

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Thursday, August 30, 2018**

REGULAR MEETING

Vice-Chair Lori Stegmann called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. with Commissioners Sharon Meieran, Jessica Vega Pederson and Loretta Smith present. Chair Deborah Kafoury was excused.

Also attending were, Jenny Madkour, County Attorney, and Marina Baker, Board Clerk,

Vice-Chair Stegmann: GOOD MORNING, WELCOME TO THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING, I AM LORI STEGMANN, AND I WILL BE YOUR VICE CHAIR, I HAVE THE HONOR OF PRESIDING OVER TODAY'S MEETING. MAY I HAVE A MOTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR?

CONSENT AGENDA

- C.1 Bud Mod-DCS-08-19 Reclassification of an Engineering Technician 2 to Engineering Technician 3.
- C.2 BUDGET MODIFICATION # HD-03-19: Authorizing one position reclassification within the Health Department.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVES, AND COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON SECONDS APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, PLEASE VOTE AYE. THE CONSENT CALENDAR IS APPROVED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for Public Comment on non-agenda matters. Testimony limited to three minutes per person. This is a time for the Board to hear public testimony, not for Board deliberation. Fill out a speaker form available at the back of the Board Room and give it to the Board Clerk. Unless otherwise recognized by the presiding officer, testimony is taken in the order the forms are submitted.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: DO WE HAVE ANY PUBLIC COMMENTS?

Board Clerk: YES, MADAM CHAIR, WE HAVE THREE PEOPLE SIGNED UP. [READS NAMES]

Lightning: GOOD MORNING, I AM LIGHTNING. I REPRESENT LIGHTNING SUPER CREATIVITY DISRUPT ATTACK DOG. ONE OF THE CONCERNS THAT I HAVE

CURRENTLY PERTAINING TO MAYOR WHEELER IS THE WAY THAT HE HANDLED THE ICE PROTEST, AND ONE OF MY CONCERNS IS THAT IF YOU EVER PUT SOMEBODY'S SAFETY IN JEOPARDY, AND A DECISION THAT YOU HAVE MADE BASED UPON WHAT THEY BELIEVE OR THEIR POLITICAL BELIEFS, IF THEY BELIEVE IN OPEN BORDERS OR WHAT THEIR POSITION IS ON IMMIGRATION, YOU REALLY NEED TO THINK TWICE ON THAT. YOU REALLY NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT IF YOU ARE THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, EVERYBODY'S SAFETY IN THIS CITY IS YOUR CONCERN. YOUR HIGHEST CONCERN. FREEDOM OF SPEECH GOES SO FAR. BUT WHEN SOMEBODY FEARS THAT VIOLENCE, IMMINENT VIOLENCE IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO THEM, AND YOU DECIDE NOT TO RESPOND TO THAT UNTIL THE VIOLENCE HAS TAKEN PLACE, HAS TAKEN PLACE ON THAT INDIVIDUAL, YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE SOME REAL PROBLEM WITH SOMEBODY NAMED LIGHTNING. I AM CURRENTLY ASKING MAYOR WHEELER TO STEP DOWN AS POLICE COMMISSIONER. I AM ASKING SOMEBODY ELSE TO BE PUT INTO HIS POSITION AS POLICE COMMISSIONER ON A TEMPORARY BASIS UNTIL THIS INVESTIGATION IS FINALIZED. I AM ASKING THIS TO BE LOOKED AT VERY CLOSE. I AM ASKING INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATORS TO BE BROUGHT IN, INDEPENDENT, AND TO OVERLOOK THIS WHOLE SITUATION. IF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER EVER THINKS THAT SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF THE PORTLAND POLICE IS SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE DONE, YOU ARE WRONG. EVERYBODY IN THIS CITY HAS A RIGHT TO BE PROTECTED, AND THEIR SAFETY, PROTECTED, AND IN THEY MAKE A 9-1-1 CALL AND FEEL MY SAFETY IS IN JEOPARDY, I FEEL THREATENED AND I NEED ASSISTANCE IMMEDIATELY.

Lightning: YOUR RESPONSE BETTER BE, WE'RE SENDING SOMEBODY OVER THERE IMMEDIATELY. IMMEDIATELY. AND WE WILL LOOK AT THE SITUATION, AND IF THERE IS SOME OTHER SECURITY PERSONNEL THAT CAN STEP IN AND ASSIST AT THAT TIME, FINE. IF NOT, FINE. WE ARE ON OUR WAY TO PROTECT YOUR SAFETY. AGAIN, I AM ASKING HIM TO STEP DOWN MALE AS POLICE COMMISSIONER, AND I WILL BE TALKING TO DARRELL TURNER AND OTHER OPTIONS ON BRINGING IN MORE QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO BE POLICE COMMISSIONER, AND WE WILL SET UP A SYSTEM TO WHERE THERE IS SEPARATION FROM THE MAYOR AND THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, WHERE THERE WILL BE NO BIAS, THERE WILL BE NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST. THERE WILL BE NOBODY IN THIS CITY WHOSE SAFETY WILL BE JEOPARDIZED BY THE DECISION OF A POLICE COMMISSIONER, AND THEN NOT BEING REMOVED IMMEDIATELY. ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT AS POLICE COMMISSIONER, MAYOR WHEELER. LIGHTNING IS GOING TO OBSERVE THIS AND YOU ARE ON YOUR WAY OUT, THANK YOU.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: THANK YOU.

Joe Walsh: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS JOE WALSH. I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. THIS IS THE SIGN HERE HAS TO DO WITH SEVEN DAYS OF YOUR SILENCE ON WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT LAST WEEK. THAT THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS DECLARED WAR ON THE FREE PRESS AND FIRST AMENDMENT. HE PULLED THE PRESS, THE ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE. WE WILL CONTINUE WEEK AFTER WEEK TO KEEP COUNTED ON YOUR SILENCE. WE GOT TO [INAUDIBLE] DAYS, AND THEN HE RESIGNED. EVENTUALLY, SOMEBODY ON THIS COMMISSION WILL MAKE A STATEMENT DEFENDING THE FIRST AMENDMENT. IT'S A VERY SIMPLE STATEMENT. JUST SAY THE PRESIDENT WAS WRONG. THAT EVEN THOUGH INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE HAS GREAT DIFFERENCES WITH THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA, WE WILL FIGHT TO THE DEATH FOR THEIR RIGHT TO PUBLISH.

