

JOINT METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE & JOINT POLICY ADVISORY ON
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD

May 24, 2007 – 7:30 a.m.

Metro Regional Center, Council Chambers

MPAC Committee Members Present: Shane Bemis, Richard Burke, Nathalie Darcy, Andy Duyck, Dave Fuller, Bernie Giusto, John Hartsock, Tom Hughes, Richard Kidd, Norman King, Charlotte Lehan, Alice Norris, Wilda Parks, Martha Schrader, Bob Sherwin, Chris Smith, Erik Sten, Ted Wheeler

JPACT Committee Members Present: Sam Adams, Jim Bernard, Rob Drake, Fred Hansen, Donna Jordan, Dick Pedersen, Lynn Peterson, Jason Tell, Maria Rojo de Steffey, Paul Thalhofer

Also Present: Eric Chambers, City of Gresham; Carlotta Colletto, City of Milwaukie; Danielle Cowan, City of Wilsonville; Shirley Craddick, City of Gresham; David Cusack, Clark County; Jef Dalin, City of Cornelius; Aaron Deas, TriMet; Jillian Detweiler, TriMet; Markley Drake, City of Happy Valley; Marianne Fitzgerald, DEQ; John Floyd, City of Tigard; Rob Foster, City of Forest Grove; Ed Gallagher, City of Gresham; Ann Gardner, Schnitzer Steel; Elissa Gertler, Clackamas County; John Gessner, City of Fairview; Jack Hallin, Coalition for a Livable Future; Marion Haynes, PBA; Jack Hoffman, Dunn Carney; Nancy Kraushaar, City of Oregon City; Sarah Masterson, Rep. Blumenauer's Office; John Michael, City of Wilsonville; Margaret Middleton, City of Beaverton; Lindsey Nesbitt, City of Fairview; Lawrence O'Dell, Washington County; Ron Papsdorf, City of Gresham; R Scott Pemble, Clackamas County; Joseph Readdy, MTAC; Jim Redden, Tribune; Derek Robbins, City of Forest Grove; Massoud Saberian, City of Lake Oswego; Paul Savas, Clackamas County Special Districts; Karen Schilling, Multnomah County; Phil Selinger, TriMet; Randy Shannon, City of Damascus; Paul Smith, City of Portland; Lainie Smith, ODOT; Dave Waffle, City of Cornelius; Rob Wheeler, City of Happy Valley; Rian Windsheimer, ODOT

Metro Elected Officials Present: Liaisons – Rod Park, Council District 1; Brian Newman, Council District 2; Kathryn Harrington, Council District 4; Rex Burkholder, Council District 5; Robert Liberty, Council District 6;

Metro Staff Present: Richard Brandman, Anthony Butzek, Andy Cotugno, Kim Ellis, Pat Emmerson, Tom Kloster, Ted Leybold, Robin McArthur, John Mermin, Josh Naramore, Deena Platman, Mark Turpel

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Rex Burkholder, JPACT Chair, welcomed both MPAC and JPACT members.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM CHAIRS

Mayor David Fuller, MPAC Chair, and Councilor Rex Burkholder, JPACT Chair, explained why it was important for MPAC and JPACT to meet jointly on the RTP and what had led up to this meeting, and how this meeting would inform future discussions and action.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

Chris Smith, MPAC Multnomah Citizen Representative, invited everyone in the room to the “Making Cities Livable” conference June 10-14, 2007 at the Governor Hotel.

4.1 NEW LOOK / RTP SCHEDULE

Robin McArthur, Metro Long Range Policy and Planning Director, reviewed the green handout, “Regional Transportation & Land Use Planning 5-Year RTP Timeline – Expanded Schedule,” included in the packet and mounted in a larger version in the back of the room. She described the relationship of New Look activities and the expanded regional transportation plan (RTP) schedule highlighting the distinction between Federal and State components of the RTP.

Chair Burkholder reviewed his letter to the Regional Transportation Plan Interested Parties regarding the expanded schedule for the 2035 RTP, which was included in their meeting material and will be part of the permanent record.

4.2 STATE AND REGIONAL MOBILITY INVESTMENT PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY FREIGHT TASK FORCE, MPAC AND JPACT

Tom Kloster, Metro Regional Transportation Planning Manager, reviewed the results of the two committees on the mobility “dot” map exercise from previous meetings. He used a large map in the back of the room to demonstrate those results. He emphasized the differences and similarities between the two committee recommendations.

There was some discussion about what the “dots” on the mobility map meant and possible missing pieces.

Councilor Robert Liberty expressed concern that they were putting too much faith in the mobility map and that it should only be used to start the discussion.

Mr. Kloster said the purpose of the exercise was to get a reasonable starting point for discussion and analysis. He said the summary map and memorandum would be provided to ODOT and TriMet for their consideration as they identify their investment priorities during the solicitation process.

There was some discussion about particular areas and their inclusion and importance to the overall plan.

Mr. Chris Smith asked how the mobility map exercise would inform the modeling scenarios planned for the near future.

