonight without substantial rework on budget and to certain extent, governance. And I think this amendment has is a step in the right direction. I appreciate commissioner Ryan's collaboration on it certain extent. I believe the mayor's office was involved in pieces of it, although it's all been happening in real time. So they may not have had a chance to fully digest every aspect of this. But we are distributing 43 plus million dollars as a city to the joint office. The outcomes on our street are not where we want them to be. And separately, the city is spending substantial\$ directly in addressing the homeless crisis in its various manifestation. And that's true from Portland street response. It's true in our community health division through chat and providing medical care to homeless individuals. It is certainly true in the community safety division and all of its various components that are spending directly. It's true in parks and providing emergency shelter and it's true in pbot and cleaning up derelict vehicles. We are spending substantial dollars. So the status quo is not satisfied. We are not getting the return on investment. As a city, we need and I again, I think this amendment is a step in the right direction, but I will not support renewal of the agreement without

substantial rework in the basic operations of that relationship. I'll leave it at that.
Very good. Any further discussion, mr. Mayor?

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps, I just have a question for you.

Speaker: I know you're deeply involved in the crafting of this contract and whatnot. Do you have any reaction to commissioner Ryan's amendment?

Speaker: I do. And granted, it's been somewhat fluid.

Speaker: And as you indicated, commissioner Ryan, it's been changed as recently, I believe, as this morning. And my main question was really whether or not the county had seen this or whether they would be surprised by it. The impression I have, having spoken to the chair is that she is supportive of any other information we need in order to be comfortable with the contract. And my experience with her thus far has been that she's been very open to that. The conversation is my staff and I have had with her and her staff over the last few days have been very productive. Active is how I would describe them. I think she sees our perspective live and indeed, I understand more about her perspective as well and some of the challenges she may face in her present position. Even with regard to the management of the joint office, I believe the chair is prepared to work with us and collaborate. I believe the public demands it. And so from my perspective, I will support the amendment acknowledging that there there may be some rework or more information that's required. I know that commissioner Ryan and his staff have put a ton of time and energy into this. I would ask my staff at this point is there anything else I should be aware of, schuyler or anything else I should have said that I didn't say or anything. I said that I should not have said. Since you're the one who engages in most of these conversations on my behalf. Okay, all good. So i'll just be transparent. My intention is to support commissioner Ryan's amendment, understanding that over the course of the next week that may persist. State some

other conversations. As commissioner gonzales has indicated, and thank you and I have a couple of process questions.

Speaker: So we stripped out the emergency or we the emergency clause here. So it's basically a regular ordinance. Let's say council passes it this week. Does the county also have to weigh in and have a vote and pass this contract or do so? I've been thinking a headshake from staff, so they say they have the county will need to vote on this too. And because this is an a regular order item as opposed to an emergency ordinance, if we pass this on the 24th, the next time, if we pass it on the 31st of may, um, the ordinance would go into effect 30 days after that, which is roughly. Three the last day of June. So we have about 24 hours breathing room on. I think the contract expires on the end of June. So we'll have about one days space to make sure that we don't have a gap, at least our legal paperwork.

Speaker: Yes, i'll defer to legal counsel, but I believe we've cut it even more closely than that in the past.

Speaker: Linly do you have any thoughts on that?

Speaker: Um, while it is ideal to have it complete and effective before or the date it expires, council has in the past been able to ratify contracts even if they expire and have a essentially pass it the week after and have it ratified backwards to so it's doable.

Speaker: Okay. Thank you very much.

Speaker: And as long as I have the floor, i'll just put my cards on the table. I appreciate commissioner Ryan's amendment in in this space. I am disad ified with this contract. I don't understand why we keep, um, just extending this without actually addressing the concerns that I know each and every member of this council has. I find it utterly mystifying that we could give one of our partners \$40 million as an and we have almost no influence over how these dollars get spent. None of us

would have a contract within our own bureaus for something like this if I were to build a piece of infrastructure here, I would not give a contractor \$40 million and then say, build what you want. I find this to be crazy and unsustainable, so I am likely to vote yes. I on the amendment today. I cannot at all guarantee you that I will be a yes vote on the final vote next week, though, because I don't understand why we continue to be here. And I can't imagine why we would give away tens of millions of dollars every year without having an influence over how we spend it. Thank you.

Speaker: Very good. Any further discussion on seeing none, please call the roll on. Sorry, commissioner gonzales. I'm sorry.

Speaker: I want to follow up on one own piece that commissioner Mapps is alluding to, and we may bring up the at the appropriate time bringing up mr. Garcia from the city attorney's office, one of the mechanisms that exists, as I understand it, under our existing relationship, we send \$35 million to the county. We separately have approved another 8.3 in change that goes to the county as well. If I get the numbers right, it's around \$43 million total. We then there's an argument we have the right right now to specify by the use of those dollars when we send it that we make a condition on sending the dollars when we send it to the county and whether we are fully leveraging that those rights that exist today is an open question. So I share with you the deep concerns about about a blank check without about commitments as to how those dollars are going to be spent without having real ability to exercise our fiduciary duties as our responsibility to the city. And to manage city dollars where I'm hoping that we create some space in the coming weeks is that we evaluate more and we articulate very clearly what our existing right. It's under the contract to mandate, you know, when we send\$ to the county, how those dollars are spent and certainly they can say we're not going to agree and

they can send the money back. I mean, that's so I think that's something that we need to be crystal clear as a council. What are our existing rights there? And whether we're appropriately, for lack of a better term, leveraging those rights. Second, governance. There is a and I don't know if mr. Garcia is available right now from the city attorney's office. We can, you know, at the appropriate time, have him chime in just understanding the existing oh, I think he's here. So understand thing the existing approach approval mechanisms in the contract that are spelled out currently that may not be fully leveraged as we go again one of the pieces that was removed from this proposed amendment was to address some sort of executive committee or governance committee. And there's an argument that already exists in the contract and we're not really leveraging it. So I'd let mr. Garcia speak to that if he's if he's here. Is that okay, mayor? Is that okay? Of course that's. Welcome. Good afternoon.

Speaker: For the record, tony garcia, chief deputy in the city attorney's office. What would you like me to speak to?

Speaker: Commissioner and I want to I may be getting the acronym wrong. Was it called the or? There was a mechanism. What is the mechanism for governance at a high level? Under the existing agreement in amendment 13 to the contract, an lg group was created.

Speaker: That's the executive leadership group. It includes foreign individuals. The commissioner in charge of the housing bureau, one member of their staff, the chair for the county and one member of their staff. And they are to get together to meet and make policy decisions regarding the budget, how funds are spent and how descriptive are is the elgs authority under the existing agreement high level we don't necessarily need.

Speaker: It's not very specific.

Speaker: It's aspirational mostly that the parties will work together. Okay, so colleagues, that may not be sufficient.

Speaker: From my vantage point, but at least I think we create some space to dialog on. Do we build that up further in the coming weeks? I know the county had some concerns about what we might have proposed there, so I understand over the last 24 hours, but I do think that's an opportunity. Let's revisit that mechanism. Many of us here have experienced in nonprofit world, in for-profit world, where we set up a governance model where you have a small set that's going to help guide this. We have to create space for the executive director to actually operate the joint office. So it's we don't want to be in his business in every respect, but that that we can look at each other with a straight face and conclude we're providing sufficient governance from from the city's perspective. So I would just put that out that we may need to beef that up a little bit. From my vantage point and I can work with each one of your staffs if you're if you're able to provide some commentary and feedback of what you'd specifically like to see, I can workshop that with the county and their counsel. One last area of question. So the 35 million plus 8.3, you know, that's the way I think of it. What are our legal rights in terms of sending that money to the county and dictating how those dollars are spent? Again, obviously, the county can come back and say no, but but just walk us through our existing rights under existing contract when we send money to the county. What are what are our rights there? Well, I think our rights are whatever we've established in the contract.

Speaker: So at this time would be when we would put any qualifications or specifics as to what we want to see with that money for the following fiscal year. So the current amendment propose by commissioner Ryan does put some more language in there about how to get to that point and so that hopefully the city and the county will be there next year for the following fiscal years budget. But we could

do that at any point in time. Each year that we reauthorize this agreement. So short of a full amendment or or explicit contractual language, when we send a quarterly payment to the county, do we have any rights to specify how those dollars are spent? I think we have to rely on the contract. We've already agreed to and reimburse them for the costs as long as their costs were within the scope of the contract at which they generally are. And I'm happy to speak to more specifics about that, maybe off the record or with your staff. Yeah, I think that, again, we create some space here.

Speaker: I think this is an area that we continue to fully evaluate. You know, I don't want to throw stuff into amendment that's unnecessary, but I we've documented a lot of out of pocket that the city is paying for directly when it comes to homelessness and I personally would like some assurances that we have a mechanism to get that reimbursed out as we go forward.

Speaker: Leave it at that.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps two things.

Speaker: First, commissioner azar, I really appreciate that dialog and that clarification. It helps, although I have to I have to share with my colleagues on this council and the people who can hear my voice. I, I just do not understand why or how city dollars are allocated is something that we have to negotiate over or should negotiate over. If the if the county doesn't want to do whatever services that we're we're trying to purchase, you know, that's fine. But I don't think that we would do this in any other space. I don't get this at all. And setting up a committee to figure out how much influence the city has is also just doesn't make any sense for me. And it's kind of a non starter, although I guess if the amendment maybe represents an improvement over the status quo, that's just sort of where I'm at and we can deal with the final vote next week. And I also before I before we vote on the

proposed amendment, I also just do note that we have dan fields here, the incoming head of the joint office, if not the current, I'm not sure if you're currently active acting or not. I, I don't want to put you on the on the spot, but it if our colleague wanted to address council or had any thoughts, I'd certainly would be interested in hearing whatever perspective that the head of the joint office brings. But it's your meeting, mr. Mayor. I'll let you decide if that's a good idea or mr. Field. Decide if he has anything he wants to share today.

Speaker: Yeah, well, I think that's up to dan. Did you have anything you wanted to share? I generally don't make people testify.

Speaker: We've been talking about subpoena power lately, so never turned down a request to talk in public.

Speaker: Dan field yeah.

Speaker: Mingus may regret this in a few. You may? Yes thank you. I'm dan field, the brand new director of the joint office.

Speaker: Three weeks on the job. I appreciate the chance to be here. I thought it was important for me to be here and listen to the concern expressed. I appreciate the dialog with the city attorney's office to understand the nature of the agreement, so I don't have any specifics other than to say I think the amendment is absolutely framing the right discussion that council needs to have over the next week with the county. That discussion is already begun as the mayor and commissioner Ryan mentioned with the chair, I have a lot of confidence, especially with the more controversial piece of the amendment regarding governance. I have confidence that we'll get there. I think having the conversation in and of itself is healthy. We need to understand what the joint decision making and priority setting process is in the joint office. If we're going to fulfill the promise of that. I do think let's keep in mind why we created a joint office in the first place. There's a really complicated set

of braided funding that needs to come together effectively to address the continuum of needs from from the city's priorities around temporary alternative shelter to long term rent support, shelter and other strategies. So if we're going to fulfill the promise of a comprehensive strategic plan, we've got to do it together. And so I don't take lightly any indications from elected officials in whatever quarter who talk about stepping away from a joint strategy because a joint strategy is the only thing that's going to get us there. So I know this is hard work. I know this is frustrating. I hear the frustration. I hear the concern is and I think we've got to lean into them rather than back away from them. So that's my pledge and that's my pitch short term, we got to do something in the next week to address the ideas that have been put on the table today. But more importantly, long term, we have to develop a joint strategy that we can all sign off on so we're not having this conversation over and over and over every six months, and I think we'll get there.

Speaker: Yeah, dan, if I may be so bold, partially the timing is working against us here. We have a new chair. We have you as the new director of the joint office. But the iga expires at the end of June.

Speaker: And so if we'd had an extra two months to work on this, I think we, we might have got farther than we have.

Speaker: But you said something that I agree with fundamentally. We now are very clear that the problem on our streets goes well beyond just the question of housing. We have significant behavioral health issues. We have significant substance use disorders. We have basic health care needs for those who are on our streets and part of our strategy to off ramp from people from the streets has to include those services. We do not provide those services as the county provides those services is the county not only has the infrastructure and the expertise to provide those services, they actually have connection to the federal and state

streams of funding which support those services. An area you happen to be an expert in, given your background more than me, I'll put it that way. But your experience with CSOs and those relationships chips puts you in good standing to help us navigate some of those issues. So from my perspective, while there is more, I would like to see from a governance person effective, if this is joint, then truly we have to make personnel decisions together and we have to make budgeting decisions, join together and I agree with you. I think we're moving rapidly in that direction, particularly given some of the chairs agreed, wants to support the programs and the services that we are spearheading here at the city of Portland. But ultimately we can't do it independently of the human services infrastructure here at the county. That's just the bottom line. That is a fact. So we have to figure out how to work within the confines of the spaces where we work, within the confines of our own spans of control. We have to partner. It's the prisoners dilemma, right? Right large and large. I would like us to continue to and I hear my colleagues, I absolutely empathize and I agree with and I understand and all of the concerns they are raising. But I do believe we're moving in the right direction in and I will reiterate again, I think you're exactly the right person for the job at the right time. And we're lucky to have you in the position you're in because, you know, it's a tough one.

Speaker: Well, I appreciate that. And I want to echo what you said, mayor, about the chair you're characterizing conversations you've had with her. And I think my experience observing her and talking with her is exactly the same. So she is committed to a partnership that fulfills the promise of the joint office. She's saying that to her team privately, as well as you privately, and she'll say it publicly. See where that lands us in terms of a governance model in terms of a precise financial contribution to the city piece of the strategy. That's for you. And the chair and the

rest of council and the board to decide. But that's where we're headed. And so there's no question that our interests and our objectives are aligned. And of course, the political process is negotiating the details.

Speaker: Okay, good. So colleagues, we have a lot of people waiting for an important proclamation.

Speaker: Are there any burning questions or can we vote on the amendment?

Speaker: Let's call the roll. Ryan thank you, mayor.

Speaker: As a commissioner who oversaw the joint office with the county for more than two years, I understand the importance of this vote very well. I also think it's honest to say that Portlanders would agree that we are failing on our mission to reduce homelessness in our city. And most would say that we are not doing enough for mental and behavioral health and drug addiction. I had two primary focuses during my two year tenure and that was to build a culture rooted in data to improve the system and to build an on ramp program with for chronic homelessness, to stability. Today, we're moving forward to ensure that we build a data driven culture with our partners at human solutions, built for zero. And I'm grateful that we also successfully have launched a program. We have five open and two more to open this summer and the good news is we have data and we have over 50% of the participants have moved into stable housing after 3 to 9 months of service. However, outside of the arpa funded program, there was a little sense of collaboration at times and shared goals between the city and the county. On addressing homelessness today I support the extension of the contract only due to the new leadership of county chair jessica vega peterson and joint office director dan field. We are so grateful to have you here today. Dan I'm hopeful that the county will be thought partners with the city. The city needs that. All of us need to deliver results that Portlanders expect. However, we cannot continue to fund an

office that isn't delivering on the needs of our homeless community. Voters and taxpayers need to know where we are and where we are going. Hence the data driven dashboard and providers need to align their work to move the needle and measure their progress. This commitment to accountability and transparency. We will improve the system. That's why I feel it's important that we amend the contract to include these tangible measurements to hold the joint office community accountable to these tangible solutions. I vote. I Gonzalez so again, I want to appreciate my colleagues work on this for the last 24 hours.

Speaker: The engage ment of the county leadership of the mayor. Very nice to meet you, mr. Field. Look forward to a deeper discussion on. I think we made progress. Yes. Over the last day. It's not exactly where I want it to be. I'm looking forward to space to continue to improve the relationship and clarify in the coming week or or so and want to create space that we don't necessarily have to do that in a in front of the whole public. We can do some of that in private and then present out to the public what we resolve now. But I want to make one last note, observation on the relationship between the city and county as the new guy here and witness singh on a number of fronts, the interaction and interactions. Um, I you know, the city of Portland is in some ways uniquely positioned in its relationship with the county. We're nearly 80% of Multnomah County's population. We have substantial apparatus, substantial infrastructure, and for better or worse, we're held responsible by voters for many of the challenges that are faced on the streets of Portland. Whether we are by statute, responsible for those things, the city is who the voters often look to solve the problems of livability. And I think as we define our relationship on the joint office, our relation ship, on public safety, our relationship on emergency management, all of these are things I touched in my day to day job as commissioner of public safety. I think we have to frame it with that in mind, that

the statutes that address this county and city responsibilities, even some of the federal funding mechanisms that presume a large county and a relatively small city don't fully reflect the reality of what goes on in the city of Portland and Multnomah County. Just given our relative size to the county and I just make that more of an observation. It's not a prescription, it's just five months on the job and watching these different intersections, it's somewhat unique in the state in my opinion. It's not completely unique, but it's somewhat unique. Bottom line, I'm going to vote I on this amendment, but I believe there's further work to be done and hopefully in collaboration and as adults to continue to flesh out this very complex relationship.

Maps

Speaker: I appreciate the dialog we've had today and I really appreciate it. Mr. Field addressing council, especially on the fly, I do hear some disagreement in this room and I hear some consensus. Here's something which I think there's consensus on. It is past time. Um, I think that we all agree that the city of Portland and Multnomah County sign a contract that clearly articulates the parts of the houselessness crisis, which are a city responsibility, the parts of this houselessness crisis, which are a county responsibility, and the parts of this houseless crisis which are our shared responsibility city. Unfortunately the contract we are being asked to renew today does not do that. Instead, our current arrangement with the county basically boils down to the city giving the county \$40 million a year or so to support houseless services. The county decides how to spend it. The city has very little influence over how joint office dollars are spent. In fact, the city of Portland struggles to get basic financial and programmatic data out of the joint office. This arrangement is unaware. Reputable, of course. I do believe in the need for cooperation and coordination between the city of Portland and Multnomah County on houselessness services, and I look forward to one day voting in favor of a new

contract for the joint office. Here are seven things that I think are important to be contained in that contract. You know, first, the city needs to have a proportional say in how joint office dollars are spent. Second, the joint office needs to end mandates that require shelters to be low barrier. Third, this iga needs to require resources. Go to drug and alcohol treatment. Fourth, the joint office needs a new focus on residential drug and mental health treatment. Fifth, the joint office should forbid treatment detox. Sobering and corrections providers from discharging clients without having a place for them to sleep. Sixth, the county should provide the city with timely access to joint office data. And finally, the county should provide the city with timely and accurate data on staffing costs, scope of work and assigned duties at the joint office. Frankly, until we see a contract that reflects these clarification options, I will be a no in this space. However, today the amendments that have been put on the table move this discussion forward so I'm going to vote in favor of these amendment votes. I hope that these discussions and this document and contract continue to evolve over the next week, because I sure hope that I can vote yes when it comes back to this council in seven days. For these reasons or more, I vote. I Rubio so i'll start by saying that I'm not hearing a lot that I disagree with and i'll add some of my comments from the dialog into my closing comments now.

Speaker: But first I want to acknowledge the amendment offered by commissioner Ryan, and it's alignment with recent actions announced earlier this year by chair vega peterson. I believe there is consensus among this council and on. And yes, our new leadership at the county on the need for data driven decisions to track progress. It's increasing accountability and greater transparency. Everything that we've talked about and that was the exact premise behind chair vega peterson's February announcement regarding the new data task force. And I also I'm in alignment with my colleagues about wanting greater collaboration and partnership

with the city on the city's temporary alternative shelter sites with on service services, on site services, because, to be frank, there was no plan to provide houseless community members with urgent interim housing options, with services and the city came up with one. And next we set out to find partners who know how to do this work with dignity. And we found that partner in urban alchemy and a city led effort and have seen their work in action. And I feel hopeful for that work. We also found a partner in the governor, and I hope that Multnomah County board of commissioners will join us in that. And I'm very grateful and appreciative of chair vega peterson's recent partnership to support the city's task work on this front. I do agree the underspending of the \$25 million in additional revenues is far from acceptable. But we do have a plan, as we heard from the mayor and our plan is the only plan of its kind. And with the full force of support of every elected body in this region in our state, we can be successful in finally building a fuller continuum of support for many different individual needs and provide a pathway away from the housing crisis and over time to housing for everyone who needs it. I also want to add, because everyone is talking of adding this as well, that I plan to vote yes on the extension next week because it's a one year extension with opportunity to check in about the contract at six months and also because I believe we do need the partnership with the county, we need better systems and investments and collaboration and Portlanders are counting on that from us. The past may have gotten us here, but we do come prize a new constellation of leadership at every level and at every entity. And we're actively changing the past trajectory to one that is working. So and I'm hopeful for that work. And we have a time, a terminal all band around this time for us to check in about that work. So I'm grateful to dan field for your comments today for being here for your leadership, which I also think

will be instrumental and pivotal in this discussion. So I vote, I Wheeler I think we all want the joint office of homeless services to live up to its name.

Speaker: And I think there's broad agreement that this council would like to see full partnership around budgeting, full partnership around human resource decision actions and the identification and funding of policy priorities, where I think the value in the joint office also so resides is around leverage. We have the opportunity to leverage what each of our governments is good at. The city is responsible for infrastructure, for public right of way management, for safety in our community and other services. By design, the county government is responsible for human services and what's shifted in our job is that the problem is we are seeing at the street level are very much human service oriented problems and therefore we have to pivot in the way that we deliver services to be effective on behalf of our mutual constituents. The city and the county's mutual constituents. We don't control the streams of funding the\$ go through the county. Therefore we have to negotiate with the county to access those dollars. We had to negotiate with the governor on\$ that were also being allocated towards county government to address homelessness. And she has supported us. The governor has heard us and the governor has thrown in in a significant way to support our efforts around the temporary alternative shelter sites. I also just want to underscore that the chair has heard our arguments around providing behavioral health services is around providing substance use disorder, treatment services around navigating people from the temporary alternative shelter sites into housing. That would be specifically reserved for that population so that we can maximize the flow through of people in those sites and free up spots for other people who desperately need case management and navigation to services and ultimately success in housing. We're making progress and then in addition, just in the last few days, the chair has

stepped forward and committed some of the unanticipated revenue collection towards this purpose. So I see us moving in the right direction. Do we have everything we want today? No, we do not. But this is a classic case where I don't think we should let the perfect be the enemy of the good. And again, I hear from the public loudly and clearly that unless this relationship is truly lost, keep at it. Work together because you've got human services piece and you've got the safety and infrastructure piece. And we are absolutely better together. We are stronger if we can leverage off of each other. That is my aspiration. Are we exactly where I want us to be today? No, of course not. But I see that we're moving in the right direction. And I want to give dan a chance as well. I have a lot of respect for dan and we're putting a lot of hope in one individual and the staff that he's in the process of assembling in the most complex space in which we all deal. And I want to give you the opportunity to also deliver. You've heard our concerns. You bothered to come here today and you knew that you were going to hear some some frustration leveled towards this relationship. And a lot of that predates you. Obviously, a lot of it predates the current chair in her current role. So that's where I am today. Dan I appreciate commissioner Ryan. I appreciate you bringing forward the amendment. It I think there is broad agreement that more transparency and accountability is a must have and while I understand it's still slightly evolving, what I've seen and what I understand of the amendment is something I can absolutely support. So I vote I in the amendment is now now adopted. This is a first reading of an emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading as amended. Thank you all.

