



WILSONVILLE – METRO COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 30, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Wilsonville City Hall & Remote via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

1. Roll Call

IN ATTENDANCE

Maripat Hensel

Devon Thorson

Scot Siegel

Council President Berry

Councilor Shevlin

Metro Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal

ABSENT

Albert (Nik) McGee

STAFF

Zoe Mombert

GUEST

None

2. Community Input & Announcements - No members of the public offered public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. March 31, 2026 Minutes – Councilor Shevlin made a motion to approve the March 31, 2026, minutes. Council President Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed (6-0-0).

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR

Maripat Hensel

Devon Thorson

Scot Siegel

Council President Berry

Councilor Shevlin

Metro Councilor Rosenthal

ALL OPPOSED

None

ALL THOSE ABSTAINING

None

PROGRAM UPDATES & DISCUSSION

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4. Grant Application Review & Recommendation

The committee was informed that six grant applications had been received for review. Staff noted that an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Metro, extending the Community Enhancement Program from 2026 through 2030 and including the Community Investment Fee, had been received since the last meeting and was anticipated to go before City Council on May 4. Republic Services continues to participate in the Community Investment Fee component, though that participation remains optional.

Staff summarized the program's financial position: approximately \$36,000 remained unallocated from fiscal year 2025, and an additional \$129,000 was anticipated for fiscal year 2026, yielding an estimated available balance of \$165,000. Staff recommended a conservative budget of \$120,000 for the current grant cycle. The committee was also reminded that, per the Metro agreement, it is not required to fund any projects and may go up to three years without doing so.

The aggregate of all requests received, with adjustments discussed during the meeting, totaled \$98,304.

5. French Prairie Road Median Renewal Project

The Charbonneau Community Foundation presented the Oak Tree Preservation Project, a renewal of the median landscape along 2.2 miles of French Prairie Road, which is home to approximately 900 red oak trees. The presenter explained the need for the project.

During questions, committee members explored the drone assessment used to evaluate tree health, the risk of invasive pests such as the oak borer, coordination with planned city stormwater projects to avoid redundant work, and the arborist's ongoing tree monitoring. The presenter confirmed that approximately nine trees are currently marked for removal and replacement this year, and that the contractor had recently reaffirmed the project budget. In response to a question about whether additional funding could be put to use, the presenter stated that any funds above \$30,000 — the original reduced ask — would go toward tree nutrition programs, which represent the most critical and expensive component of long-term tree health.

Committee members asked questions about the project scope and anticipated coordination with the city.

Metro Councilor Rosenthal disclosed that he is a resident of Charbonneau and had previously served on the Charbonneau Country Club board but confirmed with legal counsel that he is eligible to participate in the decision. No member of the committee requested his recusal.

The committee discussed whether to fund the project at the originally reduced amount of \$30,000 or at the full application amount of \$37,500. It was noted that the additional \$7,500 would directly support the nutritional program for stressed trees, and that failure to adequately support the trees would undermine the entire investment. The committee expressed consensus in support of funding the full \$37,500.

6. 2026 Dia de los Muertos Festival

The applicant, the Wilsonville High School ASB represented by art teacher Ansenette Escobar, was unable to attend due to personal circumstances. Staff summarized the application on the committee's behalf. The project proposes to expand an existing, community-open Día de los Muertos celebration hosted by the high school — an event that drew an estimated 1,200 participants in 2024 — into a more formal community event. The grant request is for \$12,000. Identified community benefits include multicultural education for youth, combating senior isolation, and serving marginalized and low-income populations. The event is free of charge and includes an ofrenda honoring those who have passed.

Committee members expressed enthusiasm for the project's multicultural and intergenerational character. One member raised a concern about sustainability — specifically, whether funding could be secured in future years to maintain the event's momentum after the grant period. The committee discussed that the project could be encouraged to explore additional funding mechanisms, including donor outreach at the event itself, and that the committee could consider a future application if the event proves successful. The committee expressed consensus in support of funding the full \$12,000.

