
MERC Commission Meeting

November 1, 2023
12:30 pm

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Metro respects civil rights

Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes that ban discrimination. If any person believes they have been discriminated against regarding the receipt of benefits or services because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, they have the right to file a complaint with Metro. For information on Metro’s civil rights program, or to obtain a discrimination complaint form, visit www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights or call 503-813-7514. Metro provides services or accommodations upon request to persons with disabilities and people who need an interpreter at public meetings. If you need a sign language interpreter, communication aid or language assistance, call 503-797-1890 or TDD/TTY 503-797-1804 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays) 5 business days before the meeting. All Metro meetings are wheelchair accessible. For up-to-date public transportation information, visit TriMet’s website at www.trimet.org.

Thông báo về sự Metro không kỳ thị của
Metro tôn trọng dân quyền. Muốn biết thêm thông tin về chương trình dân quyền của Metro, hoặc muốn lấy đơn khiếu nại về sự kỳ thị, xin xem trong www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Nếu quý vị cần thông dịch viên ra dấu bằng tay, trợ giúp về tiếp xúc hay ngôn ngữ, xin gọi số 503-797-1890 (từ 8 giờ sáng đến 5 giờ chiều vào những ngày thường) trước buổi họp 5 ngày làm việc.

Повідомлення Metro про заборону дискримінації
Metro з повагою ставиться до громадянських прав. Для отримання інформації про програму Metro із захисту громадянських прав або форми скарги про дискримінацію відвідайте сайт www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights або Якщо вам потрібен перекладач на зборах, для задоволення вашого запиту зателефонуйте за номером 503-797-1890 з 8.00 до 17.00 у робочі дні за п'ять робочих днів до зборів.

Metro 的不歧视公告
尊重民權。欲瞭解Metro民權計畫的詳情，或獲取歧視投訴表，請瀏覽網站 www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights。如果您需要口譯方可參加公共會議，請在會議召開前5個營業日撥打503-797-1890（工作日上午8點至下午5點），以便我們滿足您的要求。

Ogeysiiska takooris la'aanta ee Metro
Metro waxay ixtiraamtaa xuquuqda madaniga. Si aad u heshid macluumaad ku saabsan barnaamijka xuquuqda madaniga ee Metro, ama aad u heshid warqadda ka cabashada takoorista, booqo www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Haddii aad u baahan tahay turjubaan si aad uga qaybqaadatid kullamada dadweyne, wac 503-797-1890 (8 gallinka hore illaa 5 gallinka dambe maalmaha shaqada) shan maalmo shaqa ka hor kullanka si loo tixgaliyo codsashadaada.

Metro 의 차별 금지 관련 통지서
Metro의 시민권 프로그램에 대한 정보 또는 차별 항의서 양식을 얻으려면, 또는 차별에 대한 불만을 신고 할 수 www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. 당신의 언어 지원이 필요한 경우, 회의에 앞서 5 영업일 (오후 5시 주중에 오전 8시) 503-797-1890를 호출합니다.

Metro の差別禁止通知
Metroでは公民権を尊重しています。Metroの公民権プログラムに関する情報について、または差別苦情フォームを入手するには、www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights。までお電話ください公開会議で言語通訳を必要とされる方は、Metroがご要望に対応できるよう、公開会議の5営業日前までに503-797-1890（平日午前8時～午後5時）までお電話ください。

ការ​ប្រកាស​របស់​Metro
ការ​គោរព​សិទ្ធិ​ពលរដ្ឋ​របស់​។ សំរាប់​ព័ត៌មាន​អំពី​កម្មវិធី​សិទ្ធិ​ពលរដ្ឋ​របស់​ Metro ឬ​ដើម្បី​ទទួល​ពាក្យ​បណ្តឹង​រឿង​អំពី​សូម​ចូល​ទស្សនា​គេហទំព័រ www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights។
បើ​លោក​អ្នក​ត្រូវ​ការ​អនុបកប្រែ​ភាសា​នៅ​ពេល​អង្គប្រជុំ​សាធារណៈ សូម​ទូរស័ព្ទ​មក​លេខ 503-797-1890 (ម៉ោង 8 រឺ​ក្នុង​ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃ​អង្គារ​រហូត​ដល់​ថ្ងៃ​ច័ន្ទ) ប្រាំ​ពីរ​ថ្ងៃ​មុន​ថ្ងៃ​ប្រជុំ​ដើម្បី​អាច​ឲ្យ​គេ​សម្រួល​តាម​សំណើ​របស់​លោក​អ្នក