Speaker: Appreciate it.

Speaker: Okay. Thank you for your patience. This may be the most important thing we talk about today, so I appreciate those of you who have waited now over an hour patiently. Item number for one two, please.

Speaker: Keelan proclaim may 30th, 2023 to be vanport day of remembrance.

Speaker: My colleagues, today we remember the and bring attention to the horrific and deadly vanport flood as we proclaim may 30th, 2023, as vanport remembrance day in the city of Portland. I'd like to welcome lura lafferty vanport mosaic co-founder, to begin this morning's presenting session and introduce our esteemed guests. Good morning. Thank you for your patience. Good morning.

Speaker: I will just take a couple of minutes because I really want all the time to be dedicated to the survivors. I thank you for this opportunity. I do want to acknowledge those who left. We had a ob hill who is a community historian, survivor over and civic leaders and a treasure. So and it's daughter angela that were here so I just want to mention so that they are in our space and I want to thank all the survivors who are here with us. I invite you to the vampire mosaic festival, which is happening as we speak. It will run until may 29th with tours, screenings and other opportunities to learn about this history and to honor the survivors who continue to contribute to our region. And with that said, I will invite here miss jenny okamoto. Doug honda and mr. Ed Washington.

Speaker: Great. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Thanks for honoring us with your presence as. Welcome. Thank you.

Speaker: Good. Okay.

Speaker: Any order you'd prefer. I like to go first or.

Speaker: Oh, good day.

Speaker: I'm janice okamoto, a vanport survivor. Over 2023 marks the 75th anniversary. See the devastating flood that destroyed vanport the second Oregon housing project during world war two. Our family came to vanport for housing about 900 japanese Americans could not find a place to live after we were interned at minidoka, we had to find a place to live in Portland and was still prejudice and we

had no place. So we were told that vanport was available for housing. And so that's where we were there. And our family was there until we were displaced again because of the flood of. But the history and the legacy of vanport remains for many generations. And it's a reminder that that history of Oregon. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you for being here. Good morning, commissioners.

Speaker: And mayor Wheeler and proud to be here today and wanted to introduce myself as doug honda. That's spelled with an a not an o japanese pronunciation glisan. And I'd like to share my family's connection to the vanport community. I'm referred to as sansei, which is American born, third generation japanese American. And my grandmother izumi oyama, was one of the 15 victims who perished in the vanport flood. My grandparents are iwao and izumi oyama and their story began when they immigrated from japan to the united states in 1920. Like many immigrants, they were seeking a better life. They made a modest living publishing a small Portland newspaper that served the local japanese community. Their life was very difficult, as you can imagine, and yet they worked very hard and were driven by the optimism that the future would bring great opportunities for their children and the next generation that all came to an abrupt halt with japan bombing pearl harbor and the us entering world war two. My family was forced into wartime internment or concentration camps for allowing president franklin roosevelt signing of executive order 966 at that time, as you can imagine, there was a lot of wartime hysteria and they unfortunately looked like the enemy. So they suffered living in a desolate idaho prison camp called minidoka for the duration of the war year with their children, albert and minnie. Minnie was my mother. And when the war ended, they returned to Portland. Both broke and unwelcome by the community. Fortunately they discovered that vanport was one of the few areas of Portland where people from all walks of life could live and be accepted. They

restarted their japanese newspaper and their future began to look bright again. But once again, tragedy struck on may 30th, 1948, when my grandmother izumi, who was home alone that day, drowned in the vanport flood. My mother told me her body wasn't found for many days afterwards, as she was 47 years old. At that time. So fast forward to today and my family and I are so pleased to see the preservation and the sharing of the many important stories of the vanport survivors and their descendants. So I'd like to thank you for supporting the vanport day of remembrance. Thank you.

Speaker: We appreciate you being here. Thank you. Good.

Speaker: Good morning. Good morning, mayor Wheeler and all of the council members, guests. I'd just like to add a little bit to the story of the japanese. When I was living in vanport, I was seven years old when I moved there, and it was during the war and not having had geography and all of those things, I knew that we were the country was at war with japan. And I thought all japanese were in japan. I never knew that there were any japanese in vanport until, you know, fast forward to the 1946. I remember a teacher in our classroom said to us one day, she said, boys and girls, I just want you all to know that japanese students are returning to school. But I don't remember her telling me where they had been in and I knew about your mother as one of the victims of the flood. I appreciate this proclamation because a proclamation about vanport is so many times people have so many misunderstood things about vanport a lot of people when I was growing up, they if you talk about vanport, they said, oh yeah, it was that was the all black city and it was rundown and it was a slum and none of those things were true. None of those things were true about vanport van port was far, far more than that. And that's why I'm so thankful that we all have the opportunity to work with the vanport mosaic project and to keep vanport alive. And I just want to close by listening to all the things that

you all are dealing with in terms of housing. It just made me think about how we dealt with housing after the vanport flood, because when we moved here in 1944, the only place that my family could live was in vanport. There was no other options for us. And that's where we lived. But, you know, on the day of the flood, I was thinking about my mother. Once we got out, we spent two nights at ockley green grade school. The day of the flood and it was really quite an experience for, I think, all the kids because there's all this stuff whenever there's an emergency, you get all these things, you get food, you get clothes, you get all this stuff, and then that Monday morning, because we spent that Sunday night there, I remember a man getting on the stage and he said this. He said, there's a church on northeast russell and rodney that will take some colored families. And we knew exactly what that meant. We had to leave the green school and we spent about three weeks at this small lutheran church. It's gone now over on northeast rodney and russell. But my mom remained friends of the pastor of that church for probably until they passed away. And they had moved back to minnesota. To after the church, my family moved. We spent the summer down on swan island where there were barracks for the shipyard workers, but those barracks had been cleaned up and restored and we spent the summer there and we left swan island in the summer or the fall of 1950 and moved to guiles lake, where we spent that horrible winter of 1948 and 49. And I'm telling you, it was horrible. It was cold, it was snow, it was icy. It was bad. And we lived in two trailers. My mother and sister had one trailer and my older brothers and I had another. And from there we was able to find an apartment on north interstate. And from north interstate we went back to swan island, where they had taken the barracks and really made very, very nice apartments out of them. And then from swan island, my parents were able to find a house over on northeast cook street, just right on the other side of the red line. In case anybody

don't know what that is, because it was only within that district where black people could live. And then so you know, that. So here we are, 75 years later, right? We're still struggling with it. So I just wish you all the best. But thank you so much for remembering this important place, not only to the vanport survivors, but really to the entire city and state. Because vanport was the second largest city in the state of Oregon, population wise. So thank you very much.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you for being here. Thank you, all three of you. We appreciate it. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Sure. Thank you, mr. Mayor, let me begin by thanking janice and doug for their testimony today and colleagues, mr. Mayor, it's my honor to join you in declaring may 30th, 2023, to be vanport day of remembrance. It is important that we remember vanport because that lost city still has things to teach us as we have heard today, in the 1940s, vanport was the second largest city in Oregon and. In 1948 vanport was wiped out by a flood of biblical proportions. Today delta park and the Portland international raceway occupy the land where vanport once stood. Vanport as we have heard, was a remarkable city. The name vanport is a mash up of the words Vancouver and Portland. And as we've heard today, vanport vanport was founded in the 1940s to house workers at the wartime kaiser shipyards cards in the 1940s, about 40,000 people lived in vanport a poll from that decade asked families why they chose to move to vanport and the top reason that the top reason was they thought it was their duty to go into defense work. It is also important to remember that about 40% of the residents of vanport were black. Now, here's how that has happened. The wartime defense industry jobs in vanport triggered a great migration of african Americans into Oregon in terms of african Americans, it is entirely possible that vanport was the most racially integrated city Oregon has ever

seen. Now, all of that came to an end at 4:00 and 5 p.m, May 30th, 1948, when a 200 foot long section of a railroad berm holding back the Columbia River collapsed first triggering a flood and a tragic flood as we have learned today by nighttime, Vancouver or Vanport was underwater and seven 17,500 Vanporters were homeless. That flood drove many African Americans who lived in Vanport to Portland. And this flood of black refugees into Portland is the beginning, I would argue, of the modern era of black politics. Here in Portland, 1948, in other words, is the moment when Portland began to really grapple with the cultural change and needed to recognize black people, not only as full citizens of the state of Oregon, the flood of 1948 is also the moment when white Portlanders began to grapple with the cultural change that is needed to accept black Portlanders as neighbors. Now, as Mr. Washington pointed out to us today, 75 years after the Vanport flood, this council and this city continue to struggle with making the cultural change needed to build a more equitable and inclusive Portland, recommitting ourselves to engaging in that work is one of the ways Portlanders can participate in Vanport Remembrance Day. And there is another way Portlanders can participate. Late in Vanport Day of Remembrance, and that is to engage in some of the events associated with the Vanport Mosaic Festival. This year marks the eighth annual Vanport Mosaic Festival. The purpose of this festival is to honor and celebrate Vanport. This year, more than two dozen Vanport Mosaic events will be held throughout the city between May 18th and May 29th. Events include everything from art exhibits to musical performances to education, lectures to self-guided walking tours. If you are interested in participating in Vanport Mosaic Festival and I encourage you to do that just point your browser to vanportmosaic.org and you can find a schedule of events. Thank you very much. Again to our panelists and Mr. Mayor, I'll hand the floor back to you.

Speaker: Very good. Thank you. Commissioner Mapps. Commissioner Rubio.
Thank you, mayor.

Speaker: I just wanted to speak from the heart for a minute and just tell you how much I value you coming here today and sharing your personal stories. I mean, they were very compelling. And this does come up once, you know, once a year. But it's very, very important. It keeps the story alive and it reminds us that we did have that here for and that set the you know, it set some deep roots in this city that, you know, even though, you know, we struggle with economic justice and racial justice and a lot of these these things in our system, we do have that capacity here because it existed. And it's a reminder of how we need to keep that spirit alive. And also, I just want to really appreciate the elder voices coming and sharing directly. We're very lucky and we're very honored that we get to hear those stories very directly from you and also from the legacy family members as well. So also very proud that we live in a community where we do have these celebrations to honor this community. But the stories are important and keeping it present in front of us is very important, and especially for the next generation. So thank you for being here. Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, commissioner Ryan, then. Commissioner Gonzales.
Yeah good morning.

Speaker: Similar to commissioner Rubio, I just want to thank you for being here. The Janice Doug and Ed, all of you told such great stories as I'm hearing about your grandmother, you could really feel it coming out of your heart and knowing your mother didn't have a mom for much of her life was compelling. And I feel like I've known you since well, maybe since I was seven years old. And so the hearing. But I heard some new information from you. And I remember when we were at Portland State and you brought the Vanport classic. You've told a lot of stories, but hearing

the story, maybe for me it sounded like the first time about that church on was it rodney and russell that was so compelling. So thank you for sharing that story. I really appreciate how you've single handedly been a through line in my 30 years since I've been back in Portland of uplifting the vanport story. I know my parents would always talk about it around memorial day because they lived near there in st. Johns and they would tell me the story of the henry kaiser that there weren't enough workers and had to find workers, and that was hence the big migration and since I've been on this council and I know that commissioner Mapps goes to meetings on this point, I often think, well, is that levy okay? I mean, that happened and we're now experiencing the traditional annual snow melt. And I think we all if you look out, the rivers are rising right now. So it makes sense that it, of course happened during memorial weekend and there have been our 27 mile levee system protects 13,000 acres, 8 billion of property and more than a thousand sites containing hazardous materials. So as we talk about our infrastructure, our crisis and challenge, I hope we also use the vanport memory that's still alive. And with such heartfelt stories to remember that we must continue to take care of that asset at 2019. Levee study by the us army corps of engineers found that the river could rise to more than 37ft. Vanport was 31.6ft in major repairs, totaling at least 130 million, are set for 2025. To help mitigate potential flood damage from this old and aging infrastruuct future. So as long as long as I'm an elected official, we'll work together to make sure that that investment happens by 2025. So we don't have to experience such hardship again. Anyway, thanks again for sharing your personal stories. That's what mattered the most. Thank you.

Speaker: Thanks. Commissioner Ryan commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: I just want to say first and foremost, thank you for coming and keeping history alive, sharing your stories, passing it on to the next generation. I learned a

lot today. I thought I knew the vanport story. I there's a lot I didn't know and I would often have a grandfather talk about the risk of floods in the city of Portland. And just to echo some of commissioner Ryan's points about the importance of those levees, it didn't help us on that day in vanport, but hopefully we learn the lessons a little bit on infrastructure with respect to race. However, the story of vanport really takes us back to a dark time in our history that still has scars in the city of Portland and tens of thousands of black and Japanese American men and women decide to make Portland their home or at least make vanport their home. And contributes to our with respect to the black population and many working class that migrated during that time to support the nation's efforts in World War Two by working in the shipyards. And the Japanese story obviously is a Japanese American story is often forgotten in the vanport story and I just want to fully acknowledge that. But despite facing some painful challenges, when the war ended, many decided to either make vanport home for first time or stay there and continue to build a community there. Continue to make Oregon home the flood did have a disproportionate impact on our working class, on our Japanese and Black American and Portlanders. And it is sadly just one historic example of extreme weather events having disproportionate, disproportionate impact on our most marginalized communities, our working class communities. We don't have to look that far back in history to find other examples. In 2021, we experienced the heat dome event that had this proportionate impact on a working class neighborhoods in east Portland. So these scars continue to push forward when we deal with very difficult weather events. And it's important for us as elected representatives to remember those painful events to protect our community against future ones. And learn some hard lessons from them and of course, to remember those Portlanders who face loss of their lives, livelihoods and

beloved family members. Thank you for allowing us to remember and honor those folks today. Thank you. Thank you, commissioner gonzales.

Speaker: I'll just say this because I'm going to read a proclamation, too, and I know everybody's been waiting. I can't thank you enough. And what I always take away from these presentations is that this is a story that's deeply personal and it's sad and it's tragic.

Speaker: Boec it it underscores a very dark moment in our city's history, but it is also a story of resilience.

Speaker: Yes. And there's a positive side to this story. And you're being here and you're sharing your stories and you are reminding us of the resilience of the people who are impacted and whose families were impacted. And your current role in our society today, the important role you play not only in your day to day lives as citizens, but also as my colleagues have indicated, as that thread that goes back through our history and reconnects us with how we got to where we are today is extremely powerful to me. And I know it's probably personally challenging to come here year after year and retell stories that are often traumatic at their heart. But I also think how important this is and if I could go back and rescript today, I think the only thing I would have done differently is I wish we had started with this present version with the children who were here earlier. I wish they could have heard this presentation because it's powerful and I think it would speak to them today. Even if they aren't aware of what happened at vanport. To hear it from you and to see that resilience over 75 years, I think would have been very inspiring to them. And so, laura, I don't know where laura disappeared to.

Speaker: There's laura over here in the wings.

Speaker: Laura, the mosaic project, I think is so critically important for just this reason. And I really appreciate you bringing that history to the present because it

really does help us understand a lot about our community today. And so thank you for that. It's my honor now to read on behalf of the City Council a proclamation that honors and remembers us. Whereas our understanding of history should shapes our view of the present and understand where we are going, we must understand and where we're from. And whereas, 2023 is the 75th anniversary of the flood that erased vanport in a matter of hours. And. Whereas, vanport was once the country's largest public housing project and Oregon's second largest city with a peak population of 42,500 people and. Whereas, vanport was intended as temporary housing for the war workers pouring into Portland from all over the country and supplying labor to three major shipbuilding yards. And. Whereas vanport was demographically diverse with african American, japanese, American, hispanic, native American, asian and white populations who all came from elsewhere to work here in our shipyards in Portland. And. Whereas, a postwar war housing shortage affected all incoming laborers. But due to Portland's discriminatory housing policies at the time, such as redlining, many of the african American workers could find no place to live because they were restricted to a small area of Portland that was already at capacity. And. Whereas vanport was a city of many firsts in Oregon, including being the first to hire african American police officers and teachers and. Whereas, after the war, the city was also home to many japanese Americans who had few living options when released from American concentration camps during world war two. And. Whereas these groups of people found themselves all strangers together and forged new connections that endured even after vanport was gone. And. Whereas vanport was constructed in the columbia river floodplain and was protected from the river by a series of levees and. Whereas, exceptionally heavy snowfall in the winter of 1947, 1948 and the cold springs that followed, combined with the sudden warm up and rains of may to decimate the snowpack

and swell the Columbia River. And. Whereas, although the river levels rose to alarming height over a period of weeks, the housing authority of Portland assured by the Army Corps of Engineers that the dikes were both strong and high enough to protect Vanport from the expected peak water levels did not order residents to evacuate. And. Whereas, the housing authority of Portland did. However, after an emergency meeting on the evening of May 29th, 1948, provide a notice on some of the residents doorsteps, telling them that they were safe at the present time, that they would have plenty of time to evacuate if there were flooding and they should not, quote, get excited, unquote. Whereas at 7 p.m. the very next day, Sunday, May 30th, the housing authority of Portland and the Army Corps of Engineers were proven wrong when a 600 foot section of the railroad berm to the west of the city failed and water began to pour into Vanport and. Whereas, the flood wiped out the city in a matter of hours, whereas at least 15 people died in the Vanport flood and 18,700 residents, about 6,300 of them African American men lost their homes and most of their belongings and. Whereas, Vanport Mosaic will hold the eighth Vanport Mosaic Festival from May 18th to 29th to honor and celebrate Vanport as an essential and sometimes forgotten chapter in Portland's history. A story that provides a template for how we can all live together and create a society that honors history. Cultural contributions, and paves the way for our humanity and our city to thrive. Now therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the City of Roses, do hereby proclaim May 30th, 2023, to be Vanport Day of Remembrance in Portland and encourage all residents to observe this day. Let us remember and honor the lives affected by the Vanport flood. Learn from their experiences and strive to create a more inclusive and resilient city for all. Thank you. We so appreciate you being here today. Thank you all. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. And Laura, wherever you went. Thank you.

Speaker: There you are hiding again. Thank you.

Speaker: We so appreciate you. Thanks colleagues, do you mind if we take a five minute break? Thanks. I'm getting old and I need it. We'll recess for five minutes.

Speaker: Recording stopped. For one three, please appoint Joseph Torres Ortiz to the Portland committee on community engaged policing.

Speaker: This is a report colleagues here with us today are Samir Canal and Dori Grabinski of the community safety division to introduce this item. Welcome and thanks for your patience today. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Mayor Wheeler. Good afternoon, commissioners, and thank you for having us. For the record, my name is Dori Grabinski and I'm the project manager of the Portland committee on community engaged policing, also known as PCEP. We are housed in the advisory boards and commissions unit in the community safety division. As you know, PCEP is a mayoral committee tasked with independent assessing how the city is progressing with the remedies in the United States versus City of Portland settlement agreement. PCEP also offers community members a chance to give input on a broad range of issues related to policing in Portland and makes recommendations to the mayor and chief of police. PCEP has a total of 13 seats, two of which are reserved for youth members. At present, our membership sits at 11, with the two youth seats vacant. We are here today to request the appointment of a youth member to fill one of those vacancies. I will now pass it to piece up co-chair Pastor Robin Weisner, who has some additional comments about the committee's work and this appointment.

Speaker: Good afternoon, commissioners. For the record, my name is Pastor Robin Weisner and I am one of the couch chairs. Since the summer of 2022. Piece of staff

and members have been working hard to bring community back into compliance. And just as important, we provide an exclusive place for community engagement, not about policing in our city. We have made tremendous progress and are very proud of the work that we have done. Our plan for this summer and beyond includes being having more in-person and hybrid community engagement events so we can truly diversify our group of Portlanders. We also have a plan to engaging more with the Portland police bureau policy review process. This is always more work. There is always more work to do. But today we are hoping that we have taken the right step directly by adding a youth member to our community. Our committee, the perspective of our young generation is vital and the advancing the goals of the settlement agreement. And we're excited to welcome mr. Torres, and i'll pass it back to dory.

Speaker: Great. So our candidate for cip appointment is also here with us today, joseph torres. Ortiz is a leader in the community who plans to become a social studies educator as a member, joseph looks forward to learning more about the process around the settlement agreement and empowering others in the community to learn alongside him. So I will now invite joseph to introduce himself.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Afternoon. My name is joseph torres ortiz. I'm a Portland native that is currently pursuing my master's in education at Portland state university, with the goal of teaching social studies. I'm passionate about social change and empowering my community. I currently work for a nonprofit in Portland that serves youth and families. As a leader, I'm dedicated to promoting equity and creating a more just society. And with that being said, I joined up to gain a better understanding of how our police engages with Portland's most underprivileged citizens. Overall, I want to be more equitable, responsible and fair to everyone. Thank you. I'm really happy to be here. Thank you. Appreciate you.

Speaker: Colleagues, any questions? And just for the record, christine, we don't have testimony in this, do we?

Speaker: We do. We have one person signed up. Okay

Speaker: I have a couple of comments, but why don't we hear public testimony first? Uh, first, we have our first and only.

Speaker: We have mark morris.

Speaker: Very good, mark. Welcome yep. Thank you.

