



April 24-25, 2024 Council Agenda

5762

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

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Questions may be directed to councilclerk@portlandoregon.gov

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 9:30 am

Session Status: Recessed

Council in Attendance: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez

Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Commissioner Gonzalez left at 12:31 p.m. and returned at 12:57 p.m.

Officers in attendance: Beth Woodard, Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

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

Council recessed at 11:51 a.m. and reconvened at 12:00 p.m.

Council recessed at 1:33 p.m.

Communications

321

[Request of Portland Advocates for Lead-free Drinking Water to address Council regarding Portland Water Bureau and failure to protect public health](#) (Communication)

Document number: 321-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

322

[Request of Dee White to address Council regarding Portland Water Bureau and failure to protect public health](#)

(Communication)

Document number: 322-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

323

[Request of Marc Poris to address Council regarding government transparency and accountability](#)

(Communication)

Document number: 323-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

324

[Request of Christina Cuanalo to address Council regarding death at crosswalk on N Portland Road](#)

(Communication)

Document number: 324-2024

Disposition: Placed on File

325

[Request of Michael Ocallaghan to address Council regarding death](#) (Communication)

Document number: 325-2025

Disposition: Placed on File

Time Certain

326

[Appoint members and alternates to the Citizen Review Committee](#) (Resolution)

Document number: 37659

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Independent Police Review; Community Safety Division

Time certain: 9:45 am

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Adopted As Amended

Motion to amend the resolution to include the appointee applications: 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

Consent Agenda

327

[*Pay property damage claim of Ian Martin for \\$7,397 resulting from a motor vehicle collision involving Portland Fire & Rescue](#)(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191690

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

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

Disposition: Passed

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

328

[Amend Golf Advisory Committee Code to change membership composition and improve clarity](#)(amend Code Section 3.86.010) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191691

Introduced by: Commissioner Dan Ryan

Bureau: Parks & Recreation

Second reading agenda item 311.

Disposition: Passed

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

329

[*Accept grant from Metro for \\$500,000 for the Eastbank Crescent/OMSI Environmental Mitigation Bank Pilot Project](#)(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191692

Introduced by: Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Environmental Services

Disposition: Passed

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

330

[*Authorize agreement with Union Pacific Railroad Company for signal improvements at the rail crossing of NW Naito Parkway adjacent to the Steel Bridge for an estimated \\$927,222](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191693

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

331

[*Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement for Right of Way Services with the Oregon Department of Transportation to define roles and responsibilities regarding the use of real property for construction of public improvements related to the SW Shattuck Rd at OR10 Project](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191694

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

332

[*Authorize development owners to change their Inclusionary Housing compliance after issuance of their building permit to qualify for an expanded property tax exemption under the Multiple-Unit Limited Tax Exemption Program](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191695

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Housing Bureau

Disposition: Passed

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

Regular Agenda

333

[Proclamation in memory of Latin American artist Gerardo Calderón](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 333-2024

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Carmen Rubio; Commissioner Dan Ryan

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

334

[Proclaim April 21-27, 2024 to be National Volunteer Week](#) (Proclamation)

Document number: 334-2024

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Dan Ryan

Time requested: 20 minutes

Disposition: Placed on File

335

[Direct a working group to assess and plan for the creation of an Integrated Citywide Security Division](#)
(Resolution)

Document number: 37660

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler; Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Management and Finance

Time requested: 15 minutes

Disposition: Adopted As Amended

Motion to amend the second to last "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED" section to update the implementation date from July 1, 2018 to July 1, 2028: Moved by Wheeler and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

336

[*Amend City Employee Benefits Program to reflect plan design changes as recommended and administratively required by the Bureau of Human Resources for plan offerings from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025](#)

(Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191696

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Human Resources

Time requested: 30 minutes (1 of 2)

Disposition: Passed As Amended

Motion to amend Directive A to add "as stated in paragraphs 3, 5, and 7 of the findings above," after the phrase, "The Council hereby adopts the recommendations of the Bureau of Human Resources and the LMBC.": Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Motion to add new Findings 6 and 8, amend the existing directive and add two new directives: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Ryan. (Y-5)

Motion to amend the second motion to add "and if the PPA does not enter the letter of agreement in paragraph B," in Directive C: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Ryan. (Y-4; Gonzalez absent)

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

337

[*Amend contracts related to employee health and welfare administration and begin formal solicitation for employee benefit plan consulting services as administratively required and on behalf of the Bureau of Human Resources \(amend Contracts 30006926, 30006927, 30006928, 30006929, and 30007784\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191697

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Bureau: Management and Finance; Human Resources

Time requested: 30 minutes (2 of 2)

Disposition: Passed

Votes: Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 2:00 pm

Session Status: Recessed

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

Mayor Wheeler presided.

Commissioner Mapps arrived at 2:02 p.m.

Officers in attendance: Beth Woodard, Deputy City Attorney; Keelan McClymont, Council Clerk

Council recessed at 3:04 p.m. and reconvened at 4:00 p.m.

Council recessed at 6:17 p.m. and reconvened at 6:23 p.m.

Council recessed at 7:48 p.m.

Time Certain

338

[Create the Sustainability and Climate Commission \(amend Code Chapter 3.33\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191710

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 2 hours

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Oral record is closed. Written record closed Friday, April 26, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Passed to second reading on May 8, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

[*Amend City Code to update existing public camping restriction policies \(repeal Code Sections 14A.50.020, 14A.50.025, add Code Sections 14A.50.140, 14A.50.150, 14A.50.160, 14A.50.170, 14A.50.180, and amend Sections 14A.50.050, 14A.55.010, 29.50.050\)](#) (Emergency Ordinance)

Document number: 191706

Introduced by: Mayor Ted Wheeler

Time certain: 4:00 pm

Time requested: 1 hour

Previous agenda item 320.

Disposition: Passed to second reading as amended

Motion to add Finding 10 and Directive D: Moved by Rubio and seconded by Mapps. (Y-5)

Motion to amend Exhibit A and Directive B of the Ordinance to add Section 14A.50.180: Moved by Mapps and seconded by Rubio. (Y-5)

Motion to amend the Ordinance and substitute Exhibits A and B as detailed in the proposed amendments posted online to the Council Agenda: Moved by Gonzalez and seconded by Ryan. (Y-Ryan, Gonzalez; N-Mapps, Rubio, Wheeler). Motion failed to pass.

Passed to second reading as amended May 8, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 25, 2024 2:00 pm

Session Status: Adjourned

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

Commissioner Mapps presided.

Commissioner Gonzalez left at 3:21 p.m.

Officers in attendance: Alan Yoder, Deputy City Attorney; Rebecca Dobert, Acting Council Clerk

Council recessed at 3:27 p.m. and reconvened at 3:34 p.m.

Council adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Time Certain

340

[Adopt the Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, Comprehensive Plan Map, Zoning Map, and Zoning Code \(amend Code Title 33\)](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191698

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio; Commissioner Mingus Mapps

Bureau: Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Time certain: 2:00 pm

Time requested: 90 minutes

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Oral and written record are closed.

Passed to second reading May 2, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Time Certain

341

[Authorize Intergovernmental Agreements for the Portland Clean Energy Fund Climate Investment Plan Strategic Program 16 – Climate Friendly Public Schools not to exceed \\$50,075,000 over five years](#) (Ordinance)

Document number: 191705

Introduced by: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Bureau: Planning and Sustainability (BPS)

Time certain: 3:30 pm

Time requested: 1 hour

Disposition: Passed to second reading

Passed to second reading May 8, 2024 at 10:05 a.m. Time Certain

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List

April 24, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.

Name	Title	Agenda Item
Ted Wheeler	Mayor	
Keelan McClymont	Council Clerk	
Dan Ryan	Commissioner	
Rene Gonzalez	Commissioner	
Mingus Mapps	Commissioner	
Carmen Rubio	Commissioner	
Beth Woodard	Deputy City Attorney	
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Manny Guerra	Security Manager	335
Keith Moen	Security Manager, Environmental Services	335
Vincente Harrison	Health, Safety & Emergency Manager, Parks & Recreation	335
Sonia Schmanski	Interim Deputy City Administrator, Vibrant Communities	334
Robin Jenson	Friends of Marquam Nature Park	334
Mario De Ieso	SE Portland Goldenball Basketball	334
Laureen O'Brian	Friends of North Park Blocks	334
Nick Brodnicki	Chief Operating Officer, Portland Rose Festival Foundation	334
Joaquin Lopez	Creative Laureate	333
Helen Daltoso	Regional Arts and Culture Council	333
Matías Trejo De Dios	Instituto de Cultura Oregoniana	333
Rosa Floyd	Oregon's Teacher of the Year, 2023	333
Tracy Warren	Director, Bureau of Human Resources	336, 337
Michelle Taylor	Benefits Manager	336, 337
Santos Aguilar	Benefits Supervisor, Bureau of Human Resources	336, 337
Tim Grewe	Director, Budget Office	336, 337
Heidi Brown	Chief Deputy City Attorney	336, 337
Rachel Whiteside	Co-Chair, Labor Benefits Management Committee	336, 337
Sgt. Aaron Schmautz	President Portland Police Association	336, 337

Name	Title	Agenda Item
Isaac McLennan	Portland Fire Fighters' Association, IAFF Local 43 President	336, 337
James O'Laughlen	Labor Representative, LiUNA 483	336, 337
Ryan Sotomayor	Business Manager	336, 337
Sarah Curtis	Managed Care Coordinator, OHSU Chief Steward, AFSCME Local 328	336, 337
Jacob Brostoff	Executive Vice President, SEIU Local 189, City of Portland	336, 337
Jacob Domeyer	Portland Fire Fighters' Association, IAFF Local 43 Secretary-Treasurer	336, 337
Jamie Doscher	LiUNA 483 President	336, 337
Leina'ala Slaughter	LiUNA 483 Field Representative	336, 337

Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List

April 24, 2024 - 2:00 p.m.

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Ted Wheeler	Mayor	
Keelan McClymont	Council Clerk	
Dan Ryan	Commissioner	
Rene Gonzalez	Commissioner	
Carmen Rubio	Commissioner	
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Ranfis Villatoro	Oregon Policy Manager, Blue Green Alliance; Co-Chair, Portland Clean Energy Fund Grant Committee	338
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John DiLorenzo	Attorney, Davis Wright Tremaine	339
Chief Ryan Gillespie	Portland Fire & Rescue	339
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Jeffrey Liddicoat	(Testimony)	339
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Portland City Council Meeting Speaker List April 25, 2024 - 2:00 p.m.

Name	Title	Agenda Item
Mingus Mapps	Commissioner	
Rebecca Dobert	Acting Council Clerk	
Dan Ryan	Commissioner	
Rene Gonzalez	Commissioner	
Carmen Rubio	Commissioner	
Alan Yoder	Deputy City Attorney	
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Bill Cunningham	Co-project Manager	340
Shane Valle	Co-project Manager	340
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anna weichsel	(Testimony)	340
Scott Goodman	(Testimony)	340
Matchu Williams	(Testimony)	340
Bea Lake	(Testimony)	340
Lauren King	Senior Deputy City Attorney	340
Sam Baraso	PCEF Program Manager	341
Wendy Koelfgen	PCEF Coordinator	341
Danny Cage	Board Member, Multnomah Education Service District	341
Frank Caropelo	Superintendent, Reynolds School District	341
Herman Greene	Vice Chair, Board of Education, Portland Public Schools	341
Dan Jung	Chief Operating Officer, Portland Public Schools	341
Michael Lopes Serrao	Superintendent of Parkrose School District	341
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Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

April 24, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

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

Speaker: This is the April 24th 2024 morning session of the Portland City Council. Good morning, Keelan.

Speaker: Ryan. Yeah. Gonzalez here. Here. Here. Here.

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

Speaker: Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council.

Speaker: We're virtually sorry.

Speaker: It's the city attorney on mike or. Sure, mike on.

Speaker: Yeah, I think we corrected it. I'll start over, though. Okay

Speaker: Welcome feeling this time.

Speaker: That's right, welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [Portland.gov/council/agenda](https://portland.gov/council/agenda) info session on engaging with City Council can be found on the council clerk's web page. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony. Individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated, a timer will indicate when your time is done. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed. If you cause a

disruption, a warning will be given. Further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally, counsel may take a short recess 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. Disclose if you are a lobbyist. If you're representing an organization, please identify it. For testifiers joining virtually, please unmute yourself once the council clerk calls your name. Thank you.

Speaker: All right. Thanks. First up is communication. First individual please. Item 321 request to a Portland advocates for lead free drinking water to address council regarding Portland water bureau and failure to protect public health.

Speaker: They are joining us online. Welcome.

Speaker: Good morning. Good morning. First and foremost I want to thank our national coalition for the tremendous amount of work we've done to get the lead out of drinking water. It's been ten years since the water, the flint water crisis. As of tomorrow, and 32 years since Portland's. Because of community advocacy, epa is close to achieving a stronger regulation this October. Known as the lead and copper rule improvements, or just lcri. It's a bright spot for us, but only if epa closes loopholes. Portland water bureau has quietly exploited them for years, and it appears they're looking for nuance. There's no reason lead should be in our tap water. It's a cumulative, irreversible neurotoxin impacting pregnant women, nursing and bottle fed infants, communities of color, just to name a few. And it's why we're back. Portland water bureau is still not protecting them. Instead of being held accountable for known and avoidable high water lead levels, Portland water bureau leaders were promoted. In short, the bureau has been failing to protect public health. The nrdc touched on this in their press release about the lcri. Here's

what they said. It has become clear. This is, quote, it has become clear to epa that the public was not being protected from lead and drinking water. After numerous crises occurred in 2001 with dc flint. In 2014, newark in 2018, and in Portland since 1997. It begs the question if Portland if pwb won't admit this, why trust them with a jaw dropping \$2.13 billion proposal that's not federally required, is planned for the most expensive site, and will result in skyrocketed water bills. A long serving Portland utility board member said. This quote, the projected cost of the water filtration project has increased yet again. It brought back memories of that summer in 2717 and how pwb was essentially railroaded into agreeing to filtration in spite of lots of questions and specific objections over the initial cost, which, by the way, pwb said would be only three 5350 million, both rural and urban residents continue to voice objections. A current a current pub member said it succinctly the other day, before council approved report, quote, there's not adequate oversight on this project. It's shocking how much the costs keep growing, unquote. Finally, we asked the water director and then you in February and now here we are again. Will you invite pwb director gabe ulmer, water quality manager yona kagi, and lead treatment engineer kimberly gupta to the dais and to do so before summer. Their comments to epa provide a rare glimpse into bureau decision making. Spoiler alert their comments don't mention minimizing the public's exposure to lead and water, which is the intent of the regulation.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you very much. We appreciate your testimony. Next up is item 3222 request of the white to address council regarding Portland water bureau and failure to protect public health. Good morning. Hello my name is dee white.

Speaker: High levels of the neurotoxin lead are still a significant threat in Portland's drinking water, despite a shiny new treatment plant and false assurances

from the water bureau. But today, I'd like to speak to another large issue facing ratepayers, and that is the proposed misguided ill gotten filtration plant. On August the 17th. I mean, August the 2nd, 2017 commissioner nick fish proposed resolution 37309 at the afternoon City Council meeting. The agenda item for this resolution basically read comply with Oregon health authorities order to treat drinking water from the bull run watershed for crypto spyridium by constructing a uv facility that day in August 2017, the council chamber was filled with bull run water advocates, including myself, who were there to testify against this resolution to treat with uv because there had never been any problem with cryptosporidium. In our bull run watershed, there is still no problem with cryptosporidium in our bull run watershed. After our public testimony and seconds before the motion to vote on this resolution to build a uv treatment plant, commissioner fish proposed an amendment that substituted, quote, construct a uv facility, end quote, and replace this with, quote, construct a filtration plant. End quote. Commissioners fish's quasi legislative stunt was ruthless and unethical. The mayor and council's unanimous vote, therefore, was undemocratic. And if I may remind the audience, mayor Wheeler, you were mayor at the time. I was just like that treatment went from a uv plant at a little over 100 million to a filtration facility that was, they said, going to cost at most \$500 million today. That cost has exploded and is now at 2.13 billion. The water commissioner, Mapps, even stated in the Oregonian that he cannot guarantee the cost will not go up again, neither the epa nor Oregon health authority is making the city of Portland build a \$2 billion filtration plant. The city of Portland's elected officials are making the city of Portland build an unnecessary \$2 billion trophy project, and that's just not right. So please, mayor Wheeler and commissioners as quickly as possible, vote to renegotiate the agreement with oha,

then amend the ill conceived resolution three, seven, 309 and present a reasonable plan to comply with the safe drinking water act. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you'd, and I want to thank you. We don't always agree, but I appreciate that you have been tenacious. You've been here regularly for at least eight years, probably a lot longer than that, and, and I you know what, I appreciate that I acknowledge that I do want to put one clarification on the table just because nick isn't here, god rest him. But there was a little more to that discussion. I think it's helpful to have the context. We did know that that the uv treatment was less for the issue of cryptosporidium. If that was the only issue we were addressing, then I completely agree with you. That would have been the cost effective solution. What we also took into account during that discussion was that there are other challenges given where our water supply is located. It's located right on the side of a mountain in a heavily forested area. And so we were concerned about landslides. We were concerned about forest fires and other types of sediment that could work its way into the water system. And so the thinking was, we could do uv, it would be the cost effective solution. We would meet the federal requirements, we'd check the box and we'd be done. But since we were going to go through a major construction effort anyway, why not be futuristic and think about what other challenges could potentially be faced by our water system? And we saw a couple of years ago a major out of control conflagration coming dangerous close to our water supply and, you know, we do have options, you know, should that happen, if we have a fire there tomorrow, we can still go to, well, water. But we thought of this as a forward thinking measure. I will tell you an area where I do agree with you. I am concerned about the cost escalations in this project, and that's obviously beyond the control of this council or frankly, anybody in this room, maybe even in this state, but that is an issue. And that led to a number of questions I asked when we had our

water bureau folks here. But bottom line, I just want to say I don't always agree with you, but I appreciate your being here and participating.

Speaker: Thank you. And I appreciate you pointing out the cost, because that is going to continue to be a problem, and I'm going to continue to come to council. Thank you. Mayor, as you should.

Speaker: Thank you'd appreciate it. Next individual, please.

Speaker: Item 323 request of mark porras to address council regarding government transparency and accountability. Mark is joining us online. Hey, mark. Hey. Good morning mayor.

Speaker: Commissioners. My name is mark porras. I use he him pronouns member of Portland copwatch. But today I'm testifying just as a 20 year resident of the city of Portland, I'd like to talk about transparency, which is a prerequisite for accountability. I want to start by thanking the auditor's office and the council clerk for promoting transparency and for responding quickly to questions on agenda items and making sure people are able to testify on things that are important to them. I appreciate the confirmed agenda items page on the city's website. Please add non time certain items to the list to help the public prepare for upcoming issues at City Council. The more advanced notice you give us, the more we're able to participate. We need time to free up our schedules to do so. I'm happy to say there hasn't been a police brutality settlement on the agenda since February 28th. However, I recently learned through court documents about a \$30,000 judgment that elijah warren received for allegedly being hit in the head by officer eric kammerer after mr. Warren came out of his home to talk with police who had filled his neighborhood and home with tear gas, which he noticed when kids indoors were screaming and washing their eyes out. City Council must approve all settlements over \$5,000. However, judgments and jury awards are not subject to

the same level of transparency. Please enhance transparency by also putting judgments and jury awards. Over \$5,000 on the council agenda. As reports, there's little difference to the public whether the parties settled or judge or jury required the city to pay out for harm caused by our local government and the public deserves to know. Big thanks to the folks behind pdx 311 who respond to website feedback. They forward it to the right people, and it feels good when our local government both listens and is responsive, there's no link to provide feedback on some pages, like the lobbyist registration and quarterly statement reports page and the police review board public reports page. Those are just a couple of the many pages where Portlanders should be able to subscribe for updates and new information. I appreciate the auditor publicizing council meetings on social media. It's even more important to publicize work sessions since they're scheduled irregularly, and it's where we often get first notice of important city work that would be enhanced with community oversight and input. Regarding social media. Many city accounts don't display the city seal, making it hard to tell the real accounts from parities. Please also list official social media accounts on the city website, along with the names of employees who have access to post to each of them. I'm almost done, but a word on the awful camping ban item at 4 p.m. Commissioner Gonzalez amendments on the camping ban to substitute exhibits a and b without providing red line versions, or the existence of any impartial analysis, are the opposite of transparency. Regardless, please stop wasting everyone's time and energy attempting to criminalize homelessness. Spend it instead on support services and housing that people desperately need. I didn't have time to get into the year two Portland street response report that never seemed to make it to a council work session, or the gutting of the police accountability commission's work. Both bad for transparency, and I still don't understand how a city that boasts community policing

requires a public records request to learn the names of our police officers, while the community members serving on advisory boards are listed on the city website. Thank you all for your public service. Our city government works best when people are fully informed and are genuinely encouraged to participate.

Speaker: Thank you. Thanks, mark. Appreciate it, next individual please.

Speaker: Item 324 request of christina cuccinello to address council regarding death at crosswalk on north Portland road. Welcome. Christina was going to join in person. Doesn't look like they've arrived.

Speaker: All right. Next individual, please. Three two. Five.

Speaker: Request of michael o'callaghan to address council regarding death. Welcome. Thank you for the opportunity to address the council, you know, first I'd like to start off with something good, for the people out there that are watching, if you want to make a difference in this world, a real difference, go out and pick up a piece of litter, okay? You will, without question, make our world a better place. Okay. And along that line, would you please replace the dumpster at fourth and division place? They took it away last week. We'd like to have it back. Okay. And along that line, you know, with those dumpsters, you know, a lot of houses are dumping stuff in there, you know, big stuff, if you would, do one of two things, either put a two foot square in the plastic lids that go on there reinforced with metal or, or put a riser on the flip thing that locks the dumpster so it only raises two feet. So people can only get certain size objects in there because most of the people on the street are taking their common garbage, which isn't very much, and putting it in there. A two foot hole would allow them to do that and stop all these houses from dumping. Another thing you could do, make it illegal to, make pallets available to the public. Okay. And stop this burning. You're trying to stop. Okay, on the question of deaths. Now, I've been involved with this issue for god. Probably 15, 17

years. Okay, ted, you have increased the deaths on the street. 245% in your reign. Congratulations okay, these sweeps are killing people. I would hope you would recognize that. But apparently, you are blind to that. I'm on the street, I see it. You kill my friends, okay? This isn't right. It's not a good way to treat human beings. Okay another thing I want to announce. Okay? I'm going to be running for mayor. Okay. Go on my website. Mayor michaelson.com all lowercase. Look at the six housing, six housing solutions. Okay, there are a number of other things on there. You can look at people polling Portland is one that's really kind of fun. But anyway, check it out. You know, and check brags okay. And social life. We're not supposed to brag okay. But when you're running for office, you get to brag? Okay, check it out. Okay, this, scene that you've created is unfortunate, but hopefully we'll be able to turn it around in the future. Oh, and as far as water goes, I used to do water and sewer pipe. Okay the water pipes are lined with asbestos. Maybe you didn't know that. I do, because I cut the pipes. There's asbestos in our water. Okay, check it out. They don't check for it. Thank you very much. Have a good day. Thank you.

Speaker: And, mr. O'callahan, if I could just, briefly respond. First of all, thank you, for seeking public office, a lot of people spend a lot of time being upset, criticizing, yelling, screaming, but very few people are willing to take that extra step and expose themselves to what comes with running a campaign. So first of all, I just I want to thank you. I believe in the democratic process, and I appreciate that. I also appreciate you just saying there's small things that we can do to improve our community, like picking up a piece of litter rather than just walking on by. Thank you for that as well, I could not disagree with you more that sweeps are killing people. I, I'm not aware of a single sweep that has caused anybody's death, but I look into why the hundreds of people do die on our streets. And they die predominantly for these three reasons. First is exposure to the elements. In other

words, they freeze to death. Or they, have heat related deaths and that is just one reason why I think people are in a better circumstance. If they come to one of our sanctioned camps that actually have air conditioning and heating and the ability to get out of the elements, the second reason they die is overdoses. And these are in no particular order, we know that first, p2p meth had a significant impact. Synthetic opioids on the community. And we also know that fentanyl is a killer that's out there and it's pervasive. And now we have xylazine to contend with, sometimes referred to as tranq. And the whole basis of my agenda over eight years has been not just to round people up and send them away. It's been to connect them with navigation services through our task sites. And now our safe rest villages. Give them access to whatever help they need behavioral health, substance use disorder, job training, domestic violence, survivorship, whatever they need to help get them off and keep them off the streets. And even as we heard from from commissioner Mapps, who gave us a great presentation two weeks ago, pedestrian deaths the homeless are extremely, highly overrepresented amongst the fatalities on our streets. And I can see why that is. I watch people try to cross 84 highway 84. To get to their camp. And I've seen people do it on 26 to get to a median camp that I've asked to be removed multiple times, and people cut the fences and they come back because they have to walk across an active freeway to get there. And that has also become problematic. So I respectfully disagree with you. I believe that the unsanctioned camps, in the circumstances that our homeless neighbors are experiencing, is toxic for those individuals. And that's why I'm seeking to create better alternatives to help them get off the streets. We can agree to disagree, but I just wanted to give you my perspective. Since you gave me yours.

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzales, I agree with Mayor Wheeler.

Speaker: That should be the theme for the whole day right there. That's right.
There we go.

Speaker: And on a good note, problem solved.

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner. Thanks, michael. It's good to see you. Thank you for being here, that completes, our communications. Unless christina showed up.

Speaker: Christina.

Speaker: Okay, good. We'll move into the consent agenda by any items been pulled from consent?

Speaker: No.

Speaker: Item seven, please call the roll.

Speaker: Ryan, I Gonzalez, I yea. Rubio I Wheeler, I consent agenda is adopted.
First time certain please.

Speaker: Item 326 appoint members and alternates to the citizen review committee colleagues.

Speaker: Next up is an item appointing five members and three alternates to the citizens review committee. Before I welcome our presenters and are invited testimony, I need to quickly amend the resolution to add the applications of our appointees. This is obviously something of a technical amendment. Colleagues, I move to amend the resolution to include the application as part of the overall package. Can I get a second? Second? Commissioner Ryan seconds Keelan call the roll on the amendment.

Speaker: Ryan I Gonzalez I maps I Rubio Wheeler I the amendment passes.

Speaker: Thanks. Now welcome samir connell from the community safety division to walk us through these appointments. Good morning.

Speaker: Thank you and good morning, mayor Wheeler. Good morning. Commissioner Mapps yea. Rubio Ryan and Gonzales, good morning, Portland. For the record, my name is Samir Connell. I am advisory boards and commissions manager for the community safety division with supported independent police review on this recruitment. The citizen review committee was created in 2001 to improve police accountability, promote higher standards of police services and increase public confidence. They are responsible for ensuring impartial hearings of appeals, developing policy recommendations to independent police, review to City Council, to the commissioner in charge of police and the chief of police, as well as providing an advisory role to independent police. Review and PBS's internal affairs. The committee includes 11 members of the community who are broadly representative of Portland, and has historically included alternates as well. The selection process for citizen review committee is outlined in city code. The community safety division supported with outreach for this recruitment. Three weeks ago, council considered and approved a reappointment of members whose terms were expiring and who were nominated for reappointment by Director Caldwell at the time. We noted that after the reappointment, the CRC would have five vacancies and no current alternates, but also that there was an ongoing selection process with many community members having applied as promised, the selection process did yield many qualified applicants, eight of which are before you today. The appointment would ensure that CRC can maintain its work for up to the next three years, continuing its work through numerous changes in the city government, including around accountability. I will first pass it to the five nominees for CRC membership to introduce themselves, and then the three nominees for CRC alternate membership, first will be Forrest Bowles, then Brian Butler, Nate Holton, Nate Kuhn, and Noah Truesdale, and I believe Forrest is on Zoom.

Speaker: I thank you for this opportunity. I just want to step up and serve the city as best I can. Lived in Portland the last eight years, apologize if the connection's a little off. I am currently in Germany at the moment, work trip, but, a proud member of the city, and, I just want to step up and serve so it was a great honor. Thank you so much. Thanks for us.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Forrest, Brian Butler might be on Zoom.

Speaker: Good morning. Yeah. Good morning everyone, my name is Brian Butler, and like Forrest, I am relatively new to the city. I moved to Portland over a year and a half ago, having lived in the UK for over 30 years. I'm very excited to be a part of the committee and to help raise the profile and change the perception of Portland as we see it or as the nation sees it at the moment. They're not here, so they don't know. So we want to change that perception. I like that, Nate.

Speaker: Hello, everybody. Nate Holton I am also relatively new to Portland, having moved here about two years ago from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, there I served under Governor Evers on the Wisconsin Pardon Advisory Board. And I'm a custom and various roles to, balancing complex interests, like community and policing matters and just looking forward to trying to provide some value to Portland and Nakhon.

Speaker: Well, good morning, everybody. I'm excited to be here. Thank you for the time, I'm just excited to join this board, serve the community. I have only moved to Portland about six months ago, but I'm eager to add my perspective. I'm from Minneapolis, Minnesota, served on or worked for multiple law firms there, and then went and got my master's, so I'm excited to serve the community and begin the journey here in Portland is, Noah here online?

Speaker:

Speaker: Good morning. My name is noah truesdale. I was a reed, so I've lived in Portland for four years before moving to new york to work for the office of the inspector general for the nypd, where I issued transparency, excuse me, transparency and civilian accountability for the new york police department. I'm excited to bring that value and experience to helping the police. Portland police bureau become more accountable and transparent in its operations.

Speaker: Thanks. And then the alternates, tony greiner, joseph maley and sean osaki.

Speaker: I'll have joseph go first. Yes and you can stay as long.

Speaker: Welcome.

Speaker: Pleased to be able to serve. I was born in Portland in 1941 and have lived here ever since. So i, we have a lot of new members. And I will present, represent the other groups. So anyways, I'm pleased and honored to be able to serve.

Speaker: Thank you. Sean is online.

Speaker: Good morning, mayor and commissioners. My name is sean osaki. I am a Portland resident of 23 years, residing in north Portland for the past 21, I'm a current Portland bureau of emergency management neighborhood emergency team member and a veteran of the united states army. And just as in past, I'd want to give back to my communities so much as the community has given to me. So my contribution back.

Speaker: Thank you. Sean.

Speaker: And, tony is unable to join, so i'll just read the brief bio here. He's lived in Portland for 30 years, retired from Portland community college in 2020 after a career as a librarian. He's the author of two books and been hired to speak and teach at libraries and library conferences in miami, ontario and san francisco. His volunteer service includes work with meals on wheels, catholic charities, and

metropolitan family services, and he enjoys hiking, history and baking. As noted with previous appointments earlier this month, the intention is that the end date of March 31st, 2027 will get the committee through the end of the transition period to the new oversight system, and with that, we'll conclude the presentation and open it up to questions. I should note that, independent police review deputy director kelsey lloyd is available on zoom to answer questions as well.

Speaker: Thank you, thank you. Great presentation. Welcome and thank you all. We appreciate your stepping up, do we have any questions, colleagues, do you have any public testimony?

Speaker: We have one person signed up. All right, dan handelmann, Portland, copwatch. Welcome, dan.

Speaker: Dan you're muted oh thank you, good morning, mayor Wheeler and commissioner Gonzalez matt yea. Rubio and Ryan my name is dan handelmann I use he him pronouns a member of Portland copwatch.

Speaker: And welcome to all the new citizen review committee members, we testified before council just a few weeks ago when four current members of the crc renewed their memberships at the time, we mentioned two things. First, that we had no specific issues with any of the candidates, and second, that their applications should have been posted as part of the public record. Since council is required to review those applications before voting, we don't agree with the statement made last month that those folks were already on crc, so the applications weren't necessary. Last time we had to double back to ipr this time to get the applications posted for the five new members and three alternates you're voting on today. They were introduced as an amendment late Tuesday. While we repeat, there are no specific concerns about these candidates, city code does require that the members of crc should reflect the demographic makeup of the

community. Reading the biographies of the eight nominees, and certainly seeing and hearing from today, it's hard to miss that every one of them uses he him pronouns. But the current six crc members, only two people. You see her pronouns. In other words, you're creating a committee which appears to have nine men and two women, and if either or both of the women resign, they'll be replaced by men. There was a long time in the early years of crc where there was a gender imbalance, which gave way to a predominantly female board and eventually two female co-chairs. In the 2010. We understand it's difficult to keep the independent police review and citizen review committee energized while they're waiting for the city to implement ballot measure 26 217. The police accountability commission suggested that people serving on crc and the police review board to get preference to be seated on the new board, since they will have had most of the training that they'll need to understand police policies and misconduct investigations that said, we understand there are ongoing efforts to recruit more members. Therefore a high priority should be placed on female and gender nonconforming applicants to meet the criteria required in the code. Again, no offense to the alternates chosen today, but if such applicants are found and approved by council, they should be prioritized to fill any empty seats and those seats are highly likely to open up. Our data show that an average of over two crc members have resigned every year since crc began in 2001. Four of those recommendations happened last year, so three alternates is not adequate to fulfill another three years of crc. As the ordinance notes, crc members have to sit in on police review board hearings with a full set of 11 members, in addition to the five we know of in the prb pool. Maybe they will get through the rest of the 17 deadly force cases from 2021 to 2022, and to the new crc members that will repeat part of our testimony from March 31st, where we encouraged the committee to set aside time at two of its business meetings when

police review board semiannual reports are releases and that way you can discuss the process of the board and the recommendations that are made. The prb pool members should be invited so they can meet the community they represent at the closed door board hearings. And lastly, their, years of birth for the applicants used to be included in the applications that were released to the public. And there weren't this year. So it's, you know, there are some mentioned by at least one of the nominees about the age diversity issue, but that is something that we had a lot of concerns about in the early years of crc as well. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, dan, appreciate it, can I ask you typically we would have the application posted wouldn't we? Or why don't we the this is the first i'll just be honest, the first time that that we supported the recruitment simply forgot to put it in as an attachment when it was filed, the applications received from the, the applications, as soon as we found out about it, we circulated it and tried to get that fixed going forward.

Speaker: Then you would agree with dan that the application should be included.

Speaker: My understanding is for citizen review committee, it's required by code, specific only.

Speaker: It would help me. I support it. So I was just curious why why it wasn't done. And then I have a technical question. And maybe this is even legal counsel. Why do these appointments come to us? Sometimes as a resolution and sometimes as a report? I think i'll see if there is an attorney who wants to answer that first. But okay, maybe offline later. Some because I've noticed some some appointments are coming as reports and some are coming as resolutions, and it seems like there should be some consistency there.

Speaker: My understanding and I will make sure that I correct it if this is wrong, is that if it's a council appointment versus a mayoral appointment, that has to do with

the report is technically from the mayor to council and accepted, whereas the resolution is adopted by okay.

Speaker: Well that that's the best explanation I've heard. So. And if that's not the case, could somebody just ping me?

Speaker: I have a quick question, commissioner Rubio. So I just wanted to, touch on the, representation to question that, dan mentioned. I too noticed too, but I just don't know the makeup of the committee and wanted to know. And I just want to say very impressed with all your backgrounds and the perspectives you bring. And I'm excited to see your contribution, on the committees. But can you talk a little bit more about going forward and how you're going, you know, what are the plans and in terms of gender balance on, on the on the committee?

Speaker: Yes. So, recruitments there's sort of two parts to it. The, the ability to acquire applications from a very representative group of people, and then the selection process and each selection process for each advisory group is a little different and has to weigh different things. In terms of recruitment, though, the first step is to maximize the pool and to make it as representative as possible, we do outreach and it's noted in the community impacts and community involvement section here of going out and speaking to neighborhood associations, community groups, talking to existing volunteers on other advisory groups, and asking them to refer it, we are aware of the concern for this particular committee, and I think if you, have seen with some of the others, the police accountability commission was 15 to 5 female identifying to male identifying at the beginning. And it ended up a little closer. We always look to try and, find what is whatever demographic is not represented at a given time and focus on that in the recruitment of for new applicants. And then again, each group has its own, selection process that has, is required by code. Okay, great.

Speaker: I just wanted to hear and it sounds like you acknowledge that you have an eye out for that balance. Thank you. And also, thank you to dan for bringing that up.

Speaker: All right. Very good. I'm not seeing any other questions. Oh, commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: Could you just remind us the size of this, committee?

Speaker: It has 11 members, and then it can have any number of alternates. Should this be adopted, it'll have three alternates.

Speaker: Got it. I think an ongoing question I'm having and asking my office is as we're thinking about post January 1st, 2025, the various boards and commissions we have out there are what's the right size of them going forward, and, it's just a broader I think we need to make some space for how we manage the, substantial number of boards and commissions we have. It's not a particular question of this. It's just, are they the right size? Is the division between what's appointed by council and the mayor, or properly thought out is I think that distinction becomes more clear post January 1st, 2025. And i, I'm mostly posing it as a question what's the right size of these boards and commissions, who should be appointing it going forward? And that we just sort of create a space. So welcome your thoughts on that and unnecessarily now. But as you're sort of thinking about that and going forward, thank you. That's all I got. Great.

Speaker: Please call the roll Ryan.

Speaker: Yeah, thank you very much. This was a good report and I appreciate the dialog between commissioner Rubio and you, and I could tell that you're earnest about that. Samir and. Good, good work. And thank you for being here. We don't always have the appointees show up, even from afar. So for us, brian, there are two nate's, right? Yes yeah. And, so I'm like, now looking at the bios that you did get to

us. Thank you for doing that. And Joseph and then Sean, I thought that was hilarious that you acknowledged that, we have a lot of new Portlanders that have arrived here in the last four years. And as an alternate, you have a different lens. But I really want to just acknowledge the statement that I think it was you, Brian Butler, made, that there's a you've been here, what, a six months? I can't remember. You're fairly new, but I like that. You just said they don't see what I see. They're not here. And so this is about changing the perception. And it's great to have that type of a motivation as well to serve. I appreciate all of you.

Speaker: I vote yea Gonzales. I just want to thank you all for your willingness to serve an important area, for the city I vote yea maps. Yeah

Speaker: I'll echo Commissioner Gonzalez's sentiments, really appreciate you being here in person. Really appreciate everyone volunteering to serve on this important committee, I am delighted to I vote yea yea. Rubio.

Speaker: Thank you all, again, for being here. It's great to see you, in person. And also, so, this is a really, this is a really big time of change for the city. So you're getting in at a really critical moment. And, I commend you for that. And, really excited to see what you bring. I vote yea Wheeler.

Speaker: Much appreciated. Thanks for your leadership. Sorry the pay isn't better. It will be interesting work. We appreciate your perspective. I vote yea. And the resolution is adopted and the appointments are approved. Thank you, thank you, thank you for being here. Next up, a proclamation item 333 proclamation in memory of Latin American artist Gerardo Calderon. Colleagues. Today's first proclamation comes from the community organizations, community organizations. Friends of Gerardo Calderon, an esteemed member of the community whose creative contributions have left a lasting impact both in our city and in Oregon as a whole. I'll now turn it over to Commissioners Ryan and Rubio, who are co-

sponsoring this proclamation with me for their opening remarks. Commissioner Ryan first, then commissioner Rubio. Thank you, mayor.

Speaker: Sorry, I had a different runner show in my head. Thank you so much, mayor. And thank you, commissioner Rubio, for highlighting this and bringing it forward. This is really a special day, and I'm so proud to honor, Haroldo Calderon. And as a commissioner of arts, I'm just especially appreciative of the link between artists and education. So in looking at your bio, it was wonderful to see. And we have a current creative laureate, Jason Margolis, who actually works as a music teacher at Roosevelt High School. And Haroldo recognizes that connection. Like our current laureate, the dedication of arts and how it's linked to education. It's from preschool kids to young students. You have been able to share your gifts through education, providing many, many Oregonians beyond with the opportunity to learn to play and share culture and community for generations to come. The strong community presence here today is a testament to Haroldo's contributions as a cherished Latin American and Oregonian artist. Your spirit will live forever and it's woven into the cultural fabric of Portland. So I'm just thrilled that you're here with us today so we can honor you. And thank you so much again, Chris Rubio, for bringing this forward.

Speaker: Thank you, it's my absolutely deep honor to recognize artists. Community leader and activist Gerardo Calderon. I had the privilege of knowing Gerardo over the years and saw first hand how he touched the lives of so many people, from his friends and family, to all of us that were honored to share space with him. And I'm glad that we're honoring him today. For those of us who knew him, we remember the vibrancy, realness, and sheer love for music and culture that he radiated and how much he reveled in sharing his Mexican and Latin American culture with all those who came into contact with him. And over the decades of his

life in Portland, he shaped latin arts and culture through his music and mentorship of other artists and deep love for the city of Portland. So today we'll hear from some folks who know him well to share a little bit about his legacy, and I'm pleased to, call helen dalton from the regional arts and culture council, matias trejo de dios from the instituto de cultura Oregoniana, Oregon, nea, rosa floyd, who is Oregon's teacher of the year, and joaquin lopez, a community arts leader and artist and also one of the city's creative laureates. Welcome back. Presenters.

Speaker: Yeah, come on up, folks.

Speaker: Here. Are they here that I saw?

Speaker: Did you see raheem?

Speaker: Are they online?

Speaker: Oh they're online. Are they online?

Speaker: You're not here to present, are you? On three, three, three. No. Okay.
Surprise

Speaker: I'm wondering. There are some I know, but there are so many of them that are not here. I'm wondering if there's wires crossed on the time or, should we should we table it till the end of the session?

Speaker: Yes. Why don't we do that? And if they show up in the meanwhile, we can we can reinsert it. Okay? Okay.

Speaker: So we'll schedule.

Speaker: I'm sorry.

Speaker: Are we ahead of schedule?

Speaker: This is, regular agenda. Okay. So why don't we do this? We'll assume they'll come later. We'll go ahead and table this, and we'll reengage when they get here. So we'll move, please, to the next item. Item three three, four. Also a proclamation right here.

Speaker: Proclaim April 21st through 27th, 2024 to be national volunteer week, colleagues, I'll now turn this over to commissioner Ryan to introduce the item.

Speaker: I'm looking over at staff to see if they're here for this item as well. Can you raise your hand if you're here for support? I know Sonia is on her way and we have volunteers.

Speaker: And there's a gentleman in the back there as well.

Speaker: Okay, good. We have enough to get it started. I think they're surprised that we've been as brief this morning than usual. So, colleagues, as we gather here today, I'm honored to celebrate national volunteer week. It's a time when we can collectively pause to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary contributions of volunteers who dedicate their time, their talents, and their passion to the city of Portland, which, of course, means they're doing that for the entire city. Throughout the year, volunteers from our diverse communities embody the spirit of compassion and service, enriching our core values and embodying, embodying what it means to be a Portlander. Whether you're mentoring a youth, feeding the hungry, serving on an advisory board, or caring for an environment, saving lives during extreme weather, volunteers play an indispensable role in shaping our community. Volunteers support city government, which means supporting the people of Portland in a variety of ways, including. Well, here's a few facts 2000 volunteers worked as part of the neighborhood emergency teams program. 4600 volunteers joined the bureau of planning and sustainability and solved to remove more than 127,000 pounds of trash from our parks, neighborhoods, businesses, districts and our natural areas. More than 150 professionals and student volunteers support homeowners earning low incomes in earning low incomes in the bureau of development services empowered neighborhood program, as reflect on how volunteers have touched our lives and transformed the city for the better, let us

take this moment to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for their efforts. I now like to introduce qianliyan, our main presenter sonia shemanski, the new deputy city administrator for the vibrant community service area, to speak about the volunteerism in our parks, in arts and in children's services. The vibrant communities area will always be magnified by partnerships with the community. Simply put, we rely on volunteers to make this work. Sonia, the floor is yours.

Speaker: I believe sonia is on her way, I am happy to step in.

Speaker: Yeah, go ahead and step. Thanks so much. So thank you, council. Thank you. I think they were lying on the other one to be first.

Speaker: Yeah, yeah.

Speaker: So. Thank you, commissioner. Good morning. Council, my name is tim collier. I'm stepping in for sonia shemanski, who is the interim deputy city administrator for the vibrant community service area, today we celebrate the work of volunteers from our service area, which includes the office of arts and culture, Portland children's levy and Portland parks and recreation, and those who support programs and services citywide. In our service area, we recruit, support and partner with thousands of volunteers who contribute over 360 hours of volunteer service and really, that's almost 1000 hours each day. These contributions stretch our public investments even further, bringing joy and wellness to community members and visitors, and support our community to be its best. It takes intention, focus, and strong partners to support this community of volunteers, and we are very grateful for our partnership with Portland parks foundation through this public private partnership, the foundation cultivates park boosters and volunteers through awards, celebrations, small grants and workshops. What the volunteers do they offer us advice and perspective on boards. They roll up their sleeves to clean up shared community spaces, and they help local kids and families connect with

programs and each other, I'm going to share a little bit about the volunteers service and how we connect with volunteers, and then we'll hear from some of our, volunteers. First, the 13, community member, council, which advises the Portland children's levy staff and the levy's allocation committee about policy development and implementation. Often throughout our grant making cycle, just keeping my head swiveling to see if sonia walks in, the council directs, broad community engagement effort co-designs the fundraising process and recommends programs for funding. Last fiscal year, nearly 10,000 local kids were served by levy funded services like mentoring and after school programs and over 15,000 were served by levy funded hunger relief programs. Here today from the community council are alex sanchez and amarachi duru and jacobson valentine. I hope I pronounced everyone's name correctly. Next, the office of arts and culture celebrates the dynamic contributions of the arts and education and access fund oversight committee, whose 13 diverse and passionate volunteer members review fund expenditure, progress and outcomes, the community partners with the commissioner of culture and livability, the office of arts and culture, and the city of Portland's revenue division, the regional arts and culture council and Portland area public schools to support local art teachers and organizations. Joins here from city arts and culture access fund oversight committee is leah fowler last, our largest and longest standing volunteer program is Portland parks and recreation under the leadership of director adina long and staff, the program has grown from 270,000 annual volunteer hours in 2019 to 350,000 today. Each year, more than 15,000 people contribute their time either on their own or through a business, a school, a faith group or a community organization. And I'm happy to share that business volunteerism is nearly back to pre-pandemic levels in 2023, the national trust for public land ranked Portland as a top ten park system nationally, and that would not

have been possible without the enormous contributions of our community. Volunteers we are grateful for the young children, families and inspiring older adults, we have volunteers over 90 years old and a 35 year volunteer at the Washington park rose garden who helps our system shine. Next, we'll hear from a few volunteers who i'll introduce and invite up. They're not here yet, and so we will share that information with council online and the people that are here.

Speaker: So why don't we do this? Why don't we allow the volunteers that are here to come up and have their voices in the room? Be shy.

Speaker: You know what I I'm June with the program, and we asked our volunteers to come at 1030 because we thought that was the time.

Speaker: Oh, no. Nobody else is here.

Speaker: I'm so sorry. I think everyone was expecting this to start at 11.

Speaker: They did. There was I thought it was time certain. I think. Yeah.

Speaker: My apologies for the, the misdirection and timing, but do appreciate all the volunteers who provide so much service to this city and for council taking time to, share that appreciation. We'll put some stuff on social media and online to recognize those folks. Thank you.

Speaker: I'm pausing for a second. Yeah.

Speaker: Point of order.

Speaker: Yeah. Commissioner Mapps. You just asked for a point of order. Yeah. So right now, I think we're all experiencing life. And it means that people were surprised that this showed up, like, 45 minutes earlier than they thought. So they're probably huffing and puffing down, and some just walk so fast that they appear as I'm trying to buy some time. Sure.

Speaker: Well, sonya shimanski, let's move to you.

Speaker: Let's do this. Let's take a few. What do you want to take a break?

Speaker: No, I have an idea. Let's let's move to something else. Because I think I've got everybody here that I need for three, three, five. Is that correct? And that's a fairly meaty issue. So why don't we do that? Let's table this because I think we all want to respect the movers and the volunteers that are coming in for this proclamation items experience. Yeah. So let's let's just kind of do a redo on both of those when we have the people are necessary to do that. So we'll consider that a practice run. I'll table, item 334, so we'll move to item 335.

Speaker: Please direct a working group to assess and plan for the creation of an integrated citywide security division.

Speaker: Our colleagues, the charter transition has provided us with an incredible opportunity to reevaluate and better align our services to improve the service delivery system across the city. Enterprise like so many other services within the city, security work has been largely siloed, which has led to challenges in coordination as well as in communication. This resolution authorizes the creation of a work group comprised of deputy city administrators and other key stakeholders to carry out the assessment and planning work needed to align security, personnel and resources across the entire city. Enterprise alignment can take a variety of forms, which is why this work group would be tasked with assessing existing security resources, facilities needs, developing a business plan and organizational structure, and bringing an implementation plan to council that steps us through how this new division would be structured in the stages of building it and funding it. In other words, the work that the work group does will come back to council for final approval approval, creating an integrated security division will allow the city to better coordinate security planning protocols, resource requests, communication and much more. That enhanced coordination will better facilitate our work to manage our assets and facilities and maintain safe work sites for our employees

and community members that visit and do business with the city. Before I turn this over to commissioner Mapps, who is my co sponsor, I have a late breaking amendment, but that is technical that I need to add to the agenda. Please, I'd like to move the following. I move to amend the second to last quote. Be it further resolved, unquote section to update the implementation date from July 1st, 2018 to July 1st, 2028, unless alternatively, any of you have mastered time travel, I will second that commissioner Mapps seconds it. I'll see you in the time capsule, sir, any further discussion on the amendment? Obviously, the date is being changed. Please call the roll.

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

Speaker: Hi. The amendment is adopted, commissioner Mapps, thank you, mr. Mayor, colleagues, this resolution that the mayor and I are introducing today would set in motion a more collaborate effort to coordinate and centralize individual bureau security efforts. This coordination would be would more efficiently and effectively deploy our security assets and expertise across bureaus. Now, I know that all of us on this council have a security horror story that we could tell, and this resolution is really about, helping future councils avoid some of the traumatic experience that we and our staff have gone through, as public works commissioner, I see and experience how our infrastructure bureaus are stepping up to respond to vandalism and other threats to protect our employees as they provide critical services. But these challenges are not unique to, the infrastructure bureaus. Our security concerns are citywide. It's time, I believe, to pull the expertise across each of the city's 24 different security bureaus. And it's time for us to coordinate our security teams, to coordinate budgets and equipment and deploy security resources as efficiently and effectively as possible, this resolution also aligns with city operations that will come into play with the new form of government. I support

this resolution, and I sure hope that you do too. And with that, why don't I turn this presentation over to staff?

Speaker: Hello, my name is Manny Guerra. I'm the security manager for the office of management and finance, I'll be giving a brief statement, and I'll be passing it over to my colleague over here and to the Mayor and Commissioners. Today, we come to speak to you on a new initiative, one that promises to usher in a new era of security and safety for our city. For some time now, our approach to ensuring the safety of city-owned assets has been fragmented. A few bureaus within our city have operated their independent security teams, functioning in silos devoid of the synergy that could be achieved through cooperation and shared purpose. This method, while well-intentioned, has not capitalized on the strength that lies in unity and collaboration. We are here to propose a resolution that marks the beginning of a significant shift in how we envision and implement security across our city-owned spaces. Our plan is to transcend these divisions and create a unified security division. This division will not only streamline our efforts, but also ensure that our responses to calls for service at city-owned assets are more efficient, coordinated, and effective. We envision that our resources are pooled, information is shared seamlessly, and strategies are unified. This is not just about reducing redundancy or conserving resources, although those are certainly beneficial outcomes. It's about creating a cohesive force that's greater than the sum of its parts. By leveraging the collective expertise, people, power, and resources of all bureaus, we can forge a security program that is agile, responsive, and most importantly, tailored to the unique needs of the city of Portland's diverse communities. This resolution is our first step towards opening the dialog necessary to make this vision a reality. It is an invitation to share insights and contribute to crafting a blueprint on offering an overall better service for us. We recognize the challenges that lie ahead

in aligning policies, protocols, and practices. However, the potential rewards for a safer workplace, a better service for all employees and visitors are too great to ignore in moving forward with this resolution. We are. We are not just changing how we approach city security. We are reaffirming our commitment to the well-being and safety of every employee and visitor to our city owned assets. We are embracing the power of corporate cooperation and the promise of a community united in a pursuit of safety. Together, we can build a security division that not only responds to calls for service with unmatched efficiency, but also stands as a beacon of unity and resilience in the face of challenges. Thank you. And I'll pass it over to my colleague.

Speaker: I think this is on. Good morning everybody. Excuse me, Keith Bowen, security manager, been with the city for about three years, distinguished mayor, esteemed council members. It's with great pleasure to present a meticulously crafted conceptual plan that has undergone development over the course of a year, as touched upon by my esteemed colleague Manny, this initiative not only imbues the commitment of enhancing public safety for both individuals and assets that are crucial to the community, but the fundamental essence lies in the establishment of supportive services that transcends bureau boundaries, fostering essential interoperability, standardized security services, and the promotion of public safety to our staff, the community, and the protection of our critical resources is currently one of the limitations we face is our ability to adequately assist other bureaus during intricate challenges. They often encounter the very same limitations, limitations when attempting to manage them on our own. The suggested consolidation aims to enhance operational effectiveness and promote smooth cooperation within our strategic alliances. As the integration services offices, a new enhanced level of support, it presents new opportunities across the city. Both staff

and community. Community can anticipate standardized security services that foster heightened professionalism, training that meets the city's expectation for its workforce, and, most significantly, opportunities for career investment in enhancement that empowers these officers to take ownership in their roles. The primary asset of this proposal lies within the capacity to gain comprehensive comprehension of the requirements throughout the city and harmonize those assets without redundancies within the organization, we have adopted security technologies and advocate for this approach when feasible, recognizing through centralization, we are striving for efficiency that directly benefits our municipal workers. Ultimately, it is crucial to cultivate corporate cooperation amongst various sectors within the urban landscape to enhance our resiliency citywide. This proposition centers on the elimination of obstacles utilizing shared resources and promoting openness in order to recognize and rectify support inadequacies with the appropriate resources, regardless of boundaries. Once more, we extend our gratitude for the time your dedication, your openness to have shown in us to present this to you today. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Speaker: I think that's everybody's we're open to questions.

Speaker: Very good colleagues. Any questions commissioner Gonzalez, thank you. I'm going to be fully supportive of this. I just had a couple questions around the edges, manny, as you were walking through with us, some of the vision, in our office, you spoke to the tie ins to police and public safety and how sometimes they're going to be working in parallel. Can you just sort of speak to that? And, because I think it's important, as we conceptualize how this may play out going forward.

Speaker: Absolutely. I think it's going to be really important that we have, very, collaborative support with our, our public safety folks. So the constant open

communication with pbb is going to be essential in this. We're going to have to work together as partners and even, develop that relationship, make it even stronger so that we can, assist each other with different, you know, situations that may develop. I want to be clear that we are not sworn officers. We do not have that power. So we still need to also, rely on our our pbb folks to assist us. But this is a collaborative approach where we can help them. They can help us. We are, our intent is to finally kind of bring a, a more synergy approach to public safety and to, you know, the safety of the city itself, so that we can, work better, especially for the city assets. So that's, that's the ultimate goal that we want to have, here.

Speaker: And would that include, issue of citations, code enforcement in any scenario is eventually that's going to be the conversation we'll have during the workgroup of what powers are going to be needed for these folks to do their job effectively moving forward.

Speaker: So that's something that will probably be coming out of the workgroup here. Got it.

Speaker: And I think this I think we should just lay out as a possible scenario that we might want to think about whether this would belong in the public safety service area or in omf or the as laid out in the, resolution. I, I don't have a strong opinions about that right now, but just because of the strong alignment required with public safety, I think there's a including police, i, I just that's an open question in my mind. Where's the right place? Long terme in the org chart for this team.

Speaker: Agreed. And I think that's something that we should discuss in this workgroup.

Speaker: I'm good. Thank you.

Speaker: Very good. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Commissioner Ryan. Yeah I think point of order, vicente harrison is here. He was part of your invited testimony, so maybe we can have him. Excellent I was he he came in while you were speaking. Okay I was trying to be polite, not interrupt. Welcome.

Speaker: Thanks for being here.

