



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: City Council
Meeting Date: July 21, 2025
From: Tyler Deems, City Manager
Subject: Resolution 2025-26: Incorporating Food, Beverage, and Other Items into the Compensation Package for Council Positions 1, 2, and 5

DECISION TO BE MADE:

Whether or not to incorporate food, beverage, and other items into the compensation package for Council positions 1, 2, and 5.

APPLICABLE COUNCIL GOAL:

n/a

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT:

At its May 9, 2025 meeting, the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGE) adopted Advisory Opinion No. 25-126A, which concluded that ORS 244.040 prohibits a public body from providing food or beverages to its employees, elected, or appointed officials unless such food or beverages are made a part of the official or employee's compensation package.

This includes meals provided to members of the governing body or employees during meetings over lunch or dinner hours, volunteer appreciation lunches or dinners for members of appointed boards and commissions, team-building events that include food or beverages, or foods and beverages provided at a holiday potluck or retirement party.

This resolution adopts policy to make food and beverages part of the official compensation package for Council Positions 1, 2, and 5.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS / ANALYSIS:

The State of Oregon's ethics laws require disclosure of conflicts of interest and preclude public officials from participating in matters in which they have an actual conflict of interest. Making food and beverages "official compensation" would be considered a pecuniary benefit and an actual conflict of interest under ORS 244.040 for all elected officials. As such, the affected positions identified in this resolution must recuse themselves from the vote.

BUDGET IMPACT:

None. These expenses are already reflected in the Biennium 2025-27 budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approving Resolution 2025-26. Councilors Mayton, Smallwood, and Hanley should abstain from voting on this Resolution.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

"I move to approve Resolution 2025-26."

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS / EXHIBITS:

- Resolution 2025-26
 - Food, Beverage, and Other Items Policy