Metro إشراف و تخطيط من **Metro** الحقوق المدنية للمزيد من المعلومات حول برنامج **Metro** للحصول على نموذج أو لإيداع شكوى ضد التمييز في أي من زيارات الموقع الإلكتروني www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. إن كنت بحاجة إلى مساعدة في اللغة، ي ج ب على ك الاتصال مقدم ب رقم الهاتف 503-797-1890 من الساعة 8 صباحاً حتى الساعة 5 مساءً، أيام الاثنين إلى الجمعة قبل خمسة (5) أيام عمل من موعد الاجتماع.

Paunawa ng Metro sa kawalan ng diskriminasyon
Iginagalang ng Metro ang mga karapatang sibil. Para sa impormasyon tungkol sa programa ng Metro sa mga karapatang sibil, o upang makakuha ng porma ng reklamo sa diskriminasyon, bisitahin ang www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Kung kailangan ninyo ng interpreter ng wika sa isang pampublikong pulong, tumawag sa 503-797-1890 (8 a.m. hanggang 5 p.m. Lunes hanggang Biyernes) lima araw ng trabaho bago ang pulong upang mapagbigyan ang inyong kahilingan. Notificación de no discriminación de Metro.

Notificación de no discriminación de Metro
Metro respeta los derechos civiles. Para obtener información sobre el programa de derechos civiles de Metro o para obtener un formulario de reclamo por discriminación, ingrese a www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Si necesita asistencia con el idioma, llame al 503-797-1890 (de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m. los días de semana) 5 días laborales antes de la asamblea.

Уведомление о недопущении дискриминации от Metro
Metro уважает гражданские права. Узнать о программе Metro по соблюдению гражданских прав и получить форму жалобы о дискриминации можно на веб-сайте www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Если вам нужен переводчик на общественном собрании, оставьте свой запрос, позвонив по номеру 503-797-1890 в рабочие дни с 8:00 до 17:00 и за пять рабочих дней до даты собрания.

Avizul Metro privind nediscriminarea
Metro respectă drepturile civile. Pentru informații cu privire la programul Metro pentru drepturi civile sau pentru a obține un formular de reclamație împotriva discriminării, vizitați www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret de limbă la o ședință publică, sunați la 503-797-1890 (între orele 8 și 5, în timpul zilelor lucrătoare) cu cinci zile lucrătoare înainte de ședință, pentru a putea să vă răspunde în mod favorabil la cerere.

Metro txoj kev ntxub ntxaug daim ntawv ceeb toom
Metro tributes cai. Rau cov lus qhia txog Metro txoj cai kev pab, los yog kom sau ib daim ntawv tsis txaus siab, mus saib www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Yog hais tias koj xav tau lus kev pab, hu rau 503-797-1890 (8 teev sawv ntxov txog 5 teev tsaus ntuj weekdays) 5 hnub ua hauj lwm ua ntej ntawm lub rooj sib tham.



Karis Stoudamire-Phillips
Chair

Damien Hall
Vice chair

Deidra Krys-Rusoff
Secretary-treasurer

Dañel Malán

David Martinez

Deanna Palm

David Penilton

Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission

Meeting Agenda

November 1, 2023

12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Zoom | Webinar ID: 856 1979 7028 Password: 462199

