



**TSCC Discussion Meeting
Minutes
Monday, June 1, 2026
11:00 AM.**

Chair Matt Donahue, Vice Chair Moore, Commissioners Burton, Kvarsten and Terry were present, as were Executive Director Allegra Willhite and Budget Analyst Brittanie Abayare.

Chair Donahue called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

General Discussion

The meeting opened with a brief discussion regarding the current week, with a key milestone being the wrapping up of the final budget reviews. Will Terry noted an [article in the Willamette Week](#) from May 14th concerning the Prosperity Council, Prosper Portland, or the Port of Portland, which he shared in the chat for the group to look up later.

TSCC Budget Report

Executive Director Allegra Willhite presented the budget report through April 30th. As of that date, the commission is 83% of the way through the fiscal year and has spent 74% of the budget. No contingency funds have been needed due to a lack of unexpected expenses or equipment failures, leading to a projected underspend by the end of the year. Salary costs, insurance benefits, travel, and training are all trending under budget. The final year-end report will be distributed in September after the books close in August, which will assist in preparing next year's budget.

July Retreat and Headwaters Farm Tour

The Commissioners discussed scheduling the July retreat. The itinerary will include meeting at Headwaters Farm, an incubator farm operated by the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, for lunch, a one-hour educational tour, and a two-hour retreat session. All participating commissioners agreed to the proposed date and location.

Mt. Hood Community College Budget Review and Hearing Prep

The Commissioners discussed the budget for Mt. Hood Community College, which decreased almost 3% from the previous year. The college is prioritizing financial stability over expansion to address a \$5 million structural gap between revenues and expenditures. Tuition is set to increase and the college is cutting and restructuring full time positions. The commissioners discussed the public testimony that happened during the district's budget meetings regarding these personnel cuts, which heavily impacted student support services like the AVID program.

The budget was determined to be in compliance with local budget law after the college corrected initial fund formula errors that left some numbers out of balance in the Proposed Budget. The college fixed these before the Approved Budget, and the budget received by TSCC as their official

submission was correct. The audit contained no findings, and no recommendations or objections were raised for the final certification letter.

The commission discussed and structured questions for the one-hour hearing. These inquiries will cover the college's 60th anniversary celebration, the utilization of a national toolkit to determine core business priorities, and spending cuts related to the structural gap and PERS bond shifts.

Prosper Portland Review and Hearing Preparation

The Commissioners discussed the Prosper Portland budget, which decreased for a second consecutive year due to the closure of large tax increment financing districts known as the TIF cliff. To right-size finances, six smaller districts were approved in fall 2024, but four show zero resources for the first year because property tax revenues in the downtown core have declined. The City of Portland is sending less returning TIF revenue than initially projected, which impacts general staffing, administration, workforce development, and small business technical assistance. Prosper Portland is receiving Clean Energy Fund resources and continues redevelopment work on the US Post Office site and the Broadway Corridor, which incorporates affordable housing partnerships. A \$3 million indoor food hall project near the convention center is located within a TIF district that has not yet generated tax increment. The budget was found to be in compliance after a single transfer balancing error in the proposed budget was corrected for the approved document.

The commission discussed and organized questions for the one-hour hearing. Initial questions will target the baseline definition of economic development, a changing vision for the downtown core, and a justification for implementing new TIF districts despite falling assessed property values.

Wrap Up and Other Business

Staff noted that the final round of budget reviews, including Portland Public Schools, Corbett School District, and four late small districts, will be distributed by the end of the day tomorrow. Most of the remaining late districts are expected to receive at least one recommendation or objection in their certification letters. The June 9th schedule will feature the City of Portland hearing, followed by a lunch meeting at the TSCC office to review the final budgets. The upcoming discussion meeting on Wednesday will focus on the City of Portland.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.