Speaker: Good morning. Good morning, City Council, mayor Wheeler, just some brief remarks in terms of support of this resolution, thank you for the opportunity to testify about this resolution, my name is vicente harrison, health safety emergency manager with the vibrant community service area. I appreciate the contribution that park ranger program has made to community safety. And I'm thankful for City Council now directing attention to security for city facilities and staff. We know from listening to our frontline staff that our park team members that security is a primary concern. Sadly many park facilities and vehicles are broken into too often, and physical safety of frontline team members is not where we want to be, with over 2000 park staff over 50 work locations, and hundreds of structures across the park system, park security profile is complex and needs more investment. Today Portland parks and recreation invest in private security services and security infrastructure such as gates, lighting, fencing, security cameras and other prevention and monitoring methods. But it is not enough. While the park ranger program is very important for parks rule enforcements and education for the community, in our parks and community centers, there is a need for dedicated, space cully trained security personnel, especially during overnight shifts for high profile facilities. There is also a need for more network security infrastructure, such as security alarms and cameras, as confirmed from, consultation with our police chief, chief day and deputy city administrator mike myers. Security work is different from public safety efforts. As such, such as the park ranger program, police and

other public safety investments, and deserves special attention. Portland parks and recreation looks forward to a citywide wide team to assess the current conditions and best practices to develop a plan to improve city's and parks security, mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council, we express our gratitude again for your valued attention and consideration for this resolution.

Speaker: Thank you sir. Appreciate your being here. Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Thank you, mr. Mayor. I want to thank our panelists for today's presentation. And just to get, a sense of the stakes here. Does anyone have a rough estimate of just the property damage that the city suffers every year, due to vandalism and whatnot?

Speaker: I remember last time we came from the council and you asked that question about a couple of years ago, we're at the point now where, we don't have a good, number to give you, but it's closely around about 1.5 to 2 million a year. And this is not just like actual, you know, like trucks and stuff like that, be as has issues with gates that are broken into and cut. That also causes parks, they've been dealing with a lot of also, graffiti at their locations. And, you know, I don't want to speak for you, vicente, but I know I was also dealt with gates and stolen, properties.

Speaker: I mean, just briefly, in terms of one of the biggest hit sites is delta park in our urban forestry division. We've had a tractor stolen from there that mowed down fencing and was able to break into one of our barns and tamper into many other supplies. So, it's in the upwards of, you know, hundreds of thousands of, of impact just for, for our service area alone. Yeah

Speaker: And I would echo that as well, recently just within the last month, we had a fence that was damaged through a car at one of our pump stations. And just that alone was a 15,000 uninsured, and then we constantly work with, parks and the rest of the folks where locks are cuts, vehicles are brought into the parks or on our

trailer property. So what I can say within the last year and a half, we probably spent roughly half a million in hardening or fixing the damage, well, thank you very much. I'm, disheartened to hear about all the damage, although I think each one of us, oversees a bureau and gets reports about arson break ins, straight up theft, colleagues, one of my hopes is that the good work being done by this team, while it might cost some\$ eventually, I think it might actually save us some dollars in the long run, and certainly, you can't really place a value on the safety of our employees. And, that is one of my top concerns. And the infrastructure bureaus, water, environmental services, pbot our folks are largely public facing, and we'd love to interact with the public. We love to support the public, but all the challenges that we are aware of with mental illness, just straight up crime and whatnot, places our employees and in danger. And we need to do a better job in this space. Which is why I'm so grateful to everyone who has worked so hard on this issue. I think at this point, literally, this conversation has been going on for a couple of years. It's great to get us to this point, and I really appreciate the staff who led the way. And thank you very much. I see miss commissioner Ryan santa, commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Yeah, thanks. Thank you. Panelists. That was a great presentation. And of course, it makes complete sense. Everything you said, and you've known that for a while because there's been this working group that's been gathering. And so my question is, sometimes in this role you get frustrated with plans to plan to plan. And so I realize you've been in conversations for a while, and you're at a day where we're passing a resolution, and I assume success looks like you could start to implement much of those ideas that you've been talking about for over five years. So tell me, please, that there's a lot of momentum that will come in with some crisp concrete suggestions on what success looks like.

Speaker: Absolutely. So one of the things that we didn't mention here that I know everybody is talking about physical security here, but that, aligns very closely, is also the technical security. The security, the genentech system that we have. So right now, what we're trying to do is actually enterprises out so that we upgrade our current system and that most of our bureaus are now moving to that. So we're already working together as a collaborative group. And now with this, you know, I think parks and us, we've been speaking for a few years now on how to be able to kind of work together as better partners because we're both frustrated on how things were going and hitting the same wall, here and there. But now we're able to bypass breakdown that wall and now actually have, ways to fill gaps. For example, I'm just going to say like a warming shelter that I know parks opens up and that we have to find ways to staff. This is a great way to now be able to provide those resources that parks needs, and for us to fill that gap that they need or when they have gaps at ross island, you know, where they're having security issues. Before, it was a struggle for two, three months out to get somebody over there. Now we hope that we're going to have that ability, moving forward, once this, goes forward, that we're going to be able to respond immediately to that call. We've done a lot of infrastructure work, that's really important. So we have actually updated our security operations center so we can support this moving forward. So that's been really important. And while we're talking as well with possible needs from other bureaus that they need 24 hour dispatching service, we can do that as well. So there's a lot of things that we've prepared for in the last few years to make sure that we're successful in the future.

Speaker: You can see the head nodding, so you're clearly aligned as a team. And so I think we're acknowledging the opportunity for you to have the authority to move forward on this work. So thank you. Perfect

Speaker: Very good, commissioner Ryan, public testimony.

Speaker: No one signed up.

Speaker: All right. Very good. This is a resolution any further discussion, please call the roll. Ryan

Speaker: Yeah. This is wonderful. It's all about alignment and efficiency and thank you for all the groundwork that you've been doing. I just want to make sure you could lift that up. So we knew that we had that momentum to actually see the concrete results of this and in a short period of time. So I'm excited about I Gonzalez very, very important step forward to protect our people, our property and protect the city as a whole.

Speaker: I vote I maps again.

Speaker: I want to thank staff for their important work on this. I know these conversations have gone on, for a couple of years at this point, for those folks who are thinking about running for council or serving in these seats, in the future, I'll tell you when I got to this job, one of my first real surprises was, I'm sure the first day when I talked to staff, one of the first things they kind of kind of came up was concern about around security, this is a hidden or a hidden issue, but it's an incredibly important issue. The work that you folks are doing here, is of utmost importance to me. And I think it's a of utmost importance to our city, both in terms of protecting our assets and in protecting our people. Which is why I am glad to vote.

Speaker: I yea. Rubio I just want to thank you all for the presentation. I'm really impressed with the thinking and the alignment here, and really looking forward to seeing, this work move forward and thank you for all you do. I Wheeler, I want to thank chief administrative officer mike jordan, as well as omf security manager manny greer.

Speaker: Thank you, and I want to thank all of our security team. And I'm glad that we're finally at this step where we are going to expand and coordinate enterprise wide security plays a very important role. The vast majority of days, the vast majority of interactions we have as a city are very positive. Our employees with the public, our city commissioners and their staffs, with the public, usually goes really well. But when it doesn't go well, it goes well very badly. And, you know, the worst kind of scenario is, you know, Hector sitting at the back there, I remember once he was physically assaulted when he was trying to protect the City Council, just doing their job of being the City Council and, Hector, I always appreciate you and your leadership, during the worst part of the riots, I remember that. Well, I can just say point blank that a number of members of the security team probably saved my life. And we see that same kind of violence that, put upon our own city employees. Because, frankly, right now, there there is a bit of a culture of anti local government spreading across the United States. And our employees have a right to work in an environment where they feel safe, where they feel secure and that their security needs are met. And frankly, so too does the public. We have people sitting in here today in our council chamber who have a right to come and speak and petition to their government and they should be able to do so freely and without concerning themselves, about their personal security. And we have our great security teams here as well. So I just think this is a great step in the right direction. I really appreciate it. Thanks for your leadership. We're here to help. If there's more that we can do, we obviously want to help you with it. I vote I the resolution is adopted I am thank you, thank you I appreciate it. I am told that item 334 we now have everybody here. So let's go back to item 334. Colleagues, this is the proclamation declaring April 21st to 27, 2024 to be national volunteer week. And I will turn it right over to commissioner, where were we? We're commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Yeah. Three. Three three and three. Three four. It's a time to do redo's, right?

Speaker: Yeah. Let's do three, three, four. First, because I received notification that everybody's here for three, three. Okay, great.

Speaker: Colleagues, as we gather here today, I'm just honored to celebrate national volunteer week. And you were so busy out there doing your work that we had to pause for a minute so you could get here and be present with us today. And we unexpected were, were early as well. So thanks. And it's time that we can just collectively pause and recognize and celebrate the extraordinary contributions of volunteers who dictate their time, their talents and passion to the city of Portland. Throughout the year, volunteers from a very diverse community embody the spirit of compassion and service, enriching the city's core values and embodying what it means to be a Portlander. Whether you're mentoring a youth, feeding the hungry, serving on an advisory board, caring for our environment, saving lives during extreme weather. Volunteers play an indispensable role in shaping our community. Here's a few stats on what volunteers can do. Just a few. There's 2000 volunteers worked as a part of the national emergency teams program, 4600 volunteers joined the bureau of planning and sustainability and solve to remove more than 127,000 pounds of trash from our parks, neighborhoods, business districts and natural areas, and more than 150 professionals and student volunteers support homeowners earning low incomes in the bureau of development services and powered neighborhood program. As we continue to reflect on volunteers and how they've touched our lives and transformed our city for the better, let's take a moment to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for their efforts. It's now my honor to introduce the main presenter, sonya shyman sky, come up to the dais, please. She is the new deputy city administrator for vibrant community service

area, and she will speak about the direct volunteerism in our parks in arts and children's services. Simply put, vibrant communities especially could not exist without the incredible support of volunteers. Good to see you, sonya.

Speaker: Good to see you. Take two. Thank you for your worth. The wait. And, and for hosting us this morning. I know you have a very heavy policy agenda this week, so taking this time to acknowledge and celebrate the impact of our volunteers is extra special. I am sonya shymansky. I am your newly minted interim deputy city administrator for the vibrant communities service area, and I'm so delighted to be with you esteemed and distinguished members of the City Council, to celebrate our volunteers today, most especially from our service area, which includes the office of arts and culture, Portland children's levy and Portland parks and recreation, but also those volunteers who support programs and services citywide. Commissioner mentioned a few in our service area. We recruit and support and partner with thousands of volunteers who contribute over 360 service hours annually, which is almost 1000 hours every day. These contributions stretch our public investments even further, bring joy and wellness to community members and visitors to Portland, and support our community to be its best. It takes intention, focus and strong partners to support this community of volunteers, and we are very grateful for our partnership with the Portland parks foundation through this public private partnership, which is one of many that we're proud to be part of. The foundation cultivates park boosters and volunteers through awards, celebrations, small grants and workshops. Commissioner and I visited them Monday and they are going strong and excited for the summer. What do these volunteers do? They offer us their advice and perspective on boards. They roll up their sleeves to clean up shared community spaces, and they help local kids and families connect with our programs and each other. They are amphibian monitors, coaches, advisory board

members, invasive species, eradicators and special event assistants. And I think they should all have t shirts that say those things. So I'm going to share a very little bit about how our service area connects with volunteers. We'll hear from a few of these special folks, and then we'll turn it back to you. First, the 13 member community council, which advises Portland children's levy staff and the levy's allocation committee about policy development and implementation throughout our grant making cycle. This council directs broad community engagement efforts, code designs the funding process, and recommends programs for funding. Last fiscal year, nearly 10,000 local kids were served by levy funded services like mentoring and after school programs, and over 15,000 were served by levy funded hunger relief programs. Here today from the community council. And they're back there. Please raise your hands. Are alex sanchez, amarachi duru and jacobson valentine. There you are. Next the office of arts and culture celebrates the dynamic contributions of the arts education and access fund oversight committee, whose 13 diverse and passionate volunteer members review fund expenditures, progress and outcomes. The committee partners with the commissioner of culture and livability, the office of arts and culture, the city of Portland's revenue division, the regional arts and culture council, and Portland area public schools to support local arts teachers and organizations, as we have at least one member of that committee online and I don't pretend a lot of people watch these sessions, but there may be more. So if you're watching, thank you for your service. Last, our largest and longest standing volunteer program by a lot is in Portland parks and recreation under the leadership of director adena long and superstar program manager steve pixley. Please raise your hand if you didn't want to be recognized, but more than deserves it. The program has grown from 270 annual volunteer hours in 2019 to over 350,000 today. A lot has happened between 2019 and today, so that expansion

over that time period is impressive. Each year, more than 15,000 people contribute their time either on their own or through a business school, faith group or community organization to our park system. And I'm very happy to share today that business volunteerism is nearly back to pre-pandemic levels. In 2023, the national trust for public land ranked Portland a top ten park system nationwide, which would not have been possible without the enormous contributions of these volunteers. We are very grateful for the young children, families and inspiring older adults who help our system shine. I learned this morning when I was asking for fun facts. We have at least one volunteer who's 90 plus years old. I don't know how many years in the system, and we have a 35 year and running volunteer at the Washington park rose garden, who was the only volunteer allowed to work on the roses because they are precious and we don't put them in anybody's hands. Next, we'll hear from a few volunteers who I will briefly introduce and then invite up, and then we'll turn it back over to you all for the proclamation. Actually, come on up. Come on up now. We'll introduce you along the way. First we have golden ball youth coach mario die.so. Last year, 350. Thank you. Volunteer coaches, including mario, led our golden ball, youth basketball and youth volleyball leagues. Mario and our other coaches teach our players teamwork and fair play and give them the confidence to tackle challenges on the court and in their lives. Thank you. Next, we have litter pickup team organizer loreen o'brien. We are very lucky, as the commissioner mentioned, and as you might have seen earlier this week, I think outside city hall, residents helping keep our parks and our neighborhoods clean and welcoming. At parks, we work with groups like solve one block at a time and the saint johns litter busters. Since 2022, loreen has organized monthly litter pickups through the north park blocks, and in about 900 hours of service, loreen and team have collected 2.6 tons of trash. Finally, we have stewardship volunteer

robin jensen. Robin is president of the friends of markham nature park, leading conservation projects and engaging community members to be excited about park upkeep. Just last year, volunteers like robin contributed more than 80,000 volunteer hours to nurture Portland's natural areas and parks. And before we go to them, a very quick note about a partner who isn't here today, jan campbell, you may know jan is a leading voice for accessibility in Portland since the 90s. As an employee and now a volunteer, jan has reviewed special event permit applications for our customer service center. Using her experience and expertise to look at plans with an eye toward accessibility. Her constructive feedback and guidance empower event organizers to create welcoming spaces for all. Naturally, jan couldn't be here today because she's helping others learn about accessibility. At a conference, which is a valuable use of time. So mario, loreen, and robin, please share briefly your experience volunteering and supporting our system in these ways in any order you like. Dark down there?

Speaker: I'm gonna start with me. Sure thank you, mayor Wheeler and commissioners, for recognizing the work of volunteers today. When I started volunteering on the board of friends of markham nature park over 31 years ago, I was mentored and inspired by a group of people who were among the founders of markham nature park, including barbara walker, dan goldie, nadja munk, and dorothy vostrak. It was because of their dedication and generosity of time as volunteers that markham nature park came to exist. In part, I volunteer to carry on their legacy. The main reason that I continue to volunteer in markham and forest park is because I love the forest. I know that the value of urban. I know about the value of urban natural areas as places that support biodiversity of plants and animals, as producers of oxygen, as carbon storage banks, as places that lessen the effects of climate change, as well as beautiful places for respite and recreation for

humans. I benefit from parks and believe it's my civic duty to give back in some way to them and to my community. I also volunteer as a neighborhood emergency team member. Over the years, I've worked with amazing Portland park staff like ahmed yusuf, kendra peterson, morgan, annie o'shea, and monica hescheles and many others who care so much and do an outstanding job of maintaining our parks with limited resources. I recognize that they can do so without the help of volunteers. My stewardship of markham park over the years has given me a sense of belonging and ownership, and the knowledge and satisfaction that I've contributed to its well-being and its health. We all benefit from parks. We can all support parks by continuing to fund staff, volunteers and the resources to keep the Portland park system one of the best in the nation. Thank you very much. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. And I really appreciate the ability to be here today. I'm humbled and honored to be here to talk a little bit about volunteering as a golden ball basketball coach. I love basketball, I love working with kids. I feel, I've had a great opportunity to do both of those things, not only coaching my own daughter navah and my son marco, but also their friends, within the southeast community. More than that, golden ball has given us a chance to meet and connect with families and kids all over the city, not just in our inner southeast community, but all over the greater Portland metro area. I feel very blessed, fortunate and grateful to have the opportunity, particularly coming out of the pandemic, to reconnect with families, to get some active, physical and emotional wellbeing boost for just being together and to learn the game of basketball, I have a lot of thanks to my wife, who has put up with hours of coaching and organization beyond, our family commitments and jobs. I really thank the parents and families, particularly in the woodstock elementary neighborhood, and I also want to thank particularly the good people at Portland parks and rec, most especially jennifer brownsville and

blaine rothmeyer, who have taken many calls from me, with questions and have always been supportive and facilitated, use of gym time, flexibility and scheduling, all in the name of supporting kids in our community. I'm very grateful to be here today. Thank you. Thanks. Thank you.

Speaker: Hi, I'm lorraine o'brien. Thank you for having us today, I started into volunteering, doing the cleanup. Kind of volunteering, after I retired, like many people that that retire young, they have a lot of energy, a lot of things to do. I looked at the problems that we were having in Portland. Portland's my home. I've been here a long time resident, almost 30 years. Raised my kids here, and so I started with adopt one block and was cleaning our our block. I don't live in an area that has a lot of trash. So it wasn't it wasn't real fulfilling, but it was a little bit. And then I started doing one block on the north park block. So I go there every week and I clean up that block, and then I started thinking, if you have more hands, you can get a lot more done. So I started inviting a group of retired executives from the health care industry that I had worked with for years, and, but, you know, a lot of us travel and aren't there every week. So then we made it a public event, and we have 25 people there today cleaning the park, and it's really rewarding work, and it's, you know, I looked at the homeless problem and the mental health and addictions problem, and I'm on the board of a mental health and addiction, not for profit. But those are big, hard problems to tackle. Cleaning up is really not. And it's a community, a community thing. It's community builder and it inspires people to you spend a couple hours and the park looks so much better after after you have 25 people cleaning, cleaning it up. So, if i, if I could think of one thing that you all could, could do to help is I worry that this is not a sustainable that we need to go back to antifa, anti-trash anti-litter campaigns and some of us of a certain age all remember the, every little bit hurts or, you know, give a hoot, don't pollute. And I think there's

been a generation that has missed that or something. So if there's anything that the City Council could do, it was it's, how do we how do we have an ad campaign that makes people inspired and proud to, to be part of, of this community. So thank you, thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Steve was telling me this morning how many fresh new ideas we get from our volunteers and how exciting it is to have that dialog. I'm happy to or I'm happy for you to commissioner and commissioner Mapps, I think I'm turning it over to nick brudnicki from the rose festival. Is that correct? Yes we are.

Speaker: There we go. Good. Come on up, nick. Colleagues, I have some invited testimony. Today, and I want to thank, commissioner Ryan and the mayor for allowing me to do this. I want to bring up nick from the rose festival, and i'll tell you why. I today we are, I believe, exactly 30 days away from the start of the rose festival. It's important civic, event, it's also very complicated, as we all know, to organize the rose festival relies heavily on volunteers. And so I thought this would be a great opportunity for nick and our rose festival family to talk about the great work they do. And I would not be shy about putting out a plea for volunteers. If you need volunteers, I appreciate that.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps thank you commissioners mayor, for the opportunity to speak, nick brudnicki, chief operating officer of the Portland rose festival foundation, as it was mentioned, and I think when I think about volunteers, I just really think about the heart of Portland. You know what Portland loves? Support, creating opportunity, delivering on that opportunity creation. And, well, we know there's over 25,000, nonprofits in the state. A lot of those exist within Portland. And the Portland rose festival has the distinct honor of celebrating a majority, not a majority of 25,000. That's a little bit you know, that's a little bit much, but a good number of those 25,000, many hundreds every year, those community,

cultural and affinity organizations, it's a distinct pleasure for us. And we get to do that primarily through our parades. We only have eight full time, year round staff. If you could believe that. Quite a sizable board and we appreciate them. And thousands of volunteers that help us celebrate, just as we're hearing within parks and other organizations, you know, celebrate and create that opportunity for everybody else to engage and enjoy themselves. And if I think, along with a call for action, commissioner Mapps, what I want to impress on everyone is that the Portland rose festival, we love Portland, the good, the bad, because we can change what we might consider bad, and what's to come. We have so much love for the thousands of volunteer hours and the thousands upon thousands of volunteers that dedicate their their time, energy and service to everything this city needs. There's only so many commissioners. I know there's going to be a few more in the future, but there's only so many of you. And besides your staff and everybody within city government, there's also the hours that all of those members of your teams then give, and then members of our community give to you in certain ways to the bureaus, in certain ways. So the rose festival appreciates the privilege of celebrating what's good about Portland right now. What's beautiful, what's diverse, what's vibrant? Despite what some others might have to say about our fabulous city, we were, after all, created to put Portland on the map. And we appreciate that privilege and the designation of being the city's official festival. So as we celebrate all of the good that the festival has to offer, this year and celebrate all of those organizations, all of those folks who volunteer, we also call on those around the city who have just maybe a little bit of time left in the coming month to keep delivering, keep delivering on that volunteerism, that thing that creates all the opportunities for everybody else. Because we need you so that we can celebrate everybody else. So we appreciate the opportunity to speak the festival appreciates everything that

you do for us throughout the year. And as we celebrate over three weeks starting on may 24th, and we welcome anyone who's interested in helping us celebrate Portland to visit us online, [rose festival.org](http://rosefestival.org) and we'll, we'll get you connected, thanks, nick. Before you go, I have a couple of questions, please, is the rose festival still looking for volunteers?

Speaker: Absolutely.

Speaker: Okay, so just to be clear, if you wanted to volunteer for the rose festival, how would I do that?

Speaker: To volunteer for the rose festival, you would visit [rose festival.org/volunteer](http://rosefestival.org/volunteer). Great. We will get you connected.

Speaker: Awesome. And, what kind of activity if, let's say I got some free time in the next month or so. I love the rose festival. Would love to be part of it, what are you looking for? Volunteers for? What kind of things would you put me to work doing?

Speaker: Well, the easiest and lowest barrier is being a part of managing a barrier during a parade. During the festival itself, we also need folks who like to stretch their artistic and creative skills with decorating our floats, so your options here include, I mean, i'll just point out, folks, I've had the great privilege of participating and helping support the rose festival for a couple of years, and this is a remarkable experience. If you've never done it before, I'd encourage you to do it. If you got young kids, you have an opportunity to get them involved and actually decorating the floats, which is like gluing flowers and seeds and whatnot on the floats. That's amazing. So I encourage you to think about doing that. You also have an opportunity to, help, organize the parades, which is just a classic Portland event, event going on for more than 100 years, I believe, at this point, 117 117 so literally, one of our oldest civic traditions, and i'll be explicit about, why I invited the rose

festival here today. For those of you who have been in the building for a while and have been through a couple of rose festivals, you know that in about two weeks, panicked pleas will start to go out through city hall and frankly, through the community as we need more folks to help pull together these events, this is a great time to sign up, go to rose festival, dot org. There's a banner at the top of the website. Hit the volunteer place. I also wanted to commend these guys too, because your web page, in terms of volunteering and kind of plugging people in, is exceptional. I think the city can learn a lot from what you're doing in this space, and I very much appreciate you being here today. It's my pleasure.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Yeah. Any to the proclamation, mayor, i, I actually have a couple of comments I'd like that was those were informal comments.

Speaker: I do have some formal comments which I'd like to deliver, and let me just start out by thanking, everyone who sponsored this particular, measure, which would include the mayor and commissioner Ryan, I want to thank, staff and the members of the community who came to talk about their good works that are here today and I'd also like to talk a little bit about the umbrella that god has here, national volunteer week, we didn't talk too much about where that came from and what it means. You know, national volunteer week is an annual celebration that promotes and celebrates volunteers and volunteering, national volunteer week was first established via presidential proclamation in 1974, which means that this year we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of national volunteer week, during this week, we recognize and thank volunteers who lend their time and talents to meeting our community needs. That's why I'd like to take a moment to thank the thousands of Portlanders who, volunteer their time to making our city an even better place. And, this really resonates to me as a member of council, because as

we heard today, there are hundreds, perhaps even thousands of Portlanders who volunteer to serve on advisory boards and in other capacity, ways to support the work that we do here in city hall and in our various city hall annexes. To give you a sense of the scope of that, I will tell you I'm your infrastructure commissioner, and in my portfolio, which includes water, environmental services and pbot, I have more than 17 volunteer led advisory committees who help pbot and water and environmental services, serve our city better, and again, I know I'm going to sound like a, a broken record here, but, volunteers are important. It's literally how we go about making our city run, so I'm going to take this moment again to reiterate my plea for rose festival volunteers, of the rose festival will begin in exactly one month, the rose festival, rolls out on may 24th, runs through June 8th, as we all know, the rose festival is a beloved Portland tradition, for those of you who have been involved in the rose festival, you will also know that organizing the rose festival is, complicated and, frankly, pulling the rose festival together is a minor miracle. And volunteers are the magic that make that miracle possible, if you want to learn more about volunteering for the rose festival, I encourage you to go to their website, which is [rose festival org](http://rosefestival.org). Click the volunteer button at the top of that page and you can get involved in great things like helping decorate, some of the floats, helping manage the parades. We really can't pull events like that off without, you and our volunteers. Which is why I'm really delighted to be here today.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you, commissioner Gonzalez, thank you to commissioner Ryan and mayor Wheeler for bringing this proclamation forward as the commissioner in charge of the bureau of emergency management. I that opportunity is allowed me to see the great work that a large group of volunteers do to make the city resilient and strong. Neighborhood emergency teams have volunteered 25,938 volunteer hours just this year. So far, all around the city, these

dedicated volunteers have been deployed from over 36 events, including the fentanyl emergency, the Kmart fire and all the severe weather sheltering situations. Volunteers helped make Portland work and they are an essential part of building and providing the social fabric. But volunteering also is a step towards self-actualization in the great management. Writer Peter Drucker once said, there's no better way to understand your strengths and discover where you belong than to volunteer. I've been personally engaged as a volunteer during my entire adult life in Portland, first providing young adults of all walks of life a place to play high level amateur soccer in their 20s, later introducing soccer to kindergarten kindergartners, boys and girls in the city of Portland. All in Portland parks. It was an immense pleasure to support young people in the community, but honestly, it was also a remarkable opportunity to build skills to understand my own strengths and weaknesses. And so I would encourage Portlanders to listen to listening, to continue to volunteer and consider the Rose Festival. It's we need your help and very happy to express my gratitude and join this council and celebrating the dedication and commitment of those who volunteer throughout the year. Thank you. Thank you, do you have any anybody else have any comments? I've got commissioner, I was just going to say, you know, I'll just add everything's been said, but I just want to just appreciate all the volunteers.

Speaker: It's definitely what gives city of Portland the flavor that we have as a very, community forward city. And, just appreciate so much what you do. And I'm a volunteer myself as well. And, it definitely not only provides increased quality of life for the community, it also helps us as as the person who's volunteering because we feel more connected to our community. So thank you again.

Speaker: Very good. I have a comment as well, first of all, I want to thank volunteers. They are underappreciated under thanked for the work that they do in

our community. In fact, our current city government as well as our future city government depends heavily upon volunteers. And in fact, we heard, a number of volunteers stepping forward this this morning to serve on one of our many, many volunteer committees as we mark national volunteer week, we honor the selfless individuals who dedicate their time and their energy to enrich our community. Their efforts span from maintaining our outdoor spaces, as we heard, to advancing arts, education and shaping equitable programs for our children through the great work of the Portland children's levy, these volunteers do more than just perform tasks. They forge connections and strengthen the fabric of our community. They make it a community. Their commitment helps, sustains Portland's green spaces. It empowers our youths. It supports families, and it makes our community more inclusive and more resilient. So we officially honor national volunteer week. Let us recognize and thank the many, many people who take the time to better our community. Thank you to all of our volunteers for your dedication, your work is critical and now I will pass it to commissioner Ryan who will read the proclamation except for the last paragraph, I guess. Yeah, i'll thank you.

Speaker: Mayor Wheeler, just a couple of remarks and i'll pass it, actually, to sonia. Sonia. Great. Thank you, first of all, thank you, sonia, for representing parks arts and the children's levy. I see members of the children's levy, lisa pellegrino, wave your hand. Darian jones, I see you. I don't know who else is out there. It's hard to see, but I want to thank you all for being here today. And obviously a big, robust, group from parks, I have to say, the volunteers who spoke, robin, mario and lauren, you're contagious. If who wouldn't want to hang out with the three of you and be a volunteer? So nothing. That's the best way to sell it is just to be yourself. And I really like the story of, in your next chapter of service as a retired person, getting your friends to help out, doing some public health work, of course, and serving our city.

And thanks for also acknowledging the complexity. That's just like an outcome of the public health crisis we're in. And I really thought it was elegant the way that you explained that. I appreciate that so much. And Nick and Commissioner Mapps, if you haven't, looked at your calendar to see if you have some time in May or June to help our city shine during our big, festival that makes us feel like a small town for a week or two, please get out there and have some fun with other Portlanders. On that note, a special shout out also to Osha and Eli, in Civic Life, I don't. People don't know this, but Ocean in Civic Life manages all of the appointments for all the commissions and committees throughout the city. So I just wanted to give an acknowledgment of their steadfast work. All the volunteers have figured out the secret to fulfilling a civic engagement. Basically fulfilling life. We know that when you give, you definitely receive more in return, and you leave with pride in your work and improve. Whether it's approving a patch of ground, mentoring another youth, or gathering fellow volunteers to make the city a better place, my plea is just find yourself on the map and go serve. You'll have a better life. It's now time to turn this over to you, Sonia. To read the proclamation.

Speaker: Well, my pleasure, especially on the 50th anniversary of the week and, I've counted about 400,000 hours of service citywide just in these comments, I'm going to see if I can chase down a citywide number, because I suspect it's much, much bigger. So here we go. And then back to you at the end. Mayor, for the official part, whereas April 21st through 27 is national volunteer week, which provides an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers across the city, recognizing the power of volunteerism in addressing local needs, promoting civic involvement, and fostering a sense of belonging and connection within our diverse communities. And whereas, the city of Portland acknowledges and appreciates the thousands of Portlanders who partner with city service areas, making countless

contributions to enrich the lives of others and themselves by building relationships, sharing their time and skills to improve the well-being of our city. And whereas the city of Portland's vibrant community service area, including Portland parks and recreation, Portland children's levy, and the office of arts and culture, is a leader in promoting volunteers to stretch city services, connecting us with new communities and sharing their passion with friends and neighbors alike. And whereas last year, Portland parks and recreation volunteers helped protect and nurture healthy ecosystems by removing 744,969ft² of invasive weeds, maintaining 7.1 miles of trails, and planting 23,256 native plants and trees to ensure resilient natural areas in our changing climate and whereas 700 young athletes learned teamwork, fair play and that adults really do care about them from Portland parks and recreation, volunteer youth basketball and volleyball coaches. And whereas, the arts, education and access fund oversight committee, a team of community council volunteers, play a pivotal role in shaping the artistic and cultural fabric of Portland's youth. And whereas, through that committee's diligent oversight of the arts, education and access fund, they ensure that every elementary school in the city's six districts has the opportunity to enrich students lives with dedicated arts education, fostering a future where every child, regardless of race, ability or gender, can access and enjoy the transformative power of the arts. And whereas community council volunteers for the Portland children's levy improved the lives of children and families by co-creating equitable and community driven funding priorities and processes and whereas, council members lay the foundation for a future in which race, ability or gender and other identity is do not determine the future of Portland's children. And whereas volunteers seek to reduce isolation and improve mental health by fostering a shared sense of purpose and belonging in our community through volunteering that beautifies and enhances our shared environment, learn new skills

together and connect community members with opportunities to help them succeed. And whereas the city of Portland encourages residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies to engage in volunteer activities, recognizing that collective action and collaboration are essential for building a more equitable, inclusive and compassionate community. Now, therefore, i.

Speaker: Ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon, the city of roses, do hereby proclaim April 21st through 27th, 2024 to be national volunteer week in Portland and call upon all residents to honor and thank the volunteers whose dedication strengthens our communities connections. Let us recognize their efforts, express our gratitude, and commit ourselves to fostering a culture of service and volunteerism throughout the entire year. Hear, hear.

Speaker: Thank you to all the volunteers. All the volunteers, please stand up. Please stand up. All the volunteers in the audience, please stand up. Have them come forward and do it to all of us.

Speaker: Do a quick picture.

Speaker: Mr. Ryan wonders if we could just now have a photo. Quick photo.

Speaker: Volunteers. And the staff that worked with the volunteers. It's going to be a big group .

Speaker: You can start with them. I'll be back.

Speaker: Okay. We

Speaker: All right? We will go back to item number three. Three, three, a proclamation, and we'll go ahead and just start it all over. Keelan, if you could read it, please. Sure

Speaker: Proclamation in memory of latin American artist gerardo calderon, colleague.

Speaker: Today's proclamation comes from the community organization friends of Gerardo Calderon, an esteemed member of our community whose creative contributions have left a lasting impact both on our city and indeed the entirety of Oregon as a whole. I'll now turn it over to commissioners Ryan and Rubio, who are co-sponsoring this proclamation with me for their opening remarks. We'll start with commissioner Ryan again. Then we'll go to commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Well, I'm so glad we get to do this. Over. Thank you. Mayor. It's so great to have you all here. It just wasn't making sense earlier. So, this is a really special day. And I'm so proud to honor our Aldo Calderon as arts commissioner. I'm especially appreciative of the link that I witnessed in his life between arts and education, and that ended estimated that his entire life, much like one of our current creative laureates, Jason Margolis, who works as a music teacher at Roosevelt High School, proud to recognize the connection and the dedication of life and arts, music and education from preschool kids to young college students, was able to mentor and share his gifts through education, providing many, many Oregonians who beyond with an opportunity to learn, play, and share culture and community for generations to come. The strong community presence here today is a statement of Gerardo's contributions as a cherished Latin American and Oregonian artist, his spirit will forever be woven into the cultural fabric of Portland. Thank you all for being here today. I look forward to hearing your comments. Thank you commissioner Rubio.

Speaker: Thank you commissioner. It's my absolutely deepest honor to recognize musician, community leader and arts activist Gerardo Calderon. I had the privilege of knowing Gerardo over the years and saw first hand how he touched the lives of so many people, from his friends and his family, to all of us who are honored to share space with him. And I'm so glad that we're honoring him today. And for those of us

who knew heraldo, we remember the vibrancy, the realness, and the just sheer love of music and culture that he radiated and how much he reveled in sharing the mexican and latin American culture with all those who came into his his energy. And over the decades of his life in Portland, he shaped latin arts and culture through his music mentorship of other musicians, and a deep love for his culture and community. So today, we'll hear from some folks who knew heraldo and who shared his love for arts and culture and who want to share a few words about his legacy. So I'm pleased to introduce helen d'alessio from the regional arts and culture council, matias trejo de dios from the instituto, the culture, instituto. And i'll just leave it there, rosa floyd, who is Oregon's teacher of the year, and joaquin lopez, community arts leader and artist and one of our city's creative laureates. So I will turn it over to you.

Speaker: Well, we're so excited to be here, and it's a very special day. Thank you so much for your time. And I think we'll begin with, good friend helen del toso.

Speaker: Thank you, joaquin. Thank you very much for having me here today. My name is helen del toso, and it's my honor to have been asked by joaquin to speak on behalf of the rich and diverse legacy of one of our region's most significant culture keepers, gerardo calderon, a culture keeper, is an artist who actively practices, passes on and preserves the living traditions of the cultural community to which they belong, and is recognized by that community. When I first joined the team at the regional arts and culture council in the late 90s, this was how I was introduced to gerardo and his music. He was one of a growing number of artists of exceptional skill and talent from around the globe, who were choosing to live here and share their art and cultural traditions in their new home. Gerardo ensemble, grupo aurora performed and taught through racks neighborhood arts program and the Oregon historical society's Oregon folklife program. Gerardo and the musical

traditions of Mexico and Latin America he presented were in demand in libraries, health care settings, human and social service agencies, nursing homes, schools, and festivals. When audiences heard Gerardo's music, it was an invitation to explore another world. Gerardo's relationship with me and with Rack was deep and enduring. From performing in our workplace, giving campaigns to teaching in our highly regarded right brain initiative, a school based program. Through his work with young audiences, now Arts for Learning Northwest, Gerardo was both a grant recipient and a panelist, as well as being a collaborator in more publicly supported projects than I can count. But it is not uncommon for me to attend events or performances and discover that Gerardo was part of the program. It didn't matter if he was in the background or center stage playing his guitar or one of his many traditional instruments. Because his music made you listen. His music had an impact during the pandemic. Third Angle New Music Ensemble in a project supported by your own Portland Parks and Rec, invited only a dozen musicians to create sound walks throughout Portland. Gerardo was one of them. If you have an opportunity to treat yourself to a visit to Wapato Farms on Sauvie Island and you pair the experience with your earbuds as you will explore the surroundings while listening to Gerardo's composition. It is as fine an example, as you will find of his ability to innovate, document, preserve and celebrate the diversity of our living cultural heritage. Thank you, thank you, thank you so much, Helen.

Speaker: Welcome. Our next speaker is Matias de Dios from Instituto de Cultura Oregoniana and Council Clerk should have the video.

Speaker: Ciudadanos de Paula. My name. Dias de Dios. Soy el director ejecutivo del Instituto de Cultura Oregoniana y Comisionado del Patrimonio de Oregon. Hoy para rendir al maestro Gerardo Calderon. Una figura trascendental en nuestro pais cultural como musico y maestro Gerardo ha sido un puente vital entre nuestras

tradiciones locales de Portland y la diversidad de expresiones culturales, latinoamericanas su obra a Enriquez, profundamente nuestra identidad Oregoniana abriendo nuevas vías de comprensión y un diálogo intelectual continuo, desafiando y expandiendo nuestras perspectivas. El legado del maestro Calderón en la enseñanza de la interpretación musical ha dejado una vida entera mostrando el poder del arte para educar a nuestra comunidad. Por todo esto expreso mi gratitud por considerar la proclamación en su honor celebra su vida y obra es esencial para perpetuar el arte de la armonía y la integración cultural. Siempre agradezco gracias por permitir estas palabras con ustedes. Espero por el maestro Calderón continuamos promoviendo y honrando la diversidad cultural y la unión de las personas en nuestra querida ciudad de Portland. En nuestro lindo estado, Oregon.

Speaker: Thank you so much, Council Clark. Thank you, Mathias Trejo de Dios. And I'd like to give it over to Rosa Floyd, Oregon's Teacher of the Year for 2023.

Speaker: Thank you very much. And it's an honor to be here, my name is Rosa Floyd, a 2023 Oregon Teacher of the Year. It was an honor. It's an honor, but a big responsibility. And that's why I have the opportunity to share many, many, performances and working with students with Gerardo. And this is the result of my presence today is to share my testimony and recognize Maestro Calderón for his legacy on generations of children's and young people, a perpetual by the impact he had and had on their lives under the condition and the cultural roots. He always recognized the diversity and richness that each person brings to society. He was always concerned about creating spaces of belonging and equity for children's and young people. Through his music and art, he managed to influence hundreds of students. I personally had the opportunity to be a participant of this important and beautiful work. Teacher legacy will continue to be present, creating, creating ripple effects inside and outside the classroom. Extending the education of

students and different communities, promoting unity through our art and culture and not only for students, but everyone else in including cultural significance, content into lesson plans is one method that educators can be an impact on their students cultural awareness. Teachers can aid children's in gaining a deeper appreciation for teaching them about the history, costumes, values of many cultures and their own. And this is precisely what mr. Calderon practiced during his life as a teacher, working with children and young people in different communities in Oregon. I think the City Council for allowing me this course and considering the proclamation in his honor, we will continue his example and legacy to educate, educate, inspire, promote art culture to our new generations of students and our communities. Thank you very much.

Speaker: Thank you, thank you, thank you, rosa. Dear mayor ted Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council, it's good to see you again, my name is joaquin lopez, and I serve as one of your creative laureates, to this beautiful city. Thank you for your time today. As we honor the accomplishments and contributions of our friend and artist, gerardo calderon. He left our realm on January 21st, 21st, 2024. My love and warmth go out to his family who have lost a beloved member of their kin. May his spirit continue to live on in their memory and hearts. Geraldo's impact for the arts in Portland is immense. There are simply too many things to say. I met gerardo about 15 years ago. He was the coolest, most talented latin American artist I knew. I thought to myself, oh, he would never work with me. He's simply too good and I was wrong. At last we collaborated on my project for Portland latino gay pride called voz alta. This project celebrates the lives and contributions of our latino gay community through stories performed by actors and musicians. Gerardo gave his heart to voz alta, to be held by a master musician from mexico to tell a latino gay story is the most healing experience you can

imagine. Music doesn't discriminate. A particular song can be heard by the biggest bigot or the most loving saint, and it is still the same song. This is why music is liberation. With Giraldo's talent, *Voz Alta* was able to score Latino gay lives with Mexican rancheras, Latin American boleros, pop and indigenous sounds and songs to tell our stories. Because our gay stories also belong to the human experience had others. Life is a testament to the fact that we are the monument today. For tomorrow we are the people who walk these sidewalks, building a culture of collaboration, an understanding and strength for generations to come. May we follow in his footsteps and continue to build our beautiful city. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: So I think it's time now to read the proclamation. So I will start before that.

Speaker: Why don't we do, council comments? We'll start with Commissioner Mapps, thank you, Mr. Mayor, I want to start out by thanking our panelists for today's presentation and colleagues. I also want to share this like all of you and many Portlanders, I was saddened to hear of the passing of Gerardo Calderon, but I'm glad that we're taking this moment to celebrate his life, as we have heard on January 21st of this year, Mr. Calderon passed away in Mexico with his family by his side. And, Mr. Calderon was a musician, a composer, a teacher, a producer and a craftsman. He was a student of and advocate for traditional Mexican music, Latin American folk music, and pre-Columbian music. Now, even if you don't recognize Mr. Calderon's name, there's a good chance he touched your life. For example, for many years, Calderon was a musician in residence at the Portland International Airport. So if you ever noticed a musician, playing as you were, scurrying to your gate, a good chance it could have been him. And he also taught at Grace Arts Camp. So if you are like me and, when your kids were little and you sent them to Grace Arts

camp for their summer program, there is a good chance mr. Calderon was one of your kids music teachers. And if you only had passing interactions with mr. Calderon, you may not have realized how accomplished he was. As, as we have heard today, mr. Calderon composed music and designed sound, but he was also, designed sound and composed music for ballet companies, documentaries, short films, commercials, us theater companies and cultural organizations. He played many instruments, including string instruments, wind instruments, and percussion instruments. You performed with musical ensembles in mexico and canada and new england, and here in the pacific northwest. He was also a craftsman who built instruments including pan flutes, rain sticks, water drums, turtle boxes, and bass drums. And he was also a kind and generous man who brought his mischief, smile and love for life to every interaction, on behalf of this council and the city of Portland, I'd like to express my deep gratitude to mr. Calderon for all that he shared with our community, and I would like to share my deepest sympathies to all of mr. Calderon's friends and family, and I would like to close by letting Portlanders know that a memorial ceremony and mr. Calderon's honor will be held on Sunday, June 28th at 11 a.m. At teatro el milagro at 525 southeast stark. All are welcome to attend. Thank you very much. And i'll hand it to my colleagues.

Speaker: Commissioner Gonzalez is my delight to be part of the proclamation of the legacy of araldo calderon. His contributions to music, arts and education have deeply touched our community, and we are immensely proud to celebrate his devoted contributions to the valued latino artists. Calderon's music is a perfect example of how music is a universal language. Gerardo used this language to transcend borders and unite people from all walks of life. We are fortunate to have been touched by all that he did in our community. We hope his legacy will continue

inspiring future generations. Celebremos juntos su legado. Thank you. Thank you, commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: Sure.

Speaker: Thank you so much. Commissioner Rubio and arts laureate joaquim lopez for bringing this forward. It was such a beautiful presentation. All of your words were special. And, it was just a delight to sit here and get to know him better. And I know his spirits in the room. And so this is a lovely moment in time. And I really like how you summed it up at the end. It sounds like, experiencing his life and you get to say something very true and positive, which is music is liberation. And so I'm delighted to be here today and be a part of this presentation. Thanks so much.

Speaker: Very good. I've got a couple of comments as well. This morning. We recognize a figure whose artistic contributions have not only enriched our cultural landscape, but have also significantly shaped the identity of our city. We acknowledge the remarkable achievements of the late gerardo calderon, a native of mexico, a native of mexico, and a proud Oregonian. Gerardo was a luminary in our artistic community, a composer, a music director, multi-instrumentalist, and much, much more. As you've heard, his dedication to the arts was paralleled only by his commitment to education and community engagement. Gerardo's work with grupo condor, nuestro canto and other cultural organizations exemplified his passion for preserving and celebrating latin American arts through his 30 years as a teaching artist, gerardo shared a rich tapestry of pre-columbian music and stories with students across all ages, instilling a sense of cultural appreciation and understanding that will resonate for generations. Additionally, gerardo has volunteer efforts brought the sounds of his guitar and pan flutes to the corridors of the Portland international airport and many community events, fostering a welcoming atmosphere and enriching our city's cultural offerings. It is with great

respect and admiration that we present today's proclamation celebrating gerardo's enduring contributions to making Portland a more diverse, vibrant and culturally rich community. I now invite commissioner Rubio to read the proclamation first in english. Thank you.

Speaker: So whereas culture, creativity, and the arts fuel our economy, nurture the spirits of our citizenry, and shape Portland's identity. And whereas the city of Portland acknowledges the significant impact of latin American arts and culture in our community, enriching our cultural landscape and fostering diversity, whereas the late herazo calderon from mexico, an Oregonian, a composer, musical director, producer, multi-instrumentalist, sound designer, music educator, teacher, artist and author made Portland, Oregon his creative home. And whereas haroldo calderon, who was the musical director of the group grupo condor co, founder of nuestro canto with nelda reyes, a group dedicated to the preservation of mexican and Oregonian art and culture through arts education, and a member of cosecha mestiza and former andanzas de nuestro and kansan. And whereas, as a teacher teaching artist for 30 years, haroldo calderon taught students in pre-k, kinder, elementary, middle and high school, pre-columbian music stories and instrument making, and whereas for the community had arthur calderon shared his music and culture for 35 years with the instituto de cultura Oregoniana. Arts, arts learning reformatted northwest marylhurst museum chehalem cultural center, Oregon historical society, cinco de mayo festivals across the state and in Multnomah, tigard, tualatin, lake oswego, hillsboro, cornelius, forest grove, hood river county libraries, and at community colleges and universities in Portland and throughout the state, including festivals throughout the pacific northwest, eastern united states, mexico, and mexico. And whereas, gerardo calderon has composed and designed sound for arts and culture organizations and theater groups such as milagro, tears of joy,

third angle music, hand to mouth theater, coho theater, voz alta, and grito. Poetry productions and whereas, gerardo calderon's volunteerism welcomed visitors at the international Portland airport with his healing acoustic guitar and pan flutes and supported creative community based intercultural exchanges and fundraising for a great number of local and regional artists and nonprofit organizations. And whereas, gerardo calderon serves as an example of an artist, a culture bearer, and a community builder through his creative achievements, leadership and community engagement, and has filled the city of Portland with orgulho pride.

Speaker: Now, therefore, i. Ted Wheeler, mayor of the city of Portland, Oregon, the city of roses, do hereby present this proclamation in honor of gerardo calderon for his dedicated contribution as a cherished latin American and Oregonian artist in our diverse and creative city and community.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: And so all right, so I will say it in spanish, yes, in spanish. And i'll dance at the same time, and then i'll hand it over to carmen at the last paragraph. Is that right? Okay that's considerando la cultura, la creatividad y las artes impulsa nuestra economia neutral. El espiritu de nuestra ciudadania y defining la identidad de Portland y considerando. La ciudad de Portland reconoce el impacto significativo de las artes. La cultura latinoAmericanas en nuestra comunidad en nuestro pais, cultural y fomento de la diversidad y considerando gerardo calderon de méxico. Oregano con director, musical producer multi instrumentalist. Diseñador de sonido educador musical artista docente and author, el colegio de Portland, Oregon. Sugat creativo y considerando gerardo calderon quién fue? Director, musical de grupo grupo condor cofundador de nuestro canto con el de reyes. Un grupo dedicado a la preservacion del arte y la cultura mexicana y Oregoniana a través de la educacion artistica y miembro de cosecha, mestiza y anteriormente de

andanzas lo nuestro y conocen e considerando como artista docente durante treinta años, gerardo calderon, enseñado a estudiantes de pre-k, kinder, primary, secondary and preparatoria musica precolombina, historias y fabrication de instrumentos y considerando para la comunidad gerardo calderon compartio su musica y cultura durante treinta y cinco años con el instituto de cultura Oregoniana arts learning, reforma northwest, marylhurst museum, chehalem cultural center, Oregon historical society, festivales de cinco de mayo a lo largo del estado y el Multnomah. Tigard, tualatin, lake oswego, hillsboro, cornelius, forest grove, hood river county libraries and colegios, comunitarios y universidades in Portland y a lo largo del estado incluyendo festivales a lo largo del noroeste del pacifico este de los estados unidos y México, lo considerando gerardo calderon, a composer y disenado sonido para organizaciones de artes y cultura y grupos de teatro como milagro. Tears of joy, third angel. Music. Hand to mouth theater. Coho theater. Voz alta y grito. Poetic productions. He considerando el voluntariado de gerardo calderon de la bienvenida a visitantes en el aeropuerto internacional de Portland, con su guitar, acoustic sonadora y flautas de pan y apoyo intercambio intercultural comunitarios basados en la creatividad recaudacion de fondos para un gran numero de artistas locales y regionales y organization in fines de lucro y considerando, gerardo calderon serve the templo como artist de portador de cultura y constructeur de comunidad a través de sus logros creativos, liderazgo y compromiso comunitario y la ciudad de Portland de orgullo.

Speaker: Ahora, por lo tanto, se resuelve la ciudad de Portland por la presente proclamation en calderon por sus dedicadas contribuciones como un aparecido artista latino American y Oregonians en nuestra ciudad and en nuestras comunidades diversas y creativos.

Speaker: Congratulations.

Speaker: Thank you very much. Thank you sir. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, and colleagues, why don't we take. Oh, we'd like a photo up front and then immediately after, we'll take a quick recess to let city staff have a break. They've been at it all morning and we'll reconvene at noon. We're in recess . Now. 10111111. One.

Speaker: One. Two. One.

Speaker: Three. Three. Six. Amend city employee benefits program to reflect plan design changes as recommended and administratively required by the bureau of human resources for plan offerings from July 1st, 2024 through June 30th, 2025. Item 337 amend contracts related to employee health and welfare administration and begin formal solicitation for employee benefit plan consulting services as administrative required and on behalf of the bureau of human resources.

Speaker: Thanks, Keelan. Every year, the city's labor management benefits committee in the Portland police association review the employee benefits program and then provide recommendations for any necessary changes in reviewing these plans, we must simultaneously best ensure employees and their covered dependents have access to health care plan options that meet their needs, while also protecting the long time financial stability and solvency of the plans. Given the direct impact these costs have on strain bureau budgets, the costs of health care are changing in a way we have not seen in recent times. I am absolutely trying not to use the word unprecedented, and many employer groups are navigating the same driving factors of increases inflation, the return of claims post-pandemic in increased costs charged by providers, advances in medical technology, new medications hitting the market and other factors. Despite the collaborative

conversations between all parties involved over the last several months, the bureau of human resources and the labor groups were unable to come to a consensus on recommended changes for the upcoming year. Which brings us to the two emergency ordinances we have before us today. The first emergency ordinance would approve the fiscal year 2425 benefits plan document and adopt the recommended changes as proposed by the labor management benefits committee and the bureau of human resources. While declining other changes in addition to state and federally mandated changes. The second emergency ordinance would authorize the chief human resources officer to enter into contracts, contract contract extensions, and begin the formal solicitation process for the employee benefits consulting services as administratively required to manage health and welfare plans, as well as pay claims on behalf of eligible plan participants and the bhr benefits office. Before I turn this over to the bureau of human resources, I want to quickly review the order of events for these items. Tracy warren, interim chief human resources officer michelle taylor, benefits manager, and santos aguilar, benefits supervisor, are here to walk us through the ordinance is then the council will introduce and second amendments for consideration after which we will hear some invited testimony followed by public testimony. Once public testimony is complete, council will deliberate and vote on the amendments before voting on the ordinance. Ordinances with that, i'll turn this over to interim chief human resources officer tracy warren. Welcome.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you, mayor and commissioners, again, my name is tracy warren. I'm the interim hr director for the city of Portland, and today, bhr will be presenting two ordinances together. But we'll ask council to vote separately, we are going to start with ordinance three, three, six, and as discussed, every year, bhr presents plan design recommendations to council for approval alongside plan

documents for the upcoming year. As the mayor discussed, in past years, the city has held rate increases to levels below trend without making big changes to our benefit coverage for employees and plan participants. This year, however, is different because we're facing double digit increases for three out of our four most popular health plans, some of the things that you know were discussed are inflationary costs, return of post-pandemic claims, increase provider and facility charges, advances in medical and new medications, depleted reserves, and a lack of changes to shared costs between the city and plan participants.

Speaker: Are you trying to show a presentation by any chance? We are okay. We're not seeing it okay, okay, so give us just one second. Let's see if we can get it up. Thanks anne-marie, we can share. If you can share, queue us. Okay? Okay all right.

Speaker: Back. Just one document, one slide. There we go.

Speaker: Thank you. Better

Speaker: So, as I was discussing, this is a unique year, and we're coming to council with a unique decision in front of you about our health plan benefits for employees. Some of the things that are driving the change to our plan are inflationary factors, return of post pandemic claims, increase provider and facility charges, advances in medical technology, new medications, lack of cost shifting to plan, participant s and depleted reserves. We anticipate increased costs related to health coverage over the next few fiscal years, making this decision an important one for council to set us up for what may be ahead of us in future fiscal years. Next slide please. The next couple of slides, we're going to give you a little bit of a different view, that shows us employee wage increases. The average employee wage increases over the years starting with fiscal year 1416, moving us through to fiscal year 2324. As it relates to the premium share that employees pay. So what you have in front of you is fiscal. What you can see from the dotted line, is the average hourly rate among lhmc

covered employees, which was 3535. The cost of medical vision coverage per a month was 3162. For the most expensive plan for city core. And then in fiscal year 2324, the average hourly base rate has increased to 4872, which is a 37.8% increase compared to our fiscal year 15 or excuse me, 1416. Meanwhile the most expensive plan, which is kaiser northwest, is 4,054, which is a 28.2% increase over the fiscal year plan rate. So the city has continued to increase pay while also maintaining lower premium costs for employees. Next slide please. This next slide is for our plan participants who are ppa members. Portland police association. The reason that we've separated out these two groups is because there's different health funds that pay for these costs. In fiscal year 1516, the average hourly base rate among ppa covered employees was 3946. The cost of medical and vision coverage per a month was 3432. For the most expensive plan in fiscal year 2324, the average hourly base rate has increased to 5156, which is a 30.7% increase compared to fiscal year 1516. Meanwhile, the most expensive plan sitting at is now 3784 per month, which is a 10.3% increase over the fiscal year 1516. Highest plan rate. Also to be noticed, we don't have kaiser listed on this chart because there's currently no premium share for kaiser participants. Next slide please. So the 2425 proposed health care renewal, budget. So currently the city is budgeted at a 5% increase over the current fiscal year, which is roughly \$6.5 million. The recommendation that we're going to present to you today, is a request to increase the city's budget to 8, which would roughly add 3.9 million and increase the overall cost for the city. This, coming fiscal year to \$10.4 million. I have, michelle taylor here with us, our benefits manager, who's going to go over more details about the specifics of the plan that we're asking you to make changes to. Next slide, please.

