



Eugene City Council

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EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

October 22, 2025

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Council Wednesday work sessions are held using 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 October 22, 2025;
Her Honor Mayor Kaarin Knudson Presiding**

Councilors

Greg Evans, President
Eliza Kashinsky
Jennifer Yeh
Mike Clark

Lyndsie Leech, Vice President
Matt Keating
Alan Zelenka
Randy Groves

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

1. WORK SESSION: Eugene Springfield Fire Governance Update

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: Eugene Springfield Fire Governance Update

Meeting Date: October 22, 2025
Department: Central Services
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 1
Staff Contact: Sarah Medary
Phone: 541-682-5010

ISSUE STATEMENT

This work session is an opportunity for City Council to further review potential governance models for Eugene Springfield Fire. During the session, staff will provide additional detail on two of the options under consideration: the intergovernmental entity and the fire district.

BACKGROUND

In 2009, Eugene Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department and Springfield Fire and Life Safety Department commissioned a Cooperative Services Feasibility Study with Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI). The study determined a merger was both feasible and advisable for the two cities. In 2010, the two cities entered into a functional consolidation which involved the sharing of several key management and administrative positions through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). Since 2010, Springfield and Eugene have been working as a functionally consolidated agency. As the next step in this process, the Cities of Eugene and Springfield are examining governance models for Eugene-Springfield Fire.

In 2022, a joint-elected Governance Review Panel (GRP) was formed. The GRP consists of two City Council members from Eugene and Springfield and the City Manager for each City. The Eugene Springfield Fire Governance Review Panel was established in 2022 to evaluate and identify the next steps for the governance of the two departments. This work continues efforts to create the most efficient and effective system for fire and life safety services within our community. The panel spent several months discussing current operations and functional delivery. The GRP is also discussing whether the current structure and governance method continues to be the best method or if additional efficiencies can be created through a different governance and service delivery model. The goal of these discussions is to provide sustainable Fire and EMS services to the citizens of Eugene and Springfield.

In August 2023, the cities hired AP Triton to complete a Feasibility Study. The consultant team has extensive experience evaluating service operations, finances, and service delivery models. AP Triton began meeting with the GRP to provide a full overview of the study and capture their thoughts about the process.

Coordination between Eugene Springfield Fire (ESF) and City staff launched in September. ESF Staff completed requests from the consultant related to data, operational and structure information to support a full assessment of current conditions.

In late October, the consultant team was on site in Eugene/Springfield to conduct stakeholder interviews. The team engaged with more than 50 people, including elected officials from both cities

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and the fire districts receiving service from ESF, city administration and support, ESF Staff, and IAFF Local 851. In addition, they also toured key facilities in both Eugene and Springfield.

In February 2024, City Council received an update on the completion of Phase I of the Feasibility Study. Phase I included assessment of the current conditions to include Fire Administration, internal services provided by City Departments, departmental revenue and expenditures. AP Triton identified effective and efficient operational deployment and increased capacity in delivery of services to the Eugene and Springfield communities as critical system advantages as a result of the functional consolidation. AP Triton reported inefficiencies in day-to-day operations, financial management and reporting to two city structures creates challenges for the ESF and staff for both cities.

The assessment of current conditions provided the foundation for completing a strategic analysis of five governance models. The analysis considered information received through the stakeholder interviews and analyzed existing conditions in the organization for the following options:

1. Continue as currently organized with some modifications to existing IGA
2. One City providing service to another
3. Establishing an Intergovernmental Entity through an IGA
4. Establishing a Fire District
5. Dissolving Functional Merger

In July 2024, AP Triton presented the results of their feasibility study to City Council with details on each option. In their report and presentation, they concluded that the Intergovernmental Entity was the most feasible option for consideration. During the work session, which was informational only, Councilors raised different points and concerns with the five options to include questions about potential unintended consequences of changing governance models. At that meeting, the City Manager emphasized that assessing unintended consequences would be the priority and an essential step before making a recommendation to City Council.

In September 2025, the City Manager presented a brief update on the status of the review process and a timeline for fall discussions and potential decision making.

For additional information related to the GRP process please refer to the [Governance Review Panel website](#).

RELATED CITY POLICIES

This work session relates to two 2023-2026 City of Eugene Strategic Plan focus areas.

- Urgent Community Needs: and strategic goal to achieve a greater sense of safety.
- Organizational Wellbeing: and strategic goal to improve organizational processes to increase efficiency, balance workload, and meet strategic priorities.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

[January 24, 2024 Work Session](#)

Brief update on the status of the Governance Review Panel process and Feasibility Study work in

progress.

[February 26, 2024 Work Session](#)

AP Triton representatives provided an update on Phase I of the Feasibility Study. Phase I assessment included a review of the current governance structure, departmental revenue and expenses, service system strengths and challenges.

[July 8, 2024 Work Session](#)

AP Triton representatives provided a detailed overview of their final report and five options studied for ESF governance.

[September 24, 2025 Work Session](#)

Brief update on governance review process and timeline for fall conversations.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

No Council action is needed at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

None.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Informational session only.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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