FOR THEIR RIGHT TO DO THEIR OPINIONS. THAT'S WHAT OUR REPUBLIC IS. THAT'S WHAT A FREE PRESS IS. AND YOU SAY NOTHING, IT'S CAPITULATION. THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE DOING. BY SAYING NOTHING, YOU HAVE CAPITULATED. WE ARE TIRED OF THE ACTIVISTS OUT THERE. WE DO OUR JOBS. WE EMAIL YOU AND WE MAKE THE PHONE CALLS. WE TAKE IT UPSTAIRS, THAT'S WHAT WE DO. WE ARE TAKING IT UPSTAIRS AND WE WANT YOU TO TAKE IT UPSTAIRS. WE WANT YOU TO SAY SOMETHING, AT THE END OF THIS MEETING ONCE AGAIN, YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAY SOMETHING. JUST SAY THE PRESIDENCY WRONG. NOW TO GOOD NEWS. OUR D.A. WAS AT A CONFERENCE AND PEOPLE WERE SAYING TERRIBLE THINGS ABOUT THE ACLU. HE GOT UP AND WALKED OUT. AND IN PROTEST AND BOYCOTT, AND BOYCOTTED TO DINNER THAT NIGHT. THEY WERE MAKING THE STUPID STATEMENTS ABOUT THE ACLU. WHAT'S GOING TO BE THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER? AND HE BOYCOTTED IT. HE BECAME AN ACTIVIST. I WAS SO PROUD OF THAT ACT. I TELL OUR D.A., WE ARGUE ALL THE TIME ABOUT HIS CONCEPTS, ABOUT HIS PROSECUTIONS, ABOUT HOW HE DOES THINGS, BUT THIS WAS WONDERFUL. WE WANT TO DO MORE OF THAT. WE WANT TO RECOGNIZE THE GOOD THINGS IN EACH OTHER. TOO OFTEN, AND I CAN TAKE THE BLAME ON THIS, TOO. WE CRITICIZE WITHOUT IT COMING BACK AND SAYING, LOOK. ISN'T THIS WONDERFUL? SO IF THE D.A. IS HEARING THIS, CONGRATULATIONS. THANK YOU. YOU MADE ME SO PROUD WHEN I READ THAT ARTICLE. THAT'S WHAT HAS TO BE DONE. THANK YOU FOR THE EXTRA TIME. I WILL TRY TO GIVE IT TO YOU NEXT WEEK.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: THANK YOU FOR COMING.

Charles BridgeCrane Johnson: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. FOR THE RECORD CHARLES BRIDGECRANE JOHNSON. CERTAIN PHRASES HAVE WRONGLY AND STRANGELY BECOME CONTENTIOUS IN OUR SOCIETY, LIKE SOME PEOPLE GET JUST PLAIN DEFENSIVE WHEN THEY HEAR THE WORD, PRIVILEGE, OR WHITE PRIVILEGE. ONE THING MAYBE THAT IS NOT -- SOMETIMES WE PUT TOGETHER WITH WHITE MALE PRIVILEGE BUT THERE IS ALSO JUST PLAIN MALE PRIVILEGE. AND WHY DO I BRING THAT UP? AND WHAT IS IT? WELL, FOR ONE THING, IT'S PRETTY CERTAIN THAT MYSELF AND EVERY MAN IN THIS ROOM HAS HAD TO INVEST A LOT LESS TIME OF THEIR LIFE IN WORRYING ABOUT BEING RAPED THAN ANY WOMAN HAS. AND WHY ARE WE

TALKING ABOUT THAT TODAY? BECAUSE ONE OF YOUR EMPLOYEES AT THE LIBRARY HAD, WHAT WAS VERY CLOSE TO, AN ATTEMPTED RAPE DURING HER JOB IN THE LOBBY OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY YESTERDAY. YOU KNOW, THE PERPETRATOR, WHO HAS BEEN HARD TO FIND IN THE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DATA BASE RIGHT NOW, HIS WIFE AND EVEN THOSE WHO DON'T WANT TO GIVE A WHITE PATH TO HIM, THERE WERE MENTAL HEALTH SIGNS. AND THAT BRINGS US TO THE ISSUE THAT'S MAYBE A BIT MORE UNDER YOUR CONTROL, AND FUNDING AND SUPERVISING ADEQUATE CORRECTIONAL PROBATIONAL SERVICES AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING. BECAUSE YOU KNOW, A PERSON WHO WILL GO INTO THE LOBBY OF THE LIBRARY AND JUMP OVER THE COUNTER AT THE INFORMATION DESK AND ASSAULT A WOMAN HAS SOMEWHERE GOTTEN THROUGH THE CRACKS. OF THE SYSTEM, AND YOU ARE ALL DOING A PRETTY GOOD JOB OF RUNNING ON A SMALL BUDGET.

Charles BridgeCrane Johnson: BUT IT NEEDS TO, YOU KNOW, EVERY ONE OF US WHEN WE SEE THAT NEEDS TO SPEAK OUT AND ASK WHAT WENT WRONG AND WHAT WE CAN DO BETTER, TO HEAR SOMEBODY SHRIEKING TO HAVE SOMEBODY GET OFF THEM AND STOP. IT'S BAD ENOUGH ANYWHERE IF IT HAPPENS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, IN OLD TOWN CHINATOWN BUT TO KNOW THAT WE LIVE IN A COUNTRY THAT HAS 13 NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT CARRIERS ROAMING AROUND ALL OVER THE PLACE. WE CAN'T FUND BASIC PUBLIC SAFETY AND CASE MANAGEMENT FOR DANGEROUS PEOPLE WITH A SAD WAKEUP CALL. SO -- AND YOU KNOW, WE GO TO THE LARGER QUESTION OF PUBLIC SAFETY, SOMEBODY TALKED ABOUT THE RESIGNATION OF THE MAYOR AND THE SITUATIONS WITH THE POLICE. THE POLICE HAVE LODGED WEAPONS INTO THE HEAD OF PEOPLE THAT WERE OBEYING ORDERS, FLEEING THE AREA. SO NOT JUST YOU ALL AND ESPECIALLY THE COMMISSIONERS ACROSS THE RIVER, BUT ALL OF US NEED TO REALLY THINK ABOUT LOCAL QUALITY OF LIFE, AND I HOPE YOU REACH OUT AND WE WILL GET YOU MORE INFORMATION AND MAKE SURE THAT THIS WOMAN IS CONNECTED WITH THE VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: THANK YOU FOR COMING, AND I WANTED TO RECOGNIZE SHAWN CUNNINGHAM WHO IS IN OUR AUDIENCE WITH THELINE. IF YOU WANTED TO HAVE ANY OTHER DISCUSSIONS OR GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. AND I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT OUR HEARTS ARE WITH THAT EMPLOYEE, AND WE ARE VERY CONCERNED. I KNOW THAT THERE IS AN ONGOING INVESTIGATION. WE TAKE THAT TYPE OF ATTACK OR ANY ATTACK EXTREMELY SERIOUSLY. OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO HER.