Mr. Kloster explained how that process would work. The priority investment areas were a starting point for analysis and discussion. He reminded members there would be opportunities for refinement as they go forward in the analysis. He assured all the members that before the end of the process JPACT and MPAC would approve investment priorities as part of the RTP adoption.

There was more discussion about particular parts of the region and how they would be addressed and included in the RTP process.

Commissioner Ted Wheeler, Multnomah County, asked if they had a process in which they would prioritize the projects with the limited funds.

Chair Fuller said that while all jurisdictions were concerned about growth in their areas, they would still be getting another million people flowing into the region over the next 20 years. Part of the discussion and analysis should be to figure out where those people would go and where the growth would occur. Would money need to go to those places that would take on that growth? Perhaps if a certain place was going to have major growth then a lot more money should go there. He suggested that the two committees should assign a joint subcommittee to help them move the process forward. If the subcommittee had members from both main committees, then they could keep all the parties on the same track. He said he thought that would lead to a better process.

Commissioner Wheeler said that the potential influx of people was huge, but the majority of the population was already here, and that there were plenty of current problems that needed to be dealt with right now.

Chair Fuller agreed and reminded everyone that there just wasn't enough money to go around and therefore they had to consider all angles in the analyzing and planning process.

Commissioner Lynn Peterson, Clackamas County, said that there were hot spots in the region that seemed to get most of the attention and money. She said that they needed to consider hotspots versus main line capacity versus new connections. They didn't seem to know which ones would be the drivers at this point, and therefore it was important to look at each area as well as all the possibilities. She said that running scenarios would be very important. Scenarios would help focus on the different possibilities and possible outcomes in order to really compare and evaluate where to spend the most money and get the best return on those expenditures.

4.3 TRANSPORTATION FINANCE AND THE 2035 RTP

Andy Cotugno, Metro Planning Director, indicated the material in the packet that he would be reviewing. He gave an overview of the financial issues pertaining to the land

uses and transportation discussion. He also emphasized that the members of both committees would need to make choices and trade-offs in order to resolve the finance issues.

Mike Jordan, Metro Chief Operating Officer, said the two committees had not met together to discuss transportation issues since the 2000 RTP update. He explained that they would be meeting jointly in the future in order to discuss these issues in more detail as the process progressed. He asked the joint members to think about how they would want to work on these issues.

Richard Burke, MPAC Washington County Special Districts, said that he'd like to see an expanding range of potential sources of funding. He listed several sources such as private sector support, tax credits, congestion pricing, etc. He said that efficiencies could also be improved to create savings. He said they should look at other models from other regions or countries for guidance. They would need to consider many options that contributed to growth.

Commissioner Peterson said that they could not rely on one body to do all the work on this process – the region should collectively take charge of its destiny. She said that they needed to hash out state, local, and federal roles/responsibilities, otherwise the region would lose out in the long run.

Mayor Rob Drake, City of Beaverton, said that the only people missing at the table were the legislative representatives and the governor. He said that he couldn't imagine how they would move another million people into the region considering the current challenges.

Councilor Liberty said that they had to get away from just looking at projects and try to figure out the whole system. He said that they were primed to do something bigger than normal and that to be good stewards they needed to figure out how to be most effective with their transportation investments. To do this, they must think about what kind of place they were trying to have.

Commissioner Sam Adams, City of Portland, said that the process would continue to be frustrating until there was a clear inventory of assets around the region and understanding of how they were performing.

Mayor Tom Hughes, City of Hillsboro, said they almost needed to answer the land-use questions before they could take on the transportation questions, and the finance discussion should not devolve to be primarily local responsibility.

Mayor Richard Kidd, City of Forest Grove, suggested that they create an ongoing subcommittee with members from both MPAC and JPACT.

Mr. Burke said that maybe they needed to have a bi-monthly or quarterly meeting with both groups.

Mr. Cotugno said that they might need to have both a subcommittee and periodic joint meetings in order to do the work right.

Mr. Jordan reminded members from both committees that these were very difficult issues and choices facing the region. He said solutions to these issues existed with this group, and would not come from outside the region. He said the two committees needed to sort out how to work together to identify solutions.

Councilor Brian Newman said that there had been media stories about a potential for regional funding. The Council had not agreed to refer anything. They had only agreed to begin a conversation and to explore the potential. If Metro did anything it would be with the support of the local governments.

Ms. McArthur said that JPACT had recommended that the Metro Council expand the timeframe for updating the RTP from December 2007 to June 2008. She said the federal component would still be adopted in December 2007 as originally planned. The state component would be added and a final RTP adopted in June 2008. Both JPACT and MPAC would be asked to take action at each decision point.

4.4 THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

Chairs Burkholder and Fuller thanked the members from both groups. Chair Burkholder said that it would take both JPACT and MPAC working together to solve the problem of land use, growth, and transportation for the future.

There being no further business, the Chairs adjourned the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Bardes
MPAC Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS TO THE RECORD FOR MAY 24, 2007

The following have been included as part of the official public record:

AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
4.1	5/24/07	Letter to Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Interested Parties from Rex Burkholder, JPACT Chair re: Expanded schedule for the 2035 RTP	052407j.01