Speaker: Can you hear me? Yep yep. Good morning, mayor and commissioners. My name is mark morris. I use he him pronouns and I'm with the group Portland copwatch. And when you appointed two new members to the Portland committee on community engaged policing on February 15th, we said we had no problem with the appointments and we noted that there were still two open seats. We also have no problem with joseph torres ortiz's appointment today. However, we're concerned that since he's a graduate student and youth seats are restricted to people aged 16 through 24, that his tenure as a youth member will not last very long. So we're also concerned that even with this appointment, there's still one empty seat to fill on up. Which brings us back to the issue that we've raised continuous, which is that and other city bodies should set their quorum to a majority of seated members. So, for instance, while has only had 11 members these last several months, their quorum should have been six members instead of seven. And leaving the quorum the way it's defined by the number of total seats has not made City Council fill the empty seats any faster. It's only hampered its ability to do its work. And we also note that the compliance officer has reported repeatedly about how pcep has had a full contingent of 13 members since last fall, though the two previously appointed youth members attended few, if any, meetings. Another person's term expired and other people have resigned. He used to have a pool of

alternates who could step up if seats opened up. And perhaps it's time to revive that practice. Thank you. That's all I've got. Yeah. Thanks mark.

Speaker: And i'll. I'll just respond to what you've said. You know, personally, I would not support caught a quorum with no minimum at some point you run the risk. Obviously of having a very few number of people making decisions on behalf of what's supposed to be a larger and more comprehensive advisory body. But but I don't know. I mean, I'm certainly open to the idea of changing the quorum rules, but with a floor that it must include at least a certain number of people. You know, you can toy with that talk amongst your friends and colleagues and see if there's a there there. But I'm not opposed to that. Just you know, fyi, at and with regard to the shortness of tenure as youth, all of us had short tenures as youth. I don't even remember mine for the most part, but i, I applaud you. Mr. Ortiz, for stepping up and being willing to do this. And by the way, I'm really interested that you want to be an educator and in particular in social studies. You know, we have one historian here on our City Council, and I'm just curious what what motivated you to want to be an educator? That's a tough job.

Speaker: I come from a family of educators. I have two family members that are well, one of them moved, but my uncle, esteban ortiz, is an educator at mcdaniel high school. He he is one of my biggest role models. And one of the reasons why I wanted to be an educator. I'm also I want to be a role model in my community. I i just I want to be that inspiration for youth and social studies is pretty broad. It's not just about history, but there's a lot of things that go into social studies and yeah, i, I just I have a passion to, to just be that person in inspired change. Great. Well first of all, let me just enthusiastically say I appreciate you and I appreciate your perspective.

Speaker: You have a spark about you, and I like that your experience is very good for what we're looking at.

Speaker: I appreciate your willingness to step up and serve because, you know, the pay is lousy. The hours are long. But other than that, it's a great gig.

Speaker: If you can get it. But the truth is, is mark indicated this. This is a really important body and the work can be intense at times. And I think the perspective you bring is a unique one and a really important one. So I'm glad you're willing to step forward. Colleagues any other questions? If not, i'll entertain a motion to accept the report. So moved commissioner Mapps moves any second. Second. Commissioner Ryan seconds the approval of the report any further discussion?

Speaker: Seeing none, please call the roll.

Speaker: Ryan. Good to see you.

Speaker: Pastor wiser and thank you, joseph, for offering to serve your services needed and wanted.

Speaker: And like the mayor said, just knowing your passion for teaching was inspiring your insights into this complicated work are so needed and wanted. Thanks high gonzales mucho gusto, joseph.

Speaker: And thank you so much for your willingness to serve.

Speaker: I vote I maps. Joseph thank you for agreeing to serve on this important committee.

Speaker: I vote I revere.

Speaker: I want to thank all of you for being here. And of course, pastor wiser, it's always great to see you. Wonderful to see you and hear your words and comments about the great work of s.f. And thanks to all of your service to the community. Joseph I'm very excited for you to join not only because of your perspective about art education in, but also and youth, but also because you're a young leader in the

latino community. And that's really important for our community right now. So we need your voice. And I'm really grateful that you're serving. I really well.

Speaker: Thank you, mr. Ortiz. We appreciate it. And thank you for bringing us a really solid candidate. I'm excited about what you can bring to the discussion.

Thank you. I vote I and the report is approved and the appointments approved as well. Thank you and best of luck to you. Thank you. May I say this?

Speaker: Yes, of course. On the proclamation that you did for vanport remembrance day, I was very moved and very, very, very, very satisfied with the historical bringing it out, as well as being able to have that a day of remembrance here in the city. Thank you guys so much for all your work. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: All right. Next item, please, is item 414. It's an emergency ordinance approved grant renewal funding recommendations by Portland children's levy allocation committee for July first, 2023 through June 30th, 2025. Commissioner Ryan. Yeah

Speaker: Thank you, mayor. Good afternoon. I'll start by thanking Portland voters for supporting the fourth renewal of the Portland children's levy, which passed last week by 70. I'm heartened to see investments in our children chosen once again and again, especially in the wake of a pandemic that fell so heavily on children and youth education. The levy is seeking council approval on renewal grants recommended by the levy's allocation committee, which I sit on with four other esteemed colleagues, including chair vega peterson. These grants will continue early childhood childhood abuse prevention foster care after school programing, mentor and hunger relief services for the next two years. Lisa pellegrino, levy director and joel broussard, grant manager, are here and also you, john. But that wasn't in my notes, so it's wonderful to have you here as well. Take it away, lisa.

Speaker: Thanks, commissioner Ryan good afternoon, everybody. As commissioner Ryan said, we are here requesting approval of the allocation committee's recommendations for grant renewals and to remind you all of the committee, if you can have the first slide, that'd be great. The first slide is just shows the members of the committee that made these decisions that are before you, commissioner Ryan and commissioner jessica vega peterson, as he mentioned, and also tracy rossi, who is the city appointed citizen member of the allocation committee, and felicia folsom, who is the county appointed a citizen member of the committee. There's too many c's there. Mitch horner was the representative of the business community. So that's the committee that made these decisions that are before you today. If you can go to the next slide, please. The levy funding cycle just to review, because not everybody has been on the council since we were before you with these recommended actions, after the voters approve a levy, pcl runs a competitive grant round and makes three year initial grants with an opportunity for renewal that's based on performance. We give these multiyear grants based on very consistent feedback that emphasizes the need for stabilizing funding that's providing really key services for community and also helps organizations leverage additional funding when they have that stable funding. So that's sort of the process that we go through. Next slide, please. So I'm just going to briefly review our process that that you all that I'm sorry, start again. The grants were recommended today for renewal were initially funded in 1920. Competitive grant round for large grants and I was just going to briefly review that process that we went through to make the initial grants that these are now extensions of. So the first step in that process is to prepare a local data report where we summarize what's going on with children and families in our community, and we use that to frame the funding application and to outline what the current conditions that

children and families are facing in the community next. We do about a year long community engagement process to understand what community needs and priorities are for funding. Last time we worked with empress rules equity consulting to design and implement that process. They surveyed community members and also service providers and conducted focus groups to try to understand what the most pressing needs were and what kind of programming should be funding the other thing we did last time was to engage wsu's center for improvement on children and family services to review our grant making process and make recommendations for improvement. Those recommendations focused on improving equity and transparency throughout the process, and we redesigned our funding application to focus on the equity diversity and inclusion practices of applicants. So that's kind of the pre process that we go through. Next slide please. And then we issue the funding applications and the six program areas that commissioner Ryan referenced in his remarks. We work with, we recruit community reviewers to review the funding applications. 4 to 5 reviewers score each application and then the allocation committee considers the scores for the application and the staff funding recommendations and the applicant testimony to make their final decisions. The allocation committee made the funding recommendations that were approved by City Council for these grants that are now before you in may 2020. And now we are here for performance based renewals for two years. I'm going to turn it over to joe broussard, who's on my far right, to talk you through the process that we use to consider renewals that are here today.

Speaker: Thank you, lisa. Good afternoon, everyone. So we're going to talk I'm going to talk about the grant renewal process for all current grant grantees. Were eligible to receive a two year renew grant renewal grants are made to allow grantee partners to continue delivering the same or substantial similar services to the

community at the February meeting, staff presented the renewal grant funding formula, which took into account projected resource in the January revenue forecast and higher than average inflation rates at that time, the base used for calculating the grant renewal amount is 40% of the three year grant award, plus a 4% compounded cola on the base amount where grantees were not able to return to pre-pandemic service levels. Staff may recommend reduced funding after the February meeting, staff communicated the renewal process and funding formula to grantees. Next slide, please. As in February and March, staff reviewed grantees midyear progress reports and saw positive trends overall, one of which 83% of grantees were on track at that time to meet goals for the number of people served. To 78% of grantees were on track to meet at least half of service activity delivery goals that they had. And third, grant spending was much closer to pre-pandemic rates. One particular challenge, which was consistent throughout the pandemic and continues to remain so, is 64% of the grantees reported ongoing staffing challenges next slide, please. In March and April of 23, we met with grantees to discuss results. In any performance concerns, we developed and sent renewal recommendations to those grantees by the end of March on March 31st, grantees had the option to send written response to staff recommendations and then staff recommendations and grantee written responses were sent to the allocation committee at the beginning of April. Next slide, please. After reviewing staff recommendations and grantee responses, the allocation committee has recommended 76 of the 80 large grants for renewal at the full formula review boost funding for three grants where programs have not been able to return to pre-pandemic service levels. Entrance were not positive that they could, and then one grant declined renewal due to ongoing staffing shortages in the child care and preschool sector that conclude our

presentation. Any questions from the council on the allocation committee recommendations? My colleagues?

Speaker: Any questions? All right, very good. Okay. And does that complete your testimony?

Speaker: Sure it does. John was just here in case there happened to be any money questions. Thank you.

Speaker: Appreciate it. All three of you. Do we have public testimony on this item? No one signed up. All right. Very good. This is an emergency ordinance. Please call the roll. Ryan.

Speaker: Yeah. Thanks for being a north star on how we work with community when it comes to our granting from the city. I really appreciate it. And I vote i. Gonzales appreciate your stewardship.

Speaker: I vote I maps a Rubio thank you for all your work and your dedication to Portland families and children.

Speaker: I vote aye. Wheeler well-oiled machine, as per usual.

Speaker: Thank you. I voted right in the ordinance is adopted.

Speaker: Thank you. Council members.

Speaker: Item 415. This is a second reading and thanks for your patience.

Speaker: It's authorized, competitive solicitation and contract with the lowest responsible bidder for construction of the mount scott community center. Seismic retrofit and expansion project for an estimated cost of 28,300,000 colleagues.

Speaker: This is the second reading we've already heard a presentation and had opportunity for public testimony. Is there any further discussion? See none. Please call the roll. BRyan.

Speaker: Robin, thank you for your leadership and a lot of appreciation for the work being done by adam mcgowan. The mount scott's director. But I Gonzalez I maps I Rubio thank you robin.

Speaker: I vote i. Wheeler all right.

Speaker: The ordinance is adopted.

Speaker: 416 also a second reading authorize eight grant or intergovernmental agreements related to the community watershed stewardship program for a total amount up to \$100,000. Any further discussion on seeing none, please call the roll. Ryan. Hi, gonzales hi, maps.

Speaker: Hi. Rubio hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: I didn't know much about this project. I thought it was really interesting and very worthwhile. Thanks, commissioner Mapps. I vote i. The ordinance is adopted. 417a second reading to authorize intergov rental agreement with Multnomah County health department for \$129,000 to conduct blood related public health services for the lead hazard reduction program.

Speaker: Annie a further discussion on this item.

Speaker: Seeing none, please call the roll.

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

Speaker: The ordinance is adopted. 418 this is a non emergency ordinance amend permit fee schedules for building cannabis electrical enforcement, land use services, mechanical noise, plumbing signs, site development and land use services.

Speaker: Fee schedule for the hearings office.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, thank you.

Speaker: Today we have before us the proposed fee changes for the bureau of development services. Bts is responsible for administering and enforcing the state building code as well as administering and enforcing the city's zoning code title 33

and regulations on floating structures titled 28 erosion control title ten signs title 32 murals title four for property maintenance title 29 portions of the tree code and title 11 noise control and title 18 liquor licensing chapter 14 b 120 and marijuana license chapter 14 b one 3,098% of bts is ongoing funds come from permit fees and charges for service fees need to be set as a rate at a rate to cover the cost of providing these services. Bts revenues and reserve levels have declined in the past year, while costs continue to rise due to the inflationary economic environment, the rising cost of providing services are due to increases in personnel costs from cost of living adjustments, merit and step pay increases, mandatory pers contribution increases, costs associated with implementing crucial technology needed to provide online services and capacity to dedicate time to process improvement projects, as well as inflation and costs of materials and of materials and services. Fees from programs administering the state building code are regulated by state law, which prohibit revenues from one program being used to fund another. Other local programs, such as administration of the zoning code, sign code and tree code, and the ability for bts to provide timely, predictable services is essential in keeping the construction industry working. Adding to the housing supply, supporting business development and attracting investment. In Portland, the fee changes proposed today are necessary to maintain stability, implement important process and technology, e.g. Improvement work to deliver online resource services and to shorten permitting timelines and keep up with the cost of inflation. These fee changes will help the bureau maintain a stable workforce that is especially critical in this housing crisis for positioning the bureau to increase in demand for services with this today, our deputy director, elshad and bts budget and finance manager kyle to provide additional background information about the proposal. Thank you, commissioner Rubio, for excellent introduction.

Speaker: Elshad hajiyev bts deputy director bts is as commissioner Rubio mentioned, is 98% funded through fees from our permit fees and for charges of services and we are required to maintain cost recovery 100% cost recovery. So our revenues need to fully cover all of our expenditures and the recent year we have pressures on both sides on the expenditure side and on the revenue side. As commissioner Rubio mentioned, as far as the our expenditure goes, more than 70% of our expenditures are labor costs. It's a personnel cost and we are all aware of the callers of the increases that are associated with the labor agreements and then merit pay increases and then pers contributions. They arise every year and also there is an additional inflation in non-labor related materials and costs. We also what we are witnessing right now is also on the other side. On the revenue side, we see a decrease in revenues. A large portion of our permits predominant majority of our revenues are based on the valuation of the projects. A large expensive commercial projects. They bring a lot more revenue than the projects that are smaller, like, for example, a new house or a residential remodel. And we are very in a very interesting time where the mix of projects has changed and we're seeing a lot fewer larger commercial projects and a lot more smaller projects that are coming in. So the workload still remains high because we get those smaller projects. However, there is a pressure on our revenue development of large projects like offices, hotels, apartments is expected to be low for at least a couple of years. And the construction industry overall and you've heard that in our budget presentations and also on may 12th work session that that they're dealing with the high interest rates and also high costs for labor and materials. They also are dealing with a lot of uncertainty and then there is another factor that kind of plays into that, that pressure on on the revenue side is the lending market does not really see port sees Portland as as risky compared to other cities on the west coast other cities

across the country of the similar size and even riskier than hillsboro or beaverton or Vancouver on the other side of the river. So it's difficult for our developers to get financed right now, especially for the for those larger projects that are that bring a lot of revenue currently a lot of our fees are are below the 100% cost recovery. So this is the process that we go every year to make sure that our fees are adjusted. So we can we can cope with the ongoing cost of inflation and continue providing services. And even if those changes, we still are not without those proposed changes, we still are not at the 100% cost recovery. However we're very cognizant of the impact that on the construction industry. So we want to make sure that those fee changes are gradual. It's not like a big increase on our in our fees. We when we have enough sufficient funding and staffing to meet those workload demands, we're better able to provide timely and efficient services. And also like commissioner Rubio mentioned, also expand our online presence and provide new and enhanced services to our customers. And you all know that when we have new buildings coming on, there is a multiplier, a multiplier effect. You have a one building coming on. Suddenly you have shops around it, you have food courts, you have small businesses coming in. So there is there is a multiplier effect that is associated with these new buildings, housing shops, restaurants, schools. So it's a grocery store, social events. These fee increases are assumed in our five year financial plan and also part of our budget's submission. And as I mentioned, we are keeping those fee increases as as gradual and as as low as possible so that it's not creating a disincentive to our customers seeking service and our goal is that work is permitted. And so we do offer low income fee waivers as needed, particularly when we're working to bring a property into compliance with life and safety regulations. So to summarize the goals of this ordinance, of this fee change is to provide funds needed to maintain staff staffing capacity to support services, including technology

support, and then keep up with the rising costs. And again, I we talked about specifically labor costs overall. The summary is that we're proposing 5% increase across most of our programs. Some of our fees might be a little bit the increase might be a little bit higher. Some of the fees are not being increased at all. So and these fee changes affect building mechanical, electrical, plumbing, site development, science enforcement, land use services, hearings, officer noise and cannabis licensing fee schedule as we did, we do a very broad outreach with informing our customers about these fee changes. One of the venues that we use very intensively is development review advisory committee. We also reached out to bowman app. Hba so they are aware of those fee increases and I wouldn't I would I would not go as far as that. They fully support it, but they understand why we are raising our fees and all of our managers, they reached out to those key industry groups to inform them. The notifications been posted on our website. That actually concludes our presentation and we're open to. Can I ask a clarifying question?

Speaker: Absolutely. I think I heard you correctly, but I just want to make sure I heard you correctly. So this fee increase is fairly narrowly paid by developers who want to get their permitting through. Bts is that a fair way of presenting this this fee increase is just to maintain the kind of a status quo.

Speaker: Right now, we're not, but it's the purpose here is to support the permitting process, correct?

Speaker: Correct. Absolutely. And so in a sense, it is a pay as you go for people who are seeking permits in the city of Portland. And it sounds like I've heard from many of them personally. And what I hear from them is they want the process to be efficient. They want it sped up. So it sounds like this is sort of a quid pro quo. The industry will pay slightly more, but in exchange, they expect better, faster service. Is that a fair way of characterizing this?

Speaker: It is with the one caveat. If it's not approved, because again, 98% of our funding is coming from fees, most likely it will result in a reduction on our work force. Yeah I understand that reduction. You're saying affirmative.

Speaker: That's how this is to be used. Correct. Okay I'm saying this colleagues, to underscore what's perhaps an obvious point, this is different than what we've been discussing in terms of broad based taxes and fee and rate increases. This is a fairly specific group of people, a group of organizations paying for very specific services delivered to those same set of organizations.

Speaker: And I have heard from them that this is something they want because they're expecting you to use those revenues to improve the service that they say needs to be improved.

Speaker: So I just want.

Speaker: That's an excellent description. Mayor thank you. Sometimes you know what?

Speaker: I succeed.

Speaker: Anything else? Yeah, I have a couple of questions.

Speaker: Go for it. Um what's the field issuance remodel program? Um, that's the program that is. For focused on residential remodel where we provide more expansive services to our customers.

Speaker: There is inspector one inspector assigned to a group of residential remodelers. So it's a very kind of a niche program. There is a fee associated with that to be in that program, we charge hourly fee on those so that the usual building permit fee schedule doesn't apply. So it's a fee based program. There isn't a kind of a concierge service. So for example, the if I'm a residential contractor, I can call that inspector with any questions that I have about my project and they pay extra. So there is there is a fee associated with that. This is a program along with the fpp,

which is a similar program. But on the commercial side are very popular programs. We have actually waiting list to get to the each program, but we don't have resources as to fully accept everybody into those two programs. But very popular, very well-regarded. Both programs are well-regarded across the both commercial and residential contractors. Thank you.

Speaker: That's a helpful clarification. So I asked because I'm looking at your fee schedule for different programs, building mechanical cannabis license thing, electrical. All of these have 5% fee increases except for the field issuance remodel program, which has a 9. Why did you make that choice? We did an analysis of the program as far as, again, that program also needs to cover the costs.

Speaker: So and what we realized that the long term, they're not covering their costs to the to the 100% cost recovery. So that's why we are kind of gradually increasing that hourly fee to bring them to that 100% cost recovery. So they're a little bit a little bit worse off, I would say, than than the rest of the programs in the bureau. That's why they increase it slightly higher. Okay. And you said these fees don't achieve cost recovery for the most part.

Speaker: Right. And how do you make this pencil out? So if you were not if you are spending more than you're bringing in, why aren't you bankrupt?

Speaker: We have a very healthy reserve. So and we build that reserve during the construction boom. So when there were we've seen all those cranes around the city. So we had an influx of the large commercial projects. And these are the times when we built that reserve and a lot of you are familiar with the history of the bureau in 2008 crisis, when we had to lay off more than half of our workforce. So since then we developed measures in place that advises like we have a business continuity plan that does counsel actually did look into I think it was 2009 or 2010 and it was adopted by the council. So there are measures that we're looking be

monitoring on a on a monthly basis to kind of to advise us as far as if the winds are changing basically. So we do forecast thing. We look at all of the all of our programs, some of them separately, some of them we combine in our forecasting models and then we do five year forecast. So our funding is really kind of there's the revenue and there's this rainy day fund. And right now we're using that rainy day fund because as it takes so much time and money and resources to train employees to be productive on average, I would say that for our plans. Examiner employees who review plans or inspectors, it takes 6 to 9 months from the date of hire to bring them up to speed, right? So we, we, we have a very talented workforce and in times like this, we are going to use those reserves to make sure that we preserve that workforce. That's why I haven't touched a lot on the permit improvement task force and the improvements in technology. So in these times, we kind of we also refocus, we look at the ways how we can improve our services so that reserve allows us to do that. And right now we have approximately \$47 million. There we are projected to draw approximately, if I'm not mistaken, 13, almost 14 million, almost \$14 million next year. Even with those fee changes. Because again, we expecting that the construction will not be at the levels that will will be where we will be able to achieve that 100% customer recovery. But again, letting go of a talented workforce, it has implications that are they span 2008 was what, 15 years ago. We still feeling that right so we cannot allow that force to go we have to support them. We have to make sure that they are still employed, that there is a workload for them and we can, you know, maintain them and kind of ride that sure down downward way. Great.

Speaker: Thank you very much. Um two more questions. One, just to clarify or clarification. So I understand you guys don't do cost recovery on on fees here, but you do have a reserve and you're drawing on the reserve. Maybe you got 47 million

in reserve and you've like I think I heard that you said next year or this year you're going to draw on about 15 million. We're projecting to draw down almost \$14 million next year.

Speaker: That's if we get the fee changes approved by council in the year after that, it would be around 11 or so, 11, 12 million if the fee changes are approved by council, these fee changes represent about \$3 million in revenue. Sure

Speaker: And what happens year three? I'm doing the math in my head to figure out how much runway you guys have left.