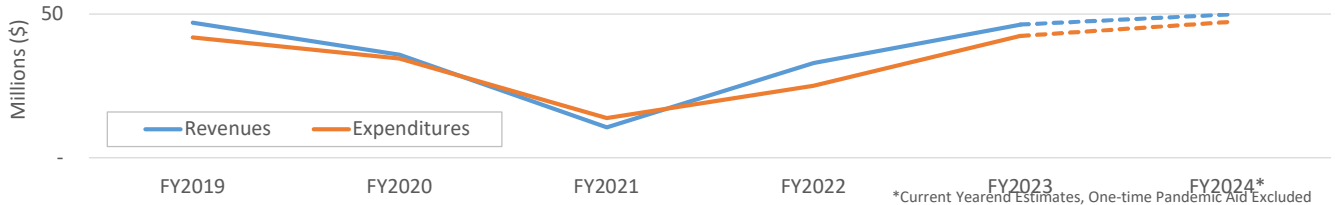
12:30 p.m.	Call to Order and Roll Call
12:35	Citizen Communication
12:40	Commission / Council Liaison Communications
12:45	General Manager Communications Steve Faulstick
12:50	Financial Update Brian Kennedy
12:55 p.m.	Venue Business Reports Matthew P. Rotchford, Craig Stroud, Brian Wilson
1:15 p.m.	Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">Record of MERC Actions October 4, 2023
1:20	Levy Update Ed Strong
1:50	Executive Session: under ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to conduct labor relations

MERC Commission Meeting

November 1, 2023
12:30 pm

Financial Report

OREGON CONVENTION CENTER



Current Fiscal Year 2023-24						Prior Fiscal Year	
OPERATIONS	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023 (25% of the Fiscal Year)	Year-End Estimate	Estimate Over/(Under) Budget	Percent of Budget thru Sept. 2023	Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
REVENUES							
Charges for Services							
Food & Beverage	13,104,532	4,316,005	17,296,403	4,191,871	33%	2,522,798	15,677,933
Facility Rentals	5,759,734	1,240,963	5,853,201	93,467	22%	1,000,576	5,123,481
Parking Revenue	2,312,500	272,249	2,173,615	(138,885)	12%	194,932	1,720,715
All Other (AV, Utility Svcs. Etc.)	7,249,914	1,536,390	7,311,566	61,652	21%	1,037,365	7,193,310
Local Government Shared Revenues							
Lodging Excise Tax	14,901,200	1,497,913	14,901,200	-	10%	1,758,779	13,926,355
Visitor Facilities Trust Account	1,841,250	-	1,841,250	-	0%	-	1,595,750
Contributions from Private Sources	-	-	-	-		-	118,557
Grants	-	2,000	152,000	152,000		-	479,303
Interest Earnings	403,360	43,504	228,045	(175,315)	11%	38,459	447,229
Miscellaneous Revenue	17,001	31,667	65,776	48,775	186%	8,279	63,652
REVENUE TOTAL	45,589,491	8,940,692	49,823,055	4,233,564	20%	6,561,188	46,346,285
EXPENDITURES							
Administration	1,852,143	466,596	1,731,129	(121,014)	25%	330,950	1,276,339
Strategy & Business Development							
Marketing & Sales	6,583,516	1,650,614	6,700,821	117,305	25%	1,509,970	6,621,970
Admissions	369,878	44,483	315,620	(54,258)	12%	37,084	239,974
Ticket Services	69,617	1,396	41,528	(28,089)	2%	1,571	24,553
Guest Experience	682,357	73,200	537,742	(144,615)	11%	62,436	322,747
Parking	1,634,743	54,411	1,148,648	(486,095)	3%	43,579	590,592
Facilities & Operations							
Facility Management	6,131,119	913,787	5,609,120	(521,999)	15%	640,394	5,692,759
Utility Services	1,108,350	238,968	1,022,596	(85,754)	22%	332,748	1,475,190
Audio Visual	2,879,543	471,033	2,709,584	(169,959)	16%	180,583	1,798,512
Telecommunications	729,284	135,173	713,618	(15,666)	19%	116,613	590,471
Event Services							
Setup	4,323,569	832,557	4,082,058	(241,511)	19%	587,963	3,116,804
Event Operations	1,453,200	250,124	1,459,180	5,980	17%	194,660	1,070,157
Public Safety	2,340,121	486,093	2,254,250	(85,871)	21%	309,214	1,729,285
Food & Beverage	10,562,515	1,993,624	12,590,733	2,028,218	19%	1,250,421	11,808,204
Non-Dept. (Ctrl Svcs. & VFTA Exp.)	6,279,786	1,385,256	6,279,786	-	22%	1,348,956	6,036,074
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	46,999,741	8,997,315	47,196,412	196,671	19%	6,947,141	42,393,632

