



**METRO**

**Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation**

**MINUTES**

May 8, 2008

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rex Burkholder, Chair  
Robert Liberty, Vice Chair  
Sam Adams  
Rob Drake  
Fred Hansen  
Kathryn Harrington  
Lynn Peterson  
Roy Rogers  
Jason Tell  
Paul Thalhofer  
Don Wagner  
Ted Wheeler

AFFILIATION

Metro Council  
Metro Council  
City of Portland  
City of Beaverton, representing Cities of Washington Co.  
TriMet  
Metro Council  
Clackamas County  
Washington County  
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT-Region 1)  
City of Troutdale, representing Cities of Multnomah Co.  
Washington DOT  
Multnomah County

MEMBERS EXCUSED

James Bernard  
Dick Pedersen  
Royce Pollard  
Steve Stuart  
Bill Wyatt

AFFILIATION

City of Milwaukie, representing Cities of Clackamas Co.  
DEQ  
City of Vancouver  
Clark County  
Port of Portland

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Nina DeConcini  
Donna Jordan  
Susie Lahsene  
Dean Lookingbill

AFFILIATION

DEQ  
City of Lake Oswego, representing Cities of Clackamas Co.  
Port of Portland  
SW RTC

STAFF

Andy Cotugno, Ted Leybold, Amy Rose, Kathryn Sofich, Josh Naramore, Kelsey Newell,  
Kim Ellis, Tom Koster

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rex Burkholder declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

John A. Charles: Mr. Charles, of Cascade Policy Institute, submitted a letter addressing the committee's misuse of the term "high capacity transit." He provided comparisons between Portland's light rail and bus service, ridership and cost to New York's exclusive bus lanes. He encouraged members to consider his proposed alternative for the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project. (Submittal included as part of the meeting record.)

*Mayor Rob Drake appreciated Mr. Charles point of view. However, he disagreed, stating that it is more cost effective to implement mass transit now. He cited increased population and reduced oil resources as reasoning.*

Gwen Baldwin: Ms. Baldwin represented neighborhoods in the unincorporated areas of Multnomah County in the Lake Oswego to Portland corridor. She emphasized that the committee consider the High Capacity Transit (HCT) system plan and 2040 growth concept plan when discussing MTIP funding allocation, traffic congestion and density impacts and project funding prioritization. She stated that the complete HCT should guide all decision-making for fixed rail projects including the Lake Oswego to Portland project.

Sharon Nassett: Ms. Nassett distributed maps outlining potential property impacts to Vancouver, Washington and a packet of materials on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the CRC project. She requested that JPACT submit a formal letter stating that staff have thoroughly addressed and met the funding requirements for the project. (All handouts included as part of the meeting record.)

*Commissioner Sam Adams requested the CRC staff submit a letter addressing her concerns with the project's process.*

4. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Burkholder distributed an updated memorandum on the JPACT Retreat deliverables and a handout on the Blue Ribbon Trails Committee lead by Council President David Bragdon.

In addition, Chair Burkholder announced that a joint MPAC/JPACT infrastructure workshop and joint ULI/Metro Regional Transportation Finance Expert Panel are scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup> and June 26<sup>th</sup> respectively.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

**Correction to the JPACT minutes for March 13, 2008  
Consideration of the JPACT meeting minutes for April 10, 2008**

MOTION: Mayor Rob Drake moved to approve the consent agenda

ACTION TAKEN: With all in favor, the motion passed.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

**6.1 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Regional Flexible Fund Allocation – Step 1**

Mr. Andy Cotugno (with assistance from Ted Leybold) of Metro presented TPAC's recommendation/proposal for the Step 1 allocation to regional programs and additional direction for the Step 2 allocation process for local project applications. He stated that as a package TPAC's recommendation passed almost unanimously, but noted numerous split votes on components of the package.

MOTION: Commissioner Lynn Peterson moved, Councilor Robert Liberty seconded to approve Resolution No. 08-3942.

*Discussion*: Members expressed concern with the reduced funding allocation for step 2; specifically in comparison to historical values allocated to local governments.

Although, Commissioner Ted Wheeler respected TPAC's recommendation, he emphasized his expectation that future federal, state and regional funds be used to support the Willamette River Bridges. Mr. Tell added that if JPACT seeks state and federal funds, the committee must be able to illustrate the local support and priority for the Willamette River Bridges.

Additional discussion included bike and pedestrian projects, the importance of prioritizing funding sources and that the adopted alternatives for the Lake Oswego to Portland Transit project incorporated the concerns of the project's Public Advisory Committee.

AMENDMENT #1: Commissioner Sam Adams moved, Ms. Susie Lahsene seconded, that the percentage reserved for local projects should be reconsidered in the next round and that this reduction in funds available for local distribution not be viewed as establishing a precedent.

ACTION TAKEN ON AMENDMENT #1: With all in favor and two opposed (Drake and Liberty), amendment #1 passed.

AMENDMENT #2: Councilor Liberty moved, Commissioner Peterson seconded, to allow local governments to apply for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) project funding, beyond the regional TOD program funding, in the second step.

ACTION TAKEN ON AMENDMENT #2: With all in favor, amendment #2 passed.