Speaker: Hi there. And, good afternoon. Now mayor and commissioners, my name is michelle taylor. I'm the benefit manager here for the city of Portland, on this slide,

we're going to talk a little bit about, kind of how we bring decisions forth to you and understanding the work that goes into the recommendations that come forth to council, this is made up of two groups. We have the labor management benefit committee, which Tracy had referenced, and also the Portland Police Association. Each of those groups collaborate with BHR, our consulting partners, each year to bring forth recommendations that ultimately you all approve, both groups begin looking at data, typically in January of each year. The reason for that timeline is that our plan vendors submit renewal information to our consulting partners at the end of December of each year, and it's time that way, because we typically need about three months worth of data, at least, to be able to begin looking at, recommendations and there are other factors that go into the recommendation, as our consultants then receive that information from our vendor partners, they take some time to analyze it, to negotiate back and forth with our vendor partners if needed. And then they present information alongside of BHR in January to both the IMDC and the Portland Police Association. From there, we really start to kind of dig in to what decisions need to be made, what recommendations need to come forth to council that happens throughout January, February, and typically a vote happens in March. And then we bring forth those recommendations to council in April of each year. And that timing is due to the fact that the Bureau of Human Resources, the Benefit Office, needs to turn around incredibly quickly and get our open enrollment going on so that employees can make important health care decisions for the upcoming year. We're scheduled to start open enrollment on May 10th, which is why it's so important to get this information in front of you so that we have time to get information out, especially if there are changes to our plan participants, on the next slide, please, this slide goes over some strategies that we take in order to help control costs. I will, talk a little bit about these as we go

through the presentation, but at least this gives you a few of the main, main points, and our role is really ensuring that our plans are stable and solvent, not only for our employees, but their dependents, our retirees, and our cobra participants. We support a shared responsibility, between the city, between our plan participants and for those who utilize our plan services. At the top, you'll see vendor contract negotiations. That's basically our first approach, and it starts with conversations between us, our consulting partners and the vendors relating to ongoing contract negotiations. One tool is to commit to contracts over a determined period of time to help lock us into rates and also lower our administrative costs. You'll hear more about our contract extensions in the next ordinance, lower admin costs help us mitigate increases in premiums. Although they're an incredibly small portion of the money that goes out, on behalf of our overall spend, the second approach, you'll see, is the use of excess reserves. And there's some additional details on the right side that help explain a little more about excess reserves. These are available, when we're above an excess amount. And for our self-funded plan, only reserves cannot be used for fully insured plans such as kaiser on the labor management benefit side, our target reserve level is about \$25 million. Based on our plan size and our stop loss limits, we're currently hovering between about 19 and \$20 million in reserves, which means we need to develop a likely a multi-year strategy to get our reserves back up to that target level. Anything above 150% of the risk based capital of reserves, so above 25 million, our strategy would be to use those excess reserves to help us buy down our premium costs, saving bureaus money and also employees. That is something we've historically used over the years, as a tool. But in this year's case, it is not available for the labor management benefit committee. Anything below that, 150% that 25 million does put the city at risk, and we need to begin building those reserves back up. The third stop in that little circle is our stop

loss. It's like insurance for insurance. Our self-funded plan is responsible to pay for health care claims up to \$1.2 million. Anything over that is covered by the stop loss policy that we purchase to protect our plan from something that's catastrophic. It's not recommended to increase our current stop loss levels for the labor management benefit committee, so that's not an option for this year. But we are proposing an increase to 300,000 on the ppa side as part of our cost savings measure. Right now. On the labor management benefit side, having a 19 or \$20 million reserve amount and a \$1.2 million stop loss limit means that we could have 1012 claims at any given point. That put us to a place where we become insolvent. It could be a premature baby, it could be a rare cancer diagnosis. It could be any number of things. We know that with medical technology and advances, it doesn't take much to get to that point. So we do not support or recommend using any reserve amounts, keeping down the list at the very bottom is utilization management school, where we could change pharmacy formularies and guide folks to specific types of medications that are cost effective not only for the plan, but also the member. We could look at things like prior authorization, step therapy. There's a number of tools embedded within our health plans that we already utilize, but there's always evolution in that space. Plan design changes is the next step that we look at in order to mitigate our costs, things like increased co-pays, deductibles, coinsurance, out-of-pocket maximums, some of those things we're bringing forth to you in our recommendation today, in the last stop, there is the most disruptive. And that's network change, but sometimes it's the only option that's faced in controlling costs. One thing that's not on this, chart here is premiums. And premiums is not something that happens. Those discussions typically don't happen within the labor management benefit space or the Portland police, because they are embedded in the collective bargaining agreements. So that's the

reason you're not seeing premium share on this side, next slide please. So we are moving forward. Bringing you the recommendation of the labor management benefit committee. There were a number of things that were in front of them this year. And they did have a quorum. They had all 20 out of 20 votes, to move these two items forward here, that is a 1.5% reduction in the self-funded plan. That amounts for about \$1 million savings. All of the other items that went forth to lrmc did not receive a quorum. They were typically split ten votes to ten votes, labor and management, with management voting in favor of changes. On the next slide, please, so what bhr is bringing forth today are a handful of recommendations. I'm going to start with the labor management benefit group and their self-funded ppo plan. What we are proposing today would reduce the premiums by about 1.5, bringing us to the target, in addition to the changes that will be talking about on the next slide, we are proposing an individual deductible going from \$250 to \$500, the out of pocket maximum for individuals going from 1800 to 2000, with the family going from 54 to 6000. The third proposal that wraps up into that 1.5% reduction is generic medications. We're proposing that we still keep the coverage at 10% for generic, 20% for preferred, and 30% coverage for non preferred. But we are proposing that we increase the caps. All of these changes that you see on this slide here would save about \$1 million. We have about 948 of our 9200 members on the plan that meet the out of pocket maximum at the current level. So we are talking about a 10% population that would potentially be impacted by some of these changes. We believe that the deductibles, the out of pocket maximum and the prescription coverage keep us aligned with other public sector groups and keep us competitive in the market. There are a number of other public plans out there that have a separate out of pocket maximum for their prescription coverage. Our prescription coverage and co-pays that our members pay count towards that 1800

or our proposed \$2,000 out of pocket maximum. So as we're comparing ourselves to other entities, I would ask folks to look at the pharmacy coverage as well. This protects our folks, from something catastrophic. And we believe that it is reasonable. On the next slide, you'll see our proposed recommendations for our kaiser plan. Our kaiser plan is facing a 14% increase. It's valued at over \$2 million. The labor management benefit committee did not get enough votes to move these recommendations forth to you all for your approval. What we're proposing under the kaiser plan, and this is a package deal, I know you all have heard a little bit about not having a lot of options, kaiser is a health maintenance organization. We worked incredibly hard with our consulting partners, with kaiser to come up with a package deal. That was the only way we could get to the 8% recommendation. The proposed changes increase urgent care from \$20 to 35. Specialty scans from 50 to 75. There's some hospital inpatient that's 10% after deductible. I think it was two days ago. We were able to confirm, based on some feedback that we received from folks after the labor management benefit committee vote, that there was some frustration over, inpatient mental health and substance use being, included in that increase at the 10% after deductible, we were able to continue negotiations on that piece only with kaiser, and they have confirmed that they would carve those out and there would be no member responsibility for inpatient urgent, hospitalization and treatment related to, chemical use, substance use and mental health, so and that was with no increase, in their proposed cost to the city. So we were able to work with one concern, and we're happy to report back that with this proposed change, there would not be any increase for members related to inpatient mental health and substance use support, deductibles. And out of pocket, you can see those are proposed increases. This was a very difficult negotiation with kaiser. They have historically had incredibly low out of pocket costs for members, which makes

it seem, much harder for folks to, to understand. But we still believe that this is reasonable. All, and that's why we're here today, to bring forth these recommendations, on the next slide, we'll show some information related to our recommendation for the Portland police association. Changes these changes are impacting their self-funded plan only, their kaiser renewal came in at a lower, much lower level than the labor management benefit committee. So we are asking for changes just to their self-funded plan. Only because it came in at a 27% increase. It is unsustainable, so bhr is recommending council approve a package that includes the changes that we need, in the 9. There are some changes that have minimal impact to membership. We want to use any excess reserves to buy down the rates. That will get us about 5. We're proposing to increase their stop loss levels, change the dental network, which is the same as the thing that the lmdc move forward maximum plan allowance and then some implementation of some pharmacy management tools to help us mitigate costs. Additionally, we're proposing a change that moves from the conexus network, which is the paradise network that moda offers. It includes providence, ohsu, legacy, and adventist providers and facilities and a whole host of others, this change would move them to synergy, which is a cost savings tool that other organizations have used. It would remove providence and two radiology clinics from the network, but many of the other clinics and providers would still be available for use. There's about a 25 or 26% impact on their membership, and we would be committed to working with them on a strategy, for moving this change forward. We're also proposing a 1.9% decrease, which would switch their pharmacy from the current formulary to a more restricted formulary. And we're estimating that these changes are valued at about \$1.8 million, I would add, before we move on to the other side, I apologize, I want to just talk a little bit about the differences between the ppa and the lmc plan, the ppa plans are already

much richer than what is offered to the rest of our city. We have an 1800\$ currently out of pocket, maximum on the city side for lmc. There's \$1,000 out of pocket, maximum, on the ppa side right now. And the reason that we are proposing the network change is because their plan design for their self-funded plan is embedded in their collective bargaining agreement. And so we don't have as much flexibility with this group as we do the labor management benefit committee. We did originally propose a network change to lmc, but we worked through with labor. We knew that that was going to be disruptive, and we kind of moved away from that and started to really focus on actual plan design changes with that group. So one additional note, on the next slide, we talk a lot about how our plans compare. There is the light orange side. If you can see that, on the screen that represents the city of Portland, this is really just looking at, mostly the labor management benefit committee group, ppa is, as I just said, a little bit more favorable, the middle graph is, how the state of Oregon overall looks, the cf was able to develop some tools that were local and also on the national level. So the city, the state in general, not the state of Oregon as an employer and then nationwide, and we compare for employee costs, our employee costs are much lower than in the region. And also nationally. The next group of graphs here explains the employer costs. So as you can see, our overall costs that the city pays on behalf of our plan participants, coverage is much higher than what is typically seen at the state level and also the national level. When you combine the employee costs, plus the employer cost, that gets you to the next set of graphs. So as you can see, our costs are low, but yet the overall cost of the plan, are high. And then on the far right you get to the deductible, what you're seeing on this slide is what we're proposing at that \$500 level. So even with our increase, deductible proposal, we are still well below the state and federal.

Speaker: Thank you. Michel. Yeah, just a clarification question. When you said Oregon and national, did you make it clear that it's the state of Oregon or just everybody lives in Oregon? It is this like a big catch?

Speaker: All employers in the state, private sector as well.

Speaker: And where did you get this information?

Speaker: From the kaiser family foundation, from kaiser.

Speaker: Okay. And national's kaiser permanente.

Speaker: It's a separate group. Sorry, confusing.

Speaker: I inserted some bad information. So it's just kaiser.

Speaker: It is the kaiser family foundation. Okay.

Speaker: The philanthropic arm and then national is.

Speaker: That's the entire not federal employees.

Speaker: It's okay everybody. And it's from the same source collect from their employer sources. Okay. The same source of information. Thank you. Absolutely thank you for catching that, on the next slide, I am going to, turn it over to santos aguilar for some more information. As we kind of shift over to an introduction of the next ordinance, which is three, three, seven, as I believe we're reading these all together, and then we will turn it over.

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor and commissioners, my name is santos aguilar. Benefits supervisor with bhr, I am here to introduce ordinance 337, which authorizes the chief human resources officer to enter into contract extensions with moda kaiser vsp standard insurance and care fertility on behalf of bhr beginning July 1st, 2024. Additionally, this ordinance gives bhr the ability to begin a formal solicitation for employee benefit plan consulting services. Moda kaiser vsp standard contracts would extend through June 30th of 2029, so it's an additional five year period unless it's terminated earlier, and we're also requesting some additional

funds to this contract as we extend it for additional period of time. The carrot fertility contract would be extended just by three years, whereas all other contracts would be five years. So it's through June 30th, 2027 to continue supportive services for employees who are looking to expand their family through adoption or surrogacy, and provide resources and support for new parents, bhr and their consulting partners and consulting have teamed up to negotiate to negotiate fair rates, for many of these are locked in during the 3 to 5 year period of the contract terms, keeping our administrative costs low allows the city to continue offering competitive, sustainable benefit packages to employees and families.

Speaker: Thank you. Santos, as we had stated earlier in our cost containing, methods is what santos is presenting to you are fair and reasonable contracts that put us through a three year period or a five year period, they were able to negotiate lower admin fees for a couple of our vendor partners in order to help keep our costs as low as possible. So we would ask that you approve of, three, three, seven as well as three, three, six. Next slide please.

Speaker: So as you can see our next steps is that we're looking for council to approve ordinances 336 and 337 as presented by bhr today.

Speaker: All right. Very good. So, we can take questions now then I understand there are some amendments that people would like to put on the table as well, and maybe just to warm things up, i'll jump in with a couple of questions. First of all, the chart that you showed comparing the city of Portland's relative contribution and relative cost to employees, how is that it? The last chart I want to make sure that showed if we adopted the program that you're presenting at 8, it shows we would still be, according to this, highly competitive. Is that a fair characterization?

Speaker: Absolutely. Okay, there was one thing in the presentation that did concern me, and I realize it's sort of like a funnel.

Speaker: We start at the top. It's costs, it's benefits. And if everybody's healthy and the costs are minimal, everybody's happy. But then you start getting towards people with preexisting conditions. And one of the most prevalent and worst, of course, is cancer. And I noticed that the radiology issue, too, is one area where we're asking people to potentially switch clinics. I think it may have been just within the ppa contract. Was that correct? Yes. Okay. So we're asking and I don't know anybody's health care issues. None of my business. But if there were somebody currently within ppa who is under rated allergy treatment, that is a life saving treatment, I would presume, tell me what happens to those individuals as we are in conversations right now with moda on if this change were to move forward, how do we support folks who are currently in treatment?

Speaker: How do we support folks who are in a third trimester of their pregnancy? And they've been working with providence, and that's the place where they want to deliver, right? We believe that we'll have some mechanisms in place to allow for some continuity of care for a certain period of time.

Speaker: So if somebody is, for example, currently receiving treatment, perhaps we could just buy an extension, if you will, for that individual. Is that a possibility within a plan like this? It is a possibility. Okay. Because I can see how that would just be highly disruptive and very threatening to somebody if they felt that they had to stop treatment for a very life threatening situation. And suddenly be moved to an entirely new team of providers in a new location. But other than that, i'll turn it over to commissioner Mapps. Did you have a question?

Speaker:

Speaker: Not. Not at the moment, i'll defer to my colleagues. I may jump in if no one else has a has a question.

Speaker: If there's no questions, we can go to amendments.

Speaker: Actually, can I just real quickly, I want to start out by saying I really appreciate, today's presentation, and I really appreciate all the work that staff has, put into this. And I also want to recognize and basically put on the record, I think something extraordinary has happened this year with our health care costs and, the systems that we've had in place for a long time have kind of failed us in this particular moment. And we've had about 34 minutes of presentation and kind of explaining to us, how we got here and what are some of our options moving forward. Tim, can I put you on the spot for a second here and just before we move on to the next phase, can you give us, like a 45 second summary of where we're at of what happened, why we're here and what what your colleagues to your right have presented.

Speaker: I'll be happy to do that, commissioner, on the financial side of this, what cbo is recommending to the council today is to, use the compensation set aside to cover these new costs going forward. And the estimates we have, currently are about \$5.3 million more for, of that, about, 2,176,000 would be general fund and non general fund would be about 3.1 million. Okay. So those are the numbers we have here. So when we say compensation set aside we're talking about general fund bureaus for the most part. And the reason we're recommending this is we already include within the compensation set aside estimates for, health care. In this case, it was 5. So we're actually needing to deal with the net increase here in those, we would also recommend to council that we increase the amount of appropriation, if possible, in the compensation set aside. And the reason for that is we're seeing a trend with the bureaus where in the past they've had lots of vacancy savings that offset their compensation costs during the year. And right now we're seeing more come in wanting full compensation. And I think that's just an example that they don't have as many vacant positions probably coming out of covid when

they start filling positions again, so we're looking at that, so it's, it's a normal thing for us to do in these cases to use the compensation set aside. And, but if we can, through a bump type of situation, we have excess resources we would recommend to council that they incorporate that into the compensation set aside. Just so we're not running into a situation when it comes time to take the money out, the compensation set aside and we don't have enough. We have to open up the budget to figure out what to do. So that's our recommendation to council on how to how to fund this increase. Okay.

Speaker: Okay. Thank you very much, no more questions.

Speaker: Very good. Commissioner Rubio, you had amendments, is that correct?

Speaker: Yes. I have, two amendments. And then following the amendments, I would love, to ask if heidi can help explain what they mean, because they're pretty dense, so, I'm, I moved to amend directive a to add quote, as stated in paragraphs three, five and seven of the findings above. And quote after the phrase, then quote again. The council hereby adopts the recommendations of the bureau of human resources and the Irmc to and then insert quote. The new paragraph will read section a. The council hereby adopts the recommendations of the bureau of human resources and the Irmc, as stated in paragraphs three, five, and seven of the findings above, while declining other changes and amends, and restates the city of Portland employee benefits program effective July 1st, 2024, in a form substantially similar to the attached exhibit a, the mayor or the human or the chief human resources officer are hereby authorized to execute the plan document and any amendments during the plan year as required by law. May I have a second, second commissioner Rubio moves Rubio one commissioner Mapps seconds and I understand this is a technical amendment.

Speaker: Yes, and then I have a second, I moved to add new findings. Six and eight, amend the existing directive and add two new directives. Paragraph six of the finding will read union members of the Irmc and the city of Portland professional workers proposed a surcharge paid by employees in pretax dollars to supplement the employee portion of the health insurance premium as an alternative to the terms reflected in paragraph five above, the surcharge proposed by the Irmc unions and cpp is in the amount of \$25 per month per employee for the 2425 fiscal year. All union members of the Irmc must enter into a letter of agreement to provide for this proposal. Paragraph eight of the findings will read. The ppa proposed an agreement to use self-funded excess reserves, increases self-funded stop loss levels, changing the self-funded dental plan network, changing the maximum plan allowance for out of network medical services. Implementing the advanced utilization management program within the pharmacy plan and the pharmacy formulary change for fiscal year 2425 with the value of 1.9% of the increased costs, along with the other agreement terms unrelated to the health plan costs in the council direction, section a reads a council hereby authorizes the bureau of human resources and consulting with the city attorney's office to enter into a letter of agreement with the Irmc union members and the cpp that includes, includes, but is not limited to, a surcharge of \$25 per month per employee in pretax dollars to supplement the health insurance premiums for the 2425 fiscal year. If by the end of the day on April 30th, 2024, the Irmc member unions and cpp w enter into such agreement, then council hereby adopts the terms of the letter of agreement and the Irmc approved recommendations to change the maximum amount, a plan allowance for out of network medical services and a change to the self-funded dental plan network valued at 1.5. Council further adopts and amends and restates the city of Portland employee benefits program effective July 1st, 2024,

in a form substantial similar to the attached exhibit a, the mayor or the chief human resources officer are hereby authorized to execute the plan document and any amendments during the plan year as required by law. Okay almost done. Bear with me, in the council direction, section b reads be council hereby authorizes the bureau of human resources, in consultation with the city attorney's office, to enter a letter into a letter of agreement with the ppa for the 2425 fiscal year. That includes, along with the other terms, an agreement use self funded an agreement to use self-funded excess reserves and increases increases self-funded stop loss levels. Changing the self-funded dental plan network. Changing the maximum plan allowance for out of network medical services. Implementing the advanced utilization management program within the pharmacy plan and the pharmacy formulary change if by the end of day on April 30th, 2024, the ppa enters into such agreement, then council hereby adopts the terms of the letter of agreement for the ppa health plan. Council further adopts and amends and restates the city of Portland employee benefits program effective July 1st, 2024, in a form substantially similar to the attached exhibit a, the mayor or the human, the chief human resources officer, are hereby authorized to execute the plan document and any amendments during the plan year as required by law. And finally, the amendment amended section c are as follows. See if the lmc member unions and the cp w do not enter the letter of agreement in paragraph a, then, as of may 1st, 2024, the council hereby adopts the recommendations of the bureau of human resources and the lmc as stated in paragraphs three, five, and seven of the findings above. While declining other changes and amends, and restates the city of Portland employee benefits program effective July 1st, 2024, in a form substantially similar to the attached exhibit a, the mayor of the chief human resources officer are hereby authorized to execute the plan document and any amendments during the plan

year as required by law. May I have a second, second seconds? To commissioner Ryan.

Speaker: So, mayor, commissioners, can I insert one thing I apologize?

Speaker: Sure. Thank you. Good afternoon. Mayor, commissioners Heidi Brown with the city attorney's office, I know we've kind of been last minute working on the amendments in paragraph c, we said if the LMC member unions and CPW do not enter into the agreement at the letter of agreement in paragraph a, we'd also need to add in. And if the PPA similarly does not enter into it, then as of May 1st, 2024. Okay, so if we could just add in and if the PPA does not enter into the letter of agreement in paragraph b, and I move exactly what Heidi said, I'll write that up for everyone. I apologize.

Speaker: Okay, so this is an amendment to the amendment. Is that correct? Heidi sorry, this is an amendment to the amendment, correct? Yes. Mayor okay. So commissioner Rubio moves an amendment to yea. Rubio two. Commissioner Ryan seconds call the roll on the amendment to the amendment. I Gonzales Mapps I Rubio I Wheeler. All right. So now that amendment is part of Ruby amendment number two, which is still open. Are there any further amendments, commissioner Mapps, no, I have no further amendments. But if I remember the vendor show, commissioner Rubio, laid out after introducing the amendments, she was going to ask Heidi to provide some cliff notes on what the amendments actually do.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner, and mayor. Again. Good afternoon, so in summary, the union members of the labor management benefits committee includes all city unions except the PPA representing members of PBB. So I just want to remind us where we are with the LMC and the changes that are adopted, are impact. All city employees except those PPA members at PBB, and so the LMC union membership came forward with a proposal to council, for an agreement between

the city and the then those unions that includes a health insurance premium surcharge of \$25 per month for the fiscal year 24 and 25. So the letter of agreement would have, amongst some other terms, that is the basic, portion of a letter of agreement between the city and, those union members. If you were to adopt these amendments that surcharge just so everybody is clear, is a is a pretax dollar surcharge that's taken out of city employees paychecks, and that would occur every on our every other week and divide it in half. So under bhr recommendation, the city, already funding the bulk of these cost increases due to rising health care costs, would would, that some of those changes that bhr recommended would not then occur, so the city would still pay the 8, but some of those increases, like the increase to out-of-pocket maximums, the changes to the generic medication caps, and the changes to the kaiser plan instead of those happening, this surcharge would occur and that would fund almost two thirds of that cost that's still remaining between what the city was, what bhr is proposing that the city pay for, and what bhr is proposing. Changes to the plan that would make up the difference in that cost, and so it would increase what the city cost is by approximately 1.2 million. And these are approximate numbers. For ppa. So that's just, that's, that's that's basically what we're talking about for the lmc. So most city employees for the ppa, the amendment provides for certain changes to the health trust plan design. Mayor you called out that question about if we're changing the plan of the of where people can go for services. So currently, ppa members can go to providence and certain radiology clinics. And you were noting, well, what if they're in a certain radiology clinic, what the ppa has come forward and requested that, council authorize an agreement between the state, would be that that change that would get rid of providence and the radiology clinics would not occur. And instead the,

the, the other changes that bhr was recommending would occur. Additionally, a change that will save the city approximately \$200,000.

Speaker: And that's in the base ordinance, correct? That's in the proposal is proposed in the in the one that's proposed, there are plan changes that would provide additional, cost savings to the city, of about \$2 million.

Speaker: And, ppa is proposing make some of those changes, but not all of them. And city, you take on some additional costs and the one they're proposing that you not make is that change from the conexus plan to the synergy plan. And that and that increase in cost is approximately 700,000. I will defer to timothy grewe, our cbo director, to explain the finances more if you're interested in that. But just basically what are we talking about? Those are the amendments and what they would do. Is there any are there any questions I can answer regarding those? Just the meaning of those.

Speaker: I'm a little confused, thanks for the description. Thank you for asking the question. So in your presentation in response to my question about the radiology issue, you said you're still working on a strategy. What what is that strategy?

Speaker: I can talk about that a little bit if that's okay, so we're the benefit team is currently working with moda, who processes our claims. They're the ones who manage the network. So we're currently in conversations with them related to this proposed change. They're looking at impacted members, which is where we got the about 26% of the membership that would be impacted, and we're beginning to have conversations with them, at this point, we think we could go out possibly 3 or 4 months. I'm a little bit cautious to say that, in this kind of setting, because nothing is finalized at this point. But what I will say is that any, anything that we do to, communicate that will absolutely be intentional, it will come mostly from moda because they are going to know who is impacted by these changes. Our office,

because of privacy reasons, don't know exactly who it is that's impacted by it. But we'll continue to have these conversations. We're committed to ensuring that people aren't just cut off on July one. If this proposed change moves forward, but we would we would work on some sort of solution.

Speaker: Great. Thank you.

Speaker: Heidi, did you finish your, summary?

Speaker: I did, thank you. And I was available for questions, if there are any. But hopefully that simplified down what the amendments would do.

Speaker: Great. Okay

Speaker: If that completes the q and a, then we have some invited testimony from counsel. I understand commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Yeah. Mr. Mayor, I have invited our labor partners to come and, and, directly speak to counsel both about the ordinance that's been brought forward. By the city and by the amendments that have been brought forward by counsel, I want to make it clear I invited all of our labor partners to participate in today's discussion, we have many folks from labor here today. I don't think that we have every union here, but I want to invite the folks who are here to please come on up and let's take a little bit of time to get your perspective on both the original ordinance and the amendments that are on the table.

Speaker: And not to be a jerk, but I want to note that we have a very lengthy afternoon session coming up at 2 p.m, and I'm hoping I can give city staff a little bit of a break. Prior to that session, I myself am going to have my lunch delivered, so do not take it as a statement of, being impolite if I eat all. We're here because my suspicion is we're going to go right through to two. Yeah let's go first.

Speaker: Thank you mayor. Thank you. Council. I'll go ahead and lead off. My name is Rachel Whiteside and I'm union representative for Protech 17 members at

the city. I'm also the co-chair of the city's labor management benefits committee, just for a little bit of background, this is my seventh renewal cycle on the committee, and, and I have been extremely frustrated by the process, this year in particular for reviewing and making recommended ations, I feel like the process was slowed down by incomplete information. There was non-trans apparent negotiations with our insurance providers, and frankly, the deadline just doesn't allow for the meaningful and values based conversations that this committee is expected to hold, I feel like the purpose of the lmc is to ensure that we have an affordable benefits package that meets our adopted city values, and I don't believe that the changes advanced by bhr after being voted down by the lmc reflect those values, I'd like to thank commissioner Rubio's office for advancing, hearing our concerns and advancing the amendments to the ordinance. I also just need to acknowledge the elephant in the room that it's not the city's fault. It's not the workers fault. None of us have caused the crisis in health care costs that we're staring down, this is a national problem. But of course, it's one that we have to tackle nonetheless, I strongly believe that these amendments reflect a collaborative arrangement between, labor and the city, and that they will prevent cuts to employee benefits. But most importantly, by holding the city's major benefits plans at current levels, it provides the committee a full year to address the changing landscape and providing the lmc with the needed time to address these skyrocketing health care costs. In a way that is both responsible and transparent. And sitting here today, I can state on the record that myself and our members are committed to the process of the lmc and maintaining the level of care that, city workers need and expect. So I would urge you to please vote yes on the amendments presented by commissioner Rubio. Aaron isaac, I thank you all for your time today.

Speaker: And I just want to echo, the problems that we're facing are complicated. We're reforming our city government.

Speaker: We've faced in the last four years, just a myriad of issues that are financially complicated, culturally complicated, morally complicated in all of the things, and I'm sorry.

Speaker: Aaron schmaltz, president, Portland police association I'm supposed to say that first. The thing that was really challenging for me from this perspective, I mean, as we're navigating all of these issues, you all have been very busy, and this conversation has always been sort of quiet, but, health benefits come up. People feel a little impacted. It's not that big of a deal. And we move on, and with all of the things going on, I think a lot of us, were rocked back. And I know for me, when I was presented with ultimately where this was going, I have to apologize for michelle because she got to see a frustrated version of me, but, all I could think of as I went home, as a father of a daughter with immunosuppressant issues, who has providence, whose life was saved by providence because we couldn't find a good doctor, that this is not, what this city's values are as a second generation in Portland city employee. This is just not who we are, and I was pleased to find out as I spoke with you and your staffs that I was correct, that that we were all looking for a solution against a timeline. That is impossible, and so i, you know, my desire through these amendments is simply to create a runway. We can't solve this problem this year. We can't. We don't have time, there are wildly complicated contractual problems that create months and months of conversation, this is not a one year problem. This is a two ish, three ish year problem of figuring out how we can work with labor in partnership with the city, to figure out what is a stable and sustainable health care model, so that none of us have to have members calling us and saying, my daughter has cystic fibrosis and she's been in treatment for 18

years, and these are her specialists, and they're all gone in two months. Give us a year and two months. Let us figure out how we're going to do this together, these costs are going up, all of us in a very united way, are committed to having these hard conversations together, but these amendments provide that runway, and it is through shared sacrifice, both through cuts and through a very small amount of money. Effectively crowdsourcing what is that runway which will allow for us to have this conversation together in a healthy way?

Speaker: I'll just add, morning.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Now mayor Wheeler and City Council, my name is isaac mclennan. I'm the president and the Portland firefighters association resident. Rosewood neighborhood and a member of the lgbq. First, I'd like to thank commissioner Mapps for inviting us to testify here today, health care benefits, as you know, are our cornerstone of compensation for workers through good faith negotiations with the city firefighters and emts currently working under contract, and were able to agree on appropriate wages, hours and benefits and the city's request. We've agreed to work through a collaborative labor management committee to select benefits that meet the needs of all city workers and our families. This is a complex subject which talented committee members have dedicated themselves to understanding. In addition to agreeing to work to this committee, we've also agreed to split the costs of health care premiums where the city pays 95, employee pays five. As we, as we are now all aware, costs for health care have gone up and we agree that to maintain our portion of that premium, I would ask council to do the same. I'm frustrated today because the committee collaborated in good faith and came to a consensus. We are consideration and effectively council rejected that, I've attended lbcc since 2014. I've served on the committee since 2022, and all those years City Council has approved the lmdc

recommendations. Until now, these these these, these really damage our ability to collaborate in good faith. And it undermines the work and time the committee dedicates year round. Firefighters may not always agree with others in the committee and at times vote in opposition, but we honor the process. And we stood by the committee's recommendation. I would ask council to do the same. I'm keenly aware of the budget situation ahead. I'm also aware that choices have been made to structure a new, top heavy and costly form of government. That and that other choices will be made on how we balance our budget as is required. But I've also said on other other budget issues, voters approved this new form of government, but they did not vote to reduce health care benefits for city employees. None of us here can control the cost of health care, but I do expect that we work together to plan, prepare for these costs and to go up. We've known about these coming increases for months and proper funding should have been set aside to address them. As firefighters, we push our bodies to the limit of our ability to help others. There's a saying that I hear in my firehouse whatever the day demands, implying that no matter what we face, we will do our jobs to the best of our ability. When the bell goes off, there's no telling what emergency lies ahead that does not stop us or slow us down in respond. And we do our jobs. And I would ask council to do the same. And just to close, I would say, you know, I'm very, very, very thankful for, all the work that has been going into these amendments. And I wholeheartedly support them, as does, my team. So thank you.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: James o'loughlin, labor rep with liuna 403, i'll speak briefly from the perspective of someone who does not sit on the lmdc, that group has, decades long history of tangling with these challenges. And I know there's been a lot of talk about uniqueness of this challenge, but from what I've seen in this space, unique

challenges are the precedent, so my concern here is largely that, not adopting these amendments presented by commissioner Rubio could lead to an undermining of that committee, which would leave us unprepared for facing those challenges in the collaborative way we have in the past. That actually leads to the best outcomes for all parties. So we strongly encourage you to adopt the amendments as proposed. Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps you had a comment or question, just a quick question, for the panel. I'm not sure if we have a second wave of panelists coming forward. But before I lose you folks, let me ask you this, you know, I'm inclined to support the amended, ordinance, on the other hand, what can we do to make sure that we're not literally back in this exact same situation a year from now? We've had this collaborative committee, which has been meeting for years and years to solve this problem, and the unique thing is, I think health care costs are increasing at a, at an unprecedented rate. Let's put it that way, and I sure hope that when we hand off, you know, we're going to hand this council over to a whole new generation of folks, but why, why is it going to be different next year? And what can we do to make sure that, the folks who are here a year from now are not in the situation that we're in today?

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner, that's an excellent question, and I can tell you for the Imdc that we are already, starting that conversation now. So I think we were a little bit blindsided by the double digit increases that came this year. We didn't see those renewal numbers, until January, and we didn't have direction in terms of cuts until February. And that only leaves us about four weeks to take a vote. We're just going to anticipate that we're going to see another double digit increase, and we're going to start having those conversations literally this next month, in terms of, what are our values around the plans as well as, working with our consultant

aon, to make sure that we're getting better information in front of the members of the committee. A lot of what we're asking for is what it looks like for impacts to members, and it can be very challenging for them to pull that information together in a very short turnaround time, which is basically what we're given between February and March. So we're going to start looking at those impacts now, if I can add to that.

Speaker: I mean, I think if you look at how we can posture our and navigate, this is a city that obviously cares a lot about labor. I think something in the range of 95% of the employees in Portland are represented, we're a city that cares about health care and cares about those employees. And you know, you look at the compensation packages, I was watching the slides earlier. It is true that our wages have gone up because we've needed to attract and recruit and retain the best employees we can, and part of this is how do we have that symbiotic relationship between our elected officials and our union representatives to ensure that we're moving forward together, my frustration with this process this year is it was not until three weeks ago that we heard really what the issue was, which was that providence is struggling to keep up with some of the competition, you know, we have the other two major hospitals in our city are merging. So I have no idea from a market navigation standpoint, what is causing that, but we don't know how to bargain. If we don't know what the concerns are, we need to sit down together in a non-adversarial way and not consider what can the city do to the employees to balance the budget, but instead consider what should we do together to navigate this problem together, we've all I mean, I mean, this has been an interesting moment, I think, for all of us, because we've really all kind of come together in a, in a mutual way to figure out how do we not know, how do we not have clear understanding about what this really pernicious problem was, and so, I mean, you

have my commitment, I mean, my members are stuck with me for two years. So next year i'll be here for sure, how do we make sure we understand causally the impact of the cost increase and where the unexpected costs could come from. And what do we do to prepare? I mean, there's incredibly talented people on the Imdc. The epa is isolated. And some of that conversation because of a 20 year old arbitration decision. And we have a different thing. But how do we make sure that collectively we are having these conversations, as we now know that some of the concerns are and we're ready to sit and discuss how we can address those? We're all, I think, pretty smart people, we need to do this differently next year. And next year is one month from now, not eight months from now. Thank you. And I noticed that Ryan has his hand up. Ryan did you want to jump in here on that question in particular? We're going to have another wave of labor come up and chat. Chat. But if you wanted to jump in at this moment.

Speaker: Yeah, I just wanted to actually yield my time to our president, jamie doescher, who sits on the Imc. I just wanted to make sure that the folks that were virtual aren't being skipped over in this process. So that's I'm not trying to interrupt, just interject. I got it and we see and thank you.

Speaker: Thanks for joining us online, I'm going to say a couple words here and then I'm going to, step aside and let the next group come up, thank you in particular for the answer to that, to the question of how do we avoid being back in the exact same space a year from now? So, I really like the answers. I've, I've heard, you know, I don't think i, I can't obviously push the Imdc around, but if I were to make a plea to your folks, should this pass, and I expect this to pass today, I hope that we can sit down, you know, literally next week, and start the discussion about how we avoid being here. Clearly, one of the things that we just didn't anticipate this year is how do we navigate, double digit increases in health care costs? And

that's just a scenario that we didn't quite plan for. And i'll take some blame for this, over my portfolio, we did not, fully budget for, for the what the bills actually are, and we all moving forward as we build our budgets and sort of negotiate how we're going to split costs. We need to plan for a universe where health care costs, you know, can potentially go up above 10% a year, and i'll let the smart people at this table and in the, in the audience, figure out how we get from there, thank you. Colleagues, I have no more questions, but I do think that we have more labor partners who would like to address council.

Speaker: So if you have more invited testimony, let's hear it. Otherwise, let's go to public testimony.

Speaker: Okay. Thanks, folks, I think I it looks like we have, some folks in person. And. Jamie, are you testifying online? I am welcome, thanks for being here. I will turn it over to our partners to figure out how you want to run the show.

Speaker: So, again, sorry. It's my role as presiding officer to be a jerk. I would encourage people to be as succinct as possible. We have a very long afternoon session starting in about 52 minutes. Thank

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor Wheeler, City Council, thank you for the opportunity to be here today to speak with you. My name is sarah curtis. I'm a managed care coordinator at ohsu, and I'm also the chief steward of afscme local 328, ohsu is the largest employer in the city of Portland, and afscme local 328 represents about 40% of that workforce, which is over 8000 members, we are predominantly health care workers who live in the city of Portland. We are your constituents. I'm here today in solidarity with my union siblings from afscme local 189, as a managed care coordinator, I'm responsible for obtaining insurance authorizations for necessary medical care and advising patients of their out-of-pocket costs for their treatment.

Speaker: I don't imagine that any of you have ever had to call a cancer patient and tell them that they can't come to their chemo appointment because they can't afford it, or a stroke patient and tell them that they can't come have their mris done. And I hope you never have to do that, because I'm here to tell you it's horrible every single time you have to do it.

Speaker: The first time you do it, the 500th time you do it, it is absolutely devastating. We care deeply about our patients and it affects us greatly when we have to deny them care, because they out of pocket costs are too high, delayed or denied.

Speaker: Care leads to worse outcomes. This includes mayor Wheeler, as you spoke about, changes in networks, the continuation of care agreements that she's talking about, negotiating 3 to 4 months is a dream. They're usually 1 to 2 months.

Speaker: And to get into a specialist is usually six months to 12 months.

Speaker: So you're looking at many months where people with, potentially terminally ill, or very serious conditions may go without care, the reality is that there will be families who lose their loved ones because they couldn't afford care or have timely access to it.

Speaker: I can see in a patient's chart where they work, when I have to make these calls to my union siblings and their families, I will know how each of you voted today.

Speaker: And I told you personally responsible for the choices you make on behalf of myself and the 8000 health care workers. That I represent, I'm asking you to do the right thing for our union members who have dedicated their lives to serving our community and to fully fund their health care benefits. Thank you. Thank you, thank you, commissioners and mayor Wheeler, for having us today. I'm jacob brostoff. I'm the executive vice president of seiu local 189, city of Portland, local

and, I'm also entering my 20th year of service with the city. I'm proud to say I work in the community safety division and the safe box program, along with the other city unions that are here today, we represent many of our workers and we are the lifeblood of the city of Portland. We can't do our work without affordable, comprehensive health care, which is an important part of our compensation. And many of our coworkers do dangerous work every day. So it's incumbent upon you, our employer, to provide health care that meets our family's needs. Threats to our ability to afford wellness are threats to our ability to do the work of our city. I briefly want to thank council offices who championed the solution to the health care cost increase crisis that we're facing. So thank you to commissioner Mapps yea. Rubio and Ryan. And I especially want to thank, michelle rodriguez, jillian shannon, and tj mchugh for their hard work to salvage the efforts of the labor management benefits committee, that process needs to be revisited and repaired before we have this conversation again. Next year and in years to come. And as rachel said, that needs to start sooner than later. Thank you for your time today, and I appreciate your continued support for employees and the workers that we represent. Thank you. Thanks, jacob.

Speaker: Good afternoon, jacob domeyer, resident of Portland and the secretary treasurer of local 43, Portland firefighters association.

Speaker: Thank you for your time this morning.

Speaker: This afternoon. Now I'm here today to speak in opposition to the proposed cuts, proposed by bhr and to speak reluctantly in support of the amendment by commissioner Rubio, every day today, in fact, firefighters left their families at home to stand ready across the city to respond to calls for help. We do this knowing that our job exposes us to a high risk of injury, cancer, ptsd, sleep deprivation and disorders, immunocompromise, illnesses, ses, and emotional

dysregulation. The exertion required in responding time after time to render aid in chaotic environments takes a toll on our bodies and our ability to be good parents, friends, spouses to the people that we love. When we're away from the job. Still, you depend on us to answer when you need help and we take great pride in our responding to your needs to protect our community. So when our families need help, we expect that you treat your responsibility to them with the same sense of duty. I'm asking you to vote against the recommendations of bhr and for the amendment as proposed by commissioner Rubio. Do not vote to reduce the benefits that our families depend on while we are away, that serve as our lifeline when we are injured or overwhelmed, and that we need in order to continue a career of service. Thank you for your time this afternoon.

Speaker: Thank you. And I see jamie with, on the line. Jamie, do you want to jump in here?

Speaker: Good afternoon everyone.

Speaker: My name is jamie, and I am.

Speaker: How's my sound, you're kind of quiet in here. I don't know if that's you or something that we can fix.

Speaker: Probably not me. I've never been described as quiet.

Speaker: What should we do?

Speaker: I will keep talking, as with my introduction. And you can tell me if I need to continue.

Speaker: That sounds great, so just some background. Whoa. I would like to thank everyone today for the opportunity to speak specifically to matt, his office, for the invite and for review of office for the amendment, some background on me. Like, rachel, I've been on this committee for ten plus years, and liuna represents, members in pbot, bts and parks and recreation. I happen to be a recreation

employee myself, which is why I am the rep for the lbc. For rec, unions highly value the ability to bargain our health care and our collective bargaining agreements. But we only bargain two things the 95 five split and the process that we get our health care through the bca. If you are experiencing increased health care costs. And my understanding is that City Council, directly bhr to keep the cost at 8, a restriction that the lmdc has never experienced before. Well, I think that ultimately the low that is being proposed through the amendment will be better for members. And frustrated with how we got here, as it seems that this solution has only been made possible by circumventing that bargain process. I want to thank my union siblings for the effort they've gone through to complete an la in a record time. I believe we're at 48 hours, and it's been a short turnaround time, especially when, typically lows take, months to process. I also want to echo rachel's comments, and I appreciate the work that michelle's group does. I think that this is the fault of no one is just an increased cost of health care, but I want to encourage that next year. The lmdc is presented with the info earlier, more robust information, the information or the responses to the questions that we asked about how this impacts our numbers, and that more possibility or possibilities are explored, that the lmdc can be empowered to recommend a benefit plan that is robust and affordable. Stormtrooper. So thank you for this time today.

Speaker: Thank you jamie. And I think, oh, looks like we have a little bit more. Another labor person here. Miss slaughter, please go. If you're here to testify.

Speaker: Hi, I'm lina slaughter. I'm with liuna local 43. I am the field representative of, for our city employees. And I just wanted to take a time with you today just to make sure you understand, who this really affects, while it does affect all our members, we do have a group of individuals that are part time employees. As a former part time employee, I was almost paid 400 a month for my insurance, as a

single mom, that's a lot like I have to figure out what I was going to pay for with this increase.

Speaker: It really affects those part time employees. It's a small amount of employees, but how do I go back to our members and say, hey, the plan doesn't change, but you have to pay more? How do we get really great people to take these jobs? Which I will tell you, six of them are teen forest employees. How do we get people to come and apply for these jobs? If they can't get the health benefits that they need and deserve, how are they going to pay for that? That's all I wanted to say. I just want to make sure that you understand what will happen. Sure.

Speaker: And thank you, miss slaughter, for those comments.

Speaker: And, in discussions around this, the bond that some of your, your folks are in has been, pointed out to me. I totally get it, frankly, I don't know if I have a solution today, but I will tell you, I am committed to, working with our city staff and our labor partners to try to figure out if there's a way that we can move forward. And I believe that completes our presentation from labor today. Is that correct? Any folks have anything else? They want to get on the table, well, thank you. I'll let you get back, to your to your seats. Unless my colleagues have questions for labor, they want to surface right now. Okay. All right, well, colleagues, I believe this is the moment where we would ask any questions or have any, dialog around the amended ordinance. Does anyone have anything that they want to, raise? Well, the mayor is not here, but, we have to kind of move forward. I would assume our colleagues. Are you okay with me calling the vote even though the mayor is out of the room? Yeah. Yeah. Hungry? Yeah because, let me ask the city attorney. Is there something else that I should do?

Speaker: Just want to put on the record. There's no public testimony.

Speaker: Yeah, I think we got you.

Speaker: Everyone who, was. So no one has signed up to testify who hasn't testified already, and, mr. Mayor, your timing is perfect because we are just about to call the roll. Would you like to do that, or shall i, what are we calling the roll on, the amended ordinance.

Speaker: And there was no additional public testimony. No additional public testimony to, Rubio. One that was the technical amendment. Any further discussion on call the roll on Rubio? One, which is the amendment to three, three, six. Ryan I'm just going to make a statement first to say that I'm going to do my quick vote on this one and make remarks on the second.

Speaker: Oh, I was going to do them on the first.

Speaker: You were going to do it the other way.

Speaker: Can I ask a quick runner show? Did we did did we just first and second or did we actually vote on the amendments earlier? We did not vote.

Speaker: We earlier. We have two amendments on the table. Rubio one which is technical, Rubio two, which is the extension. We voted on an amendment to amendment two. I see, and I just wanted to clean it up just so we're just voting.

Speaker: I'm glad you're back. I'm glad you're here.

Speaker: So we're now voting on two amendments. Then we'll go back and vote on the main motion, as amended, to the degree that any amendments pass. So now we're on Rubio one, just the amendment. Call the roll. Ryan I Gonzalez I maps, I Rubio.

Speaker: Hi, Wheeler. Hi.

Speaker: Please call the roll on Rubio two Ryan.

Speaker: Yes. Thank you. And thank you, presenters and management for your testimony. First, thank you, presenters for management, for your presentation and for the testimony from our labor partners. I apologize, I'm getting if you're getting a

little hungry, look for me. It's not your fault, so anyway, on to my remarks. It's a part of our city values to provide the best health care system we possibly can. And our employees deserve that. The market pressures are real. Covid did a number on our health care system. Workforce conditions ignited work for justice, which included much needed support for our health care employees. Those necessary investments are now hitting consumers. We are trying to find the balance between our commitment to superb benefits for our families and for being fiscally responsible. Well, let me be clear this is a temporary fix for this year. Next year, we will have an even harder negotiations as health care costs continue to rise and budgets shrink, there will be a need to be to have concessions on both sides. Shared sacrifice as we partner keyword to serve the residents of our city. I hope we learned from this that we need to start negotiations early. 11th hour negotiations are no way to ensure fairness and build trust in our partnership with labor. That being said, I'm very happy we came to a solution that is fair at this moment in time. Thank you to the chiefs of staff leading this compromise, namely jillian, michelle and tj for working tirelessly with labor leaders to arrive at something we can live with today and move forward in trust. I vote I Gonzalez.

Speaker: I want to reiterate some of the pieces I've shared with labor leadership, over the last, really 24 hours on a number of components here, I'm, I'm very happy that the compromise has been struck on a temporary, solution for this year, I'm going to support it, I appreciate the skin in the game that's being distributed, demonstrated by all involved. Truly, I do, but next year is going to be rougher, and we have to, in addition to many of the procedural aspects that have been alluded to, we really need to be partners on containing costs that doesn't support our workers. There is plenty of opportunities for efficiency in our government. And we need we really need your help, on on finding ways that are not on the back of

workers to manage the cost of our form of government. So I just would implore you to partner with us as we evaluate the best way to launch this new form of government, where we what are the requirements, what aren't the requirements, and let's not put it on the back of workers and taxpayers as we navigate all that. I vote I maps, I want to, thank especially council staff who I know literally have been working around the clock for several days to try to, make this base ordinance better. I want to thank our labor partners who have just been incredibly creative and, persistent and urging council to do better in this space, I will also I'm going to vote I on this amendment, and I'm going to vote I on the, base ordinance, but like commissioner Gonzalez, I'm really going to make a plea to everybody who has to sit at this table. Let's come together here, and develop some strategies for how we address, labor costs, not labor costs, but health care costs, next year in particular, for everything that I see at this hour indicates that we're likely to face a similar paradox in 365 days. I think we can plan for this. We got great people and great minds and I think constructive, folks at this table, it's been a real pleasure and honor to work with you to try to get us to this moment. I think this has been some of the most extraordinary policy making I've seen in my three and a half years in this building, which is why I vote. I yea. Rubio.

Speaker: So first, I just want to acknowledge that this is a city value, health care that we deeply care about all the health of the employees and all employees, dependents, and I want to also acknowledge at the same time, I know that the city team that works really hard to provide council a lot of, advice. Nice, and especially when it comes to the city's financial outlook, they do their, their best. So I do want to appreciate tracy and ron and michelle and santos and heidi and tim and ruth as well for all their their work and their guidance, and second, just to be blunt, the health insurance rate increases that were tossed into our collective laps just a few

months ago created a lot of havoc in an already challenging budget year, and also had the potential to really create havoc and instability in the lives of many city employees and their dependents. And so for me, these decisions were way too consequential. That affected our city employees to do within a matter of months. And the result has been that we've all had to really dig in in a very short amount of time to get here where we are today, also, so we know that it's going to get harder as people have talked about already. So these conversations really must continue. And like we've heard in testimony, this doesn't solve our problem, but it does give us the runway for the work ahead. And I deeply, deeply appreciate everyone's leaning in, especially among our labor leaders. And, putting truth in the on the table in the conversations that we've had over the past several weeks. And I especially appreciate, your, your vigilance, your directness and your willingness to figure out a path that got us here today, it's not a problem that we could solve in a few weeks. It's going to take the year, as people have mentioned, and what we've learned after this last week is that we should start these conversations immediately, also, health care is absolutely a human right. It's fundamental all especially for our workers who work in service to the public. And we need health care reform in this country. Now and it's a vital, vital benefit. And it's touching all of our most vulnerable places, which is why I think I like others, had that visceral reaction, namely our families and in particular our children, and of course, some of these changes could be devastating. So, it's worth working on to the very last hour. I guess that's what I want to say. And just very quickly, I want to really thank folks that really came together from various unions over this last week, Rachel Whiteside, Jacob Rosoff, Rob Martineau, Aaron Schmalz, Ryan Sotomayor, Jamie Dozier, Isaac MacLennan and all of those who showed up to testify as well. Today, I also want to really thank my staff, Jillian Ciccone, for her tremendous leadership and lyft on this, who got to work

right away with our labor partners and city staff and also want to appreciate and lift up michelle from commissioner Mapps office as well, so these conversations need to start in earnest this summer, and I really trust that everyone at the table will be leaning in and working. The problem, with the intention of getting us through this challenge so that we can provide the stability and consistency and reliability for every worker and their loved ones who depend on this health care from the city. So, i'll be watching closely and willing to continue to lean in myself. I vote yea Wheeler, I want to thank bhr staff.

Speaker: I want to thank members of the labor manager benefits committee, some of whom are here in front of us today. I'd like to thank aaron and the Portland police association, aaron, as I've said on many occasions, I really appreciate your, your, communicative nature. The fact that you reach out to all of us, that you share your thoughts, your ideas, us, your concerns, and frankly, help us with an attitude of problem solving. And that's, that's been a breath of fresh air. And, frankly, it's been really helpful. And I want to personally acknowledge you for that. But I also want to thank the association overall, I want to thank all of you for the work that you've put into amending the city of Portland employee benefits program, and I also want to thank our bhr staff. In particular, their job is not easy. And let's remember that this issue, somebody said it really well during the testimony. None of us created this. This was handed to us. It was thrown at us. And I want you to know that even behind closed doors, your bhr staff advocates strongly for you. And they remind us at every turn that we have to be a competitive employer. So on one hand, it's about the value of caring for our fellow city workers. But it's also we want to be a competitive employer in a really difficult employment environment. And we and all even use me as an example. I am concerned gently admonishing them on fiscal responsibility and the need to remember that while we take care of our city

employees, we also have a core mission of providing services to the public. And we have a difficult time under these budget circumstance choices, being able to do it the way I think all of us in this room would like us to be able to do it. So i, I want to acknowledge the bhr staff, I also want to mirror the a word of caution that that my fellow colleagues have mentioned up here. This is not a one and done problem, I do agree with your testimony that we need more space. We just did not have enough space to find a workable solution. Given the deadline, which is today, to agree on a plan and move forward. And so this may not be a perfect solution. It may not even be the most cost effective. It may not even provide the best services to you and your families, but it buys us time. But I really want to underscore that that time must be used aggressively, because the fiscal calculations and I didn't bother bringing tim up here to talk about that. But they are fairly significant to the overall budget. These these increases are cumulative. In fact, they're additive, over the course of the next several years, there will have to be changes to the health care program between now and next year, or this will balloon and I won't be here to suffer the consequences of this. You all will. And many of my colleagues here will as well. So I just want to put that cautionary note that we really have to double down. And I'm going to rely on your your expertise and your ideas and your thoughts over the course of the next eight plus months to see how far we can get along that path, before before I pack my box, any rate, thank you all. I vote I on the amendment. The amendment passes to the main motion three, three, six, as amended. Ryan

Speaker: I Gonzalez, I Wheeler, I the, ordinance is passed as amended to the second ordinance.

Speaker: 337. Please call the roll. Ryan.

Speaker: Hi, Gonzalez. Hi hi. Yea. Rubio. Wheeler.

Speaker: Hi. The ordinance is adopted. We are adjourned until 27 minutes from now.

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

April 24, 2024 – 2:00 p.m.

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Speaker: Please call the roll. Good afternoon. Ryan here. Gonzalez. Here. Maps. Rubio here.

Speaker: Wheeler here. Now we're going to hear from legal counsel. Good afternoon.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Welcome to the Portland City Council to testify before council in person or virtually. You must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [Portland.gov/council/agenda](https://portland.gov/council/agenda). Information on engaging with City Council can be found on the council clerk's web page. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony. 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 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. Addition City 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. Disclose if you are a

lobbyist. If you're representing an organization, please identify it. For testifiers joining virtually, please unmute yourself once the council clerk calls your name.

Speaker: Thank you, thank you and legal counsel. I might ask you to reread that after our first item before we start our second item. Just because it's going to be a long afternoon, so first item Keelan item 338 first reading of a nonemergency ordinance to create the sustainability and climate commission. Commissioner Rubio, thank you.

Speaker: Mayor, colleagues, today I'm excited to bring forward this ordinance standing up the sustainable city and climate commission. The timing of this action is not accidental. It is earth week when we are reminded that protecting our environment is a collective responsibility, and this is one step we can take to make sure climate implications are an integral part of our decision making process for the city of Portland. Portland has long been an international leader in sustainability and climate justice, and this commission will cement city climate action with our new governance structure and act as a champion body for all current and future climate work. I'd like to take a moment to remind you of the history of how we got to today. In late 2021, I directed the hiring of a consultant to gather different perspectives about how the planning and sustainability commission was working. As a result of this report, it was very clear there was a need for two commissions as the oversight responsibilities related to both land use planning and sustainability have become more than one commission can undertake. In January of 2023, council voted to split the commission, creating a planning commission and directing the creation of a sustainability and climate commission, which we are voting on today or which we are hearing about today with the city transition, this new advisory body will ensure that climate and sustainability work across all service areas will be unified and a lead and lead to lasting change. This framework is designed to fit into the new city

structure under the city administrator's purview. The commission will be overseen by the chief sustainability officer and structured with an eye toward community informed guidance and essential engagement with service areas on issues critical to achieving our climate goals. So I want to thank director donnie olivera, chief sustainability officer vivian satterfield and elaine livingstone. The collaboration and engagement that have gone into this project is truly remarkable. You have all spent countless hours coordinating with community and city staff to bring this thorough framework to council. So now I will hand it to vivian satterfield to introduce her, her team and their work.