Operating Margin			
Amount (\$)	(1,410,250)	(56,623)	2,626,643
Percent (%)	-3.1%	-0.6%	5.3%

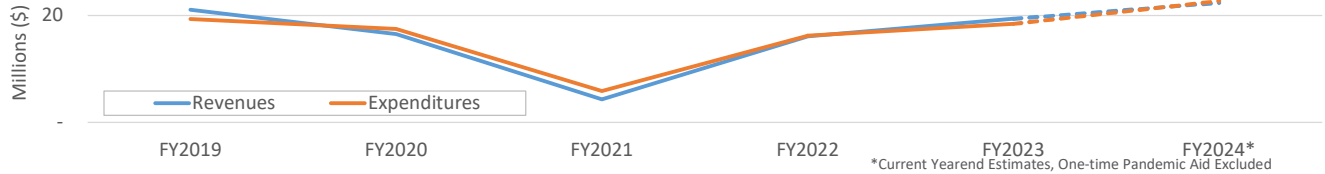
Operating Margin	
(385,954)	3,952,653
-5.9%	8.5%

FY2023-24 Capital Projects					
	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023	Year-End Estimate	Over / (Under) Budget	% Budget thru Sept. 2023
REVENUES	1,660,355	-	1,436,088	(224,267)	0%
EXPENSES	8,434,843	381,690	7,391,140	(1,043,703)	5%
NET	(6,774,488)	(381,690)	(5,955,052)		

FY2023 Capital Projects	
Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
-	405,648
277,837	1,704,586
(277,837)	(1,298,938)

FY2022-23 Beginning Fund Balance	22,934,551
Projected Change in Fund Balance	(3,328,409)
Projected Ending Fund Balance	19,606,142

PORTLAND'S PERFORMING ARTS VENUES



Current Fiscal Year 2023-24						Prior Fiscal Year	
OPERATIONS	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023 (25% of the Fiscal Year)	Year-End Estimate	Estimate Over/(Under) Budget	Percent of Budget thru Sept. 2023	Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
REVENUES							
Charges for Services							
Ticket Services	6,402,534	1,256,929	7,007,442	604,908	20%	895,711	6,236,754
Production Services	3,348,000	312,063	2,887,756	(460,244)	9%	310,793	2,658,091
Booking & Sales	2,200,000	381,079	2,252,200	52,200	17%	285,299	1,973,980
Promoted Shows (P5 Presents)	1,532,500	93,310	1,532,500	-	6%	77,216	739,537
Admissions	2,427,088	190,059	1,694,370	(732,718)	8%	121,381	1,229,317
Food & Beverage	1,497,160	261,088	1,713,543	216,383	17%	168,085	1,345,990
All Other	816,485	324,678	1,581,299	764,814	40%	183,895	1,604,259
Local Government Shared Revenues							
Lodging Excise Tax	1,603,971	163,667	1,603,971	-	10%	191,101	1,513,179
Visitor Facilities Trust Account	570,000	-	570,000	-	0%	-	494,000
Contributions from Governments	1,119,400	-	1,119,400	-	0%	-	1,053,584
Contributions from Private Sources	190,955	-	45,000	(145,955)	0%	-	10,000
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,000
Interest Earnings	176,000	52,094	325,585	149,585	30%	42,450	468,637
Miscellaneous Revenue	63,895	1,030	40,185	(23,710)	2%	(2,072)	46,205
REVENUE TOTAL	21,947,988	3,035,998	22,373,250	425,262	14%	2,273,861	19,380,532

