

MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: March 14, 1985

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

PERSONS ATTENDING: Members: Richard Waker, Larry Cole, Marvin Woidyla, Earl Blumenauer (alt.), Ted Spence (alt.), George Van Bergen, Margaret Strachan, Wes Myllenbeck, Fred Hansen, John Frewing, Ron Thom, Ed Ferguson, and Robert Schumacher

Guests: Ed Lindquist and Tom VanderZanden, Clackamas County; Dick Feeney, Lee Hames, Betsy Bergstein, and Bob Post, Tri-Met; Julia Pomeroy, Steve Dotterrer, Geoff Larkin, Vic Rhodes and Grace Crunican, City of Portland; Keith Ahola, WSDOT; Geraldine Ball, DJB, Inc.; Hardy Myers, Chairman, Blue Ribbon Committee (Metro Councilor); Rick Daniels, Washington County; Susie Lahsene, Multnomah County; Bebe Rucker, Port of Portland; Gil Mallery, Intergovernmental Resource Center; Bob Behnke, Aegis Transportation Information Systems; and Peter Fry, Central Eastside Industrial Council

Staff: Rick Gustafson, Steve Siegel, Andrew Cotugno, T. Keith Lawton, Karen Thackston and Lois Kaplan, Secretary

MEDIA: None

SUMMARY:

Andy Cotugno introduced Dick Feeney, Executive Director of Tri-Met's Public Affairs Department, and Hardy Myers, Chairman of the Blue Ribbon Committee and a Metro Councilor.

Mr. Feeney reviewed some of the problems Tri-Met has been facing and its projection of a \$22 million shortfall over the next five years, anticipating the loss of federal operating assistance. In view of that loss and pressures from Washington and Clackamas County for service expansion, the Tri-Met Board has decided to re-examine the policy goals adopted in 1977, take stock of its current situation, and set new goals.

A re-write of the 1977 Tri-Met goals has been drafted with the objective of meeting community expectations for mass transit, satisfying various community user groups, and serving the needs of taxpayers. Policies have been formulated as a guide for the agency that should carry them into the 1990's. The matter to resolve is whether Tri-Met should try to live within its means or alter its expectations to allow for transit expansion.

Andy Cotugno reported that TPAC is preparing a White Paper on impact issues affecting the region that should be addressed by the Blue Ribbon Committee.

Hardy Myers discussed the composition of the Blue Ribbon Committee, noting that it included representatives of neighborhood associations, transit rider groups, business, labor and local government. Its charge will be that of advising the Tri-Met Board on the future direction of transit including levels of service and funding alternatives. Mr. Myers stressed the need for a work plan to be structured for the Committee and asked for JPACT input.

Ed Ferguson, District Administrator of WSDOT, suggested participation of WSDOT on the Committee as representation from Clark County as a means of integrating Oregon/Washington transit needs.

In addition, Fred Hansen, Director of the Department of Environmental Quality, expressed his concern that the Blue Ribbon Committee take into consideration the impact of transit on air quality in the region, offering his assistance to the Committee in ensuring that the region meets its attainment goals.

Another question raised was whether or not alternate funding proposals would be developed by the Committee. Mr. Myers indicated that he is hopeful that revenue measures will be developed that do not require legislative approval.

During discussion, Dick Feeney emphasized that one of Tri-Met's goals is to serve the transit-dependent, indicating that 55 percent of current ridership is transit-dependent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

REPORT WRITTEN BY: Lois Kaplan

COPIES TO: JPACT Members
Rick Gustafson
Don Carlson