

MINUTES
Eugene City Council
Work Session
Eugene, Oregon 97401

April 15, 2026
12:00 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 April 15, 2026, Eugene City Council Work Session in a hybrid in-person and virtual format at 500 E. 4th Avenue, North Building, Eugene, OR 97401.

1. WORK SESSION: City Manager Update

City Manager Jenny Haruyama stated that she was honored to serve in her new role and expressed appreciation for the community.

2. WORK SESSION: Vision Zero Update

City Manager Jenny Haruyama introduced the topic and Logan Telles, the Associate Transportation Planner, who gave an update on the City's Vision Zero work and current traffic safety efforts.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – stated traffic safety remains one of the most frequent concerns in the community; noted appreciation for recent crossing improvements near Churchill High School; stated speeding complaints now exceeded past complaints about trespassing or camping; asked how many recent fatal crashes involved criminal driving behavior; stated interest in knowing if crash patterns align with police observations; asked when the McLean Boulevard project would be completed; stated concern that deteriorated roadway conditions were causing drivers to enter oncoming lanes.
- Councilor Keating – asked how many recent fatalities involved impaired driving, distracted driving, or increased roadway use by electric bicycles and scooters; stated interest in seeing a map of traffic-calming investments and hot spots where speeding is most significant; asked whether road bond dollars were supporting planned roundabouts and whether those projects were described to voters; stated concern that drivers may not be familiar with roundabout navigation and how it could temporarily increase minor crashes.

- Councilor Zelenka – stated the presentation demonstrated the scale of Vision Zero work underway; noted roundabouts are statistically safer for all travel modes and asked about their safety benefits; asked why fatalities decreased in 2025 after several difficult years; noted support for protected bikeways and asked how the City educates people to choose safer alternate routes; stated concerns about vegetation maintenance in curb extension areas and requested a review of responsibilities.
- Councilor Kashinsky – stated appreciation for increased enforcement; asked about the timeline for redlight and speed camera pilots; noted motorcycle riders accounted for most of the year's motor vehicle fatalities and asked whether this was typical; asked how speed limit reductions relate to road design and whether the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) process relies heavily on current driver speeds; asked whether two-lane one-way streets contribute to higher risk.
- Councilor Clark – asked how the City determined unhoused residents are more vulnerable to severe crashes; stated the City invests heavily in slowing drivers but less in changing pedestrian behavior; asked how the City might educate pedestrians to reduce conflicts; stated concern that the City may be spending substantial funds without fully understanding the root causes of most crashes.
- Councilor Yeh – stated appreciation for the staff's work securing grants and for applying a Vision Zero lens to existing projects; stated support for quick, low-cost adjustments and encouraged exploration of temporary traffic calming pilots; noted serious injuries must also be reduced.
- Councilor Evans – asked if final plans for the Franklin Boulevard roundabout had been selected; expressed interest in applying roundabouts to Highway 99; asked how highway lighting upgrades relate to dark sky concerns; stated interest in the City exploring free reflective gear for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Councilor Leech – asked for an update on River Road projects previously approved by Council; asked how safety improvements would interact with planned transit upgrades; asked where proposed roundabouts on Division Avenue would be located; noted longstanding safety challenges near the Northwest Expressway intersection and expressed support for improvements; asked whether dark sky-compliant lighting could be considered where feasible.
- Councilor Groves – stated placing pedestrians or cyclists in vehicle travel lanes increases the chance of serious conflict; stated Springfield's separated facilities on Pioneer Parkway serve as a strong model; noted police and fire responders often see patterns not fully reflected in data and that their experience should help shape decisions; stated many community members oppose roundabouts; expressed support for the planned roundabout at Bailey Hill Road and Bertelsen Road; noted as Fire Chief he had personally responded to severe crashes on Beltline and believed that segment required future state investment; asked whether ODOT or the City controls speed limit changes; asked if more radar speed trailers could be purchased.
- Councilor Keating – stated constituents often request radar speed trailers and asked how the current policy determines placement; noted many unsafe locations in South

Eugene are not high-volume areas but still pose risks; asked how residents can request a stop sign or traffic study; asked whether the City is preparing for safety challenges related to autonomous vehicles.

- Councilor Leech – noted strong interest to return to this topic at a future work session; asked for council interest to put forward a motion.

MOTION: Councilor Leech, seconded by Councilor Clark, moved to schedule another work session on Vision Zero to continue the discussion.

VOTE: 8:0 PASSED

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

OPPOSED: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala
City Recorder

(Recorded by Rosa Roach)

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