EXPENDITURES							
Administration	1,311,678	361,122	1,368,060	56,382	28%	326,293	1,230,415
Sales & Promotion							
Booking & Sales	494,770	95,657	488,022	(6,748)	19%	72,088	436,527
Marketing & Advertisement	419,046	76,439	387,947	(31,099)	18%	71,841	389,644
Promoted Shows (P5 Presents)	1,348,008	121,161	1,165,044	(182,964)	9%	44,094	736,037
Culture & Community	684,829	97,703	587,189	(97,640)	14%	43,408	292,331
Facility Operations							
Maintenance & Custodial	4,929,245	1,034,162	4,917,949	(11,296)	21%	721,744	4,565,714
Security	1,287,644	179,004	1,173,775	(113,869)	14%	127,537	682,313
Event Services							
Event Coordination	1,275,835	170,878	943,348	(332,487)	13%	120,930	645,196
Production Services	3,451,503	482,106	3,334,034	(117,469)	14%	391,119	3,170,595
Front of House	2,227,853	186,352	1,897,813	(330,040)	8%	89,760	1,342,008
Volunteer Services	143,778	29,920	132,706	(11,072)	21%	23,196	102,938
Ticket Services	2,582,571	540,782	2,938,984	356,413	21%	396,052	2,337,523
Food & Beverage	100,000	1,235	25,137	(74,863)	1%	7,205	13,265
Non-Dept. (Ctrl Svcs. & VFTA Exp.)	3,353,963	838,491	3,353,963	-	25%	621,966	2,492,855
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	23,610,723	4,215,012	22,713,970	(896,753)	18%	3,057,234	18,437,361

Operating Margin			
Amount (\$)	(1,662,735)	(1,179,014)	(340,719)
Percent (%)	-7.6%	-38.8%	-1.5%

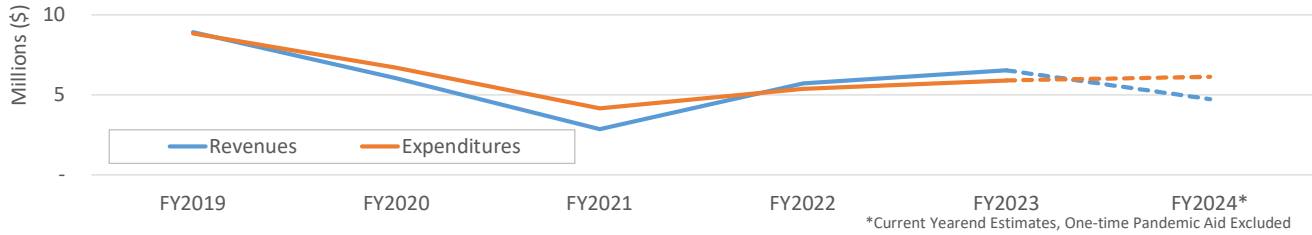
Operating Margin	
(783,373)	943,170
-34.5%	4.9%

FY2023-24 Capital Projects					
	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023	Year-End Estimate	Over / (Under) Budget	% Budget thru Sept. 2023
REVENUES	500,000	-	500,000	-	0%
EXPENSES	3,220,685	745,647	7,588,622	4,367,937	23%
NET	(2,720,685)	(745,647)	(7,088,622)		

FY2023 Capital Projects	
Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
700,000	850,000
461,202	2,191,066
238,798	(1,341,066)

FY2022-23 Beginning Fund Balance	14,274,666
Projected Change in Fund Balance	(7,429,341)
Projected Ending Fund Balance	6,845,325

