

MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: January 12, 1989

GROUP/SUBJECT: Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT)

PERSONS ATTENDING: Members: Mike Ragsdale, Chair; Pauline Anderson; Don Adams (alt.); Larry Cole; William Stark (alt.); Scott Collier; Bob Post (alt.); Gary Demich; Jim Gardner; Nick Nikkila (alt.); Bonnie Hays; Ed Lindquist; Marjorie Schmunk; George Van Bergen; John Magnano; Carter MacNichol (alt.); Earl Blumenauer; and ~~Ed Lindquist~~

Guests: Felicia Trader and Grace Crunican, City of Portland; Dick Feeney, Tri-Met; David Knowles, Roger Buchanan, and Richard Devlin, Metro Councilors; Ramsey Weit, Multnomah County; Ted Spence, ODOT; Lee LaFontaine, Public Transit Division, ODOT; Richard Ross, Cities of Multnomah County; Molly O'Reilly, Forest Park Neighborhood Association; Peter Fry, Central Eastside Industrial Council; Wink Brooks, City of Hillsboro; Bruce Warner, Washington County; and Tom VanderZanden, Clackamas County

Staff: Andrew Cotugno, Marilyn Konka and Lois Kaplan, Secretary

MEDIA: None

SUMMARY:

Metro Presiding Officer, Mike Ragsdale, introduced himself and announced that he would serve as JPACT chair, replacing Dick Waker. He indicated that this was a transition meeting, noting the changes in membership on the Committee. He spoke on the need for a meeting to discuss legislative strategy and the importance of gaining consensus from all member governments on lobbying strategies.

MEETING REPORT OF DECEMBER 8, 1988

The December 8 JPACT meeting report was approved as written.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING PROGRAM

Chairman Ragsdale provided some background on the review given to the regional transportation funding program by the JPACT Finance Committee, JPACT and the Business Committee on Regional Transportation Priorities. He noted that a meeting had been held on December 12 with the Governor, a number of jurisdictional

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representatives, and Ken Harrison. The Governor's position was that he was open to support of the program, but wanted to review all the components more thoroughly. He was very positive about the fact that this region had come together in consensus and stressed the importance of the private sector being involved in the process.

It has been proposed that a Regional Steering Committee be formed to discuss strategies for implementation of the regional funding program through the Legislature. The committee would be coordinated by Mike Hollern and would include the following representation: 1 member - the Oregon Transportation Commission; 5 members - JPACT (3 members representing Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties; 1 member - the City of Portland; and 1 member - Metro); 3 members - the Business Committee; 2 members - the Public-Private Task Force on Transit Finance; 1 member - the Tri-Met Board; and 1 member - the Port of Portland. The group has met once already to discuss strategies. Bill Robertson agreed to chair the steering group.

Dick Feeney felt that the two main tasks since the December 12 meeting with the Governor were: 1) to settle on policy leadership; and 2) to focus on the Governor's directive. Follow-up meetings have been held with the Governor. Cathleen Carter will be the Governor's policy representative to work with the region.

A meeting of the Transportation Directors will be held on January 13 to review and assess the funding package as a means of gaining consensus for firming up the Governor's support and for presentation to the committees. The Governor has tried to convey the importance of clearly establishing what we want to accomplish, how much can be realized through the Legislature, and the degree of unity throughout the region so that it is presented to the Legislature as a unified package. The Governor has endorsed the general approach and has used it as a model. There will be two types of staff efforts, one relating to the Transportation Directors (whose responsibility it will be to assess the impacts of legislation), and another group made up of legislative liaisons and representatives from the Business Committee. The liaison group will serve as a task force for the jurisdictions.

Commissioner Hays stated she is prepared to take the full funding package to the Washington County Board for endorsement. She indicated, however, that there might be two points of view, questioning whether to endorse parts of the JPACT proposal. Chairman Ragsdale felt it would be better to wait until there is a common document. Commissioner Hays emphasized the importance of getting the document ratified by the individual jurisdictions.

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Commissioner Van Bergen commented on JPACT's thorough review process of the funding package and expressed concern of it being altered by the task force, questioning to what degree of authority the task force should be delegated to respond to legislative changes. Commissioner Blumenauer commented on the fact that we have a balanced proposal that we are comfortable with (roads and transit), and cited the need to have a commitment toward a balanced proposal. He felt it incumbent upon the lobbyists to keep the same balance in mind, the need to keep the alliance together, and that the region should be willing to meet as a group and take the time to keep this proposal on track. He felt the proposal's emphasis should remain in balance on mode and geography.

Dick Feeney reported that Fred Miller's comments during the meeting with the Governor reflected that an alliance has been formed in the Portland region, that projects and priorities have been identified and a plan adopted, with a resulting transportation finance proposal.

Chairman Ragsdale questioned whether any jurisdiction has a problem with the funding package or needs assistance in achieving jurisdictional approval. Commissioner Lindquist spoke of some groups, such as AAA and AGC, that will attempt to pick the proposal apart but also spoke of several to work with.

Bruce Warner suggested that, as the proposal is refined, Andy Cotugno and Dick Feeney give a presentation before the Washington County Board. Chairman Ragsdale asked that any jurisdictions who wished presentations contact either Andy Cotugno or himself. Commissioner Blumenauer also asked for a presentation before the Portland City Council, stating that he would like the proposal to receive unanimous support. He asked for collective support from the other jurisdictions and spoke of the need for small cities to be apprised, and to work more closely with them. There was committee concurrence that a presentation be scheduled for the benefit of the small cities at one special event. Mayor Cole and Commissioner Lindquist supported a presentation of that nature. Commissioner Anderson felt that East Multnomah County's Transportation Committee is well represented and should be the focal point for such a presentation in Multnomah County.

Chairman Ragsdale asked Committee members to advise either Andy Cotugno or himself of the amount of lobby effort required for their jurisdiction.

Chairman Ragsdale indicated that the regional transportation funding proposal will be an ongoing agenda item at future JPACT meetings.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Councilor Van Bergen introduced newly elected Metro Councilors Richard Devlin and Roger Buchanan.

I-205 BUSLANE WITHDRAWAL

Commissioner Lindquist indicated that Clackamas County would like to start the I-205 alternatives analysis process and was advised that it is being discussed with staff at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

REPORT WRITTEN BY: Lois Kaplan

COPIES TO: Rena Cusma
Dick Engstrom
JPACT Members