



COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Hall Council Chambers, 10501 SE Main Street
& Zoom Video Conference (www.milwaukieoregon.gov)

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

Council Present: Councilors Adam Khosroabadi, Robert Massey, Rebecca Stavenjord, and Council President Will Anderson, and Mayor Lisa Batey

Staff Present: Tanya Battye, Civil Engineer	Justin Gericke, City Attorney
Joseph Briglio, Assistant City Manager	Emma Sagor, City Manager
Jennifer Garbely, City Engineer	Scott Stauffer, City Recorder

Mayor Batey called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

1. Safe Access for Everyone (SAFE) and Street Surface Maintenance Program (SSMP) – Annual Report

Garbely presented the combined annual report for the SAFE and SSMP programs by outlining the original goals for the programs. **Mayor Batey** and **Garbely** discussed how the program had originally prioritized arterial and collector streets, and how the city had recognized the need to address residential streets as well. The discussion included an overview of funding sources, including bonds, and the need for future funding in the next budget.

Battye discussed the pavement condition index (PCI) and noted that while arterial and collector streets were continuing to decline, residential streets had shown improvement due to focused efforts. The last PCI assessment was conducted in 2019, and a new evaluation was planned for the spring to ensure accurate data for future planning. The group discussed the PCI assessment process and how future technology would improve how staff approaches remediation of deteriorating streets.

Garbely provided updates on the nine-year SAFE project list, which included noting that the city was unsuccessful in obtaining a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant, but staff planned to resubmit a grant application in the next funding cycle. The group discussed the scoring process for grants and potential improvements for future submissions, and funding challenges, particularly in addressing street and sidewalk improvements beyond the current bond allocations.

Garbely and **Battye** provided updates on the Washington Street improvements and Ardenwald North improvements projects. **Garbely** and **Councilor Stavenjord** discussed the installation of a rapid flashing beacon at 42nd and Roswell. **Mayor Batey** noted past community feedback requesting additional street lighting in some areas and emphasized the importance of evaluating lighting needs in future projects.

Garbely provided an update on the Harvey Street improvements, explaining that the project would go out to bid in March 2025 and that utility work would begin first, as a major water pipeline replacement was needed to address outdated and undersized infrastructure. **Garbely** presented the improvements for King Road and noted that the project will likely come in under budget.

Garbely provided an update on the 2025 SSMP project, noting that design is underway and will include a slurry seal and grind-and-inlay work, with bidding expected soon. **Garbely** and **Battye** discussed the progress of the Washington Monroe Greenway, the eastern segment is at 60% design, and the city was awarded an additional \$1.5 million in

funding to restore previously removed elements. The central segment recently completed waterline work, with railroad crossing designs in progress and a request for qualifications (RFQ) forthcoming. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is handling the Highway 224 section, while Clackamas County's portion east of Linwood Avenue is set to begin construction in the coming weeks.

Garbely presented the Stanley Avenue Improvements, noting that the SRTS grant had been denied. The group discussed alternative approaches to move the project forward despite the grant denial. **Garbely** provided a summary of engineering's plans for all projects moving forward and the group discussed funding and possible adjustments to the SAFE fee structure to address funding gaps, it was emphasized that future funding strategies should be carefully planned, and there was a need to balance long-term funding sustainability with project prioritization.

The discussion concluded with an overview of ongoing and completed projects, the importance of sharing progress updates with both Council and the public, and recognition that the Linwood Avenue project had won an award.

2. Council Committee Assignments – Discussion

Briglio introduced the discussion on Council committee assignments, and **Mayor Batey** and **Council President Anderson** extended the discussion into a broader conversation on Council's role in goal implementation and advocacy.

Council reviewed the effectiveness of the previous "swim lanes" approach and debated whether to shift toward a model that prioritizes goal-focused leadership. The group discussed various options, including having designated Council members serve as point persons for specific goals and the potential risks of serial meetings under Oregon's public meetings law. Concerns were raised about unnecessary bureaucracy, with an emphasis on Council maintaining a policy-focused role while staff handled implementation. While the previous "swim lane" approach had some successes, it was noted there were also challenges in execution and accountability.

It was suggested that Council align its committee assignments more directly with Council's goals. The group considered assigning two Council members per goal to ensure accountability and structured updates. **Councilor Stavenjord** wanted to ensure that committee assignments were allowing Council members to continue engaging with external groups based on individual interests. The group discussed using Council meetings for updates on goal progress and committee work.

Council agreed to refine the committee assignments and clarify which groups required formal city representation. The group also discussed the need to clearly differentiate between personal participation in external organizations and official city representation.

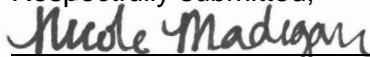
Sagor summarized that Council was moving away from "swim lanes", and noted that structured, periodic updates on goals had already been added to Council agendas.

3. Adjourn

Mayor Batey announced that would meet in executive session pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 192.660 (2)(e) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

Mayor Batey adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Madigan, Deputy City Recorder