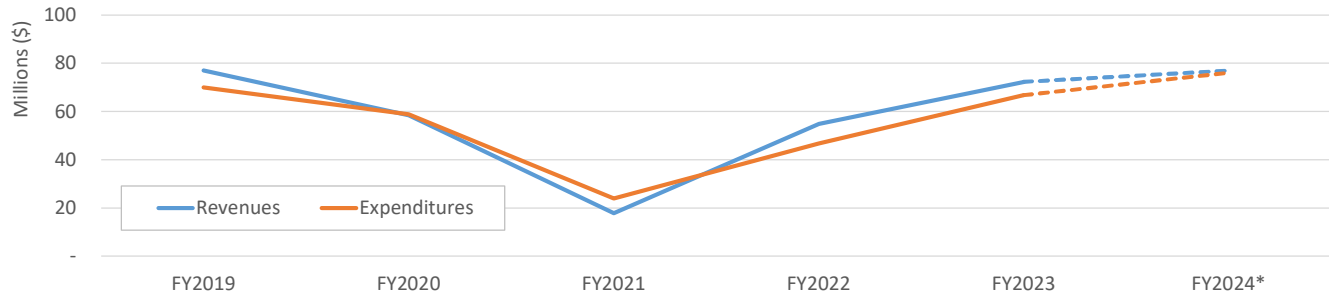
PORTLAND EXPO CENTER



Current Fiscal Year 2023-24						Prior Fiscal Year	
OPERATIONS	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023 (25% of the Fiscal Year)	Year-End Estimate	Estimate Over/(Under) Budget	Percent of Budget thru Sept. 2023	Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
REVENUES							
Charges for Services							
Food & Beverage	494,240	12,420	359,346	(134,894)	3%	92,216	523,464
Facility Rentals	1,793,982	201,793	1,568,586	(225,396)	11%	414,716	2,062,015
Parking Revenue	1,504,606	162,324	1,304,077	(200,529)	11%	437,071	1,738,556
All Other	1,165,656	94,296	961,332	(204,324)	8%	233,025	1,189,257
Local Government Shared Revenues							
Visitor Facilities Trust Account	431,250	-	431,250	-	0%	-	373,750
Interest Earnings	61,527	6,433	40,209	(21,318)	10%	6,813	66,987
Miscellaneous Revenue	77,500	3,927	69,566	(7,934)	5%	3,809	97,622
Transfers-R	-	-	-	-		480,000	480,000
REVENUE TOTAL	5,528,761	481,194	4,734,367	(794,394)	9%	1,667,651	6,531,651
EXPENDITURES							
Administration	596,056	116,213	533,378	(62,678)	19%	110,073	473,977
Sales & Marketing	367,630	83,734	394,826	27,196	23%	54,695	268,931
Facility Operations	2,387,823	249,891	1,769,682	(618,141)	10%	250,745	1,916,275
Special Services	551,847	77,416	463,223	(88,624)	14%	72,535	448,409
Event Coordination	442,416	85,461	454,520	12,104	19%	86,295	410,012
Admissions	82,865	2,979	51,128	(31,737)	4%	5,674	71,661
Ticket Services	180,305	43,545	200,169	19,864	24%	24,330	145,413
Food & Beverage	41,000	(820)	5,000	(36,000)	-2%	804	18,666
Parking	349,308	57,025	349,116	(192)	16%	91,917	283,563
Non-Dept. (Central Svcs. & Debt)	1,906,222	222,945	1,906,222	-	12%	210,204	1,866,679
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	6,905,472	938,388	6,127,263	(778,209)	14%	907,272	5,903,586
Operating Margin							
Amount (\$)	(1,376,711)	(457,194)	(1,392,897)			(4,165,029)	628,066
Percent (%)	-25%	-95%	-29%			-239.6%	9.6%

FY2023-24 Capital Projects						FY2023 Capital Projects	
	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023	Year-End Estimate	Over / (Under) Budget	% Budget thru Sept. 2023	Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
REVENUES	1,058,004	-	768,427	(289,577)	0%	200,000	568,926
EXPENSES	1,962,500	61,894	1,905,000	(57,500)	3%	23,279	39,212
NET	(904,496)	(61,894)	(1,136,573)			176,721	529,715
FY2022-23 Beginning Fund Balance							
			3,303,758				
Projected Change in Fund Balance							
			(2,529,469)				
Projected Ending Fund Balance							
			774,289				

Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission Venues



OPERATIONS	Current Fiscal Year 2023-24					Prior Fiscal Year	
	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023 (25% of the Fiscal Year)	Year-End Estimate	Estimate Over/(Under) Budget	Percent of Budget thru Sept. 2023	Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
REVENUES							
Charges for Services	51,608,931	10,655,647	55,497,236	3,888,305	21%	7,975,081	51,016,657
Local Government Shared Revenues	19,347,671	1,661,581	19,347,671	-	9%	1,949,880	17,903,034
Contributions from Governments	1,119,400	-	1,119,400	-	0%	-	1,053,584
Contributions from Private Sources	190,955	-	45,000	(145,955)	0%	-	128,557
Grants	-	2,000	152,000	152,000	-	-	486,303
Interest Earnings	640,887	102,031	593,838	(47,049)	16%	87,723	982,854
Miscellaneous Revenue	158,396	36,625	175,527	17,131	23%	10,016	207,479
Transfers-R	-	-	-	-	-	480,000	480,000
REVENUE TOTAL	73,066,240	12,457,884	76,930,672	3,864,432	17%	10,502,699	72,258,467
EXPENDITURES							
Personnel Services	30,050,465	5,224,889	27,165,749	(2,884,716)	17%	3,956,282	22,255,906
Materials and Services	36,664,250	6,479,134	38,070,675	1,406,425	18%	4,774,240	34,728,315
Transfers-E	10,801,221	2,446,692	10,801,221	-	23%	2,181,126	9,750,358
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	77,515,936	14,150,715	76,037,645	(1,478,291)	18%	10,911,648	66,734,579
Operating Margin							
Amount (\$)	(4,449,696)	(1,692,831)	893,027			(408,948)	5,523,889
Percent (%)	-6.1%	-13.6%	1.2%			-3.9%	7.6%