Speaker: Hi. Good afternoon mayor. Commissioners, thank you so much. Commissioner Rubio, for that wonderful and very kind introduction. I am vivian satterfield. I use she her pronouns or my name, and I am your chief sustainability officer. I'm currently at the bureau of planning and sustainability, and I'm going to be presenting today's presentation alongside my colleague elaine livingstone. You'll be hearing from both of us in today's presentation, we've been doing actually a fair amount of these presentations. Thank you so much, council clerk, for pulling this up and helping us run this format today, we've been doing a fair amount of these presentations. And so if you don't mind, I hope that many of your questions will be addressed as we go through the presentation. And so if you don't mind holding your questions and then we can address them at the very end. Thank you very much. Next slide please. So today this is what we'll be covering. As you heard from commissioner Rubio. There's quite a bit of history that brings us to today, in which we're actually asking you to establish and stand up a framework for the new guiding body for sustainability and climate commission, as a result of the decoupling of planning from sustainability from the prior psc, the planning and sustainability commission, you'll also hear about sort of the goals that arrived from

the not just the consultant report, but really coming from the guiding documents we have for the city, for our climate action plans. And you'll also hear about the work that we did to really understand and incorporate the charter reform process and what Portlanders are telling us about the urgency of climate change, and how they would like to see the new form of government addressing this really critical global charge, you'll hear about the proposed structure, functions and plans that will guide this new climate and sustainability body and also what the next steps for the sustainability and climate commission will be, including how we'll see commissioners and all the work that is really in front of us as we stand up. The new form of government. There's some things that we know now and can address and there are other things that are a bit unknown, and so we'll try to address all of that in today's presentation. But your crystal ball is about as clear as mine is, and then we'll bring in our invited testimony. And, that will conclude our presentation today. No, that's not it. Let's go ahead. The next slide, please. So as again as commissioner Rubio stated, the former planning and sustainability commission had really this broad scope, the planning commission really gets its power vested to it by state land use law. And every jurisdiction has a responsibility to help steward that with the planning commission, and so that was created in 2010. But then sustainability and climate action has really gained urgency, especially from not just our own lived experience, but really from the community. Portlanders themselves really saw a need to bring sustainability and climate issues to the forefront, and to have a space in our city government that really addressed that, the former psc really tried their best in order to handle this dual charge of handling both land use decisions and zoning changes and all the important work that a planning commission has to do. But they also grappled with some of the challenges that come when there's this dual focus of planning and sustainability, arguably two pretty hefty and important

topics for Portlanders. So thanks to the, the sage advice to, you know, have a report to really make some suggestions on where we should go, in February of 2023, ordinance number 19 1150 disbanded the prior planning and sustainability commission and created the new planning commission that is state mandated with their defined roles. And that same ordinance directed to create a new sustainability or climate commission, to propose to council, I was hired in February of last year, and my charge was to work immediately to start standing up this new climate and sustainability commission. And I've gotten right to work, and so I immediately went ahead and hired a client, climate commission coordinator, who's sitting here with me today, elaine, to research and design this new climate and sustainability commission, which would reset the scope, the expectations and establish action in this new form of government. So, again, what elaine and I presenting to you today is our proposal to establish the sustainability and climate commission for the city of Portland. And we are seeking your support of this framework. And I want to recognize that there are many aspects that are interdependent on decisions that are yet to be made about advisory bodies, about how my own office, the cso office, is formed and the function of the new city government. Next slide please. We're so fortunate to be living here in Portland that has such a strong and long legacy in working on climate action, in 1993, the city of Portland became the first us city to release a climate action plan. And since then, the city has produced several iterations of climate action plans, including this council passing in 2020, an emergency declaration, and other climate resiliency and adaptation plans that are housed within different bureaus. Then, in 2020, the City Council declared a climate emergency, which then launched the current climate action plan and our current guiding document for climate is the climate emergency work plan. It really outlines the city's priorities around emissions and is process focused for pathways to net

zero carbon by 2050. There's a number of 47 actions, and there's annual reporting to council that you've been hearing about. So the sustainability and climate commission will be supported, much like this work that we're already doing on climate issues by key city staff and leadership, and in turn, will be able to support city staff working on and implementing climate and sustainability initiatives across service areas, bureaus and offices. It's going to serve as a key accountability body for the community. Other governance bodies and the city of Portland. Next slide, please. The backdrop of charter reform really is, I think, in our minds, in shaping so much of the decisions that we make right now, and so from December 2020 to December 2022, the charter commission really reviewed the city's charter. And phase one of that review was passed by voters in November 2022. This set in motion the city's transition to this new form of government structure. I also want to call out here that it does include the job responsibilities of both the mayor and the city administrator to achieve this line, to advance the city's efforts to mitigate the human made climate crisis and prioritize environmental justice initiatives. I believe that what I propose here, with the new sustainability and climate commission, it provides the opportunity for the mayor and the city administrator to actually fulfill this charge that's in their job descriptions, and I'll go ahead and pass this actually off to my colleague, climate commissioner coordinator Elaine Livingstone, for the next part of this presentation, next slide, please, thank you, Vivien, good afternoon, Mayor and Council. For the record, my name is Elaine Livingstone. I use she they pronouns and I'm the climate commission coordinator for the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. This type of work is not unfamiliar to me. During my time working at the University of Hawaii, I worked with the climate commissions in Hawaii in a scientific role in compiling a soil carbon and greenhouse gas emissions inventory and databases. I contributed to their 2020 reporting and assessments for

climate risks in hawaii and focused on nature based solutions for resilience as part of this work, we researched 14 other climate advisory bodies across the us, including the local state level Oregon climate action commission and county level Multnomah County committee on sustainability and innovation. From the commissions we researched, member size greatly varied from five members to 192 members, serving as a larger public assembly body on climate. They also varied in their function and who they advise. Some advised only their local electeds and specific offices. Some had purview over the climate action plans, and others had larger purview to include the community, nonprofits and businesses. A few had a combination of all these roles. Additionally, there is a variety of actions and roles these commissions played. Some give general recommendations, input, and reviews. Some have advocacy roles, and a few can set policy rules and programs. The majority of the climate commission's research utilized city staff liaisons to the commission, and organized their work by focus areas. You can see the full research and exhibit a appendix a next slide, please. The first place we looked for public input, as vivian mentioned, was the charter reform. The charter commission committed to robust community engagement in phase one. Their survey garnered over 4000 responses, and 8% of those responses called to climate change and environmental justice. In phase two, the charter commission created a climate and environmental justice subcommittee and hosted two listening sessions. We went through their public comment, and the city has heard from the community that the time for bold climate action is now. They want a climate oversight body, and there's urgency to focus on the most impacted communities. We also facilitated, then we had many public touch points with community to design and understand the necessary processes for this, for this body to function, we hosted an in-person community kickoff with commissioner Rubio and then two virtual community

conversations. We had a survey for these events aimed at understanding the community's climate, values and visions for Portland. And what is needed to bring that to reality. We also facilitated four workshops with an external working group with key community members. They helped design scc structure, function and processes within the city. Organization an external bodies in the community. The workshop activities depicted potential scc processes for potential projects, programs, and policies that may be seen by scc. Then a draft of the scc proposal, exhibit a, was released for 30 day public comment in March 2020, for it received 24 comments, with 83% of those comments in favor of creating scc. Comments received reflected that scc must have clear authority, urgently push forward climate action, support city staff and clearly measure and evaluate progress based on public comment. We updated the scc proposal as you see as exhibit a today. We then hosted two in-person an open houses showcasing the proposal updates from public comment. Next slide please. This is the survey from the community kickoff and community conversations. It received over 200 comments and commenters expressed they want to see Portland as a global climate action leader. And to achieve that, they voiced scc should be in a county accountability body that pushes climate action forward urgently. Next slide please. Where i'll give the floor back to vivian.

Speaker: Thank you elaine. So elaine mentioned the external working group that I invited to help work through a three series workshop that myself, elaine and the really talented equity and engagement people at helped design. Drawing from our knowledge of good engagement and drawing from the expertise of these individuals, as you can see, these are some familiar names to you. Likely and quite busy people, so I really can't thank them enough for taking the time out of their day to engage with us. And a dedicated manner to get their hands on and really shape

the sustainability and climate commission alongside of us. You will also be hearing from some of them later today and invited testimony as well as their organizational affiliations are just given for identification purposes only and are not an endorsement necessarily, of the scc. But, I hope you can see how dedicated and the through lines that they all contributed to, to what we have presented in front of you today. Next slide please. So while going and working with, you know, folks who have expertise and who have interacted with the city is arguably extremely important. And of course, we did a lot of work to really follow the directives that we feel that the voters have given through the charter reform process. We know that the practitioners and the subject matter experts in the city are the folks who know how things can really get done. And so we turned to do a lot of work as well with internally to the city. So we hosted the same workshop actually, that we designed for our working group. We condensed that and ran through city processes as well. So we ran through four of those with different city employees. I also engaged the members of what this group that I'm able to convene called the climate preparedness group, we engage with those individuals over three times to help inform this process, and you'll see the bureaus that are represented here from different infrastructure bureaus and other bureaus who help participate and help shape the various iterations of our proposal for the sustainability and climate commission. And because the most challenging part about doing all this work has really been designing the sustainability and climate commission to a certain percentage of completion, and then also dropping it into a new form of government that's also being designed to a certain percentage of completion. In, we had to work really closely with staff from the office of management and finance. Civic life. The transition team, and also our city asset managers who are really looking in that future facing, form of government and climate is a bit of that

existential future facing type of issue. So, thanks to all those folks who dedicated their time and expertise in helping us understand how this commission could interface. We've also engaged in many city leadership briefings. I want to thank the dedication of your staff to this, the access that you've offered us in order to help create a proposal that we do believe speaks to what we do know now, to inform the sustainability and climate commission. Altogether, we've engaged over 12 city bureaus, offices or groups within the city, mostly over the last few months, but also truly throughout the entire year. Next slide please. So these are the goals of the planning and sustainability commission. I'll go ahead and offer this the first and last bullet point that you see here. Really bookending our goals come directly from the consultant report that commissioner Rubio chartered to help inform in dismantling the planning and sustainability commission. What should a new body achieve? We don't want to propose a structure that recreates some of the existing challenges that the psc had. So we really took that as the bookending points that we had to fulfill. And standing up a new sustainability and climate commission and then the middle points really come informed by our research, drawing also from the charter reform process directly. Elaine did comb through all of those comments to suss out, how the existing engagement could inform our proposal on the sustainability and climate commission. So again, the goals here are to reset the scope expectations and establish a new authority on climate and sustainability, as well as to create accountability for the city and its service areas and the Portland community. This body also will create the city's climate action plan and other guiding documents on climate. It will advance the city's efforts to mitigate the human made climate crisis and prioritize environmental justice initiatives. It will ensure the city is on track to meet established climate goals and in the way that it interacts, it will balance advisory, advocacy and action in its charge. Next slide, please. So again, informed

by our research. And you know no other city is exactly quite like Portland. But we really drew from the best practices to help inform what we wanted to do here. We are proposing a mid sized commission of 20 members. Those 20 members will be comprised directly of community members and will include four seats for youth commissioners. I feel pretty passionately about youth engagement. I have a bit of a background in youth organizing myself, and we also consulted with the Multnomah youth commission, the official youth policy body for the city and the county, and have been engaging with other community based groups who have a lot of experience and expertise, and how to do civic engagement and governance with young people, we're also working with a number of our, educational institutions, including Portland state university and Portland community college, to continue to inform how we will be structuring these youth seats and what the sort of supports can look like for them in this body. Additionally, in order to have that really strong link to the work of the city, I am proposing that six city staff liaisons will serve as ex-officio, non-voting members on the sustainability and climate commission. I'm first proposing that these are either the deputy city administrators themselves, or a person of their choosing because climate touches everything, but we still need to have it organized. I'm proposing that the sustainability and climate commission will be organized by different focus areas, and that members will be recruited in areas of expertise or knowledge. We will go ahead and share those focus areas. On the next slide, please. So these focus areas, excuse me, may seem familiar to you because they map the map directly back to the city's current emergency work plan and climate action plan, around our sources of emissions and the work that we already undertaking as service areas to address climate, but much like how this work has to adapt as we learn more about our city's needs, I can't imagine scenarios in which new topics could be added or replaced what you see here. But

this is just directly maps back to the existing plans that we currently have. Next slide please. The sustainability and climate commission will be a city administrator level commission. As we know, climate and sustainability touches all work across all the service areas. The commission will report to the chief sustainability officer and it will balance advisory, advocacy and action in its charge. And because climate does touch everything, the scc will collaborate with other advisory bodies and we aim to build in accountability and transparency to city core values that I know are important to everyone. And of course, the new City Council mayor and city administrator will add more clarity to how the scc will function in this new form of government, next slide please. And I'm going to ask elaine to present these next ones about how the new form of government will expect to interact with sustainability and climate commission.

Speaker: Thank you. Vivienne. The scc will be a working body and we are proposing three tiers to organize its work. We'll go into more detail in the next few slides, but briefly tier one is learn and plan. Tier two is create and evaluate and tier three is act. Some projects, policies or plans may only touch on 1 or 2 of these tiers, while larger plans, such as the city's next iteration of the climate action plan, will go through all tiers, all three tiers of the scc. Next slide, please. Tier one learn and plan is where staff are updating and educating scc. Scc is learning, collecting information and planning with any applicable staff, including other advisory bodies. Examples of actions include briefing scc on implementation strategies of previously agreed upon work plans from service areas, accepting progress reports and holding joint meetings with other committees. Next slide please. Tier two create and evaluate is where scc is producing work. The dcas or their designees as scc non-voting members and the chief sustainability officer bring work to scc for recommendations, refinements and alignment with established climate goals.

Decision making authority is ultimately with City Council. The mayor, and the city administrator, but scc recommendations will strongly inform these decisions. Public debate on issues will happen at scc, and this also gives the opportunity for the mayor and city administrator to address the human made climate crisis. Next slide please. Tier three act is where climate action is happening from the city. The chief sustainability officer with the deputy city administrators will bring work from scc to City Council. The mayor and the city administrator for final action and decision making. This will be in cases where an end goal is defined, such as an ordinance, resolution or report. Next slide please, and i'll pass it back to vivian.

Speaker: Thanks, elaine. So the sustainability and climate commission will demonstrate accountability by having public transparency with information exchange meetings will be publicly available with clear information and public comment opportunity. And there will be follow up on action concepts and recommendations. The sustainability and climate commission will evaluate past and current programs, policies and projects. Next slide please. Commissioners for the sustainability and climate commission, like every other advisory body in the city, will apply via the city's advisory bodies program. We imagine that applications will be reviewed by the climate commission coordinator and other subject matter experts from within the different service areas and bureaus, again, because we are proposing different focus areas, and we're going to be seeking to seek commissioners with various levels of expertise amongst those focus areas. We'll have to work within the city bureaus to bring in subject matter experts to help us, vet those commissioners and to help make recommendations about how to seat the commission. Overall recommendations, then, will be given to the chief sustainability officer to then give to the mayor to help seat our commissioners and then the mayor will appoint the commissioners with City Council approval. The

asterisk and caveat here is, of course, that the city advisory bodies program is currently undergoing a process to review all city advisory bodies and what this process will be. So this is actually the area in which I have the least bit of, foresight on what that can look like. But I am actively engaging with all of those participants across the city to really think about our various advisory bodies and how this as the first city administrator level commission, could be seated. Next slide please. So where we go from here, this is our first reading for in your first consideration for the sustainability and climate commission, I will work with the council clerk on a second reading some time in may, and pending your decision and consultation on, and so the anticipated recruitment we could imagine starting in fall of 2024. Again, this is all subject to the city advisory bodies process. And my collaboration with that body, and we could be seating commissioners as early as winter of 2025. Again, this is all anticipated based off of a number of different moving parts within the city, and we'll be working with those dedicated staff, to ensure that we get clarity to the public about what we're doing with the sustainability and climate commission. Next slide, please. So that concludes our presentation and reflects a lot of the information that was in the exhibit, thank you again.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Excellent presentation. Thank you. Commissioner I understand you have some testimony. Is that correct?

Speaker: We do. So we have, sasha pollack from, Multnomah County advisory council on sustainability and innovation, we also have sarah o'brien from director, director of willamette partnership, ramfis. Giannettino villatoro, committee member for pcef and also policy manager for bluegreen alliance and then director millicent williams from pbot.

Speaker: Great. And Vivian Elaine. I'm sure we'll have questions for you, but we'll do the testimony first. So go too far. Thank you. Appreciate the presentation. Good afternoon. Welcome. Thank you.

Speaker: Good afternoon, Mayor Wheeler. Commissioners my name is Sasha Pollack. I use she/her pronouns and I was a member of the working group that Vivian and Elaine pulled together on the SCC. I served as a member on that group, and we were invited to engage in a four-workshop series to help design the new sustainability and climate commission. We took the research that the staff has that you've seen that the staff pulled together, and brought our own backgrounds and experience to that to identify priorities for focus areas, engagement with staff and elected officials and more, among other things, my experience, service serving for six years on the Multnomah County advisory commission on sustainability and innovation was part of what I brought to this. The things that I have found there and in my other background, which I'll talk about in a minute, really briefly, is it's really important to have this kind of commission de-siloed, as Vivian mentioned, climate impacts every single bureau at the city and beyond. And so to have a commission, a commission like this in one bureau really limits the ability of that commission to make meaningful impact. Also having it under the city administrator, directly under the city, the chief sustainability officer is really important because if the way to get and keep really strong, experienced folks who are bringing their expertise to this is to make them feel like they're being listened to and their impact is really meaningful on city policy. My background I've worked my entire career in state and local politics around both, both both as a staffer and also on climate policy here in Oregon. And in Washington. A piece of my work was standing up the resilience program at Metro, which lived at the intersection of climate, natural disasters and the social and economic impacts of injustice in our world. And looking

at that, one of the one of the issues we had at metro was deciding where that piece of work would live. And it was really challenging to determine. And I think the proposal here to have this in the chief administrator's office is a really good one. Happy to answer any questions, but i'll pass it on to my other colleagues.

Speaker: Mayor Wheeler, commissioners, good to see you this afternoon. My name is sarah o'brien. I'm executive director of willamette partnership. And boy, is your mic sensitive. I don't have to lean into that at all.

Speaker: Do I know they pick everything up?

Speaker: Geez, ask me how I know. Charming, well, I'm a partnership. Our organization, yea. Ryan, is a nonprofit that helps people throughout the pacific northwest build community driven solutions that help both people and nature, so the topic you all are talking about is really dear to my heart today. We do a lot of technical assistance for public entities, community based organizations, everything from funding, navigation, policy, navigation, kind of helping to get ground up solutions for multiple uses of natural areas, to work in, in a way that sort of builds community and, and meets multiple goals, we've done a significant amount of work over the years, supporting public entities and climate action planning back in the way good old days when we thought a federal cap and trade bill was right around the corner. We used to help state agencies build climate action plans. We did a fair amount of work back then about, sort of corporate sustainability efforts that really has fed into how we advise public entities to address these kinds of issues, and we're doing a lot of work today with tribal governments and with local governments to sort of get especially climate action plans in order in a way that helps folks access federal funding, so, like sasha, I definitely want to start with kudos to vivian and elaine, their team and the folks in general, we do a ton of process design and facilitation, and you guys don't need to you've got a great staff here. And they did a

great job. They created a really well supported, well structured process, really, led us through the steps needed to get the input that they were seeking from us and really took our feedback seriously, so kudos to the team for that. They made it really easy to engage. I would have been pleased if my staff designed a process and ran it that way, another thing I wanted to mention just kind of, echoing and building on a little bit of what sasha shared, we tend to think about a number of different best practices for the ways that you would build a climate or a sustainability or a climate and sustainability body like this, and really, this started many years ago when we were first doing this work as kind of a shortcut to figure out who was doing real work in climate and sustainability so we could look at a corporate sustainability officer, we could look at a local or state or federal agency sustainability effort and be able to tell whether they're prepared to get real work done and to provide the outcomes that meet community needs. So I got five of those, and it became kind of a shortcut over time for us to look at initiative like this and tell, is it ready to deliver? Is this something that we as a nonprofit, want to invest our time and energy in supporting, folks getting this work done? And I think you'll notice that the proposal that vivian and elaine shared really hits the vast majority of these right on the nose. So is there a clear mandate in a work plan, definitely. You've got that black box checked, what's the location and organizational structure to sasha's point, climate always crosses whatever your silos are. So anything related to climate is going to involve multiple bureaus, multiple departments, multiple, I don't like to use the word silos, but I don't have a better word for it working together to solve problems. So nesting it in the right place in the organization to make that happen is important, if you're building this kind of commission body board, is it representative of community, diverse community interests and identities, expertise, connection to community and really being able

to hear the voices of community, obviously, that's important to get to the outcomes that communities need and, and wish for, clear decision, authority and role is another important one that I think the tiers approach that, the vivienne described really addresses head on, it's important to know whether a body is a decision making body or an advisory body, a body. We have learned over time that advisory bodies are important, but they have trouble getting, certain kinds of substantive work done, they can shout pretty loud and not necessarily get a change in activity, so seeing a clear decision, authority and role there as well as, you know, the input of decision makers and staff in terms of figuring out when, when we're in how to call on that authority is important. And the other one, colleagues, I think, lies in your hands, which is the organization is the commission is sufficiently staffed and budgeted in order to produce the work that, that it's expected to do on behalf of the community. We learned in the very early days that if we saw a corporate sustainability officer that reported to the ceo and had little or no staff and budget, then that was not a good person to spend a ton of time and effort on, so I will share with you that the idea of a 20 person board, as somebody who facilitates boards for a living makes me a little bit nervous, and the secret to making that work, will be the kind of structure that vivian and elaine outlined, but also having enough staff expertise and capacity to be able to really structure that group in a way that makes it successful. So happy to pass on to our next colleagues here and take any questions folks might have later. Thanks for your time. Thank you. Mayor

Speaker: It's working now. Great well, mayor Wheeler and members of the commission. For the record, my name is frances toro, and I just want to say, if it looks like I wrestled with my tie, it's because I really did wrestle with my tie, before I feel you, it's possible.

Speaker: For one, it's the only absolutely passable how to wear them, and we are laughing at that one.

Speaker: It's the thought that counts.

Speaker: Thank you. Yeah so again, I'm one of the co-chairs for the Portland clean energy fund. And my day job is I'm the Oregon policy manager for bluegreen alliance, which is a coalition of labor environmental organizations aimed to address our environmental challenges while creating good quality jobs, the Portland, clean energy fund, again, as a refresher, was an initiative passed by 65% of voters, that again, would created a nine member committee myself included, aim to, tackle and, provide investments in climate action, and most recently through our city code changes in 2022, help was charged with recommending the inaugural five year climate investment plan, to City Council today, I'm here to support the sustainable sustainability and climate commission because one I think it challenges, it helps address the challenges of climate change, and the impacts to Portlanders. And really rises the challenge of an all hands on deck approach, engaging, collaborative collaboration through leaders and with top administrative posts in the city, additionally, the scope of the scc is complementary to pcf's mission and goal, where, again, we could envision how pcef and the scc can collaborate, have joint meetings, offer new linly of how the city can guide and offer its leadership on innovative ideas that can influence pcf and pcf investments, but again, we support this, and I support this, because it's distinct. The mission and the purpose of the scc is distinct enough where pcf currently is focused on those investments. But we need a good plan, like plans are just as important as the investments. It's important pillar to climate action and sustainability, so I think oftentimes when we're thinking about how do we find good synergy between bureaus, how do we find good synergy throughout the city? We need the scc to provide that type of plan, that kind

of climate action plan, that can be informative for myself as a committee member and future committee members at the Portland clean energy fund, so, again, let me just add a finer point, planning for climate action citywide is important in its own right and synergistic for how we plan our investments. So, again, please support the scc and thank you. You

Speaker: Good afternoon. Good afternoon. Good afternoon.

Speaker: There you go, good afternoon, mayor Wheeler. And members of the Portland City Council, for the record, I am Millicent Williams, director of the Portland bureau of transportation. And I'm pleased to be here today to support the creation of the sustainability and climate commission in pbot has a long history of collaboration with the bureau of planning and sustainability, and I look forward to future collaboration with the sustainable city and climate commission, as I believe you all know. And if you are aren't aware, the transportation sector contributes approximately 40% of Portland area carbon emissions. Reducing these emissions is of critical importance to pbot and is necessary for the city to reach our climate goals. Reducing transportation carbon emissions has proven to be especially challenging. While Portland has seen a reduction in many other sectors, transportation emissions continue to rise. The reasons for this are complex. Reducing transportation emissions will require both an overall reduction in vehicle miles traveled or simply stated driving and the electrification of remaining vehicle miles traveled. However, we can only expect people to drive less if there are safe, affordable, and convenient options for them to get to where they need to go in other ways. Something we talked about when I was here last week, especially with you, commissioner Ryan. This means that transportation outcomes are tied to land use. They are tied to housing. They are tied to safety, and they are tied to jobs. And I could go on. I'm taking a minute to talk about the complexity of transportation as

it intersects with climate goals, because I know that this new commission will have its work cut out for it, in this area and in so many other areas as well, because of this complexity, I'm grateful that bureau staff were consulted during the commission development process. I'm also pleased that the thought that has gone into the development of a structure that incorporates city staff in an ongoing way, and that aligns with the new city organizational structure is in place, making real progress on our climate and sustainability challenges will require a partnership between this new commission, city staff, the City Council, and it will require significant financial investments and leadership across many intersecting areas. As we've heard, many times already stated today, this is an exciting milestone and I and the staff at pbot look forward to the ongoing work. Thank you very much.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: I think that concludes our presentation.

Speaker: So why don't we do this, I'll ask, if Vivien or Elaine, do we have questions for them now or do you want to go to public testimony first? What's what's the preference of the council or public? How much? How many people do we have signed up? Keelan we have five people. We only have five people. Why don't we do that? And hear from them? And then if they need to go off to the rest of their day, they can and we can have staff come back up.

Speaker: First up, we have Brian Reimer.

Speaker: Welcome, Brian. Thanks for being here, sir. Thank you.

Speaker: Hi. My name is Brian Rohmer. I serve on the committee involved the community involvement committee for both the city of Portland and for Multnomah County. So thank you for appointing me. Carmen Rubio, the views are expressed here are my own. They're not reflective of either of the committees that I belong to, I fully support the sustainability commission. I'd like to see it approved

and put in place immediately. I also happen to be assigned publisher for the last 35 years, academic and scientific communities have shown that the planet is warming due to human activities, and it's influencing, intensely. And the frequency of extreme weather events that we've all experienced, in fact, as the department of defense said, over ten years ago, a warming climate is a threat multiplier, which means aggravating existing problems that we have in our society. Here in Portland. We've seen firsthand such extreme events, have negatively impacted us. It impacts how we think, how we act, and especially towards how we act towards others. It increases social tensions. It increases crime and increases violence. It increases health care costs, energy costs, food costs for both residents and for businesses. And it makes our wildfire seasons and winter storms longer, costlier and more lethal, forming the sustainability and climate commission will help address this predicament and help by developing and implementing critical social, economic and environmental justice initiatives. The commission, the commission used, a very thoughtful and well researched decision making process, engaged in a wide variety of stakeholders, including the community involved, involvement committee, which I reside on and prioritized, impacted communities, successfully implemented and supported. The commission will help create jobs and economic opportunities, help draw and keep talented people here in Portland, improve our children's health and well-being, and help us respond better proactively to future, extreme events. While extreme weather events, many Portland communities rank environmental and climate issues high on their list of priorities, this this commission, the City Council must send a very strong message of support for this commission. Not only to the other people in our city, but also to our state, county and the world as well. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have damon motz story. Welcome.

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor Wheeler and members of Portland City Council. Thank you so much for the opportunity to testify today. For the record, my name is Damon Motz and I serve as chapter director of the Sierra Club's Oregon chapter. We have over 50, 57,000 members and supporters in Oregon, and we've worked since 1892 to explore, enjoy and protect the planet. I'm here today to speak on behalf of our members and strong support of the new proposed sustainability and climate commission. I'd like to express my deep gratitude to Vivian, Elaine and their colleagues. Good and hard work on this at the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. I remember testifying my first time to the Planning and Sustainability Commission in this very room seven years ago, and back then it struck me how difficult it was for climate change, fossil fuels and environmental stewardship to get their due time before a body with an enormous mandate that also included urban planning. It makes good sense to support a commission that can focus on sustainability and climate policies for our state's largest city. I myself participated in the discussions last fall, hosted by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, in order to explore our shared expertise on community based environmental justice, policy making and best practices, among other similar jurisdictions. I believe that the process that led up to this ordinance was inclusive, comprehensive and thoughtful, and I urge you to support the resultant ordinance that now puts this careful planning into practice. Our members view Portland's new sustainable sustainability and climate commission as crucial to our success as a city. As a city in mitigating human caused climate change and advancing environmental justice initiatives. This body can and should focus on accountability, transparency and clear metrics to evaluate whether our efforts are successful and city policies are reaching their full potential. This is important because present and future generations are counting on us to do everything we can within our collective power

to slow and halt the worsening heatwaves, ice storms and wildfires that threaten our lives and livelihoods. And this is not just about climate change, but it's about a sustainable future for everyone. We must act through policy to preserve clean air and water, save keystone species like salmon and birds, and ensure that our city infrastructure makes it possible for everyday people to get by without using polluting fossil fuels. Thank you so much for the opportunity to testify, and we urge you to adopt this ordinance and create the Portland sustainability and climate commission.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have jorge sanchez bautista.

Speaker: Welcome. Thanks for being here.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Oh, okay. It's all right there, good afternoon, mayor Wheeler. And city commissioners yea. Ryan. Mr. Ryan, for the record, my name is jorge sanchez bautista. J o r g e, I am a climate advocate in a high school student in northeast Portland, and I'm here to support the creation of the sustainability and climate commission, the creation of the sustainability and climate commission will be life changing. Of course, as we've heard, as well as we know, that we have seen as much change here in Portland with the recent events, with heat waves, storms, the snow storm, the ice storm, you know, and the much pollution and sadly, deaths that we've seen even as Portland currently faces many issues with homelessness and drug crisis. One of the issues is climate change that's most talked about with young people such as myself and other, and definitely more folks, it's why you probably see many young people, ask you and other leaders to take action, especially against zenith energy and other fossil fuel companies, the commission ensures community engagement and will give underserved communities a voice, including youth with a designated youth spots, which I would love to highlight, it's

not every day you see something like that. And as commissioner Rubio said, it's earth week. And why, as a youth, I ask you all to vote yes on this ordinance. And lastly, I would like to thank commissioner Rubio again and city staff for bringing this forward.

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

Speaker: Next up we have jenny o'connor online.

Speaker: Hi, I'm jenny o'connor.

Speaker: I'm a Portland citizen and property owner. You may remember me from the November hearing, where I testified passionately about getting, climate officer at the, top leadership at the city administrator's office. And I want to take the time now to thank from the bottom of my heart to commissioner Rubio for making this happen. And I'm sure mayor Wheeler, the two of you had a lot to do with this, you, commissioner Rubio, invited me to meet with your chief of staff and your, and megan. I can't remember her position. Anyways, that was really helpful. And we got the dialog started, and then i, spoke with bobby lee. I didn't speak with him, but anyways, thank you both. Thank you, mayor Wheeler. And thank you, commissioner Rubio, for making this happen. Making the chief administrator or the chief sustainability officer positioned in the city administrator's office because this sort of, you know, put everything at the higher level at and, responded to the urgency that we were saying that we were concerned about and that you can keep on hearing from all the testimony. So thanks, I support the resolution and, for the sustainability climate and sustainability commission, I think vivian and elaine have done a great job, really comprehensive. They've done their homework, they've met with all the folks and incorporated a lot of, concerns into their plan. So I fully support that, I'm glad to see that the scc will be at the city administrator's a city administrator level commission because this is, you know, a commission that does,

as other people have pointed out, oversee across bureau projects, the one thing I noticed in the eight focus areas was there wasn't industry wasn't included in that. And I know that it's part of the cw. I'm not sure why. And it's one it's one component of them. I'm not sure why it wasn't included as a focus area. I think maybe it should be, industry and development are where we have a lot of problems, so I would put that on the table as something to maybe incorporate. Thank you very much. And again, thank you, commissioner Rubio. I appreciate what you've done for us.

Speaker: Thank you jenny, appreciate your testimony.

Speaker: Next up we have sherry spark.

Speaker: Welcome. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Hello. Thank you, mayor Wheeler. And commissioners, for giving this opportunity to share about the sustainability and climate commission. My name is sherry spark and I'm representing 350 pdx today in my role as climate policy manager. We're an organization focused on climate and environment here in Portland with a network of thousands of people in the Portland area who care about building a healthy and sustainable climate through just and equitable means. So I'm speaking today in support of this ordinance to create a sustainability and climate commission. I appreciate all of the work that has been put into this plan, and am excited to see it rolling out next year. And appreciate that it's going to be at that city administrator level with the chief sustainability officer overseeing that. That sounds great. The 20 member commission with experts and youth is a great idea. I appreciate that thoughtfulness to include youth and to make sure their expertise is from a variety of areas represented on that council. I also appreciate that there will be liaisons from the various bureaus and service areas. I think that's going to be essential for making sure that all of these important climate and

sustainability goals that we have for our city are able to be worked on collaboratively, and that all of these different pieces and plans that we really want to do are able to happen in a well-orchestrated way, and so there's a place in a location for those conversations to happen. So this is a lot for a group of volunteers to be able to do. So I think that's that's going to be the challenge is making sure that they're able to do all the things that are listed in this plan. For them to do so, they'll need to have strong support from the city administrator and the mayor and the rest of the city employees. So I'm hopeful that that can be really well implemented as the new city structure comes into place, and that that goal of the charter is able to be carried out in this in this commission and the support around it, I'm also aware that the climate emergency work plan has been, being worked on for several years. But as of the last report, only 2% of it had been done yet. And so I'm hopeful that things by having this commission, things will be able to move ahead more quickly and more efficiently, one of the things that is really important is addressing equity concerns. And so I'm hopeful that this climate commission can really work well with the, equity and, yeah, the equity officer as well to keep equity at the focus of our climate and sustainability goals. So I encourage you to support this commission when it is brought back again for second reading. And I know that also many people are going to be speaking with you in the next item about housing and public camping ordinance. So I would like to also just highlight that housing and climate issues are really two sides of the same coin that it's important for us to create empathetic and community oriented policies that help us to work together as a community in all areas, and hopefully the sustainability and climate commission can do one part of that. But we also need to do that in our housing and public camping rules. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: That completes testimony.

Speaker: All right. Why don't we have, Vivian and Elaine come back up? I'm sure there's a couple of questions I'll start with, with sort of a puffball, one that you probably anticipate. So Jenny mentioned, industry and development as being a key pressure on our climate sustainability goals. But she also noted that it wasn't necessarily one of the key groups I assume it is incorporated in some manner. Can you give us a sense of how?

Speaker: Yes. Thank you for the question, Mayor, actually, it wasn't really my question. I can't take credit for it. It was really Jenny's.

Speaker: I'm glad that Jenny was able to highlight it for you, as you may know, we've been working at Bts with the Clean Industry Hub to work directly with businesses to find a way to have this this just transition not only for their the business sector itself, but also for the workers in that, we're actually kicking off an advisory group meeting in just a few short weeks here, we've been working to secure grants for that. Now, that's the Clean Industry Hub itself. But where is it reflected in the Sustainability and Climate Commission's focus areas? I do look forward to a way in which we can really knit that together, especially in the urban form. Recognizing that industry, especially here in Portland, is not far off. It's actually directly in the heart of our city. We have a working waterfront here, and so that sort of urban form component and those businesses can be incorporated there.

Speaker: Yeah. And just thinking, you know, when Jenny asked the question, I was thinking, gosh, how have we done that in the past? And I think back to what now seems like a long, long time ago, although I think it was only seven years ago when we were working on the Central City 2035 and Better Housing by Design and the Residential Infill Project. And I'm thinking how, you know, we both got advice at that point from community, but I'm thinking how this newer iteration yea. Ryan. As re-

envisioned could have actually been even more informative to the work that we did then. So i, you know, just sort of thinking of it through that frame. I think this is a really good step in the right direction here, thank you for that observation, mayor Wheeler. I do want to be clear that the proposed sustainability and climate commission will not address issues in title 33 related to land use and want to be careful to not recreate the same issues that we saw with the prior planning. And sustainability.

Speaker: 100. I feel like I feel like we did it.

Speaker: Okay, not to say any box is permanently checked, but I hope we don't have to revisit that any time soon. And I and I understand and underscore what you're saying about the intentionality of the separation here, which obviously I support. Thank you.

Speaker: Hi. Thank you so much. It was a great presentation, and I appreciate the dialog the mayor just had with you about jenny's question. I'm a firm believer in having that creative tension on the front end. It's going to show up eventually anyway. And so the more we can have that type of, challenging conflicts, you know, Portland avoids conflicts and then things don't get done. So it's I think it's just really important to face that as much as you can early on. So I appreciate that dialog, the other one came from a presenter, and it was good to see, grantees here, we can all relate to wrestling with ties. Youtube has a really good way to, remember how to do that. I think we all got lost to the habit the last five years or so, but it's how we, pcf is complements the work of we'll complement. But I kind of want to think more about that and hear what's more thoughts that you have about how they will work together and where the decision making authority will be, or how they you know, I'd like to hear more about how you think they'll complement one another.

Speaker: Yeah. Thank you very much for the question.

Speaker: Just the distinguishing factors of their roles. Like it's it was the first thing I thought of when I saw this on the agenda.

Speaker: Certainly that I think a friend of mine, for all of us, when we think about climate action in the city and the first body, we think about who's currently working on that and guiding that, especially with its historic climate investment plan, is the work of the Portland clean energy community benefits fund. So thank you for the question, commissioner Ryan, as Memphis was able to illustrate the sustainability and climate commission and the Portland clean energy fund and its oversight body have related charges in dealing with, rising, climate emissions in our city. But the Portland clean energy fund has a really specific role to play in delivering and stewardship of a of a fund as well, and making sure that's really being infused in the community alongside community determined priorities that really reflect, not just sources of ghg emissions, but community priorities and investments being made to historically underinvested in communities here in Portland, the sustainability and climate commission charge is more broad, and as a body that will be setting the city's next, next climate action plan has to encompass not just frontline communities, but also, as the mayor rightly pointed out, industry businesses, all the different contributors to not just the problems that we currently have, but also be a part of the solution as well. And so I do imagine that joint meetings could be held. And as Ramfis illustrated, I think they would welcome the help and support from a body that's really looking broadly. And then pcef is really narrowly focused in on the investments from the fund and also stewardship, stewardship of that, to be directly invested in with frontline communities. Yeah. So thinking out loud with you right now.

which mandates that any city law regulating acts such as sitting, lying, sleeping, or keeping warm and dry outdoors on public property must be objectively reasonable in terms of time, place and manner. This law was a call to action for localities to ensure that our policies are in alignment with state law. Last June, this council passed an ordinance to comply with house bill 3115, adopting what we believe to be reasonable time, place and manner regulations with respect to those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. This initial ordinance was met with a legal challenge and has been enjoined by the Multnomah County circuit court. One must assume that the court believed that we were too aggressive in our previous time, place and manner restrictions as it became clear that our policies must both comply with state law but also withstand judicial scrutiny. Here in Multnomah County, the injunction by the Multnomah County circuit court has led to the city of Portland currently having no enforceable camping regulations in city code. That's why it is critical that we adopt the ordinance that I'm proposing today. This ordinance introduces new regulations that define more clearly and publicly what constitutes camping, and specify that camping is prohibited for individuals who have access to reasonable shelter, or who decline an offer of such shelter. It emphasizes regular meeting, the manner of camping on public property, and it reduces criminal sanctions in favor of promoting diversion programs. All it takes is one look at the situation on Portland streets to acknowledge that the status quo is not working as well as we would like it to. This ordinance was crafted with extensive feedback from legal experts to ensure its legality and enforceability. We have met with members of the district attorney's office to get their input. We have met with local law enforcement, including Portland police bureau and the nert team, who would be responsible for enforcing this ordinance. We even had the opportunity to have our legal counsel meet with the legal counsel representing those who

advocated for the injunction against the city of Portland. We've taken great care to ensure that it aligns with both judicial expectations as well as public needs. This ordinance provides a clear and transparent framework to outreach workers, service providers, public safety responders, and indeed, those who are impacted by homelessness on the streets. And to ensure that it is enforceable. Notification is also important so this provides transparent council action. It gives us the opportunity to be clear about what the rules are, and then work with those who have to enforce the rules. The Portland police bureau, those who have to prosecute under criminal conditions, the district attorney's office, those who work directly with the homeless population every day, including nonprofit providers and most importantly, the homeless themselves, so that there is clarity for everybody about what the rules are. The urgency of this issue cannot be overstated. Stated. And again, I want to underscore that every day that we delay in implementing clear, reasonable regulations, we see the continued impact on our streets of our city impacting not just those who are experiencing homelessness directly, but indeed every resident and every visitor to the city of Portland. Today, this council can show that Portland can lead with urgency and accountability to put in place clear, enforceable and legal regulations to manage our public spaces. The new regulations do the following. They clarify the definition of camping. They clarify the prohibition on camping for individuals who have reasonable shelter, or who decline an offer of reasonable shelter. It focuses on regulating the manner by which camping may not be done on public property, and it reduces the criminal sanctions and replaces the warnings with a provision encouraging diversion. I believe that these new regulations are necessary as they're likely to survive a legal challenge while also providing objectively reasonable regulation that can be enforced to help us improve the situation on our streets. Today. This council can show that Portland

can lead with that urgency and that encounter ability. Now, I'd like to welcome my senior policy adviser, skylar knapp, and city attorney robert taylor, to share a brief presentation of the ordinance. And just by way of run of show, we'll hear the presentation. I believe my colleagues have some amendments that they would like to offer. We'll hear those amendments, and then ultimately, we'll hear from the public. And I understand there's quite a few people signed up who'd like to have the opportunity to testify today. Please plan your remarks to be within two minutes. That's the same that the legislature gives, because there are so many people here today, and because we want to get to the full deliberations today, we would ask you to keep your remarks within two minutes. And with that, i'll ask staff to come on up and give their presentation. Thanks and welcome.

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor, commissioners, presentation. Perfect. Thank you, we're just going to give a brief presentation, and then we'll take, I think, testimony, and then we'll be available for questions as well. Think robert's going to get us started.

Speaker: Next slide please, my name is robert taylor. I'm the Portland city attorney. And, I just want to give a very brief legal overview of where we have been. And where we are today. So in 2018, the ninth circuit issued its opinion in martin versus boise. And that case set out an eighth amendment principle that cities ever since have been wrestling with as far as their camping regulations go in 2021, house bill 3115 was passed by the Oregon legislature in an effort to put the requirements of martin versus boise into state law. House bill 3115 requires all cities and counties to ensure that their public camping ordinances are objectively reasonable as to the time, place, and manner with regards to persons experiencing homelessness, and that builds on the decision in martin, which suggested that cities could adopt reasonable time, place, manner regulations for folks experiencing

homelessness. The operative date of that state law was July 1st, 2023, and last summer the city passed a time, place, manner, regulation that we believed complied with martin versus boise and also complied with house bill 3115. We faced a lawsuit from the Oregon law center, based on that time, place, manner, regulation. And we were enjoined by the Multnomah County circuit court. We had hoped to get, some explanation from the court. We did not get that. We then took, that decision to the Oregon supreme court and asked the Oregon supreme court to direct the lower court to provide the reasons for the injunction. The Oregon supreme court declined to do that, which has left us in a position where we still need to comply with 3115. Make sure our city code complies with that state law, and we do not have clear direction from the court to do that. At the same time, I know many people have have seen and read in the newspaper that the us supreme court heard a case just this week on this same issue, and that's the johnson versus grants pass case. That was an extension of martin versus boise. And the us supreme court heard oral arguments on Monday. And we expect a decision in that case. This summer. So there's a lot going on here legally. The other thing I would like to just add is I mentioned that we got the lawsuit from the Oregon law center. We have also faced litigation on the other side of this issue from folks making claims under the American disabilities act, wanting our sidewalks to be clear, based on based on my view of both of those cases, I was present for the injunction hearing where the Oregon law center made their arguments. And based on what I heard at that court hearing, I believe that the manner regulations would, in fact, satisfy their concerns and pass legal muster in front of the Multnomah County circuit court. Now we have our office has talked to them about the proposed rule that was put forward by the mayor, they understand they're currently in litigation. They're taking no position on this at all. I think they want to that which makes sense

to me, and they I think they want to see how this goes, and they want to evaluate what the final product is. But I just want to be clear, we have spoken with them, but they are not taking any position on this. The other thing is, on the ada lawsuit, mr. Dilorenzo, who many of you know, handled that case for the plaintiffs, based on my conversation with him, I believe that the manner regulations as proposed by the mayor would help address those concerns that they have raised in that litigation. And that we are required to implement as part of our settlement with those plaintiffs. So based on all of those legal considerations, the mayor asked our office to please draft an amendment to the city code that would repeal the previous code that has been enjoined and replace it with something new that we believe would pass legal muster and help steer us through those competing pieces of litigation and legal disputes. We believe we've done that with the mayor's proposal, and I'm happy to answer any questions about that. And sky will help walk you through what's in the mayor's proposal.

Speaker: Thanks, robert. For the record, skylar becker, a senior policy advisor for the mayor, next slide, please. Thank you, so, as robert mentioned, this revised ordinance, includes adds, some new provisions. So I'm going to walk you through some of those. You might recall a few of these from last summer. And the time place manner ordinance that was passed by council. So so in this new ordinance, if a person has access to reasonable alternate alternative shelter, they cannot camp on public property or the public right of way. This ordinance defines what reasonable alternate shelter is, for example, that would include somebody with a disability who would need, ada access to a shelter space, for example, if reasonable alternative alternative shelter is not available, a person may not camp in the following manners at any time. So to clarify, just for folks who might not be reading this directly or just listening, if you are offered reasonable alternative shelter, and

you if you need to take it or if you do not take it, then you could be subject to enforcement and if there is not reasonable alternative shelter, you still need to adhere to these manner restrictions that I'm going to go through in detail, so beginning with you cannot obstruct access to the pedestrian use zone. So that's the part of the sidewalk that people use regularly. Will see a diagram on the next slide. But basically the part of the sidewalk that we traverse, or private property or businesses that are adjacent to the public right of way. So you cannot obstruct the ingress or egress to a private property or a business, and you cannot obstruct the sidewalk. That adheres to the ada lawsuit that robert was mentioning, kind of that litigation and that settlement agreement, you cannot start or maintain any fire or use a gas heater in and around a campsite. Next slide please. You cannot assemble, disassemble, sell, offer to sell, distribute, offer to distribute or store multiple bicycles or automobiles. Nils. Colloquially, this is more known as the bike or vehicle chop shop kind of clause. So multiple vehicle or vehicle parts or bike parts kind of in and around a campsite, you will see on the bottom right side of the screen, the pedestrian through zone is kind of that dark blue area where folks are walking. So that main part of the sidewalk that I was mentioning earlier, you also cannot camp on property marked no trespassing by the city. This would include, for example, bureau of environmental services property, kind of natural areas that are marked no trespassing. Water bureau property, for example, with a water station, that kind of thing. You cannot set up any type of permanent or temporary fixture or structure of any material in or upon public property or public rights of way. So, for example, this would be anything, constructed or maintained with building materials, something that's a semi permanent kind of structure, not a tent, but something a little more permanent and more of a permanent structure than a tent. You also cannot alter the infrastructure or dig soils or cause environmental damage or

damage trees. So, for example, wouldn't be able to dig or tunnel under infrastructure. We have seen that a few times, we deal with folks digging into, different parts of property, kind of along highways or that would be natural areas also cutting down trees. Something of that regard would not be allowed. You also, could can only store personal belongings or other objects within or around the tent, only two feet around the tent. So you will see that diagram on the upper right hand corner, showing two feet in, circumference around the tent or temporary structure. Next slide please. All of these manner restrictions are things that are not allowed. So even if you are camping outside on public property and there is no reasonable alternative shelter, you would still need to adhere to all of those manner restrictions and those rules, the enforcement of those manner restrictions within the city would be handled by the street services coordination center in conjunction with the Portland police bureau neighborhood response team. So these are teams that already work within the city to connect folks to shelters, work especially with homeless individuals living outside with our city outreach teams. And they coordinate every day to try to connect individuals to services, different shelter opportunities, housing, or whatever they might need, those folks, the neighborhood response team officers, would be able to issue a fine of up to \$100 and up to and or up to seven days in jail if someone were not to comply with these manner restrictions. They are specifically trained and work with these individuals on a daily basis. And they've been we've been in deep conversation with these teams, and I actually lead these teams through the mayor's office through an emergency declaration, the post citation diversion that the mayor mentioned in his remarks, was designed in conjunction with the policy team and the district attorney's office, we are encouraging and they have spoken about connecting individuals to treatment, shelter services, instead of prosecuting some of these

cases. So we're working actively with them on that as well. And that's why that diversion clause was included in the ordinance, we will continue to work with the da's office as well as the Multnomah County court offices. And we've been in conversation with them as well. Next slide, please. Different communication items will be presented on a website page as well as a printed handout. So you all might recall, last summer when we passed the time place manner ordinance, we, printed, trifold brochures that were water resistant and passed out about 5000 of those to folks on the street. We worked with outreach teams. We worked with the joint office warehouse that, hands out supplies, and we handed out those printed materials to really inform folks of those different rules, those different restrictions, as we will do the same thing again, if this ordinance were to pass, and we will make sure that all of those rules and restrictions are transparently communicated to the community, we will also have three one, one as a resource. We have communicated some initial, description and remarks to them to share with the community. For those who have questions, we will continue to engage directly with them and ensure that their operators have information about what the ordinance and all of the restrictions that, are within it, we also will do and have done outreach, including all the teams that I mentioned, the impact reduction program, will still be working in its typical fashion, they do the posting and removals of campsites. They also work with clean start through central city concern, and we will make sure all of those teams are well informed of whatever council decides, for camping restrictions. And we will also work with Portland street response and the chat team as we have through this 90 day fentanyl emergency. For example, to continue to coordinate daily, with different updates and revisions to any kind of code enforcement. We will continue also to work with the joint office of homeless services. I personally am on a call every week on Friday mornings with a bunch of outreach teams, probably

about 50 people who do the outreach within this community and partner with the joint office of homeless services. I will also be presenting to their outreach work group that they host every week regarding whatever council decides in terms of the ordinances, restrictions, we will also coordinate, obviously, with community based organizations. I mentioned central city concern and folks who we partner with and contract with, as well as those partners in the community that we do outreach with. Again, for example, under the fentanyl emergency, we're working with the mental health and addiction association of Oregon with volunteers of America, and with a lot of other partners who would be engaged with outreach on the streets. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, before we get into amendments, colleagues, I understand that there are some amendments that are being proposed. Commissioner Rubio, do you want to go first?

Speaker: Sure. So. Yeah.

Speaker: Can I should I just straight up do the amendments, or can I make a comment before you can do either? All right.

Speaker: So, thank you, mayor. Earlier this year, I stated on the record that my hope was that we find another way forward and that we can repeal the current policy that's in legal question and replace it with something that will ensure a more humane solution while still meeting the intent of the policy, especially for our community members with disabilities and one that will stand up to judicial scrutiny. And I believe the mayor's proposal achieves much of what I had hoped to achieve with the with that idea. And I'm pleased to learn about the collaboration that went into place when drafting this version of the ordinance, from engaging with shelter providers and law enforcement and also with our office. So I appreciate that. And thank you, also, however, I believe that our city's values must also be at the heart

and center of our goal today to ensure that Portlanders understand the city's intent when it is implementing this manner ordinance. So to that end, I'm offering an amendment that maintains our values, at the heart of this implementation question, and also one that highlights the responsibility that the city, the City Council owes, the public utmost transparency, when the liberty of an individual is at stake. So I moved to amend the ordinance to add a new whereas clause and add a new directive, a final whereas clause should be added as follows. Numeral ten. The City Council also finds that transparency is an imperative aspect to the enforcement of this ordinance, and seeks to ensure it is not being disproportionately enforced through appropriate data collection and reporting. A new directive d should be added as follows. Letter d the Portland police bureau shall provide quarterly aggregated data updates to council related to the number of arrests, demographics of arrested individuals and frequency of the arrests. Pursuant to the city code provisions set forth in exhibit a, these updates should be made in any form easily accessible to the public. So my goal with that amendment is to ensure that we're tracking how this ordinance is being implemented by the police bureau, such that on a quarterly basis, the public can see how this is working, but also at the heart of it, ensuring the transparency and implementation.

Speaker: Very good. And commissioner, could I just ask a follow up question before I ask for a second? This this is the amendment that was previously filed. Is that correct? Yes. So the one I have this morning is the same. Okay. Very good. Is there a second for second yea. Rubio, commissioner Rubio moves Rubio one. Commissioner Mapps second. Rubio second, Rubio one. And we will leave the amendments open until after public testimony, if that's all right. That's fine. Very good, commissioner Rubio, do you have other, no, that is that concludes mr. Gonzales. I understand you have amendments. Is that correct?

Speaker: I do you. But I want to be clear, though, I think I was next only because of the submittal date, time. So if there's reason to I'm open to the order we go. I think there was a conflicting message as to what order we would go in.

Speaker: Can I make a proposal? I think my amendment is pretty straightforward. Could I put it forward?

Speaker: Commissioner Mapps.

Speaker: Yeah, commissioner, I have no I have no objection. Okay, great.

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner max and colleagues here. I'm offering an amendment today. I hope it's fairly straightforward. The point of this amendment is to make sure that the time, place and manner ordinance that we pass today or next week or the week after next, works with our new form of government. We all know that on January 1st, 2025, Portlanders will wake up to a new form of government and a new City Council. And in that new form of government, council will be responsible for setting policy. And the mayor and the city administrator will be responsible for implementing this policy. One of the things that concerns me is that in that new form of government, in this important policy space, how do we help our houseless neighbors, the folks who are making policy and the people who are implementing policy don't actually come together and have a dialog and so what I'm suggesting with this ordinance or this amendment is a pretty straightforward, coordinating mechanism so that folks in the executive branch have an opportunity to provide counsel, provide the mayor, with feedback on, what it would mean or how to optimize, the implementation of our houseless policies. They'll make a recommendation to this mayor, to the mayor, and the mayor can then move forward, should he or she wants, and bring some proposals for amendments to our time, place and manner ordinance to, council, who will be ultimately responsible for passing policy in this space that. So that's the intuitive goal that I'm trying to achieve

here. And if I were to, place that into formal language, and here's where the clerk and the lawyers start to pay attention, I move to add a new Portland city code, section 14.50 .180 to the mayor's proposal in exhibit a, and amend directive b of the ordinance to include a reference to the new section 14 .50. 18 zero. The public environment executive team is comprised of the mayor, city administrator, deputy city administrators, and other executive branch employees. Designates by the mayor, who have responsibility for programs and services related to homelessness and under unsanctioned public camping. The public environment executive team shall review policy proposals related to homelessness and unsanctioned public camping. The public environment executive team will have will regularly report to the mayor on the legal and policy developments regarding homelessness and unsanctioned camping, and shall propose to the mayor amendments to city code based on such developments, which the mayor, at their discretion, may choose to introduce for consideration by council, may I have a second? Second?

Speaker: Thank you. Commissioner Gonzalez seconds, commissioner Mapps moves Mapps number one.

Speaker: Okay, commissioner.

Speaker: Yes? You're up.

Speaker: So encampments are bringing too much chaos to the city of Portland. Too much violence, too much self destruction, too much harm to our natural areas. From the early 80s until 2023, the city of Portland had a blanket ban on camping in the city, punishable by jail time or fines. This code helped protect the city from encampments and the collateral damage that came with it. It didn't solve homelessness or eliminate every encampment, but it was a tool to manage our public spaces. Simply put, the city of Portland was a better place for all Portlanders when we enforced this blanket camping code, a number of forces have eroded our

ability to protect the city with this code. Lawsuits locally and across the ninth circuit, including *Martin Martin* versus Boise state legislation specifically house bill 3115 passed in 2021, but also at times a lack of political commitment to address encampments. Last year, mayor Wheeler's team proposed amendments to the camping code to comply with house bill 3115. The code we adopted was complicated, difficult to understand. It took months just to put together a map of its requirements. It also took a different approach than many of our neighboring jurisdictions. Despite these realities, there was no appetite for collaboration or refinement for mayor Wheeler's office to consider alternatives. A majority of this council voted to support mayor Wheeler's proposal. I voted to support it in the hopes that it would accelerate solutions and finally intervene with the crisis on our streets. Despite what we were advised on the legality, the amended code did not lead to further enforcement. We have been enjoined by county circuit court. More importantly, we have not been provided any guidance from a judicial source on what changes are necessary to comply with house bill 3001 15. We have a number of procedural concerns with the development of the mayor's proposal this year, as well as what he brought to council last year in the interest of time, we will forgo those details here, but I would like to highlight my office's substantive concerns with mayor Wheeler's proposal. One overly complicated code and two, lack of sufficient protections for schools and child care centers. Three lack of alignment with our neighboring jurisdictions four it implies that unsanctioned encampments are permitted in some circumstances in Portland, this is a terrible message for our city, particularly when many of our neighboring municipalities speak with their words and deeds that encampments are not welcome. Most fatal codification of poorly constructed and potentially fluid Boise and house bill 3115 requirements and leaving the mess for future government to sort out enforcement. The code is

based on a bad legal foundation that was heavily scrutinized by the supreme court. That looks likely to shift as early as this summer with the supreme supreme court decision in Johnson versus Granite Pass adding aspects that make the code more difficult to enforce, including hard to prove knowing requirement and the divergence requirements that will make enforcement more difficult. Imposing a requirement that we ascertain availability of shelter before enforcing in other settings. The city of Portland has taken has strenuously argued that it is too difficult for the city to prove, much less ascertain, the availability of sufficient shelter to codify requirement. It may not be able to meet is a mistake. Today, we propose an alternative that matches our neighbors to the east. It's based on the regression model that dictates a total ban on unsanctioned camping with penalties specified in code and delegates rulemaking power under the executive. I am proposing an amendment amended approach to allow Portland's executive branch the tools they need to confront encampments to comply with relevant federal rulings and state laws, and allow flexibility in a changing legal environment. But we know that public opinion among Portlanders is divided, but a majority strongly want the end or confrontation to unsanctioned camping. We know that public opinion has shifted on the criminalization of poisonous trucks in our state legislature, acted in the short session. To me, it makes sense for our city code to allow for flexibility that, rather than tying our hands and how to adjust to a rapidly shifting legal structure. So all this being said, my amendments are clear, unsanctioned camping is not allowed in the city of Portland. Exceptions to this ban can be made by the mayor or designee as necessary to comply with state and federal law, including house bill 3115. My amendments have the support of the community. Hundreds of residents who have submitted written testimony in support, and many residents who are here today to testify. What you see in our collective amendments or substitution is a collaborative

effort. I work closely with the city attorney's office in drafting the office of government relations, incorporated perspectives of law enforcement. Members of the Oregon state bar, my council colleagues and have incorporated their perspective into my collective amendments. Here in the substitute, we are going to submit. I have made a number of updates since first circulating our proposal, and I want to highlight those all here. I've incorporated the transparency concepts proposed by commissioner Rubio. I have incorporated a public environment executive team concept proposed by commissioner Mapps. Yesterday we heard concerns through the press from mayor Wheeler about transparency and rule making under the executive. While he chose to articulate those concerns to the press and not directly to my office. We have now included clear parameters for rule making, following best practices for transparency and community engagement. We have also removed criminal sanction in our latest version to match the penalties set forth by Gresham. We have done this in response to colleagues comments in the hopes of finding broader support for the code language. We have also done it to match what our biggest neighbor to the east does, so that there is consistent rules and consistent ramifications across our broader metropolitan area. In summary, our proposal is as follows through City Council in its legislative function, the city broadly bans camping in the city. We align with our immediate neighbors to the east, allows the executive branch to adjust rules to reflect needs on the ground, and shifting legal environment. That being said, I move to amend the ordinance as detailed in the proposed amendments posted on line to the council agenda. I also moved to substitute exhibits a and b with the versions posted online on online to the council agenda. So I'm looking at Gonzales one and Gonzales two. As posted, but I is that what you're moving? What's actually posted online?

