

MINUTES

Eugene City Council Work Session Eugene, Oregon 97401

February 15, 2023
12:00 p.m.

Councilors Present: Greg Evans, Matt Keating, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Randy Groves, Alan Zelenka, and Lyndsie Leech

Councilors Absent: Emily Semple

Mayor Vinis opened the February 15, 2023, work session of the Eugene City Council in a hybrid format at 101 W 10th Avenue, Eugene OR 97401.

1. **WORK SESSION: Urban Reserves**

City Manager, Sarah Medary, introduced Senior Planner, Rebecca Gershow, and Planning Director, Alyssa Hansen who presented information on urban reserves.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – asked to clarify if sub area 18 includes the Lane Community College campus; asked what percentage of area 18 is buildable; asked what percentage of land is sloped and requires engineering to make it buildable; noted that sloped land are more difficult for fire protection.
- Councilor Clark – asked if state law defines categories of constrained lands; asked if staff could analyze lands under a specific slope percent; wants to avoid including lands in the Urban Growth Boundary that are difficult or expensive to develop; asked when it is appropriate to analyze potential Urban Growth Boundary expansion lands; does not want to wait ten years before analyzing the Urban Growth Boundary; is in favor of starting analysis immediately to prepare for fast growth.
- Councilor Keating – noted that wildlife and fire danger make expanding the south hills difficult; cited information from Lane County regarding big game habitat protection; asked about steps to protect game habitats during Urban Growth Boundary expansions; asked for clarification regarding the previous vote on October 21, 2020, and who voted in opposition.
- Councilor Zelenka – noted that the Planning Commission voted unanimously to move the urban reserve recommendation forward; asked staff to explain the ten year review requirement and if it is retroactively applied; asked when the Urban Growth Boundary was expanded; asked if new state laws will impact current timelines; thinks that Urban Growth Boundary work should be done on a regular basis; asked staff to explain Planning Commission recommendations regarding wetlands; asked about the process for amending the urban reserves and how it works in conjunction with Lane County; noted that amending a joint process with another agency is complicated.

- Councilor Yeh – recognized the large amount of work that went into the urban reserves by staff, Lane County, and the Envision Eugene Technical Advisory Committee (EETAC).
- Councilor Leech – asked about the Urban Growth Boundary’s proximity to the Fern Ridge Reservoir and what considerations are being made to preserve and protect the reservoir.
- Mayor Vinis – noted that there are overlapping timelines in the urban reserves and Urban Growth Boundary expansion projects; asked staff to provide a graph that outlines those timelines and how they overlap.
- Councilor Clark – supports continual analysis of urban reserves and the Urban Growth Boundary.
- Councilor Zelenka – asked if Councilor Clark intends to make a motion for amendment to urban reserves.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala
City Recorder

(Recorded by Sara McKinney)
Webcast of meeting available [here](#).