R.1 2nd Reading of Ordinance Amending MCC Chapters 37 and 38 - Adding Procedures Relating to Type I Permit Applications. Presenters: Mike Cerbone, Planning Director & Kevin Cook, Senior Planner.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: COMMISSIONER MEIERAN MOVES. COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON SECONDS APPROVAL OF THE SECOND READING AND ADOPTION. GOOD MORNING.

Kevin Cook: GOOD MORNING. FOR THE RECORD I AM KEVIN COOK. SENIOR PLANNER WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES. AND YOU CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS IF YOU HAVE ANY ON THE SECOND READING.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: COULD YOU GIVE US A QUICK OVERVIEW, KEVIN?

Kevin Cook: YES. SO THESE ARE PROVISIONS FOR OUR TYPE ONE APPLICATION PROCEDURES. CURRENTLY OTHER TYPES OF APPLICATIONS SUCH AS TYPE 2 HAVE PROVISIONS FOR A COMPLETENESS REVIEW, EXPIRATION DATES, AND THINGS OF THAT NATURE IN THE, AND THE TYPE 1 APPLICATIONS DID NOT EXPRESSLY PROVIDE THOSE TYPES OF PROVISIONS. SO WHAT THIS ORDINANCE IS DOING ESSENTIALLY IS BRINGING THESE TYPE ONE PROCEDURES INTO LINE WITH OUR OTHER APPLICATION TYPES. AND JUST A LITTLE FURTHER CLARIFICATION, THE TYPE 1 APPLICATION IS ONE THAT DOESN'T REQUIRE THE DISCRETIONARY FINDINGS, SO IT'S ESSENTIALLY DID A PERSON MEET THE CRITERIA OR NOT. SO IT'S KIND OF A YES OR NO, NON-DISCRETIONARY KIND OF DECISION.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: SO THIS IS REALLY A STREAMLINING OF OUR PROCESS.

Kevin Cook: THAT'S CORRECT, AND IT DOES PROVIDE TIMELINES AND SOME CLARITY AND CERTAINTY TO OUR APPLICATION.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: GREAT. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Commissioner Smith: YES, MADAM CHAIR, THANK YOU. COULD YOU GIVE ME SOME SORT OF IDEA HOW MANY EXISTING APPLICATIONS WE HAVE IN THE QUEUE RIGHT NOW?

Kevin Cook: IN TERMS OF INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS?

Commissioner Smith: YES.

Kevin Cook: I BELIEVE IT'S SOMEWHERE AROUND A DOZEN. I AM NOT CERTAIN ON THAT. ONE OF OUR PLANS IS TO REACH OUT TO APPLICANTS WHO HAVE PENDING APPLICATIONS AND LET THEM KNOW THEIR APPLICATIONS WILL SUNSET AT A CERTAIN PERIOD, 180 DAYS IF THEY DON'T BECOME COMPLETE. SO WE WILL BE REACHING OUT.

Commissioner Smith: HOW WILL WE REACH OUT? CALL THEM OR SEND THEM A LETTER OR DO BOTH?

Kevin Cook: I THINK WE ANTICIPATED SENDING A LETTER, BUT CERTAINLY OUR PLANNERS WOULD HAVE THEIR PHONE NUMBERS ON FILE, SO WE CAN DO THAT EXTRA STUFF.

Commissioner Smith: IT WOULD BE GREAT IF YOU COULD GIVE THEM A CALL, TO REALLY LET THEM KNOW. SOME OF THESE APPLICANTS MAY BE OLDER, AND YOU KNOW, A VERBAL CONVERSATION WOULD PROBABLY BE GREAT FOR THEM TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING.

Kevin Cook: EXCELLENT POINT. WE WILL MAKE THAT HAPPEN.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: DO WE HAVE ANY TESTIMONY?

Board Clerk: NO.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: ALL THOSE IN FAVOR PLEASE VOTE AYE. THE SECOND READ IS APPROVED AND THE ORDINANCES IS ADOPTED. THANK YOU.

R.2 BUDGET MODIFICATION # SUPP01-DCA-01-19: Appropriates \$4.65 Million of Existing Resources in the ERP Project Fund for the Multco Align Project Due to a Change in the "Go-Live" Date. Presenter: Adam Brown, Senior Budget Analyst

Vice-Chair Stegmann: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MOVES. COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SECONDS APPROVAL OF R2. GOOD MORNING.

Adam Brown: GOOD MORNING. ADAM BROWN HERE FROM THE BUDGE OFFICE REQUESTING APPROVAL TO APPROPRIATE \$4.65 MILLION OF EXISTING RESOURCES IN THE ERP PROJECT FUND. SO THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET WAS BUILT BASED ON AN ASSUMED JULY 1, 2018 GO LIVE DATE FOR THE WORK THAT THE ERP PROGRAM DOES. WITH THE TIME LINE AND GO LIVE DATE OF JANUARY 1, 2019, SOME OF THE PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND THE RELATED SPENDING THAT WERE ORIGINALLY SUPPOSED TO TAKE PLACE IN FISCAL YEAR 2018 WILL TAKE PLACE IN 2019. SO THIS BUDGET ACTION ADDS THE 4.65 MILLION TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 ERP BUDGET, INCREASING IT FROM 19.9 MILLION TO 24.5. THE OVERALL PROJECT BUDGET REMAINS UNCHANGED, AND THIS 4.65 MILLION INCREASE IS MORE THAN 10% OF THE FUND BALANCE, SO A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET IS REQUIRED BUT FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES THIS IS A STANDARD BUDGET MODIFICATION.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: GREAT, THANK YOU. ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD?