Speaker: We if we don't get the fee changes approved by council, we wouldn't be able to achieve cost recovery in the later years of our forecast. So we'd be looking at drawing down our reserves completely by fiscal year 2627. Okay

Speaker: And just one caveat. When we do financial projections, we assume that the current conditions will persist, right? So, for example, we have a lot of risks in the horizon. And also there are a lot of unknowns that may unveil, unveil themselves in a year or two of the forecast. So there might be I'm just going to go positive and say that suddenly Portland recovers the reputation and there is a lot of tourists coming in and everything is revived. So our forecast will change if that is going to come true, then our forecast is going to change next year and we're going to recalibrate the next five years. So we do that every year and we refresh our models every at least twice a year. We refresh them at the end of the fiscal year and in the middle of the next fiscal year. So yeah, we do a lot of work again because the funding, the way the bureau is funded, we operate like business basically. We have to make sure that we have enough money coming in. We have enough money in the bank to make sure that we continue to provide our services to the community.

Speaker: Thank you. It's very helpful and very interesting to me. Pbot and bts are different beasts, but there are many similar dynamics in many ways, just as a

warning to the commissioner in charge of my colleagues in many ways, you folks seem to be about or potentially are about three years behind pbot where pbot survived the pandemic by drawing on our reserves, will blow through our reserves by the end of this year. And then it's a difficult space, one last speaking of difficult spaces, one last question on you. In your presentation, you you indicated that I suspect the financial markets or banks view Portland as being risky, riskier, risky or what does that mean? And why would Portland be riskier than like hillsboro? I think you cited maybe or beaverton. I forget what the other cases that you talked about. Sure it's not just banks.

Speaker: It's diverse\$ as well. They're looking at institutional investors or not just regional, but nationwide. And they have to choose where they put their pot of money. And I think in they could put some in Portland, but they could also go up to Seattle or spokane or down to sacramento. They can go really anywhere with it and port Portland hasn't had the best press in the last few years. And there have been some rankings in terms of the perception of Portland as a place to develop over the past few years and a few years ago we were at the top of the list. We were number three and what we heard in our advisory committee from some folks that are in the know that we've dropped significant and out of 80 cities, we're now in the bottom quartile in 66 or so. So the perception from the outside, at least, of Portland has dropped significantly in the past several years, impacting where developers choose to put their money and the bank's choice to lend to them that pot of money, unfortunately, is also shrinking because of the higher interest rates.

Speaker: So there more kind of a selective as far as where they want to put that money. So and that's why, you know, Portland is kind of not not at the top of the list. And I think it was yesterday or the day before there was another ranking that came out kind of they ranked them as a cold or hot economies. And we were I

think, fifth from the bottom. The cold. So and I don't know how they how scientific those studies or rankings are, but we are kind of seeing the impact of those studies on the type and the number of permits that are coming in.

Speaker: Thank you for that. Frankly grim assessment of how Portland is viewed. I'll just pivot to my colleagues and say, I hope that at some point over the summer maybe we can have a work session or create some space to explore our and to explore and get a better understanding of the factors that make Portland a risky place or we should have a discussion about why developers and bankers and other folks perceive us to be particularly risky. And I hope that we can use that discussion to implement policy changes that make Portland a more attractive place to start a business and grow a business and whatnot. Thank you, mr. Mayor. Commissioner Rubio, I have no further questions. I'll hand the floor back to you. Great.

Commissioner Gonzalez, I just want and this may be as much a question for my colleagues, but just thinking through to the caps we put on or what we did with sdcs last week and looking at these fee increases, I'm I guess the question is really an architecture one as we're looking at adjustments in prices, is it a an era of real inflation that is driving our costs?

Speaker: Obviously, and in driving the cost of the cost of our residents and developers who want to build in the city, um, the, the and I'm just trying to it's sort of an open ended question, but reconcile if we're capping sdcs, which is essentially what we did last week. But pushing somewhat modest but, but still real rate increases here in your own minds, how do you reconcile those two actions?

Speaker: Absolutely. I think there is a big difference between sdcs and the fees that we're presenting today. The fees that we're presenting today are for the services that we're providing right now. So when someone walks in into the crc or schedules an online appointment and they apply for a permit, those services are

provided immediately. We review the permit, we review the plans. Then later on, depending on the project, may be up to six months. We do the inspection so and we incur those costs almost immediately. Sdc sees the costs are not most of them and I'm speaking from my understanding of sdc, but the costs are not incurred immediately. The costs are kind of in the future, right? So there is no immediate today impact on the staffing levels or, or on, on, on, on the financial situation of the bureau with our fees, there is the impact is immediate. It like kyle was saying, if these fees are fee changes are not approved it means that we will have \$3 million less. \$3 million is approximate. Only 15 to 20 positions. So that's that. That could have an impact on on, on the provision of immediate services to our community so that that's kind of to me is a concept difference between sdc, the freeze on sdcs versus moving forward with the fee changes on for bts fees.

Speaker: But just to follow that logic, if we're capping sdc, we're not staying up with inflation on at some point in the, you know, at some point in the future we are going to have a come to jesus moment for lack of a better term, right?

Speaker: If we're not, if our revenue isn't consistent or isn't staying up with, with inflation, eventually, presumably that does lead to position cuts.

Speaker: My i, I agree. My personal opinion, we just kind of moved it to the future. We know if, if the fee changes for sdc were warranted because of the inflation and the freeze happened from kind of a more financial point of view, we basically moved that issue into from the from present to the future. So you're right, it just doesn't disappear, right? And I don't believe that we will experience any at least at this point, any years of deflation right. So, so far it looks like. At least the latest was was like 3% or 4. That that we're expecting in future years.

Speaker: Got it. And one last question. I don't know if you know off the top of your head, but when we did when we talk about sdcs, the whole pie, what percentage of

sdcs go to bts? In a typical development, bts doesn't collect any sdc fees, so that's why I prefaced my answers to your questions that I'm not I'm not fully worse than sdc.

Speaker: So that's my personal understanding. But we do not collect any sdcs all of our fees are fees for service that is provided at the time of the application or at the time of the inspection or at the time of the plan review. So the impact on a customer is immediate. Basically, if we if we scale down our services, then our timelines will be longer. We won't be do as many inspections per day as we're doing right now, for example. So the impact will be immediate with sdc like, like you said, we just moved it to the future. There will be impact. Got it. And I guess this is again just an observation.

Speaker: We took steps last week to assure that we're removing barriers, that we're not standing in the way of development at a very difficult time in the city's history. We in some senses externalize that to other bureaus to bear the burden of that. In some respects, at least in the future. Um, and I just want to make sure when we're approaching fees, that we're doing it with an architecture that makes sense and that we're doing in somewhat a consistent way. But i'll leave it at that. Thank you. Thank you, commissioner.

Speaker: Ryan yeah. Thank you, mayor elshad, it's good to see you. I kind of know this topic very well because we were in the some really scary times in 2020 and 21 on this and you really helped educate me on the crisis that we had to avoid and that we experienced. So we have lived experience that what happened after the great recession in really dismantled and we just can't ever get back to that place. So thank you for making that point very clearly. There's a new tax, if you will, or fee, and that's cannabis. And I promised a dear friend who owns one of those retail outlets to just ask a couple of questions. I was told we have really high fees in

comparison to other states and other cities and so I just wanted to put that out. I think our statewide rate is 17% and then it keeps going up 5% every year. There's been a really hard time. A lot of it is like a lot of our small businesses, they've been spending a lot of money on security and so I did get lobbied, if you will, to please acknowledge that the cannabis fee in general is really challenging for some of our retail outlets right now. So I want to make sure in the first reading I put that into the public record. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: Very good. Is there any public testimony on this item?

Speaker: Yes, we have two individuals signed up three minutes each name for the record. First is Andrew Morrow. Welcome they were planning to join virtually. I don't think they've joined us. Next is Wade Lang.

Speaker: There he is. Thanks for your patience.

Speaker: Oh, it was a pleasure watching back there.

Speaker: What a morning. Yeah, a lot of interesting things for sure. Made me proud to be a Portlander good to you to say thank you, sir.

Speaker: Thank you, Mayor Wheeler. Commissioners, for the record, my name is Wade Lang, and I'm here in my role as interim executive director of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Oregon, or BOMA.

Speaker: BOMA represents over 50,000,000ft² of office medical industrial space within the state primarily. Within the metro area. We are part of the commercial real estate industry that testified in 2020 about our concerns over budget cuts and staff reductions. We appear here today for those same reasons. There's been a dramatic reduction in development construction projects over the last three years because of budget cuts based on fees for such development and construction and BOMA continues to draw from its reserves. We are once again fearful of more staff

reductions throughout the bureau, reduced staffing directly affects the timing cost of commercial construction projects, delays in development or construction can kill projects at a time when our city desperately needs to see new and continued investment. The impact of delayed or canceled projects has a ripple effect throughout the region, affecting not just individual projects, acts or commercial buildings, but also the vendors contracted to work in those buildings. The businesses who utilize them and the construction industry in general. We believe there is a potential turnaround coming for Portland, bringing new projects that will have positive economic impacts for the entire metro region, but only if projects are assured of reasonable path of implementation. There's more than just affordable housing needed for Portland to recover, and we need bts to be available and able to serve us all. Therefore boma is in support of those fee increases necessary to reduce or stop the draw on the reserves and the reduction in bts employees. Thank you very much. Thank you.

Speaker: Appreciate your testimony. And christina, was there somebody else or they didn't show up? They didn't show in zoom.

Speaker: That completes testimony. All right.

Speaker: Good. Anything else on this particular item? This is a nonemergency item. This is a first reading of an emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading. Next item, please. 419, authorize intergovernmental agreement with regional disaster preparedness organization to allow building related stranded workers to work in the jurisdiction where they are stranded due to an emergency that disrupts communications and transportation routes. Commissioner Rubio. Thank you, mayor.

Speaker: Colleagues, today I'm requesting that council adopt this ordinance to enable bts sign a building related stranded worker agreement or swag. The

purpose of this stranded worker. International intergov governmental agreement is to authorize and establish conditions for sharing a building related stranded workers within the five county regional disaster preparedness organization region during a building safety emergency. Swags allow stranded workers to contribute their skills to whatever jurisdiction they find themselves in in an during an emergency. If they can't report to their normal work situation in this type of agreement is only triggered under limited and specific circumstances. When skilled workers are unable to report to their normal work location, jurisdiction or jurisdiction during an emergency. And when they're receiving agency lacks bandwidth and capacity and welcomes the assistance. Mark fetters, bts supervisor. Matt rozell, the city's building official, and dr. Anne castleton, the emergency manager and project lead from bts, will present this ordinance. Thank you, commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Mayor Wheeler and commissioners. My name is mark fetters and I am the supervisor for bts safety and emergency management and facilities programs. And we're happy to bring this ordinance to you this afternoon. Just for a bit of context, back in 2014, the City Council authorized a similar strand of worker agreement with the regional disaster preparedness organization, or tpo, for the sharing of emergency operations center workers. And that's in your packet labeled exhibit b, that ordinance this ordinance that we're bringing to you today, covers all other types of workers that are also important in in an emergency or disaster situation. Many of the government agencies that are located in the region that the covers the five county region employ build ing officials, inspectors plans, examiners, engineers and architects who have professional certifications and qualify as building safety evaluators. These are the folks who in a disaster can do rapid damage assessment of structures, which is a critical function in responding

to, be it an earthquake or other major disaster. Those agencies also employ other types of staff who are related to building permitting processes. So folks who are involved in permitting permitting software for facility maintenance and those folks are also important in responding to a significant disaster. We know that the pacific northwest is prone to a variety of natural disasters, from earthquakes to floods to wildfires. Snow and ice storms. We've experienced all that. And when those hazards occur, it can have significant impacts on transportation routes. It can cut off power and communications and the result of that is that you have workers who are qualified to whether it's doing damage assessments or supporting building related functions in an emergency. Those workers end up being stranded in the locations where they are. And unable to report to their normal work locations. So you might have a building inspector from Washington county who lives in southeast Portland. They might not be able to get to Washington county to do damage assessment, but possibly they could report in Portland where they are and do damage assessment here rather than just being idled. And that's what this ordinance is attempting to address. And i'll turn it over to matt russell rozelle to give you more information. Hi, good afternoon.

Speaker: Thank you for allowing us to be here. For the record, my name is matt rozelle is responsible for assessing the safety of the city's buildings as we have more than 260,000 buildings in the city. And after an earthquake such as the cascadia subduction zone, we would need to go out and evaluate all of those buildings. Has about 150 qualified staff who can go out and evaluate buildings and determine whether they can be reentered or reoccupied and estimating, you know, 35 to 45 minutes per building for the initial safety evaluation and assuming we have the 150 staff available to do those assessments. Um, and also that there are no aftershocks that would require us to start over. Our best case scenario is that it

would take about 20 weeks to evaluate all the buildings in the city of Portland. So I will hand that hand it over to anne. Hello

Speaker: Um, hello, all.

Speaker: I realize that we're standing between you and lunch.

Speaker: Um, and i. My name for the record, is anne castleton. I just wanted to say of those, those, um, that 20 weeks that match just mentioned, um, it you can imagine what the impact is on business if they have to wait 20 weeks to get back into their buildings, to have access to their buildings. And one of the biggest challenges for us after the earthquake is going to be the economic recovery of the city and trying to get people to stay here in a situation like this, oftentimes people leave and don't ever return. So the bad news is that when we looked, we used the everbridge system to look at where all of our 150 inspectors live. I would say 40 to 50% live out of town. They're outside Portland boundaries. So that's an even bigger limitation. But we also know that there's an I don't know how many, but other folks live in our our city boundaries and would be able to help us. So I'm sure you're aware that the expectation is that transportation routes and bridges are going to be disrupted, that communication might be disrupted. And so people are not going to be able to report to their ordinary duty station. So this, um, stranded worker agreement is really just trying to address that situation, which is really we only would happen probably after an earthquake and it would only really be relevant for those first few weeks before the bridges are repaired and that people are getting around. And so with this agreement in place, um, these folks that live in our city limits could participate and support us in our building evaluations. So by signing this agreement, it would allow us to both to provide our staff to others where they live and to accept staff that are credentialed to help us get through this process quickly. So that's all that we have. Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Great. Thank you, mark and matt and anne for your presentation.

Speaker: Yeah, thanks. This is a great idea. Do we have public testimony on this item? No. One signed up any further discussion ? I just have commissioner gonzales. You back.

Speaker: Just one request. Um I just want to make sure that there's coordination with direct ahmed at pbem on this.

Speaker: I think there was a little bit of a question mark when this came through, whether pbem had been able to weigh in on it. So that that's just a request between today and second, reading.

Speaker: If there could be a touch base there.

Speaker: I don't see anything controversial here. Just want to make sure we're coordinated internally. Um this is could I just say that this is from the ipo and, um, ahmed, director ahmed is the boss of the host of ipo.

Speaker: So I would assume that the ipo and ahmed have had a discussion about this. Yeah I think there was.

Speaker: It may not be that that's occurred. So I just want to make sure that we're when this came through, it was there was just a little bit of a question mark on it. So if someone could reach out to him, that would be great. Between next. I will do that. Thank you.

Speaker: Thanks, dan. Thanks, commissioner commissioner Mapps sure.

Speaker: Um, this looks like a good idea to me. And I think my brain probably went in some of the same spaces that commissioner gonzales pointed to. I hadn't really thought about bts role in disaster recovery very deeply. Great to learn more about that and great to see that folks are planning for the inevitable. Um I do have some. I do wonder how, especially in this space, how so I'm going to make this a statement as a more than a question. So we can get on to the other things on our agenda. It'd

be great to see coordination with pbem around this. I don't know if those conversations already happened and I do have one quick question, especially does bds have a relationship with fema? It certainly seems with some of this stuff that fema would be on the ground in the in the event of an earthquake. I'm not sure who owns this space or what planning and is that is that your hand up? Yeah

Speaker: Yeah. Um so fema, this this agreement really would be for a very concentrated period of time before fema gets here. Fema thinks they won't get here for a couple of weeks. So and fema doesn't ever take they don't usurp responsibility from the authority having jurisdiction, which is for buildings. So this agreement, the ipo is five counties. So it's Multnomah. Clackamas, Washington, clark, columbia, it's all those five counties. So all of the counties are signing are working on this agreement. And all of the municipal localities within this agreement, within that region so that we can all share folks. So fema would. And so they're all kind of working on this also and are looking to see what Portland does. Um, but fema probably doesn't come in at that point. Fema comes in in a broader damage assessment. But not the building related that's really under matt as our building official. Um, it would be response for that they will do overall damage assessments of like is it enough that we declare a national emergency and start sending in the troops and thank you so much for that clarification.

Speaker: I learned some stuff there. I have no more questions. Is very good.

Speaker: And commissioner Gonzalez did you have another question or. All right, very good. And I already asked about public testimony. I think there was none. There's none. All right. Very good. This is a first reading of a non emergency ordinance. It moves to second reading. Now on to the items on the consent agenda that were pulled.

Speaker: Item number 404, please update resolution connecting mental health and substance abuse recovery services to unhoused individuals. Colleagues. Item 404 is an update to resolution 37595 of the five resolution package that commissioner Ryan and I introduced and that the City Council passed back in November of 2022.

Speaker: Uh, that resolution then created the temporary alternate shelter sites that will connect unsheltered Portlanders with mental health and substance abuse recovery services, as well as access to housing placed since this update to that resolution allows for a maximum of 200 individuals nils at a temporary alternative shelter site, governor kotek and her executive order all in plan for the state, included funding for 140 pod units for the first site as well as funding for six months of operating expenses.

Speaker: Of those. 140 pods, 35 of them can accommodate pairs or couples. So there may be more than 150 people on site when fully occupied. For this reason, I'm moving to update the resolution to a maximum of 200 individuals to accommodate these pods from governor kotek. I want to thank governor kotek for funding these pods as well as the operating expenses and in believing that temporary alternative shelter sites are a necessary part of our larger continuum of care to gether, we will help get unsheltered Portlanders off the streets and connected to the services that they so desperately need.

Speaker: I don't know who pulled this and whether they have specific issues they want addressed.

Speaker: It was pulled by jose cressner.

Speaker: Is jose here or online? Great. Come on. Three minutes, please, for your public testimony. And if you could just introduce yourself for the record, please.

Speaker: Thank you for the time to speak. Mayor Wheeler and council. Thank you.

Speaker: It's a marathon of a session you guys run on Wednesdays. So thank you again for your time. Hi, my name is Jose Cressner.

Speaker: I have a PhD in transportation engineering. I'm a local business owner here working in data science and city planning and I'm a homeowner with a ten-month-old immediate outside the 100,000-foot perimeter.

Speaker: The Clinton Triangle Gideon site.

Speaker: I'm also on the board of the Oxford Abernathy Neighborhood Association and also participating in the working group with the city on the Good Neighbor Agreement. The following comments I want to emphasize are my own and have not been discussed by the Neighborhood Association Board. But in my opinion, both the Hosford Abernathy and Brooklyn neighborhoods, along with Central East Side, have been working in good faith with the city to set the shelter site up for everyone involved to be successful. And we're doing our best to curtail, obviously, any NIMBYism, even with this extreme situation.

Speaker: However, this resolution here, among other acts by the city and county, indicates to me that the city is playing a little bit fast and loose with the solution.

Speaker: And I say that because this first site resides, according to census data, in a block group where approximately 1 in 5 are minors, majority of those minors are 0 to 9 years old. This age group in this small collection of city blocks is 20% higher than the average rate in the city as a whole and 10% higher than the whole county. Just to be extra clear, this means that the immediate area around the camp has 20% more 0 to 9-year-olds than the average neighborhood in the city. It's in this neighborhood with 20% more young children that you've chosen to build your proof of concept or experiment. The difference on paper between 100 and 50 or 200 or 250 seems trivial. But to the people living here, that number is huge. It's enormous. How does one living in a shelter of 250 people feel a sense of

responsibility or ownership to the community inside the shelter as well as to the neighborhood outside? Please consider removing or keeping sorry. Please consider keeping the original number of persons in place until the city has proven that this model is safe enough for the safe. Enough on the ground for the children who live here in Portland, where. Where I have 30s. That's fine. Where measure 110 has made things different than, for example, la, san francisco and austin. I do not request, I do not make this request as a gatekeeper of the neighborhood. And in fact, I'm not here to oppose the solution. I amend you, commend you for making change because we need to see change, but rather, as a person concerned about the ability of the city and county to scale up all the services required at this site for everyone involved in time.

Speaker: Thank you. And first of all, thank you for your patience. You've been sitting here hour after hour. We're into our fifth hour of council and you've been sitting here patiently throughout most of it. I want to acknowledge that and thank you for that. The good news is actually a pretty interesting council session and covered a lot of ground, and I want to acknowledge that what you're saying is accurate. It in terms of the concerns that you're expressing are very legitimate concerns and they are the same concerns that I have had in my staff has had.

Speaker: I will also tell you, I believe we have adequately addressed those concerns. We will not go full bore until we feel confident that we have a model that works. And in fact, the service provider is now operating one of our smaller safe rest villages in a different part of the city.

Speaker: And so we're we're also evaluating their progress, their part of the core difference between this strategy and other strategies we've used is the intensity with which it will be managed.

Speaker: It's 1 to 15 one personnel per 15 individuals, as opposed to what's more typical, which is 1 to 40 or even 1 to 100. So there is more intensive oversight and management of what's going on in this facility. The difference here is really the pods. Some of the pods, as I indicated in my sort of brief introduction here, could and I underscore could could accommodate couples. And so it may be that that we still have 140 or it could be potentially more if they happen to be couples occupying those pods. So there's a little bit of flexibility here that we're trying to bring into the model. And because we agreed that there would be an original cap, that's that's why we're here today.

Speaker: And I don't know if scott, you have something more to add to that or if you want to retract anything. I said that wasn't accurate. I would just say thank you for participating with the good neighbor agreement.

Speaker: So thank you, colleagues.

Speaker: I don't know if anybody else has a thought or a concern. So obviously this first site is critically important to our success. If we botch the first site, if the neighbors are unhappy or they don't feel that they're safe or they don't feel we've lived up to our end of the bargain with regard to maintaining the perimeters, the rest of the sites won't work. So well here. We know we're going to be watched very, very closely.