CAPITAL PROJECTS	Current Fiscal Year 2023-24					Prior Fiscal Year	
	Adopted Budget	Actual thru Sept. 2023 (25% of the Fiscal Year)	Year-End Estimate	Estimate Over/(Under) Budget	Percent of Budget thru Sept. 2023	Actual thru Sept. 2022	Year-End Actual
REVENUES							
Contributions from Private Sources	1,465,000	-	1,465,000	-	0%	-	40,000
Local Government Shared Revenues	1,453,359	-	811,958	(641,401)	0%	-	811,295
Contributions from Governments	-	-	-	-	-	700,000	850,000
Transfers-R	300,000	-	50,000	(250,000)	0%	200,000	123,279
REVENUE TOTAL	3,218,359	-	2,326,958	(891,401)	0%	900,000	1,824,574
EXPENDITURES							
Oregon Convention Center	8,434,843	381,690	7,391,140	(1,043,703)	5%	277,837	1,704,586
Portland'S	3,220,685	745,647	7,588,622	4,367,937	23%	461,202	2,191,066
Portland Expo	1,962,500	61,894	1,905,000	(57,500)	3%	23,279	39,212
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	13,618,028	1,189,230	16,884,762	3,266,734	9%	762,318	3,934,863

FY2022-23 Beginning Fund Balance	43,926,575
Projected Change in Fund Balance	(13,664,776)
Projected Ending Fund Balance	30,261,798

MERC Commission Meeting

November 1, 2023
12:30 pm

Consent Agenda

Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission
Record of MERC Commission Actions
October 4, 2023
Oregon Convention Center | Room D139-140