Commissioner Vega Pederson: I APPRECIATE THE CLARIFICATION THAT THIS IS NOT ADDING ANYTHING TO THE BUDGET, AND I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT IT ALSO -- THIS IS BASED ON THE DATE CHANGE THAT WE HAD TALKED ABOUT EARLIER IN TERMS OF THE GO LIVE DATE, BUT THERE ARE NOT ANY OTHER CHANGES AT THIS POINT TO THAT GO LIVE DATE?

Adam Brown: ABSOLUTELY. SO THIS IS JUST SORT OF THE NATURAL PROCESS WHEN YOU HAVE A LARGE CAPITAL PROJECT, OFTENTIMES, YOU KNOW, THINGS CHANGE. AND BECAUSE THE PROJECT HAS SPANNED MULTIPLE FISCAL YEARS WE ARE SHIFTING THE MONEY TO 2019 BECAUSE SOME OF THOSE PROJECT DELIVERABLES CHANGED.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR. AND WILL IT GO LIVE ON JANUARY 1? 2019?

Adam Brown: SO I AM HERE FOR THE TECHNICAL PROCESS, WHICH IS APPROPRIATING THESE FUNDS.

Commissioner Smith: YOU KNEW I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU THAT, RIGHT?

Adam Brown: YEAH. OBVIOUSLY THAT'S A PERFECTLY REASONABLE QUESTION. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO CONNECT WITH THE PROGRAM FOLKS SO THAT THEY CAN GIVE YOU AN UPDATE ON WHERE THE PROJECT IS.

Commissioner Smith: OKAY. THANK YOU.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?

Vice-Chair Stegmann: ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE. THE BUDGET MODIFICATION IS APPROVED. THANK YOU.

R.3 Proclaiming Thursday August 23, 2018 as Opal Strong Day in Multnomah County, Oregon. Presenters: Rekah Strong, family, & other invited guests.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MOVES. COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SECONDS APPROVAL OF R3.

Commissioner Smith: CAN WE HAVE JACKIE STRONG COME UP, GAIL STRONG AND ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY, PASTOR STRONG, PLEASE COME TO THE FRONT. I WANT TO THANK MY COLLEAGUES FOR HELPING ME TO SUPPORT TODAY'S PROCLAMATION OF MISS OPAL STRONG. AND I WANT TO THANK THE FAMILY OF MISS STRONG FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION TODAY. I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE SOME REMARKS AT HER HOME-GOING CELEBRATION LAST WEEK. IT WAS EXCITING AND ENGAGING AND INSPIRING AND ALSO REMINDED ME OF ALL OF THE GREAT WORK THAT MOTHER STRONG DID IN THIS COMMUNITY FROM BEING A PRESIDENT OF THE HUMBOLDT

ASSOCIATION, AND IT REMINDED ME OF THE TIMES WHEN ME AND THE SENATOR WOULD COME OVER AND GET THAT AMAZING SWEET POTATO PIE. SO I AM JUST THRILLED TODAY AND VERY HONORED. I KNOW THAT MY GRANDPARENTS CAME HERE IN 1944 JUST LIKE YOUR MOM, AND OUR FAMILIES HAVE CROSSED OVER THE YEARS. AND PORTLAND IS A VERY SPECIAL PLACE. I THINK WE ARE A LOT BETTER FOR HAVING THE STRONG FAMILY, AND PARTICULARLY, THE MATRIARCH OF THE FAMILY BEING IN OUR COMMUNITY AS A RESULT OF ALL OF THE LONG, HARD WORK. SO I WANT TO THANK YOU, SHARING THE HISTORY, THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE INCREDIBLE WOMAN PROVIDES US WITH A GLIMPSE OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN PORTLAND, OREGON. THIS FROM A NOT ALWAYS SO KIND, OPEN, INCLUSIVE TIME IN OUR HISTORY. I KNOW THAT MANY AFRICAN-AMERICANS MOVED HERE TO WORK IN THE KAISER SHIPYARDS AS MY GRANDFATHER DID. LIKE SO MANY OTHER PORTLAND AFRICAN-AMERICAN PIONEERS FROM HERRERA, HER ERA, SHE PERSEVERED. IT IS NOT FROM INACTIVITY. SHE WAS ENGAGED. SHE WAS COMMITTED. SHE BETTERED THE COMMUNITY SHE LIVED IN BY HER INVOLVEMENT. NOT ONLY AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD LEVEL, BUT ALSO AT THE STATEWIDE LEVEL. I AM SO HONORED TODAY TO BRING HER STORY TO MY COLLEAGUES AND THE COMMUNITY AND TO THE BROADER COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE SERVE. IF YOU FEEL UP TO IT, I THINK THAT I WOULD LIKE THE FAMILY TO SPEAK BEFORE WE READ THE PROCLAMATION.

Jackie Strong: OKAY. FOR THE RECORD I AM JACKIE STRONG. FIRST OF ALL LORTA, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR BEING THE SPEARHEAD ON MAKING THIS PROCLAMATION HAPPEN. WE REMEMBERED THOSE DAYS OF YOU COMING THROUGH THE RESTAURANT WITH YOUR WONDERFUL SMILE, AND MOM WOULD ALWAYS SAY, THAT GIRL HAS POTENTIAL. WE KNEW THAT YOU WERE DESTINED FOR GREATNESS. AND WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE COMMISSIONERS. WE KNOW EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO HERE AS A TEAM EFFORT, AND WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOU COMING TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS DAY HAPPEN. IF I COULD SUMMARIZE WHO MY MOM WAS, OPAL STRONG, IN ONE WORD, I THINK IT WOULD HAVE TO BE MULTI-DIMENSIONAL. SHE WAS A WOMAN THAT WAS WAY AHEAD OF HER TIMES. I THINK IF THERE WAS A SPORTS ANALOGY OF ATHLETES THAT I COULD COMPARE HER TO, IT WILL BE SERENA WILLIAMS AND LEGACY LEBRON JAMES. EVEN THOUGH SHE WALKED WITH KINGS AND QUEENS, SHE WAS ALSO ABLE TO WALK WITH FOLKS THAT WERE FROM IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITIES, LOCKED UP, INCARCERATED. I REMEMBER HER GOING TO SEE EARTHA KIDD, AND SAYING, OPAL STRONG HAPPY BIRTHDAY. AND I REMEMBER MARK HATFIELD BEING A CONSISTENT RESIDENT THROUGH OUR HOUSE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT SHE PARTICIPATED IN.