Speaker: I think as we I know you guys are doing your best and it really, you know, the first site is both a positive and a negative. But I think where I'm as a participant in the working group not getting a good enough answer yet is immediately outside that 1000 foot perimeter zone. One way where we go, there's a lot of ideas and services and phone numbers to call for different issues, but there's not a clear site on where the solution is going to come when there's somebody shooting up a needle in front of, you know, x, y, z place in that area. And we know that that. Up to

250 people all at a very close proximity, are likely having substance abuse problems. It's going to be an issue. And measure 110 is as we all know, making it difficult it and it just seems like I know you can't commit to keeping that number down for other reasons. There's money that became available. We can't turn it away. But at the same time, it doesn't feel like there's enough being done about that immediate area. There's not enough resources. And I know you're fighting for it. There is a measure for 11 is here, but I don't want to put the cart before the horse. We're not saying don't do it here. We're just saying like, hey, we, you know, measure 110 past. Before there was a lot of things in place that needed to be in place. And clearly, yeah, I know. And so I don't want, you know, we, I think I forgot I didn't know if I even read this last sentence. But we don't want to be our young children in the neighborhood and our families don't want to be the collateral damage on this one. Yeah.

Speaker: And I and I agree. And just fyi, the neighborhood number will go directly to the service provider and we will get regular updates and accountability on that. And I have personally pledged that if there are issues outside of the 1000 foot perimeter, we will address those as well. I mean, we know the problem is it's every square block of the city at the moment. And so actually, actually the intensive of efforts will be around the temporary alternative shelter sites. And that's what I've been telling people. We're going to focus our resources in the vicinity of those temporary alternative shelter sites.

Speaker: And we acknowledge that there's trouble spots that have been identified by the neighborhood that are beyond that 1000 foot perimeter.

Speaker: The schools, the safe routes to schools. There's some overpasses that are of concern to some residents in the neighborhood.

Speaker: And we've committed to addressing those sites as well. But anyway, I appreciate what you're saying.

Speaker: We have to do something, though. We have we have to move forward to address this problem. And this is our best shot from my perspective. Any further discussion? I just want to comment. Commissioner Gonzalez, I just want to say I appreciate your commentary.

Speaker: Sorry, i, I actually appreciate your I'm going to use the word pessimism, but I say that without judgment that we've heard many promises from public players on behavioral health, including on measure 110. We've seen a number of statements around the support of families and of young children in our community and we've consistently seen behaviors that are inconsistent with those statements. So I would encourage you to continue to be fierce in advocating for children in the city of Portland. I would encourage you to continue to question every level of government in this state. When it says we are family friendly, we that we are committed to protecting children's ability to in the city on this particular issue right now, I have a level of deference to the mayor, but please hold us accountable. And i, I wish I could say we're always going to keep our promises as a city. I was on the outside before and witnessed some of those promises that weren't kept. And now I'm on the inside and trying to help make sure that we do keep our promises. I so I don't know if that helps. I'm going to have a staff member talk to you about something else in your neighborhood that's somewhat related. We do have some good news on the public safety front that may be coming to your neighborhood soon. It does not directly responsive to the issue you're raising here, but I just want to say thank you for testify. Lying parents absolutely have to speak up in this city and in this community. And you can trust. But but but you have to verify. And I've heard a lot of empty promises in my years, particularly the last five in the city of

Portland with respect to families and parents. And please keep speaking up. I will make a further commitment if it doesn't work, i'll stand down.

Speaker: This is that important to me that we have to address this crisis on our streets. We have to. The viability of this city is at stake. And this is my best shot at this is the best shot. My team and I can give. And if this doesn't work, i'll turn it over to somebody else for a different strategy. But I'm 100% confident it will that we have the right combination, that we're filling the right gaps, that we're meeting the needs of people that are currently unmet. Because you're right, I agree with you that it's not. And I've been saying this for years, often to my political detriment, that it's not just about the housing, that there are people who are struggling with behavioral health issues. There are people struggling with substance use disorder issues. There are people who are not getting access to basic health care that despite myriads of outreach efforts, we're not reaching people. So we have to consolidate the services and bring people to where those services are.

Speaker: And I've also been equally fervent in my belief that we have to address the public health, the public safety and the livability issues caused to the whole community city by unsanctioned homeless camps. And to me, this is the right strategy and I'm that confident.

Speaker: And i, you don't have to take that to the bank.

Speaker: I'm not disagreeing with your approach. I just want to make sure that.

Speaker: Yeah. And I and actually, I enjoy this and I appreciate your background, by the way, because you mentioned that you're in data analysis, data management and we live and die on that, right? Those are the results. But this is our best shot. And I'm six and a half years into this commissioner Gonzalez just said for five years he's heard promises broken. I hope he hasn't heard me break my promises, but I have a vision for this city does not include the human carnage that we're seeing on

our streets. My vision for this city is very, very different and I'm dedicating my life to ensure that this works. That's how much I'm putting into this. But I'm hearing you as a parent, I'm hearing you as a neighbor here and I appreciate what you're saying. And i, I hope I can address those concerns, allay those concerns by showing you that this program works. That's my expectation and my whole team is dedicated to that notion.

Speaker: I believe you are. I just recognize that it's hard to move this many people and this many programs in programs that are separated and hard to communicate between. And so it takes time that make this like mount everest was nothing compared to this.

Speaker: But we're collecting cully up to the challenge, right? I mean, we want to do this and we want to do right by you and we want to do right by the rest of the community. And so I feel a personal commitment to you to be perfectly honest with you. Thank you. Thank you. Appreciate your being here. Any further discussion? Please call the roll. Brian. Hi Gonzalez hi.

Speaker: Maps I Rubio hi, Wheeler.

Speaker: Hi. The resolution is adopted.

Speaker: And to our last item this morning, before we go into our afternoon session, item 406.

Speaker: Also pulled and it's for a proposed amendment that we have to add and authorize grant agreement with legacy health for fy 2022 through 23 to renovate the unity health unity center for behavioral health psychiatric emergency service space to expand capacity for crisis triage and add eight sobering beds.

Speaker: Recliners not to exceed \$335,000.

Speaker: Colleagues, I almost hate to waste your time with this, but we have been informed that there will be nine sobering bed recliners rather than eight, which was specified in the original ordinance.

Speaker: I moved to amend the ordinance to update eight sobering bed recline owners to nine.

Speaker: Can I please get a second? We have a second from commissioner Ryan. Any further discussion on this important matter? Commissioner

Speaker: Yeah, I'm just going to say if there's a mistake to be made, this is a great one. I'm glad to expand the you know, I think that we could do a factor of ten here and be in the ballpark of where we want to be worth the wait. Very good.

Speaker: Is there anyone signed up for public testimony on this matter? No one signed up. Good. I was hoping nobody would lambast me for my addition area or please call the roll. Brian hi, Gonzalez.

Speaker: I maps.

Speaker: Um, I'm an eye on this and I'm really glad to see these beds in place. This is a critically important unmet need in our community. We, I think we have nine beds here. I think we're told that it would be good to have about another 40 more, and that's my goal. And I look forward to working with this council to get those additional beds online. I vote I riviere a Wheeler, I vote aye.

Speaker: Colleagues, given the lateness of the hour, I would propose we roll on the final ordinance. What? Oh, you're right. Thank you. Sorry. That was the amendment. The amendment was adopted to the main motion is amended. Please call the roll. Ryan.

Speaker: Yeah. We. We closed our last sobering station in 2018. Thank you, mayor, for your leadership to move this forward vote. I Gonzalez badly needed.

Speaker: We need many, many more bed space and bed spaces. I vote I maps a Rubio a Wheeler.

Speaker: All right. The amendment is adopted and the motion passes as amended.

Speaker: Colleagues, we've now been meeting for the better part of five hours. I would recommend we take at least 20 minutes for lunch and reconvene at 2:15 p.m. That'll give us an opportunity to reset. It'll give staff the opportunity to take a breather before we go into what could be a long afternoon session. What, 32, 30? Is that okay with everybody? Okay, we will reconvene at 230. We're adjourned.

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

May 24, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.

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Speaker: 24th afternoon session of the Portland City Council. Christine, please call the roll. Ryan Gonzalez Mapps here.

Speaker: Rubio here. Wheeler here.

Speaker: Now we'll hear from legal counsel on the rules of order and decorum, which I will try to adhere to.

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

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

Speaker: Thank you. Excuse me. Thank you very much. Item 421 I've had a request to move that to the front of the agenda. Revised solid waste and recycling rates and fees for franchise residential collection and the commercial tonnage fee effective July 1st, 2023. This is a non emergency ordinance. Commissioner Rubio, thank you, mayor.

Speaker: Colleagues, today's ordinance is to adjust rate rates and fees associated with garbage and recycling collection in our community. Every year in accordance with the franchise agreement governing residential garbage and recycling service, the bureau of planning and sustainability conducts a detailed review of the cost of service is the franchise agreement and the code require that we adjust rates to cover the costs of service. As Portland is committed to being a leader in the recycling and compost field and our residents and businesses are recycling and compost over half their waste, which is much higher than the national average of 32. Portland is also committed to clean and livable city through the fees collected under this program is investing in the impact reduction program and has expanded the public trash can program to 1440 cans, including southeast Portland in late 2021. North Portland and 2022 and northeast Portland. Earlier this year. Last week I had the pleasure of celebrating the latest expansion in st. Johns and we were joined by alex chu and latoya lovely, two of the local artists, many of whom are artists of color, who have contributed the art. You see on these cans. Our recycling, composting and public placed trash collection programs are also funded in part through a fee charged on each ton of garbage collected from businesses and multifamily properties in accordance with our long term funding plan for the public

trash can program and to address costs associated with food scraps collection in the commercial sector sector is recommending an increase in our commercial tonnage fee. We have a world class garbage and recycling collection system and I've been working with bts to maintain that and believe that today's proposal helps ensure that director dani olivera and ibn poke with the solid waste and recycling team are here to share the recommendations. Cool thank you, commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Mayor commissioners. My name is daniel rivera. I'm the director of the bureau of planning and sustainability. As commissioner Rubio just detailed, we're here for our annual process to adopt the residential franchise rates and commercial tonnage fees to maintain our city's collection of garbage, recycling and compost services. I will note that we're going to cover a lot of this in detail at the work session, so this is largely focused on the process for how the rate was set and some of the details around the services that are provided. And I want to stress that the rates that are associated with today's request are focused on ensuring that the existing services maintain and this is a world class service that the city of Portland residents rely on, including the public trash can program. And our impact reduction program, which these fees support. And with that, i'll turn it over to my colleague, evan poke.

Speaker: All right. Thank you, dani. Good afternoon, mr. Mayor and commissioners. My name is evan poke and I am the solid waste and recycling manager at bts. Today we're here to present the results of this year's review of the residential garbage and recycling rates and then the recommended rates and the commercial tonnage fee for the coming fiscal year. As a reminder, this is a slide some of you have seen recently just over 25% of our waste comes from the residential sector, which includes single family homes up through four plexes. The

city reviews and sets rates for collection services provided in this sector. The commercial sector generates about three quarters of our waste, and this includes businesses, construction and multifamily properties with five or more units. Although we don't set rates for this sector, we do provide some oversight through commercial hauling permits. We'll first talk about the rate review process pertaining to the residential sector. The we manage residential collection through a franchise system. It's a hybrid public private partnership that captures the benefits of public oversight with the benefits of private sector competition and efficiency. Through this system, we support increased recycling and waste reduction over the years for example, we've been able to expand recycling and add food, food, waste collection. We've also been able to make significant strides in improving environmental performance, for example, in requiring newer trucks and the use of renewable fuels to reduce pollution. We're also able to deliver financially sustainable and good value collection service that supports good jobs and finally, our system is reliable and the haulers show up. The city of Portland's franchise agreement ordinance for residential service requires the city to conduct a rate review process annually and to adopt rates sufficient to recover the system's costs and operating margin rate. Setting ensures that we can maintain a financially viable, efficient and sustainable collection system while ensuring that the fees are fair, reasonable and reflect the city's goals. The fact that individual haulers aren't each guaranteed a specific profit incentivizes them to continue delivering service in a cost effective and efficient way. So today's hearing represents one of the final steps in a six month process that gets underway each January. When we send our haulers a template to report their detailed costs. In March through April, we review and vet these costs with the help of a third party, cpa and an economist, and incorporate them into our rate model. Lastly bringing them to an advisory body and City Council hearings in may. The

detailed cost reports that we receive from our haulers include the cost to provide collection and disposal services, fees for garbage recycling, food scraps and yard debris. Residential rates are based on a sample of hauler costs from the previous year and then vetted by the city. As mentioned, we also incorporate known upcoming costs, such as if there's a new union contract and we have some known wage increases or the disposal fee that is set by metro. Once those costs are vetted, the rate is then set to recover those costs plus the target operating margin of 9.5% and the franchise fee. So that's a general overview of the approach. Couch let's speak specifically to this year's review. We saw several drivers of increased real costs. At first, as we know, inflation has driven up the cost of goods and services across the board. Historically fluctuating recycling, processing costs have bumped back up in the last year. Also, haulers just like others, are in a competitive labor market and provide good living wage jobs. And so they are paying more for drivers and staff. Metro, which sets disposal fees for their transfer stations adopted an 11.2% increase in the per ton tip fee this year and a 58% increase in the transaction fee. So we're seeing an increase in disposal costs. And lastly, we this year recommended fees include an 8% franchise fee. On the other side this year, we did see modest cost declines for fuel depreciation and general administrative costs. And those are incorporated into the rate. This slide shows the recommended fees for residential garbage and recycling service for the upcoming year. The five different service levels shown in this table reflect about 90, just over 90% of the customer base. With the remainder of the service levels in the exhibit for your ordinance. As those service levels see proposed fees in line with these shown here by far the most common service levels are 35 and 60 gallon service. And for these, bts recommends an overall increase of just over \$4 per month. On average, a 10 to 11% increase. You saw this slide in the citywide fees and rates meeting a couple of

weeks ago, a history of our fees over the last 11 years. Each line represents a different volume of garbage service with the 90 gallon service level at the top. This slide also shows the recommended increase for this year at the far right as you can see, our garbage and recycling collection rates have been pretty stable over the long term. Resin residential customers in Portland today are paying less than or equivalent to the rates in 2012. In today's dollars, if you remove the disposal cost component from this slide, which is showing costs in \$2,023, if you remove the disposal cost component, which has increased significantly in recent years, but it's not in our haulers control and you show only the collection costs, we'd probably show that our collection costs trend even further below inflation. Also as a repeat from our prior presentation, as this slide shows, Portland is not an outlier in its fees for the level and quality of service we provide. Our fees are very cost effective. We'll wrap up the residential rate review by sharing with you about the discussion held at the planning commission on may 9th. The planning commission held a hearing for us as an interim public advisory body. While we await the development of a new commission focused on sustainability that's expected to be our public advisory body in the future. I want to thank the planning commission for taking on that extra duty staff presented on our rate setting process. The various cost drivers in this year's review and the recommended rates. As we concluded that discussion, one planning commissioner suggested that other funding sources should be used for public trash collection services, which led to a planning commission recommendation supporting adoption of the recommended garbage and recycling increases with the exception of the franchise fee increase. The planning commission's subsequent recommendation letter, which was submitted to you last week, supports the public trash collection program and recognizes that alternative funding sources may not be available. So with appreciation for the planning

commission's work on this issue, staff's recommendation remains respectfully unchanged for several reasons. First, the public trash collection expansion is well underway. The council expectations set in 2021 was to fund public collection through that system through our existing solid waste system. Solid waste funds are also supporting the impact reduction program. This is consistent with the city budget and we really don't have purview over other funding alternatives. So now turning our attention to the commercial sector, this will be a little simpler. Commercial waste collection in Portland is governed through an open permit system and the city provides some oversight over how commercial haulers serve businesses and multifamily communities through code. And as part of their permit haulers collecting commercial waste are to pay a fee on each ton of garbage and to fund the rising costs of service provided through the solid waste fund. But staff recommend council increase the commercial tonnage fee by \$1 per ton from 1460 to 1560. In the recent presentations on rates and fees, we've described how the city's solid waste fund is resourced by the franchise fee component of our residential rates and the commercial tonnage fee. So we wanted to focus just for a moment on the cost drivers costs are rising as the city expands public trash collection services across the city. As we continue to support the impact reduction program and as we strive to achieve better and more equitable access to collection and waste reduction services, including for businesses and multifamily residents. This so the collection fees and rates recommended today will allow our system to continue to deliver excellent service for residents in the community and importantly, we'll continue to resource the public trash collection program. We did want to highlight that particular service a little further since we haven't had the opportunity to provide you an update on it recently. A direction of council has quickly and efficiently expanded the public trash can program from roughly 700

trash cans in 2019 and a small number of districts, mostly downtown, to the more than 1400 trash cans that commissioner Rubio mentioned and spread across more business districts and surrounding residential areas. This program has been the city's primary opportunity to leverage greater racial equity in the waste system and is doing business with multiple bipoc owned companies and artists while helping to address the city's public trash issues. As the program has expanded, commitments to the program have grown from approximately 1.2 million in 2019 to 2.6 million this year. And projected to reach 3.6 million annually in coming years. Last week, as commissioner Rubio noted, we were proud to celebrate the service with community members. Our haulers, some local artists and local media in St. Johns. That concludes our presentation. Thank you very much. Couch. Colleagues questions commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: I just have a couple. Can we go back to the slide that shows residential rates by the size of can?

Speaker: Yes. Commissioner. There we go.

Speaker: I think I guess this one does it for me too. I was just struck. Let's go back to the line chart. Yeah the bottom two lines here just struck me as being odd and counterintuitive. I think what it's showing me here is that a 20 gallon cart costs the same amount as the 35 gallon for cart. And maybe I just don't understand what an e for w is. It seems like these I so what's going on with that?

Speaker: With apologies for the acronym for w stands for every four weeks it's monthly service. We did want to you're noticing here that the proposed increase for the monthly 35 gallon cart is a little larger than the proposed increase for the other service levels and there's a reason for that. This service provides basically the same volume per month as a biweekly or 20 gallon trash cart. So once a month, 35 gallons, twice a week, every other week for 20. But but the monthly service has

historically been given a pretty significant subsidy that was paid for by higher costs on the 60 gallon and the 90 gallon carts. And we'd like to eliminate that subsidy and bring the cost of that service closer to its actual cost. And that happens to be very similar to the to the 20 gallon by weekly cart. Okay

Speaker: Thank you. I think that answers my question. The other thing which jumped out at me during your presentation on was the contribution that you make to earp. May I think I didn't maybe I was not fully aware of that contribution before today. Can you unpack that for us a little bit?

Speaker: Yeah. Commissioner. So bts has been giving generally about \$1 million annually to the impact reduction program for general city cleanup, and that's a contribution that we've been happy to make, but we've had to adjust our fees to, to capture that revenue.

Speaker: Okay. Well I'm glad thank you for playing a role in that important space. Um and let's actually can I see the let's take another look at the slide, which shows the geographic location of public garbage cans. Yes commissioner. Great I love this program. Your your cans are efficient and esthetically pleasing. You also know, I think in your presentation mentioned that this was part of your of an equity move here. Can you just unpack what you mean by that in the context of what we see?

Speaker: Great question, commissioner. Thank you for the opportunity to share on this. So largely and this is a generally a national situation, our waste companies are historically white owned and led by men. And so with the barrier to entry to be a hauler that does franchises or commercial collections is quite high. So there needs to be an entry level program that new and emerging businesses can take advantage of. So that's where the public trash can program comes in. We're able to provide contracts to haulers that are entering the field to both build their capacity for trucks and staffing and drivers so that when the opportunity to acquire a

franchise or to get into the commercial sector is there, they actually have the resources infrastructure to do so. So in that way it's an entry level program to the waste field.

Speaker: Great. That's a great answer. Thank you, mr. Mayor. Commissioner Rubio, I have no more questions. Very good. Any further questions?

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan? Yes

Speaker: Hi. Could you go back to the rate increases that consumers will experience? Yes, commissioner, on that the table slide.

Speaker: Yeah. This one. That one. Okay

Speaker: I just wanted to look at it again, honestly. Okay all right. So last week we had a lot of dialog about wanting to be not tone deaf to the increase of cost of living. And so the majority voted against rate increases. So this week this will put some pressure on consumers right to spend more money on their fixed cost. So I'm just trying to rationalize the difference. Right. So thanks.

Speaker: Thanks for the opportunity to answer that. Commissioner the increase here that you're seeing is largely operational and that the rates, a significant majority of the rates are supporting our haulers to ensure the service is maintained. So as even alluded to, there's inflation, there's labor costs, there's disposal costs that are putting pressures on the system that are basically pass through to our customers and they're generated. We mentioned the rate increase that metro pass for disposal, but frankly, just the cost of doing business for haulers is going up. And so our concern would be that if we were to flatten this rate in any way, we would actually be putting pressure on our haulers to deliver the same level of service with with less operating costs. And I just want to note that our haulers are exceptional. They show up whether it's freezing weather or in the heat domes that we've experienced, they don't take a day off. And so it feels like an appropriate level

to maintain that that quality of service and you're right, it is it is pressure. But waste beyond just the recycling, composting component of environmental stewardship as a utility waste is a is a health issue. We want to make sure that waste is off the street as fast as possible. Okay

Speaker: I have a couple of. Oh, commissioner Rubio. I'm sorry. Go ahead. I have one. Yeah you bet.

Speaker: Question can you talk a little bit about metro's actions recently and how is that interconnect with our rates? Sure

Speaker: Thanks, commissioner. So if these are the cost factors for this rate increase so we acknowledge the inflation that commissioner Rubio was alluding to is the metro disposal fees. So we are in a regional waste system that metro sets disposal costs for and fees. So metro council will set a disposal fee that all jurisdictions within the region have to adopt as a part of their rates. So in this particular year, although we were expecting an 8% increase, that actually is an 11% increase for this year and that's a material impact to our our fees at large. Could I ask a question on that, commissioner Rubio is raising an interesting question.

Speaker: What was the recommendation to the metro council staff had recommended 8, which was agreed upon increase that council had approved and adopted last year.

Speaker: So we were looking for sort of more cost certainty from our partners at metro. And staff had put together a essentially an 8% increase annually. So there's cost predictability. So that's what we were expecting. And council went forward with an 11.2% increase instead. And, you know, let me speak to that.

Speaker: The main question that arose there is the metro council's desire to bring their disposal costs closer in line with the actual cost of service to operate the transfer stations. And so what they're seeing is they're incurring costs that are that

are higher than what are reflected in the disposal fees and they want to move closer to aligning to cost cost recovery. So so and thank you for that answer.

