

## MINUTES

### Eugene City Council Public Hearing Eugene, Oregon 97401

February 17, 2026  
5:30 p.m.

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

Council President Leech opened the February 17, 2026, Eugene City Council Public Hearing in a hybrid in-person and virtual format at 500 E. 4th Avenue, North Building, Eugene, OR 97401.

**1. PUBLIC HEARING: An Ordinance Amending the Willakenzie Area Plan Text; Rezoning the Property Identified as Assessor's Map 17-03-16-23, Tax Lots 04000, 04100, and 04200 from C-1 Neighborhood Commercial to C-2 Community Commercial, and Providing an Effective Date**

Council President Leech opened the public hearing in quasi-judicial format.

City Manager Pro Tem, Matt Rodrigues, introduced the topic and provided background information.

Council President Leech provided time for Council to disclose any bias, conflicts of interest, ex-parte communications, or abstentions pursuant to EC 9.7065.

1. Kim O'Day – spoke as the applicant representative in favor of the ordinance; provided information regarding the future use.

Council President Leech closed the public hearing and the record for this item.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING: An Ordinance Concerning Municipal Court Becoming a Court of Record; Adding Section 2.771 to the Eugene Code, 1971; Declaring Compliance with ORS 221.342(2); and Providing for an Immediate Effective Date**

Council President Leech opened the public hearing.

City Manager Pro Tem, Matt Rodrigues, introduced the topic and City Attorney, Kathryn Brotherton, provided background information.

No testimony was provided for this item.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – asked if not moving forward with the ordinance would be detrimental; asked if the April 1, 2026 date is realistic as a starting date for the court of record process.

Council President Leech closed the public hearing.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING: An Ordinance Concerning Increased Public Health Standards Coordination; Amending Sections 9.2460, 9.2461, and 9.4165 of the Eugene Code, 1971; and Providing an Effective Date**

Council President Leech opened the public hearing.

City Manager Pro Tem, Matt Rodrigues, introduced the topic and provided background information.

1. Joe Liebersbach – spoke in favor of version 4 of the code amendments.
2. Tiffany Edwards – spoke in favor of version 4 of the code amendments.
3. Dana Siebert – spoke in favor of version 4 of the code amendments.
4. Eric Richardson – spoke in favor of version 3 of the code amendments.
5. Robb Evans – spoke in favor of version 4 of the code amendments.
6. Tai Pruce-Zimmerman – spoke in favor of the ordinance and asked Council to continue doing more research.
7. Lin Woodrich – spoke in favor of version 3 of the code amendments.
8. Travis Knudsen – executive director of Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) spoke in favor of version 3 of the code amendments.
9. Chris Edwards – spoke in favor of version 4 of the code amendments.
10. Joy Pendowsky – spoke in favor of version 4 of the code amendments.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Kashinsky – asked if this would only apply to land use permits or other types of permits, like building permits; asked if the ordinance would cover industrial use in other zones, beyond E and I; asked for clarification between the differences of version 3 and 4 of the code amendments and the attestation requirement.
- Councilor Clark – noted what happened with J. H. Baxter was a failure of the regulatory system in place at the time; asked staff to prepare a memo outlining gaps in the regulatory system and enforcement before Council makes a decision.
- Councilor Groves – noted his appreciation for the testimony provided by the business community, advocate groups, and neighborhood associations; spoke about the importance of moving forward with some changes; stated the positive improvements in the relationship between the City and the regulatory agencies; stated that clear rules and simple procedures are needed.

- Councilor Zelenka – reiterated the main difference between version 3 and version 4 of the ordinance is an attestation and that no additional permits or actions are needed; noted due diligence regarding permits needed for new developments should be routine; stated that disclosing their understanding and knowledge of the permits needed for their development should not slow economic development.
- Councilor Kashinsky – noted that in the C-2 zone, industrial uses are only allowed if they don't require an air quality permit; asked if the same allowances would apply to specific zones that are dependent on what permits might be required for that zone; stated it would be helpful for staff making determinations if there are places in addition to Clear Lake and C-2, where there is nuance based on what permits are required.

Council President Leech closed the public hearing.

Council President Leech adjourned the public hearing at 6:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala  
City Recorder

*(Recorded by Rosa Roach)*

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).