Present:	Karis Stoudamire-Phillips, Damien Hall, Deidra Krys-Rusoff, Dañel Malán, David Martinez, Deanna Palm, David Penilton
Absent:	none
	A regular meeting of the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Stoudamire-Phillips at 12:34.
1.0	Quorum Confirmed A quorum of Commissioners was present.
2.0	Opportunity for Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
3.0	Commission and Council Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Krys-Rusoff thanked the P5 staff for hosting a recent tour of the P5 theaters ending with the final Music on Main concert of the season. Chair Stoudamire-Phillips has recently attended several events at OCC and thanked the OCC staff for their great work. Councilor Rosenthal shared Metro recently declared a Hispanic Heritage month and OCC hosted a Hispanic Chamber of Commerce event that was well attended. Last week Council unanimously approved to proceed with an RFP to replace the roof on the Arlene Schnitzer concert hall that will go out this week.
4.0	GM Communications Steve Faulstick provided the following updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metro Council recently voted unanimously for Commission Malán to serve another term on MERC We are looking at scheduling one more MERC/Council joint meeting this year to discuss the Keller project The city has issued an RFEI for potential landowners in the city that could offer a site for a new Keller building We are embarking on the next 5-year CIP and budget work for the next FY. We are proceeding with caution in regard to reputational impacts on tourism business. Lodging numbers continue to decline despite having a strong convention year
5.0	Financial Report Brian Kennedy presented a financial update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Krys-Rusoff cautioned we are almost at an emergency status regarding the continued low numbers from the lodging tax. At what point do we need to collaborate with other partners to address the shortfalls. Kennedy shared the issue is well known. There is a financial review team that includes Metro, City of Portland, Multnomah County and Travel Portland CFO's that meets regularly and strategize how to work with senior and elected leadership to move these priorities forward and all acknowledge the importance and are focused on problem solving. Commissioner Krys-Rusoff asked if there is an opportunity in renegotiating the VFTA? Kennedy responded that this is ongoing conversation and highlighted at the last Visitor Development Fund Board meeting the County Chair made a proposal to reallocate some funding from the County's "bucket" for a series of actions for improvements to downtown. Kennedy shared looking at impact of lack of recovery in TLT the operating buckets are being filled but the lack of pooled capital has real long-term impact as we don't have an alternative source of capital funding for OCC and Expo.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Penilton attended the Oregon Restaurant and Lodging conference, and this was a prioritized discussion and business and hotel owners were urged to connect with elected officials around the state. It is important as we look at budgets to continue to market and build a pipeline of business. • Kennedy noted another action at the last VDF board meeting was approving a process for accessing the strategic reserve in the VFTA which is a source of one-time money for Travel Portland in partnership with our venues to incentivize large events to come to Portland. • Commissioner Palm asked if we are looking at TLT funding in other counties to understand if they are experiencing similar trends. • Kennedy responded that several local economists will gather this week to start the forecasting process and look at a variety of trends locally and nationally. • Faulstick noted that Vancouver numbers are at 129% of 2019 and we are at 70% and noted that the decline is downtown Portland specific. • Commissioner Malán recommended focused add campaigns for Portland events to surrounding areas. • Kennedy shared the MERC finance manager position has been posted and will be extended into next week. The capital planning process has begun, and the next phase will be the 5-year forecast. • Commissioner Martinez asked if it would be appropriate to draft a letter recognizing the seriousness of the situation and publicly acknowledge our commitment.
6.0	<p>Venue Business Reports</p> <p>Matthew P. Rotchford, Craig Stroud and Robyn Williams reported on business at the venues during the past month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Penilton asked about the recent event cancelation at Expo. Rotchford shared that the RV industry is going through multiple changes and the transition of ownership coincided with the scheduled event and they ultimately chose to not hold the event. • Commissioner Krys-Rusoff highlighted the creative ideas implemented at the recent Comic-Con event at OCC. Is there a way to amplify this success visually and market it to a wider audience? Stroud agreed to look into possible options but noted currently the focus is on improving the experience in the surrounding areas outside of the venue. Central Eastside has recently deployed an enhanced safety presence as well as the downtown hoteliers in the hotel corridor and we are looking at how to join in those efforts. Krys-Rusoff also suggested TriMet as a potential partner in increased safety measures. • Councilor Rosenthal highlighted that the recent sustainability ideas implemented helped maintain our reputation as a leader in sustainability at the recent international symposium on reuse and recycling at OCC. • Commissioner Penilton expressed concerns around any upcoming work planned for the Keller and its effects on revenue streams. Williams responded that it would be devastating for P5 to lose the Keller and would also have huge impacts to the Opera, Ballet, and Broadway. We need to be fully informed about what the implications of both options could be. The money we make at the Keller allows us to subsidize non-profits and arts groups use of the hall. • Commissioner Malán asked what would happen if the Keller was relocated out of downtown. Williams clarified that a new performing arts center wouldn't necessarily be moved from downtown. Redevelopment of the area could be more impactful to the downtown area. • Commissioner Hall echoed we need to find solutions as any major redevelopment is years away and we are facing diminishing reserves this year.
7.0	<p>Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record of MERC Actions, September 6, 2023 <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Penilton and seconded by Commissioner Palm, to approve the Consent Agenda.</p> <p>VOTING: AYE: 7 (Stoudamire-Phillips, Hall, Krys-Rusoff, Malán, Martinez, Palm and Penilton)</p>

	<p>NAY: 0</p> <p>MOTION PASSED</p>
8.0	<p>State of the Zoo</p> <p>Heidi Rahn and Utpal Passi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Penilton was impressed to learn about the diversified revenue streams and overall management of the zoo and is interested in any future tour opportunities. • Commissioner Malán requested to hold an upcoming MERC meeting on site at the zoo. • Chair Stoudamire-Phillips praised the diversity in the video clip but would like to see more children represented.
9.0	<p>Expo Future Update</p> <p>Paul Slyman, Jaime Mathis, and Amy Nelson</p>
	<p>As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.</p>

Minutes submitted by Amy Nelson.

MERC Commission Meeting

November 1, 2023
12:30 pm

Levy Update