Speaker: What strategies were considered to and I'm particularly concerned about the residential side, to be honest with you, what strategies were considered as alternatives to simply increasing the cost to consumers.

Speaker: Well, I can answer for our part. So if we're looking at cost cutting measures, we'd probably want to talk to our our haulers about efficiency potential. But the reality is, mayor, these are based on their actual operating costs. So we'd be looking at updating a system and in real time, that's we don't want to in any way impede the ability of the haulers to continue to pick up trash on a broader scale. We'd probably look at things like rolling back the public trash can program, um, probably reducing our, our contribution to the impact reduction program that could it could put downward pressure on the rates. So these are some services that we're considering viable and essential to our cities like cleanup. So it feels like there's not a lot of place to put downward pressure on our rates right now. What are we seeing in terms of residential trash showing up in our public trash receptacles?

Speaker: On the commercial side or alternatively just on the side of our roads? I mean, at some point, if people can't afford it, they can't afford it. So what are they doing?

Speaker: So that's a really it's a question that's at the core of our work with metro in terms of the public trash collection program, but also just the illegal dumping that we're experiencing seeing. So it's not just residential single family residential, it's what's the experience of our multifamily residents? Do they have adequate service and so those questions kind of go beyond even these rates. The residential rates we're talking about are just curbside, single family. So we have a whole

multifamily sector that needs a real deep dive into evaluation that we look forward to taking on next fiscal year. But in truth, mayor, you're actually touching on the question that needs to be solved is where is the source of this illegal dumping? Is it cost prohibitive? Is it just access to service? And that's something that we're working on with metro. I will say that not to get too far ahead of my staff, but we are looking at a bulky waste program that will help provide more service so we can take care of those larger items that don't fit in your bin. But we're trying to find the triage solutions for that. Yeah, and also the other piece that we're looking at as low income program that will help again reduce those pressures on on ratepayers.

Speaker: The obvious conundrum there is as you raise rates, there will be more people going into the low income programs. So you're it's not necessarily a one for one trade off. Absolutely. Okay thank you. That answers my question.

Commissioner Rubio, did you have another thought? Sorry yeah, very good. This is a non emergency ordinance. Do you have public testimony on this item?

Speaker: We do. We have three people signed up.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Thanks, gentlemen.

Speaker: First up is michelle carter. And they were planning to join in person, so we'll move on to cameron hudson. Apologies. Welcome. Hi.

Speaker: Thanks for being here.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: My name is michelle carter, and I'm the co-owner of junket junk removal. We work with quinton and his team on trash can. The public trash can cleanup. And I just wanted to state how impactful it is for especially a lot of the local businesses who do have problems with trash in the city, but with the public trash cans being there, it it helps put a dent into some of the unsightly to trash that is along our streets. I know sometimes when my team goes out, the business owners will come

out and thank them, offer them a drink. If there's something that has piled up. And so I just wanted to kind of show my support for the public trash can service. And on a side note, why I really didn't originally sign up for this, but the question was asked about residential customers starting to illegally dump. We do a lot of other work around the city and the majority of the illegal dumping that we see is actually from contractors, people, remodelers contractors, hot tubs cut in half, unlicensed junk removers. So I don't know if that helps or not, but yeah, thank you. That's good. Thank you so much.

Speaker: Appreciate it. Does that complete public testimony?

Speaker: Two more individuals, cameron hudson, welcome.

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

Speaker: How you guys doing?

Speaker: My name is cameron hudson. I am one of the owners and operators of aloha junk removal, which we deal with the auxiliary trash Keelan trash can collector position. So for us, we've been doing this for a while now. I want to say thank you to miss theresa green, because she did initially get us going with that process from a small business trying to get into the big business. This has helped us. We have gained traction to be able to now work with Multnomah County and solve and other organized actions. So this is a great program for us as far as us picking up with some of the illegal dumping and things like that, like mr. Michel said, we do see a lot of it from contractors. It's not more so from residential nils. But even when we do pick up at the residential homes, it's just a lot of people don't know what to throw away and what can be taken in. So to get a part of the bulky waste program, that would be great so that we can assist in that. And as we clean up on the sidewalk, it's a lot of times people can't even go down the sidewalks because there are so many encampments on the sidewalk. So that's where a lot of

the trash, even comes from. It doesn't come from the residential, so it just comes from the encampments being on the sidewalk next to the sidewalk. So for them, that's their trash service. We are their trash service because we pick up everything within a 15 foot perimeter of the trash can. So that could be a lot of stuff. And so as far as all in all, we offer micro cleanup. So we did the madrona park project next to the adidas off of greeley. We're doing oaks park right now. We do a lot of different projects. We do tualatin valley, beaverton, so we just like to be a part of it and we say thank you to the city for having us.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you. Thanks for being here. Oh did you have a question? I did, yeah. Good question. Yes, sir.

Speaker: Yeah, there's ongoing discussion about what the code updates we should be doing with respect to time, place and manner restrictions for homeless.

Speaker: Do you have any areas where city code could help you in cleaning up? I realize you're a contractor essentially, but I'm just curious if your thoughts on where our code could assist us in.

Speaker: I can't necessarily say there's a code that can insist it or assisted. We do. Hypothetically, we do 33rd mercury drive. So we come through and we pick up every once a month with with junket on marine drive. And as we clean up, they just move from one end of the street to the next end of the street. So even if you guys were to put forth the I think it's the code of no camping on the sidewalk, I can't necessarily say that's going to improve anything. Now it will improve. As far as for the city trash can collectors, because because you know, there won't be so much trash on the street. So it will be a safety issue, you know, that will improve for the safety of people. So but then that will cut out, you know, businesses such as us or other businesses who pick up in those areas, because now without the homeless there or without other people, that's less trash.

Speaker: Is there is there are there ever times that you think something is trash and someone else doesn't think it's trash?

Speaker: Oh, all the time.

Speaker: All the time. Is there particular recurring areas of disagreement on that?

Speaker: Um, I wouldn't necessarily say recurring areas of disagree moment.

Speaker: I know like two of the candidates that we pick up are off of Harold street. And then there's the one off of Stark and 205. So along that trail, you know, there's a lot of encampments along that trail. So sometimes they'll be shopping carts, there'll be couches, there'll be mattresses. We'll go to pick those things up and someone will say, hey, don't take that mattress because I'm going to use that mattress. Well we'll come back 2 or 3 days later and the mattress is still sitting there, you know, so it's not so much of they want the stuff, but I think it's just to say, I don't want you to touch the stuff. You know, if that makes sense. Thank you for your testimony.

Speaker: Yep. Appreciate it. On our last testifier is Carrie McCullough.

Speaker: Welcome. Thanks for being here. Thank you, Mayor Wheeler.

Speaker: And commissioners. Thanks for having me again. My name is Carrie Walker McCullough and my family has owned and operated Walker Garbage Service in the city of Portland since 1948. Pretty proud of that. So just here today to reiterate that as a member of the Portland Haulers Association, we do participate in this very complete and deep dive into the cost of operations. It's a pretty big reporting piece that we complete each year to make sure our customers are paying a fair rate for the service that we are pleased and proud to provide to our neighbors in the city of Portland. We were a little bit blindsided by the amount of the Metro increase that was voted in. So very much in favor of the rates that the city of Portland staff presented to you earlier. We are pleased and proud to be in

such a collaborative and productive partnership with the staff of the bureau of planning and sustainability. We also. So that's just my big pitch of we, you know, please consider them as presented. Also, as a side note, just very pleased to have met michelle and cameron today of hauled away junk and junk at an so happy that they're doing such a great job of especially out in we mentioned 33rd and marine drive just to help us sort of regain our city again and so happy to have found this avenue for other companies to join us in our industry. It's something that we've talked about a lot at Portland haulers association. So, so pleased to have made their acquaintance and to see that it's working so well. I appreciate your time today. Thank you. Thanks for having me back.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps did you have a comment? Yeah yeah.

Speaker: Number one, I appreciate all the staff testimony and the community testimony today. A theme that goes through several of these presentations is the challenges associated with cleaning up bulky waste at which triggered a memory in me and that I know if you go back to the pre-pandemic days, at the very least at civic life used to help organize a couple of bulk waste days, which was a great program. I used to help organize a couple of those out in parkrose. I was just doing some googling to see if that service still exists and I'm not quite sure the current status of civic life's engagement with bulk waste disposal days. But I do see metro seems to be involved there. I find the. Yeah, and it looks like donny's coming up. What's going on in that space? Do you know commissioner Mapps?

Speaker: We do. We are still doing community events this past year. We also included our events to expand just from single family to also work with multifamily. So we worked with some of our cdcs to do multifamily cleanup events, bulky waste events. Our public trash program, including the collections program, and had two free box days where we set up debris boxes in neighborhoods. And so we're still

doing that in partnership with our neighborhoods to run that service. I'm glad to hear that.

Speaker: And in my experience, those have been very popular. I remember we'd have a parade of cars with old couches and whatnot coming out to try to participate in events like that. So glad to hear that it survived the pandemic. Couch could I ask you to reiterate something you said, and I want to make sure I got it right.

Speaker: Did you say the residential rate is going up 10 to 11? Is that what you said?

Speaker: No. The residential rate is I'm sorry, the disposal costs from metro is going up 11. Thank you.

Speaker: Okay. I couldn't even read my own notes. Thank you. Very good. Any further discussion on this item? Seeing none, this is a first reading of a nonemergency ordinance. It moves to second reading next item is 420 revised transportation fees, rates and charges for fy 2023 to 24.

Speaker: Amend transportation fee schedule and fix an effective date.

Speaker: First reading of an emergency ordinance commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Thank you, mr. Mayor. Colleagues, this ordinance comes to us from the Portland bureau of transportation. This ordinance before us today revises transportation fees, rates and charges for the 2023 2024 fiscal year. Here is some context on these fees. Rates and charges as I'm sure all of you know by now, pbot is primarily funded through two sources gas taxes and fees like parking fees, colleagues, you probably are also familiar with this reality by now to do this fiscal model of relying on gas taxes and fees is unsustainable. Why? Well, revenues from gas taxes are in decline because cars are becoming more energy efficient and revenues from parking meters are on decline because more people are working from home. Declining revenues means that pbot is now in a fiscal crisis and indeed

has been in a fiscal crisis for many years. For example, pbot has endured budget cuts for the past five years. I will remind you that in 2019, 2020, pbot general transportation revenues were cut by \$900,000. And in fiscal year 2020 slash 2021 pbot general transportation revenues were cut by another \$900,000. And in 2021 slash 22 pbot general transportation revenues were cut by \$8.8 million and in 2022 slash 23 pbot general transportation revenues were cut by \$4.5 million. And today, as we go about developing the budget for next year, we expect that in 2023, 24 pbot general transport revenues will be cut. By \$6.33 million. I will just point out that this general trend is concerning and unsustainable. He here to tell us more about pbot budget for the next fiscal year. We have jeremy patton, business services director with pbot. Welcome, jeremy. Thank you, commissioner.

Speaker: And joining me is kevin bumatay, our financial services manager at pbot. Good afternoon, everyone. I just want to start by on the first slide, just kind of talking about the importance of why we're here today. Um, the fee schedules that are before you help the bureau preserve and maintain our assets as they operate the transportation. Can I just ask a level setting question, how is this different than the presentation we had last week?

Speaker: There's not I don't I only have a couple slides to go through. I'm going to make it really great because we don't need I'm not going to go through everything all over again that last week. I'm not sure we need to go through the same presentation this week.

Speaker: Yeah, no, I'm going to skip most of all of that stuff and I'm just going to highlight a few things that are different from the previous week. Yep and I can even skip over this. As you see at high level, I think everybody kind of knows the importance of pbot and we can jump to the next slide. This is another slide, just a little bit of context setting around our asset management backlog, the importance

of passing fees to make sure that this asset management backlog doesn't get any larger. It's currently at \$4.7 billion. So these fees are very important to us. This slide is a little bit more context setting and just what we're talking about today. So if you're looking at pbot budget, we're talking about about 22% of our budget is within held within this fee schedule, mostly that's parking garage revenues of about \$11 million, system development charges of \$10 million, parking permits, meter citation revenues of \$60 million and permits and charges of another \$30 million. We have a number of exhibits before you today. There's eight different exhibits covering everything from parking meter rates, regulatory fees for taxis and other ride companies towing fees. Ccs right of way use fees, utility permitting, just to name a few. And here is just kind of like the broad highlights and what we've talked about over the last few weeks, what we talked about last week and what was included in the approved budget is what we have ended up filing for the ordinance that you see before you. So that includes the \$0.20 decision that was made last week that also includes the freezing of ccs. The other things in there are mostly fee changes reflecting rising costs for staff materials and then the development review fees, including a phased and multiyear approach to achieve cost recovery and minimize permitting delays. Moving forward.

Speaker: So I'm honestly I'm not trying to be a jerk. I'm really just trying to understand maybe there's a question for legal counsel. Is this a legal requirement that we go through this as part of the overall budget process? Is that why we're doing this? It's not part of the budget process.

Speaker: It's a the rule that pbot adopts the fees has to be adopted by City Council. So this is kind of the effectuating piece of the fee.

Speaker: So would this would this be considered the fee hearing then ? Is that an accurate legal way to think of this, an accurate, colloquial way of dealing with it?

Okay. Thank you. That's very helpful for me. I was just confused as to why we're hearing this again now. I got it. Thank you. Yeah last week we approved the actual budget.

Speaker: These are just the fees within the budget that we have to approve as well. Thank you.

Speaker: Yep, really helpful. I appreciate it. I'm sorry for the interruption. No worries.

Speaker: I think I covered that one. And we're already on my last slide, which is really good because, yeah, there wasn't a lot of talk about because we've talked about it over the last few weeks. So just a few of the other fees that we wanted to highlight that maybe have not gotten as much attention over the last few weeks. There's a special events. So part of the proposed budget, we talked about kind of community events. We have changed the program around that. So rather than events being charged for maintenance operations to provide traffic control services, we're able to utilize private contractors or their own event support to provide these services. The folks who are actually running the events. So this change in service delivery should allow the events to provide those services at a cheaper rate. And the new rental program allows for to the rents of barricade and cones for that work. So it's just providing some small fees for the public to be able to rent those barricades. There's a new non profit discount for community events in the right of way. So basically we have included a charge that reduces the daily metered parking space rate from \$18 per day to \$9 per day for those non-profits who are renting those spaces, there's a financial hardship fee within towing. It's a additional \$5 fee on top of all tows. And what that will do is be set aside in a in a separate fund and that funds can be used to cover and to draw upon for towing fees for those folks that face financial hardships. And then finally, council passed an

ordinance in March couch around electric vehicle charging stations in the right of way and on city infrastructure. And within that ordinance, it said we would come back with the fee structures related to that. And so those fees are included in the ordinance as well. Questions I asked all mine.

Speaker: Anybody else and thank you for bearing with me.

Speaker: We might have public testimony on this. Okay, good. We do have three people, three people.

Speaker: Perfect. Thanks, gentlemen. Yep.

Speaker: First up is Ryan sotomayer. Is Ryan online?

Speaker: Yeah, it looks like they're in June.

Speaker: They're in zoom. All right. Can you hear me now?

Speaker: Yep, we can.

Speaker: Hi, Ryan. We can see you as well.

Speaker: Super nice to see you, mayor. Nice to see you, commissioners and everybody else in the room. I'm from labor's local 43. Up until October, I was a employee of Portland parks and recreation and now I'm the business manager of labor's local 43. I appreciate the time to speak with you all today. Um, I'd like to call out some testimony that I heard from our labor partners, particularly rachel whiteside last week and robert martineau from protect 17 and ash, me 189 and just amplify and echo those comment comments that this is going to be harmful to our workforce. It's going to be harmful to the community. In 2018, a third of the recreation contract was laid off in the same language was used that labor unions had asked for wages, and now there was a discrepancy in the budget and the people on the front lines were employees of the city that were laid off in 2020 during covid. All the folks that worked for the Portland bureau of transportation every single one of them that's represented by 43, was working in person. They

were called heroic. They were called essential, and they took concessions so that the city could balance its budget. Those are real sacrifices by employees that are represented under these labor contracts. Again, people that were working in person in 2020 and 2021 and 2022, those are repair all of the roads, those who install accessibility necessities for our disabled citizens and constituents. This isn't that much money. This isn't that much money. And it's very frustrating to be on the side of things where we went out on strike to get a good solid contract. And now the city is turning around and blaming that contract and saying that this is causing us to have to make cuts. And we keep talking about the people that are living in or leaving. Excuse me, but we're not talking about the people that are staying. Everyone that lives in the city of Portland deserves the services. And we need those services. We need the infrastructure to keep running. We need our roads, we need our sewers. We don't envy you of the decisions that you have to make, but we laying off workers, walking back contracts is harmful to the community. It's harmful to the employer. Nils employees excuse me. If the city of Portland wants to be an employer of choice, it needs to step up and support its employees. Thank you for your time. I appreciate it.

Speaker: Next is paige barton. Welcome thank you.

Speaker: Um, good afternoon.

Speaker: Mayor and City Councilors. My name is paige barton, and I'm proud to be a field representative with laborers local 483. We represent hundreds of workers in pbot, bts and Portland parks and recreation. I'm here today to urge your no vote on all three of these ordinances. Portland city laborers have not received full payment on the agreement that ended our strike on February fifth. We recently learned that we have a substantial disagreement with the city regarding the retro activity of our agreement. We also have disagreement around wages for 17 Portland, Portland city

laborers. The city has already been nickel and diming workers since our strike ended. Our members are expected to have an unreasonable degree of patience with pay related issues, while the city moves at a glacial pace to implement bargain agreements. We have never seen the city move as quickly as you did to freeze rates and now you're asking our members to take another hit in the name of doing business. S our union is joined by over 218 written public comments today asking for your no vote on these ordinances. The city has no way to fund these last minute rate freezes without laying our members off nordstrom is not a constituent. The Portland business alliance is not a constituent, but the workers that you will lay off, they do vote. Their families vote, and the Portlanders directly harmed by bad policy and deferred maintenance costs. Vote if these rate ordinances pass today, labor, labor's local 43, will educate our membership about why we must become politically involved to have a greater say about who sits behind that podium. If these ordinances pass, we will work with other city unions to ensure that commissioners submitting an I vote today are held accountable when they seek reelection. This City Council has completely lost sight of who they represent. City workers deserve more respect than this is immeasurably unfortunate that any of us have to be here today to state this. The fact that we have to be here at all, asking for you to keep our members employed by fully funding the services they provide is shameful. All our union continues to rightfully demand your respect, but right now we have the opportunity still to move forward together. You can correct the course by voting no on these ordinances today. Thank you for your time.

Speaker: Thank you. And just just a clarification. These are non emergency ordinances. So we won't actually be voting today.

Speaker: Thank you for the clarification, mayor. We still urge your no vote. Great

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: And our last testifier is Rachel Whiteside.

Speaker: Hello, Rachel. Hello again.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Soon I'm speaking on behalf of the 900 city employees represented by Protect 17 who provide the professional and technical services across nearly all of your city bureaus. I'd actually like to start by thanking Commissioner Mapps for his work championing the people who keep the city physically running, maintaining the water and sewer and roads that are vital to all Portlanders. Commissioner Mapps, thank you for standing by. Employees who have negotiated in good faith for wages that provide a solid living, wages that all Portlanders should have. It's been my personal experience in working with you that you maintain a healthy working office, ensuring that both management and labor are able to speak with you on a consistent and reliable basis. You've made time in your schedule to do regular shadowing in the field and interact with workers that are responsible for maintaining the city's critical infrastructure. This ensures that you understand both the physical infrastructure to the city as well as the emotional infrastructure and trust that is necessary to keep that functioning. And for this, I thank you. However, Commissioner Mapps cannot be the only member of council who is here advocating for this critical public infrastructure. The budget amendments that were adopted by council last week and captured in the fee structures that are being presented here today, they basically amount to unfunded mandates. The work it takes to maintain city assets isn't going to go away just because the funding to get it done. City workers who mind you also show up regardless of the weather, are expected to do more with less. As Jeremy called out, PBO already faced years of do more with less. So there's only ever more to do. It is to seize any budget cuts that will defer maintenance of city assets and delay capital improvement projects. Commit to adequately fund the things that make Portland a

great place to live, work and play vibrant parks and natural areas accessible streets and safe drinking water. The fee structure that has been that is being presented today does not uphold the city values of equity. Transparent communication collaboration on fiscal responsibility and anti-racism. It does not meet the commitments that you've already made to your workforce and to the residents of Portland. I heard we're not voting no, but I would ask that you can reconsider the items for 24, 22 and for 23. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. And Rachel, just for the record, is it your recommendation is your recommendation a no vote as a no vote? Yes. Okay. Thank you. No pull them off and do a little bit more work.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Appreciate it. Does that completes testimony. All right. Further discussion on this item. I actually do have something I'd like to say at my political peril, but I'm going to say it because I believe it. This is a balancing act. We have lots of constituencies and the constituency I'm concerned about just experienced a 30 cent increase in their trimet fares this afternoon. I'm worried about people in this city who are experiencing increases in dozens of fees, taxes as rate increases. And I'm keenly aware of the good work that our employees do. And I realize there's a trade off implied here that will negatively impact our city employees. I know that. But I also know that we can't keep raising our taxes and our fees and our rates indefinitely on the people of this city when the data clearly shows that they have reached their breaking point, we have to figure out how to balance these competing factors. They're all important to me. There's no one right answer here. There's no one constituency that I'm going to listen to and ignore the others. And that's what makes these jobs hard. That's just that's life. We have to balance competing interests. So I want you to know, if you feel like I'm being disrespect

hurtful to you as city employees, it's not that I'm being disrespectful to you. It's that I'm also trying to respect out the other 655,000 people in this city that I represent. And I was elected to represent. And there may be no popular solution here. These may be a combination of very unpopular choices because we're facing an environment of economic uncertainty and we're facing the kind of inflation we haven't seen in years. And that's that's the causal factor here. It's not because we're bad people or indifferent people or uncaring people. It's because we have a real economic impact. And we have to figure out how to address it reasonably and balance these competing interests. I just want to say that that from my perspective, that's how I'm looking at these issues and that's what I'm thinking about. Any further discussion on this item? Before I move to second reading? Yeah

Speaker: Mr. Mayor, I have a couple of comments. First, I just want to say I really appreciate your clarification of your thinking in this space. But first, let me start out by thanking everyone who showed up to testify today. I know my office has received something north of 300 emails around this topic in the last week or so. I hear your concern and frankly, I feel your pain. I also understand what the mayor is saying. You know, like the mayor, I'm deeply concerned about the impact that inflation and taxes are having on Portlanders. And indeed, even last week I voted to lower the some sdc charges and I voted to lower those sdc charges because I thought doing so might incentivize residential development here in Portland. It will come at some trade offs, but it's a worthwhile experiment. It, on the other hand, respectfully, mr. Mayor, and the majority of my colleagues on council, I have to say the trade offs that are associated with shaving \$0.20 off of parking meter fees do not strike me as being in the benefit of port lenders in general. You know, when you park at a parking meter, you can only save for about two hours. We're talking about \$0.20 an hour. So we're you're saving your average Portland or \$0.40 in your typical

hour outing to downtown. Let's say number one, all of the evidence that we have in terms of surveying and whatnot, most Portlanders are completely insensitive to the cost of parking right now, allegedly. One of the reasons why we are foregoing doing cost recovery or adequately funding our infrastructure bureaus is that we are wanting to make sure that people don't leave Portland. And I will just tell you, I am deeply skeptical of the claim that \$0.20 an hour on your parking meters is the thing that's going to drive someone to leave Portland. I don't think it's that. And I think people are leaving Portland because navigating our bureaucracy is too difficult. I think by the time you pay the accumulation of fees that are associated with this, with living in Portland, it's awfully complicated. Homicides are at record rates, homelessness. We literally got three thousands of people sleeping on the streets every day. I mean, I think these are the things that are driving people out of town, you know, in the context of the city of Portland, we talk about both how much you pay in taxes and the value that you receive for the tax dollars that you pay. You know, today. And in this space, we're going to save Portlanders about \$0.20 in taxes, if you want to call that their fees actually, which I would argue is a negligible savings that will not have a meaningful financial impact on Portlanders lives. However as we heard from the folks who actually do this work out in the field, the economic impact that that will have on public servants and our infrastructure is really significant. So what you're getting in return for the for the taxes or fees that you pay is going to be significantly diminished. So I am deeply skeptical and concerned that the tradeoff that we are offering right here is not going to be in the benefit of the people of Portland, which is why I voted no on this last week. And I still believe that was the right choice on my part. Thank you, mr. Mayor. I'll hand the floor back to you.

