



**TSCC Regular Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 16, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Chair Harmony Quiroz, Commissioners Wubbold, Donahue, Lugo Knapp, Burton, Executive Director Allegra Willhite, and Budget Analyst Tunie Betschart were present.

Absent: None

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Quiroz called the meeting to order at 12:05.

Large District Budget to be considered and Metro's Zoo Bond

Executive Director Willhite said the districts to be considered today are TriMet's Approved Budget and Metro's Zoo Bond.

TriMet's Approved Budget will be the first one discussed. Executive Director Willhite gave a brief overview of the district's budget, including some capital expenditures, revenue bonds, ridership, and federal dollars they received recently to help with the loss during the pandemic. They will be increasing fares in FY 25. They are restructuring the organization and adding two new divisions: the Strategy and Planning Division and the Inclusion, Equity, and Accessibility Division. The focus is to get ridership back. They are seeing some improvements. Payroll taxes are a significant part of their revenue.

After the overview, they moved to the questions. They revised some, added follow-ups, and changed a couple's sequence. They deleted a portion of one, changed the wording on some, and deleted a question entirely, ending with ten questions to send to the district. The questions were assigned to the commissioners. After this meeting, Executive Director Willhite will rewrite the questions to include the edits and email them to the district and the commissioners.

Metro's Zoo Bond was considered next. Executive Director Willhite described the \$380 million bond measure's key points that ask the voters to support the zoo's capital projects for the penguins, sea otters, and giraffes habitat renovations as the key focus of the measure. She said this is the third bond measure for the zoo. Metro carefully structures the debt for the zoo bonds so they do not fluctuate the taxpayers' payments. They have a bond oversight committee. They do a good job documenting and reporting to the Metro Council what has been done with the dollars spent. Metro is working on a 20-year Campus plan, and this bond does tie into their plans, even though the plan has not been formally approved.

After hearing a description of the bond, the commissioners changed to creating questions for the hearing. The draft questions were revised, reworded, added to cleaned up, and



assigned to commissioners. The results were eight questions with several follow-ups. Executive Director Willhite will rewrite the questions to include the edits and follow-ups. After this meeting, she will email them to Metro staff and the TSCC commissioners.

Chair Quiroz cannot attend this hearing as she will be traveling then. Vice Chair Wubbold will chair the hearing.

There was no other discussion or business, so the meeting was adjourned.