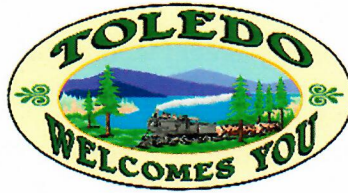


City Hall
206 N. Main St.
Toledo, Oregon 97391
6:00 p.m.



TOLEDO CITY COUNCIL
Regular City Council Meeting
December 3, 2025

1. Call to Order

- a. Mayor Rod Cross called the meeting to order at 6:02p.m.; also via Zoom in Toledo, Oregon and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

- a. City Recorder Johnson took roll call and determined a quorum is present.

Council Member	Present	Absent	Via Zoom
Mayor Cross	X		
Council President Mix	X		
Councilor Kauffman	X		
Councilor Silvia	X		
Councilor Burns	X		
Councilor Keating	X		
Vacant			

- b. City Manager Rich Huebner, City Recorder Paul Johnson, City Attorney Souvanny Miller, and Finance Director Pro Tem Judy Richter.

3. Visitors/Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment from either in-person or online.

4. Special Business

- a. City Council Vacancy
- i. Interview(s) – Interview City Council Candidate(s)
 1. The Council interviewed Eric Chambers for the vacant City Council position. Mr. Chambers introduced himself and answered the standard interview questions prepared by the Council.
 2. Mr. Chambers shared that he works Monday through Thursday from 7 AM to 5:30 PM, allowing him to attend 6 PM Council meetings. He noted he might occasionally require remote participation due to quarterly work travel. When asked about his motivation to serve, Mr. Chambers expressed a deep affection for Toledo as his hometown and a desire to be part of the community again after moving back.
 3. Mr. Chambers detailed his community involvement, including serving on the site council at Toledo Junior Senior High, volunteering as a GEAR Up mentor for middle school students,

being an Aspire mentor for seniors, and participating in the Booster Club. He mentioned his previous experience with local government, having worked for 14 years on policy and administrative sides, including as a department director for the City of Gresham.

4. Regarding Toledo's strengths, Mr. Chambers identified the people as the city's greatest asset, noting the practical and authentic nature of residents and their focus on community. He cited vacant storefronts, the need to reinvigorate civic organizations, and the structural general fund deficit as challenges facing the city.
- ii. Council Deliberations
 1. Following the interview, the Council deliberated briefly before voting.
- iii. Council President Mix moved to accept Eric Chambers' application and appoint him to the City Council, seconded by Councilor Silvia. The motion carried unanimously.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix	X		X			
Vacant						
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia		X	X			
Councilor Keating			X			
Councilor Burns			X			

- b. Mr. Chambers was then sworn in by City Recorder Johnson and took his seat on the Council.

b) Consent Agenda

- a. Councilor Mix moved to accept the consent agenda with corrections, seconded by Councilor Silvia. The motion carried 6-0, with Councilor Chambers abstaining as he was not present at those meetings.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix	X		X			
Councilor Chambers					X	
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia		X	X			
Councilor Keating			X			
Councilor Burns			X			

c) Community Service Reports and/or Presentations to the Council

- a. Oregon Coast Children's Theater; Oregon Coast Children's Center for the Arts
 - i. Lawrence Adrian, Artistic Director and CEO of Oregon Coast Children's Theater, presented an update on the 2024 restoration work on the Toledo Centennial celebration mural. Mr. Adrian noted that the mural, created in

2005, is still the largest public work of art they've ever created, involving over 1,000 volunteers including all school children.

