

MINUTES

Eugene City Council Work Session Eugene, Oregon 97401

January 18, 2023
12:00 p.m.

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

Councilor Groves opened the January 18, 2023, work session of the Eugene City Council in a hybrid format at 101 W 10th Avenue, Eugene OR 97401.

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) real property transactions**
2. **WORK SESSION: Alternative Response Study**

Assistant City Manager, Kristie Hammitt, introduced Community Safety Initiative Project Manager, Jeremy Cleversy, and Michele Weinzetl and Thomas Shea from BerryDunn who presented information on the alternative response study.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – noted the study will help the City to improve the crisis response processes and services.
- Councilor Evans – noted that CAHOOTS is underfunded and is over-tasked; asked how state resources could improve the capacity of the system; asked how the system can be improved to prevent misuse of services.
- Councilor Leech – outlined the adolescent mobile crisis response service provided by a local nonprofit; asked how the City could work with Lane County to improve the crisis response service before the Request for Proposals begins; asked how the 988 crisis hotline is incorporated in the dispatch system; is in favor of the coordinator position recommended in the presentation; noted the importance of having coordinated systems that share information between service providers.
- Councilor Keating – asked for an example of information, that is not considered protected personal information, that would be redacted or removed from public data reports; asked for clarity on what impacts increased wall time for units at hospitals; asked if there are community para-medicine models that the City should consider.
- Councilor Zelenka – asked staff about the plan for using the information and implementing the recommendations presented.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Zelenka, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to extend the meeting by ten minutes. **VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

- Councilor Zelenka – asked how addressing root causes such as affordable housing, mental health, and substance abuse services would impact the efficiency and effectiveness of the current response system.
- Councilor Semple – asked how the City can reduce the per capita homelessness rates; noted that the City provides an unprecedented level of service that may be impacting the homelessness rates.
- Councilor Clark – asked if the report will have any community expectations and if the current service level is more or less than what the community expects to receive; noted that a report had been completed regarding community expectations several years ago.
- Councilor Groves – stated that converting information and data points into useful information for problem solving is difficult but possible; noted that local non-profits also experience data collection issues that make joint data sharing difficult; noted that calls for service are increasing while funding and resources are shrinking.

Councilor Groves adjourned the meeting at 1:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala
City Recorder

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