Speaker: It is the version that is online as I believe it's Gonzales version three.

Speaker: Okay, I don't have gonzales version three. I've not seen it has legal counsel seen version three?

Speaker: I have, just there was version two was posted on there. Earlier today. And maybe for clarification for the clerk, what time was the version? Version three is on there now, I believe, and was posted before the hearing.

Speaker: Right. And was posted after 2 p.m. Okay yeah.

Speaker: After 2 p.m.

Speaker: After two. I thought it was before 2 p.m.

Speaker: We convened at 2 p.m. For council.

Speaker: Right. My office received the version three and we posted it when we received it.

Speaker: Okay, well, I haven't seen it. So do you somebody want to put it in the record?

Speaker: What would be the most efficient way to do that? Keelan at this point, can I did I achieve that by my reference or is it you need something else to i, I would suggest we, brief make sure that every member of council has a copy of it, and then you can move to amend by reference to that document that everybody has in front of them, just to make sure they all have it.

Speaker: Am I the only one who doesn't have it, or does everybody else have it?

Speaker: I got it after 2 p.m. So I didn't have a chance to read it.

Speaker: Okay, if I I'm happy if people want to move it, but I need a written copy so I can actually read it before we discuss it. So commissioner gonzales moves gonzales three. Is there a second? Second? Commissioner Ryan seconds. And if somebody could print off a copy, I'd appreciate it.

Speaker: Do we need to do the ordinance and then.

Speaker: I believe it's all one package.

Speaker: Okay. Yeah

Speaker: The substitute, it's all it's all one motion, it's properly been made and seconded it. We will now open the public testimony and then folks can have a chance to look at it, before the vote, I know we have commissioner Mapps. I know we have a busy. We got lots of people signed up to testify, but it's just going to be late night, folks. It just is, a commissioner. And there I appreciate the dialog that's happened amongst council offices and in the public and in the press and with staff around this space, and amendments, as we just heard, have evolved, a lot, even over the course of this afternoon, they've evolved commissioner Gonzalez, especially while we're just waiting for the amendments to show up, in printed form. Can you give me an intuitive sense of how of how what you are proposing is different from what? From the mayor's original ordinance? Yes.

Speaker: I think the fundamental components are the legislative branch. This council clearly commits to banning camping in the city of Portland. Unequivocal, there's also a recognition of house bill 3115. Certain extent, boise. So long as its shadow hangs on us, interfere with the city's ability to fully enforce that. So it authorizes the mayor or their designee, to set forth the rules under which it can force it can enforce that camping ban. So, for example, the manner restrictions that are in the mayor's proposed, those can all be done by rulemaking, if the mayor so chooses, it also allows those to adjust without having to go through a full legislative process, partially in response to concerns about the transparency that might be involved in that. We have also one of the changes today is added, a rulemaking process akin to how pbot makes rules and so you provide notice, except for in a case of emergency, you give people the opportunity to provide comment. You have a hearing if it's warranted. In the case of emergency rules, there's also a mechanism that you can impose immediate rules, but you have a time frame by which you have

to have a public process to continue to go forward with the rule. So it's from my vantage point, it's based on the best rulemaking concepts we have in the existing code, you know, I've discussed with, city attorney Robert Taylor, you know, the need maybe in the future that we have clear code language on rulemaking because in the new form of the government, both the mayor and the chief administrative officer have explicit charter authorities that rule. So there may be space before the years out that we that we set up a process, that applies to all rule making inside the executive. But for now, we've, you know, we looked for the best rulemaking mechanism we could find and have incorporated that. And again, in partial to what we understood was, Mayor Wheeler's concerns about transparency and process. Thank you. That's helpful, and I appreciate how comprehensive, your proposal is. And it gathers up ideas that I propose. Yeah. Rubio is proposed and other just best practices that are out there, I think one of the things I'm trying to hone in on, on, as we have this conversation is what's the important thing that you're really trying to accomplish with this? Yeah. Well, I know you're passionate about this. I'm trying to figure out what is this? What is the important thing that you kind of want to see written into ordinance flexibility as a legal environment shifts?

Speaker: I think that it was a mistake in hindsight to codify in such detail what we thought house bill 3115 is requiring. Other jurisdictions have opted not to go with such a, including the city of Gresham, such a specific enumeration. It's too hard to understand, and it's too slow to adjust to realities on the ground. I, I also would hearken to our experience with the drug ban, last year we very clearly said, as the legislature in our legislative function, we wanted outdoor drugs, consumption to end in the city of Portland in response to Portland residents. It was not the only factor, but was a factor influencing our state legislature to revisit measure 110. And I think house bill 3115 is a major problem for all municipalities, including the city of

Portland. I think we speak clearly that we want unsanctioned encampments to end in the city of Portland, that that creates a clear message, to the state legislature.

This is something we need to tackle.

Speaker: Okay, and there's one other I'm going to turn to, legal counsel over here in a minute to get their reflections on, what you're trying to achieve here. One other thing, which I think emerged certainly within the last 24 hours, which kind of surprised me in your ordinance, is your amendment. Your amendment calls to remove criminal penalties. It does so in some ways that's more liberal than more lenient than the mayor's proposal. That strikes me as I'm surprised by that. Help me understand it.

Speaker: Well, I think when we're looking at what motivates people to enroll in services, what what motivates folks to make different choices, whether to go to home to go to another jurisdiction, to enroll in services, I don't think anyone has a clear understanding what's going to motivate a particular individual to make healthier life choices. I'm assuming services are available, which is, you know, a big assumption. So the question of criminality became a, a, it was a bone of contention for some on council, to, to clearly criminalize, gresham seems to be having reasonable success without criminalizing, and again, you're facing a civil penalty. But the reality is, I don't think any of us in this room know with certainty what is going to motivate the most. You know, the folks that are currently service resistant to make different choices. And I'm, you know, it may be that we have to come back in a few months and revisit that, we'll have clarity on who the next da is. We'll have clarity as to who what the county looks like. And it's very important on on this point because regardless of what we approve, you still have to have a da that supports prosecution. You still have to have a jail. You know, if you if you criminalize, you still have to have a jail that would actually book people for those criminal offenses.

Otherwise, we get into this vicious circle of even if we fully authorize the police to intervene into arrest for outdoor camping, I think that's going to be excessively rare. But even if you did that, if the da is not going to prosecute and the in the county, jail isn't going to book them, it's all for naught. So there I guess there's a level of humbleness and not really knowing if that criminal piece is, is worth the is the juice worth the squeeze, to get to that final piece, I simply don't know. And looking across the city of Portland, you know, the state of Oregon, you see variants on that. I will say law enforcement is always going to want to have the ability to do, criminal intervention. The flip side, they also want political clarity from this council. And I think it's more important that we say we want to end encampments in the city of Portland, provide police and others clear direction. That's where we want to go. We want people to get services. We want them to enroll in what we've offered, but that that's the trade off, you know, is the stick or is it the clear political message? And I've opted here for the clear political message, the clear policy statement. We want encampments to end that is not, under all circumstances, to the extent we can make that happen.

Speaker: Okay. And, robert, so we've heard our colleague, expressed what he's trying to trying to achieve here, and I think if I heard if I were to boil down what I heard from commissioner Gonzalez, I think he wants to make a clear statement that camping is banned in Portland, except when it's not, because of rules from the feds or the state, and, he wants to build in flexibility about how, our time, place and manner, I think rules are implemented, how they're adjusted with changing legal environment, how they're adjusted. Can you give me your professional opinion or does that does that proposal raise any concerns for you or what should I be thinking about as a policymaker here who has to vote on this, a bit.

Speaker: You know, I've, I've talked I've given my thoughts to commissioner gonzales on that. And i, i, I'd be happy to share those, I think it we have worked closely with his office to help try to, meet the policy goals in a way that reduces the risk as much as possible, if you're asking my, you know, as I said in the beginning presentation, we were tasked by the mayor to come up with something that we thought could be enforced that would survive legal scrutiny, what is in the mayor's proposal is what we think will do that, with the minimal amount of legal risk.

Speaker: Could I ask a follow up question on that? Sure. In. Robert, just to be clear, that was what you were tasked with in 2023, correct?

Speaker: That's what I was asked to do after the Oregon supreme court refused to give us some direction.

Speaker: Let me rephrase the question. The directive to the city attorney's office when we passed the original ordinance was also to come up with something that would pass legal muster.

Speaker: It was, and I believe it did.

Speaker: But at this point in time, just to be clear, we are unable to enforce what your office thought was enforceable a year ago.

Speaker: Well, and our office still thinks it's enforceable. The question is do what the question is, do we want to fight about that point for another two years in court? And I think the mayor's direction was if the Oregon supreme court's not going to help us, and the Multnomah County circuit court's not going to help us and give us any direction, and they're going to leave it up to us. City attorney, tell us what you think is going to pass legal scrutiny now so we can enforce now. And that's what we have prepared in this proposal. I don't want to and I and I and I have I think your proposal as it's drafted and as we have helped you do it, really does is capture those policy goals that you have enumerated, and, and we will happily defend and

enforce whatever the council chooses to do. That's our job, and we have helped with both of these proposals. I'm proud of the work of my office helping with both of those proposals, but I just wanted to be candid about our work and our assessment. Thank you. I'm sure.

Speaker: Could I could I also just jump in at that point for a moment? I appreciate the dialog. So thank you, my goal wasn't to win the race. My goal was to start the race. And at present, we do not have a legally enforceable ordinance on the books at all. And so to use another sort of crappy analogy to build on the first one, as I've said to all of you, for I think the last 6 to 8 weeks, we're trying to put the christmas tree in the living room. We can hang the ornaments on it later. If circumstances change, we can always have the council come back and vote to change any aspect of this. What I'm trying to do is get a baseline ordinance in place that we believe is meeting the current legal standards. We have two current legal standards that we have to meet. The first is still martin v boise and while having, you know, watched, a very spirited debate on the supreme court the other day, which, frankly, I hope everybody watches, it's 150 very interesting minutes, we suspect that martin v boise will be overturned unless they simply say we're not interested in discussing this any further, and they remand it back. Which which is also a possibility. House bill 3115, however, is very clear in terms of what is required. It says you need to have reasonably objective standards in your time, place and manner. Ordinances, if you wish to enforce a no camping ban in your jurisdiction. So, you know, I guess if I were going to ask a legal question, it would be how does a blanket ban on homelessness comport with state law?

Speaker: Yeah. And as, as developed by, commissioner gonzales and his proposal, the concept is the code prohibits camping, unless otherwise specified by the mayor.

Speaker: But what if the mayor doesn't specify or what if the court speculates that the mayor might not? Well, it's vague, and the way in black and white is a blanket ban. That's what's in the ordinance.

Speaker: And the way the, the commissioner Gonzalez is proposal is designed. Is that the blanket ban in the code would then be subject to the rulemaking by the executive. There is an extensive notice and comment rulemaking process that's provided and based on those rules, then we could be subject to a challenge depending on what those rules are. But I think the ordinance doesn't go into effect until that extensive, lengthy rulemaking process is completed. Well, you you yes, you would want to make sure that those rules were adopted, before you began enforcing. Yes.

Speaker: Just to be clear, there is an emergency rule provision concept in there. So you can put in place temporary rules. And, as an emergency and you just have to come back and go through a process, at some point.

Speaker: Correct. Thank you.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio okay.

Speaker: So, I appreciate the conversations that's happening. The questions, my question, are we still asking questions here or we just having our open conversation?

Speaker: We can do both. Okay. This is a good discussion. Let's keep it going. Okay. And for those of you waiting to testify, I promise we will get to you. We're prepared to stay as long as we need to get through everybody. But let's strike while the iron's hot.

Speaker: So, commissioner gonzales. So regarding the blanket prohibition, even if it's not clear, it's not clear to me then what kind of manner and place and time prohibitions would be, expected. So how would this be clear to folks to know what

kind of conduct constitutes a violation if there was one? So can you help me understand that? Sure, sure.

Speaker: So again, in the city code currently contemplates a number of areas rule making, by either bureau leads or in some cases, commissioners have that authority under the existing code. Those those rules need to be published and accessible and understood and need to be clearly communicated. So, you know, one scenario is mayor Wheeler takes exact manner, restrictions that he's proposed here as soon as this passes, publishes them, goes through the full communication plan outlined by skyer as, as, nothing prohibits that, and that's probably best practices that you, you know, in and frankly, I think it's required at some level in what we propose that you clearly publish the rules. They have to be communicated. And there's some, and if he doesn't on emergency basis, which he would have the potential to do, he'd have to come back after a certain number of days and go through a public process to, to keep those as the current rules.

Speaker: So there might be a time lag, i, you know, it depends on if you so chose to exercise his emergency, rulemaking rights there, that would be somewhat up to that would be in his discretion or his designee.

Speaker: So I'm also thinking through like, if there was another kind of like, let's say like, do you remember when occupy Portland was here? So so using that example, how would this apply to that then that situation?

Speaker: Let's assume for a second anything, any rules written down beforehand. Let's assume for a second that the mayor adopts the manner restrictions as rules. So exactly what's proposed today that the mayor's in the original mayor proposal. He adopts those rules. Then my questions back to robert, so if you had to occupy event, would that be prohibited by the prescriptions set forth by, by in mayor Wheeler's proposal? And I say that because, again, I'm assuming you just take the

matter restrictions he's proposed, you drop those into the rules. So substantively there's same I don't know what the answer is on under his manner of restrictions, whether an occupy event would be prohibited or not.

Speaker: Well, under under that specific example, those those events happened in parks and the amendments we're talking about today are separate and apart from the title 20 and the code that regulates parks that includes the park closure rules, the no structures in parks and the garbage in parks. And those are all still on the books. Those would still all be enforced. I think in your hypothetical, it's harder because obviously there's first amendment type issues. You have to be concerned about. And we would want to evaluate that, based on the facts we're seeing on the ground, but I think, you know, for it really does matter what the rules are that are ultimately adopted by the mayor because that's what's going to inform the enforcement.

Speaker: All right. But but going in like, if this were to happen tomorrow and we didn't have rules in place, there would still then be the time lag to know what's enforceable. And not enforceable.

Speaker: Yeah, I think it could be very I think it could be difficult to know. I think that's one of the benefits of putting something in the code. Now, that that clearly prohibits the conduct, whether it's the manner regulation or not. And so, for example, in that situation, let's say it's folks that, don't have an alternative place to go, but they're blocking the sidewalks or they're, blocking access to businesses under the mayor's proposal, that would be prohibited. We could go and enforce that immediately. And there wouldn't be a lag for waiting for the rules to be developed. Commissioner Gonzalez correctly identifies in his proposal that there are emergency provisions, so emergency rules could be adopted, so if the situation was an emergency, you could do that, but I think from a, from an authority

perspective, it's our belief in the city attorney's office that having the clear rules in the code is better from an enforcement perspective.

Speaker: Can I just clarify on the timing? So we have two amendments to the mayor's proposed right now, even before we've got three proposed. But so I don't want to be too precise, but assuming you had an occupy event tomorrow, this code wouldn't be effective. Even the mayor's proposal would would? I mean, earliest it would be effective three weeks from now because we don't meet next week. And we I mean, I don't know what the timeline. I just want to make sure we're following through the hypothetical correctly.

Speaker: Yeah. I mean, we're we're we're not equipped for an occupy event tomorrow.

Speaker: So regardless of which path, regardless of which package is passed, to your point about when would this be effective?

Speaker: So right now it's a non emergency ordinance. So it will be effective 30 days after passage. This is just the first reading. So it's going to have to come back for a second reading. So it would be 30 days from that final passage is when it would be effective.

Speaker: So I just have another follow up question because it made me think about also, the law enforcement side of this same hypothetical or even, you know, in general, we're talking about, and it's actually a question, for you, skyler. And then also, commissioner gonzales, in terms of what how will the police be trained then, in these two different like, what are the differences in approach when it comes to training? So the officers know how to engage with a policy like that? And I guess that's a question for both. But i'll start with you.

Speaker: Yeah. Yeah. So we've already kind of started that process. Obviously we had discussions last prior to last summer's, passage of that time, place, manner

ordinance, developed standard operating procedures, worked closely with relevant police precincts and different offices within the police bureau and the training dean as well, and so we will do that same process. We've already started those processes to ensure that they know all the different elements of enforcement. So we do that with any policy or city code change, and then develop those standard operating procedures as well. So what I mentioned about the neighborhood response team would just ensure that, a narrow scope within the police bureau of enforcement. So only certain teams that are normally engaging with the folks who are living outside, folks who are living unsheltered and would be enforcing those policies in conjunction with the street services coordination center and our city outreach team. So they already work together every day. They already coordinate every day. But that coordination would continue, and this would be just another piece of that puzzle.

Speaker: So they've been so they're aware of this, that it's coming and trained. And so they would be ready to understand it once if it were to pass. Yes, yes.

Speaker: So we've been yes, we've been engaging with them. And then we will continue to do so to develop those standard operating procedures. If it were to pass the commissioner Rubio, I think there's no difference whether it's done by administrative rules or it's done in code of substantively.

Speaker: It's the same. You still would train the police with the same sops. I think it's it all depends on what the mayor would adopt as rules. But if it's the same rules that are in his proposed code language, I don't think there's any difference in the training.

Speaker: Mr. Rubio, can I ask a follow up? Just just, I'm glad this question came up, question for commissioner gonzaless, under your amendment, I'm not quite sure I

understand why or how the cops get involved at all. Because you strip out the criminal penalties. So is there.

Speaker: Yeah, that's a good question. So if we follow the gresham model, you know, the there their expectation is always outreach workers first. I mean, and, I envision that we're still trying to do that here, that it's psr, it's chat. It's county. It's other outreach workers are all the first attempt, to intervene on camping, outside of particularly you know, unique campsites that are really bad that we need to maybe do something more quickly. But it's, that's the model. It's alternative police first. You can't. If someone won't move, they don't accept services. Then that's when police would intervene. And the I think one of the. So I think there's not a real difference there. There are going to be slight differences in what tools a police officer can use in that situation, when it's a violation versus a crime. So that's a, that's a, that does impact how they potentially respond. However our problem with encampments, it's almost never just the camp. Right. It's outdoor drug use. It's evidence of stolen bicycles. It's, you know, public defecation and urination. I mean, there's all these other things that come from encampments. So i, I that's sort of the internal debate is, is how much it, the criminality of camping really matters in that situation. What they do need is clarity from us that they want that we want encampments cleaned up. That's very important, including these adjacent pieces.

Speaker: Great, thank you very much, could I speak as police commissioner? Yeah, for a moment? Sure. Yeah. If there's no crime, the police aren't going to be involved. Just to be clear.

Speaker: That makes sense to me. And we have stripped out, at least with Gonzalez's amendment, as I understand it strips basically, I think even your amendment has some criminal or the mayor. The mayor's proposal ironically here, I think, the mayor's proposal on time, place and manner contains, some criminal

penalties. Commissioner Gonzalez's stripped those out. So I think under Gonzalez's, ordinance, in theory, we would not see the cops involved in, managing, time, place and manner issues.

Speaker: I just had one more question.

Speaker: Sure. I apologize, commissioner.

Speaker: So, also, and again, I haven't read it, so I'm assuming if so, the blanket provision or the blanket policy that you're proposing, you know, in the original one we had, we talked about diversion and the opportunity for diversion. So does that mean that that would not be an option then as, as written right now I think it's almost inverted.

Speaker: Right. So the initial outreach is going to be an outreach worker or psr or chat. And so the concept of diversion is you have some police intervention or criminal justice intervention. And instead of going to jail or going a further step in the judicial process, you're diverted out of it. And so this is assuming that the front interaction, at least with respect to camping, not the other behaviors. And I do want to be clear about that, is that it's inverting the divergence. We would not need to prove that someone has enrolled in diversion program before you brought them for a violation, that is no longer requirement. But I'm just, you know, the assumption of a falling regression model is that outreach workers are their first connection with respect to the campaign. If there's other criminal behaviors, you know, public consumption, then we're we're under that swim lane, if that makes sense.

Speaker: It just feels it sort of feels like that's what we're doing now. But I wanted to ask skyler about that. Is that.

Speaker: Yeah. Yeah so I can help clarify. So, I actually work really closely with gresham and their homelessness response team, and we actually patterned our

street services coordination center after a lot of the work that they do in gresham, as well as some work that's done in san francisco, kind of with their emergency teams. But we, you know, offer, relationships with outreach workers. We connect folks to services. And that's kind of done on that front end. And that coordination piece that happens with the ssc. I would also just, state just for clarification, that diversion really in the mayor's proposal is a form of art. So, diversion would only happen post arrest. So it's an option for the courts. And that's why we worked with the district attorney's office and their policy team, as well as the Multnomah County circuit courts, to determine what that would look like, how we would divert folks post arrest, or post citation to those different services. That initial piece of offering reasonable alternative shelter is what would happen with those outreach teams with the ssc, or maybe those neighborhood response team officers. And that's more of that deflection on the front end. That's connection to services before even an arrest or a citation would even be thought of, or that enforcement capacity would take place. So those are two kind of separate pieces happening on the front end or happening on the back end.

Speaker: And my last question is, about about stakeholders. It was one of my, one of my big issues in the last one. What's different about this proposal now?

Speaker: I think we really took into account a lot of that stakeholder engagement and a lot of that feedback. So you'll remember lots of testimony of the last time we passed that ordinance, as well as everything robert mentioned with different, settlement agreements and different conversations with plaintiff's attorneys. I think we took into consideration a lot of what happened during the litigation, and why we were enjoined and really tried to, incorporate some of those pieces. I think commissioner gonzales mentioned the map and the time and place restrictions. I think, folks really preferred those manor restrictions. I would also just say the

manor restrictions that were outlining really are a codification of a lot of the rules that are already in place and policies that have been in place for 5 or 6 years under the impact reduction program, just with a couple additions. And so folks are actually well acquainted with those rules on the street. And I think that was something that was really important to outreach teams that I talked to in different service providers that we discussed this with.

Speaker: Thank you. Could I ask a question? So, and then i'll get back to you. Commissioner Mapps sorry, didn't mean to jump in front of you, but it's hot on my head. So we keep talking about this gresham model and my understanding of what gresham does is the council delegates authority to post and clear camps to their city manager. Yes. We as a council basically already did that. We delegated that authority to the impact reduction program. What gresham does not do is delegate time, place and manner restrictions to the city manager. That's still rests, does it not, with the council?

Speaker: Yeah. As I read the as I read the gresham code, they have delegated the to the city manager. The policy around removals, posting, posting notices of removal, storing property that cleaning up that sort of thing.

Speaker: Okay as well as contracting I think, talking to the gresham team, it was very important to them to have some flexibility with contracting if they needed to switch providers for some of those posting and removal projects. Right.

Speaker: But operationally, that's what we do already. Correct. What we. Yeah so what is proposed in the base ordinance is that the council overtly identified time, place and manner restrictions, and I'm not. Who are you proposing does that I'm proposing that the mayor or their designee set forth any such requirements to comply with house bill 3115, including time, place, manner.

Speaker: And just to be crystal clear, gresham is categorical in banning camping. I mean, their code is very straightforward forward, on that point. But as to defining the manner in which camping would be permitted under my proposal, that would be you would have that authority.

Speaker: Well, to be clear. Take me out of it. A few months, I'm gone. So the question is somebody to be determined would be delegated that authority and after that it would be somebody else. So from a clarity perspective, it seems like you would want this to reside with the council because the council's held accountable, not a designee, that we may or may not know who they are.

Speaker: Well, I think that's the philosophical question that's really at the center of this. We're in a fluid legal environment that I think is going to change as early as this summer, i, I that's just reality. It's, we thought last year we were adopting something that conformed with house bill 3115. We may still think it complies with house bill 3115, but we've been stopped from enforcing it. That was an unforeseen, shift in legal environment. The supreme court took up the grants pass decision that was not fOregone that that was going to happen, and now there's a lot of legal scholars that are think that at least a substantial part of boise and grants pass are going to be overturned. They may not overturn at all. So part of the solution that I'm trying to tailor is how can we adjust to those realities and not tie down future executive branch that has to deal with this issue that gets judged by the encampments, for better or worse.

Speaker: Oh, believe me, I can relate to that. I live it, my question, though, really is why delegate that authority? The council, I mean, we're meeting here. We're having this discussion because of an unforeseen circumstance which is that our first effort at a time, place, manner, ordinance was overturned or enjoined. I guess is the proper word by a court. So here we are. We're meeting. Whereas alternatively, if it's

an administrative rule, what I understood schuyler to say, and maybe I misinterpreted and I misunderstood, that still has to go through a process. It still has to go through an administrative rule process and potentially come back to council anyways. Is that right?

Speaker: I'll defer to robert, but that's my understanding.

Speaker: Are you talking about an hour proposal or in the.

Speaker: I want to be clear, not my proposal.

Speaker: My proposal is the council. It stipulates very clearly in schuyler put it up on a on a powerpoint. What manner restrictions we are proposing. And if a court throws that out, then we go to plan three. But I don't understand. And you still have to notify law enforcement. You still have to notify the district attorney. You still have to notify service providers. You still have to have clarity for people who are living on the streets, what the rules are. So even even if it's fast, you still have to go through a process in order to notify all the myriads of partners who work collectively with us to make this plan work.

Speaker: You absolutely have to go through a process. But part of why I wanted to lay out the history, because I think it's important for people to track. For 40 years, the city of Portland banned unconditionally camping in the city proper. That was a that was what was on the books. The only reason we updated code last year with very convoluted, complicated language is because we were told we had to comply with house bill 3115. So I think a key part of what I am proposing is this council saying we want to move towards no encampments, we want to ban camping in the city of Portland. We recognize we are subject to state limitations on fully carrying that out right now. We're also, at the moment subject to ninth circuit, impediments to carrying that out, but that is a clear legislative declaration that the law that has been on the books in the city of Portland, I think going back to 1982, should be the

law of the land in the city of Portland. If these impediments are removed until such time the mayor has authority to figure out how to comply.

Speaker: All right. Commissioner Mapps, going back to the question of who is the decider, I think I spent part of last week and maybe even part of this week having conversations with my colleagues on council and lawyers about that. And I think I have some red lines in this space. Who for me, who the decider is, depends on what the penalties are. So if there are criminal penalties involved with our time, place and manner ordinance, and there are in the mayor's proposal, then I think it has to go to council. Robert tells me that that's kind of the norm, and, and maybe there might be some, it might be ambiguous as to how hard that law is as a democratic principle. I don't think I want to hand the mayor the arbitrary power to make a rule that he or she can just throw someone in jail for doing something that they don't like. On the other hand, commissioner Gonzalez has come forward today, stripping out the, criminal penalties involved with our time, place and manner ordinance, so for that, because of that, I guess it doesn't necessarily have to go to council.

Although in practice, or at least for me, in terms of the norms that I, I think I have developed over the course of this conversation, I might be open to administrative rules, but let me ask my last question here. So that's just a statement of where I'm at on that issue. Should anyone care, let me ask my last issue here. And then I promise to shut up, till we get to the end of public testimony. Commissioner Gonzalez. Just so I understand what the stakes are here for you. What are the. For you. What do you think? The stakes are here, is it that you want to make? Is this a symbolic move or is substantive, play? In other words, is it symbolically important to you, and symbolism matters to make a clear have this council make a clear statement that, street camping is not okay here in Portland. And we write that into law? Or is it your contention that if we pass your version of the ordinance, we will

get folks off the sidewalks and into shelter more quickly than we would with the mayor's ordinance?

Speaker: I it is both symbolic and substantive.

Speaker: I think it is very, very important that this body communicate clearly, symbolically or otherwise, what our expectations for the public right of ways and for public land, and that that does not include encampment in unsanctioned environments. So that has all by itself an important symbolic effect. It also communicates to our public partners, including the state legislature, that we need help in this area, we cannot clean up our city completely without help. And, but substantively, it is for allowing flexibility as constraints change that the executive can update to reflect those constraints. And so, the, you know, the worst case scenarios we put on the books in our code, things that are indefinitely until you can get a majority of council that we're only putting there to comply with state law, we're only putting there to, you know, dissuade Oregon law center from suing us. I don't think that's a good way to make code. I don't think that's a way to set long term policy that's going to bind future. We would not we would not have gone through this exercise if not for house bill 3115 last year, we would have had a blanket camping ban in the city of Portland. Again, other constraints would have applied. So that's that's the substantive thing. We are a gun was held to our head last year. That's why we did what we did. And I don't want to double down on the mistake, thank you. I can say more, but, I know we have at least 50 people waiting to, share their thoughts, too, so I will lower my hand and let the mayor, traffic cop.

Speaker: All right. Very good. We'll go to public testimony. How many people do we have signed up?

Speaker: We have 51 people signed up. 51.

Speaker: All right, two minutes each. Name for the record. Do we have invited testimony?

Speaker: Are we? Do we have invited testimony?

Speaker: I don't know who has invited testimony. I have two, all right. Invited testimony. Commissioner Gonzalez, John and Chief Gillespie, when you guys come on. Bear with me. We got a off script a little bit, so I'm going to need about 30s to catch up. What order we're doing in this?

Speaker: You can go ahead, sir.

Speaker: You want to go?

Speaker: Go ahead. Yeah, actually, I'll leave to you guys. You introduce yourself for the record and go in whichever order you'd like.

Speaker: Well, well, chief, thank you for your courtesies.

Speaker: Good afternoon, John Di Lorenzo. I'm an attorney, partner at Davis Wright Tremaine. But I'm here today on my own behalf as a citizen, informed, however, by virtue of the honor that I had, over the last year and a half to represent ten very courageous people who were citizens with disabilities and, and, I was the chief counsel for the Tozer versus City of Portland case, which resulted in the settlement that you all approved last year. I, was also, grateful for the professionalism of Mr. Taylor's office and the problem solving that we went through, especially when Mayor Wheeler was able to join us in one of our mediation sessions before federal judge Beckerman, and I think we ended up with a good result. The settlement that is in the first of its five years. It's already been a partial success. I think, albeit a very expensive one, the, it has in large part resulted in clear sidewalks in the downtown core, I cannot say the same thing for some portions of the east side, but at least we're getting there. And, that is due in large part to the good faith of the city in, in enforcing it and, and working hard to meet its objectives. The we receive quarterly

reports from the city, as part of the of the federal monitoring process. And so far over the last two quarters, the city has cleared 2820 encampments and encampment that is anywhere from 3 to 5 tents. So we're talking about the city clearing 6000 to 8000 tents in the last six months. Now, I suggest that that exceeds the number of unsheltered persons who are outdoors, according to the last point in time count. That is because the county insists on continuing to pay taxpayer dollars to distribute tents to its ngo partners, who place them on the sidewalks, which the city in turn, removes. So far, the county has spent almost \$2 million distributing 20,000 plus tents and 60,000 plus tarps, only for the city to spend more than \$10 million to clean them up. The dissonance between the county and the city, approaches walking up the down escalator, you get nowhere, but you're exhausted at the end of the day. Now, we had hoped that a time, place, and manner ordinance, which mayor Wheeler championed, would work hand in glove with the settlement, to, because the council passed that the same day you approved the settlement and that is necessary to removing encampments that are not blocking sidewalks, encampments and other public public areas, I have looked at the various iterations, I want to applaud you for all wearing the same jersey, having the same intent, which is to keep our public areas clear, but also to encourage our houseless population to have to seek services, to encourage them to go and camp where they are most likely to obtain services. That is really much more humane than the current county policy of warehousing people on the street.

Speaker: The language program.

Speaker: So, hey, hey, hey, you're not going to hear everybody agree with everything you say up here. If we get to the point where everybody in this room agrees on everything, our democracy is fundamentally unsound. So please, let's all

respect each other's opinions. Even people who you vehemently disagree with. And then you can have your turn.

Speaker: So, your ordinance was temporarily enjoined, by a judge who elected not to share her rationale with you, but just because there's an injunction doesn't mean that particular judge is right, you have not had a chance to pursue the appellate process because you don't want to wait that long. So to a large extent, this is for expediency. And I understand that. I do believe it's important to know what house bill 3115 requires, though, I have heard comments and this is the only disagreement really I have with, with my colleague mr. Taylor, I don't believe house bill 3115, precludes you from enforcing ordinances that relate to camping. This is what the law says. 195 .530 sub two. Any city or county law that regulates the acts of sitting, lying, sleeping, or keeping warm and dry outdoors on public property that is open to the public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place and manner with regard to persons experiencing homelessness. Camping is a concept is much more expansive than that, and in fact, every version of these ordinances make it very clear that the ordinance does not pertain to merely sitting with, lying by, or possessing camp materials that are stowed, disassembled, or packed in a manner that would permit them to be immediately carried or moved. It is my view that all of these iterations, including mayor Wheeler's original iteration, comply with house bill 3115. You just don't want to wait long enough for the court of appeals to tell you that I think the trial judge was wrong. Now, of the iterations that I've seen and by the way, I think you should vote for whichever one has the most votes because I would hate for the perfect to stand in the way of the good. And my preference is commissioner gonzales, number two is modified by number three. And here are the reasons why, first of all, it's easy to understand. There is no camping on public places. What's hard to understand about that? Number two, it is my, in my view,

less vulnerable to legal attack provided that sufficient exemptions are authorized by the mayor and the rulemaking process now consider this let let's say there is a major disruption downtown, a riot, let's say, rises to that level and there are all kinds of crimes being committed. And the police are ready to move in. And the mayor, as police commissioner says, you know what I think it's better that we draw a perimeter and that we not bring in paddy wagons and that we not do anything to further exacerbate the situation, because there'll be even more damage as a result. What is the mayor doing? The mayor is deciding to for a while anyway, not enforce a rule or an ordinance or a law. That is exactly what commissioner Gonzalez's proposal does, which is already within the authority of whoever commands the police force or whoever is in charge of other, government services. So, number number three, the exemption process will be amenable to a public process because it envisions rulemaking so the public can comment on where the exemption should be. I presume they are going to be to your sanction. Camping areas so that you can encourage our houseless population often to go where they are most likely to receive services that will help them with their addiction and their other issues, their mental health issues, it is more effective, I think, assuming that those reside outdoors are likely to choose the path of least resistance. It humanely encourages our unhoused population to settle where the city. Sanctions can't be the very places where they will have accessibility to services, it also rejects the county's ill conceived policy of enabling addictive behavior and housing people outdoors. It also also includes the yea. Rubio and maps amendments. And finally, I believe it comports with what I think are the community's expectations, which are, prioritizing public safety while seeking a humane alternative to assist those in need, the majority of the public, I think, expects a no camping on public property unless done so. In a way that is calculated to encourage our unhoused population to seek the help they

need, both versions, all versions, I think, are good steps in that direction. I think commissioner Gonzalez's approach is superior and that's great.

Speaker: I have a couple of questions, but i'll defer to commissioner Mapps first, just real quick and we can keep it short, do you have an opinion about, the proposal to strip criminal penalties out of time, place and manner?

Speaker: Well, I just pulled them up on my cell phone here to. Because I did not yet have a copy of number three, but i, I did observe that number three doesn't say their civil penalties or their criminal penalties. What number three says is that a violation of this ordinance or administrative rule is punishable by a fine or a penalty, not more than \$1,000. I read that as a criminal penalty without jail, a criminal penalty subject to a fine. So, you know, I think I think to address mayor Wheeler's issue about whether it be appropriate to utilize the police to enforce this ordinance. I think it could be now, i'll defer, of course, to, my friend mr. Taylor, because he he provides you legal advice. I'm just to provide you my opinions. But, I don't see the difference here.

Speaker: Well, for me, the difference is if they're criminal penalties, then, basically, council is to decide. Or if there are no criminal penalties, then I kind of don't know. Does that make sense?

Speaker: I, I understand that what what I am interested in is having a consequence to camping that is more severe than camping, where a person is likely to receive services and get help for their addictions and their mental health issues.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Anything that pushes them there, I think works.

Speaker: So that's interesting because that's what I wanted to hone in on your testimony. You correct me, I think said that, you know, you don't want to lead with the enforcement. What you want to do is encourage people to get whatever help

they need. And that has been the theory behind behind our entire homeless strategy. For as long as I have been mayor. And it certainly is built in institutionally into our task sites that navigate people to services. And now the safe rest villages, which do the same. But in the original bass ordinance that I proposed, it says, quote, under 1451 50, it is unlawful for any person to camp knowingly in or upon any public property or public right of way. If the person has access to reasonable alternative shelter, etc. In other words, they've been offered carrots and they decline the carrots and eventually we then there will be some enforceability. But the ordinance that you are supporting removes that language. Can I so are you. Do you support the removal of that language?

Speaker: Well, mr. Mayor, the reason I and I don't know, I can't I can't read all the minds of the people who were involved in reading the paper. But I'm looking at the paper, too, and it seems to me, and I will defer, of course, to, my friend and law enforcement here. It seems to me that if one is to enforce this ordinance, are you expecting the police officer to have an app that is going to let him or her know at any particular point in time, whether now at 7:00, when it's attempting to enforce the ordinance, there is, in fact, a shelter space available.

Speaker: Yes. And we already have it. So for city shelter, we already have such an app. And it also includes treatment beds. And what we're trying to do is also encourage the county. Indeed, even the state, to adopt that technology. And it costs us skyler. What, like nothing. It's free. Right? It's a google app that we have adopted for that purpose. I have a second question about this. Maybe it's as much a comment as everything. So the Portland police bureau has been utilized under the previous measure, 110, which the legislature blissfully fixed for all of us. Yes, but previously it had a provision in it whereby police officers would effectively hand them a slip of paper. That was a fine. The fine could be waived in the event that

they sought treatment. And I think that was a very well intentioned provision. But operationally, what happened is, is people basically used them as litter. They handed out hundreds of them and very, very few people actually saw treatment there. Just there wasn't enough teeth. And frankly, it was a colossal waste of police resources. And so I was grateful that the legislature fixed that for us. But isn't this tantamount to the same kind of strategy?

Speaker: I don't know if it is. And frankly, here's an advantage for you having 3 or 4 alternatives. There's nothing that says the City Council can't pick and choose the best concepts from various alternatives and weave them together.

Speaker: As you say, the christmas tree, the ornaments can come whenever councils want.

Speaker: If you had occasion about 15 years ago to venture to times square in new york city, you may recall that there was a proliferation of squeegee people who would, step out into the roadway, throw filthy water on somebody's windshield, and try to squeegee it off. And it was becoming a big problem. And the city decided that they didn't want to jail anybody. That wasn't the purpose. They wanted to discourage the behavior. They wanted squeegee people to take the path of least resistance and do something else so they they thought, well, what law is a squeegee professional violating a squeegee professional is violating jaywalking. You can't be a squeegee person without jaywalking. And so they started stopping anyone who was doing that. They ran warrants. Many people had outstanding warrants. They brought them downtown, said hello, put them through a little process, and that was it. But they did it enough so that it was such a hassle. It discouraged them from engaging in that kind of behavior. Whatever you pick as as the consequence should be enough to encourage someone who is houseless to seek refuge in your sanctioned camping areas so they can seek services as opposed

to be left adrift on the streets. Not, you know, and forget about being able to pass the streets. I mean, my clients were, unable to, as much as buy a tube of toothpaste without having to co-mingle into the traffic and lots of other Portlanders feel the same way. So I think you get you get two objectives with one policy. If you weave all this together.

Speaker: Right. Fair enough. And i'll give robert the last word and then we'll move on.

Speaker: Oh, thank you so much, mayor. I really had just a couple of things, the first is, I want to thank mr. Dilorenzo for coming here. I want to thank him for providing this explanation of his views, I disagree with them. It is not in the city's interest for me to sit here and debate with him the legality of either one of these approaches, because it will be my job to defend whatever we do here, not mr. Dilorenzo's, however, he has done a service by providing his reasoning, even if I disagree with it. I wish the court had done that, and that was a missed opportunity by the court, and, john, thank you for sharing the squeegee story again. I haven't heard that in a while. Thank you, and then finally, I just want to leave with this, we have our fire chief here, very important witness. And I want to give time for the fire chief.

Speaker: Thank you. And john, we thank you for your service to the community and the work you did on behalf of the ada community. It was brilliant work and we all appreciate it.

Speaker: Well, thank you, mr. Mayor, and thank you all for being open to allowing me to share my views. Thank you sir.

Speaker: Thanks.

Speaker: Good afternoon, mayor Wheeler. City commissioners, my name is Ryan gillespie, fire chief for Portland fire and rescue. Thank you for the opportunity to

provide testimony today. Last week we learned during pbot's vision zero presentation that 50% of all pedestrian deaths in 2023 were individuals who are unhoused. Ed, as you're all very aware, this community comprises less than 1% of Multnomah County's population. Over the past several years, Portland fire's response to houseless camping fires has dramatically increased, and I would like to share some statistics with you. In 2019, 26% of all fire reports in the city were houseless. Related. Related. In 2023, the number of houseless fires increase to 35% of all fire reports, up from that 26 so far in 2024. 39% of all fires have been houseless related, up from 35% last year in terms of patient outcomes, 46% of all fire injuries and 50% of all fire deaths in 2023 were houseless related. So far this year, the percent of houseless related fire injuries has increased from 46% to 56% of all fire injuries, while the share of fire deaths remains steady at 50% of all fire deaths. Given the disproportionate impacts of fire related injuries and deaths on our unhoused population, Portland fire and rescue has long opposed unsanctioned camping and has been a strong proponent of city sanctioned campsites, or at least minimum level of safety measures and precautions can be installed and implemented. The current houseless crisis has weighed heavily on our frontline firefighters for years, as they've increasingly been asked to function as a last line of resort for medical and behavioral substance abuse and non-emergency calls. As more and more people routinely use 911 to meet basic needs for themselves and others. Given the gravity of the current crisis, Portland fire and rescue would support any policy proposals from City Council that moves us towards the prohibition of unsanctioned camping and the reduction of associate fire risks that overwhelmingly impact the most vulnerable residents among us. Thank you for your time today. Thank you, chief.

Speaker: All right. To public testimony. There's no more invited testimony, colleagues correct to public testimony, please. Keelan. You're you're the boss now.

Speaker: Thank you. Mayor, I'll call people up. Three at a time. So when I call your name, please come on up and have to move the chairs for.

Speaker: Me to move chairs for folks when the chair of the order, I think I think we're okay for the time being. Yeah I think an extra chair is okay, right? I mean, we can chair.

Speaker: I think we're okay. Need to keep it out so that people.

Speaker: Oh, really? Oh, chairs. Okay.

Speaker: Thank you. Angela. Lauren armani, brenna fossen and jeffrey liddicoat.

Speaker: Welcome. Thank you for being here. We appreciate it.

Speaker: Go ahead. Lauren.

Speaker: Thanks. Hello. Council my name is lauren armani, and I'm the systemic change program director at sisters of the road. I have to say, I have a hard time knowing how to testify right now, this feels like legislation by chaos. And honestly disrespectful to all the people that this will impact, so I will proceed with my previously planned comment. Less than a year ago, I sat before you to provide testimony in opposition to your last attempt at a reasonable camping ban today, with Gonzalez's proposed amendments. I have the. I also have to argue for the right to be a part of the decision making process. In reading your newest draft of the ordinance and the amendments, the only thing clear and transparent about it is that even after hearing hundreds of testimonies, you all have no concept of what is reasonable for those of us who currently cannot access housing in Portland, which is a lot of us. With this in mind, I also have grave concerns for leaving the decision making power for this important legislation solely in the executive branch, in this ordinance, you wrote that I can have a blanket by me, but it must be packed or

otherwise stowed. How can we Portland residents be confident that this ordinance will pass legal scrutiny? If I feel unsure about my ability to have to like legally have a picnic on public property, many of you were quick to say that measure 110 was putting the cart before the horse. I literally never want to hear that phrase ever again because of how many times it was said when we didn't have enough access to treatment facilities before decriminalization, with mayor Wheeler, you frame this ordinance as a last ditch effort to address individuals who refuse offers of shelter. How is this not putting the cart before the horse when reasonable offers of shelter rarely exist, even for those who want them? Please tell me where those resources are, are you expecting law enforcement officers to know whether these reasonable shelters are available? And with the caseload of the Multnomah County district attorney, do you really expect them to have capacity to navigate diversion programs with people? If enacted today, you are proposing a law that would endlessly find in jail Portland residents who do not have reasonable access to housing. Thank you.

Speaker: And perfectly timed. Thank commissioner Gonzalez.

Speaker: I just want to apologize to you too. When you came up and spoke, I thought it was the woman in the mask that was speaking. So if you saw a weird expression on my face, it took me about 30s while you were testifying as to who was talking. So you may not have seen my facial expression, but I apologize if any offense.

Speaker: Oh, she'll be talking now.

Speaker: Okay. I was convicted the last part.

Speaker: Good afternoon. My name is brenna fossen, and I am the systemic change community organizer at sisters of the road. If enacted today, you are proposing a law that would endlessly fine and jail Portland residents who do not

have reasonable access to housing. As my colleague just stated. Furthermore, you publicly blame the Multnomah County circuit court for not holding your hand and telling you how to make this ordinance legal. But this is your job, your legislators and you are lawyers. If you are not sure how to make this pass legal muster by now, then perhaps you should just give up on it, at least until everyone has a home. These proposed ordinances will only entrench the discrimination already faced by our poor and unhoused neighbors. As my colleague mentioned, your proposed ordinances within them, someone can be punished for sleeping while using a blanket or accumulating trash. Will I be issued a fine or put in jail for falling asleep while stargazing? For example? How will law enforcement decide who to penalize? How will you guarantee that this will not lead to selective and subjective enforcement? More than just tracking and aggregating data, rather than spending taxpayer money on enforcing these ordinances, why not resolve the actual root problems of people having no place to live? You can mobilize lobbying efforts to lift the state preemption on local rent control so people can actually afford a place to live or guarantee legal representation for all people facing eviction. The longer you do not address these root causes, the worse conditions will get for people just struggling to make ends meet. For as long as city officials put forth ordinances that try to wipe away our community members whom you have failed, we will be here for as long as you prioritize the interests of the few over the lives and well-being of the rest of us. The people will be here fighting back. Thank you. Welcome.

Speaker: Jeffrey Liddicoat. First, I want to apologize for, last time I spoke with you all, I called you idiots and I probably shouldn't have done that. I prefer to speak impromptu, and it's really difficult for me to do that in this context, because, nothing I've said over all of the years that I fought this. Never have I ever yet seen any coherent conversation with points and counter points in the media or from you

all. You give this one cookie cutter explanation over and over and over again. You repeat your case, the and you don't you don't even consider different ways of approaching it rather than beating up harder on the people who have less than you. And that's gone on forever since the beginning of humans, I suspect that the people that are right above the people that are at the very bottom will bend down and punch down, and that's all that you're doing here. You're not solving anything. This is all smoke and mirrors. The way that you actually harass the homeless is with the posting of those fliers, and you know it full well. You know that it's not these ordinances, but you've got everybody talking about them rather than, you know, what you did after the day camp ban didn't, you know, managed to survive. You increase the flyering the posting that makes people get up and move their stuff day after day after day. They eventually they're not caring very much. That has anything to do with their lives. They can't do that day after day. It stresses them out. It stresses them out. It makes them not want to live. And you talk about values. Here's values for you. Oh, it's a humanitarian crisis. But yet you've got rapid response out there treating people that are seniors, that are sick, that are disabled, that are mentally ill, young women that are underage and shouldn't be out there, that then treating the same as you would a healthy bodied male that's. There's no discernment at all between whether or not somebody keeps their camp clean, you, and you moan and groan about garbage. The visual effect of that is nothing compared to the moral bankruptcy of harassing people who are already thoroughly harassed. Thank you. And those are just like 1 or 2 points. I got a billion. And none of them are ever addressed in a coherent way that anybody can sit through the for your testimony.

Speaker: Appreciate it.

Speaker: And two minutes is ridiculous. And you know that too.

Speaker: Yes, I understand it. But we get a lot of people signed up.

Speaker: I don't care to fight another day to hear, have a hearing where you have people like these people that are articulate and can explain to you what their position is. They can't do it in two minutes.

Speaker: Thank you for your time. Folks, we do ask again, two minutes please. It's what you get at the state legislature. It's what you're getting here. You can make a good point in two minutes. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up, we have joanne, reese, bianca, leo and jennifer shook on.

Speaker: Can you hear me?

Speaker: Yes. Loud and clear.

Speaker: Joanne lynn strong housing team speaking for myself. The primary responsibility of the city is to those who make Portland their home. Newcomers and long standing residents, housed and unhoused. The city should not be currying favor with developers or tourists. While diverse, housed and unhoused people continue to be victimized by city sanctioned squalor, the city needs to be more intentional regarding the camping ban. It is reasonable that sidewalk access be kept clear and environmental areas be protected, and routes to school be kept safe. However, the iterations of the camping ban do not address the roots of the housing crisis. Stagnant wages and social services, lack of truly affordable housing, and runaway inflation. It is dehumanizing to dismiss all homelessness and substance addiction as lifestyle choices. With Portland median family income \$114,400 to house the chronically homeless and housing insecure seniors, people with disabilities and youth transitioning out of foster care. Affordable housing needs to be at the 30% mfi, with supportive services. The camping ban is not cost effective or practical in terms of police, court and jail resources. Exacting a fine on the indigent, selective enforcement and shelter placement seemingly exclusively and diverse,

financially struggling neighborhoods with few resources are discriminatory to provide reasonable offers of shelter, shelters would need to be 24 hour. There are allegations of drug use and drug sales at some srvs, which don't seem conducive to personal or collective recovery. East Portland is bearing the brunt of the humanitarian crisis as unhoused neighbors get swept into struggling neighborhoods, declarations and ordinances without forethought and a plan are just posturing. Housing first. Thank you. Thank you, bianca leo.

Speaker: Hello. My name is bianca leo, and I'm a settler living on unceded cowlitz land, a fact that invokes heavy irony. Irony with the shameful agenda. Item 339 regarding camping bans. There seems to be a fairy tale like logic being applied with the proposed policy that experiencing homelessness, homelessness is a direct result result of a, quote, bad person who made bad choices and is therefore disposable when in reality the circumstance lurks around the corner. For so many of us, with even just a single missed paycheck. According to the October 2023 department of health and human services, hhs report addressing homelessness among older adults, final final report. Older adults are among the fastest growing age group for those experiencing homelessness, composing of nearly half of the homeless population overall, with many of those individuals experiencing homelessness for the very first time in their older age. This report also highlights the number of adult older adults experiencing homelessness is expected to triple by 2030. This should be a thought that that haunts every single one of us. The minor ache that we feel as people has, the minor ache that we feel as people experienced when we stand and stand to witness to another's pain, is a call to action to build real solutions to the housing crisis. We are all experiencing. Imposing public camping restrictions will only further harm our most vulnerable

neighbors, and I do not support it. Housing and basic services need to be more accessible, not less. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Jennifer shook.

Speaker: Hi, I'm Jennifer Shook. I'm a Portland resident and urban planner and a board member for Portland Neighbors. Welcome, the city of Portland has always prided itself on its embrace of data and best practices. A few weeks ago or a few years ago, the Willamette Week joked that the City Council won't listen to you if you don't have a graph, so it's both surprising and concerning that when it comes to homelessness, we're talking about implementing regulations that go against all of the accepted data and evidence on solving the homelessness crisis. We know that housing first solutions with low barriers to entry are the gold standard for addressing homelessness. We also know that programs like Portland Street Response, when fully resourced, are better equipped than police to handle acute needs. I don't understand why we have more resources than ever to direct, to direct, to addressing homelessness, but we're talking about criminalization instead of building housing. What else do we know? We know that criminalizing our homeless neighbors makes it harder for them to access the shelter and services they need. That forcing people to move multiple times a day often results in lost paperwork, lost medication, and lost belongings. We also know that it makes it harder for service providers to reach them. This, frankly, seems like a policy based on cruelty. Prioritizing the comfort of the already comfortable rather than the best practices for getting and keeping people housed. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have Nick Peterson. Nick Tim Larson.

Speaker: Series is on line. You're muted Tim.

Speaker: Tim. You're muted. We'll come back to ten. Next up we have hannah fischer. Monica corey. Jonathan greenwood. Sarah. Fisher sarah. Welcome thank you.

Speaker: Good evening, mr. Mayor and commissioners. I'm sarah fisher. I'm a street chaplain in east Portland and an episcopal priest. I honestly have gotten so confused by the amendments and substitute amendments and revised substitute amendments that I need to get back to. Basics. Housing is a human right, objectively reasonable shelter is not housing. Others have spoken well to this. I know that a lot of work has gone into these proposals, and I especially commend you, mayor Wheeler and commissioner Rubio, for elements that safeguard democratic process, ensure transparency and track data. So that black and brown citizens are not disproportionately targeted. I'm sorry, disproportionate impacted the problem is that none of these measures prioritize our city's most vulnerable citizens. I realize that this is an election year, and that the people who need our help most do not usually vote. So please, I would like to invite us to all take a deep breath right now. If you want to levy five lines, what about fining property owners who keep vacant lots empty instead of sitting leasing them to the city for sanctioned camping sites? This is as objective reasonable as fining people for having nowhere to sleep. More objectively. So I want to close quickly with sonia sotomayor's question. During the hearing on Monday. Where do we put them? If every city lacks compassion and passes a law identical to this, please lead with compassion. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have tiana tozer and mike wallingford.

Speaker: Rooms a lot bigger. I thought it was going.

Speaker: Yeah.

Speaker: It's long and skinny. Thank you for being here. We appreciate it right here.

Speaker: Is there someone first? I'm tiana.

Speaker: You can go.

Speaker: Tiana tozer, beleaguered Portland citizen on March 22nd, 2023, willamette week reported that Multnomah County spent less than half its budget on homeless services in may 2023, almost a year ago, myself and nine plaintiffs reached an agreement with the city of Portland. How's it going, you ask? Not well. I work in old town, and every time I have to go into the office, I have to report 2 to 3 encampments. I reported one on March 6th, March 16th. And then I took photos on March 19th and March 25th, but didn't report it and then reported again on April 18th. Why has the burden of keeping the sidewalks clear fallen to people with disabilities? I'm here today for two reasons. First, to urge you to enact a camping ban and enforce it the strictest camping ban possible. Everybody is screaming about criminalizing homelessness and the discrimination against homeless people. There are 38,000 Portlanders with disabilities. We are stressed out by the situation. We are at the end of our ropes. And why do we mean less than the homeless population? Second, I'm here to debunk some of the false narratives that are being flung about. First, tents and tarps are life saving equipment. They are not. I've lived in Portland for 20 years and did homeless outreach. I never once gave out a tent or tarp. No one did that start around 2020. So for 18 years, tents and tarps weren't life saving equipment. But now all of a sudden they are. That's a false narrative. Second, the issue is affordable housing. No, it's not. It's drug addiction and mental illness. Finally, this winter, the people of Portland sent you a message. But perhaps it wasn't heard. Remember when the warming shelters had to close because they couldn't get enough volunteers to staff them? That was your citizens telling you that

we have had enough. I have always volunteered at the warming shelters. This year I did not. Why? Because like the majority of my fellow Portlanders, I have compassion fatigue. I'm done having my mobility hampered and being disrespected by the leadership that allows this untenable situation to continue. If all the people opposed to this camping ban had volunteered at those warming shelters, they would not have had to close. Actions speak louder than words. I hope that helps you understand that they do not represent the majority of Portlanders. I urge you to pass and enforce the strictest camping ban possible. Thank you very much for your time.

