



METRO

Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation

MINUTES

March 9, 2006
7:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT

AFFILIATION

Rex Burkholder, Chair	Metro Council
Brian Newman	Metro Council
Sam Adams	City of Portland
Maria Rojo de Steffey	Multnomah County
Bill Kennemer	Clackamas County
Rob Drake	City of Beaverton, representing Cities of Washington County
Dick Pedersen	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Lynn Peterson	City of Lake Oswego, representing Cities of Clackamas County
Fred Hansen	TriMet
Cathy Nelson	Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT - Region 1)
Royce Pollard	City of Vancouver
Steve Stuart	Clark County
Paul Thalhofer	City of Troutdale, representing Cities of Multnomah County
Bill Wyatt	Port of Portland

MEMBERS ABSENT

AFFILIATION

Rod Park, Vice Chair	Metro Council
Roy Rogers	Washington County
Don Wagner	Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

ALTERNATES PRESENT

AFFILIATION

James Bernard	Cities of Clackamas County
Doug Ficco	Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

OTHER COUNCILORS PRESENT

David Bragdon	Metro Council President
Jef Dalin	City of Cornelius
John Hartsock	City of Damascus

GUESTS PRESENT

AFFILIATION

Kenny Asher	City of Milwaukie
Andy Back	Washington County
Lynn Bailey	ODOT
Roland Chlapowski	City of Portland
Olivia Clark	TriMet
Ann Gardner	Schnitzer Steel
Jon Holan	City of Forest Grove
Tom Markgraf	CRC
Terry Moore	ECONorthwest
Sharon Nasset	ETA
Dave Nordberg	DEQ
Ron Papsdorf	City of Gresham
John Rist	Clackamas County
Karen Schilling	Multnomah County
Brian Scott	MIG
Lainie Smith	ODOT
Paul Smith	City of Portland
Becky Steckler	ECONorthwest
Daniel Whelan	Office of Congressman Wu
John Wiebke	City of Hillsboro
Ron Weinman	Clackamas County

STAFF

Andy Cotugno, Kim Ellis, Tom Kloster, Ted Leybold, Jessica Martin, Robin McArthur, John Mermin, Deena Platman, Kathryn Sofich, Mike Wetter, Gina Whitehill-Baziuk, Bridget Wieghart,

I. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Chair Rex Burkholder declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:20 a.m. He welcomed the committee members and guests.

II. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Burkholder provided a brief *ConnectOregon* update. All of the applications have been screened for completeness and technical feasibility. He directed the committee's attention to a "post-technical review" list of the grant and/or loan applications (included as part of this meeting record). Over the next two months, the applications will be reviewed by four advisory committees (air, rail, freight and public transit), the Area Commissions on Transportation and a specially created Portland metro area committee, since there is no ACT covering the Portland metro area. This will ensure a wide and comprehensive discussion of which projects to recommend to the Oregon Transportation Commission. The OTC is scheduled to make its final project selection this summer.

Chair Burkholder encouraged committee members to attend the Bi-State Forum on Thursday, March 16th.

At the February meeting, Mr. Jason Tell briefed the committee on the STIP process. Mr. Andy Cotugno noted that TPAC would compose a comment letter to be presented at the next meeting. He asked that committee members forward comments they want incorporated into the letter to TPAC.

IV CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

ACTION: Mr. Rob Drake moved to approve the minutes from the February 9th meeting. The motion passed.

V. ACTION 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)

In February, Resolution No. 06-3665 was presented to the committee. The committee requested further analysis and recommendation on two issues prior to adoption of the Policy Report for the 2008-11 MTIP Program.

Issue #1

The committee 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.

Issue #2

The committee 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.

Mr. Ted Leybold directed the committee's attention to a memo (included as part of this meeting record) and briefly reviewed the recommendations and analysis for each of JPACT's concerns. No changes to current MTIP policies, technical measures or policy changes to address adequate number of projects ready to enter the preliminary engineering/final design were recommended.

