

## MINUTES

### Eugene City Council Work Session Eugene, Oregon 97401

March 9, 2026  
5:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Kaarin Knudson opened the March 9, 2026, work session of the Eugene City Council in a hybrid format at 500 E 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, North Building, Eugene OR 97401.

#### 1. **WORK SESSION: Home Energy Score Policy Discussion**

City Manager Pro Tem Matt Rodrigues introduced Danielle Klinkebiel, Climate Policy Analyst, and Ian Penn, Sustainability Manager, to discuss the proposed home energy score disclosure policy and key considerations for potential adoption.

##### Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Clark – asked whether individual home energy scores would be stored in a database; noted concern that such information might be used to compel upgrades in the future; stated he could support a voluntary program but could not support a mandatory requirement; noted adding new requirements would increase housing costs and decrease housing availability, negatively affecting buyers.
- Councilor Groves – asked why the program was being proposed as mandatory rather than voluntary; asked what public outreach had been conducted about the existing voluntary option; noted he had never heard of the current program despite decades of local engagement; stated he would prefer a voluntary pilot before adopting a mandate; stated concern that accumulating regulations could discourage employers and hinder economic growth.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated voluntary programs do not generate adequate participation and disclosure benefits outweigh the low cost to sellers; noted the concept has been under discussion for many years and it is appropriate to move forward; asked what reprioritizing existing resources would entail; asked whether other cities also require approximately one half of a full-time equivalent to administer such a program; stated this step only advances the process toward drafting ordinance language.
- Councilor Kashinsky – asked about the number of assessors currently serving the area and how many would be needed if disclosure were required; stated similar policies in other Oregon cities have created opportunities for new assessors; noted incremental actions such as disclosure support climate and affordability objectives.
- Councilor Keating – asked whether businesses such as solar installers, window and siding companies, and heating ventilation and air conditioning firms

support home energy disclosure; asked about lessons learned from other jurisdictions; asked which potential funding mechanisms would be most practical for the program.

- Councilor Yeh – stated she was ready to move the policy to the next step; noted the research was thorough and buyers will benefit from transparent information when making a major investment.
- Councilor Clark – asked whether other communities with disclosure policies had experienced measurable decreases in energy use; stated if taking action on recommendations remains voluntary, then obtaining the score should also remain voluntary.
- Mayor Knudson – stated the policy offers residents additional options to reduce energy use and lower costs; stated some comments may have misunderstood the policy as applying to all current homeowners; stated a point-of-sale disclosure offers prospective buyers meaningful information about the condition and performance of a home; noted appliance labels provide limited insight compared to a whole-home score; stated conservation is essential to addressing challenges associated with renewable energy transitions; noted older housing stock often lacks insulation and air-sealing due to building practices at the time of construction; noted the policy represents an incremental step toward broader climate goals.
- Councilor Groves – asked whether the University of Oregon and Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) program that documented energy reductions had been voluntary; noted progress was achieved through voluntary participation; reinforced his preference for a voluntary approach.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated disclosure is necessary for residents to pursue energy-saving actions; noted upgrades are not required; stated energy-efficiency improvements typically save households money and disclosure ensures all buyers have equitable access to important information.

**MAIN MOTION:** Councilor Kashinsky, seconded by Councilor Zelenka, moved to direct the City Manager to prepare a draft ordinance to establish a Home Energy Score disclosure requirement as described in the AIS and to bring it for Council consideration at a work session.

**MOTION TO AMEND:** Councilor Clark, seconded by Councilor Groves, moved to amend to a voluntary program.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Clark – stated residents already have access to free energy-use information through EWEB; noted a voluntary program can be effective when people are informed and motivated; stated a mandatory disclosure provides no certainty of success and only ensures added cost for homebuyers.
- Councilor Kashinsky – stated requiring disclosure at listing provides benefits that a voluntary program cannot; stated first-time buyers may not know to request such information and a mandatory disclosure ensures it is available when needed.

- Councilor Keating – stated disclosure is a consumer-protection measure similar to fuel-economy information for vehicles; urged opposition to the amendment to make the program voluntary and support for the main motion.

**VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: 3:5 FAILED**

**IN FAVOR:** Clark, Evans and Groves.

**OPPOSED:** Kashinsky, Keating, Zelenka, Yeh, and Leech.

**VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: 5:3 PASSED**

**IN FAVOR:** Kashinsky, Keating, Zelenka, Yeh, and Leech.

**OPPOSED:** Clark, Evans and Groves.

**2. WORK SESSION: City of Eugene Naming Policy**

City Manager Pro Tem Matt Rodrigues introduced Jason Dedrick, Policy, Strategic Planning and Performance Manager, to discuss the proposed updates to the City of Eugene Naming Policy that provides guidance on the naming of City-owned facilities.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Keating – asked why the policy requires an individual to be deceased for at least one year before naming a facility after them; stated he would prefer the ability to name facilities after living individuals who have contributed significantly to the community.
- Councilor Yeh – stated naming reflects community values and identity; emphasized the importance of inclusive choices.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated the one-year waiting period allows the public to fully understand a person’s legacy; noted naming living individuals could become politically charged; asked about the options for engagement during the naming process.
- Councilor Evans – stated support for a waiting period, citing examples where posthumous revelations complicated prior honors; asked whether there is a formal process for removing a name.
- Councilor Yeh – asked whether nationally recognized individuals who did not live locally could qualify under the updated criteria; asked about the removal of language discouraging “foreign-sounding” names; asked whether the City has reviewed existing facility names for inclusivity.

**MOTION:** Councilor Kashinsky, seconded by Councilor Zelenka, moved to adopt the Resolution Adopting a Naming Policy for the City of Eugene at Attachment B to the AIS.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Keating – stated he would support the updated policy but reiterated his desire for future flexibility to honor living individuals who have made historic contributions.
- Councilor Clark – asked whether naming decisions made by the Council could be challenged by voters through a petition process.

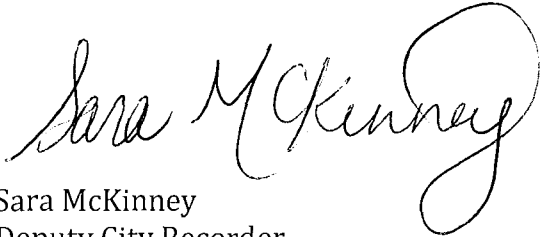
**VOTE: 8:0 PASSED**

**IN FAVOR:** Kashinsky, Keating, Zelenka, Yeh, Clark, Evans, Leech, and Groves.

**OPPOSED:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara McKinney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "M" and "K".

Sara McKinney  
Deputy City Recorder

*(Recorded by Cherish Bradshaw)*

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