

MINUTES

Eugene City Council Work Session Eugene, Oregon 97401

October 19, 2022
12:00 p.m.

Councilors Present: Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Randy Groves

Councilors Absent: Greg Evans

Mayor Vinis opened the October 19, 2022, work session of the Eugene City Council in a hybrid format at 101 W 10th Avenue, Eugene OR 97401.

1. **WORK SESSION: Intergovernmental Relations Policy and Priorities**

City Manager Sarah Medary introduced Intergovernmental Relations Manager, Ethan Nelson, who presented an overview of the intergovernmental relations policy and priorities documents.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Clark – noted that City Council did not get a full presentation on Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities until after state rulemaking was finished; asked why Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities rulemaking was not brought to Council sooner; asked if there are restrictions on Councilors advocating for policy positions that are in opposition to the City’s position.
- Councilor Zelenka – thanked the Intergovernmental Relations Committee for creating a process that improves Council’s engagement with state and federal policy; proposed having a regular agenda item at Council meetings to discuss activity in the legislature; noted his concern about Council not spending enough time on legislative activities from higher levels of government.
- Councilor Keating – noted support for the documents prepared by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee; asked about expanding the Imagination Library program at the state-level as a public safety measure; stated interest in recall election reform and asked why it is not on the priorities document.
- Councilor Clark – requested information from the City Council Operating Agreements, specifically, section 9.02 on state and federal lobbying, be sent to Councilors; stated his desire to postpone approval of the policy documents in order to hold another work session; stated his desire for the Intergovernmental Relations Committee to bring issues to the legislature instead of reacting to their proposals; asked if clarifying the funding standards for ballot measure 110 is a priority for the Intergovernmental Relations Committee; stated his support for having this funding go to improving mental health care and drug treatment programs.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated his support for clarifying funding standards of ballot measure 110; stated his support for another work session for the Intergovernmental Relations Committee process; asked if there is an available list of capital projects the

City is proposing; stated that the Intergovernmental Relations Committee should make recommendations about legislative priorities to Council for evaluation; noted concern with creating policies for reducing carbon emissions.

- Councilor Keating – asked if Eugene parking meters accept cash; asked if the City is planning to implement cash payment options for all public services.
- Councilor Yeh – stated support for the Intergovernmental Relations Committee providing recommendations on priority projects to City Council for discussion; stated support for the priorities in the document presented; noted that another work session is not necessary unless there is a specific issue that needs to be discussed.
- Mayor Vinis – asked for clarification on whether critical Intergovernmental Relations Committee priorities will be presented to Council in December.
- Councilor Groves – noted his support for bringing some Intergovernmental Relations Committee priorities to City Council; stated his support for the enforcement of ballot measure 110 to the Intergovernmental Relations priorities document.
- Councilor Semple – stated her opposition to ballot measure 110; noted her support of re-evaluating the approval of ballot measure 110 to the Intergovernmental Relations priorities document.
- Mayor Vinis – asked whether it is possible to approve the policy document and add details for ballot measure 110 later.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated his support for approving the policy document and adding details for ballot measure 110 later; clarified that he wants another work session to discuss the Intergovernmental Relations Committee process to engage with Council; asked whether City Council will get more information about the priority for state investment in mental and behavioral health systems; stated that he will put forward a work session poll to get more education on mental and behavioral health systems.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Keating, seconded by Councilor Groves, moved to adopt the 2023 Eugene State and Federal Policies Document and the 2023 Eugene State Priorities Document as approved by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee. **VOTE: PASSED 5:1**, opposed by Councilor Clark

2. **WORK SESSION: Parks and Recreation Funding**

City Manager Sarah Medary introduced Parks and Open Space Director, Craig Carnagey, Recreation Director, Craig Smith, and Finance Director, Twylla Miller, who presented potential funding strategies after the 2018 Parks and Recreation Levy expires in June 2023.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – asked if staff has looked at funding sources outside of property taxes; asked if a parks service fee on Eugene Water and Electric Board bills would be feasible; stated his support for the construction of a community center or a pool in the southwest quadrant of the city; noted the importance of adding a safety component to parks funding.
- Councilor Semple – noted the recent Community Survey showed the importance of the City’s parks to residents; stated desire for a community poll about parks and recreation funding; noted the equity and fairness issues with certain funding types; stated her support for the enhanced funding option to improve safety in parks.

- Councilor Yeh – asked for clarification on compression considerations; stated her support for polling the community about parks and recreation funding; stated her appreciation for Councilor Groves recognizing an underserved area; noted that landlords consider their property taxes to determine rent prices.
- Councilor Keating – requested information on the funding options that were considered in 2017; asked if the City has been successful in patrolling and cleaning the parks since the 2018 levy has passed; asked if the City has been successful in maintaining better and safer parks since the 2018 levy has passed; stated his support for investing in the Amazon Pool; stated his support for a community poll for parks and recreation funding.

Mayor Vinis adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala
City Recorder

(Recorded by Olivia Clark)
Webcast of meeting available [here](#).