TOM MCCALL, ANOTHER POLITICAL PERSON THAT IS A PART OF PORTLAND'S HISTORY. MOM WAS ALSO A BUSINESSWOMAN. SHE WAS AN ENTREPRENEUR. AT 85 SHE HELPED ME START MA AND PA RESTAURANT, THE RESTAURANT

THAT LORETTA WAS MENTIONING. SHE WAS A COMMUNITY ACTIVIST. SHE WAS A CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST. A THERAPIST. A POLITICAL ACTIVIST. AND IN SPITE OF THAT, SHE MADE HER CHILDREN FEEL SPECIAL LIKE WE WERE THE ONLY ONES, EVEN THOUGH OFTEN AT TIMES I WAS JEALOUS THAT SHE GAVE SO MUCH ATTENTION TO OTHERS, AND OTHERS SAID, SHE'S MY MOM, TOO. BUT I HAD TO LEARN TO DEAL WITH THAT. I THINK THAT MOST OF ALL, THOUGH, IN SPITE OF HER DOING ALL OF THESE OTHER ACTIVISTS THINGS. SHE WAS A HELPER AND A HEALER. SHE SIFTED ALL MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS OVERCOME THEIR OBSTACLES. SHE PROVIDED SUPPORT TO WOMEN.

Jackie Strong: SHE WAS AHEAD OF THE ME TOO MOVEMENT. SHE SUPPORTED THE ELDERLY AND THE HOMELESS. AND THE GREATER COMMUNITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON. SHE ALSO HAS PASSED ON HER ABILITY TO HEAL TO HER OFF-SPRINGS. AND THERE ARE MULTIPLE LAWYERS, AND MBA'S, DOCTORATES, AND OUTSTAND IS PASTORS, AND CEOS, AND I MEAN, A HOST OF PROFESSIONALS THAT ARE GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY AS SHE DID. YOU OFTEN WILL -- I THINK THAT THE THING THAT REALLY ILLUSTRATES HER WILLINGNESS TO GIVE WAS THE FACT THAT AT 101 LAST YEAR, ME AND MY WIFE AND MY GRANDCHILDREN, WE ALWAYS FIX ABOUT 200 LUNCHES AND GO UNDERNEATH THE BRIDGES AND GIVE THEM OUT TO THE HOMELESS. EVEN AT 101 YEARS OF AGE, WITH HER BODY RIDDLED WITH ILLNESS AND ACHES AND PAINS, AND THE ONE THING THAT SHE WANTED TO DO THAT LAST THANKSGIVING WAS TO GO OUT AND GIVE MONEY TO THE HOMELESS AND GIVE FOOD TO THE HOMELESS. HER JOB WAS TO GIVE OUT \$5 BILLS WITH THE LUNCHES THAT WE WOULD GO OUT AND GIVE. EVERYBODY LOVED HER. THEY WANTED TO HUG HER, AND THEY WANTED TO HISS HER. AND THEY WANTED HER TO BE THEIR MOM, AS WELL. YOU OFTEN HEAR THE CLICHE, YOU NEVER MISS YOUR WATER UNTIL THE WELL RUNS DRY. THAT'S NOT THE CASE WITH OUR MOM, OPAL STRONG AND THIS PROCLAMATION PROVES THAT. COMBINED WITH HER OFFSPRING, LIKE I SAID, JUST AN ABUNDANCE OF TALENT, WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO SPREAD HER WATER AND HER WELL WILL NEVER RUN DRY. IT WILL FLOW FOREVER. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU, JACKIE. PASTOR MARK STRONG?

Pastor Mark Strong: I AM GOING TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF MY FATHER, LUTHER STRONG, WHO WAS NOT ABLE TO MAKE IT. I APPRECIATE THIS ACT OF KINDNESS AND JUST YOUR WILLINGNESS TO REMEMBER MY GRANDMOTHER. I THINK THAT ONE OF THE THINGS THAT YOU KNOW, JUST HAS TAKEN PLACE, IN THE CITY OF PORTLAND AND A LOT OF THE HISTORICAL FINGERPRINTS THAT WERE ONCE ETCHED SO FROM OUR COMMUNITY ARE KIND OF FADING AWAY. AND I THINK THAT THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO, THAT YOU ARE DOING TO KIND OF KEEP SOME HISTORICAL MARKINGS IN A CITY THAT IS CHANGING. THE THING THAT I LIKE, WOULD LIKE TO SAY ABOUT MY GRANDMOTHER IS SHE GAVE IT ALL. SHE ALWAYS GAVE IT ALL. SHE GAVE ALL

OF HER HEART. SHE GAVE ALL OF HER MIND. SHE GAVE ALL OF HER STRENGTH, SO WHATCOM PRIDES HER AS AN INDIVIDUAL, SHE WILLINGLY AND FREELY GAVE IT TO THE CITY OF PORTLAND. SO I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR HONORING HER EFFORT AND HONORING THE WORK THAT SHE DID. I THINK THAT THIS IS JUST A GIFT BACK TO HER FOR THE GIFT THAT SHE GAVE FOR DECADES, SO YOU HAVE THIS.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU, GAIL.

Gail Strong: I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR HONORING MY MOTHER, AND I THINK THAT THIS IS A GREAT DAY FOR US AS A FAMILY AS WELL AS FOR THE YOUNGER ONES, THE GRANDKIDS AND THE GREAT GRANDS THAT SHE HAS THAT THEY CAN SEE THAT IT ONLY TAKES ONE PERSON TO DO SOMETHING AND TO MAKE A CHANGE. IT DOES NOT TAKE A LOT OF PEOPLE. IT JUST TAKES ONE PERSON TO START. THEN OTHERS WILL COME ALONG WITH THEM. I WANT TO THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR HONORING OUR MOTHER AND ALLOWING US TO COME AND ENJOY THIS WONDERFUL PRESENTATION. WE THANK LORETTA AGAIN FOR COMING AND SPEAKING AT HER FUNERAL. WE WOULD LIKE TO, LIKE EVERYONE TO KNOW THAT WE ARE HERE. WE ARE AVAILABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE HAD BIG CHANGES. WE ARE THERE STILL. WE ARE NOT LEAVING. WE ARE NOT GOING ANYWHERE. WE ARE GOING TO STAY THERE AND WORK AND CONTINUE THE LEGACY THAT OUR MOTHER STARTED. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR HONORING HER TODAY.