Speaker: Thank you. Counterpoint. Sure because I enjoy this. I you know, I appreciate it. I'm not going to reiterate all of the talking points from last week. I really didn't want to go down this. But but I agree with you that in eventually we could look at every single fee increase and justify it. I agree with you 100. And that's why, as far as I can tell, all, despite considerable publicity so far, every single government fee increase except the ones that have come before this dais have gone through as planned. The problem isn't the individual fees, it's the cumulative effect of taxes of fees, of utility rate increases at the household level, which collectively is significant. And it's happening in one year. And I heard testimony from our own staff that you just reiterated that people don't care about the parking meter rates. Well, if they don't care, then why did we not raise them between 2016 and 2023 when year after year after year our public employees were experiencing the cuts that you described? So I guess this is a plea for planning if this is a fact and the facts as presented to me are accurate from the bureau, then it suggest to me we sat on our hands during good economic times. And now that we're in an economic shock, we're having to increase the fees on the people who live in this city. And that strikes me as wrong. And that's why I've said I think we need to pause and take a harder look at this. So I hope where we agree and I think we do mingus, I think we agree that we can't. You said at the beginning, and I agree with you emphatically, the current revenue model is deeply, fundamentally and permanently flawed. It will never fix on its own. There needs to be a different structure here that reflects the fact that gas taxes are going to continue to go down, period. That's the beginning, the middle and the end of the argument. And so I would hope that these uncomfortable conversations we've had as a council will precipitate some of those longer term ideas because we can't come into this cycle again next year and the year after. And the year after and just say, golly gee whiz, the gas tax revenue is

down again. Well, of course it is, right? I mean, you agree with that? I do. Okay. We're in agreement. Commissioner Gonzalez then commissioner Rubio, I am not inclined to rehash the arguments from last week.

Speaker: All right. You did. I already did.

Speaker: I will note at the onset, I disagreed with the majority's decision last week.

Speaker: I felt it was for the reasons I stated last week. And again, I don't want to rehash those. I just would like to make really two observations as. One, if we take unilateral action on our fees and rates, we have to exert direct pressure on our public partners to do the same. And I have misgivings last week and I continue to the expectation that we put this burden on our infrastructure as a city, on our city employees without beforehand getting some concessions from other public partners.

Speaker: I felt it was misguided. And I think the ship has sailed in a sense.

Speaker: So it is now incumbent on us to make sure that our public partners are being considerate in this regard.

Speaker: And evidently I'm looking at what trimet just announced recently, what we're hearing from metro.

Speaker: They seem not to be getting the signals. They seem not to be following the lead. We attempted to take I that's concerning. I think we have to use our our positions to advocate for those other partners to take some hard steps as well. Secondly um, I appreciate the testimony of labor today. I truly do. And again I agree with many of the concerns as last week. Um, what this cannot be in my opinion though is a contrast and a zero sum game between our businesses in the in the city and public employees. And I think that framing is really, really unfortunate. When you talk specifically about pbot and parking fees, we mean nordstrom's to get people to park downtown and that creates jobs. That's our revenue to support

good paying jobs in the city. And I don't mean to be pollyannaish and I realize there are areas of disagreement, but we labor and business actually need each other in this in this community. And government's kind of in the middle of it.

Speaker: But it's just I don't agree with that false framing of the interest of our retailers downtown and city employees.

Speaker: I think you're more aligned than you think. And I think if we are thriving as a city, we all benefit. And when we're struggling, we all suffer.

Speaker: So I would just I'd leave it at that for now. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Thank you. I just want to comment on a couple of things that have been said here.

Speaker: Um, and have a question to like. First, I just want to acknowledge I want to thank labor for coming and sharing the impact this will make with you in very real ways. Um and I want to call out of the 650,000 people we are elected to represent labor and members of labor and our workforce is a part of that as well. And we appreciate that. And so I want to acknowledge that. I also just wanted to ask a question of commissioner Mapps. Um, so and this is just curious. So you introduced the 20% last week or 2020, sorry. Um, so is there a reason that you chose not to do the full 40 so that we could have had the full discussion in here as a council? Yes

Speaker: I didn't have three votes for \$0.40 because we hadn't talked.

Speaker: So I was just curious about why we didn't have a fuller.

Speaker: Yeah. In the back and forth as we were going in. And there's been some speculation in the press around this, so we might as well just make it explicit. Um, you know, the basically, the, the tick tock on what happened last week or the week before with pbot fees was I had planned to come here. Um, I had planned to come

here and ask for 40 cent an hour increase in parking fees. Indeed that was contained in the mayor's budget. Shortly after mayor releases proposed budget, there was a renewed and you know, legitimate concern about Portlanders Portland losing its population. The mayor came forward with a proposal to basically freeze rates and fees, um, frankly, in in many areas that I help manage. So that's is true with pbot. And you'll notice water. We'll talk about water and bts next. But um, the proposal was to keep the mayor's proposal was to keep rates flat or flat compared to what the mayor's proposal was to basically take away that \$0.40 an hour increase. And frankly, the mayor had the votes to do it. So I had did a lot of conversation with the other offices to, number one, try to argue that the mayor's proposal was wrong. Um, I did not win on that as we dug more into it, it seemed like people there was a majority on council to split the difference and there were three votes out there for a 20 cent an hour as opposed to a 40 cent an hour rate increase. And that's what I pitched and that's what we got and that's how we got here.

Speaker: Well, I just want to just say for the record, I think this, this just I say this to underscore a larger question that I think we need probably more conversation among our offices. You and I talked about this in our check in would appreciate rate the ability to weigh in the conversation even before council so but thank you but I appreciate where you're coming from and really understand on all sides of this very difficult issue. Great. I appreciate the note.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio very good.

Speaker: Thank you. This is a first reading of a nonemergency ordinance. It moves to second reading next item also a non emergency ordinance. Actually, we're going to read four, two, two and four, two, three together. Both are non emergency ordinances.

Speaker: Item 422, authorize the rates and charges for water and water related services beginning July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024 and fix an effective date. 423 revised sewer and stormwater rates, charges and fees in accordance with the fiscal year 2023 through 24 sewer rate study commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Colleagues, today I want to begin by introducing two amendments that will increase the water and sewer rates that we discussed and voted on last week. These are amendments marking a margin increase to rates discussed by council last week include a critical new program called ramp that will serve some of the most vulnerable Portland renters beginning just this July by making small adjustments to the utility rate package, council is expanding the reach of the utility bureau's financial assistance program, offering by approximately 14,700 people. All that nearly doubles the number of households that we can help with our financial assistance program. Um, I'll tell you, this is important because Portland has been a leader in providing financial assistance to those in need. This innovative pilot program helps solve a challenge that utilities across the nation have been struggling with for years, providing low income tenants and multifamily properties with utility bill relief, single family households have individual utility bills in and tenant housing. It's much more complicated, but this program helps solve that problem. Um, now I will introduce these amendments. Now amendment 422 with amendment 422. I move that item 422 with the documents submitted to the clerk on Tuesday or as part of the Tuesday memo. Let me try that again. So it's cleaner to I move to amend item 422 with documents submitted with the Tuesday memo. This amendment increases water rates and water related charges by 0.2% to 7.9% to include a discount amount under the Portland water bureau and bureau of environmental services. Regular and affordable multifamily assistance program, also called ramp. And I have a second amendment. If I still have the clerk and the

lawyers with me, I move to amend item 423 with documents submitted with the Tuesday memo. This amendment increases sewer and water rates by 0.92% to 4.07% to include a discount amount under the Portland water bureau and bureau of environmental services. Regulated affordable multifamily assistance program, also called ramp. Let me simplify that for those on council and for those watching at home. Basically, I'm proposing a slight increase to the rates that we talked about last week. We're talking about an increase of about. 0.6, 4% at this program. Will that slight increase will allow us to extend utility assistance to low income families who live in multifamily settings. That essentially represents a tripling of the number of folks that we currently help with our utility assistance programs. And if I recall correctly, the cost to the average Portlander by virtue of this 0.4% increase in rates would be about \$0.85 a month. So for an additional \$0.85 a month, we will be able to bring a utility assistance to about 14,700 Portlanders in terms of the size of these discounts, we're talking about a 20% water discount and a 50% sewer discount. Um, I think this is a great program. We've been working on it for, frankly, the whole time I've had this portfolio. Uh, it's a partnership with the housing bureau. Very excited to, to partner with them and to help some of our most vulnerable Portlanders. So I just wanted to take a moment and put that on the table and ask my colleagues, do I have a second, second commissioner Gonzalez seconds.

Speaker: We need a second on the vote.

Speaker: Oh, how about let's can I take the first second?

Speaker: Let's do the second. Who wants to second? There's room for everybody here. Every kid's who wants a second for 22. Commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Did you want a second? Second commissioner Rubio and me.

Speaker: I have a second for 23. I got two amendments.

Speaker: Yes, i'll join in second.

Speaker: Okay, great. Okay

Speaker: Sorry. Sorry about that. It's late in the day, folks. It's bumpy, but we'll get there. Uh, great. Um thank you. Now that we have those amendments as part of this ordinance, next, what I want to do is to invite staff up to talk a little bit about the rates that we have. And I have staff from the water bureau and environmental services to bring us a briefing on proposed water and stormwater and sewer sewer services and for the next fiscal year. And I have also asked them to address ramp as part of their presentation. So, you know, one of the things and actually, why don't I just stop here and let staff take it over. Welcome. We have the director of the water bureau, gabe solmer and farshad allderdice business service director for environmental services. Welcome and thank you for sticking with me through this cumbersome introduction. Thank you, commissioner Mapps mr. Mayor, council, we have a brief presentation to walk through and reading between the lines.

Speaker: We will try and gloss some of the information that you've seen earlier, but I think we'll start with just a really quick recap of what the missions of our two bureaus are. The mission for is to manage Portland's water wastewater and stormwater infrastructure to protect public health and the environment and the mission for water on the water side to serve excellent water every minute of every day.

Speaker: And both of our budgets are the biggest way that we can live those values. And we've also always been both bureaus have always been public health organizations that really act at a generational level to build and maintain systems that work for everyone.

Speaker: So I'd like to start by just reviewing the general categories of our revenue of course, we balance our expenditures against rate revenue and fees. To be clear, we do not draw on the general fund. 90% of our rate and fees, 90% of our budget is

covered by rate and fee revenue for the water bureau, 88% of revenues come from water sales and for bts, 57% of our of our revenue comes from sanitary rates and 34% from stormwater rates. Those revenues pay for our annual expenditures. We are a capital intensive organization. About two thirds of our expenditures are related to capital infrastructure investments. Bts requested budget next year is \$726.9 million, and water's budget is 541.2. We do have about 25% of our combined budgets going to operations and maintenance and the balance we make transfers to general fund utility license fees and other other funds. So we, I think, mentioned that we're a very capital intensive of organization. We have combined valuation of our of our capital assets at. \$47.5 million. The those those assets. Sir, if we can go back real quick, I just want to talk a little bit about the condition of those assets. I think to be effective stewards of those assets and to have effect of asset management, we need to understand those conditions. The majority of our assets are in the very good and good categories, but there are areas of investment that we need to make, and particularly in bts, we have nearly \$5 million of assets valued that we do not have a good understanding of what the conditions are. So there is risk there. And having stable and sustained infrastruc investment helps us plan over the long term for those needed investments for our current community and for the future. There are a number of drivers for our infrastructure investments, ongoing system maintenance, replacing critical infrastructure before it fails is always more cost effective. We have very significant regulatory compliance. Compliance drivers for our investments. Of course, seismic and climate resiliency is an important consideration for which projects we invest in and how we design those projects. Equitable economic recovery is also very important, both in terms of where we invest in our community and who is doing that work. We have combined five year capital improvement plans that total just shy of \$3 million over five years.

The water bureaus is totals at \$1.8 million and almost all of that \$1.3 billion is dedicated to the federally mandated treatment plant and pipelines that are currently being worked on. For our five year cip is \$1.1 billion. So that was a whirlwind tour of our budget. I'm going to hand it off to gabe to talk a little bit about our utility bills. Thanks, rashad.

Speaker: And before we jump into the mechanics of the rate ordinance, I just wanted to review the utility bill. I think it's important. We've talked a lot about about the value that customers get for these fees and rates. So just a quick tour of that to see how these bills support a mix of infrastruc for maintenance and resiliency, environmental stewardship and key utility services that support our economy and community and you can see there the breakdown of all of those and where they go. Also just give a quick shout out to our website, has a lot of great information. So if customers are wondering how these break down even further, they can check that out as well. I'll move quickly then to the next slide, which is just a focus on affordability. It's something obviously that we've all been talking about here today, and I want to highlight that our rates at water and bts are affordable to many customers, but not to all. And I want to be transparent about that. We know that some customers need assistance and we do have, as commissioner Mapps said, a robust financial assistance program that includes all of the items that you hear here that you see here. I'll speak more directly to ramp, but you can see that there are a lot of existing long standing programs and policies to support customers. The other side of these discounts that I think is important, too, is keeping rates low for all. I don't want to miss that in these discussions. So both bureaus are also managing costs to minimize rate increases and that helps keep rates affordable. So what is ramp? We've been talking about this so much. Let's delve a little bit into it. It is the regulated, affordable multifamily assistance program runs right off the tongue. It's

a new partnership between the water bureau, the bureau of environmental services and the housing bureau, and it is a discount to multifamily properties that are approved for the nonprofit low income housing limited tax exemption program. Another mouthful. But for those of you who are not familiar with that, the mpl is a city enabled statewide long standing property tax exemption program for low income housing that is held by nonprofit organizations. So many of the organizations that we are very familiar with run housing programs and are part of this, the on bill discount will vary by service type. So water services would receive a 20% discount and sewer and stormwater would be at the 50% level and ramp will start as a three year pilot program so that we can measure its performance and impact. And who are we talking about in terms of who ramp will benefit? Well, more than 95,000 Portland households pay way more than 4% of their income towards sewer stormwater and their water bills. That's a measure of affordability that was set by the us epa. And it tells us the basic services are not affordable for about 35% of Portland households. We also know, and in that sort of middle circle, darker blue, that two thirds of renters fall into that category. The city is a leader in single family assistance, and it's a program we've had for many, many years, but we have not successfully reached multifamily households. I think that's very clear. So that's what ramp helps us do. It will expand our reach and our financial assistance offerings by approximately 14,700 households. As the commissioner said, that would nearly triple the households that currently receive financial assistance. So what are those benefits in terms for renters? The financial benefit is about \$325 per unit per year. That's about a 4% reduction in rent. If you are talking about a family of three at 30% of mfi. So that's a significant benefit, as you can see. Also, it will ramp will approximately reach approximately 12% of multifamily units. So not all of them were very want to be very clear about that. This is a first step in expanding our

financial assistance programs. So while it's massive increase over who's currently served, we really need to do more to reach all customers and who will receive the benefits we just talked about will ramp serves multifamily properties based on their participation in that program. That's what allows us to bring the administrative costs down. That was a big barrier to bringing this forward and why we've been working on it for so long. The benefit is also that individual tenants don't need to apply. So it reduces barriers for lower income households to participate. It also reduces administrative barriers for the nonprofit so that they can focus on serving our most vulnerable. So we do know that ramp will not serve all multifamily properties, just those in the np, lte. I do though, want to say that this is a first step, really a giant leap forward. It will not be our last step. We look forward to bringing you updates and more data both organizations, all three organizations in this case are very data driven and we want to provide that to you as ramp rolls out. And I think in times when we're hearing more and more about the need to collaborate and coordinate not just within the city, but with our community partners, I think you should be very proud of your workforce and those community partners that we have prioritized as that. All right. That was whirlwind on ramp. I will just finish with just a little information about the rate ordinance so that we can all be clear about what is included in the amended rate ordinance that you have before you with ramp that represent fOregone revenue for both bureaus. So the rate request is a combined 5.54 increase. We are holding sdcs at their current rate as per the conversation we had last week. So no increase there. And then all other fees and charges. And these are things just to level set for you like installing a meter or inspecting a stormwater facility. Those are either done at the cost of service in water's case or at a modest 15% increase for biz. So the 15% does not get us all the way up to recovering their full costs. It does get them closer to full cost recovery

and the increase is, if you were wondering for this category, are primarily due to the increases in the salaries of the people doing that work. And again, primarily as the result of the labor agreements that were reached by council, this is just a slide of the typical monthly bill. You can see the current bill on the left and the proposed bill on the right. So what would this mean for customers, for a typical single family residential monthly bill with these rates, that household would see an increase of \$7.48 for our folks in low income tier one. Those are those who are at 60% of median household income. That increase would be \$3.57. And for customers in the tier two level, that would be 30% of mfi. That increase is \$1.21. Quick peek at a comparison to our peer utilities. We remain right in the middle of the pack. These these utilities are chosen carefully to look as closely as set up to our city. So many of our peers have completed filtration an they are filtered systems, but they haven't addressed a combined sewer overflow. Cso situation, which is what bs did with big pipe. So we do expect to stay in the middle as filtration is completed and other cities address csos and now i'll turn it back over to bring us home. All right, so what you're seeing here is the historic trends for our annual rate increases and what is projected in our future rate profiles.

Speaker: You'll see that we really, as utilities, are pursuing a strategy of stable and predictable rate increases. The combined rate is the center black line and the blue is water. Green is bts. It is important to note that and i'll get to this in the next slide that we do have significant headwinds, financial headwinds that we are anticipating and we need to begin to prepare for financially in our plan. And so while we are our hoping for a less than requested rate increase this year, we do need to get back on track and build our rate base to prepare for those financial headwinds which i'll review on the last slide here. And i'll just say that this shouldn't be new information. I think for the last several budget conversations we've brought this information to

counsel and we are now starting to realize these expenses, inflation and recession impacts economic impacts. This have been clearly documented in multiple industries, including in ours, infrastructure. Our investments are costly and the longer that we have backlog, the more costly those those projects become. O&m costs on an aging system increase with the age of the system, we do have increasing regulatory compliance burdens that have capital investment component to them. Environmental remediation is a cost burden that we are anticipating and need to start preparing for. And the city's costs are increasing and we received a general fund overhead increases that were not originally part of our budget that we had to accommodate in our budget. And of course we need to make up somehow now to keep our budget balanced and the freezing of sdc fees or the deferral of sdc's in the short term through through rate increases. So these are all impacting our our need to have higher rates. So the utilities believe that amended rates that are proposed will continue to help us meet our current service level expectations for our community. This rate increase will also help us significantly expand our affordability programs to portions of the community that we have not been able to reach in the past. And frankly, to prepare the city to face significant infrastructure risks that are looming. And I think that's that's it from us very good colleagues.

Speaker: Questions.

Speaker: Mr. Mayor, I think we might have some invited testimony today. Very good.

Speaker: Could I ask just one question about a chart while I got you here? Could you go back to the chart showing out your rate so we have fares, sizable increases projected from, um, 2020 to through it looks like mid 2024. And then it levels off. Why does it level off? How are why are you predict thing leveled off rate increases given that you testified that we have significant financial headwinds ahead?

Speaker: It's a very good question. In our approach to financial planning is to smooth those shocks over the long term. So we are anticipating when those impacts will be coming and we want to make sure that we're building our revenues in a steady way so that we don't have these massive swings. So some some of these cost increases, we're realizing now like inflation or market impacts, some we know that there will be sizable, but we don't know exactly what what the amount will be that we'll need to have available. So we're just trying to build add that base so that we can insulate our ratepayers from those those variances that might otherwise impact them.

Speaker: When do we pay off the big pipe?

Speaker: The big pipe? I think was 2011. When does it get paid out? Oh, when does it get paid off? Excuse me? It soon. I'm not exactly sure of the year. This this is part of what our our interest expenses for is, is paying off those bond debts. I believe it's within the next 2 to 4 years.

Speaker: Okay. Could that be one of the reasons why rates flatten out over time as some of the capital projects that we borrowed money for, we're paying off. That's a good point.

Speaker: You don't see the history prior. To 2 to 2013 and 14, we were we were had rates but had rates in the seven and 8% annual increase to pay off big pipe and so as those projects expenses came down, so did our rates. And now we are trying to build that base back up.