ACTION: Mr. Rob Drake moved, seconded by Mr. Doug Ficco, to approve Resolution No. 06-3665. The motion passed.

VI. INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION ITEM

2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update

The Metro Council initiated an update to the regional transportation plan last September. The update is anticipated to be complete by November 2007 to allow adequate time to complete air quality conformity analysis and federal consultation before the current plan expires in March 2008.

The 2035 RTP update represents the first significant update to the plan in six years. The process will build on new information learned from the Cost of Congestion Study and New Look work program and public opinion research. The process will also address new federal, state, and regional planning

requirements, including SAFTEA-LU legislation, recent Transportation Planning Rule amendments and new policy direction from the New Look planning process.

A goal of this effort is a more streamlined plan that better advances regional policies, public priorities and local efforts to implement the 2040 Growth Concept. To this end, the Council has directed the planning process to incorporate a new "outcomes-based" approach that more effectively responds to the issues with which the region is currently faced and prioritizes transportation investments to best deliver desired outcomes.

Chair Burkholder stated that the primary goal of the meeting today would be to discuss:

- Issues the region currently face and the need to approach this update differently than previous updates;
- Principles and parameters for updating the RTP process; and
- Identify who needs to be involved and how to involve them.

Last month, Metro selected a consultant team to assist with this effort. The team is led by Mr. Terry Moore of EcoNorthwest, and includes staff from Moore Iacofano Goltsman (MIG) and Kittleson and Associates. Chair Burkholder introduced Mr. Moore, who briefly provided background information on ECONorthwest. Mr. Moore introduced Mr. Brian Scott with MIG who would help facilitate the discussion. Mr. Scott stated that the goal of the meeting today would not be to list or discuss specific projects, but rather to talk about the successes and challenges of transportation planning so the group can help shape the best RTP.

Mr. Scott asked committee members what they thought the key issues were. The committee suggested the following:

- Moving toward large (rather than spread out) UGB expansions – Infrastructure issue
- Catch-up & redevelopment vs. new
- Importance of thinking beyond Metro's borders
- Don't forget about existing commitments
- Major infrastructure investments – selling to state & Feds funding sources
- Air quality has been a success / will be a challenge
- Conversation about tolling (Multnomah County bridges)
- Environmental impacts of construction
- Corridor planning – how it fits into the big picture
- Land use / transportation connection
- Staff responsiveness to comments is key
- Pedestrian connections
- Need to look toward more efficient use of existing arterials
- Measures in RTP are awkward
- Look at large bridges
- Debrief stakeholders on results of RTP
- Rationalizing how funding happens
- Regional priorities
- Understand public/private price per trip (type of trips)
- Freight & rails – fuel costs changing transportation and location decisions
- Maintenance of current system
- Additional access to outlying areas creates new issues

Mr. Scott asked the committee what they thought were important process principles. The following was suggested:

- Need clear priorities among projects
- Communicating tradeoffs and paybacks to leaders and citizens
- Get JPACT/TPAC out talking to citizens
- Manage expectations – not enough money
- Clear standards and criteria
- Consider impacts of investments on existing areas
- Need more comprehensive understanding of current local and regional situation
- Evaluate success/failures in existing RTP
- Public opinion research about why people make transportation choices
- Communicate choices – consider operation solutions
- Consider management improvements
- Evaluate existing commitments
- Include MPAC and business community

The committee suggested the following entities as those who should be included in the process:

- Truckers
- AAA
- Businesses
- JPACT/TPAC/MPAC
- RTC – Regional vision
- Bi-State Coordinating committee
- County/City Coordinating committees
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Reps
- Legislators
- Rural neighbors
- Lower income communities

Suggestions for how to involve the above groups included:

- Polling
- Framing choices
- Speaker opportunities at JPACT
- Tours

VIII. ADJOURN

Chair Burkholder thanked the committee and consultants for a productive discussion and informed committee members that this was just the first part of a much larger discussion. He reminded the committee that there would be a full-day retreat to continue this discussion in the near future.

There being no further business, Chair Rex Burkholder adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Martin
Recording Secretary