Katherine Strong: I AM KATHERINE, AND I AM OPEN OPAL'S GRANDDAUGHTER, AND I WANT TO ECHO OUR GRATITUDE TO THE BOARD FOR RECOGNIZING OPAL FOR ANY COMMUNITY, FOR IT TO BE HEALTHY, IT REQUIRES HAVING GOOD VALUES THAT CAN GO FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION. SO WITH OPAL STRONG, HER ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN, HER ADVOCACY FOR SENIORS, HER ADVOCACY FOR THE HOMELESS, AND HER CONCERN AND WORK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE HAS REALLY MADE A POINT IN THIS COMMUNITY IN THE CITY OF PORTLAND, AND WE THANK YOU FOR ACKNOWLEDGING THAT AND THAT AS A VALUE FOR OUR COUNTY. SO THANK YOU FOR PUTTING THAT INFORMATION ON THE LEGACY AND ON THE VALUES, AND LETTING THE CITIZENS KNOW THAT THEIR WORKS WILL BE RECOGNIZED AND HELP TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY. SO THANK YOU FOR THAT. THIS IS WHAT WE FEEL THIS AWARD AND THIS PROCLAMATION JUST SEALS THE DEAL FOR US AS, YOU KNOW, BEING GOOD CITIZENS, SO THANK YOU.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD? COMMISSIONER?

Commissioner Vega Pederson: THANK YOU VICE CHAIR. THANK YOU VERY MUCH COMMISSIONER SMITH FOR BRINGING THIS PROCLAMATION FORWARD. I THINK THAT THIS IS SUCH A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY THAT WE HAVE TO

SAY THANK YOU TO YOU FOR LENDING YOUR MOTHER TO US, FOR OUR COMMUNITY, FOR ME, I LOVE WHEN WE DO THESE THINGS BECAUSE WHEN WE SEE THE SLIDE SHOWS, WE SEE, YOU KNOW, THESE WONDERFUL PICTURES OF YOUR MOTHER, BUT I GET TO SEE THE STRENGTH AND BEAUTY THAT SHE HAS SHARED THROUGHOUT THE GENERATIONS AND THE RESEMBLANCE OF YOU WHO ARE SPEAKING SO WARMLY FOR HER. I LOVE THAT.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: I THINK THAT THE WORK THAT WE DO TODAY, THE WORK THAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY TODAY ON ISSUES LIKE SOCIAL JUSTICE, ON ISSUES OF FACING THE HOMELESSNESS AND ISSUES LIKE SO MANY OF THE THINGS FOR YOUTH AND AUT THINGS THAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT, WE HAVE TO RECOGNIZE AND APPRECIATE THAT WE ARE STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS, AND YOUR MOTHER WAS ONE OF THOSE THAT HELPED TO LEAD US TO THE PLACE WHERE WE ARE, AND IT IS ENABLING US TO DO THE WORK. WE NEED TO BE HUMBLE IN FRONT OF THAT, TO ACKNOWLEDGE HOW MUCH WE OWED TO THE PEOPLE WHO CAME BEFORE US WHO WERE REALLY LEADING THIS FOR PORTLAND. THERE IS A LOT OF CHANGE HAPPENING IN OUR CITY. I THINK THAT REMEMBERING OUR ROOTS IS THE WAY FOR US TO STAY CONNECTED AND TO KEEP THOSE BONDS REALLY STRONG. SO I AM SO HONORED TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS TODAY, AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING HERE.

Commissioner Meieran: I ECHO WHAT COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON HAS SAID, AND I ALSO WANT TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY AND FOR JUST SPEAKING SO BEAUTIFULLY ABOUT YOUR MOM, YOUR GRANDMA, YOUR GREAT GRANDMA BECAUSE SHE WAS SUCH AN INCREDIBLE FORCE. THIS IS A SMALL GIFT, BUT I AM SO GLAD THAT WE ARE ABLE TO GIVE THIS SMALL GIFT TO HER AND TO YOUR FAMILY AFTER WHAT SHE HAS GIVEN TO OUR COMMUNITY FOR SO MANY YEARS, SO MANY YEARS. I JUST LOVED, I JUST LOVED THAT DESCRIPTION OF THE WELL, AND YOU ARE SAYING THAT HER WELL WILL NEVER RUN DRY AND WILL FLOW FOREVER. THIS WILL HELP US IN HAVING THAT WELL CONTINUE TO RUN. I ALSO REALLY APPRECIATE WHAT YOU SAID AND THE LESSON FOR OUR KIDS AND FOR ALL OF US THAT IT, IT TAKES ONE PERSON. YOU JUST PUT YOUR MIND TO IT. YOU, YOU SEE THINGS THAT ARE WRONG, AND YOU CALL THEM OUT, AND YOU GO OUT THERE, AND YOU MAKE YOUR DIFFERENCE, AND IT COULD CHANGE YOUR COMMUNITY, IT CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. SO THANK YOU AGAIN FOR BEING HERE AND FOR LENDING YOUR MOM, GRANDMOM AND GREAT GRANDMOM, TOO.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: I AGREE WITH EVERYTHING SAID, AND I WANT TO THANK YOUR FAMILY. I SEE SOME OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE HERE, AND RIGHT NOW AS YOU KNOW THERE IS SO MUCH NEGATIVITY IN OUR COUNTRY. TO HAVE LEADERS LIKE OPAL, WHO HAVE BEEN FIGHTING THE FIGHT FOR LITERALLY DECADES AND THEN THE FACT THAT SHE LEAVES THIS AMAZING LEGACY IN

HER FAMILY IS JUST -- IT'S OVERWHELMING. SO I DON'T THINK THAT WE SHOULD EVER LOSE SIGHT THAT EACH THOUGH THERE ARE THINGS GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY, THAT WE DON'T LIKE, WE DON'T APPROVE, AND THAT THERE ARE STILL -- THERE IS GREATNESS AND GOODNESS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY, AND YOU ALL ARE THAT LEGACY, AND I THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND THANK COMMISSIONER SMITH FOR BRINGING THIS PROCLAMATION FORWARD. I DID NOT KNOW YOUR MOTHER. I WISH THAT I HAD. SHE SOUNDS INCREDIBLE. AS COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON SAID WE ALL STAND ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS. YOUR MOTHER, YOUR GRANDMOTHER WAS ONE OF THOSE GIANTS. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING HERE TODAY.

