



City Council

500 E 4th Ave., Suite 302
Eugene, OR 97401
541-682-5010 • 541-682-5414 Fax
www.eugene-or.gov

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

September 9, 2024

5:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Council Monday work sessions are held in hybrid format using in person and virtual meeting technology. Information about online or other options for access and participation will be available at <https://www.eugene-or.gov/3360/Webcasts-and-Meeting-Materials>

Meeting of September 9, 2024; Her Honor Mayor Lucy Vinis Presiding

Councilors

Matt Keating, President
Emily Semple
Alan Zelenka
Greg Evans

Randy Groves, Vice President
Lyndsie Leech
Jennifer Yeh
Mike Clark

5:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

1. WORK SESSION and POTENTIAL ACTION: Interim Police Auditor

2. WORK SESSION: Financial Condition

The Eugene City Council welcomes your interest in these agenda items. This meeting location is wheelchair-accessible. For the hearing impaired, an interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Spanish-language interpretation will also be provided with 48 hours' notice. To arrange for these services, contact the receptionist at 541-682-5010. City Council meetings are telecast live on Metro Television, Comcast channel 21, and rebroadcast later in the week.

El consejo de la Ciudad de Eugene agradece su interés en estos asuntos de la agenda. El lugar de la reunión tiene acceso para sillas de ruedas. Se puede proveer a un intérprete para las personas con discapacidad auditiva si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. También se puede proveer interpretación para español si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. Para reservar estos servicios llame al 541-682-5010. Las reuniones del consejo de la ciudad se transmiten en vivo por Metro Television, Canal 21 de Comcast y son retransmitidas durante la semana.

For more information, contact the Council Coordinator at 541-682-5010,
or visit us online at www.eugene-or.gov.



EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Work Session and Potential Action: Interim Police Auditor

Meeting Date: September 9, 2024

Department: Central Services

www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 1

Staff Contact: Mia Cariaga

Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5048

ISSUE STATEMENT

This work session and potential action item is to discuss the appointment of an Interim Police Auditor to serve in the position until permanently filled by the Council.

BACKGROUND

Police Auditor Leia Pitcher is leaving the organization. The Council must appoint an Interim Police Auditor to serve in the position starting at 5:01 p.m. on September 13, 2024 until the Council hires someone to permanently fill the position.

Council President Matt Keating has spoken with retired Police Auditor Mark Gissiner to discuss Mr. Gissiner's interest in serving as the Interim Police Auditor. Mr. Gissiner is willing to serve the Council as the Interim Auditor on a limited basis while the Council works on filling the position permanently.

Council is scheduled to discuss the process for permanently filling the position at Council's September 22, 2024 meeting.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

1. Appoint Mark Gissiner as the Interim Police Auditor and authorize Council leadership to negotiate and execute an employment agreement with compensation not to exceed the maximum annual amount currently budgeted for the position of Police Auditor. The Interim Police Auditor's compensation will include a base salary, living allowance, and incidentals; compensation will not include medical benefits, deferred compensation, or retirement benefits.
2. Direct staff to provide additional information to Council prior to Council's appointment of an Interim Police Auditor.

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP REQUESTED MOTION:

Move to appoint Mark Gissiner as the Interim Police Auditor and authorize the Council President to negotiate and execute an Interim Police Auditor employment agreement with compensation not exceeding the maximum annual amount currently budgeted for the position of Police Auditor. Interim Police Auditor compensation should include a base salary, living allowance, and incidentals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Mia Cariaga, Central Services Executive Director

Telephone: 541-682-5408

Staff E-Mail: mcariaga@eugene-or.gov

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Financial Condition

Meeting Date: September 9, 2024
Department: Central Services
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 2
Staff Contact: Twylla Miller
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-8417

ISSUE STATEMENT

This work session is to review the financial condition of the General Fund in advance of future discussions on strategies to address the critical funding gap in the General Fund and other funding shortfalls.

BACKGROUND

The General Fund continues to have a structural gap with expenditures growing at a faster pace than revenues. The 2023-2025 Adopted Budget had a revenue placeholder of \$8.3 million in the second year of the biennium, which was addressed on the June Supplemental Budget with a combination of budget reductions and revenue adjustments. Additionally, the City Council adopted an ordinance expanding the definition of stormwater services to add the operations and maintenance of city-owned parks and open spaces on June 24, 2024. Expanding Stormwater Service Fee eligibility to all Parks services allows for a stormwater fee increase to be administratively implemented to generate approximately \$1 million in stormwater fee revenue to fund parks and open spaces expenses currently funded by the General Fund. The administrative process to enact the fee will occur this fall.