- ii. Mr. Adrian explained that the mural faces ongoing maintenance challenges, primarily from lichen and moss growth due to Toledo's temperate climate. He described how they've been replacing the original ceramic tiles with slate and porcelain during restorations and using water-resistant adhesives. He noted that four colors of the original tile are no longer manufactured, creating a challenge for matching during repairs.
- iii. Mr. Adrian mentioned that the organization also created and donated a bench to the library as part of a summer reading program. He suggested that Toledo might benefit from forming an arts council or advisory group to help maintain the various public artworks throughout the city. He thanked the Council for providing funds for the restoration work.

b. Scott Edwards Architecture

- i. Tim and Zander from Scott Edwards Architecture presented potential plans for the new Civic Center. They explained that their office had previously worked on drawings for renovations to the Civic Center building and have since been meeting with staff to determine how to accommodate both city hall and the police department in the same building.
- ii. They presented three options:
 - 1. Option A: Working within the existing building structure
 - 2. Option B: Adding a second elevator to allow for better circulation and security
 - 3. Option C: A larger addition that would include dedicated council chambers
 - 4. Option C2: The same as Option C but with a second elevator
- iii. The architects detailed how the various floor plans would accommodate different departments, with particular attention to security requirements for the police department and accessibility concerns. They explained how window wells could bring natural light into basement offices and presented site plans showing secure parking areas for police.
- iv. After considerable discussion about the pros and cons of each option, the Council reached consensus on Option C2 as their preferred choice, with Option B as a secondary option. The Council directed the architects to return with more detailed cost estimates for Option C2 for a future funding request to the state legislature.

d) Discussion and Information Items

a. 2026 Meeting Calendar

- i. City Recorder Johnson presented the 2026 meeting calendar. The only potential conflicts identified were the November 25 and December 23 meetings due to holidays. A possible conflict was also noted for the April 22 meeting due to the LOC Spring Conference in Pendleton on April 23-24.

e) Decision Items

- a. RCA - **Motion** to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Employment Agreement for Finance Director Pro-Tem Services between the City of Toledo and Judy Richter, and authorize the City Manager to execute the same.

- i. City Manager Huebner explained that the city needed to extend the contract with Judy Richter as Finance Director Pro-Tem due to challenges with recruiting a permanent finance director. The amendment would extend the agreement through the end of April 2026 and apply the COLA that was previously approved for other non-represented staff.
- ii. Councilor Mix moved to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Employment Agreement for Finance Director Pro-Tem Services between the City of Toledo and Judy Richter and authorize the City Manager to execute the same, seconded by Councilor Keating. The motion carried unanimously.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix	X		X			
Councilor Chambers			X			
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia			X			
Councilor Keating		X	X			
Councilor Burns			X			

- b. RCA - **Motion** to Authorize Expenditure of Second Payment to Homie House
 - i. City Manager Huebner reminded the Council that in August, they had approved an initial contribution of \$8,000 to the Homie House with an additional \$10,000 commitment as a match for future fundraising. The Strategic Reserve Fund Agreement was executed on October 27, and on November 17, documentation was received showing that Homie House had secured \$12,759.73 in donations and grants.
 - ii. Tyler from Homie House shared that they had served 66 kids who have visited almost 400 times in the past two months, providing nearly 400 meals. He explained that they are expanding to include professional development curriculum tied to employment opportunities.
 - iii. Multiple council members expressed strong support for the program, noting its positive impact on local youth and the community.
 - iv. Councilor Keating moved to accept the documentation provided by the Homie House demonstrating commitment of donations and grant funds of at least \$10,000 and authorize the expenditure of previously dedicated matching funds of \$10,000 to said recipient, seconded by Councilor Mix. The motion passed unanimously.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix		X	X			
Councilor Chambers			X			
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia			X			
Councilor Keating	X		X			
Councilor Burns			X			

- c. **Motion** for Consideration to Approve Council Resolutions 1591, 1592, 1593.
- i. The Council considered three resolutions that had been drafted following their special meeting on November 24:
 1. Resolution 1591 – City Council Values
 2. Resolution 1592 – ICE Detention Facility
 3. Resolution 1593 – Coast Guard Helicopter Removal
 - ii. A Motion to approve all 3 Resolutions was made by Council President Mix and Seconded by Councilor Silvia. It was unanimously approved.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix	X		X			
Councilor Chambers			X			
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia		X	X			
Councilor Keating			X			
Councilor Burns			X			