Commissioner Smith: VERY WELL SAID, VICE CHAIR. I THINK AS I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE FAMILY AND I WAS TRYING TO REMEMBER THE NUMBERS. JACKIE YOU HAVE TO TELL ME BECAUSE I WANT THIS IS A PART OF THE RECORD. GIVE ME THE NUMBER OF KIDS, GRANDKIDS, AND GREAT GRANDKIDS, SOMEONE DID THAT LAST WEEK, AND I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT WAS. CAN YOU GIVE ME THAT?

Jackie Strong: I WILL HAVE TO ASK FOR HELP ON THAT ONE. YOU HAVE HEARD THE SAYING, A VILLAGE. SHE HAS A VILLAGE.

Commissioner Smith: YOU HAVE SIX GENERATIONS.

Katherine Strong: SO THERE ARE 17 GRANDCHILDREN. 27 GREAT GRANDCHILDREN. AND GREAT MINNESOTA GET-TOGETHER GRANDS, THERE IS ONE, OR WOULD?

Jackie Strong: TWO.

Commissioner Smith: GREAT, GREAT GRAND, SO TWO, MAYBE THREE. AND COUNTING. AND HOW MANY KIDS?

Jackie Strong: FOUR, THREE. ONE WHO DIED.

Commissioner Smith: SO IT WAS FOUR.

Katherine Strong: A TOTAL OF FIVE, THREE LIVING.

Commissioner Smith: WHY DID I THINK THAT YOU HAD TEN KIDS?

Katherine Strong: BECAUSE IT FEELS LIKE IT.

Jackie Strong: IT OFTENTIMES, NEPHEWS GET CONFUSED WITH THE KIDS. WE ARE ALL STRONGS.

Commissioner Smith: 51. THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THAT'S AMAZING. AND OUTSTANDING, JUST LIKE HER LIFE. IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS. AS THE SECOND ONLY AFRICAN-AMERICAN TO SERVE HERE, AND I KNEW THAT SHE KNEW GLADYS MCCOY. TO BE ABLE TO HONOR HER IN HER LIFE OF 101 YEARS IS JUST REMARKABLE. AND I THINK THAT WE SHOULD ALL STRIVE TO GET THAT AGE AND TO BE ABLE TO HAVE A FAMILY TO HELP SUPPORT YOU. I KNOW THAT FAMILY IS VERY IMPORTANT TO THE STRONG FAMILY, AND YOU HAVE LENDED YOURSELF TO THE COMMUNITY, ALL OF YOU. SO I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

IT MEANS A LOT. I AM GOING TO READ THE PROCLAMATION IF THAT'S OKAY WITH YOU. BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON, PRO CLAIMING AUGUST 23, 2018 AS OPAL STRONG DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER FINDS OPAL STRONG WAS BORN ON JANUARY 30, 1916, TO ROSEY THOMPSON AND FRED HENDERSON OF NOD, OKLAHOMA, IN 1943 OPAL STRONG, ALONG WITH HER HUSBAND, LUTHER STRONG, SETTLED IN PORTLAND, OREGON. THEY BOTH WERE KNOWN AS COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS, MENTORS TO THE LEADERS OF COLOR AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE. DURING HER LIFE AS A POLITICAL ACTIVIST, OPAL SERVED MULTNOMAH COUNTY RESIDENTS THROUGH MANY LEADERSHIP ROLES. OPAL WAS A FOUNDING MEMBER AND ACTIVE PARTICIPANT LEADING THE HUMBOLDT KING NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION. DATING BACK TO MODEL CITIES, WHICH IS NOW THE NORTHEAST COALITION OF NEIGHBORHOODS. SHE SERVED AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE HUMBOLDT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION. SHE WAS A LONG TIME MEMBER OF THE ALBINA WOMEN'S LEAGUE AND WAS AN ORIGINAL BOARD MEMBER OF THE SALVATION ARMY, MOORE STREET COMMUNITY CENTER. OPAL WAS APPOINTED BY THE LATE GOVERNOR VICK ATIYAH TO SERVE AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR THE COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS OF OREGON.

Commissioner Smith: OPAL WAS ALSO RECOGNIZED AND AWARDED BY THE NORTHEAST COALITION OF NEIGHBORHOODS FOR DECADES OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, AND 2007 SHE WAS AWARDED THE NORTH PORTLAND COMMUNITY PRIDE AWARD. IN 2011 OPAL WAS THE RECIPIENT OF THE SPIRIT OF PORTLAND COMMUNITY HARMONY AWARD. OPAL MADE A STRONG LASTING IMPRINT ON THE PORTLAND COMMUNITY BY DEDICATING HER LIFE AS A CHRISTIAN AND A COMMUNITY MOTHER WHO ALSO IS NATIONALLY KNOWN FOR HER SWEET POTATO AND PINEAPPLE PIES. OPAL STRONG'S LEGACY AND COMMITMENT TO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMUNITY SERVICE AND MENTORSHIP HAS MADE MULTNOMAH COUNTY STRONGER, MORE FAIR, MORE INCLUSIVE, AND MORE DIVERSE FOR EVERYONE AND ALL ITS CITIZENS. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIMS AUGUST 23, 2018, AS OPAL STRONG DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON. ADOPTED THIS 30TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2018. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

Jackie Strong: THANK YOU.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: THANK YOU COMMISSIONER SMITH. FIRST WE MUST VOTE. THEN WE CAN CLAP. MAYBE WE CAN HAVE A PHOTO-OP. OKAY. SO ALL THOSE IN FAVOR PLEASE VOTE AYE. CONGRATULATIONS. THE PROCLAMATION IS ADOPTED. NOW LET'S CLAP. [APPLAUSE]

Commissioner Smith: CAN WE HAVE A QUICK PHOTO-OP UP FRONT, PLEASE?

BOARD COMMENT

BC.1 Opportunity as time allows, for the Commissioners to provide comment on non-agenda items.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: WE HAVE JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE BUSINESS BEFORE WE CONCLUDE. ALL RIGHT, NOW IS WHEN WE HAVE TIME FOR BOARD COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. DOES ANYONE HAVE ANYTHING THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS?

