

MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: July 11, 1985

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

PERSONS ATTENDING: Members: Richard Waker, Pauline Anderson (alt.), Larry Cole, Ed Ferguson, John Frewing, Ed Hardt, Wes Myllenbeck, Margaret Strachan, Ron Thom, George Van Bergen, and Vern Veysey

Guests: Ted Spence, ODOT; Keith Ahola, WSDOT; Steve Dotterrer, City of Portland; Peter Fry, Central Eastside Industrial Council; Geraldine Ball, DJB, Inc.; Bob Post, Tri-Met; Gil Mallery, IRC of Clark County; and Bebe Rucker, Port of Portland

Staff: Andrew Cotugno, Transportation Director; and Lois Kaplan, Secretary

MEDIA: None

SUMMARY:

AMENDING THE FY 1985 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO INCLUDE AN UPDATED PROGRAM OF PROJECTS USING SECTION 9 FUNDS

Andy Cotugno explained that this Resolution would, in effect, identify projects in the TIP using Section 9 funds. It adds some projects to the TIP and makes modifications to some dollar amounts. These funds must be applied for at this time in order to receive the grant award by the end of September.

With regard to the condition set forth in the list of Resolves concerning completion of the Transit Development Plan update, Mr. Frewing reported on Tri-Met's plans for increasing its financing and on the status of the TDP. The last TDP was completed in 1980, and the update will follow policy direction of the Special Task Force on Transit Policy (Blue Ribbon Committee). The review and recommendations of the task force are scheduled for September completion and subsequent submission to the Tri-Met Board. After receiving their conclusions, the Tri-Met Board will begin working towards adoption of a mission statement and new set of goals.

A letter from James Cowen, General Manager of Tri-Met, was distributed concerning the status of the Transit Development Plan and the proposed update schedule.

Mr. Frewing stated that a fare increase will take place on July 29 pending consideration of alternative revenues by the Tri-Met Board.

Discussion followed over the need for restrictions in the Resolution relating to air quality concerns. Andy pointed out that it is a matter

of timing and testing in the area of air quality technology. Mayor Larry Cole suggested that an alternative of natural gas modifications for buses be explored.

With regard to the purchase of lift-equipped buses, Commissioner Veysey reported that Clark County has found it more cost-effective to provide door-to-door service for the handicapped. The question of acquiring lift buses as opposed to providing other alternatives that would best serve the interests of the handicapped was discussed. Mr. Frewing encouraged members of JPACT to attend the meetings of the Committee on Accessible Transportation.

Andy Cotugno reported that a letter was sent to Hardy Myers, Chairman of the Blue Ribbon Committee, regarding consideration of this Resolution. The letter indicated that a reprogramming of funds would be possible for a three-year period if the Blue Ribbon Committee develops recommendations contrary to this action. This would also precipitate a TIP amendment. Andy did not wish the special task force to misinterpret Metro's action relative to issues being discussed by that committee.

Action Taken: It was moved and seconded to recommend approval of Resolution No. 85-582 for the purpose of amending the FY 1985 TIP to include an updated program of projects using Section 9 funds. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

AMENDING THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADD FIVE NEW PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING PROJECTS IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

This request was initiated by Clackamas County to add five new projects to the TIP for preliminary engineering purposes. Andy explained that the urban renewal district that was formed has insufficient cash flow to proceed with these projects and hence the request.

Action Taken: It was moved and seconded to recommend approval of Resolution No. 85-583 for the purpose of amending the TIP to add five new preliminary engineering projects in Clackamas County. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

AMENDING THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE FY 1985 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO INCLUDE THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY 242ND AVENUE WIDENING PROJECT

In reviewing the original 242nd Avenue project, Andy reported that the \$751,000 reserve remaining would reactivate the four-lane construction project previously planned and enable preliminary engineering to begin. Larry Cole indicated he would be opposed to this request if it would present any priority changes or pressures on other funds outside Multnomah County. In response, Andy indicated that it would not establish a priority on the basis of new funds.

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Action Taken: It was moved and seconded to recommend approval of Resolution No. 85-584 for the purpose of amending the Regional Transportation Plan and the FY 1985 Transportation Improvement Program to include the Multnomah County 242nd Avenue widening project. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

UPDATE ON SIX-YEAR PLAN

The TIP Subcommittee has been meeting to review, evaluate and set priorities on projects for submittal in ODOT's Six-Year Plan. Consideration of the project listing will be made at the next JPACT meeting. An Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) public hearing is scheduled for July 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Portland Building to receive comment on the 2¢ gas tax increase and the criteria to be set for allocating such funds for economic development off the state highway system. An outline for testifying at the hearing is being drafted and JPACT members who wish to testify should contact Andy Cotugno.

A discussion followed on whether or not JPACT should take a policy position as to how priorities in the Modernization Program are set and funds are expended. Andy indicated that the overall criteria are set forth in the legislation. In that context, consideration for project selection should be made of two issues: 1) how big, how important, and how much potential for economic development; and 2) what is the degree of transportation constraint for that economic development to occur? JPACT generally agreed that the criteria should be various measures of these two factors.

Chairman Waker questioned whether JPACT should take a regional position on this issue and asked for comment on what its role should be. Andy explained that the criteria for evaluating these projects is the issue being dealt with at the public hearing, not the actual regional priorities. He indicated that JPACT would be involved in adopting the priority projects.

Another issue raised was the matter of whether or not consideration had been given to the criteria of the most benefit for the dollar spent, cost benefits in relation to the economic development.

Chairman Waker asked that JPACT be kept informed of the Six-Year Plan update. Ed Hardt related that there is a 10-day period following the hearing the state has allowed to receive additional comments.

JPACT MEETING TIME

Prior to discussion of JPACT's meeting time, Andy announced that, subject to any urgency for a meeting, there would be no JPACT meeting held during the month of August due to vacation schedules.

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Action Taken: In reviewing the existing Board and Commission schedules for the tri-county area, the Committee agreed to keep its regularly scheduled meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

REPORT WRITTEN BY: Lois Kaplan

COPIES TO: JPACT Members
Rick Gustafson
Don Carlson