7. Wilsonville Biking Infrastructure

Brian Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Program Manager, presented on behalf of the Wilsonville Tourism Promotion Committee. The project proposes the purchase and installation of two bike repair stations — one at Murase Plaza (west side) and one at Tivoli Park along the Ice Age Tonkin Trail (east side) — to improve biking amenities and connectivity citywide. Each station includes secured, cabled tools and an air pump. The total grant request is \$5,944, which covers the cost of both units including shipping, as well as explore Wilsonville tourism branding (vinyl wraps) and a QR code linking to a city bike map currently under development.

8. Growing up in Wilsonville Book Reprint

Susan Shank, representing the Wilsonville Historical Society, presented a request to reprint 100 copies of “Growing Up in Wilsonville”, a children's-perspective historical narrative of the community based on digitized photo archives and oral histories. The original printing was produced at the Society's own expense.

The committee reached consensus to recommend funding at \$3,000, sufficient for approximately 200 copies.

9. Study Pods

Kathryn Whittaker, President of the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation, and Shasta Sasser, Director of the Wilsonville Public Library, presented a request to purchase two study pods for installation at the library — one standard single-occupancy unit and one ADA-accessible unit.

Identified use cases include telehealth appointments, job interviews, financial and legal consultations, test-taking, remote work, podcasting, and sensory decompression. Each pod includes soundproofing and transparent panels for staff visibility. The pods are self-contained and include integrated fire suppression systems. The committee was informed that the original grant request of \$20,000 needed to be revised upward to \$24,810 to account for fire suppression requirements (~\$2,000 per unit) and a city building permit (~\$1,300) that were not anticipated at the time of application. The Foundation committed to contributing approximately \$16,170 (39% of total project cost).

Committee members strongly supported the project, emphasizing its equity dimensions — providing private space for sensitive appointments and interactions to community members who may lack alternatives, as well as those experiencing sensory overload. The committee expressed consensus to recommend funding the revised amount of \$24,810.

10. Utility Box Public Art Project

Erika Valentine, the City's Arts and Culture Program Coordinator, presented a proposal from the Arts, Culture and Heritage Commission to launch a pilot utility box public art program. The city owns approximately 20 traffic signal utility boxes; the pilot would wrap 7 of them with artist-designed vinyl graphics under the theme "Celebrating the Arts." Artists would submit digital image files for review by the Arts, Culture and Heritage Commission, following the same juried process used for prior projects such as the Hearts of Wilsonville and the Memorial Park skate park mural. A third-party contractor would handle production and installation of the graffiti-resistant vinyl wraps, which carry an estimated lifespan of five or more years. Artists would receive a stipend and the ability to include their signature in the artwork.

The grant request totals \$15,050: \$12,600 for contractor production and installation, and \$2,450 in artist stipends for seven boxes. Staff noted that the city's public works department and engineering division had been consulted to ensure compliance with city code and to avoid boxes slated for future road projects.

The committee expressed enthusiastic support. The committee expressed consensus to fund the full \$15,050.

Devon Thorson moved to recommend approval of the following Wilsonville – Metro Community Enhancement projects for Fiscal Year 2026–2027:

- Charbonneau Community Foundation – French Prairie Road Median Renewal Project: **\$37,500**

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- Wilsonville High School ASB – 2026 Día de los Muertos Festival at WHS: **\$12,000**
- Tourism Promotion Committee – Enhancing Wilsonville's Biking Infrastructure: **\$5,944**
- Wilsonville Public Library Foundation – Study Pods: **\$24,810**
- Wilsonville Historical Society – Growing Up in Wilsonville Book Reprint: **\$3,000**
- Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee – Utility Box Public Art Project, Celebrating the Arts: **\$15,050**

Total Recommended: \$98,304

Scot Siegel seconded the motion. Motion passed (6-0-0).

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR

Maripat Hensel

Devon Thorson

Scot Siegel

Council President Berry

Councilor Shevlin

Metro Councilor Rosenthal

ALL OPPOSED

None

ALL THOSE ABSTAINING

None

ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 12:00 PM (Cancelled)