Commissioner Vega Pederson: I HAVE TWO THINGS. HOPEFULLY YOU KNOW I'VE BEEN THE COUNTY'S REPRESENTATIVE ON TRI-MET'S HOUSE BILL 2017 TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, SO THIS IS THE COMMITTEE THAT WAS CHARGED BY THE LEGISLATURE WITH RECOMMENDING HOW THE NEW INFLUX OF FUNDING FROM HOUSE BILL 2017 WILL BE SPENT IN OUR REGION ON TRANSIT. SO THERE IS A NEW EMPLOYEE TAX IMPLEMENTED THAT HAS GONE INTO EFFECT, AND WE ARE TALKING ABOUT HOW THIS SHOULD BE SPENT. SO LAST WEEK THERE WAS AN GUARANTEE ON THE COMMITTEE ON A PROPOSAL TO SHARE WITH THE PUBLIC AND THEN -- AND THERE'S GOING TO BE A COMMENT PERIOD. WE ARE GOING TO BE VOTING ON THE FINAL PLAN NEXT MONTH. SO I WANTED OUR BOARD TO HAVE THAT OPPORTUNITY TO WEIGH IN, SO I WANTED TO TELL YOU A BIT ABOUT WHAT'S INCLUDED.

SO I THINK THAT FROM THE COUNTY'S PERSPECTIVE AND THIS BOARD'S PERSPECTIVE OUR PRIORITIES ARE TO FOCUS ON SERVING THOSE WITH FEW TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS, SUCH AS LOW INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, AND TEN-POINT EQUITY LENS IN OUR DECISION-MAKING. I FEEL AS THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY WE SHOULD SEE THIS AS A CRITICAL OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH OUTCOMES AND IN PARTICULAR TO REDUCE THE DIESEL POLLUTION AND CARBON EMISSIONS. AND I REALLY FEEL LIKE THOSE PRIORITIES ARE EMBEDDED IN THE PROPOSAL. SO THE PROPOSAL ITSELF INCLUDES FUNDING FOR THE LOW INCOME FAIR PROGRAM, WHICH YOU PROBABLY HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT. SO THIS PROVIDES FOR FOLKS AT 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE AND BELOW A REDUCED FARE IN ACCESSING TRANSIT SERVICES AND TICKETS. IT ALSO INCLUDES A BIG COMPONENT ON SERVICE EXPANSION, SO THAT WOULD BRING NEW FREQUENCY SERVICE TO OVER 250,000 LOW INCOME INDIVIDUALS

WITHIN A QUARTER MILE OF THE NEW LINE THREAT, AND LESS THAN 20 MINUTE SERVICE TO 9,000 LOW INCOME INDIVIDUALS. THE PROPOSAL ALSO ADDS LATER AND EARLIER SERVICE AND WEEKEND SERVICE ON SOME KEY ROUTES. I AM HAPPY TO PROVIDE MAPS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THAT.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: IT WILL BRING IN TO THE REGION FIVE NEW BUS LINES, TEN FREQUENCY UPGRADES, FIVE NEW 15-MINUTE FREQUENT SERVICE LINES AND FOUR FREQUENT SERVICE LINE UPGRADES TO 12 MINUTES. SO THAT'S THE SERVICE. THERE IS ALSO -- THERE WAS ALSO A VOTE TO SPECIFICALLY TARGET MONEY FOR SENIOR AND DISABLED SERVICES, SO THIS WILL INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS AND COMMUNITY SHUTTLES AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES THAT ARE NEEDED TO CONNECT SENIORS AND THOSE WITH DISABILITIES. THE INVESTMENTS AND THOSE SERVICES WILL BE TARGETED TOWARDS AREAS IDENTIFIED IN AN EQUITY MAT AS A NEED OF SERVICES, INCLUDING EAST PORTLAND AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY. THEN THE LAST COMPONENT IS ELECTRIC BUSES. SO THERE IS MONEY SET ASIDE FOR THE PURCHASE OF 60 ELECTRIC BUS THAT IS TRI-MET HAS VOWED TO BASE OUT OF ITS GARAGE. AND DEPLOY ALONG ROUTES SERVING LOW INCOME AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR WHO WE KNOW ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY AIR POLLUTION. SO MY HOPE IS TO CIRCULATE A LETTER ON THIS TOPIC AND HAVE A SIGN-ON, AND I AM HAPPY TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION OR ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE. AS I HAD MENTIONED THERE IS A PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING ON THE PROPOSAL, AND I WILL MAKE SURE THAT YOUR OFFICES KNOW ABOUT THOSE OPPORTUNITIES IF YOU WANT TO SHARE THOSE WITH YOUR NETWORK.

Vice-Chair Stegmann: THANK YOU. OTHER COMMENTS? COMMISSIONER SMITH? I JUST WANTED TO MAKE A COUPLE OF COMMENTS. MR. WALSH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TESTIMONY. I JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT I, FOR ONE, HAVE BEEN VERY VOCAL ABOUT MY DISPLEASURE OF OUR CURRENT PRESIDENT. IF YOU LOOK AT ANY OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA, I THINK THAT YOU WILL FIND A FEW THINGS. SO ANYWAY, I AM WITH YOU, AND I BELIEVE THAT THIS BOARD AND MY COLLEAGUES OPPOSE ANY LIMITATION ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND I, TOO, SHARE YOUR VIEW AND OPINION AND RESPECT FOR OUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY UNDERHILL. I WAS VERY, VERY PROUD TO READ ABOUT HIM STEPPING UP AND TAKING AN ACTION AND BECOMING AN ACTIVIST, SO VERY PROUD OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY ROD UNDERHILL SO IF YOU ARE OUT WHEN, PLEASE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE OUR SUPPORT. SO WITH THAT, IF NOTHING ELSE, THE MEETING IS ADJOURNED

ADJOURNMENT - 10:28 a.m

[CAPTIONS PROVIDED BY LNS CAPTIONING AND MAY INCLUDE INACCURATE WORDS OR PHRASES DUE TO SOUND QUALITY, OTHER TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND/OR SOFTWARE ERRORS.]

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Submitted by:
Marina Baker, Board Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County, Oregon

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