ACTION TAKEN ON MOTION: With all in favor, the main motion passed.

## 6.2 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement program (MTIP) Regional Flexible Fund Allocation – Step 2: Local Ranking Criteria

Mr. Ted Leybold of Metro briefly overviewed the updated 2010-13 regional flexible fund solidification and relative weighting of measurement criteria.

The committee discussed the allocation of \$7.4 million to pedestrian and bicycle projects in step 2 and what projects would qualify for these funds. There was also discussion of ConnectOregon's project prioritization and accountability process as a possible model for Step 2.

MOTION: Mr. Fred Hansen moved, Councilor Donna Jordan seconded, to approve TPAC's recommendation on the solicitation and relative weighting of measurement categories.

AMENDMENT #1: Councilor Liberty moved, Ms. Nina DeConcini seconded, to incorporate the term "and environmental justice communities" to the options for underserved populations category and to shift the mixed-use areas implementation and environmental enhancement and mitigation category percentages to the following:

Measurement categories	Solicitation categories			
	Regional mobility corridors	Mixed-use area implementation	Industrial and employment area implementation	Environmental enhancement and mitigation
Compact urban form and economic opportunity	15%	<del>60%</del> 55%	15%	5%
Options for underserved populations <u>and environmental justice communities</u>	5%	<del>5%</del> 10%	5%	<del>N/A</del> 10%
Environmental stewardship	5%	5%	5%	<del>90%</del> 80%

*Discussion*: Commissioner Peterson was concerned that 5% percent allocated to options for underserved populations did not emphasized this category's priority.

ACTION TAKEN ON AMENDMENT #1: With all in favor, the motion passed.

Councilor Liberty stated that he originally intended to make two amendments requiring a return-on-investment (ROI) analysis for all the proposals. But in light of the limited amount

of time left for the meetings, he would welcome a simple acknowledgement that staff and project proponents' attempt to quantify benefits per unit of cost for all projects. Those benefits would reflect the range of objectives to be achieved. He added that he agreed with Ms. Lahsene that we should track actual performance in delivering benefits from approved projects. Finally Councilor Liberty said that in the next MTIP process an ROI process could be formalized.

ACTION TAKEN ON MOTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

### **6.3 Draft STIP Modernization Recommendation**

Mr. Tell provided a brief updated in the 2010-13 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). In February, JPACT made a recommendation to ODOT on where to cut the required \$26 million of modernization funding for the current 2010-13 STIP; among these projects was the US 26: 185<sup>th</sup> to Cornell project. ODOT Region 1 and TPAC recommended that the 2010-13 modernization funds (\$15 million) be used to restore the 185<sup>th</sup> to Cornell project.

MOTION: Mr. Tell moved, Commissioner Roy Rogers, moved to restore funding to the US 26: 185<sup>th</sup> to Cornell project into the draft STIP modernization project.

ACTION TAKEN: With all in favor, the motion passed.

## **7. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1 SB 566 Recommendation: Preview of Information for Special JPACT meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Mr. Tell indicated that Senate Bill 566 has directed the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) to conduct a study to evaluate Oregon's highway system, with input from highway users, local governments and the Federal Highway Administration. The purpose of the study is to identify specific highway projects required to reduce traffic congestion, improve freight mobility and enhance safety.

ODOT Region 1 has drafted two lists in response to SB 566: a draft list of highway projects (identified by the current RTP) and a list of projects with projected costs of over \$100 million. JPACT will be asked to take action on these lists at their May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Members recommended text be added defining priority of projects on the \$100 million list.

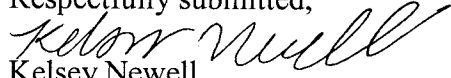
### **7.2 Transportation Finance**

This item was rescheduled for the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**8: ADJOURN**

Seeing no further business, Chair Burkholder adjourned the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey Newell  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR MAY 8, 2008**

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

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>
3.0	Letter & Article	5/08/08	To: JPACT From: John Charles RE: Misuse of the term "High Capacity Transit" Attachment:: Article entitled "Busway vs. Rail Capacity: Separating Myth from Fact"	050808j-01
3.0	Packet & Maps	N/A	A series of maps of downtown Vancouver, Washington, federal registrar and additional correspondence on the Columbia River Crossing project submitted by citizen Sharon Nasset	050808j-02
4.0	Memo	5/7/08	To: JPACT From: Chair Rex Burkholder RE: JPACT Retreat Deliverables Update	050808j-03
4.0	Handout	5/8/08	Trails Blue Ribbon Committee	050808j-04
4.0	Flyer	N/A	Save the Date for the Joint MPAC/JPACT Infrastructure Workshop	050808j-05
4.0	Flyer	N/A	Save the Date for the Regional Transportation Finance Expert Panel	050808j-06
7.1	Chart	N/A	Draft List of Projects for ODOT Region 1 Response to Senate Bill 566	050808j-07
7.1	Chart	N/A	List of Large Unfunded Projects Over \$100 Million. Distributed at meeting by ODOT Region 1.	050808j-08
	Newsletter	Spring 2008	2035 Regional Transportation Plan update for JPACT	050808j-09