- iii. Councilor Burns indicated that she did not know that all of the Resolutions were being voted on at once as she had objections to the language in at least one of them.
- iv. A Motion for reconsideration on the previous motion was made by Councilor Chambers and seconded by Councilor Keating. The motion for reconsideration was unanimously approved.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix			X			
Councilor Chambers	X		X			
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia			X			
Councilor Keating		X	X			
Councilor Burns			X			

- v. For Resolution 1591, the Council agreed to remove the redundant phrase "are welcome here" from Section 1.
- vi. Councilor Silvia moved to approve Resolution 1591 as amended, seconded by Councilor Keating. The motion passed unanimously.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix			X			
Councilor Chambers			X			
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia	X		X			
Councilor Keating		X	X			
Councilor Burns			X			

- vii. For Resolution 1592, there was considerable debate about the language, particularly regarding the potential negative impacts of an ICE facility on tourism and the local economy. Councilor Kauffman expressed concerns about statements that were not based on verified facts. After discussion, the Council agreed to remove the second "whereas" clause that referenced media reports about a military contractor inquiring about a hotel.
- viii. Councilor Kauffman moved to approve Resolution 1592 as amended, striking the second whereas clause, seconded by Councilor Burns. The motion passed unanimously.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			x			
Council President Mix			x			
Councilor Chambers			x			
Councilor Kauffman	X		x			
Councilor Silvia			x			
Councilor Keating			x			
Councilor Burns		X	x			

- ix. The Council noted that a temporary injunction had been granted regarding the Coast Guard helicopter, with a hearing scheduled for the following Monday.
- x. Councilor Chambers moved to adopt Resolution 1593 as amended (correcting "Rolledo" to "Toledo"), seconded by Councilor Silvia. The motion passed unanimously.

Council member	M	S	Yay	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Cross			X			
Council President Mix			X			
Councilor Chambers	X		X			
Councilor Kauffman			X			
Councilor Silvia		X	X			
Councilor Keating			X			
Councilor Burns			X			

- xi. Councilor Keating raised the question of providing amicus support to the lawsuit regarding the Coast Guard helicopter. City Attorney Souvanny Miller explained that she was still gathering information on what the city's options might be, noting that there was not enough time to get involved in the Monday hearing, but that the recently passed resolution could be useful to the plaintiffs.

f) Reports and Comments

- a. City Manager Report
- i. City Manager Huebner announced that City Hall would be closed on December 26, 2025, giving staff an extended holiday break after Christmas.

g) City Council Issue Tracker

- a.

h) Council Comments

- a. Councilor Burns – Volunteer Appreciate Event and shared a positive story about the impact of sending thank you cards to donors.
- b. Councilor Kauffman - None
- c. Councilor Silvia – reiterated his request to name the new civic center after Officer Sumter, who lost his life in the line of duty.
- d. Councilor Keating - None
- e. Councilor Chambers - expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve on the Council.
- f. Council President Mix - None

i) Mayor's Comments

- a. Mayor Cross expressed pride in how the Council works together to reach compromises and find solutions. He emphasized the importance of the Council presenting a united front to the community and urged everyone to be kind and show grace during the holiday season.

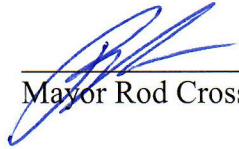
j) Future Agenda Items

- a. The Mayor suggested finding a date for a Council retreat, preferably by the first week of February, to align with the budget process. Councilor Keating requested that the Budget Committee meet in the first couple of months of the year to discuss the budget process and cycle.
- b. City Manager Huebner confirmed that they would organize both meetings.

k) Adjournment

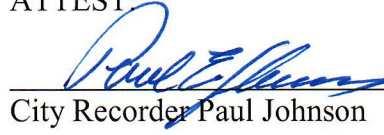
- a. The mayor adjourned the meeting at: 8:59 p.m.

APPROVE:



Mayor Rod Cross

ATTEST:



City Recorder Paul Johnson