Speaker: Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Mike wallingford, before I start, what are the bells mean?

Speaker: Oh, so 30. The first bell is 30s before your your two minutes up is up, and the second one is two minutes. Thank you, thank you for asking.

Speaker: The question means the crook comes out and takes you off.

Speaker: We're generous here, right? Thank you.

Speaker: Go. Yeah. Okay.

Speaker: Go ahead.

Speaker: Sir, my name is michael wallingford. I'm a Portland native, I was born here in oslo. I come from two tribes that are from here. In the in the past, I testified on my inability to navigate the city as well as I should be able to. Being a visually impaired person, I testified about how it was hard to get down the sidewalks when I can't see the. The people that are sleeping, across the sidewalk, stepping in their poop, stepping on their faces, stepping on, you know, all the all the clutter and just junk. I have absolutely noticed a huge change in that i, I've seen nothing but positive, nothing. I have seen a lot of positive changes, our, our dojo that we train at, you know, no longer no longer has the, bunch of, people sleeping in an alcove.

Less defecation around the city that I've noticed. Anyway, they're they may have changed. May have not. I mean, maybe I can. I'm not seeing it, but I still believe that there's more to do, you know, and I strongly support, the no camping period. I think that's all.

Speaker: All right. Thank you. Appreciate your being here.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Next up, we have issa maxwell. Welcome christopher olsen. Followed by tim mccormick and mary emerson.

Speaker: Thanks for being here. Thank you.

Speaker: Hello, commissioners. My name is chris olsen, and I'm a resident of northeast Portland in sullivan's gulch and a candidate for Portland City Council district two. I'm here today because I stand with the unhoused because, like many Portlanders I know in different circumstances, I could easily be in their place. I want to express my concerns regarding the mayor's proposal to enforce stricter regulations on camping in the city, including measures that seemed particularly punitive towards the city's most vulnerable population. While I understand the need to maintain public safety and access, just this morning myself had a bag stolen off my bike when I was downtown. I don't blame the person who stole my bag, but the system that is ultimately failed to combat this combination of addiction, mental health, and housing crisis in our city. Punishing people, pushing people into prison will not solve these problems, and in the long tum end up costing taxpayers more money. The proposed ban, which includes fines up to \$100 for a sentencing of up to seven days in jail for violations such as a propane heater or selling bicycle parts or car parts, seems disproportionately, designated to impact those who are already facing extreme hardships. Many of our community members who find themselves without a home rely on these activities for survival. This

proposal not only criminalizes these survival efforts, but also risks worsening the conditions of those already struggling. The addition of such severe penalties without a robust system of supports in place that offers real solutions like more temporary shelters, recovery beds and a fully funded 24 over seven Portland response signals, a move towards decriminalization rather than a compassionate support, compassion, support and rehabilitation. It's imperative that our approaches are not punitive but are rooted in understanding justice and provision of real pathways out of homelessness. People want to be invested in, not punished. We must consider policies that emphasize compassion and support. I urge you to reconsider the proposed penalties and focus instead on solutions that address the root causes of homelessness with empathy and effectiveness. Thank you for your consideration and this perspective. I look forward to seeing, policies that reflect the inclusivity, compassion, and progressive values that many on this council claim to hold.

Speaker: Thank you, thank you, and thanks for putting yourself out there and running. I appreciate it.

Speaker: Mary emerson, welcome. Thank you.

Speaker: Good evening. My name is mary emerson. I do live in Portland, commissioner Gonzalez. Excuse me. Commissioner Gonzalez proposed amendment would do many, many things. It would penalize people who can't afford rent. It would criminalize people for whom there is no available shelter. It would violate our city charter, enshrined right to have a well-managed city by replacing responsible policy setting by an elected City Council, and the continuity of a professional city management team with the whims of a nimble yet autocratic mayor. What the proposed amendment does not do is eliminate public camping. It does nothing to find, create, manage and help people thrive in stable permanent

housing. If we want to reduce the very visible tragedy of homelessness, we need to invest our energy into addressing the underlying issues. Poor Portland lacks sufficient housing affordable to over 6000 people who are currently unhoused. We lack even temporary housing for over half of those that are currently unhoused. We are underfunding programs designed to stave off eviction and untenable rent increases for many more individuals and families who are at risk of losing their homes and becoming unhoused. We have a housing crisis, and we need to make the hard and perhaps unprofitable choices to focus our efforts, money, attention and long time staffing on finding, creating, funding and managing long term sustainable housing available to Portlanders on an ability to pay basis. We need to accept and embrace the fact that the highest and best use for housing is providing a home, not a profit. Please reject this heartless amendment and focus on the real goal of creating stable housing, affordable for all. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have margaret zebrowski, jared essig, and alan combs.

Speaker: I think margaret's online.

Speaker: Yes.

Speaker: Hello. Yeah

Speaker: Hi. We hear you loud and clear. Welcome. Thank you, I'm appalled that today's, undertakings, as you often assert, we're in a crisis. And you've heard that more than 65, thousand, 6000 500,000 people are houseless as of the end of last year. And that houselessness has has risen 12% from 2022 to 2023. It's not going back down if we make it illegal in every town, in every city, in every municipality, for houseless people to sleep, what will happen to them? Driven. Driven like the tribes out of israel, what could happen here? Downtown is filled with empty buildings. My neighborhood in north Portland has an almost 10% vacancy rate for apartments.

Many of the undeveloped park properties in public lands in Portland could be used as sites for villages of tiny homes. Unfortunately, the powers that be have failed to work together to use the avalanche of funding that the city has received to advance humane solutions. Instead you pour millions into cleaning the Augean stables, catching humans in a net of lost property, lost connection and lost minds, setting up camps under the control of an often indicted outfit where some folks have found rest, and other threats similar to those they experienced on the street. In response to this incompetence and the rising tide of people exposed to our nation's steady rise in super wealth, for those at the top, you adopt policies blaming the victim, adding to the woes of those on the streets with fines and court appearances. The only good thing about today's issue is that it shows us Rene Gonzalez. We can see a man who stopped delivery of tents to people experiencing the worst cold snap in years. He wanted to raise the fine to \$500. Now a thousand for people without any money and prison terms up to six months. Who argues for putting all these issues behind closed doors? Criminalizing poverty does not work. Chasing the homeless out into the wild does not work. Stop stop what you're doing and think.

Speaker: Thank you Margaret. Garrett welcome.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Mayor, commissioners, citizens of Portland, or greater Willamette, as the city used to be called, before it was, it was occupied by unsanctioned camping, about 150 years ago, and you know, that does highlight some of the absurdity of, of this symbolic, substantive, symbolic act, now, I would support though time, place, manner, prohibition, prohibitions. Once you give time, place, manner permissions for example, one designated vacant lot in every neighborhood council region for longer term camping. And if the property owners won't lease to you, then then then find them like like it was suggested earlier, I think

that's an objectively reasonable solution. Until that happens, one corner of every public park should be set aside for overnight overnighing or bivouacking. Or maybe short time camping for a couple days and, that's an objectively reasonable solution, if you do that, then people will get off the sidewalks. They're on the sidewalks because they're not allowed to be anywhere else. That's the problem, now your definition of alternate shelter is far too narrow, and your definition of camping is far too broad. Your real, target is people who are squatting and settling and sitting at bike chop shops and pushing drugs. You need to need to address crime rather than poverty to address the concerns of your of your neighbors. This is possibly illegal. It won't work. It'll make the problem worse. It'll distract the police from solving crime and eventually, when it fails, your own constituents will come back complaining about that. So, deal with the real issues and, make a better ordinance or just let people camp until they they find geographic, economic and social mobility, which they need, not services. They want actual, to move upward in life, help them get low, low barrier employment, for example. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have alan combs. Alan you're muted.

Speaker: Oh yeah. Hi this is alan combs.

Speaker: Hi. We hear you.

Speaker: Okay. Mayor Wheeler and commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is alan combs, and, I'm I'm, I live in Portland council district three, Portland has invested a significant amount of resources to address the housing and homeless crisis. And Portlanders are frustrated by how ineffective the city and county's actions have been with respect to public camping, the city needs to put an end to tolerating camping in public spaces. I recognize that systemic changes are needed to improve equity and to address the needs of our most vulnerable in our city and in the country. So how can I say something so

shocking as to support a proposed public camping ordinance? The data is incontrovertible. A significant fraction of the chronically unhoused are not voluntarily moving to alternative shelter sites or other forms of low barrier shelters until there is an enforceable requirement added to the city's toolbox. Portland will continue to see degraded public spaces, which increase. It creates a huge collective loss, decreased public safety, negative impacts on people with mobility issues, increased pedestrian deaths, increases in injury and death from fires, increased drug overdoses, and a higher level of drug trade in our city due to the dispersed user base that we have. When everybody can camp anywhere they want, any measure that tolerates the status quo is not compassionate, and does not reflect city values. Regarding amendments, I support Gonzalez's amendments inasmuch as it sends a message that public camping is not consistent with, Gresham, I do think you're going to need an ordinance to require that the unhoused and, and people in cars get to a task or other low barrier shelter site. And Commissioner Rubio's amendment, it may increase transparency, but letting the police collect the data creates a flaw. And that you'll only be measuring data on the side you need to actually measure data on the population. Were you to see disparate impacts. So I hope you'll address that flaw in the amendment. From what I heard today. Thank you very much.

Speaker: Thank you. And Keelan, before we go to the next group, we're past the requirement for a brief break, we'll take a five minute recess. We have lots of people behind the scenes. Our closed captioners, our broadcast writers, security and others, and every couple of hours we have to take a break. And we've we've been going since about two, so we'll just take a brief recess about five minutes, and then we'll come right back to public testimony. For for.

Speaker: City.

Speaker: Edt. Cody hermelin peter. Grabill. Peter had to leave.

Speaker: You may try and come back.

Speaker: I'm sorry you all had to leave.

Speaker: Oh, okay. Okay. Welcome. Hi.

Speaker: Hi. I'm eddie with. Stop the sweeps pdx, when I tried thinking about what to say here today, I was struggling a lot at first to make, like, a concise and meaningful use of my short time. And then I got really off because I realized that I wasn't sure that I had anything to say that you guys hadn't already heard and disregarded, I don't know if you guys think that you know better or not, this time last year, we all sat for hours, and you guys hopefully listened to those testimonies from people living on the streets, people who have their friends and family, and we all showed up and begged you not to do it. And you all did it. And then the court told you you couldn't, it's like it's moms and dads and veterans and sons and daughters and kids that you guys keep talking about wanting to use your stick on. And I think it's the psychotic analogy. It's really angry. It's really angering. And really scary as a young person to see the disconnect that you guys all seem to have. I don't want to spend my life coming to things like this and agonizing over all my words. While my elected officials barely seem to listen. I just don't know how any of us are supposed to think that our words mean anything when we see how these meetings keep coming, you guys always talk about the status quo and how it's not working, but it seems like all of this is the status quo, and it's not working at all, I just I don't know what more to say. Besides that, I think you're using people as, like, just pawns in your political careers. And I don't know what that could even possibly mean to you guys at this point, and I just don't think any of us should be up for public debate. And that's what I have to say.

Speaker: All right. Thank you for being here, cody. Emily

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: Well, my name is cody hermelin. I appreciate being here to speak with you all today. I, I became blind about 13 years ago. I've been a resident of Portland roughly about 25 years now, before my, the, I guess, car wreck I was involved in, someone had hit me going 90 miles an hour head on. I didn't have an airbag and ended up going blind because of it, but prior to that, i, had become quite an avid camper backpacker around Oregon. It's pretty great place to do that, in doing so, going out on trips like two, three, four mile trips out into the wilderness and whatnot, you, take a trail out to campsites. Nobody ever ends up setting up their camp on the trail. We need actual proper like, ways to get to places that are safe when I'm walking from, I mean, just simply five blocks to my mom's house, I have to I have to have sidewalks to get to where I need to go to be perpendicular, parallel, just to navigate. It's really hard sitting up here and discussing all this, but when people. I mean, whether you're homeless or not, I understand that's that's difficult.

Speaker: But I implore all of you, like all of you, all that are sitting here cheering for people with all the homeless advocates, why can you at least talk to the people that are just taking up the entire sidewalk?

Speaker: Why is that necessary? That's just completely no consideration for anybody else but themselves and for pushing people that are handicapped or mobility challenged, like myself. Can't see anywhere to push me out into the street with the cars. It's just dangerous. I don't understand anyway, i, I blabbered on too much and lost my time, but all I want is just clear pathways to get where I need to go. It's like playing pin the tail of the donkey every day in my life in a maze. And if one route to get to where I need to go is blocked off by other construction, or someone camping or otherwise, I might have to go another eight blocks, ten blocks and a whole different direction to find a light that I can safely cross a particular road

so that I can get all the way back around, and a whole nother way to get to where I need to go. It's incredible how difficult that mobility challenges can be, and just for any of you, even all the homeless people here talking, just put a blindfold on, walk around, see if you can get around your little neighborhood that you have all your tents set up in. It's incredibly difficult, like, I don't know what more to say than that, but just empathy goes a long ways, both for homeless people and for handicapped people. And we all need to work together because this is just absolutely ridiculous. The way that things were for 2 or 3 years there, I couldn't leave my house.

Speaker: Anyway, thank you very much for your your perspective. We appreciate it. Thank you. Thanks, cody.

Speaker: Next up we have caitlyn online. Welcome, caitlyn.

Speaker: Hi. Can you hear me?

Speaker: Yep. Loud and clear.

Speaker: Wonderful, so. Yeah. Excuse my voice. It's a little gravelly, but. Hi. I'm caitlyn, I organize with. Stop the sweeps and I think I just actually wanted to start out this testimony with a quote, from western regional advocacy project, or wrap, who is a coalition that we work with really closely, about how homelessness is a visible manifestation of a society that is sorely lacking in social justice. Excuse me. I think that muted again. No we hear you, but I bring this up because I feel that that is one of the biggest issues with the advent of all of these camping bands that have existed, like mostly stemming from the 80s, is that this is about getting rid of that visible manifestation of the lack of people are camped out on the streets. That is because we live in a society where not everyone can get housing, who wants it, who needs it, and I also I it's hard for me, like others have said, to give testimony on what's actually on the table today because so much has changed. So instead, I want to talk more about like the legacy of camping bands generally, of how this is a

history. There's a long history of banishment laws from jim crow and antioch and ugly laws, that have set out to banish a particular type of person out of public space. And that is what these laws are ultimately doing. And that's what's happening right now at the supreme court. That's what this debate is about, is why are we banishing people from public space who have nowhere else to go? And so I really I really want that thought to really sink in, is that this is more than just about camping bans, but that we are so willing historically and currently to just banish people that we don't want to see rather than actually address why they're there in the first place, and that they have every right to be in that public space. And so I don't think we should create this hierarchy of who is more worthy of being in public space, and rather, we should acknowledge that everybody has that right and we shouldn't be pushing people around and forcing them into places when that is our right and there is solutions on the table, such as housing. So i'll stop it there. Since I'm over time.

Speaker: Thank you very much. We appreciate it, next up is mayra Gonzalez. Mar caddell. Followed by shane rule and cara fall. Welcome hello.

Speaker: My name is mar. I'm a constituent from the montavilla neighborhood. To defend the humanity of the unhoused. Is to defend my own. As a black constituent here in Portland, it is impossible to enforce a camping ban without being anti-black. The criminalization of the unhoused largely started after the emancipate proclamation with this nation's first anti trespassing laws being passed through black codes and jim crow. These laws were not only focused on excluding black people from society, much like Oregon did up until 1923, but also continuing the institution of chattel slavery. The 13th amendment permitted slavery as a punishment for criminal behavior, so began the effort to make it illegal for us to exist. With these facts in mind, it is not surprising that black people make up 20% of

the unhoused and 30% of the incarcerated in Multnomah County, despite being less than 6% of the population. Unhoused people who are 11 times more likely to be incarcerated, 11 times or 11 times more likely to be incarcerated in prison. They will then be forced to perform labor at wages around \$0.50 an hour. In Oregon, meanwhile, the amount of people unhoused continues to rise. The majority of Oregonians, and likely the majority of your constituents in front of you, are living paycheck to paycheck and are one major medical emergency away from being unhoused themselves. The ethical and ideological shifts that enabled chattel slavery to exist are deeply rooted in our society and negatively impacts everyone here. That's why it doesn't surprise me that camping bans, existed here for 40 years. Your choice to enforce yet another camping ban tells us that you aim to maintain these ethics. You tell us that your our productivity is more valuable than our humanity. That you don't aim to put people in homes or to combat poverty, that the inability to perform in this system designed to exclude and disable many of us, is a moral failing. I think I speak for many of us when I say it is exhausting, dehumanizing, and amoral to have to live in a society that decides our value as people based upon our economic output. I ask you, are these the values that you want to sustain in Portland? When will you choose to address poverty in the housing crisis in this city? As a policy issue and not a moral failing? On behalf of your constituents, I hope that you choose the path of racial and economic justice, as opposed to the continued persecution of the unhoused. Thank you, thank you. Appreciate your being here.

Speaker: Next up, we have shane rule, tara fall. I. Austin fryfogle welcome.

Speaker: Thank you, give me one second to get my notes up.

Speaker: So in my time listening to this hearing today, I've heard many perfectly valid complaints, many of which I share. This includes from a member of the fire department around the fire safety regarding folks living on the streets. This

includes some disability advocates around the issue of folks camping on the side of the road. Et cetera. Et cetera. And how this creates very real problems for the city to respond to these, as many of my peers have already done a better job than I could of explaining why a housing first policy and getting folks housed is going to be a more effective way of getting people off the streets than a blanket camping ban. I'd like to share the story of my friend z. Z used to live in a secluded location near the mississippi shopping district, near their community, but away from the road out of sight and in a place where they could not realistically disrupt any activities by the city, could not disrupt accessible city of people moving through the region, and were not particularly visible.

Speaker: Starting with the ice storm last fall. They started getting swept weekly the entire area around there started getting swept weekly and as a result, eventually z and many others were forced to move away from this location on public city land onto the side of the road where they exist right now. I guess my point is that if we actually want to address these concerns, the practical concerns that we as citizens deal with the accessibility concerns, the fire concerns, etc. Etc. We need to get people into houses instead of telling them that they cannot camp when they have no other choice. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Austin fryfogle cassidy kagan, michael moore. Followed by molly hogan. Welcome.

Speaker: Thanks for being here. Am I next? Hi. My name is michael moore. I'm on the board of right to dream two, 13 years ago, in October 2011, right to dream two opened its doors to the unhoused of downtown and old town. The organizers of right to dream two conceived of it as a protest, a protest of the city's sidewalk management ordinance, which was not dissimilar from what is being considered today. We thought if we were lucky, we'd be able to keep it going for about three

months. But then something happened. The people staying at r2d2 became invested in its success. Yes, they worked hard. They figured out how to divide the labor fairly, how to keep the area clean, how to handle the donations and redistribute them to the people in need. They figured out everything they needed to make a successful village that was providing a service to the larger community in short, they became a community themselves, and that community is still going strong today. The people are different, but the mission is the same. To provide 12 hours of uninterrupted sleep, safe, uninterrupted sleep for up to 60 people a night, not counting the 17 people living at r2d2 that 77 people not sleeping in the parks or on the streets of Portland. Now imagine if instead of making us move from our original location at northwest fourth and burnside, which is still an empty lot, you had let us open a second location at our present site. That would be 144 people not sleeping outside, and the third location, perhaps at northwest glisan sixth and glisan, the former site of c3po. That would be more like 225 people not sleeping outside. Since it is a bigger space. Imagine letting dignity village, with its 40 or so residents open a second and third locations. The point is that there's a lot of good sites for more self managed, inexpensive villages around Portland. In practically every neighborhood, our annual budget has not exceeded \$63,000. The band you're considering won't work any more than the previous attempts at the same thing. Haven't worked. We want to help you find solutions that will work. Please drop this unbackable band and let us help.

Speaker: Thank you. Molly yep. Hello.

Speaker: Mayor and council. My name is molly hogan and I'm the director of the welcome home coalition. We are dozens of nonprofit organizations, housing providers and homeless service providers, and I'm here to urge you to not pass item 339 revisiting an ordinance to ticket and jail people for surviving in tents is a

waste of city resources and time. And I'm just fresh out of a really inspiring day. Yesterday we hosted a housing summit and we heard from folks in the city of houston, and I don't want to move to houston, but yesterday I was really inspired. And tonight, sitting here listening to you all, I just feel depressed and disappointed. And like in houston, you know, they've decommissioned 130 something camps. But she gave an example of one that was 286 people, 200 of those, 286 people were moved into permanent housing. And it was a 4 to 6 week process. Yes. And they did that by they had landlords set up tables at the account at the encampments, and they had providers come together to create a uniform universal intake form. We have more money than houston, y'all. We could do that. And I don't want to move to houston. I want to live in Portland. I also just want to go off the cuff from what I had planned to say and say. I've heard some dehumanizing language today. Earlier you're talking about sleepy people, the squeegee people, and you're all laughing. Can I reframe that squeegee people? People that don't have a job and are trying to get a job without panhandling and trying to clean people's windows? Can we reframe a little? I also heard the attorney earlier say he wants to see consequences for people living outside. What is do you think living outside in a tent is not a consequence for people? So please don't waste your time piling stigma and extra burdens on folks already just trying to survive and if you'll allow me, mayor, I have a huge stack here of handwritten cards from our coalition members yesterday asking you not to pass this ban. And please do not pit disability against homelessness. They're not mutually exclusive. There's a blind man who experienced homelessness who wrote one of these cards. So please just take that into account. And I ask the disability advocates to take that into account as well. Thanks.

Speaker: Great. And if you if you wanted to give, if you could give them to Keelan and then she'll make sure I get them. And thank you for passing those along. Appreciate it. Thanks for your testimony.

Speaker: Next up we have dan handelman, Portland, copwatch online.

Speaker: Welcome, dan.

Speaker: Good afternoon or evening, mayor Wheeler and commissioners, my name is dan handelman. I use he him pronouns and I'm a member of Portland copwatch I can't count how many times we've been in front of City Council over the years to testify about laws that criminalize houselessness we lost count of the sit light ordinance at version 4.0, and were frustrated by the attempts of this council is making to try tweaking the 2023 anti-camping ordinance so it might meet constitutional muster. The revised ordinance creates a list of unacceptable behaviors on the sidewalk, and allows police to arrest houseless people who are offered shelter but refuse it. There are no provisions for a person to explain why they won't go to a shelter, which might include health issues, wanting to stay with their family, wanting to keep their companion animals, or trying to remain safe from domestic or other abusers. The ordinance says the officers can make an arrest after they make a reasonable offer of shelter, and the person refuses. Can you define reasonable, or will it be up to the officer's discretion? I do not see a definition. By the way, the ordinance that we appreciate commissioner Rubio's attempt to attain metrics about how the new law is enforced, but remember that such data were provided to a sidewalk oversight committee led by commissioner fritz from 2010 to 2012. Those data showed disparate enforcement, and then the committee was disbanded. As for the amendments proposed by commissioner gonzales, the most significant change is putting all the power in the hands of the mayor, taking away City Council's ability to legislate. This is the opposite of what the

charter commission was envisioning when they created a weak mayor system, where the mayor only gets the vote to break a tie, commissioner Mapps amendment slightly improves this by requiring the mayor to convene an advisory body and recommend changes to council more broadly, our group is part of a peace group called peace and justice works. We wonder why the city hasn't been asking the federal government to stop wasting money on the military, which takes up 43% of the discretionary budget. That money should be spent on housing, health care and other human needs. The business interests who are pushing you to sweep houseless people out of their sight should join you, and asking that this money stay here at home. In short, you've been told over and over again that your efforts to punish people for the crime of not having somewhere to live are not constitutional. And you must do better. There are already plenty of laws in the books, including the state's misguided decriminalization of drug use laws about the use of violence and other behaviors, which are cited as the reason that people foster negative stereotypes about people. We don't need more laws.

Speaker: Thank you. Dan. Next we have lauren welch. Welcome. Thank you for being here.

Speaker: Let me get my notes.

Speaker: By the way, thank you for being so patient. I'm here for several hours.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Hello, everyone, and thank you for taking your time to listen to me.

Speaker: My name is lauren alaina waldrop. I graduated from pacific northwest college of art last may. The streets of Portland have been my ground for five years while I attended and things have yet to change much since I graduated. Portland is still unsafe for the disabled and this needs to change. I'm scared to go back on to the streets in Portland and on even our transit systems within Portland to start my

job hunting, because I've always had the fear that something bad may happen to me, even on the streets. Sometimes I think of the question, what could happen? As an example? Could someone kill me if I were to go back on these streets and walk and go by myself as an artist, graphic designer, I would like to go back onto the streets and explore Portland, getting getting inspired to do more work. But it's something that I can't do. I won't be going back anytime soon until the streets are completely cleared, and I'll just sit on my bum at home and not go anywhere until this gets fixed. And I will not stop. Not stop fighting for this until the issue is gone. I want to continue to advocate not only for myself and the plaintiffs, but I will also advocate for the following. For the students at the college that I have graduated at. But I cannot do this until the streets and transit lines are clear from the homelessness we need our rights, right? And as I stated last time I testified, this is the city of roses, not the city of homelessness crisis. And it's about something. It's about time something gets done. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have alia mayes. What did you say?

Speaker: Hi, commissioners. Mayes I'm a resident of downtown Portland.

Speaker: I live right next to the steel bridge, the first thing I want to say is I am completely on board with, commissioner Gonzalez's plans to make the most strict camping ban possible. I think that the people that are listening to testify seem to not want to separate the fact we don't have mothers and children living in the street tents that we see these are drug addicts. Okay, so you got to stop trying to bunch everybody together and think that we're trying to ban homelessness. We're saying that you cannot have sex, do drugs, pee pee, poo poo, do all the things that you think that you would do in your own home on our streets, and keep traumatizing the taxpaying residents that rightfully live in these neighborhoods like mine.

Speaker: I have lived next to one of the worst camp sites, which was what did you guys call it?

Speaker: The pit, the steel bridge pit. People like Carmen Rubio, who advocate for people living on the streets and then use, indigenous women and black women as their excuse. And they're fighting for us. I don't want you fighting for me as a black woman. Nobody should be advocating for anybody to live on the streets like this. I have watched women get sexually assaulted multiple times. I've seen people dying from drug overdoses. I have also seen people at our property at McCormick Pier, an elderly couple get beat to a pulp with the woman's nose getting broken. This isn't cool. Okay Gonzalez, I really was thinking that you were a meow, but I'm really glad to see that you got your big boy pants on. You got to stick to your guns. These people that have been elected into the office right now, these are people that have been the demise of Portland, Rubio, Migs or Mingus, Mapps, Mapps and Ted Wheeler, Brett and Dan Ryan, Brooke. Get out, get out. Let the adults come in and start making the decisions. That's clean up the streets.

Speaker: I'm leaving.

Speaker: I promise.

Speaker: Next up we have Travis Matthews.

Speaker: Travis, welcome. Hi

Speaker: Yes. Thank you. Hi. My name is Travis. Thugs. I'm not an activist or affiliated with yet another tired, overprivileged member of the homeless industrial complex. I'm a resident of northeast Portland, and I'm here today to offer my complete support for this legislation and encourage the council to be even stricter. The sidewalks are a basic right of way. The mayor said today that the most important individuals in this discussion are the homeless. They're not. Over the past few years, I've been unable to use the streets to walk or bike to work, and I'm

forced to take my children onto busy public streets to avoid the sidewalks because the homeless tent camps make it unusable for strollers. My children have been unable to use the public park restrooms because last time my daughter tried to use them when she was potty training, there was a homeless guy shooting up in them, and now she doesn't use them anymore. I've had grown men and defecate in front of my wife and daughters. My wife and I have been subject to campers following us and subject to shouting racial slurs at us. And I've seen guns drawn on many freeway medians where the homeless are camping. We all know it's caused by drugs. It's not economics. We all know that. I've been to countries where people are actually poor and homeless due to poverty. My parents grew up there and they look nothing like Portland. You don't see needles everywhere. People have dinners as families. They're otherwise normal. They're just poor, they don't in front of children. That just doesn't happen. We all know that. You don't see people talking taking up public park restrooms shoot up there. It's not Portland's job to house everyone and everyone and even welcome those who have made themselves nuisances to everybody here. We've heard directly from many impacted negatively by the status quo, like myself and many disabled people here today. Yet we've not actually heard from one homeless person here, despite their prevalence in the city. Only they're well compensated, well organized, activist proxies. And I'm here to say that what we all want, no one likes the activists. And they menaced our city for far too long. Please stop listening to them. And as one further point, I'll say this. We've heard many white activists here attempt to co-opt narratives of brown people to support the theft of public property. And I can't unlike those activists, I cannot speak on behalf of all brown people that I can't speak on behalf of myself, that I would like the City Council to be much stricter than they are currently on the

homeless camps, and I encourage them to go even stricter. Thank you very much. That's all I have to say.

Speaker: Thank you. Travis.

Speaker: Claude bosworth, vicki payne. Hi, vicki.

Speaker: Hi, my name is vicki payne, and I am an employee of Multnomah County. But the views I'm expressing today are my own, I'm here today in support of this ordinance. I've been urging City Council for almost three years now to implement some sort of enforcement rules that encourage people to move into sanctioned campsites, shelters, or villages and away from illegal street camping for the benefit of both the housed and the unhoused. It's not safe for anyone to be outside unknown in an illegal camping situation, and we need to ensure the safety of our most vulnerable residents. Having a safe, healthy space where they can stabilize themselves and start working with outreach providers who can find them again the next day, is what they need. It's by no means inhumane to encourage someone to seek assistance. You wouldn't let your grandmother with dementia choose to live in a tent on the sidewalk, and most of these folks who are chronically homeless are suffering from mental health and or addiction issues and cannot actually make good, healthy decisions on their own behalf and are creating significant public safety issues. Many people living on our streets don't realize that almost all shelters in Multnomah County are low barrier, and they can, in fact, stay with their pets or partners and come indoors while high on drugs. We also have a cornucopia of temporary living options at this point, so there should be a reasonable alternative for everyone to select from when offered alternative legal living accommodations. There's no reason for us to continue to accept a refusal of help and be subjected to property, crime and garbage piles that result from ongoing illegal street camping. Of course, it's not a crime to want to sleep, but is absolutely not reasonable to allow

someone to fill a public space with piles of their personal belongings and block access of use to other residents who want to participate or live near society to benefit from things like concrete sidewalks. To avoid a muddy tent or dumpsters to pick from. They must also follow the rest of society's rules, which in this situation is mainly the sharing of publicly owned spaces. The idea of giving people without the mental capacity the right to choose what they consider a personal freedom is harming both the individual as well as our society around them. Our green spaces and small businesses are suffering. While we allow people to live in inhumane situations, we need to entice these folks to want to seek a better outcome for themselves. Letting them carry on without intervention is quite literally killing them. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Appreciate it. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up we have maya. Have claire stanfield joining us online claire you're muted.

Speaker: Hi I'm here. Hi claire, give me a second I'm in class and I'm running out right now. No problem, yeah. My name is claire and I'm coming to you all as a Portland, or, a student at Portland state university and a citizen of Portland. And my hope is to testify against Portland's newest attempt to, ban camping in city limits. For today's agenda item, I think that this revision puts all matters of sweeping. Or in Portland state, Portland city's rhetoric camp cleanups within the jurisdiction of the mayor. And i, I think that this convenient given that it's been spearheaded in the most radical amendments have been made by commissioner gonzales and that he is also running for mayor, a camping ban at this scale not only violates a person's eighth amendment right, but also their 14th and 13th amendment right. And this revision is also misleading given that, according to the national alliance to end homelessness, the Portland area could only offer 52% of the families in need a

shelter bed and 57% of individuals. We also need to recognize that there is scapegoating happening in the system. Homeless liberation and disability justice are entwined, and we can't let rhetoric like this separate the two movements. So I'm asking if we truly do intend to adhere to the city's core values. And citywide racial equity goals and strategies, we need to reallocate funding and prioritize quality, long lasting housing options. No roaches, no mold, and no abusive landlords for all Portlanders. And until we can meet that need, we must resist the pattern of arresting and citing the majority black, brown, indigenous, and disabled people surviving homelessness in the city and navigating the current bureaucracy of accessing our shelters. No matter how uncomfortable, no matter how uncomfortable it is for business development districts, for neighborhoods, for us, this community effort and our discomfort will be soothed with with will not be soothed with a band-aid. And we need to get to the wound. And the wound is quality housing and equality. That's all I got.

Speaker: Thank you. Appreciate it.

Speaker: Next up we have michelle may. Sonja. Good. Stephanie

Speaker: Hello. I'm here. Hi, sonja.

Speaker: Hello.

Speaker: Thank you for listening to my testimony today. My name is sonja.

Speaker: Good. Stephanie.

Speaker: I'm the director of the community law division at the metropolitan public defender's office. Unlike my criminal defense counterparts at mpd, my team is a civil legal division. My team provides legal services for houseless individuals in the city of Portland, with the goal of getting people housed. Our clients are individuals and families who are struggling to survive while working nonstop to get off the streets. Many are in recovery from years of living with addiction or are survivors of

domestic violence, or are immigrants, or are veterans. They are some of our most vulnerable community members. Many clients have passed evictions or convictions or deaths that prevent them from being housed. My team works to settle old debts, expunge old convictions and evictions, appeal housing denials and ask for reasonable accommodations, adding more debt and more convictions to our clients. Records will only work to further delay and prevent them from getting housed. Low income families and communities of color are disproportionately represented in our criminal justice system. Our eviction system, our debt collection system.

Speaker: This ordinance will only increase those disparities. I understand that Portland is in the midst of a homeless crisis, but tacking on additional penalties for those who have little control over the situation is not the answer. My clients need beds to sleep in social services to help them, legal services to reduce barriers and to helping hand. They do not need additional legal legal hurdles or fear of arrest or increased fines that they can't pay simply because they have nowhere else to go. As a public defender, I want to say our system is already overburdened. Recent legislation, which I'm sure you're all familiar with, will recriminalize certain offenses and will increase caseloads, adding yet more cases to a saturated system is not the answer. Portlanders should have a fair opportunity to secure safe housing, make a living, take care of their families, and participate in their communities. This ordinance does not work towards that goal. I urge you to consider alternatives to just any kind and excessive fines that people cannot afford. Thank you for your time.

Speaker: Thanks, sonia.

Speaker: Next up we have kelly. Amanda lamb.

Speaker: Hi. Can you hear me?

Speaker: Yep. We hear you. And we see you. Welcome

Speaker: All right, mayor and commissioners, my name is amanda lamb, and I'm a civil rights attorney with the Oregon justice resource center. Before you today, you're considering two competing plans to address camping by houseless individuals in our city. Frankly, neither plan is perfect. However while I might have some concerns about the mayor's plan, commissioner Gonzalez alternative seems to be needlessly cruel. More likely unlawful and open to legal challenges and an affront to the democratic process. Contrary to what's been said today, it's the more punitive, restrictive and inflexible plan. As an attorney, I intended to come today and point out specific legal concerns with the plan. But about an hour before the meeting, I was notified that the exhibit a amendments that commissioner gonzales submitted had once again been changed. The latest iteration appears to address some of the most obvious illegal illegalities, but I believe there are still significant vagueness and overbreadth issues, and I have significant concerns about consolidating so much power within the mayor's office, particularly in light and the change of form of government. You talked a lot in this meeting about the supposed lack of criminal penalties. And yet the commissioner's plan still puts a large fine of \$1,000 on people who are too poor to pay for housing. I won't be speaking to any important legal considerations I think council should consider today, because I didn't have time to fully analyze the proposal, and I don't want to present you with half baked concerns. It's unacceptable to give members of the public less than a couple of hours at most, to read and figure out how to respond to these really important city proposals, even if the public knows that the changes have been made or try to respond on the fly. After listening to council discussion. This is the third time this plan has changed in the last week. This is not how the public policy, how the public policy process is supposed to work. Failing to give members of the

public or even council itself the necessary time to review this proposal undermines transparency and accountability, and does a disservice to council members and Portlanders. Commissioners, I urge you to reject commissioner Gonzalez amendments and plan because they have not been properly vetted either by yourselves or the members of the public, including the legal community. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Next up, we have one Chavez, one welcome.

Speaker: All right.

Speaker: Good evening. My name is Juan Chavez. I'm the project director of the civil rights project at the Oregon Justice Resource Center. And I'm a Portlander.

Speaker: I'm testifying in opposition to the two proposed survival shelter bans for a few reasons.

Speaker: My colleague Amanda Lamb, who you just heard from, has already spoken to a few of those reasons. So I'll speak to the one component I have spent most of my career litigating, which is the eighth amendment. Both Mayor Wheeler's plan and Commissioner Gonzalez plan are flawed by the same premise, and will undoubtedly face legal challenges because of those flaws. Neither are acceptable under federal law or HB 3115, as both are premised on the criminalization of homelessness and survival in the city. Without adequate shelter. Now there is a difference between the two, and at minimum, the mayor's plan does have some vague language about reasonable alternative shelters. Not that I would concede that what would exist right now is adequate or reasonable, or that it still isn't cruel to send cops to pressure people into such alternatives. But Commissioner Gonzalez's proposal provides no such alternative, and the omission is pointed. That's because the commissioner's plan is a house of cards built on a flawed premise that the grants pass case and HB 3115 will be going away, and that criminalization solves

economic and health issues. Based on the oral arguments, this week at the supreme court, there's reason to believe that you won't be getting your wish to be able to punish homeless people the way that you want. Shockingly, perhaps to my jaded ears, many on the supreme court seem to acknowledge in principle that the grants pass ordinance was unconstitutional in some manner, and that the eighth amendment applied in this context, even justice alito, not somebody I personally know to be a great, champion of the eighth amendment, sounded ready to uphold the underlying principle of robinson v california underpinning martin v boise and grants pass. Justice sotomayor put it plainly to the lawyers from grants pass. What do you expect houseless people to do, just die in the streets, now, commissioner Gonzalez proudly tells the city's involvement in the grants pass litigation on the side of grants pass. Why you want to be associated with cities that justice sotomayor says lack compassion is beyond me. But hey, at least you might have a vote from justice thomas. You need to stop hiding behind the idea that these are vague issues or that the law doesn't provide guidance. The law does provide such guidance. You just don't want to listen to the fact that it prescribes, and you need to listen to the people experiencing houselessness. Thank you. Thank you sir.

Speaker: Yeah, we have meredith watlington online followed by alicia leduc.

Speaker: Montgomery, welcome, meredith.

Speaker: Hi there, my name is meredith watlington, and I'm a policy coordinator at unite Oregon, a statewide grassroots organization led by people of color, immigrants and refugees. People experiencing poverty in rural Oregon, rural Oregonians. So also, I am a lobbyist at unite Oregon, I'm here today to urge you to reject these proposals that would criminalize homelessness. I am someone who's experienced homelessness. When I lost my home, I slept in my car and I relied on the kindness of my community to crash on couches while I found my footing. I was

lucky and very privileged to not have to camp. But if you've never experienced homelessness, you may not know the feeling of shame and isolation that comes with housing insecurity. Unfortunately, many of our members and staff at unite Oregon know what it's like to lose your home and your dignity and that's why unite Oregon stands firmly against the criminalization of our houseless neighbors. In April's community budget hearings, you heard testimony after testimony about how divesting and community support measures such as project response, project response and psr, and criminalizing our houseless neighbors only perpetuates harm and escalates challenges facing houseless folks. Additionally, this proposal, as you've heard before, would overwhelm our already overburdened public defense system, which, under recently passed house bill 4002, is poised to become even more bottlenecked. And by the way, commissioner gonzales stated that the public sentiment has shifted around decriminalization. I just want to clear the record and say that over 70% of the public testimony regarding 4002 was in support of decrim, and I heard similar rates from staffers receiving comments from constituents. I think we're headed in an alarming direction as a city and a state caving to extremist proposals that use our criminal, legal system as a solution to economic and public health crises. I also want to add that I'm appalled by the way in which, some of these moves are being made, specifically commissioner Gonzalez proposal. This is a clear attempt to circumvent the legislature's decision to limit camping bans to time place, manner, it's time to decide what kind of theater you want to be, what kind of city we claim to be. And I urge you to vote no. Thank you. Thank you.

Speaker: Alicia montgomery.

Speaker: Thank you. Good evening, mr. Mayor. And commissioners. My name is alicia leduc. Montgomery. I'm the contract litigation manager for aclu of Oregon. I also maintain a private civil rights practice throughout Oregon and use she her

pronouns. I'm here to express our opposition on behalf of the ACLU to the proposed ordinances, both as unconstitutional and likely unlawful under Oregon statute, and also is being put forth in what we believe is potentially bad faith. Noting that the commissioners knew there was supreme court oral argument this week on this very issue, and that many of Oregon's top experts and litigators on this subject were in Washington, DC. And, of course, as we've heard, proposing amendments two hours before the public hearing and vote, where even the mayor wasn't fully apprized or getting copies of what's at issue here. And indeed, this is a serious issue of major concern for Portlanders and something that should be made on an informed basis, not an ad hoc basis, punishing homelessness. It serves no constructive purpose. It keeps people unhoused for longer. It's also very expensive. A recent study found that between 2017 and 2015, 50% of all arrests in and were of unhoused people. That's an exceedingly large amount of Portland's resources being used in enforcement. Just on the unhoused population to arrest them, Seattle university study found that enforcing just one of six quality of life measures for the city of Seattle cost 2.3 million in just five years. Here you are seeking to impose a civil fine of \$1,000 on folks who can't afford housing. When the average rent price in Portland last month was over \$1,500. And as this council is aware, as a commission is aware right now, *Martin v Boise* and the *Johnson v Grants* pass rulings remain good law. *Scotus* has not overruled them. So passing these ordinances would be contrary to existing precedent. Moreover the excessive fine aspect is not before the supreme court. So regardless of the supreme court's ruling in *Johnson* and *Grants* pass, this \$1,000 fine will be excessive and unconstitutional. We urge a vote. No thank you.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Next up, we have onyx williams, nathan jimenez. Come on, come on, jump down.

Speaker: Come on.

Speaker: Sorry about that. She just want to get off the chair.

Speaker: Thanks for being here, nathan.

Speaker: As a point of personal privilege, mister mayor and council, I ask that I reserve the balance of my time as I may consume. Am I so recognized by the council?

Speaker: I'm not sure what you're asking for.

Speaker: I'm asking a parliamentary allowance to be able to speak my mind. Like I said, to reserve the balance of my time as I may consume, which will not be too long considering we are in the late hour and this is very painful for me to sit in your chairs and under these lights, so i'll be as brief as I can. For the record, I am nathan jimenez, a national congressional scholar, which makes me a living embodiment of the constitution. As a citizen activist. I have been an activist since walter mondale, so that should tell you a long time. And I am a native pacific northwesterner and I remember in 1980 when I first came to Portland to visit, I have historic roots to the entire pacific northwest and the west coast, and I've had homeless people. A man tried to swing a hatchet at me as I was walking to the grocery store. I had a man on the way to church, and I'm also the council advocate for the knights of columbus for the cathedral. But I'm not here at that capacity, and I have been a registered lobbyist, and I still am a registered lobbyist in in Washington state. And I've been chair of citizen aware of government activities super pac on the federal level. And I have been a chair of a state pac back in the early 2000s. And I have written all of you and I've even spoken to you in person at the ups on hawthorne and you at an event at omsi. Their commissioner, Rubio and I have proposed since 2002 the idea

of taxing by putting a sales tax for public housing. I know it's a crazy radical idea, but to take that money, for public housing, putting a sales tax on and pay for housing. Like I said, I reserve the balance of my time. Although I was not so recognized, as I make such consume out of personal privilege as a national congressional scholar. And I've also proposed the idea of creating a we have funds that are coming into the state and into the region for homelessness to create a Portland and a, a Oregon section eight voucher so that while we are in the process of creating housing for people, we can house people by having a voucher system, a Portland, section eight voucher or a Oregon section eight voucher. And I propose this idea since 2002 to the legislature. And I had both state republicans and democrats support my idea, but it never went to legislation. Now now, I once again, and I've written to all of you about this idea in email, and I've been writing to the congress and to, everybody that will listen in on the ideas of creating an Oregon section eight voucher and a, and a basically taxing throughout the country to provide for housing. Great. Thank you. So but my point is and to end and quickly, I know I'm over the balance of my time. So we need to find creative solutions to these problems. I do support your measure, although I would say there has to be a consequence since, maybe a criminal consequence. I'm not too certain, but there has to be the carrot and the stick in this case, because we've seen this not work and we've seen it for the cost of the war in the middle east and for the cost of the bank bailout, we could have ended homelessness. We could have ended hunger. We could have provided for job training, we could have provided for education for all, universal health care and giving every American, \$4 million. And even if you look at what we've sent over to ukraine, we could have addressed the issues of housing, homelessness on that alone. Okay.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Well, like I said, I reserve the balance of my time for the.

Speaker: I just figured out what that meant.

Speaker: Yes, well, it's robert's rules of order. Very good. Thank you.

Speaker: So appreciate you being here. Yeah. That completes testimony.

Speaker: All right. Very good. So just by way of run of show where we are and keep in mind, everybody, this is a first reading of an emergency ordinance. So we don't vote on the whole kit and caboodle. Tonight we will discuss each of the, amendments in turn, in the same order in which they were presented, and then we will vote on the amendments, and then we will move to second reading, whatever is left of those amendments, mr. Mayor, may I commissioner Mapps can i, well, let me jump in here.

Speaker: I do have an opinion about, doing a final vote on the amendments today, I think all of us, received some of these amendments at a very late hour. I suspect no one on council or very few of us on council, frankly, had a chance to read, the latest iteration of commissioner Gonzalez amendments and I would be transparent with you. I think that some of the public testimony that I heard today indicates that folks may not fully understand, the specifics of what's before us today, so I would suggest, to my colleagues that we, that we hold the record open, we have the amendments on the table, hold the record open and do a final vote on the amendments, when it comes when this comes back to council for a second reading, I don't think that I have, frankly, had a chance to fully understand what, commissioner Gonzalez is proposing. And frankly, I think that there's some confusion, in the public under what each of us have put on the table and, and we democracy and dialog would benefit through, more time for folks to, to process what is being proposed. But that's just my proposal. If folks want to go in a different direction, I understand that.

Speaker: Well, I i'll, i'll hear what people have to say. I'm prepared to take the vote.

Speaker: I'm ready to vote. Same

Speaker: All right. Okay. We have a majority ready to go. Okay, thank you, though, for proposal, so the first item is yea. Rubio. Number one, first of all, i'll ask, do we have any questions? Comments? Questions of staff, questions of commissioner Rubio on Rubio. One.

Speaker: I just have one observation, which actually will come up more specifically with, Gonzalez's amendment. I think, Rubio one has the police putting forward a report, on the demographic breakdown of folks who are arrested, under the time, place and manner ordinance, one of the things I noted is that commissioner Gonzalez, encompasses Rubio one and, and his amendments, but he also strips out criminal penalties in his amendments. So I'm not sure if there would ever be a moment where, if the cops aren't involved here, I don't know if they would have anything to report on in this space.

Speaker: So I can probably speculate on that one. Our proposal abandons the concept of jail time at this point in time, the that does not mean there's not police intervention. And enforcing the code that, and I think the broader point is that it's the adjacent behaviors to camping that were primarily concerned about. So camping code may be the basis on which we initially intervene or connect with, those on the streets conducting behaviors that are really problematic, by the police or others. And so, I do think there will be data, related to that. And the more we can shine a light on it, the better. I mean, it's not a substantive change, but to the extent we can understand those interactions, I see no objection and structure. Thank you, and I have a comment on it as well as police commissioner. So our staff has reached out to the police bureau with regard to the collection of this data, but only in the context of the base ordinance. And they are prepared to provide this

information, as public testimony made clear, it will not be, holistic data for the homeless population as a whole. It is specifically in reference to police interactions. So as long as people are clear about that, as police commissioner, I have no objection to commissioner Rubio's amendment. In fact, I think it will be helpful in terms of transparency.

Speaker: Great, thank you very much.

Speaker: Any other discussion? Please call the roll on. Rubio won. Ryan.

Speaker: Hi. Gonzalez. I yeah.

Speaker: One other thing, commissioner Rubio, for bringing this amendment forward. I think it's common sense and good government. I'm glad to vote.

Speaker: I Rubio Wheeler. All right.

Speaker: The amendments adopted, two maps. Number one. This was with regard to the public environment executive team. Any further discussion on this item, I welcome this, I think more input is better than, less input. I would hope that one of the executive team members who is included is legal counsel, particularly if one of the objectives of this group is to give advice to the mayor. The presumption is that the mayor would then, create policy that would then come to the council, at least under the base ordinance, mr. Mayor, both. Thank you for your support. Thank you for that flag. I believe the way we, drafted the, amendment, it it creates enough flexibility for the mayor to appoint folks not explicitly listed. It did.

Speaker: Yeah, it did as as designated by the mayor. I just wanted to note that I think it's really important that legal counsel be part of that conversation, as well as, as always.

Speaker: Great, any further discussion, please call the roll on maps.

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

Speaker: Hi.

Speaker: Your, the amendment is adopted, to gonzales number one.

Speaker: I have some comments. Yes, please. Commissioner I'm just going to acknowledge some general points, have some comments on our amendment, and substitution, and look forward to any questions or dialog. I just want to appreciate all those who have testified this continues to be a very difficult topic to navigate as a community, as a country, as a region, and you certainly heard it here today. I want to call out the testimony of those with mobility challenges and the disabled, the most vulnerable in our community are often the ones that are most impacted by encampments and its externalities. So we didn't hear a lot from parents. And children that are often impacted. But that's definitely a component of the population. Certainly those with mobility challenges are most economically disadvantaged in our community. Their neighborhoods are often the most negatively impacted by encampments. And what comes with it, I want to speak to just a couple of concepts, camping bans are not banishment, vagrancy laws are part of our legal tradition for, frankly, generations. Centuries, and in part because they are essential for cities to function. We simply cannot function without addressing, who and what can be done in right of ways, public right of ways. For the city of Portland is particularly important. Important that, we say no to camping, if we don't, we will continue to track the, the transitory, the mobile aspects of the homeless population. That is not all of the people on our street, but that is a component of the population on the street. And we continue to struggle, and we will continue to struggle mightily if we don't clearly communicate the way many of our neighboring jurisdictions have, this is not a place for camping, so i'll just leave that point, for now. I heard a lot of testimony on the need for further homeless support. The city of Portland alone allocated 85 million, for homeless housing and services in 2223 tri county metro area passed a tax measure in 2020 that's

expected to raise 2.5 billion for homelessness services by 2030. This is in addition to new state dollars that are coming out. Our community is spending substantial resources in addressing the homeless challenge. And, yet our citizens aren't getting relief. I want to speak to just a couple of conceptual separation of power questions that have come out. In the new charter. The new form gives explicit authority to the mayor to make rules, gives it explicit authority to the chief administrative officer to make rules. This is embedded in the charter that is delivered January 1st. The next mayor will be making adopting rules, in and it's pretty clearly spelled out other parts of how that's going to work. We don't know, you know, but that, second, in other forms of government with a clear split between the executive and legislative function didn't ministrative the executive adopts rules our federal government does it, the state government does it, so i, i, I take pretty strong exception, that rule making concept in the mayor somehow precluded new form of government. In fact, the opposite is true. The new form of government explicitly calls it out. As a possibility, just high level about process, I'm not going to get into all the tit for tat, but, my office had pretty significant concerns with mayor Wheeler's approach to this last year. From a process perspective. We had concerns this year with the way this was brought forth, I this is too significant an issue for a lot of the policy work just to be driven at kind of the junior staff level and coordination with the city attorney. What you get is excess risk aversion and that is exactly what we got last year. We took every step to avoid getting sued. We took every step to avoid getting enjoined. And yet we still got enjoined, I think part of that is we adopted code that was way too complicated. And I think we're repeating that mistake here with mayor willis proposal, just going to get into a couple other concerns with the mayor's proposed, here I do think the lack of sufficient protections for schools and child care centers called out reentering that concern that should have been protected

more clearly, lack of alignment with our neighboring jurisdictions. We share a substantial border with the city of Gresham. And the rule should be clear that whether you're on 82nd or 182nd, the same rules apply. No camping in urban setting other than in sanctioned environments, that is our goal that we align with our neighbors there, more fundamentally, we are codifying a poorly constructed, constructed and potentially fluid, Boise slash House Bill 3115, construction, we are going to hear from the Supreme Court by the end of this summer, I frankly, it'll probably be by July 4th, that is going to have substantial effects on the rules by which we operate. We shouldn't be bringing complicated code to reflect the best interpretation of what exists. Prior to that decision. I think that is a mistake inherent in Mayor Wheeler's approach. I do also want to reiterate that the Mayor's proposed adds a number of aspects that are going to make it difficult to enforce the concept of knowing, as a requirement. I think that's a challenge. And how we prove that, and more fundamentally, the requirement that we ascertain availability of shelter before enforcing, I want to call out that the City of Portland has taken a very strong position on this, even as recently in our brief in the Supreme Court case. I'm just going to quote it here. The City of Portland signs on to the following statement: Martin and Johnson are unworkable because there's no practical, practical way for law enforcement officers to determine whether an individual has adequate access to adequate temporary shelter. Under Martin and Johnson. As such, local governments have no choice but to forego most enforcement of prohibitions on camping on public property. The City of Portland has signed on to that statement, and yet we're codifying that in the Mayor's proposed as a requirement. I think that is an error, last but not least, with respect to the Mayor's proposal, I think the concept of divergence is something spiritually we'll all support. I think it's embedded, actually in the Gresham approach, where, talking about here, that we

want people to avail themselves of the resources that are out there, before or in engaging in the criminal or, or code enforcement process. I think uniform agreement of that. You don't have to specify that in the code to achieve that ends I think my approach is superior because it allows the executive to adjust to the realities on the ground. That can include tremendous outreach. That can include, a commitment to leading with outreach workers, but but, so i'll leave it at that. I think putting it in code is just one more argument for defense lawyers should this ever get litigated to use against us, and we should be doing less of that, not more of that. I with that, I think our my amendment as proposed as we've taken a lot of steps to incorporate our colleagues, feedback on what they were concerned about in this area, you know, unfortunately, we didn't get substantial opportunity to engage with the mayor, prior to him bringing his proposal forward, we have adopted rulemaking that allows for a transparent process that can engage the community at the appropriate steps in a way similar to the way pbot interacts when setting rules for the right of ways. But last but not least, what we are proposing is that the legislature state very clearly that we want camping to end in the city of Portland in unsanctioned environments. That is exactly what the legislature should be doing. If my amendment is adopted. That's what this council is saying. But that i'll leave it.

Speaker: I have a couple of comments, first of all, there are areas where commissioner gonzales and I have strong agreement, and I have stated before and I will state again, the goal should be to have no unsanctioned homeless camps any where in the city of Portland. Instead, we should have sanctioned encampments that give people an opportunity to connect with whatever services they need to get off and stay off the streets. And ideally, when people are ready for it and have whatever services or assistance they need to be ready for it, housing and, we're in

agreement on where the goal is. We disagree on how to get there. And my philosophy from the day I got here has been that you need to do what we're required to do as a city. It's our job to maintain public safety. It is our job to maintain public right of ways and accesses to public lands. But I also believe we have an obligation to do what we can to connect people to those services. And you all agreed because you all supported not only the creation of the task sites, but also the expansion of services in the safe rest villages that would give people access to navigation. It would give them access to treatment if necessary, would give them access to behavioral health if necessary, access to domestic violence services if necessary, access to job training, which somebody mentioned in testimony if necessary. And then the best part about it is with proper coordination with the county. And we've seen this recently. We actually have navigation into housing for people who now are connected to those services. When they are ready to receive those, and that's done by the county, they navigate to housing that is reserved for this population. Obviously we need to continue to work to scale on it. I also want to agree with commissioner gonzales that this is not the entirety of our strategy. It's really unfortunate that we have to compartmentalize time, place and manner here, and not talk about all the other things we're doing, the tasks, the safe rest villages, the outreach teams that we've established, the Portland street response and other services. That's not part of this discussion today. It's kind of hard to have just the time, place, manner, discussion without acknowledging that the City Council has done much more than that. This is one part of where, where we are, the commissioner is right. We still may get sued. In fact, I would be somewhat surprised if we don't get sued, I get sued every day for just about everything I do, however, as robert, our attorney indicated, what we tried to do here was even though we sort of assume we're going to get sued, is make sure that we have the best possible

ordinance to survive that process and come out on the other side, with regard to flexibility, I agree that flexibility is a good thing. I just disagree how to get there. I believe that the council has that flexible city, and what I've suggested is let's get an ordinance on the books. This this is what I've proposed with clear manner restrictions, some clear statements of policy values, and ensure that it's both legal and that it is enforceable. The council can always change course if other circumstances change. If the supreme court does something and the council feels there's something substantial that we need to change, we can do it. If the legislature takes up house bill 3115, in late 2025, and the council wants to make some changes as a result of that, the council still has that option. I also want to point out that these are not all of the rules and all of the regulations, I want to remind people that there are still other ordinances on the books. There are still other restrictions on the books. There are executive directives that I have issued that are still on the books, it is not true that this opens the door to people being able to camp on school sites. I don't know how that made it into the news media, it's just not true. And you know, regardless, we still do the posting and we still do the encampment removals in support of those rules and regulations that are separate from this ordinance, last but not least, I hope people saw today that the hardest part of all of this is balance. We don't have the luxury of taking one advocacy position over another. And you heard people on all sides of this issue come forward. Some people saying you need to be, you know, more consistent with how you keep our public right of ways clear and ensure our public safety. And you heard other people on the other side saying anything you do in that regard is inhumane, and it's crass, unfortunately, we have to thread that needle. And even the supreme court in their deliberations the other day, is elevated and smart as those people are. You could tell they did not want to have to draw the line. We do

have to draw the line. That's the burden of local government. And I believe that we have done it in a way that is as thoughtful and reasonable as possible, I obviously will not be supporting the ordinance commissioner Gonzalez, but I appreciate the efforts that you have made. And as I say, there is much that we agree on. I don't know if there's other comments or questions, or we should just call the roll. Call the roll on this one, please. Ryan. Thanks, colleagues.

