



Advance Copy

Wildfire Programs Advisory Council – Meeting

Friday December 2, 2022

The complete Wildfire Programs Advisory Council can be viewed at the following website and serves as the official public meeting record: <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/policies/Pages/wildfire-programs-council.aspx>

Welcome

Chair Bennett

Chair Bennett welcomed the members of the council and the non-member attendees. He identified the primary council business for the meeting as the review and approval of the addendum to the council's report reviewing Department of Land Conservation and Development's (DLCD) report of recommendations. The chair introduced the two new members of the council Terry Fairbanks, representing forest resiliency interests, and Sarah Worthington representing public health professionals. The two new members addressed the council and all members introduced themselves. The chair reviewed meeting etiquette and noted that public comment would be addressed earlier in the agenda than usual during this meeting. The council then approved the draft summary of the previous meeting on October 14, 2022.

Public Comment

All

Chair Bennett gave a brief overview of the advisory role of the council and highlighted that the council did not have the ability to change or undo legislation, but only to advise the legislature. The chair also noted that in addition to any oral comment received at the meeting, the council received a lot of written comments that have been posted to the council's web page [[link to written comments](#)]. Chair Bennett then opened the meeting for public comment.

Bob Hart, a land use consultant, provided comment to the council. Mr. Hart stated that he had 50 years of experience in land use. He expressed a concern that DLCD may impose its collective will without sufficient wildfire specific experience. He felt that it was appropriate that DLCD focused on larger scale development and not individual lots. He noted that attempts to create clustered residential building in rural areas would likely be opposed by people that chose to live in rural areas. Mr. Hart stated that the process for public comment used by DLCD was insufficient and that there should have been meetings held in the geographic areas impacted by the recommendations. Finally, Mr. Hart indicated that the people in wildfire affected areas would be more amenable to incentives than to mandates.

Wildfire Programs Update

Director Grafe

Director Grafe reviewed the progress of the wildfire programs and the state's response to the last fire season. He touched on the highlights of the November Director's Report available on the council's web page [here](#). Director Grafe highlighted the success of a planned public safety power shut off in response to a wind event that could have downed live powerlines and started additional fires. The director also touched on efforts relating to mitigation of the impact of wildfire smoke, landscape resiliency, and community risk reduction.

Council Report Addendum

All

Chair Bennet recognized the work completed by workgroup two and the chairs of the workgroup, members Mary Kyle McCurdy and Dave Hunnicutt on the council's addendum addressing DLCD's recommendations. The chair turned the meeting over to Mary Kyle McCurdy to review the addendum.

Mary Kyle McCurdy reviewed the background of why the addendum was needed and highlighted the changes to the addendum since the last meeting. A copy of the draft addendum with changes highlighted can be found on the council's web page [here](#). The council approved the changes to the addendum.

Wrap Up

Chair Bennett

Before adjourning the meeting Carol Whipple noted that she would not be serving on the council going forward. The Council thanked her for her service to the Council and wished her the best.