The critical funding gap solution presented in the spring also included the concept of Council adopting an ordinance to create a Fire Fee which would provide dedicated funding to stabilize and enhance fire services. This solution or other budget adjustments will need to occur in the first year of the next biennium that begins July 2025, to provide continued stability. The City Council will receive information on this suggested revenue source at their September 30, 2024, work session.

Concurrently, the organization is undertaking a long-range financial planning effort to articulate the range of funding needs facing the city, focus on long term objectives, and continue to link financial considerations to operational decisions and the strategic plan. This framework will help inform the 2025-2027 Proposed Budget that will be developed this fall and winter.

This work session is an opportunity for Council to receive an information on the City's financial condition and planning efforts prior to continued discussions in the fall of 2024.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

Strategic Plan Focus Area – Organizational wellbeing: To create a sustainable budget with balanced revenues and expenditures that provides funding for necessary services in the community.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

[September 14, 2022 Work Session](#)

This session was an information update on the condition of the General Fund and the future financial outlook.

[February 27, 2023 Work Session](#)

This session provided a high-level budget update and a recommendation for a revenue team to develop funding strategies for unfunded services.

[April 12, 2023 Work Session](#)

This session provided an updated Revenue Committee proposal to develop funding strategies for unfunded services.

[April 26, 2023 Budget Committee Meeting](#)

The City Manager presented the 2023-2025 Proposed Budget.

[May 10, 2023 Budget Committee Meeting](#)

The Budget Committee received presentations on Alternative Response, Downtown Services, and Unhoused Services.

[May 17, 2023 Budget Committee Meeting](#)

The Budget Committee received presentations on the Fire Engine/Squad proposal, Climate Recovery, and URA Frozen Base.

[May 24, 2023 Work Session](#)

This session provided information on unfunded/underfunded service levels as Council considers a potential scope for the Revenue Committee.

[June 21, 2023 Work Session](#)

This session provided high level information on the financial condition of the City and discussion on a revised approach to addressing the structural gap in the General Fund and other funding and service prioritization needs.

[July 10, 2023 Work Session](#)

This session was a continuation of the Financial Condition and Revenue Update work session on June 21, 2023 to provide information and additional context to understand evolving financial needs and the approach for continued revenue and service prioritization discussions.

October 11, 2023 Work Session

This session included an overview of the revenue report created by staff in August 2023 and an update on the next steps for a revenue advisory team to advise the City Manager on revenue options to address funding issues.

February 26, 2024 Work Session

This session included an overview of the Revenue Advisor work to date including potential revenue options that could make sense for the range of funding issues facing the city.

April 22, 2024 Work Session

This session provided information on the current critical funding gap in the General Fund that begins July 2024. Staff presented a potential two-year solution that includes budget strategies, a park fee that could be implemented in the summer of 2024, and a fire fee that could be implemented in the next biennium.

May 13, 2024 Work Session

Council directed the City Manager to schedule a public hearing for an ordinance concerning charges for stormwater and parks service and amending Section 6.406 of the Eugene Code, 1971 with the following motion:

Councilor Keating, seconded by Councilor Groves moved to direct the City Manager to schedule a public hearing on an ordinance amending the definition of “stormwater service” to add the operation and maintenance of city-owned parks and open space as set out in Attachment A to this AIS.

Passed 7:1 (Opposed by Councilor Clark)

June 17, 2024 Public Hearing

Council held a public hearing for an ordinance concerning charges for stormwater and parks service and amending Section 6.406 of the Eugene Code, 1971. One person testified on behalf of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce Local Government Affairs Council which did not take a formal position on the ordinance.

June 24, 2024 Work Session

Council adopted an Ordinance amending Section 6.406 of the Eugene Code, 1971 to expand the definition of “stormwater service” to add the operation and maintenance of city-owned parks and open spaces.

Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Zelenka moved to adopt an Ordinance amending Section 6.406 of the Eugene Code, 1971 as set forth in Attachment A to this AIS.

Passed 5:2 (Opposed by Councilor Clark and Councilor Semple)

COUNCIL OPTIONS

Information only.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

None.

SUGGESTED MOTION

None.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Twylla Miller, Chief Financial Officer

Telephone: 541-682-8417

Staff E-Mail: tmiller@eugene-or.gov