Speaker: I've actually enjoyed our debate today on the two proposals before us. No matter which we ultimately adopt, we're moving in the right direction. Portland. You've been patient, I hear you. Your patience has run out and the status quo is not working. We are building a robust system for those who wish to have access to shelter and services. And since day one in office, I've been focused on building a pathway from the inhumane conditions on the streets to stable and safe communities. And I'm proud that we are seeing results. We are committed to accelerating those services, and I will continue to push Multnomah County to deliver more as they own and fund the majority of these services. But as leaders, we are elected to serve this city. We must be honest with ourselves and sadly, due to conditions that go well beyond poverty, there are many people on our streets who refuse these services. For those refusing, we need to stop enabling them and stop allowing people to do illegal things on the streets, in our parks and natural areas. We need accountability and we need action, and we must continue to differentiate those who are ready to receive services so we can help them quickly by partnering with them to build resilience and expediting their transition into housing and life off the streets. For those suffering from addiction and refusing services with no agency to say yes to a pathway of building resilience, we must be clear with you. Portland is no longer a chief enabler. We are loving, compassionate and tough. Mother as poisonous drug have taken over our city and our great state.

The city, county and the state must align efforts to take action. The impacts of ravaging, of ravaging people in ways no one has seen before. Ultimately, I have chosen to support commissioner Gonzalez proposal as it aligns to our future form of government and clearly outlines that camping is not allowed in Portland. This proposal before us demonstrates an honest, thoughtful and balanced approach to managing public spaces. And most importantly, this policy aligns with our neighboring city of Gresham, the fourth largest city in our state. The second largest city in our county. Yes, it's time to take this to scale, and the combination of Portland and Gresham aligned will have pragmatic impact for our city, county and our state, bringing clarity to our first responders in both the social services and public safety arena is critical, especially between 140th and 180th Avenue, where Portland Gresham boundary is fluid and where the needs for services are the highest. This policy also brings flexibility to respond to changing laws that the Supreme Court is currently hearing. We must always lead with compassion and offer services and treatment first, and we need policy in place for those who continue to refuse services. Our city needs us. Our community needs us, and we need to act now with compassion, collaboration and common sense for the families with loved ones on the streets. I see you. I'm one of you. You are not alone. We want government services to work with you and for you, for the families who don't have access to the public right of way because you have experienced unsafe conditions. We I see you and I ask for your compassion as we do what is right and just. Portland's best days are ahead of us and we need to act now with hope for recovery for each lost soul and for a city who will show up with love, compassion and accountability. I vote on Gonzalez. I maps, I want to thank commissioner Gonzalez for the thoughtful work he's done, on this particular ordinance and the dialog that we've had over the last couple of weeks. I'll tell you, I'm deeply

sympathetic to what you are trying to accomplish here. I think in at least a couple of spaces. But i'll lay my cards on the table, I think the vehicles that you have developed don't quite are imperfect, let's put it that way. Let me highlight two themes that, I'm sympathetic to, but I think we didn't quite get at with the amendment, I think one of the things you're trying to do with your amendments is send a message to the state legislature saying, state law is not helping us locally solve our houselessness problem. And I think that is objectively true, however, I am not convinced that our time, place, and manner ordinance is the correct vehicle for sending that message to our state lawmakers, so that is a concern to me, and it's one of the reasons why I can't support you on this one. I think one of. Well, that's right. You know, i'll lose you in a minute. So, and the other thing which I think you're trying to do with this amendment is empower the mayor and the executive branch, to effectively manage the city's rules around time, place and manner. I'm deeply sympathetic to that, too. I saw that same problem. Frankly I tried to address it in the amendment that I brought forward, even there, I would say this is not my ideal amendment. However for what we're really trying to do is to make this law, which we frankly, have to pass, fit within the our next form of government, which we'll have a city administrator and a council and a clear division between, legislative branch and the executive branch, I think my amendment does the best that we can, given the structure that we have chosen, and so i'll say that the frankly, a third barrier that prevents me from, casting your, vote in favor of your amendment today is, you know, just, frankly, a lack of time and a lack of conversation. I think the most recent iteration of this amendment, you know, got filed at maybe 2:00 this afternoon. I don't think that's your fault. It's these are unfortunate timelines that we inherited, but it is what it is. I tried to buy us some more time. My colleagues wanted to vote today. If we're going to vote today on these amendments, i, I am

going to vote no. But I will tell you, commissioner Gonzalez, in terms of what I think you're trying to accomplish, which is to communicate clearly to our state lawmakers around working together to get people housed. And, if you're also trying to, set up the, city administrators and the executive branch to effectively implement our houselessness policy and get people off the sidewalk and into streets and into, you know, a safe place to live. You know, I am committed to working with you and everybody else on council in the months that we have left in these jobs, to try to figure out policy that will get us from where we are today to those goals that we have. So with that, I vote no. Yea. Rubio.

Speaker: So, for me, there are really two things, the first, there, you know, first is transparency and roles. And we've set a lot about that already, but just to sum up, you know, I'm concerned here that centralizing discretionary authority under one individual instead of a legislative body for the reasons that we all talked about, that must deliberate in public and is accountable to the public. And for me, in a worst case scenario, this could be, precarious, perilous territory if it was too concentrated. So that just, to me, is a clear philosophical difference that I have here, the other is that, there have been a lot of moving pieces. And for me, not enough information, and I do want to appreciate the inclusion of our amendments. But given the importance of this issue and the multiple versions that have been hard for my staff to track and prep me for, I'm just worried about missing something without having had the chance to have a more ask more informed questions, or the ability to understand larger implications, and I wasn't going to say anything, but because, you know, since you mentioned it, you know, I want to correct for the record that regarding working with all offices for feedback, I just want to be clear that my office was not engaged with with you, with your office until the last couple of days. And in fact, we learned outside from the city and other sources. First, about about your

amendments, in fact, when my staff tried to include herself when she was uninvited twice to two meetings that were key, that she tried to attend. So internal communication does make a difference in feeling brought along on a policy, and to give some context, we did have several months of engagement with sky and other members of the mayor's team about what we cared about, and that ultimately informed the proposal that we got when everybody else did. So for those reasons, I vote no. Wheeler.

Speaker: Yeah. To that point, thank you, commissioner Rubio. And I do want to acknowledge the work of my team, schuyler, who is here? Sarah. Who is here? Bobby. Who is here? Stephanie, who is not here, if there is something we need to do differently to be more engaged, we're very open to it. And you know where we live. This this was publicly disclosed on approximately April 4th. We held a press event, I know that we filed it on or about April 16th. I know that we met individually with each of the commissioners between four and six times to discuss this, if there was anybody who felt that that process isn't working, I'm open to different ways of doing it. If the regular meetings that we have scheduled are not sufficient ways of doing it. But I feel like we were very clear, very consistent and very transparent about what it was that this team was working on and commissioner Rubio, I appreciate you acknowledging that, today I'm only going to add one more thing, which is I just want to remind people that just because the supreme court, if they if they overturn martin v boise, the state of Oregon still has a statute in place. House bill 3115. And if this council and frankly, it should be the next council when they convene in January and they discuss their state legislative agenda, if they want to go down to salem and advocate for a change or a repeal to house bill 3115, that is absolutely their prerogative. But I will warn you, if it happens, it will not happen

until the end of the legislative session, which is late next year. We need to act now. And so just from an urgency perspective, I feel it's important.

Speaker: I won't go through all the other reasons you've all heard. I'm late. I vote no and the amendment fails.

Speaker: Can solace to any further discussion.

Speaker: It's solved. I think it's just the 1. 0, it's all come unified. Okay, great. Thanks. So that solves that.

Speaker: Alright. Thank you everybody long day. Thank you everybody who testified we appreciated the variety of feedback we got.

Speaker: This is a 1st reading of a nonemergency ordinance moves to second reading is amended and we are adjourned.

Portland City Council Meeting Closed Caption File

April 25, 2024 – 2:00 p.m.

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Speaker: April 25th, 2024. After noon session of the Portland City Council. Rebecca, please call the roll. Brian.

Speaker: Here. Alice, here snaps here. Rubio, here. Wheeler

Speaker: Now i'll turn it over to legal counsel for the rules of order and decorum.

Speaker: Welcome to the Portland City Council.

Speaker: To testify before council in person or virtually, you must sign up in advance on the council agenda at [ww. Dot Portland.gov/council/agenda](http://www.Portland.gov/council/agenda).

Information on engaging with City Council can be found on the council's clerk's webpage. The presiding officer preserves order and decorum during City Council meetings. The presiding officer determines the length of testimony. Individuals generally have three minutes to testify unless otherwise stated, a timer will indicate when your time is done. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, refusing to conclude your testimony when your time is up, or interrupting others testimony or council deliberations will not be allowed. If you cause a disruption, a warning will be given. Further disruption will result in ejection from the meeting. Anyone who fails to leave once ejected is subject to arrest for trespass. Additionally counsel may take a short recess 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. Disclose if you are a lobbyist. If you are representing an

organization, please identify it for a testifiers joining virtually, please unmute yourself. Once the council clerk calls your name. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: And rebecca, could you please read our first agenda item?

Speaker: Item 340 adopt the lower southeast rising area plan amendments to the comprehensive plan comprehensive plan map, zoning map, and zoning code.

Thank you very much, colleagues.

Speaker: Today we are holding a hearing on adopting the lower southeast rising area plan. This plan proposes amendments to the comprehensive plan and to the comprehensive plan map, I should say, and zoning changes, which would allow more neighborhood businesses and housing options, together with recommendations for transportation safety projects. This work represents a collaboration between city bureaus to address the needs of an area in southeast Portland that has historically lacked complete transportation infrastructure and local commercial services. This ordinance is brought to us by the bureau of planning and sustainability and the bureau of transportation. I will now invite commissioner Rubio to provide opening remarks.

Speaker: Commissioner Rubio, thank you, commissioner Mapps. I'm excited to bring forward the lower southeast rising area plan. The plan is part of our own ongoing work to create a more equitable city in which all Portlanders have access to opportunity and can get around their neighborhoods safely. The plan focuses on brentwood-darlington neighborhood and nearby areas, and it is an important step toward addressing the area's long standing lack of commercial services and gaps in transportation infrastructure. As we hear from staff, as we will hear from staff in a moment, the plan evolved over two years of community conversations about the increasing opportunities for neighborhood businesses, housing, diversity and safe transportation. It is intended to help realize the community's vision of becoming a

complete neighborhood where people can meet more of their daily needs locally and can afford to live in their communities. Because complete neighborhoods require both local services and the ability to safely travel to destinations. This plan was, from its inception, both about land uses and transportation, and was therefore a joint effort of the bureau of planning and sustainability and the bureau of transportation, and I'm pleased that I'm co-sponsoring this ordinance together with commissioner Mapps. The plan takes a very strategic approach to focusing zone changes to allow for more businesses and housing options along transit corridors and in mixed use centers in the plan area, so that more people can live close to services and transit. The plan also seeks to limit impacts on the area's existing affordable housing and its moderate income ownership. Housing so I'll now turn it over to commissioner Mapps for additional remarks. Yeah, thank you, commissioner Rubio, I'm proud to join you and bringing forward this collaboration between pbot planning and sustainability and community members, and I want to pause here and really call out and celebrate our community members. They have made an indispensable contribution to this project, several years ago, a neighbors and brentwood darlington pressed this council to take a comprehensive look at the transportation and land use needs in this neighborhood, and they didn't stop there. Neighbors also helped us secure funding to support this work, and they helped us develop a set of transportation recommendations that will complement proposed land use changes. The transportation recommendations proposed in this ordinance will make it safer and more convenient to move around brentwood-darlington by walking, biking, rolling, and taking public transportation. These changes include a realignment of an important bus line, which serves the area and connects the neighborhood to the rest of the city, and as the commissioner in charge of pbot, I want to just pause here and thank our friends and partners over at trimet for their

collaboration on that last issue. Lastly, I want to acknowledge a hard truth. There are many transportation needs in Brentwood-Darlington which remain unmet and unfunded, but I want to reassure the residents of Brentwood-Darlington that as long as I serve in City Hall, I'm committed to seeking funding to support that work. And I suspect that every member of Council would make that same pledge to you. I'll close by thanking our partners and community members for their hard work, for their trust, and for their patience. And now, Commissioner Rubio, I'll turn the floor back to you.

Speaker: Thank you. So now, it's a pleasure to introduce to introduce Patricia Diefenderfer and other staff from BTS and PBOT to lead us through the presentation.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Thank you so much, Patricia Diefenderfer, Chief Planner, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. And I'm joined by the staff who'll be making presentation, Shane Varley from the Bureau of Planning and Transportation. Sorry, Bureau of Transportation. And Bill Cunningham from the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, very quickly, though, before I turn it over to them, I did want to just provide a few opening remarks, you've heard already a great deal about the community, the collaboration between the bureaus and the collaboration with the community. This plan is a result of that strong partnership between the city bureaus and also working together with the community, who not only advocated for, to help seek funding for the project, but also wrote letters. 17 different community organizations wrote letters in support of a grant that ultimately the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability did obtain a State Transportation and Growth Management grant, so about the plan. This is a very strategic and targeted plan, both in terms of focusing zone changes. So more people can be close to amenities and transit. And in terms of keeping to a scale of development that is not very different from the existing zoning and development that that exists there currently.

To provide a sense of the targeted nature and the scale of these changes, it's notable that the proposed zoning changes represent less than 7% of the plan area. The predominant zone change is to the small scale m one multi dwelling zone, which is similar in scale to the area's existing single dwelling zoning, but will create an opportunity for more housing options such as townhouses and small apartment buildings that can offer both more home ownership and rental housing opportunities, as the area zoning will remain. However, predominantly single family, going from 74% currently to 71. Ultimately, with the changes essential to this plan was a closely coordinated approach to transportation, to coordinating land use and transportation in transportation, elements comprise both local street improvements that make it safer to get around on smaller residential streets, as well as corridor and transit improvements that improve connections to destinations within the plan area, which will be described in greater detail. The proposed plan, both land use and transportation components complement at a number of efforts taking place in the vicinity, including the east Portland tax increment financing district exploration process and plan transportation improvements on 82nd avenue. So with that, I'd like to go ahead and turn it over to staff for the, details of the plan. Thank you.

Speaker: I think I have the mic on. Thank you, patricia, for the introduction. Good afternoon, commissioners, for the record, I'm bill cunningham with the bureau of planning and sustainability, and with me is shane varley with pbot. We have been co project managers of the lower southeast rising area plan, which has been very much a joint effort of our two bureaus. And I'm going to switch over to a full screen view of this presentation in just a second. All right. I think we're ready to roll, we're here to provide an overview of the planning commission's recommended lower southeast rising area plan, which the planning commission voted to forward to you

on November 14th, we ask that you hold your questions to the end, as we have a fair amount of material to go through. The action before council is to adopt an ordinance to amend the comprehensive plans. Urban design framework and the comprehensive plan map as well as to amend the zoning map and associated zoning code maps. The plan also includes a directive to include the plans.

Transportation projects. In an update to the transportation system plan, which processes starting later this year. Wanted to provide a very brief overview of what we'll be presenting to you today, we'll start with a little bit of project background, some about public engagement, which was really instrumental to shaping the plan and then provide an overview of the land use recommendations, followed by shane covering the transportation recommendations and then next steps, I do want to note for the record that the public record documents are available on the project website, as well as on in the project files box whose url addresses are on the screen, I also wanted to note that, we took a look at where public testimony stood as of 1 p.m, it looked like there were 40 pieces of written testimony, and seven people had signed up for, real time testimony went to highlight on, terms of what the plan is focusing on, the plan is really focusing on the brentwood-darlington neighborhood and adjacent areas, including parts of the woodstock, mount scott-arleta and lents neighborhoods. The core focus area is brentwood. Darlington. That's the area that has the biggest gaps in transportation infrastructure and the fewest commercial services. As patricia was mentioning, this is, towards the end of what's been an over two year process, and it's really been shaped by extensive community feedback. It would not be where it is now without that, that community involvement. And I should mention too, that the community is actually active in identifying issues in this area back in 2017 and before then. And i'll say a little bit about that later, but, the community, as patricia mentioned, was instrumental in

getting the whole project started and helping us receive a state transportation and growth management, grant, so really a critical piece and I want to mention we didn't have any assumptions as to what the project was going to do, what specific implementation measures? The project started out talking to the community to identify what are the issues, what are your priorities. And as we develop potential solutions, we ask them which of these solutions are most important to you? So it's very much an iterative working with community effort. A key concept that's been part of this work and it relates to city policies are about, creating complete communities, complete neighborhoods where people have options to be able to meet more of their needs locally with, local services and safe ways to get there. And this, heat map was used in our comprehensive plan analysis of complete neighborhoods and the hot areas, glowing. There are showing areas that have commercial and community services, plus safe transportation connections like sidewalks to get there. And you can see that, around woodstock, around the woodstock main street, it's definitely glowing in terms of having some of that complete neighborhood fabric. But you go further south into brentwood, darlington, the purple areas, and what that purple is showing is this area both lacks the local commercial services as well as complete transportation infrastructure to get there, and one thing that really highlights this too is this next slide and this is showing in red where we have existing sidewalks. And the core of the plan area is outlined in blue. And you can see that it looks relatively blank. Not a lot of complete transportation infrastructure. And it's not just sidewalks. It's a lot of the other pieces. And as background to this area of town, brentwood, darlington did not join the city of Portland until 1986, so a lot of development happened, during the county days when they did not require sidewalks. Just returning to the community engagement a little bit, as I mentioned, this project was very much in response to

the community's identification of needs. There was a, Brentwood-Darlington say our name project that was community led, actually, in cooperation with, Portland state students. And that was in 2017. And that really got the community thinking about how can we make our neighborhood a better place, a place that works for more people in terms of getting around, having a needs met, we should also mention that we initially sent a mailing out to all residents in the area, over 15,000 addresses to make people aware that we're we're looking at solutions and trying to identify issues in the area. We had an initial survey where people were identifying issues, completed by more than 1500 people, we had neighborhood walks and bike rides. We took a particular attention to try to reach community groups that don't usually come to planning processes, such as, canvassing, apartment complexes as well as manufactured home parks. And we had focused outreach with members of our Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese language communities, and, we went to the community where they meet and had tabling events at various community gathering locations, the major plan components are very much informed by that public outreach, the two main components are land use map changes, and they focus on expanding opportunities for neighborhood commercial uses, as well as expanding housing opportunities. And that response to the two most important things community said we needed to work on for land uses in the area. One was expanding neighborhood businesses and secondarily addressing housing affordability. And, transportation safety was always a very critical issue. It's, I can't ignore that. It's definitely not land use by itself. It's transportation was critical. And an overriding concern, too, was looking at how we can do these things and support community stabilization so everyone can benefit from these future improvements. I'm going to briefly go over the land use, proposals before turning things over to Shane, just one thing to note here in this map, the yellow and orange areas are

showing the single family zoning, and there are 74% of the land area is a very predominantly single dwelling, which is an important thing, what is not so much, available, especially in brentwood, darlington is commercial. Most of the commercial that does exist. So the red pink tones are in woodstock and in foster, but not much, further south, this next diagram is showing a designated neighborhood centers, part of our complete neighborhoods approach is to designate, centers that serve as hubs for community services and activity. And you can see the woodstock neighborhood center, part of foster and lents. And that circle is showing a half mile, typically walkable distance. And you can see it doesn't quite reach down to brentwood, darlington, it basically they're out of, walking distance to most of those major commercial hubs. And one of the key things i'll be sharing with you is this plan is proposing to designate a new neighborhood, brentwood, darlington neighborhood center, centered around 72nd fill to help meet needs in that area, I'm not going to go into the details of zoning, but I went to highlight the kind of the array of zones that are being expanded. The most common rezoning that is being proposed, and it's the vast majority of zones to what are currently single dwelling zoned areas, is to the small scale r1 multidwelling zone. And that zone is really intended to be compatible with single family areas. It allows the same general height, 2 to 3 stories, same lot coverage, but it provides flexibility for numbers of units. The more medium scale zones like r2 and cm2 are really focused directly on the transit corridors and in the core of the mixed use centers. And we're moving on to a key slide, which is showing in color the areas that are proposed for zone changes. And as patricia saying, the zone change is focused very strategically on the major corridors such as 52nd and 72nd and in mixed use centers and, shown in gold or orange. Is that proposed brentwood-darlington neighborhood center and one thing it's important to mention, too, is what you are

seeing here is reflective of what we heard as the communities preferred approaches for land use. We had a solutions put out to the community, ranging from no change to minor changes along, some of the corridors to a greater amount of change, including proposing this new neighborhood center and more people out of about over 500 people selected the neighborhood center and corridor growth approach than all the other scenarios combined. So in terms of the hundreds of people we heard from, there was quite a bit of support for this. And it was the basis of our zone changes, diving down into the brentwood darlington neighborhood center, the gold line is showing, the idea that the zone changes would support of a neighborhood, main street or commercial district for the neighborhood. And, it extends what is basically two half blocks to being a bit more like a 3 or 4 block neighborhood, main street. And there are reasons to that, what is more, 100% corner is 72nd and faville, it also includes some changes to zoning, adding in the blue multi-dwelling zoning. And the area is a little bit further from 72nd, between 72nd and 82nd are being proposed to that small scale r1 zone. So a more flexibility for numbers of units, but keeping things to the existing allowed neighborhood scale, one other note 82nd off of I. There's a commercial note there that is currently zoned light industrial or employment, what's there now is really small businesses that are more commercial services. And the rezones propose, commercial zoning for that node on 82nd, it's also important because it's close to a number of manufactured home complexes and apartments. And this could serve intent is to serve as an anchor for services for that area, this diagram is highlighting where those expanded commercial zoning components are, are. And you can see it in that new neighborhood center. But we're also expanding the zoning at some of the major existing commercial hubs there. Actually, I shouldn't say major. They're pretty small, but trying to grow some of the commercial areas that are already

there at some of the intersections. And the area of greater expansion is really in the multidwelling zones, which is really tied to expanding housing options and allowing a greater diversity. So you could see here that they are focused on on the corridors and in the center. One thing that goes along with the zoning is along 52nd and 72nd, which we're proposing to designate as neighborhood corridors and places important for both transportation and land use, and that designation would allow in the multidwelling zones, people to have small commercial uses on their ground floors. And there are a number of, home based businesses in the area that this could really allow for some growth and public facing aspect to it, and I do want to mention, too, that, again, it looks it is a strategic, as patricia had mentioned, we'd be going with these residential changes going from 74% single dwelling to 71. So there's a 3% change, in the single dwelling zoning, it'll be very predominantly single dwelling. Moving to the future, one thing we were very intentional about was looking at where we have existing unregulated, low cost apartment complexes, which you can see, mapped in the stars and where the manufactured dwelling parks are. And part of the plan approach was to not upzone those properties, to really encourage their retention and not add to redevelopment pressures. There are also several rezones to properties that the bureau of environmental services already owns close to johnson creek, and there are about six and a half acres total. And these are properties that would become part of bts ongoing work in floodplain and habitat restoration. One thing we looked at as part of the project, two, related to community stabilization, was to look at what are the impacts on community stability in the area, one thing that came out of the analysis is this area has a significantly higher home ownership rates than the city as a whole. So when people own their homes, they have more control over what happens and, less likelihood that they'll be forced out in any way, another thing is that, again, most of the

rezones to single dwelling or to the, to a very small scale low rise multi-dwelling zone that our analysis is showing would not increase the rate of development. It just happens when development happens, you'd be able to get more units and more different types of units, the mid scale mixed use zoning is mostly on properties with little housing. Sometimes it's already, low, very low scale commercial zoning. And another key thing is that, expanding opportunities for housing and allowing more housing types, such as apartments that are affordable to a broader range of housing households compared to single family houses, is a key long term approach to community stability. If we did nothing and your main options in the area are just single family and townhouses, who can afford to live in the area be very limited. So it's really about expanding options in a very strategic way so more people can continue in the future, to be able to live in the area, just overview of the community stabilization approaches. As I mentioned before, one was the preservation of low cost housing via zoning approaches. Also expanding commercial and mixed use zoning, or multidwelling zone expands where our inclusionary housing requirements apply. In one of our few tools for requiring affordable units as part of development. And then, the plan does identify opportunities to align with ongoing efforts related to community economic development and affordable housing, there, as you may know, there's an east Portland tax increment financing district exploration in east Portland that includes 82nd corridor, and there's community interest in that, possibility to have more tools to address small businesses and affordability and as well as interest and being more intentional about having affordable housing investments in the area, the area is fortunate to have an existing brentwood-darlington community center where there's community interest in finding ways to grow its role, to have more of a resource hub for the community. Connecting people to opportunities, and I wanted

to be very crystal clear as to what the changes are that you're considering. I mentioned the urban design framework, diagram from the comprehensive plan. This would be identifying the Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood center as another center amongst our constellation of designated centers to be a hub for services, as well as designating Southeast 52nd and 72nd, or portions of it as neighborhood corridors in that diagram, as key streets. And then, implementing those zone changes I provided overview of would be amendments to the comprehensive plan map and the zoning map, which are very closely aligned, one being about long term land use and one being about specific current zoning. And there are a couple zoning code maps that would need to be amended to map the newly designated corridors. So, enough of land use. I'm turning things over to Shane.

Speaker: Thank you, Bill. My name is Shane Varley. I am a senior planner with the Bureau of Transportation. For the record, co-project manager with Bill here. Next slide. So I'm going to walk you guys through what's in the transportation side of lower Southeast rising. And first I want to talk about what are the things that our recommendations are responding to. Broadly. We heard three things. The first is that traffic safety is a huge concern. And there was a large demand for traffic calming. And this is sort of exacerbated by the deficiencies that Bill alluded to, the sort of the lack of safe and complete walking and biking infrastructure in this part of town. The second thing that we heard about was that access to businesses and services in this corner of town is pretty limited, and this is where that partnership between BTS and PBOT really pays off, because addressing this is a two part equation. One part is making sure that those businesses and services are within a distance, that it's reasonable to ask folks to walk, to bike, to take transit to. And then once the possibility is there, we need to make sure that the infrastructure is in

place, that such that it feels safe and convenient and dignified for us to ask people to make that choice. And then the third thing that we heard about was that the transit network, as it stood at the beginning of this plan area, the busses didn't come often enough, and they didn't really take folks to the places that they wanted to go, in the neighborhood next slide please. So to address those kind of three broad concerns, we developed three approaches. The first are a series of transportation capital projects that we're recommending that would be delivered by the city of Portland and would improve walking and biking options in and around the district. The second set of recommendations are we developed in partnership with trimet and, consultant jarrett walker and associates, concern changes to the bus network to support some of the community goals and to support the land use vision. And then the third approach that we're recommending is to prioritize among that sort of vast need of local street improvements to move the ball forward. Next slide. So I'm going to walk through each one of those buckets. So you guys kind of understand what we're recommending in the plan, the bulk of the recommendations are these transportation projects, these capital projects that would be delivered by the city. And they come in two flavors that work together. The first are corridor improvements, and they address conditions on busy streets. So they're things like safer crossings, better bikeways, streetscape improvements, on on in main street areas. And those are complemented by neighborhood greenways. And you might be familiar with these. We have kind of a network that spans across the city, but it's pretty sparse in this part of town. And so this is establishing a more comprehensive neighborhood greenway network, which are low stress streets where it's easy for folks to walk, bike, roll, and sometimes even play in the middle of the street. Next slide. And this is kind of a conceptual diagram that shows how these work together, as in many other parts of Portland,

this part of Portland is physically structured similarly, where you have this fine grained grid of neighborhood streets that are more residential, and they're bounded on the outside by busier streets. And so what we've done is we've sort of asked ourselves what what needs to happen on these busier streets such that they are safer, more convenient for folks to, to move to and along and to cross and then with the neighborhood greenways, we were asking ourselves what is needed to, to bring people from sort of these quieter, more residential parts of the neighborhood to the busier streets where those those concentrations of businesses and services. Next slide. Other direction. And so this is that conceptual framework as applied to the plan area. And so in orange you can see those corridor improvement projects that are addressing safety needs on the busier streets. Many of them are co aligned with where is making land use recommendations and designating certain recommendations. And then the neighborhood greenways kind of fill in the gaps there, bringing folks from the residential parts of the neighborhood to those busy streets and across those busy streets. Next slide. And this is just an example of in the plan. So that map that shows all of the different projects, if you go into the plan, you'll find a sheet for every single one of those projects that describes in more detail, what issues we're trying to address. And and what what sort of our proposals are for addressing them to a medium level of detail. And sort of the next step is to work more closely with folks and community members living up and down those streets to suss out what those details look like. So moving on to the second sort of set of recommendations that we're making, the bus network recommendations that we made in partnership with trimet jarrett walker and associates and community members. If for a second you just ignore the arrows on the screen here and you look underneath, that's showing what the bus network used to be when we started this planning effort. And so the solid blue lines

represent the frequent service bus lines, and you can see how they're pretty much absent from the middle of this plan area. And so that was really the biggest thing we heard was like can we get some frequent service here. So on top of that, there were a few sort of network tweaks that folks in this part of town wanted us to make. They wanted a sort of a seamless east west connection on woodstock boulevard between the woodstock main street and the lents town center. They also wanted an east west connection on chief lovell, connecting nodes of businesses and services at 52nd avenue, 72nd avenue, 82nd with the max station at 92nd and philadel, and then some better north south service on southeast 72nd avenue that connects sort of the heart of brentwood, darlington neighborhood with the mount scott community center, which is kind of this beloved community asset. So luckily for us, luckily for community members, trimet was undergoing its own service planning effort. At the same time, it was called forward together, you may recall, and because trimet worked so closely with us on lower southeast, they were able to kind of take many of our recommendations and plug them directly into their service plan, and so some of the recommendations that are going to be rolled out in the next 2 to 5 years are, that improved or that that streamlined east west service on woodstock boulevard, served by the line for now, improved north south service on 52nd avenue, served by the line 71. And then more frequent service, you see more of those thick blue lines. And so folks are pretty happy about that. Coming to the area next slide. And then last but not least, are our local street improvements, and as the commissioner alluded to in his opening remarks, we have to sit kind of with two uncomfortable realities. And these are the same sort of realities. We asked, community members to sit with when we talked with them one on one or in groups, that the infrastructural need in this part of town is immense. On the order of several hundred millions of million dollars to bring it up to the same kind of

standard as other parts of Portland. And the other uncomfortable reality is that in any kind of near-term sense, the city doesn't have the capacity to bring it up to that, to that standard, but we still wanted to move the ball forward. And so in talking with folks about that, we heard two things. One was just frustration, that, that living and, and moving in this part of Portland is just very different than the experience in other parts of Portland. It shares a lot of kinship with parts of east Portland, but hasn't received even as much attention as east Portland has, there are neighborhood streets in the winter that are impassable, because they are bodies of water that have names that the community members are name, the bodies of the seasonal bodies of water in certain streets. And then during the summer, when the unpaved streets dried out and cars drive down the road, there are clouds of dust that hang in the air that make it hard to just be outside, let alone walk or bike in the street. So that was one thing we heard. The other thing that we heard that was as kind of allowing us to move forward, is that, yes, this infrastructure really needs some help, and in the meantime, a way that we can move forward is this infrastructure could work a lot better if we could find a way to calm the traffic in these neighborhoods, to basically share the street in a more courteous fashion, the way that folks sort of drive on the street doesn't feel comfortable for the folks who are outside of cars, because there's no separate place for them to be. And so what you're seeing here is kind of our prioritized list of places where, either through community feedback or because they align with, primary safe routes to school investments, they support the land use vision, or they are collinear with those transportation recommendations. These are sort of the first dollar sort of that we want to be spending on addressing the condition of the local street improvements, next slide. And just as an example, this is work that actually we've, we've done in this part of the plan area, recently and errol heights, we're sort of on the cusp of

completing the street improvement project, which was a partnership with the bureau of environmental services, where we needed to reconstruct some of the streets primarily to deal with some stormwater issues. But we also, kicked in some money to really help improve the ease of getting getting around. And so this is a 15 mile an hour street design. And when we designed for a slower speed on a local street, it allows us to dig more deeply into our toolbox. We can use speed humps that are more close together. We can use chicanes, which you can see in that left photo, which. So the roads narrow and it kind of weaves back and forth. And what that does is it basically makes it so that people driving can't bomb down the street because they can't go in a straight line, and so this makes this space a lot more comfortable for people who aren't in a car to share the space. Next slide. And then this I just wanted to highlight what the request is on the transportation side of things. So we're basically just asking that these recommendations that i, the, the projects that I talked about and the classifications that underline those projects, that you recommend, or you direct staff to incorporate them as a part of the transportation system plan update, which will kick off later this year. Bill

Speaker: And, just a few final words about, other parts of the ordinance, really the main parts of things that are really bringing action into the very near term would be amending land use mapping, both in terms of the comprehensive plans, urban design framework and the comprehensive plan map, as well as the zoning map, corresponding to those changes. And as I mentioned, a couple of zoning code maps that identify where designated corridors are. And one thing that's important to relate to the community is the zone changes are not a requirement or a mandate for change. It's about expanding some options or choice for what happens to a property. If someone wants to keep their house exactly the way it is, they can do that. It's more moving into the future, especially zoning is very long range,

expanding options and possibly for what could happen, just a very briefly today we are here. You are here, with the briefing and the public hearing and right now we have it scheduled for a vote on may 2nd at 2 p.m. And that's the end of a staff's presentation. And I'm going to turn things over to patricia before we, tune out here. Great

Speaker: Hi again, patricia diefenderfer. For the record, just, cueing us up for the next steps. We do have the planning commission chair, chair o'mara, here to present the planning commission's recommendation. And then we do have two invited testimony, members of the community who are part of the community advisory committee that we would also like to have, and be invited to testify. So we'll go ahead and step back and allow them to come in. Thank you. Great.

Speaker: Thank you. Should we have all three invited testimony, folks who are doing invited testimony come up and join us at the table now. And thank you, chair, for joining us. Let's why don't we? We'll let people get settled. And by the way, for staff that was an excellent presentation on an excellent project. Thank you. And with that, I would like to invite, our commission chair, o'mara, who heads up the planning commission to present the planning commission's recommendations. Welcome madam chair.

Speaker: Thank you so much, commissioner Mapps. And good afternoon, commissioners. For the record, my name is mary o'mara and I am the chair of the planning commission. So today I am here representing the planning commission's recommendation to City Council to adopt the lower southeast rising plan. As presented, the planning commission held a public hearing on the proposed plan draft on October 10th, 2023, followed by a work session on November 14th, 2023, where we voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the plan. This plans focus on an area of Portland that has been historically underserved with infrastructure,

transportation, and commercial improvements. Is significant, and the community engagement process, which you've heard about to inform and develop the plan, has been truly extensive. Of the plan's key features, and based on the public testimony received, the planning commission focused on community stability and transportation improvements. During our deliberations under community stability, we appreciated hearing both support and concern from members of the public regarding potential destabilization that could be caused by zoning changes. The planning commission believes that the plan takes an appropriate approach to preserving affordability in the neighborhood, while creating zoning changes that can allow for an expansion of affordable housing in the future. Over all zoning changes in the plan area represent just 6.7% of the overall zoned land area, and they are moderate in scale and density. By avoiding zone changes to mobile home parks and naturally occurring affordable housing, and maintaining the majority of the single family zoning for a continuation of home ownership opportunities, the plan strategically focuses potential development areas in the new neighborhood center and along transit corridors. We recognize that the plan itself will not create incentives for affordable housing and expanded commercial development in the neighborhood, but a range of future actions the city can take are outlined in the plan's community stabilization section. An example of that is the consideration of a tax increment finance district for the area, which could help catalyze financial investment for community serving development. The second area of deliberation for the planning commission was regarding the proposed transportation improvements for the neighborhood. We heard testimony emphasizing the need for pedestrian and bicycle safety, traffic calming and sidewalk infrastructure for the area. The recommended plan addresses these issues identified by the community and achieves a good balance between safety improvements on busy corridors and

on neighborhood streets. These investments should be prioritized over the coming years in partnership with pbob and via incorporation into the transportation system plan. The lower southeast rising plan creates the roadmap for a future brentwood, darlington and beyond that balances community stability with opportunity to grow neighborhood business and expanded housing options. It prioritizes safety for all those moving throughout the plan area, with a variety of travel modes. The planning commission is pleased to provide our recommendation for the adoption of the lower southeast rising plan, and we extend our gratitude to the community members and staff who have shaped it. Thank you. Thank you and madam hodge, welcome.

Speaker: Just checking.

Speaker: It looks like the mic is on. Yeah. So, presiding officer Mapps, members of the City Council, my name is pam hodge. I'm speaking to you this afternoon as both a long time resident of brentwood, darlington, the core study area, and as a member of the project advisory committee. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak in support of the lower southeast rising area plan. First, let me say that when I was growing up, brentwood darlington was known as felony flats. Even today, brentwood, darlington is still relatively disadvantaged. Brentwood darlington has lower household income, higher social vulnerability, less tree canopy, and more industrial pollution. As you know, brentwood, darlington was not annexed to the city until 1986. Like many residents, I believe that until very recently, annexation gave us sewers but little else before my specific comments on the lower southeast rising area plan, I want to thank you for the city's recent investment in brentwood, darlington. I am particularly thankful for the completion of the errol heights park. Thank you, commissioner Ryan. The acquisition of land by bhs for their restoration of johnson creek. Thank you, commissioner maps and for the

innovative deferred lid funding policy for the errol heights street improvement project adopted by the City Council as a whole. Looking forward, I see the adoption of the lower southeast rising area plan as the necessary next step for the City Council in continuing its momentum to address decades of neglect. The adoption of the lower southeast rising area plan will, almost 40 years after annexation, finally established the framework for becoming a complete neighborhood with amenities common to most city neighborhoods, adds, I believe the proposed land use and related transportation changes are needed to attract private investment and ultimately create a more livable neighborhood where residents can thrive. That said, true community development is not all private development\$ supported by land use and transportation policy. It is also about nurturing and supporting the social fabric of the community with respect to community development, brentwood darlington needs all the help it can get. Frankly, the energy of the neighborhood association is at low ebb and potential community partners such as the schools and nonprofits located within its boundaries are persistently disconnected, and I would urge you to pay particular attention to the community stabilization section of the plan, which provides numerous recommendations based on community feedback. These recommendations include repurposing of the brentwood darlington community center to serve as a community resiliency and resource hub, connecting residents to critical resources and services including housing, employment, child care, and public benefits, as well as serving as an emergency center during climate crises and other natural disasters, and pursuit of creative funding. Ideas for an even broader array of community development initiatives focused on affordable housing, workforce development, and business incubators. Creative funding strategies identified in the plan to support these initiatives include tax increment financing, neighborhood prosperity initiative designation in Portland, clean energy

fund grants, and funding from the joint office of homeless services. I support these recommendations with one further caveat, namely that whatever strategies the city adopts, that it also include concise performance metrics for funding recipients so that actual benefits accrue to the community they are designed to serve. In my opinion, there needs to be accountability and community oversight of these programs in order for them to be successful in meeting their intended goals. So in summary, I ask not only for adoption of the lower southeast rising area plan today, but also for your ongoing financial support of the community stabilization measures. I hope to see tangible benefits within my lifetime term. Let future generations not look back in another 40 years or so, and see a long neglected area of Portland that is yet to achieve its full potential. Again thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the lower southeast rising area plan.

Speaker: Thank you, miss hodge and colleagues. I believe we have, one other member of the public who has been invited to testify before us today, online, we have valeria mcwilliams, welcome. Miss mcwilliams.

Speaker: Thank you. Can you all hear me, you're a little bit quiet, but I bet we can fix that in house. Okay, good, good.

Speaker: Okay. Good afternoon, for the record, my name is valeria mcwilliams, today I'm speaking to you as a resident of the lens neighborhood and member of the 22 person project advisory committee. That was engaged during over two years of the planning efforts to develop the lower southeast rising plan that you're considering to approve today. I'm really excited to be here and grateful to support the adoption of the plan, because it is aligned with our city's guiding principles and vision of fostering a more equitable, prosperous, healthy and resilient city. There are many important areas of the plan that I would like to highlight, but I would focus on four as quickly as I can, the first one, inclusive community engagement,

the project really sought to be inclusive in reaching out to the community and staff, shaped its proposals based on community feedback. The project made it a point to reach out to communities that have not often been involved in planning. Staff canvas at apartment complexes and at mobile home parks, where we community partners and focus group discussion with the area's spanish, vietnamese and chinese language communities and went into the community to reach community where they are with open house workshops, tabling events at grocery stores, community centers and other gathering places. They also provided different opportunities for the advisory committee to engage with this work, including public neighborhood walks and bike rides. This was really an outstanding effort by staff that should be presented as a model to the city's community involvement committee. Secondly, transportation equity, sustainability and climate climate resiliency. The plans recommended transportation projects rightly works to address gaps in the area's transportation infrastructure to make it easy and safer for people to walk along and cross busy streets to have safe, safe neighborhood greenway connections. So people can walk and bike to school, parks and other local destinations and can safely walk on their local streets. I really appreciate that the project worked with trimet to designate two new frequent service transit lines in the area, which has few such options. There are many lower income residents in brentwood, darlington and lents, for whom transportation costs can consume a big part of their incomes. They need and truly deserve, safe and efficient, low cost ways of getting around. And this plan is an important step in addressing these needs. Thirdly, housing options. The plan area is already becoming a place where lower income residents cannot afford to own or rent single family homes. The plan's expansion of multidwelling zoning will allow for a greater diversity of housing types, including apartments that a broader range of households can't afford. More

importantly, this expanded zoning will allow to make it more feasible for affordable housing providers to develop affordable housing in the area. The plan also respond to the needs of lower income households by avoiding zone changes to mobile home parks and low cost apartment complexes, which are an important housing resource for lower income families in the area that should be retained. The plan takes a light touch to zone changes, focusing these changes on corridors and in mixed use centers so that more residents can live close to services and transit. These rezoning changes would not threaten one of Portland's last areas, where moderate income people can afford homes. And lastly, access to commercial services. The plan's expansions of commercial zoning, especially in the new brentwood brentwood darlington neighborhood center, which also include parts of southern lands around 82nd, will, over time allow for more residents to live close to commercial services. Currently the many lower income households around southeast 82nd, near the city's southern boundary have no neighborhood businesses. Districts within walking distance. Most of the zoning here is for light industrial areas. The plan's expansion of commercial zoning in this area will provide more opportunities for local commercial services within walking distance of these of these residents for establishing businesses, and for supporting the continuation of growth and growth of existing small businesses. In conclusion, the plan does an excellent job of expanding access to opportunity in an area of town of town where this has been lacking while taking a nuanced approach to changes to support community stability. Finally I'd like to thank staff for this joint effort by pbot and planning and sustainability folks, specifically marty stockton, brian paul, bill cunningham and shane valley. For all their hard work and for really uplifting the voices of our community that have informed this plan. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Speaker: Thank you so much, madam mcwilliams, colleagues or i'll double check. I believe that's the end of the formal presentation today, colleagues, we could ask questions now, however, I believe we also have some, public testimony on this. We want to, ask questions or hear public testimony. Public testimony I'm seeing from commissioner Ryan. So why don't we go to public testimony? Rebecca, could you please invite up our first, testifier?

Speaker: First, we have nick. Sophie. Nick's joining us online.

Speaker: Welcome, nick. Three minutes. No need to give us your address, but a name would be good.

Speaker: Yes. Thank you, commissioners, for the opportunity to testify, my name is nick sophie. I'm co-executive director of rose community development, a neighborhood affordable housing provider and community builder. That's work to revitalize outer southeast Portland neighborhoods. Since 1992, I'm a member of the lower southeast rising committee. I've lived in the project area for 25 years, rose has had three different offices in the target area for the last 30 years, and rose built and operates affordable housing in the area, I'm here to testify in favor of the lower southeast rising plan. The plan advisory committee was very diverse, with residents, business people, property owners, professionals within the committee, there was broad agreement in favor of the plan. You see today. And neighborhood surveys consistently favored the option with the most density, why is that, if you're concerned about climate change, high housing costs, homelessness, a balanced transportation network, a healthy neighborhood economy, and amenities like gathering places, parks, sidewalks, there's one thing that makes all these things better, and that's increase housing density, has historically, tracked, zoning capacity to meet projected growth, that approach is failing the city's housing production study found that Portland is short, 120,000 units, the city instead should track real

outcome. How much housing is actually being produced, every part of the city should be contributing to meeting Portland's housing production goals, including lower southeast Portland has one of the highest rates of homelessness in the us. Research in homelessness is a housing problem conclusively shows that homelessness is related and highest in cities with high housing costs and low vacancy rates. Approving the lower southeast rising plan as a concrete step that City Council can take today to address Portland's housing affordability and homelessness crisis, thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Nick, next, could we go to our next testifier, please? Stephanie

Speaker: Frederick. Welcome, stephanie.

Speaker: Good afternoon, presiding commissioner Mapps and commissioner Rubio. Commissioner gonzales and commissioner Ryan. Thank you. Thank you for the opportunity to speak here. My name is stephanie frederick. I'm the chair of the brentwood-darlington neighborhood association, and I'm here to ask you to adopt the lower southeast rising area plan, because it's always good to have a plan. And it's even better to have a great plan, which is what bts and pbot have given us. And as you've heard from the testimony so far, the recommendations lay out a course of wise investment and action for our portion of inner southeast Portland and what's important to many of us is that the recommendations also support the city's climate emergency work plan. What I wanted to focus on most since you've gotten a thorough overview of the plan, is the following that we cannot overstate our appreciation for the bureau of planning and sustainability and for pbot, their staff made this wonderful plan a reality. Despite one big setback after another staffing money, staffing money, more other things, they made it. They kept going. Very professional, very able. And they made this plan a reality for us. And we thank them deeply. I also want to thank marty stockton, emeritus planner. She has been our

champion for years. And now marty, marty, if you're listening, thank you. We have a plan, it's very exciting. And I'm going to stop now. I ask, please, that you adopt the plan, and that's all.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you so much, stephanie, can we call up our next, witness? Jake petoskey? Hi, jake. Three minutes.

Speaker: All right. Thank you very much. Thank you for inviting testimony on the southeast rising plan, my name is jake petoskey. I moved to Portland only three years ago, and two years ago, I moved into my home in brentwood. Darlington, you all have covered a lot of the technical reasons for passing this plan. So I apologize for the sentimentality of my testimony, but, while my roots aren't yet deep here, this is the first city and the first neighborhood where I have felt like putting down those roots. I have a neighbor who's been living in his house since I was born, his late wife's family actually lived in the house we now own, we have a monthly happy hour with our neighbors. Some neighbors share eggs, other neighbors share their chinese long squash, others share their gardening tips. All that to say, I love how connected this neighborhood is. How newcomers like myself are welcomed in by folks who have been here for decades. That foundation of neighborly connection is why I hope you'll pass the southeast rising area plan. Having seen how hard our neighborhood association works for us, how many neighbors are volunteers at groups like schools uniting neighborhoods, and how much we all love this neighborhood? I want to see that all of us have a say in the future. I've already been able to enjoy recent investments in our parks and the new sidewalks that are going in along flavel, so thank you for that. I just think that now's the opportunity to invest in our neighborhood so future generations have job job opportunities in local businesses. Safety from improved streets and accessibility. And so they can see that local leadership and neighborhood involvement can work together to achieve a

higher quality of life for all, as a quick anecdote, I was, stopping by one of the, son events yesterday. Schools uniting neighborhoods, stepped in for a cooking class and got to watch some of the middle school kids working on, cooking. They were very excited about it, very involved. And it struck me when I was thinking about the southeast rising plan, where if they wanted to continue this as a profession, where would they go in Portland? Portland is very well known for, for our food and our cuisine, but in the brentwood-darlington neighborhood, options are a little bit more limited. So I look forward to a future where, those future generations might be able to join a fantastic new restaurant that might be the result of the southeast rising plan. A silly example, but an example that's applicable nonetheless, that's all I have. Thank you all for the hard work on this plan. Between all the different agencies and groups. And thanks for your time and consideration.

Speaker: Thank you. Jake, next person, please.

Speaker: Anna weichsel.

Speaker: Hi, anna.

Speaker: Welcome you.

Speaker: So my name is anna weichsel, dear commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to share my support for the lower southeast rising area plan, as a resident of the planning area, chair of the woodstock neighborhood association, and member of the lower southeast rising project advisory committee, I brought my thoughts to the planning process of rather incomplete neighborhood. I also had the privilege to collaborating with the project leaders and design reviews with my architecture students at psu and three design studios titled sponge city. We were working on innovative design concepts for the planning area that could counteract the usual pattern of gentrification and better support environmental sustainability, which we also shared with the project advisory committee to highlight possibilities

for the area. Based on these various engagements with the team, I want to highlight the exceptional of the planning process as a holistic development with integrative efforts coordinating land use, transportation, public transportation, economic and environmental planning strategies. The plan's recommendation for urban node development along 52nd and 72nd, rather than the Portland typical commercial corridor zoning, was favored by a majority of our residents. In numerous discussions, the residents support focuses on a walkable neighborhood, sustainable transportation development, pedestrian safety, and strategic opportunity for small business developments. All components that will need ongoing support for community stabilization measures beyond the plan, as resident and architect, I strongly advocate for the planned strategy to initiate a neighborhood center at the intersection of flavel and 72nd. This area already combines grocery shops, shops, small businesses, and elementary school and a park. All core activities for a walkable neighborhood, which can function as an anchor for future developments. The increase in urban density around this area supports a mutual reliance between higher population density and local commercial growth. Furthermore, the plan substantiates its equitable urban development by broadening the range of housing types. The proposed zoning changes, allowing for mixture of multiplexes, apartment living, affordable housing, single family homes, and the integration of existing manufactured home parks delineate a slow growth strategy. Supportive of the existing residents. Lastly, I'm particularly impressed with the proposed plans balancing approach, creating a sustainable scale of urban density for complete neighborhood and open land for the cohabitation of humans and wildlife. The ongoing restorative efforts along johnson creek, dedicated to continuous riparian habitats for wildlife, and the designation of an additional seven acres of open land in the planning area, speak to

the environmental attentiveness and the proposed plan addressing livability on multiple urban levels. Thank you again for the opportunity to ask you to adopt this plan, and I'm really looking forward to see this happening.

Speaker: Thank you so much, anna, next person, please. Scott goodman, welcome, scott. Hello.

Speaker: My name is scott goodman. Good afternoon, council members. I'm a resident of the brentwood-darlington neighborhood and have been involved with this project process in several different capacities. I graduated in 2022 from Portland state university masters of urban and regional planning program. Let's go vikings, where I intern for the project and conducted door to door surveying in english and spanish at low income and manufactured home parks in the project areas, pounding pavement and talking with people, hearing what they love about the neighborhood and what needs improvement. There's a lot of both. After my internship, I was hired by the bureau of planning and sustainability as a community service aide. Two to continue working on the project, including organizing a pedal palooza bike ride around the project area. And as I graduated from psu and was hired at econorthwest, where I proudly work now, I was asked to join the project advisory committee. I have lived and breathed this project for years, and its relevance and gravitas gained new weight for me ten and a half months ago when I became a new father of my baby boy, arlo. Rene and I really started to think about this neighborhood, not just as a place for me to live, but as a place to raise my child. What will this area be like in ten, 20, 50 years? I want to say I am so incredibly in favor of this plan and appreciate all the hard work that city staff and community members put in. I appreciate it now, more than ever, knowing it's shaping a neighborhood to accommodate more of our neighborhoods and plan for some more of the density that is needed all over the city. One particular thing I want to

emphasize about this project is, yes, it's a poised to accomplish urban goals of upzoning, but it's also poised to preserve what is so unique about our neighborhood. Some of our gravel roads. Maybe you've seen some of those roadway unimproved signs scattered throughout. While we do need to make strategic investments to improve the roads that are meant for consistent car use, 52nd chief lovell, etc. Some of these other roads that are a little more bumpy and not so friendly for cars have actually created the infrastructure that is friendly to pedestrians. Just yesterday I met up with neighbors for a beer and a snack because one of them was having a hard time with their depression, they reached out to neighbors for some support. We played bocce ball on the street, on the gravel street that has become a gathering space for us. We've done work helping neighbors improve their unimproved rights of way, removing invasive blackberry or tree of heaven and planting pollinators and beneficial and this type of community human oriented activity has brought us together. We are going on five consecutive years of a block party on our unimproved road at 50th and duke. As a new parent, I dream of my son growing up in a vibrant, thriving neighborhood that offers opportunities for growth, learning and connection. The lower southeast rising area plans focus on urbanization and strategic development can help create a dynamic environment where children like my son can flourish, improved infrastructure, new businesses and community spaces will provide a wealth of experiences and resources that will enrich his life and the lives of all our neighbors. Children's.

Speaker: Thank you, thank you and congratulations on the new baby! That's exciting and does that wrap up testimony?

Speaker: We have two more people signed up.

Speaker: Okay, next is matthew williams.

Speaker: Welcome, matthew. Presiding officer Mapps. Commissioners yea. Rubio, gonzales and Ryan, thank you for this opportunity, for the record, my name is matthew williams, I am a resident of the area plan and the board chair for the mount scott arleta neighborhood association. I'm here today to express support for the lower southeast rising area plan, which addresses years and even decades of advocacy for brentwood, darlington and the surrounding area. So the area plan represents the strategic decisions to increase housing capacity through several zoning changes and land use designations, and it supports our hopes and dreams to create a walkable neighborhood where majority of our daily needs can be easily met. So we love our neighborhood and yearn for more housing and commercial options than currently exist today. We firmly believe that both current and future neighbors should have the opportunity to live, work, and play here if they wish to. That's not possible if we do not increase the housing capacity in the area. In fact, when the project team presented to our association, we asked them, can you go bigger? Can you increase the zillion further on corridors? Can you allow options elsewhere within the neighborhood for increased housing capacity? Why not allow greater housing density options adjacent to the corridors to and not just on them? If anything, we wish the plan would go further. You know, this is reflected in our advocacy for, expansion of the urban renewal area down 72nd avenue, increased opportunities for small businesses in the area and adding bike lanes on 72nd avenue. So our neighborhood, serves the growth that ensures everyone can find a place to call home. And increased connectivity options for all its people. So the neighborhood greenways we look forward to, so that families, children and everyone can travel safely to nearby schools, businesses and open spaces and natural areas. So as a parent, I'm eagerly anticipate safer routes for my daughter as she begins preschool this fall. Our advocacy our advocacy reflects, our commitment

to these safer, accessible neighborhoods for future generations. And the proposed changes are long overdue, so I encourage you to adopt the lower southeast area plan and prioritize securing funds to realize it and support expansion of the east Portland tifs to include 72nd avenue from foster down to the new neighborhood center. Chief lovell. So that local businesses can flourish and realize the plan's full potential, thank you for your time consideration today. Thank you.

Speaker: Next is blake.

Speaker: Hi, b, I think b's online.

Speaker: Hi there. Yeah. Can you hear me, you're a little bit soft. We'll see if we can dial you up in here.

