



METRO

Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation

MINUTES

February 9, 2006
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT

AFFILIATION

Rex Burkholder, Chair	Metro Council
Rod Park, Vice Chair	Metro Council
Brian Newman	Metro Council
Sam Adams	City of Portland
Maria Rojo de Steffey	Multnomah County
Bill Kennemer	Clackamas County
Roy Rogers	Washington County
Rob Drake	City of Beaverton, representing Cities of Washington County
Dick Pedersen	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Fred Hansen	TriMet
Cathy Nelson	Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT - Region 1)
Paul Thalhofer	City of Troutdale, representing Cities of Multnomah County
Don Wagner	Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

MEMBERS ABSENT

AFFILIATION

Lynn Peterson	City of Lake Oswego, representing Cities of Clackamas County
Steve Stuart	Clark County
Royce Pollard	City of Vancouver
Bill Wyatt	Port of Portland

ALTERNATES PRESENT

AFFILIATION

James Bernard	Cities of Clackamas County
Peter Capell	Clark County
Susie Lahsene	Port of Portland
Dean Lookingbill	Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council
Jason Tell	Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT - Region 1)

OTHER COUNCILORS PRESENT

Robert Liberty	Metro Council
Jef Dalin	City of Cornelius

GUESTS PRESENT

AFFILIATION

Kathy Busse	Washington County
Cindy Catto	Phoenix Rixing Consulting
Roland Chlapowski	City of Portland
Olivia Clark	TriMet
Danielle Cowan	City of Wilsonville
Addison Jacobs	Port of Vancouver
Nancy Kraushaar	City of Oregon City
Tom Markgraf	CRC
Sharon Nasset	ETA
Dave Nordberg	DEQ
Ron Papsdorf	City of Gresham
John Rist	Clackamas County
Jonathan Schlueter	Westside Economic Alliance
Phil Selinger	TriMet
Paul Smith	City of Portland
John Wiebke	City of Hillsboro
Janice Wilson	Oregon Transportation Commission

STAFF

Richard Brandman, Andy Cotugno, Kim Ellis, Tom Kloster, Ted Leybold, Jessica Martin, Robin McArthur, Kathryn Sofich, Bridget Wieghart, Norio Sugawawa (Intern)

I. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Chair Rex Burkholder declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. He welcomed the committee members and guests and introduced Ms. Janice Wilson from the Oregon Transportation Commission, who will be regularly attending meetings.

II. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

ACTION: Mr. Fred Hansen moved, seconded by Mr. Rob Drake to approve the minutes from the December 1st, December 15th, and January 19th meetings. The motion passed.

IV. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Resolution No. 06-3665, For the Purpose of Adopting the Policy Direction, Program Objectives, Procedures and Criteria For the Transportation Priorities 2008-11 Allocation Process and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)

Mr. Ted Leybold appeared before the committee to present information on Resolution 06-3665, which would provide the policy direction, program objectives and procedures that will be used during the Transportation Priorities 2008-11 Allocation Process and MTIP update to nominate, evaluate, and select projects to receive

federal transportation funds in the fiscal year 2010-11 biennium. He directed the committee's attention to the memo listing the potential policy issues that could be addressed in the 2008-11 MTIP Policy Report (included as part of this meeting record). Mr. Leybold reviewed each of the issues, which included:

- Consideration of inflation allocation to existing projects
- Improve integration of (Transportation System Management and Operations) TSMO solutions into the MTIP program
- Refinement of economic development objectives and measures
- Potential new policy direction related to state Legislative strategy or regional strategy for new transportation funding initiatives

Mr. Leybold then directed the committee's attention to the MTIP Policy Errata Document (included as part of this meeting record), which included two additional items that were considered at TPAC and recommended to be discussed further by JPACT. The two items included:

- Consideration of MTIP polices related to Urban Growth Boundary expansion areas
- Consideration of traded-sector jobs vs. family wage jobs as a technical measure of economic development.

In response to TPACs recommendation to add the following language to Factors Used to Develop Narrowing Recommendations: *recommend additional funding for existing projects when the project scores well and documents legitimate cost increases relative to unanticipated inflationary factors*, Mr. Fred Hansen requested that the word inflationary be removed. He also requested the following text be added: *"It is expected, however, that projects will be managed to budget. Only in the most extraordinary of circumstances will additional monies be granted to cover these costs.*

The committee further discussed the issue of refinement of economic development objectives and measures. They requested that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and the Regional Business Plan be consulted for direction related to economic development objectives and relationship to transportation.

The committee discussed the issue of the potential new policy direction related to state Legislative strategy or regional strategy for new transportation funding initiatives. They requested that the pipeline of projects that could compete well on a state-wide basis in terms of project readiness should funding become available through state legislative action be analyzed and if inadequate, inform them of the to options for the Transportation Priorities and MTIP program that addresses project readiness.

The committee agreed to bring back Resolution 06-3665 after staff had an opportunity to respond to their questions.

ODOT STIP – Modernization Candidate List

Mr. Jason Tell appeared before the committee to provide an update on the 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Region 1 is currently in the process of identifying, selecting and scoping candidate transportation projects to be funded with state and federal transportation dollars between 2008-2011. He directed the committee's attention to a copy of Region 1's candidate list of modernization projects. The list assumes approximately 150% of the actual amount of funding available for modernization projects in Region 1 between 2008 and 2011. The candidate list of projects was generated from prior STIPs, the Regional Transportation Plan, local transportation system plans and the Oregon Freight Advisory Committee Recommendations for high priority freight mobility projects.