Speaker: And you're kind of seeing the opposite happen with water and the filtration project. Got it. Okay.

Speaker: Thank you. Right

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzales has a question.

Speaker: Well, I want one I want to test the assumption that water rates on this chart are flat. Right. You're showing you're showing above the rate of inflation consistently in terms of rates that we passed on to water users, correct? Correct

Speaker: And I apologize if I misspoke. The rates are not flat, but the annual rate of increase is flat, showing.

Speaker: Flat. Yeah. And just so folks can correctly interpret this, I guess is the above of inflation in rate increases looking historically at least what's on the chart here is that largely attributable to compliance related capex or what are the primary drivers of that?

Speaker: Yeah. If we can go back to the capital, all the cost drivers, sorry, maybe it's forward. I forget which direction it is. Yeah these are the significant drivers regulatory compliance often requires additional capital investment. This is true for filtration. This is true for bts step program, which is a half \$1 billion program. And as regulations change, those requirements roll down to the bureaus and have to be funded. I'll also point out that inflation there are different levels of inflation. If we're talking consumer inflation, which still has been an historic highs the last couple of years, that has been less than what our construction inflate has been, which for projects has exceeded 60% in some cases. So this is. Just we have to put an asterisk by when we say inflation, making sure that we're using the right point of reference. Got it.

Speaker: And on, you know, and just publicly sharing commentary that I've exchanged that I've had with commissioner Mapps, just on the compliance elements, particularly essentially unfunded mandates from the federal government, for lack of a better term, that are pushed down to local cities just assuring that we're exploring. You know, it's really a government relations issue, but are we fully exploring our opportunity to lessen those burdens and, you know,

obviously, the filtration project is one that is a very big price tag and that will be paying for a long, long time. And whatever we can do to be proactive on that, again, that's not your problem. But it is certainly the city's problem. And I just point that out here. Second, how do commercial rates, commercial water users you know, I didn't I don't know if we had a slide on that, but I certainly hear about our our rates relative to other cities with less access to a lot of water. So I just sort of curious what what what those rate train rate trends have been.

Speaker: You want to speak to why water or be I mean, it's just it's i'll just speak generally and we can get you some specific s generally the commercial rates for sewer and stormwater will also increase proposed nationally.

Speaker: The calculation for commercial usage is, is different than than for residential and in these settings we've typically focused on the residential component but we are we are anticipating going through this this action to have increased rate revenue from commercial customers as well and would that be commensurate with the rate of inflation, higher than the rate of inflation or and when I say I mean I'm essentially cpi, consumer price index, not necessarily focused on construction costs, but it would be proportionate to the residential rate here, which is slightly higher than the consumer rate rate of inflation. Okay. Thank you.

Speaker: And commissioner, I didn't mention it in the slides, but we do also have programs nils discount or efficiency programs for on the commercial side as well. We work closely with small and large commercial facilities to help them reduce their or their usage and then their costs. Thank you.

Speaker: Can I jump in here and ask a question? Ryan or commissioner Gonzalez. Are you done? Yes I'm going to oppose this question directly to the director of the water bureau. My colleague, commissioner gonzales, was being polite. I think one of the questions that is out there, it would be helpful to have a clear answer to is, is

it possible for the water bureau to get out of building this filtration plant or the feds making us do this the very short and very direct answer is we are we have to do this.

Speaker: Absolutely. What I will say is that we have been looking over the last five years as we got this mandate out to how we can reduce the burden on customers, how we can use the city values in terms of intergenerational equity, in terms of who is paying what and when for this. And I will also say that we have been very, I think, diligent in looking at federal programs such as wifia to look at how we can reduce that debt service going forward.

Speaker: Great. Thank you, director. Bergin.

Speaker: You had you had invited testimony. Yeah, we have sarah up up here today, virtually virtual. Hi, sarah.

Speaker: Hello.

Speaker: The floor is yours. Maybe if you could just tell them the floor is yours.

Speaker: Maybe if you could just tell us your name and what's on your mind.

Speaker: Yeah. Good afternoon, mayor. Commissioners and bureau directors. My name is sarah messier. I am both an ex-officio member of the public utility board and water bureau staff. I have the great honor to represent the public utility board today and share the board's feedback, the board's feedback on the rate impacts of recent budget decisions. So as you know, pub is charged with providing independent community oversight regarding policy operations and budgetary decisions for the Portland water bureau and the bureau of environmental services, as well as to advise the council on how to navigate the difficult decisions regarding the utilities. We are here today to reiterate some of the board's priority as communicated throughout this process and attempt to address potential harm that can be caused by recent council actions regarding the utilities. As the city stated

priorities and core values as adopted by council intend to center antifa racism, equity, transparency, communication, collaboration and fiscal responsibility in all actions and decisions. However, the council's vote last week reversed course for the city's utility bureaus and demonstrated the opposite of those values. Lacking transparency, collaboration and timely communication with the community. With just days between your introduction of these revenue reductions to approval, there was inadequate time for bureau staff to prepare information on these impacts of the proposals. Nils and you eliminated any possible city of authentic engagement with the public before decisions were made last minute budget cuts to our most essential resource force water impacts every Portlander negatively now and into the future for a process that does not allow for true engagement and rushes to decisions while centering limited interests is classic white supremacist culture and contrary to the value of anti-racism in decision making today we ask how is intergender racial equity and fiscal responsibility equity reflected when a decision values the cost to a small subset of interests of people today over the increased costs of deferred maintenance? Pushing even higher costs onto future generations, as have you transparently provided the background data to justify this decision and balance it with data on the impacts or demonstrated intentional inclusion to engage community voices. Where are your core values reflected in this late notice and short process for such significant changes to the budget? We understand the underlying concerns and deeply share your concern about affordability. But these need to be balanced and weighed against the risk with sufficient time for true engagement and consideration of impacts. A core concern of pub remains the affordability of utility services for all. Portlanders particularly for people that bear the brunt of structural inequities. This year we've updated our values to make it clear that clear clean water is a human right. And further define the centrality of

affordability and fairness across generations. The public values and fines consist with our principles. The programs to promote equity affordability programs and long term planning. We supported the rate increases necessary to fund these programs and staff, including the new water bureau positions and especially those intended to further diversify the workforce. The board is concerned about the impact on labor with the depth of cuts that may be required by not increasing rates on pace with increased costs as well as potential negative impact on workforce equity issues. We are pleased to hear today's amendments to proposing to increase the rates efficiently to fund the ramp program public supports the expansion of financial assistance to multifamily residences who rent from nonprofits and the rate increase necessary for this expansion. The previous financial assistance program with home forward proved inadequate in providing financial assistance to multifamily renters. Ramp is a step towards greater equity and one of many that are necessary. Through the expansion and full funding of this financial assistance program would ensure continual access to safe water for more people. The ramp program is also a model of collaboration and partnership between the bureaus. During a critical realigned of bureaus. During this charter reform period, council's budget approval included direction not to not to reduce financial assistance program, but fail to fund the support to low income apartment renters and we understand the amendments could resolve that oversight if approved public continues to pay particular attention to the choices the bureaus have made to balance affordable and accessible water, sewer and stormwater services for community members today, with investments in long term system resilience. The changes that result from council's decision to reduce the rate increase and hold public rates level not only eliminated funding for programs, staff and infrastructure for investments that public supported, but could also result in increasing the overreliance

on deferred maintenance negative impacts on workforce equity issues and higher than forecasted future rate increases. If there is any way to mitigate the choices already made, we urge you to do so to ensure all components are considered. The board also encourages the review of internal services from non rate or fee based bureaus and overhead expenses from those bureaus that must be passed on to ratepayers. We ask you not to rush into decisions that respond to and benefit some local interests at the cost of other Portlanders. Advancing potential negative impacts to bond rating infrastructure and future generations. These processes bypass true public engagement, harming all Portlanders and particularly marginalized communities. The people that make up our city need adequate infrastructure for safe, accessible water and for maintaining sewer and stormwater services. Infrastructure costs are a major component of the utility budgets and thus majorly impacts all of our utility bills. Freezing sdcs reduces revenue at a time of great financial need to help for profit businesses at the cost of our community members. One time taxes are not forcing people to leave Portland startup costs like sdcs pay for the city's investments that make Portland a desirable place to live. Businesses invest in us because we have great value as a city. We must stop offering Portland up to those that want to take advantage of what we have to offer while not investing back in our push to navigate debts and investments. The public support the set asides for Portland harbor and columbia slew expenses identifying these as a fiscally responsive approach to plan to plan for known future obligations and support generational equity rather than pushing a larger expense down the road. The board also had numerous discussions regarding the tryon creek wastewater treatment plant, particularly about the sale of valuable riverfront property for \$1 and long term assumption of risk and cost. Some board members maintain remain concerned about the existing agreement with lake oswego and

desire a renegotiated agreement to improve the economic impact to the city of Portland with potential positive impact on rates. While protecting the river related ecological values on the site and addressing equity as pub considers capital improvements. We are concerned that the costs of these delayed investments only increase in future years. Money spent now is more valuable than money spent in a year from now, the delay of projects will have greater impact on rates in the future when the bureau's need to make up for the delays and for the delays and the projects will be more costly for future generations. Pub is committed to ensuring that the city's infrastructure remains reliable and expects to remain engaged and informed about key capital projects and investments, particularly when there are trade offs to consider and pub can influence these decisions. We are getting to the point where were the necessary utility infrastructure improvements will cost Portlanders near 10% rate hike every year into the future, with governance change fresh in our minds, perhaps it is also time to recognize that our water, sewer and stormwater resources cannot be paid solely by ratepayer funding the board encourages you to refer to our prior communications for more details regarding our key priorities. We expect to be engaged early in the fiscal year 2425 budget development. So that our feedback can inform these critical decisions. So in closing, I know that's that was a lot. We're almost done. We want to urge the City Council to recenter and reinvest in your stated values. Anti racism, equity, trans currency, communication, collaboration and fiscal responsible equity in all city actions and decisions. We challenge you to look closely at your process to identify whether your values were adequately, adequately reflected and demand improvements in the future that are more fully that more fully put the core values into action during your decision making. Thank you for the opportunity to share our feedback with you today. Thank you.

Speaker: Sarah and sir, could I ask a question and thank you for your testimony and I appreciate the fullness of it and I agree with a core statement you've made around planning, and I appreciate your blunt acknowledgment that once again, one of our utilities has an unsustainable revenue model that has either been unintentionally or willfully ignored for some period of time.

Speaker: But I have to take you to task. Boec could you explain why it is an act of white supremacy for me to propose holding the line on rate increases for Portlanders who are struggling under significant and multiple tax increases rate increases and fee increases? I don't see that as inherently white supremacist. I see that as an economic concern that I have about constituents in my community who tell me they cannot afford any more increased taxes, increased fees or increased utility rates. And it's not wealthy people telling me that. It's people on the other end of the economic spectrum are saying, I can't afford to live here anymore. How is that an act of white supremacy?

Speaker: Yeah, that's a great question. And I am reflecting back on our last board meeting was last week, so I will do my best to encapsulate the discussion that the full board had. Um, when it came a specifically looking at the rate increases for the water bureau. So those were funding on ramp, which is a financial assistance program. Those are funding. Um, as apprenticeship positions, those that were intentionally, um, going to bring in a more diverse workforce into the water bureau. An and with these, with these freezes, this is turning these equity initiatives into discretionary funding and by cutting that and it instead of, um, instead of centering equity as, as an essential, um, service that the city must, must provide. And um, but sir, wouldn't you also agree that if we continue to increase the rates at the rate that has been proposed by the bureau, the chart which we just saw publicly posted 8%

year over year increases for the foreseeable future, don't you agree that at some point that becomes unaffordable for lower income people in our community?

Speaker: And I realize some small percentage would gain access to ramp or other mitigation tools. But the bottom line is every time we increase the rates, more and more people fall into the category where they can't afford it. Wouldn't you agree with that? So I'm not the board, so I can't answer that question. I'm just asking your opinion. You're a smart person. I've known you for quite some time, don't you agree with that? Economically I do.

Speaker: I do not feel comfortable. Um, you know, answering this question without having consideration.

Speaker: And yet you felt comfortable suggesting the alternative is an act of white supremacy. So I'm just saying, could we please keep the rhetoric and the hyperbole to a minimum and let's talk about this as a rate issue and an economic issue, because ultimately that's what I believe it is. That's just my \$0.02. And I guess I wouldn't, you know, invitation to join a pub meeting and have this discussion with the full board, you know, put that on the table.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps has joined us, I think, twice in the past fiscal year and we've had great conversations as a full board and had, um, gained understanding of, of, of his priorities and have had frank discussions about what's on our mind as well. So, you know, I am one individual I and I'm reading, you know, this is testimony that was put together by the full board. So these are not specifically my words. This is the full board. So. Okay. Well I just want you to look at this from my perspective.

Speaker: I'm literally looking at this as an economic issue at the household level that is my perspective at. And, you know, in talking to our our friends at the rose festival this morning, one thing we agreed about conflict is we don't presume, um,

the intentions of people we disagree with and we may have an honest disagreement of opinion on rates, on economics, on the impact to Portland households. I think the cumulative impact is profound. At the household level. It could be that many other people have an honest disagreement of opinion with me and that's fine. But I would really just encourage us not to jump to the conclusion that that's somehow a white supremacist perspective. It's not from my perspective, it's purely economics. Commissioner Mapps do you have a comment?

Speaker: Sure.

Speaker: I'm going to stay away from the white supremacy thing. But mr. Mayor, you did say I did want to jump in and disagree with you on something else, but this is a happy I was just responding to your invited.

Speaker: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Speaker: Like I was being singled out since my position on this is well known. So at all.

Speaker: Absolutely. And I really appreciate that the dialog between you and sarah on that matter. The other thing that I did want to jump in on is in your comments, you talked about the utilities is having an unsustainable financial model. And actually, I don't think that's true. I'll tell you, I am trying very hard to communicate to my colleagues on council that pbot very much does have an unsustainable financial model. I do not have I have got brilliant people working with me to run all these bureaus. We do not have an answer for fixing pbot. On the other hand, water and sewer while we face, I think, some short term and medium term challenges in general, I think both of these bureaus are on solid ground. You know, a lot of the increases that we're facing right now are a product of frankly, unfunded federal mandates. I'm having to build the step program. I'm having to build the filtration plant. Projects like these are deeply inconvenient and very expensive, but they

actually go away relatively quickly. You'll see that we're as we heard today, we've almost paid for the big pipe. So I think this is very good. Good news in the water space and in the environmental services space. These bureaus basically are sound. They're doing great work. And they will be here a hundred years from now. So we do need to be very careful about how we manage this particular moment. And I appreciate the way everyone on council has really come together to think deeply about how we can support these most basic of services. And I just that's just that's the only intervention I wanted to make in this space. If you take nothing away from what happened today or the conversations we that we had today, I hope you take this pbot is in a crisis and we need to come together to fix that crisis as bs and water are really more management issues as I think if we're allowed some conversation and some room to run, we'll be able to sort these out over the course of the next couple of years. And I see commissioner Gonzalez has his hand up, so i'll put my hand down.

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzalez, I'm going to keep this brief.

Speaker: I disagreed with the mayor last week, but I so tire of the invocation of white supremacy and equity arguments on economic issues, issues and I think it's a bastardization of language. It shuts down on free recourse. So I continue to be disappointed in the reliance on such argument cuts that really don't get to the root of the matter. Again, I disagree with the mayor last week. I still disagree with him on this subject. But I am so tired of that type of rhetoric in these complex discussions. I'll leave it at that. And mr. Mayor, just to move us along, I believe that we still have public testimony on these items.

Speaker: Very good. Oh, we have two people signed up for sup is rob martineau.

Speaker: Rob, welcome back.

Speaker: Thank you. Hi

Speaker: My name is Rob Martineau. I'm the president and member of AFSCME local 189. I also work in the Portland water bureau and have for 23 years, I think we need an additional prop up here because I would love to drop the mic for Sarah and her testimony and what she was allowed to say or brought as a group. Having been on the Portland utility board and serving there for five years, it can be a monumental task to get everyone in the room to vote and agree on what will be said and brought to council. So I also understand her reluctance to speak when invited testimony. I remember when we as a city and you mayor talked about moving away from decision packages and to something we call program offers and a different way of funding things, a different way of looking at how we would fund, create and support the infrastructure in all the city bureaus. But particularly this was, I think, appropriate in our infrastructure, our bureaus last week we heard on rates that would have increased in water, sewer, our storm water system and transportation on those rates is. Would have supported some really important program offers. I hear what we're doing in bringing ramp back today and that is a small piece of what needed to be done. I also recognize that some of these rates that are not being allowed to move forward are literally holding the line on increased internal business services that the city charges. Now I don't assume anyone here to be immune to irony, but when we hear from planning and sustainability and they talk about costs more to have people work, it costs more to find people to come do the work. The price of gas, it's inflation. It's all of these things. The city is not immune to those is the city's internal business services is not are not immune to those. And when those costs are passed on to these revenue infrastructure bureaus, what's happened at this board is you have stopped them from passing on those costs. I absolutely support the people that do solid waste hauling be paid for, that they have a safe work environment that they have

everything. Every employee should have. I support the rate increases in planning and sustainability and it seems incongruent to not allow for those same type of pass through as they were characterized, pass through costs for these bureaus to be able to have that same opportunity. I guess my ask would be that you please reconsider the decision from last week and do what you can to fix and mitigate these costs. And this is something that as a city, I'm happy to lean in. I believe all of labor is happy to lean in and how we can can fix the problems. But decision packages felt like a line item veto and program offer feels like just a wholesale slice out of big budget bureaus. Thanks for your time today. Thank you, rob.

Speaker: Mister mayor, I think we might have one more member of the public who wants to testify.

Speaker: Yes, we have. James o'loughlin.

Speaker: Very good. James. James here. Oh, there you go.

Speaker: Good afternoon, commissioners. Good afternoon, mr. Mayor. I appreciate your making this time for public comment available. My name is james o'loughlin. I'm here to implore you to unwind the recently passed rate cuts for our city's essential infrastructure bureaus. As a representative of city workers with laborers for 83, I can tell you that these cuts will be felt by our members as an attack. Seeing this council change their planned budget to include cuts to bureaus staffed by workers who recently went on strike looks like retaliation. A last second change in revenue made haphazard lee after the city negotiated a contract to end the strike looks like bad faith bargaining. These are workers who kept Portland running through the pandemic and, well before. You can only punish them for their service so many times before they decide the city isn't worth it. As a longtime wastewater operator with the city, I can tell you that these rate reductions will save no one in the city any money. Whatever minuscule savings Portlanders receive will

be dwarfed by the bills to come due to cover deferred maintenance and catastrophic failures. Meantime between failures will skyrocket without the resources to uphold a robust preventative maintenance program. This means that our utility bureaus will provide worse service at a higher price point. Finally as a member of the community who is raising two young children in north Portland, I can tell you I don't want insignificant savings for my family at a cost of their future wealth and safety. These targeted bureaus are first and foremost safety bureaus. Bts main mandate is to prevent disease spread throughout the city. The water bureau provides us with clean water and pbot provides us with means to travel about in safety. If these cuts go through, they will cost us some of the security that these bureaus provide. And rate reductions will sacrifice public services while doing nothing about the real cost for my family. Housing health care, child care, I'm incredibly sympathy. Stick to the affordability crisis here in Portland. I go through it just like the majority of us do. But these marginal bites at the apple are only going to increase the financial burden on the city and its people when catastrophe strikes and the representative of these bureaus come before council to ask for emergency funding for this failure or that, I try to have a good faith standpoint for those. I disagree with. But it is really hard for me to see where the win is here in these cuts. It seems like something that's going to harm our city's workforce, this harm our city's people all and really just be a big drain on us economically. You know, investment in these bureaus is pays for itself. And then some thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you. Thanks, james.

Speaker: Mr. Mayor, I believe that concludes public testimony, but we should check with the clerk.

Speaker: Yes, indeed, we should.

Speaker: That completes testimony.

Speaker: Thank you. Appreciate it. All right. So we have two amendments on the table before us. The first amendment is item. Four, two, two. And the amendment was was the 7.9% rate. And correct me, commissioner Mapps, if I get any of this incorrect, we're not voting on the main motions today. We're moving them to second read. But these are the amendments. Please call the roll on the amendment. 2422. Brian hi, Gonzalez hi.

Speaker: Maps hi, Rubio hi, Wheeler. I have to say that I'm deeply disappointed with the conversation we had today.

Speaker: I think it's okay if we have disagreements in this chamber, and I've said it many, many times. If we all come into this chamber and we all agree on everything, that is a dysfunction, national democracy, but for a democracy to function, we can't come in here and immediately assume that if somebody disagrees with you, they are retaliating against you for that. They are white supremacists because they disagree with you. And frankly, I heard mischaracterization. These are not cuts. These are not cuts. These are holding the line on projected increases, which you just saw are year after year going to exceed the rate of inflation. That is a reasonable economic concern that some of us have. I also can't escape the economic reality that if we continue to increase rates at this rate, more, more and more people in our city who are already marginalized will become more marginalized and they will find it harder and harder to be able to afford to live here and again, it's not this one rate. It's disingenuous for people to come in and say, oh, just this. It's only so much couch again, the reality is in this city and unique to this city, red relative to many other cities around the nation, is the taxes, the fees and the utility rate increases that are rolling up collectively. Apparently unabated at rates that exceed the rate of inflation. Glisan is drowning the people who live in our city who cannot afford them. That is a concern to me. It's a legitimate concern. You

can disagree and disagree honorably, but it shouldn't be an act of courage for me to sit here and hold the line on rate increases and be called a racist and be called a retaliator at and be called all the other things that people have come to this rostrum today to say. I think it's unacceptable and I'm calling it out. I'm just saying it point blank. People who want to testify in this room should do so with the assumption that people who disagree aren't doing it because they're awful people. They're doing it because they disagree. So hopefully that's the last time i'll ever have to say this. I vote no because I don't want to keep raising the rates and have more and more people be able to afford the rates with the assumption that then we'll create special programs that allow people to barely pay the rates. That makes no sense to me over the long term. And by the way, this is one year that we've proposed one year. I'm asking us to hold the line. And you can disagree with me on that. And that's fine. And rob, you and i, we disagree all the time on stuff that's okay, right? It's okay to disagree, but I vote no. The amendment passes to the amendment of item 4 to 23. I will no