Speaker: How's that? That's great. Okay I hear the overwhelming enthusiast, for this plan, and, i, i, I don't, I don't want to be the bearer of bad news, but I have some concerns, so as a resident of the affected area designated for rezoning in lower southeast rising, I'm asking the City Council to vote against the plan as it currently stands, specifically because of some of those areas that the last person spoke to where, the rezoning is expanded beyond just the corridors and into adjacent neighborhoods. There's not that many of them, but they will have a big impact on the people who currently live here, this new zoning from chief lovell to lambert and 72nd to 82nd only disallows single family housing, meaning any new construction must be multi-unit housing of the type. It's only economically feasible to build for wealthy development firms. Multi-unit housing is already allowed under existing zoning and exists in our neighborhood, also, the plan identifies the area as currently disproportionately racially and ethnically diverse and working class compared to Portland. As a whole, and identifies a higher proportion of home ownership by residents than in the city at large. But unfortunately, it goes on to propose development strategies which sound dangerously similar to those that

have resulted in runaway gentrification and displacement of working class and racially diverse homeowners when they were implemented elsewhere in the city, including along specifically, I'm thinking of north mississippi. The zoning looks very similar there, the plan acknowledges the risk of displacement for current residents, but the only solution I was able to identify when reading it over is job training, and the idea that replacing owner occupied affordable housing with rental units owned by absentee landlords and property management companies is somehow serving the cause of housing equity, where two blocks north of the county line, our neighborhood represents one of the last affordable neighborhoods at the margins of the city. I work as a school teacher in the Portland public school district. I hold a master's degree in teaching. I live with my partner, who also works in education in. Our immediate neighbors include machinists, mechanics, electricians, carpentry contractors, and cabinetry workers, and I'm curious what sort of job training the city proposes would protect our family and our neighbors from displacement. We purchased our house when where we did because ours was one of the last neighborhoods in Portland where we could afford to do so much of the housing stock in our neighborhood is old and has been owned by poor and working class people for its duration. That means that houses are often in need of significant, expensive fixes, and the new zoning would provide a strong lever in the interest of, forcing residents to finally give up on the dream of owning a home in Portland city limits, sell their properties to wealthy developers, and allow those historic houses to be demolished and replaced with expensive condos and apartment complexes. Based on the description of budgeting shortfalls described by trent for transportation improvements and the admission that there are no existing measures to guarantee affordable housing in the plan, as it stands, I'm left with the impression that the rezoning will go through the land grab will begin immediately,

and the infrastructure, which would actually benefit the community, will be largely delayed until it only benefits whoever will be able to afford to live here in a decade. The people who live in condos and overpriced apartments where our neighborhood used to be. So I would urge you to consider that and ensure that continued affordable housing in this neighborhood. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: Be, does that complete public testimony?

Speaker: It does. That completes testimony.

Speaker: Well, thank you so much, colleagues, now, I believe we begin the part of our conversation today where we take a where we have an opportunity to ask questions. Colleagues, do you have any questions for staff? Maybe I can kick kick us off. We just heard some, fairly cogent. Well, first let me say, this looks like truly a model plan. It's interdisciplinary. The community outreach that you did, was also a model for, I think every project we do in the public space, however, we also just wrapped up on some very cogent testimony from Blake, who seems to be concerned about displacement. How should we how should council weigh these concerns?

Speaker: Good afternoon, commissioners Patricia Diefenderfer again. For the record, I'll just start us off and then maybe Bill can also jump in. I mean, I think you heard extensively about the amount, the lengths to which we went in, looking at the, the area and the changes that were made. And we avoided all the naturally occurring, affordable, the locations where there are the manufactured, mobile home parks. These were all attempts to make sure that the plan itself doesn't add any pressure development pressures to the area, and the changes are in very strategic locations where there's already kind of mixed fabric or taking advantage of those, those more, those larger corridors where there is transit and where you have a mix of uses and, you know, the goal is to have additionally a greater mix of

uses in the future to provide those commercial services. So the balance on, on balance, I think the plan addresses those issues and really doesn't present our economic analysis related to the plan. Also demonstrate, as bill talked about, that it does not really increase the pressures, for development in the area and only creates more opportunity if and when development occurs to include kind of cluster, single family cluster, development types and add to the housing stock in such a way that it would be both town homes and small apartments. So you'd have the opportunity for both home ownership and rentals. And so i'll stop there and see if bill has anything else you'd like to add. Great commissioners, just add a little bit more, the area of rezones the person, the last, person was referring to is an area where the existing zoning is r 2.5, which is basically a townhouse type zone. And it's too that small scale one zone. Our economic economic analysis was showing that probably the most common kind of development that's going to happen in that part of town in either zone are townhouse type development. But the main difference is with the r one zone, you can do a small apartment development as well. And, which typically are significantly less expensive than townhouse type development, which in this area is less expensive than a new single family house, but still about 540,000 or so, so the rezone to arm one, the analysis is showing it's not going to spur a land rush for the property because the townhouses already allowed in that current zone are already attractive to builders. And the zone is too small scale to really support your large scale condominium type development. This is a 2 to 3 story, covering half the lot type situation. So, you know, I think we're very sensitive to the fact that there is a lot of moderate income ownership housing in the area and that, it's reflected in the plans approach about very strategic zone changes, keeping the vast amount of area and single dwelling zoning only changing the zoning in areas very close to the corridors and, commercial services, thank you

very much. I appreciate that that response. And I hope that beast stood on the line to hear that, I have one other thing. It's not really a question, a question. It's a statement, I wanted to hearken back to, pam's invited testimony. One of the things that pam called for were, performance metrics for the projects that get, built and funded through through this, pam, I couldn't agree with you more. And I can, in the pbot space, I will just say we will make that. So, colleagues, before we close out this item, any other questions? If not, or any other questions, commissioner Ryan? Okay. Everyone's good. Delighted that the, the quality of the testimony and the work, being done here and the presentation, is just of the utmost. I want to thank you for that. The plan is to vote on the ordinance to lower to adopt the lower southeast rising area plan at our may 2nd council meeting, before I we close out. Commissioner Rubio, do you have any closing remarks you want to share?

Speaker: I'll just briefly just thank you for the presentation.

Speaker: It was excellently done. And I also want to really appreciate the community for showing up for this plan, it's really evident that the quality of thoughtful conversation and work that you underwent for all these years and, also the concerns that were raised, it's very good to hear. And it gives us, important dimension to, to think about moving forward. So, you know, you are shaping this plan. This is in your community. So we're really looking forward to your continued engagement and feedback as we go forward. So thank you, everyone.

Speaker: Thank you so much. And if I were to were to add anything, i, I both appreciate the presentation. I appreciate the underlying work. I appreciate the work plan, this this work and this conversation today really gets at, you know, how you go about living in a community. Really exciting stuff. I am glad to see this. Come back to council on may 2nd at 2 p.m. For a final vote. The oral and written testimony is now closed. Thank lawrence.

Speaker: Trying to say something.

Speaker: Oh, I'm sorry I missed that.

Speaker: Was it. I i just needed to say that. But I have a sick kid. Sick at home, and I wanted to make sure.

Speaker: Oh, gosh. Thank you so much. Sorry to thank you. Got a good helper there. Oh, and, commissioner Gonzalez, did you have something?

Speaker: I just want to thank staff for the comprehensive report. I'd love to see the work across the bureaus as a team. The engagement from the community. I walk and cycle in your neighborhood. Often. We're neighborhoods. So just thanks so much for your engagement here at and, looking forward to what this brings for the next generation in the neighborhood. Great.

Speaker: Thank you so much. And colleagues, I yeah. Sorry, sorry. Go ahead. Thanks.

Speaker: I also want to thank the staff for the presentation. And I was really impressed with the community testimony. I just want to hear how you would address the last person who spoke, I thought they brought up some, concerns that are valid, i, I think that when you expand the commercial corridor, you know, gentrification does naturally occur. And so, there was just fascinating testimony leading up to how there's this neglect with what we've annexed. I think it was, one of the testimony that was so compelling was when it was by you, pam hodge, how we got really was sewers, when it came to annexation. And it's been years. But then we also are lifting the fact that it's one of the few areas in town where we have affordable housing. So when we expand so you can have a lovely restaurant and place to get coffee within walking distance, being a long time north Portland resident, we've seen what that does. So how do you answer those questions? I just

want to hear it from you. When you're out in the community and they ask you such questions.

Speaker: Yeah, patricia defender, for the record, I mean, I think it's, you know, those are those are real concerns, the balanced approach that the plan tries to take is, is an attempt to ameliorate those concerns, some of the community, stabilization strategies that are proposed that maybe can be looked at down the line are, other funding ways to bring other funding opportunities to the area or to bring, greater, you know, workforce development kinds of opportunities just throughout the city overall. I mean, I think to the extent that people have well-paying jobs, that allows them to be able to afford housing in the city and, you know, jobs that help keep that have a living wage, that help, that are able to, be matched with the cost of housing while we're also trying to, make sure that housing is more affordable by generating more housing units. So it's really all of those things that have to kind of work together to try to balance those effects, if you will, and also newer construction, for example, on these commercial corridors, with new construction comes the building of some of the infrastructure. Right. The streets get improved and widened, and so there are that new those new developments can help bring those the infrastructure and, resources to the community as well. Yeah.

Speaker: And as the errol heights park has allowed me to go there a couple of times in the last six months, and it's such a beautiful area to walk around in, and it's so geographically stunning. And so, I think sometimes when you're in those wilder, geographically stunning parts of the city that are outside, it's that blend of how do you bring in the amenities and yet keep the, organic, rich tapestry, if you will, of the plan. I thought the pbot, conversation with, trimet seems like it could be an early win, because it is, geographically challenging when it comes to mass

transportation right now. So is that is there good, is there momentum for that right now with with? Yes. So those changes are happening.

Speaker: They're folded into their regular sort of service update, they've been having some staffing issues getting folks actually behind the wheel of the busses. And so that can affect how soon those can roll out. But it's happening that looks like one of the earlier wins.

Speaker: It's possible. Yes. Okay. Good. That's what it sounded like. Just wanted to confirm that. Thanks I just might add one thing. And one thing we heard from affordable housing providers is that if we want to have, housing providers for affordable housing, being able to do more in this area, having multi-dwelling zoning is something that really helps what they're doing. And another thing we heard was that, there's some concern about putting all our allowances for multifamily on the busy corridors like 82nd, and that there should be a place for modest income people to live off of those corridors. So this kind of, provides some opportunity for that, like between 82nd and 72nd, but it does it in a way where we're looking at the zones that are least likely to destabilize the community. That's why. And those areas off the corridor, as we stuck to that smaller scale multidwelling zone, zone, which analysis shows is not going to be tipping things into the, community destabilization anymore. And the community has said that they see zoning as an important first step. You can't even start a business if you don't have the zoning to allow you to. And there's no opportunity for modest income, multi-unit housing if we don't have zoning to support it. But they really would like to see action down the road, such as, again, ideas for tax increment financing, district and 82nd area that could provide more tools for community based economic development or affordable housing. But yet I think zoning was not the be all and end all as people saw it. But a first step and the zoning allows people to continue their house. If

you're a mechanic and house, you can keep it there, and you can add an adu, you can mostly do what you're doing now, just that if you wanted to do more, you could.

Speaker: And the elementary schools at whitman, which, yes, whitman.

Speaker: And then favell park is right next to it. Yeah.

Speaker: And we've had some really, we're having declining enrollment, and I think that's one of the schools that's getting very small. So anything we can do to make this, neighborhood that attracts more families and sustains them is a big deal right now. So I would say that that's got to be one of our number one focus areas, because as Portland keeps losing families, that's not a good day. So thanks. That's all. And oh, last thing the tif conversation was that just preliminary that come out of it came out of a few people's mouths. That came out as an idea, but that is an entirely separate process with that exploration of east Portland, tif ideas. I thought so, but I just had to ask the question because I heard it several times and they're all smiling back there. Okay, more on that later. Yeah, thanks.

Speaker: Well, thank you very much, everybody. That was an excellent conversation, our next item is a time certain at 330. We're not quite at that hour yet. So why don't we take a four minute break and we will reconvene at 330. Great. Is that right?

Speaker: Yes. All right .

Speaker: Our next item, which I believe is 341, authorize intergovernmental agreements for the Portland clean energy fund.

Speaker: Climate investment plan, strategic program 16 climate friendly public schools not to exceed \$50,075,000 over five years.

Speaker: Well, thank you very much. From the size of the audience that we have this afternoon, I can tell this is an exciting item which comes out of commissioner Rubio's shop, commissioner Rubio, I will hand the floor over to you.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioner Mapps. Or council president Mapps.

Colleagues, in November of 2018, more than 65% of Portlanders voted in Portland in favor of the Portland clean energy community benefits initiative. The direction from our community was clear establish a funding source specifically dedicated to ensuring our consistent climate action efforts. Also support social, economic, and environmental benefits for all Portlanders, particularly those who have historically been left behind. Since then, pcef has implemented multiple rounds of community responsive grants, launched the cooling Portland program, and most recently began implementing the climate investment plan and this council unanimously adopted this in September of 2023. This ordinance before us today is just one of the many actions that this body will take as a part of implementing the climate investment plan, and I'm excited that our first action item from the plan focuses on our public schools. Our schools are critical places where our youth learn, grow, make lasting relationships, and become contributing members of our community. So it's critical to ensure that our schools are healthy places for our kids to learn. Free of mold. Exposure to extreme heat, wildfire smoke, and so many more issues created or exacerbated by the climate crisis. And with the schools controlling such significant assets across our community, our investment presents a wonderful opportunity to make impactful emissions reductions, meaningfully reduce utility costs, and serve those who will inherit this place after us. I look forward to hearing from all our school partners here with us today. So with that, I would like to introduce, director sam barrasso of the Portland clean energy fund. And team, wherever you like.

Speaker: Okay. It looks like. Okay, I can hear myself, I commissioner Mapps, commissioner Rubio. Commissioner Ryan, thank you for having us here this afternoon. So as the commissioner just stated, we're here today asking for you to ultimately approve, this is going to be the first reading, but to approve this ordinance to allow us to execute seven intergovernmental agreements to implement strategic program 16 from the climate friendly schools program, as a reminder, this strategic program as part was part of the climate investment plan, which was approved in September of 2023. Okay next, can we queue up the slides? All right. Next slide okay. Just an overview of what we'll walk through today. We'll walk through just a quick reminder of the climate investment plan. The development process the adoption the funding areas within the plan as well as how we will be implementing this. And this is important because we're here before you today, but you're going to see us here again next month and again the following month and again the following month after that, as we roll out and begin implementing each of the stages of the plan that was adopted last fall, then we'll pivot over and i'll turn it over to my colleague wendy kaufman, to talk about the climate friendly public schools program, the need and the opportunity. A description of the structure, the decision making, eligible funding areas, examples of projects so you all can picture what that looks like. And some of the outcomes and goals before we turn it over to our five invited speakers. Next slide. So I want to just start with some key takeaways. We hope you you walk away from this. One is that we pcef is diligently executing the council approved climate investment plan continuously adapting to stakeholder feedback. And you're going to hear some of that as we as we showcase these programs, pcef continues to be a trailblazer for innovation and climate justice, and we continue to measure and track the potential and outcomes of our investments. And in particular, the climate friendly public

schools program draws on the collaborative energy between the city and the public school system to provide opportunities for our youth and our communities. Okay, next slide. All right. So just a quick reminder of the climate investment plan. Next slide. So this plan was developed through a range of feedback over the course of nine months before we brought it to this council. Again. That involved a range of input and feedback from technical experts along the way. Community input, pcef committee briefings that allowed the public to chime in as we developed it through that time period, ultimately culminating in approval at City Council last September. Since its approval, we've begun implementing all facets of that plan, and as part of that, you're going to see several actions, as I noted coming before you in the coming months. Next slide. Now, this is just a quick reminder that the scale of investment need is substantial. This study and these numbers are produced from a study by that was commissioned by econorthwest, as well as cardio commissioned by the program. And it just shows of the relevant funding areas that pcef can invest in. The total need to get to our climate goals is 50 billion. And that's a that's a small that doesn't speak to the broader infrastructure that our utilities are responsible for, and so much more. When we narrow that down and focus on our priority populations, the need is in the realm of 18 billion. And then when you look at the climate investment plan, which is investing about 150 million per year, we've got about 750. And so just to get to our priority populations, we're talking about 120 years. Okay. Next slide. Now this overview again is a reminder from the plan. It shows of the funding areas within the climate investment plan. These are the relative allocation. So these are the eligible funding areas within this program. We're discussing with you all before today around climate friendly schools. It touches on three of these categories renewable energy and energy efficiency, transportation, decarbonization as well as green infrastructure. Those are the three

categories we expect our schools to be in making investments in as part of their program. Next slide. And so I'm going to just take a moment on this slide. The plan, set the framework for how we were going to invest the resources over five years. That is critical for our ability to do our work, work with stakeholders, design the programs, and making sure that we are aligned with our partners at the utilities, at the energy trust of Oregon, that we're aligned with our state partners at the department of energy as we design our program so that we're leveraging each other's, each other's resources effectively. Now, as part of implementing that plan, we're going to come before you all for a series of requests that are that are just the course of that implementation. Some of those are going to include requests to approve grants, and you'll see that coming before you all later this summer for our community responsive grants. Again, that's part of the plan. Some of these are going to be requests for proposals. So again, we're going to be going out to bring in and work with our procurement department to solicit administrators and other program delivery partners as part of several of our programs. The one coming next month is focused on strategic program number three. This is clean energy and single family homes. But then following that you're going to get a rfp request so that we can solicit that focused on capacity building and then following that afterwards you're going to get a request so that we can solicit, administrators for our e-bike program later this summer. And then another avenue in which we administer the program is going to be our intergovernmental agreements as well as our interagency agreements. Now, examples of interagency agreements are two of those that we've got actively working on and running as strategic program eight, focused on equitable tree canopy. That's an interagency agreement with our urban forestry division within parks and recreation, as well as strategic program. One, this is an interagency agreement focused on regulated multifamily affordable housing

with our housing bureau. And then we're actively working on those with our bureau of transportation as well, focused on some of the programing within the climate investment plan. And then our inner governmental agreements. And what we're before you, before what we are here before you all today is for just one of those, strategic programs, 16 focused on climate friendly public schools. Okay. Next slide. Now this is just a visual diagram of what I've just already walked you all through. But it gives you a little sense of the cadence that we expect to come before you all as part of, again, rolling out the climate investment plan and in making those and implementing that program. So this is just that. And, and I want to make sure you have that in that visual way before you all. All right. Next slide. And so with that I'm going to turn things over to my colleague wendy kaufman, who is our commercial and multifamily buildings lead to share with you all the details of the program and the work we've done in collaboration with our school districts.

Speaker: All right. Thank you, sam. Thank you. Commissioners. As sam said, my name is wendy kaufman. I am the lead on commercial and multifamily work for pcef, and I want to share a few more details about what we specifically are proposing, for the schools. Next slide, please. So we're going to allocate funding to each school district through an award for physical improvements and an annual allocation for student led initiatives. This table was included in the climate investment plan, approved by council in September 2023 for physical improvements. Each school district will propose the climate projects project or projects that will best serve their district's projects will be reviewed and approved by pcef staff to ensure funding is going toward eligible expenses that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve resiliency. Student allocations will be advanced one time per year to each district for use in each middle and high school. Within the city of Portland, school districts will submit project and workforce and

contractor reporting, metrics collected on projects will vary by project type and may include number of buildings, improved square feet, improved addition of cooling, kilowatt hours generated, kilowatts installed kilowatt hours of storage, each dollar saved on utility bills. Number of trees planted. You get the idea. Next slide please.

Need and opportunity. We have seven school districts. We have over 100 k through 12 public schools. We have 70,000 or more students. So what is the need? School buildings comprise millions of square feet of conditioned space in older, inefficient buildings with deferred maintenance. The opportunity with pcef funding is that we can layer pcef funding onto major improvements and maintenance funding to create higher efficiency, lower carbon schools and resilient buildings. The need school busses in Portland are contracted or owned by the district and run primarily on diesel or propane, with only a handful of electric vehicles. The opportunity we can electrify school busses to reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality and reduce operating and maintenance costs. The need schoolyards are spaces used by both youth during the school day and the surrounding community throughout the year, and the opportunity there is that we can add green infrastructure to increase urban canopy shade and water management. Next slide. Some project examples.

Many schools have outdated and inefficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. We can add funding to the funding that is already going into these systems to make them highly energy efficient and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions even further. Next slide. 2020 school improvement bond included 75 million to replace or repair highest priority mechanical systems. That's just about enough to address needs in 15 schools. Next slide high efficiency hvac reduces greenhouse gases and building operating costs and improves comfort and resiliency, including often adding cooling and opportunities for improved air filtration. Children, particularly younger children, are more vulnerable to poor

indoor air quality, which is exacerbated by wildfire smoke and can be mitigated with improved ventilation. Combined with filtration. They are also impacted by exposure to diesel emissions, which can be mitigated by electrifying school busses. Next slide other energy projects. These could include lighting retrofits, building envelope measures, solar installation and converting to high efficiency electric kitchen appliances. Next slide non-energy projects. These could include electrification of school busses and greening of schoolyards. Next slide outcomes schools serving pcef priority populations reduce greenhouse gas emissions and are more climate resilient. Middle and high school students are engaged in leading climate action. The goals we are looking for 16,000 to 24,000 metric tons of lifetime co2 emissions reduced and student led climate initiatives are active in all middle and high schools in Portland. And with that, I will hand it back to sam.

Speaker: Okay, so, with that, we wanted to take a moment to pause for our questions and discussion before we turn over and invite, our invited speakers in two different groups. Sam.

Speaker: Where? Tell me a little bit about your. I have some questions, but I think they might be for the school districts.

Speaker: Then maybe we might just jump there, our panel is going to be we're going to we're going to bring in our superintendents and we'll start first with, our superintendent, frank carpello, from the reynolds school district, as well as danny cage, board member for the Multnomah education service district. And that's our first panel. And our second group will be the good folks from Portland public schools. I'll hold off on sharing names there as well as, parkrose school district, so they may be able to answer your question. So if we want to go there, start with them. We're happy to do that and follow up with questions afterwards. Yeah yeah.

Speaker: Why don't we do that. Let's bring up our invited, guests.

Speaker: So we'll start with just, if we just because we've organized them here, our first two folks, frank and danny.

Speaker: Welcome, frank. Welcome, danny. Hi. Go ahead, good afternoon, commissioners. I'm danny cage, a school board member for the Multnomah education service district, the Multnomah education service district supports districts across Multnomah County through various services. As part of our service array, we provide a handful of brick and mortar schools, and we specialize, programing or in classrooms. We support some of our region's most historically underserved students, three of these schools are located within the Portland school boundary at knock creek. Elementary age students with significant behavioral needs, and lower, cognitive abilities, currently, enrollment of this school is 60. Students of color and 93% special education, wheatley school, for example. Also, we provide, functional living skill programs with students with disabilities, up to age 21, 770, 67% of students of color and 100% qualify for special education. Helen's view, which is one of our, more robust services, is an alternative school serving students aged 11 through 21, whose needs have not been met by traditional k-12 system, 77% of students at helen view are bipoc and 39 qualify for special education services. Steve's three piece of eligible buildings are leased from park road school district. Were built from 1951. And through 1958. So they're a little old, a preliminary building systems audit from 2021 shows that much of our equipment is beyond its current life expectancy, and that includes things like hvac systems, lighting replacements and upgrades and retrofits are all needed. Esds are education service districts don't have bonding authority, and the same way typical school districts do, so we're historically very limited to the funding that we're able to generate, and these, this leads to our facilities having a triaging of needs continuously, helen's view, for example, some staff weigh in on whether the heating

system or the leaking roofs should take priority. It does not go unnoticed by our students. We have seen they who have seen system after system failed them, and it currently shows up in their buildings as well. We are very excited for the ability to offer them opportunities to decide how a portion of pcef dollars will be able to be spent in their schools. These piece of dollars allow allow us to make much needed investments and to prioritize, carbon reduction projects in ways that we have not seen and would not be able to do otherwise. Msd will be conducting a more comprehensive, energy specific audit, to assist in priority and priority priorities using pcef funds through physical, infrastructure funding. While we don't have specific data yet, it is clear that there are abundant of opportunity projects that will greatly, greatly increase, increase energy efficiency, reduce, energy costs, and will create a better learning environment for our students. We thank the city for the allocation made through the piece of project and climate plan, and we are greatly, appreciated and continuing our partnership for this work.

Speaker: Thank you. Danny.

Speaker: Good afternoon. I'm frank carpello, superintendent for the reynolds school district, reynolds serves just about 9500 students, and east Portland through the troutdale area, while only three of our 19 schools are eligible for this funding, it will have a far reaching impact, those three schools are alder glenn fair. Margaret scott, I know the commissioners are familiar with those, alder. Right now, the pbot team is working at southeast 174th and stark on our sidewalk. Project and it's going real well. So thank you for that. Of course, all three of these buildings are over 50 years old, and have a long list. Long list of deferred maintenance, many of those needs will be addressed through these funds, and will improve climate resilience, energy efficiency and year round comfort and usability as schools, two summers ago, we had to cancel summer programs because of temperature and smoke, so

not only do we sometimes now have to close schools because of snow, in the summer, we also have to watch the weather and smoke, to see if we can run our summer programs. Since many of our older schools are not air conditioned, some of the projects that we are looking at to do with, these particular funds lighting retrofits from fluorescents to leds, building envelope measure improvements to reduce air conditioned loss, replacing hvac systems to include air conditioning and enable higher efficiency and improved air filtration. New roofing with increased r-values and solar reflectivity. Replacement of generation systems to units with higher or lower higher efficiency and lower emissions, additionally, we are really excited about receiving the funds for the student led environmental justice initiatives. We're planning to use those funds, with our students at h.b. Lee middle school, in partnership with h.b. Lee's extensive roster of community partner organizations to identify projects that that center on our communities. So I appreciate the city's commitment to environment and our schools. And, reynolds school district stands ready to move forward in this partnership and encourage approval of the iga. Thank you. Thank you, yeah, sure. Commissioner Ryan, you do have a current bond, no, we do not. In reynolds last bond was 2015.

Speaker: That's. Oh, it's been that long. Okay. Thank you. That's helpful to have that context. And then it was helpful for you, danny, to let us know that, that there's no opportunity for me to have a bond. Thanks.

Speaker: Yeah. Before you go, danny, I want to thank you so much for testifying today. You did great, and, frank, let me, let me ask you, what's the process? Look like to figuring out exactly how you go about allocating these dollars? Do you know yet? Sure. Yeah.

Speaker: So we just completed a long term facilities plan, evaluation of our school so that will guide our work. That was done in 2022, these three schools, particularly,

we will look for projects that will increase the usability of the buildings for our students and staff. There's so much deferred maintenance that's needed in these schools that we, under our normal school district budgets, are not able to get to. That will greatly improve, functionality as well as, comfort levels.

Speaker: Right.

Speaker: And, danny, I might ask you the same question. I don't know if you're in the weeds enough to know, is there a sense of how, our esd is going to go about, picking specific projects, from where I understand from what staff have said is that we're going to be prioritizing our energy efficient audit before we make any investments in anything, just so we know what, needs to be prioritized the most, as well as we are also in the process of currently hiring a, a person who does more of our facilities and maintenance, and they won't be hired until, the beginning of the summer time. I can't remember which month, but they will be also leading this work for the agency.

Speaker: All right. Great to hear. Thank you so much.

Speaker: Thank you, superintendent, how your enrollment is 9500.

Speaker: Just about 9500. It's gone down? Yes. It has. It's like 11,000. Yes. It's been decreasing, as is most of our, I believe our districts in the metro area.

Speaker: So tough on the budget. And what's the what's the enrollment with the schools at msd?

Speaker: I don't have the current number on that. Thanks thank you.

Speaker: Thank you so much, let's bring up our next panel.

Speaker: Okay. Commissioner, our next speakers are vice chair herman green from the Portland public schools. Board chief operating officer dan young from the Portland public schools, and then superintendent michael lopez from the parkrose school district.

Speaker: Great. Welcome. I'll turn the floor over to you. Whoever wants to start first can go. Is that me?

Speaker: I think so, all right.

Speaker: This is, fantastic. It's. It's awesome to be on this side of the table, I was just telling dan that I want one of your guys's fancy clocks that count down and gives a gentle ding. That would be fantastic, but in any case, set you up.

Speaker: Let us know when your birthday is.

Speaker: Let's let's make it happen, so, so, I digress. I first want to just say thank you to danny, danny cage, he's one of our, our alumni's. And we're extremely proud that, he's now one of the directors on the msd, so that's super exciting, about that. Now, with that being said, my name is herman green. I am a the vice chair of Portland public schools, school board. I'm a community member, and advocate within north northeast Portland. And I just love I love my city, I'm grateful I'm extremely excited about this much needed investment that we're going to be able to get and use within rps towards our infrastructure. Our, I can't say thank you enough, I'm not going to say that, every building needs the same amount of attention, but a lot of our, our buildings need a lot of attention, some more than others, and this investment, this \$16.9 million, is actually going to be extremely critical in helping us get to we have a goal of being net zero by 2040, and we're striving to get there. We believe that it's possible we're going to do everything that we possibly can to help us get there. And \$16.9 million is going to help us to get some of those things done. Now, I'm not going to, you know, try to persuade you to not give me more. So if you decided, you know, later today, you know what? 16.9 was not enough for Portland public schools. We want to go ahead and give them \$25.9 million. I just came up with that number. Just random. But you know what? I wouldn't be mad at you. And so, you know, if that if the lord leads you, if that's on

your heart, then you feel free to go ahead and make that added adjustment, but we're extremely excited for what we're getting. We're also excited about being able to take 3 million of that and be able to make it work for our kids so that both the middle school kids and the high school kids will actually be able to do projects that are intentionally, moving towards climate reduction, because I believe we all know the kids are the future and they if we by allowing them to create projects, different things that they believe are going to help get us where we need to be, I believe it's a snapshot into what could be, because they're they're it and they understand I and I and I don't, and so they're going to figure out how to use it to make the world a better place, I pray. But so again, I just want to say thank you, thank you, thank you. From Portland public schools, from north Portland, from northeast Portland, from southeast Portland, from all of our kids. We appreciate this. We need it. And the only thing that we ask is if the lord puts it on your heart to give us more. Don't turn it away. Hear him.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: It's a hard act to follow. It is.

Speaker: I was hoping to go first, good afternoon, commissioners. My name is dan young. I'm chief operating officer for Portland public schools, and I'm going to say that probably my comments are going to sound very familiar to the previous presenters, but first, I'd like to begin by thanking the voters who approved this measure as well as the councilors, council members and staff for creating the climate investment plan and the strategic allocation for school districts in Portland, as you know, our region is experiencing more and more extreme weather events which have impacted our schools, such as extreme heat, wildfire smoke and recently ice storms. Pcef. Investments will help mitigate these impacts. And we are very excited to partner with you and anxious to get started. Schools are, on

average, about 80 years old, and many have not received significant upgrades since they opened decades ago, consequently, weather impacts and temperature issues are some of our most common and pressing physical facility issues, but I'm happy to note that almost half of our schools qualify for pcef funds, and by investing in facilities and infrastructure, pcef will cause material reductions in our greenhouse gas emissions and significantly improve the conditions in our schools, our plan is to prioritize projects that have high return on investment, on emissions, emission reductions, while also supporting thermal comfort. Kind of a third to answer, I think a question that might be coming is one of the third criteria we're looking at is we just bts also has significant deferred maintenance. So projects that reduce emissions, increase thermal comfort and address deferred maintenance or, you know, kind of what we're looking for that check a lot of our our needs and our boxes. Some sample projects are going to that we're currently scoping will sound familiar. Hvac system upgrades or full replacements, building envelope upgrades such as window system replacements, led light, retrofits, water heater electrification, an electric vehicles, and more. A portion of the funding will also go towards greening our schoolyards, particularly in high heat zones with high percentage of asphalt, by repaving and planting trees and other green infrastructure, we will both decrease temperatures and improve the learning environment for our children, we look forward to this partnership between the city and rps, and we are thrilled to have this funding opportunity.

Speaker: Thank you, mr. Young.

Speaker: Good afternoon. I sure, mike, on let's see.

Speaker: I don't know somebody in the back room.

Speaker: They'll automatically turn it on if he just keeps talking. That's what I always say.

Speaker: Testing. Can you hear me now?

Speaker: Yeah. You sound great.

Speaker: Good afternoon. Commissioners my name is michael lopes.

Speaker: I'm proud to serve as a superintendent of the parkrose school district, I don't want to repeat too many of the things that my colleagues have shared, because we share similarities in that deferred maintenance is a significant issue in our public schools across the city. I do want to encourage you to consider the lasting impacts of clean energy funds in our community, and want to urge you to consider investing in the part of our city that desperately needs an infrastructure that better provides for those who are most vulnerable in our community, and that's our youth, our small but mighty district represents many who have been historically underserved regarding the needed resources to thrive in our community. Our community is more than 70% bipoc and continues to see the disparate and lasting impacts of climate change. I do want to remind us specifically because I represent an underrepresented community, that climate change is widely considered our greatest global threat, and as we know it, the impacts are not created equally. Communities of color, indigenous peoples and low income families and children are more vulnerable to the changing climate conditions and have the least resources to protect themselves against and recover from the extreme weather events and climate conditions. The clean energy investment in our community will have a direct effect of mitigating already staggering, staggering climate issues in parkrose, many of us have seen the recently published health study of Portland, and it clearly illustrates, if you look directly at parkrose, we are bright orange and red, the impacts in east Portland and east Multnomah County, are significant compared to other parts of the city. This alone increases our likelihood of heat related illness and exacerbates the disproportionate health

conditions of many of our students with asthma, our elementary schools currently do not have modern heating, cooling, and ventilation systems to support a healthy learning environment. I want to promote the idea that our focus in parkrose is creating a learning environment that is at its best, healthy and sustainable. Modern hvac for. Our youngest students is a basic need. Our school system lacks the funding to upgrade electrical panels, integrate energy efficient systems to create a high quality learning environment. I also believe that when our students see the community investing in their lives, they're more compelled to take action and generate new, innovative ideas that can create a more sustainable neighborhood. Our students have a lot of power in this, and I'm really, really appreciative to see that the student led grants. I think we will see a lot of innovation from that. And in addition, clean energy funds are an opportunity to empower our youth to help us reimagine how we invest in their community and help mitigate the mitigate the rapid climate change we are witnessing. Please consider this witness, please consider this investment for our schools. We I think we will see a difference in our community. Thank you. Thank you so much, and is that the end of invited testimony? Can I it is well be. I want to thank, everyone from the schools for testifying before us today. I know we have some folks in the audience who want to address us, too. But before I let you go, I do want to ask if, you've thought through how how the kid grant portion of this program is going to work. Have you. Where are you? In your thinking on that?

Speaker: I can speak to in parkrose. We've met with teachers and students and talked about how the money could be distributed between, you know, student groups at the middle school and high school. I do also want to encourage the idea of bringing our youngest youth, our elementary students, to work with middle school and high school students. You know, we are a district of 2800 kids. So a little

smaller, we're we're able to bring our students together and looking at not only what's going on in our schools, but our communities impacted. So are there ideas that not only can impact the school system, but also impact our community? So I'm really interested in in making that happen. So we're really talking about do we create, many grant opportunities because we're also wondering how do we empower the adults in our community, not only our families, but also our staff, to bring students together and determine, like, what are good ideas? How can we leverage support from our city to bring those ideas to us to think about the challenges that we face? But I do think we're going to need help thinking of creative ideas for how do you spend \$10,000 efficiently and effectively to affect climate change? But just as important, impact the neighborhood and so that the change is visible to our youth? Because I think that's going to that's going to give us traction in moving forward with spending money in the future.

Speaker: Great. Within pbs, we have over 48,000 students, 81 schools, we already have we have within our schools currently within our high schools and our middle schools. We currently have, classes where they're working on climate change. They're coming up with ideas, they're doing different things, and they're working actively. Now, this allows us to provide them with, different projects that they can be working on, different things that they can look at when we take away the idea of, you can't afford to do that to this is a budget. This is what this is what the parameters were, which you're going to be working in. And now I want to see what you can do with it. It is amazing what happens inside of a mind of a young person who's given the opportunity and said, go. And so we work with our kids. We allow the kids to drive the conversation. The 2040, the pushback, from a lot came from young people saying, why can't we do 2040 and why can't we do this and why can't? So a lot of that pushback from our goals that we have set now, the reason that it is,

is because we were listening to the young people, the investment \$3 million and whatever it is that they're going to be getting, it's actually just not enough. It's not enough. There's so much work that needs to be done and there's so much to do that this, realistically, is a drop in the bucket. This is a drop in the bucket getting us in the direction that we need to go in. And it's still worth it. You know what I mean? It's like we don't have we can't just continue to say we care about it and then walk away from the table and do nothing. At some point, we have to stop talking and actually start doing and by making this investment so that we can give it to the put it in the hands of the young people and say, now dream again. What is that? Say, you know, in a space where they've been so focused, I have to do this, I have to do that. I have to do this. We set them loose. Same is here. And we're saying now, dream, dream about what it could look like. Dream about what it could be like. Dream about how you can change it. And I believe that once we once we set those kids free, what we're going to see is going to pay for itself all over again. So yeah, it's that's we've thought about it and the only thing that we ask is that you give us more.

Speaker: Oh, well, you're always welcome in this building.

Speaker: So I'm sure this is the beginning of a long conversation. And not the end. Well, thank you very much, commissioner Ryan. Yeah.

Speaker: Just to be fair, I just wanted to hear the same level settings. So currently, we know rps is in a bond, right?

Speaker: That is correct.

Speaker: Towards the end of a bond and your enrollments run 48,000 now.

Speaker: Yes. And it's it is currently like our enrollment numbers are going down, as are the rest of, schools all around the country, the enrollment numbers are going down. And you're right, the level of funding that we get is based on

enrollment. And so as a as enrollment goes down, so does the level of funding that we get. And when you're in a system that's already underfunded, we have been, as a school district been underfunded since, what was it. Levy five was passed and we stopped. So we've been underfunded and have been losing less and less funding every year. And yet our buildings, they're not you know, they don't care whether or not you got the funding or not. They're getting older. And not that they're that old, but they're getting older. And without the funds to actually, push put into those buildings to put into the windows, to put into the ac, to put into the heat, to put into the water filtration systems, to put into these different things, to get us where we need to be. Because we are trying to make sure that we use every dollar that we get to go towards the kids, and yet we need to keep these buildings alive. So doing things like this help us. We need this. We just need a lot more of it. And I mean, again, just come together and let's figure out how we can get all of our schools funded at the level the sherm model, the quality education model that gets us closer to the level of funding that we need so that we don't have to continue to cut programs from here and cut programs from there. And we can actually focus on, you know, we got the money for education, and we've got money for, for building repair. And, you know, to help us get there. The we just got to figure it out. We got to stop saying that we care about kids and then not put money in kids, you know what I mean? It's like I care about education, but I ain't go get, you know, money. Come on. Stop.

Speaker: Michael. You're sorry. Superintendent, what's your enrollment is currently, about 2800. And do you have a you have a current bond?

Speaker: No, 2011 was our last bond and primarily built our our middle school across from the high school. Okay, okay.

Speaker: And parkrose is entirely in the city of Portland. Reynolds is about one third in Portland. Okay, great. Thanks

Speaker: And actually, sam, I'm glad. I'm glad you're here, I do want to get to public testimony, one thing which I'm not clear on, but but I've heard several times today. Why are some schools eligible buildings? Why are some school buildings eligible for funds and some not? I can understand if you're not in Portland, that makes sense, but I get the impression maybe half of the Portland buildings are or not is. Well, I can speculate, but I don't actually know the answer.

Speaker: I'll speak to that, so one you've you've called it the first is just with some of the districts. First is that within the city of Portland boundaries is the focus. So I know that that impacts I know at least reynolds and I think at least 1 or 2 others, the second, the second is that we when we started within the climate investment plan, we brought the school districts together and what we leveraged is the state's formula. The state department of energy's formula that they used as part of developing the student success act. So we modified it a little bit to fit this context. Since we're not talking about individuals but oftentimes buildings. And so the allocation was allocated to each of the school districts based on the number of buildings that they had, where they had a student population where over 50% of the student population were on free and reduced lunch. So that's the general equation that formulated the basis for, that, that, that distribution of allocation across the school districts.

Speaker: Got it. That makes sense. Thank you very much, colleagues, any other questions for our panel before we go to, public testimony?

Speaker: That's great to see everyone.

Speaker: Yeah, thanks for being. Thank you so much for coming in today. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you everybody.

Speaker: With that could we I believe, colleagues, we have about eight folks signed up, to testify, may we call up our first, witness, jorge sanchez bautista? Welcome.

Jorge. Is jorge in person or online?

Speaker: In person?

Speaker: We have jorge in the house. Okay. Why don't we go to the next person? If jorge shows up, we'll come back.

Speaker: Candace avalos. All right.

Speaker: Hello? Do I just go? Okay

Speaker: Yeah, absolutely, three minutes, I think.

Speaker: Okay. Sounds good, good afternoon, commissioners, I'm candace avalos, executive director of verde. We are a community based organization dedicated to building environmental wealth through organizing, advocacy, and social enterprise that firmly supports continued investments in climate action and resilience for our community, like the one made today to Portland public schools. This investment will not only lower the carbon emissions from school facilities, it will make our schools safer, healthier and more effective for teachers, students and staff who have been dealing with the consequences of this maintenance backlog for years. Instead of struggling and freezing or overheated classrooms, they'll be able to focus on what they're there to do. Learning on top of that, we're excited to see that these building upgrades may create opportunities to provide much needed shelter, power, and services to our community members in severe weather events. Today, we're seeing an example of value as a testament to community ingenuity and as an essential tool for responding to climate challenges as they emerge in the wake of the 2021 heat wave, steph was able to stand up a program to deliver life saving cooling equipment to vulnerable households before the following summer heated

up. Pcef worked with my ipad. That's not working. Piece of work too quickly with several community partners, including verde, to distribute cooling units to over 7000 vulnerable Portland residents to date, this program has been vital to helping Portlanders stay safe in their homes through increasingly hot summers, while reducing emissions and their energy bills. Now we'll be able to say the same and more about our schools pcef investments are solving complex problems and producing undeniable results for climate and public health and the dignity of Portland's people. But we're not out of complex problems yet, and that means that pcef has more work to do. There are great present and future needs for pcef revenues and emissions reducing projects that deliver economic, social and environmental benefits to our communities. Our city has experienced countless climate problems, including harsher winter storms and hotter heat waves. And they'll keep coming. We must ensure that the city is not only able to mitigate the worst of the damage, but to invest in solutions that help our communities to thrive in the long term. For the sake of our future. The fund must remain dedicated to Portland's climate resilience and vital projects. Just like this one, we support pcef and we need to keep it intact now and into the future. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you.

Speaker: Can we call up our next, testifier, please? Sure

Speaker: Bok. Welcome.

Speaker: Cherise. Oh, I see. Welcome. Three minutes please.

Speaker: Thank you. Hello and good afternoon, commissioners. My name is teresa bok, and I'm here representing 350 pdx as the climate policy manager. It's good to be with you two days in a row. To be able to support good things that the city is doing for climate and for the community. So thank you. Thank you for orchestrating this historic intergovernmental agreement between the cities. Pcef fund and public

schools. The climate friendly public school project. It's exciting to see the city collaborating with schools and pcef so that millions of dollars can go toward much needed climate resiliency projects in our district. Buildings, transportation systems and schoolyards. As many of our members have kids or grandkids in pbs or the other public schools in the area, or went through these school districts themselves. We know the staff and administrators do their very best, often with very slim budgets, and we honor their hard work and commitment. We also know that many schools in Portland are in need of repairs just to make them safe and healthy on a day to day basis, as well as needing upgrades to deal with extreme weather events that are happening more often due to climate change, our city's children and teachers should not be subject to mold, wildfire smoke, or hot and cold temperatures that make it difficult to focus and learn. Our organization has been a staunch supporter of pcef since its inception, knocking on thousands of doors to get this on the ballot and pass the ballot measure with a wide margin. So this collaboration with public schools is an excellent use of pcef that we support. And it's exactly the kind of project for which pcef was created because of the strength of pcef and the climate investment plan that you approved last year, our community is now going to be able to support our children and teachers through healthy and sustainable buildings, energy efficiency projects and schools that can withstand some of the harms of climate change. This will help our city's funds go farther so we can afford high quality education. It's important to me that the funds being allocated are spent in a way that help schools and populations with the most immediate needs first, so I'm glad to see that's happening. And particularly those areas of the school district that have been historically underfunded. The most pcef exists to respond to complex climate problems like this one, and we must ensure that it continue to do so. All of sf's funds and more are needed to be able to tackle

the \$49 billion worth of investments the city estimates it would cost to address known climate resilience projects. So creative programs like this coming out of the city and the upcoming community and government partnership grants will benefit all Portlanders. And we applaud the City Council for working together with the pcef committee and public schools to make sure this important influx of funding can help keep our community healthy, strong, equitable, and sustainable. Thank you. Thank you, can we call up our next testifier, Noel Studer?

Speaker: Spivak.

Speaker: Welcome, Noel.

Speaker: Thank you, commissioners, for this opportunity to speak, my name is Noel Studer. Spivak from the Cully neighborhood. And I'm a volunteer organizer with Families for Climate. As a parent, I've witnessed firsthand the disparities and challenges of swimming upstream to retrofit school buildings and grounds. My first child, our neighborhood school, the kindergarten wing, is surrounded by a sea of blacktop. And my first child was on the east side of the building. And so when it's hot out, they don't there's not too much heat on that side. But my second child was in the west side, and so teachers are tacking up Mylar. Kids are getting out early. Like it's really pretty much impossible to maintain, like a decent learning environment in there. While school communities with well-resourced families and stable leadership are able to pull off climate retrofits like adding trees and reducing blacktop, Title One schools with principal churn faster than a drive-through usually can't shade their some of you know what I'm talking about, usually can't shade their play areas and update their classrooms without significant outside support. This investment is exciting because it will make it possible for district staff and community partners to help lead critical cooling retrofits so that kids at every single school can learn and comfort inside and out. And our dedicated education,

education professionals can do what they do best. Schools are second homes, the magical places where our youngest citizens grow their wings and learn to fly. Kids don't care about funding streams or that schools are administered separately from the city, but they do want and deserve shade, engaging play, space and a reasonable temperature range that supports learning so they can get a great start on a bright future. To me, this partnership illustrates the power of pcef to reach across lines and reverse historic inequities rooted in redlining and underinvestment. The 16 million over five years may not be enough to retrofit a whole district, but it's a tremendous start, and these schools will serve as resilience hubs for the whole community in times of emergency. See families for climate applauds pcf's bold climate justice agenda and challenges leaders to commit to continuing the climate friendly public schools program, at least until today's kindergartners reach graduate from college. Images are available with my written testimony. Thank you for your time.

Speaker: Thank you so much, noel, next testifier, please.

Speaker: Micah maskell.

Speaker: Welcome. Micah. Three minutes.

Speaker: Council members.

Speaker: My name is micah mescal, and I'm with the bird alliance of Oregon, formerly known as Portland audubon, where I lead our urban conservation work, and I'm here representing the organization and our 10,000 local members, many of which were part of the 60,000 Portlanders who, signed the petition to get this ballot measure on the ballot, in 2018, and part of the 65% of supporters of are of Portland who who passed this, so I am here today because I'm super excited about, the rolling out of this, this first iga from the cip strategic initiatives, the climate friendly public schools, is just such a no brainer. I think for me, around how we can

leverage, the significant funds, that, that pcef is receiving towards climate justice projects that have impact on the communities that need it most. Our youth, and this, this project, or this program and concept, it was lifted up by community, embedded into the cip and then supported unanimously by you all, which is which is great. So congrats, so the climate resiliency projects, that this, this program will lead in the school district, around district buildings, transportation systems and schoolyards really provides a significant, climate justice impact to students across the district, we commend council for supporting, this, this climate justice initiative like this and others that, really form partnerships to ensure that the benefits of our work reach the city's most vulnerable community members and in this case, students. I'm especially excited for this program, as I've been part participant in the committee, along with other community partners, pbs staff and students, which have been focused on, coming up with concepts and ideas for how these funds will be used by students and led by students throughout the district. So it's really exciting to be here today. This is the first of many of the ideas. Is pcef staff have noted, rolled out over the next couple of months. It's a really great way to demonstrate the breadth and diversity of the pcef strategic initiatives from the existing cip, it's an exciting portfolio that will be bolstered by future concepts being developed currently as part of the collaborating for climate action rfp that just went out and i'll end, that by touching on how important it is to keep pcf's mission and funding completely intact so it can continue to be deployed, towards these strategic and hugely impactful climate justice projects.

Speaker: Great. Thank you. Micah. Great testimony. Next person please.

Speaker: Lynn doan, welcome.

Speaker: Lynn is online.

Speaker: Oh, welcome.

Speaker: Hi, Lynn. Let's see you online. There you are.

Speaker: Hello. Hello, hi. My name is Lynn Doan, and I'm here representing a. Hello, commissioners. And I want to testify for the climate friendly public schools project, so I am a, a staff at Apono. Community based organization. I'm also a resident of the city of Portland. I'm here to support the efforts of Portland Clean Energy Fund. It is one of the most innovative, crucial, program funding source to solve our environmental, and climate justice. And I asked you to honor the original purpose of ESF to make sustainable and sustained investments in projects that's both reducing greenhouse gas emissions and economic, social and environmental benefits to our community, as a mother and a parent of students for in Portland public schools, I urge you to support this program and to, put into action our commitment to our children and our youth, I ask this council to fulfill the world voters and call on city leaders to preserve its mission and support our, the progressive and innovative initiatives that PCF has spearheaded thus far, thank you so very much for your time.

Speaker: Thank you, next testifier, also online is Linda Martin McCormick.

Speaker: Hello. Thank you.

Speaker: As I said, as I said, my name is Linda Martin McCormick. I'm a grandmother of two children at Marysville Elementary School, soon to be three children at Marysville Elementary, Marysville Elementary is a small, like, 385 student K pre-K, five elementary school at, but about 78th and Foster behind Foster. And we are a Title One school with kids from lots of different backgrounds, lots of different cultures, learning styles, status of home. Just we're a mix and we are also going to be a pilot site for testing the kinds of heating and cooling systems that the that the school system might implement. So we're very happy to be a test site, we heard that you all were, advancing the, the agreement to carry out the PCEF project. So we

really just wanted to send somebody down to say thank you so much. We are just, we're very honored to be a test site. We'd love you to come down and see us sometime, and happy that you're doing it. And just very proud of our City Council. So before I go, I just want to see if I want to share this picture with you. I hope you can see it. It's a melted, water bottle. This bottle melted during the summer school program summer of 2022 at another elementary school. The parents shared it with me. The room was so hot that the water bottles melted. And I want you to remember this image. I'd be happy to send it to you. Framed so you can put it on your wall and remember what you're working on and how urgent it is. Because the kid whose water bottle was this belonged to was a kid who has really strong heat sensitivity, and he actually had a seizure, the day after this, after sitting in this school. So, you know, I know, you know about all the things and all the problems, but I just felt like this image, you know, was the photo that was worth a thousand words, so thank you again for all your hard work and thank you on behalf of marysville elementary school. Come and see us.

Speaker: Well, thank you, linda, and thank you for that powerful testimony. And I'm sure that you will be getting some visits from, members of this council soon, next, testifier, please. Jacob apinis. Welcome. Jacob.

Speaker: Hi. Portland City Council, for the record, my name is jacob. Happiness. I'm 25 years old and an organizer with sunrise pdx, where youth led climate justice movement, I'm excited to see much needed climate investments coming to the schools that were foundational to my education. Portland is my hometown. I went to reekie elementary, robert gray middle school, and wilson high school, which is now called ida b wells, during my time as a student, I remember sitting in classrooms where heaters were broken. I remember they're loud, they're loud, banging, failing to keep me warm as they struggle to function. Windows might as

well have been open all year round, as they did nothing to keep out the cold air. I remember 100 degree days feeling like 105 inside due to no air conditioning. I remember wells high school having their roof replaced while I was a student. We almost had to close half the school during that time because summer construction was going slow. I also remember ricky elementary was threatened with closure due to under enrollment. Ironically enough, I spent fifth grade in a portable classroom next to ricky. Due to over enrollment. That's all to really say that Portland does not maintain our schools as much as it should. It really does enjoy deferred maintenance, these investments from pcef for climate resiliency are the type of investments that I wish we had invested in when I was a student. This project also upholds the intent of pcef, which is to support projects that fight for the climate crisis and invest in poor and working class families. I hope we keep pcef focus on the climate on climate justice. One study commissioned by the bureau of planning and sustainability, estimates that it will take upwards of \$49 billion to make Portland climate resilient. Pcef is just a drop in the bucket to our overall need. Let's keep pcef as a fund to fight our climate crisis, not turn it into a slush fund for our cash strapped bureaus. Thank you so much, thank you, jacob. And I believe we have one more person signed up to testify.

Speaker: Chloe gilmore, welcome. Chloe.

Speaker: Hi. City commissioners. Thank you so much for this opportunity to speak to you today. I come here on behalf of Portland youth climate strike because my friend george was unable to come. Today, we are a group of students from across Portland working to make climate justice action a priority in state and citywide politics. We have also organized student walkouts that have drawn thousands of students in Portland public schools out of class to fight for their futures. I am a senior at lincoln high school in rps. First, I want to say thank you for the Portland

clean energy funds contributions to grassroots, community driven projects, and I hope these will continue in the future. Climate emergencies are becoming more rampant, frequent and unavoidable in our city, and the effects of the climate crisis are visible within classrooms already. We need to prioritize equitable, clean and safe schools in rps because no student should have to worry about their health and safety when attending school. Each day, there are plenty of schools and thousands of students that go to school, while exposed to pollution temperatures that are too hot or too cold and dangerous, crumbling building infrastructure which disproportionately impacts poor working class black, brown and indigenous communities. We see this in rps, and we also see this in parkrose, where the prologis company is attempting to construct a distribution center that will pollute high levels of diesel pollution, which will exacerbate an already existing public health crisis due to air pollution. It is unjust that students are subjected to these. These hazardous conditions and that teachers are tasked with raising the next generation in them. How are students expected to focus in 90 degree classrooms? How are students expected to succeed in polluted air and extreme temperatures before my school got rebuilt, I remember dripping and sweat because of increasingly hot temperatures during a heat wave in my sophomore year, it was impossible to learn, and many of my peers struggled with test performance on these days, these conditions will only worsen in the face of the climate crisis. As a leader of my school's environmental justice club, we have implemented multiple community based initiatives like earth day events, presenting to elementary schools, educating peers about environmental justice, and mobilizing them to take action and protest. With more funding for student led projects, we could implement community gardens, compost, tree planting and local projects. To build climate resiliency. I hope you listen to community members today. In addition to

supporting increased pcef funding, Portland youth climate strike urges the city of Portland to reject the prologis permit, as this is a clear example of environmental racism. Thank you, thank you.

Speaker: And I believe we have one more person signed up to testify, mark d'arienzo. Welcome. Mark come on up.

Speaker: I appreciate the opportunity to testify. And my name is mark d'arienzo. And I'm with the climate jobs pdx. It's the environmental committee of jobs with justice, which is an organization made up of many labor and community groups, along with many others. We worked hard to get pcef on the ballot and passed. We believe it's important to keep the mission, the pcef mission, and funding intact, and the projects under this agreement fit with the mission of pcef, and we support approval of the iga. We are also looking forward to seeing more of these types of opportunities in the future. Thank you. And this is the first time I've ever read from my phone. You did a great body, so it's a first for me, so.

Speaker: Well, mark, thank you so much for being here today. We heard you loud and clear, and, you have mastered the phone teleprompter for sure, let me check with the clerk. Is that all the testimony that that concludes testimony? Okay, great, colleagues, that is the end of our invited and public testimony. Are there any questions for, staff or our panelists? I think I'm hearing none. Is that is that's the message, commissioner Rubio, I don't know the answer to this question, but do you have any closing comments?

Speaker: I don't just I'm very, grateful for the presentation. It was great. And also the quality of the testimony today was wonderful. And it was a good affirmation of why we need this fund and how far reaching it goes. And, the opportunity that we have to do more. So thank you, everybody, for showing up today.

Speaker: Yeah. And if I could jump in here to, I want to thank everyone who testified today, especially the young folks who, showed up and explained, why they're excited about this, next batch of grants and, some and, talk to us a little bit about what they hope to accomplish. Also my thanks to all the volunteers, who are deeply engaged and excited about what, this funding can do for to, for their local schools, you know, I got two kids, one in high school, one in elementary school, and I remember those hot summers from just a little bit ago, too. So, I do, feel all the way down in my bones. What a difference this program could make, with that, colleagues, if there is no more discussion, I believe that this item can go on to second reading on may second. And with that, we are adjourned. Thank you. And thanks, everyone, especially for coming in today in person. It's great to see see so many live people in the room. It's may eighth, may eighth. Alright, okay, what do I do now.

Speaker: Can I just say, this goes on to second reading?

Speaker: May eighth, we are adjourned.