Over the next few months, Region 1 will need to fiscally constrain the candidate modernization list to meet its funding target of \$74 million. ODOT is seeking comments to narrow the candidate list to the available funding level. Mr. Tell stated that ODOT would hold four open house meetings around the region to share information on various programs, funding and candidate projects. ODOT will also collect comments via mail and email. The comment period ends April 14th.

He directed the committee's attention to the 150% list (included as part of the meeting record). He noted that of the almost \$74 million dollars, \$38 million is already allocated in the STIP to ensure projects currently programmed for construction are fully funded and remain on schedule. This leaves about \$36 million unencumbered dollars. Mr. Tell noted that had the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) not voted to increase federal highway funds to the Modernization Program to cover debt service payments on the Oregon Transportation Investment Act (OTIA) bonds scheduled to begin in 2008, the available funds would have dropped in half.

Referring to the Oregon Transportation Plan update presentation by Gail Achterman on January 19th, Mr. Sam Adams inquired as to why there weren't any projects on the list that addressed the non-repeating type delays that cause up to 50% of the traffic congestion. Mr. Tell responded that the list before the committee contains only the modernization projects, and that there is a safety and operations budget, which addresses the types of projects he is inquiring about.

Chair Burkholder thanked the Oregon Transportation Commission and ODOT staff for having this discussion up front and stated that this was a good opportunity to begin better coordinating activities.

Resolution 06-3658, For the Purpose of Endorsing the Recommendations of the Highway 217 Corridor Transportation Plan

Mr. Richard Brandman appeared before the committee to present Resolution 06-3658, which would adopt the recommendations of the Highway 217 Corridor Transportation Plan.

At the January 19th meeting, the committee had significant discussion regarding the specific Highway 217 PAC recommendation to seek to add Highway 217 to the list of Highways of Statewide Significance. TPAC suggested alternative language to the recommendation, which was provided to the committee at the January 19th meeting. The committee agreed to postpone taking action on the Resolution in order to further discuss the alternative language proposed by TPAC.

Mr. Brandman presented an amended Exhibit to Resolution 06-3658, which contained the Highway 217 PAC recommendation with amended language from TPAC (included as part of this meeting record).

Mr. Drake spoke to the importance of Highway 217, as it serves as the major north-south corridor in eastern Washington County and serves residents and workers in 6 metropolitan area counties with direct access to their workplace. He noted that the highway currently handles 110,000 vehicles per day and that number is expected to increase to 140,000 by 2030. He provided the committee with a handout (included as part of this meeting record), which illustrated where all the vehicles are coming from and traveling to.

He noted that Highway 217 carried traffic volumes that were approaching those on I-5, as illustrated on a handout he provided (included as part of this meeting record). For this reason he felt it was comparable to other projects on the state list and should be added. However, in the interests of regional solidarity he was willing to accept the TPAC language.

Mr. Roy Rogers agreed that Highway 217 is a critical project for the region. He stated his appreciation for the committee's willingness to postpone action at the January meeting in order to have the opportunity to

review in depth the amended language. He noted that the Washington County Coordinating Committee had met and voted to support the TPAC revision.

ACTION: Chair Burkholder moved approval of Resolution 06-3658 as amended. The motion passed.

Oregon Transportation Plan Comment Letter

Mr. Tom Kloster appeared before the committee to present a comment letter on the Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP). The OTP is the state's long-range multimodal transportation plan for Oregon's highways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, public transportation, airports, pipelines, ports and railroads. The OTP establishes policies, strategies and initiatives for addressing the challenges and opportunities in the next 25 years and guides transportation investment decisions. The plan provides the framework for the state's modal plans as well as MPO, City and County Transportation System Plans. ODOT recently completed a public review draft of the OTP and is seeking comments by March 1st. The current update adds more emphasis in sustainability, economic development and innovative partnerships. Mr. Kloster directed the committee's attention to the draft comment letter, which incorporated suggestions from the TPAC workshop, held on January 10th.

ACTION: Mr. Hansen moved, seconded by Mr. Adams to approve the comment letter as presented. The motion passed.

Resolution No. 06-3664, For the Purpose of Amending the 2006-09 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program to Include High Priority Project Funding from the Federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFTEA) and The Oregon Immediate Opportunity Fund

Mr. Leybold appeared before the committee to present Resolution No. 06-3664, which would make available federal transportation project funding to local jurisdictions for specific projects as listed in Exhibit A (included as part of this meeting record). Mr. Leybold noted that each of the projects listed in Exhibit A, were determined to be exempt from conformity determination. A separate resolution for projects requiring an air quality analysis will be presented at a future meeting.

ACTION: Mr. Hansen moved, seconded by Mr. Drake to approve Resolution No. 06-3664. The motion passed.

VI. INFORMATION ITEM

Bi-State Coordination Committee 2005 Annual Report

Chair Burkholder noted that the 2005 Bi-State Coordination Committee Annual Report was included in the meeting packet (included as part of this meeting record).

VIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Rex Burkholder adjourned the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Martin
Recording Secretary