



TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE

August 26, 2011

Metro Regional Center, Room 370A-B

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Buehrig
Mara Gross
Heidi Guenin
John Hoefs
Katherine Kelly
Scott King
Nancy Kraushaar
Alan Lehto
Mike McKillip
Dave Nordberg
Satvinder Sandhu
Charlie Stephens
Rian Windsheimer
Jenny Weinstein
Tracy Ann Whalen
Sharon Zimmerman

AFFILIATION

Clackamas County
Citizen
Citizen
C-TRAN
City of Gresham, Representing Cities of Multnomah Co.
Port of Portland
City of Oregon City, Representing Cities of Clackamas Co.
TriMet
City of Tualatin, Representing Cities of Washington Co.
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
FHWA
Citizen
Oregon Department of Transportation
Citizen
Citizen
Washington State Department of Transportation

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Chris Beanes
Dean Lookingbill
Karen Schilling
Paul Smith

AFFILIATION

Citizen
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Committee
Multnomah County
City of Portland

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Andy Back
Lynda David
John Gillam
Kathryn Williams

AFFILIATION

Washington County
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Committee
City of Portland
Port of Portland

STAFF: Aaron Brown, Andy Cotugno, Kim Ellis, Ted Leybold, John Mermin, Joshua Naramore, Kelsey Newell, Amy Rose, Randy Tucker

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Chair Tom Kloster called the meeting to order and declared a quorum at 9:34 a.m.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Tom Kloster introduced John Mermin of Metro, who notified the committee that the Transportation System Plan (TSP) workshop has been rescheduled for the afternoon of Monday, October 17.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS TO TPAC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

4. CONSIDERATION OF THE TPAC MINUTES FOR JUNE 24, 2011

Ms. Karen Buehrig requested to amend the minutes to mark her as absent at the previous meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Tracy Ann Whalen moved, Mr. Alan Lehto seconded, to approve the TPAC minutes for June 29, 2011 as amended.

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

5.0 Approach to Vehicle Electrification Regional Flexible Fund Allocation – RECOMMENDATION TO JPACT REQUESTED

Mr. Ted Leybold of Metro and John MacArthur of Oregon Transportation Research and Education Consortium (OTREC) gave a presentation to update the committee on the Vehicle Electrification study group. The Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) asked TPAC in July to provide direction on how to spend the Regional Flexible Fund Allocation to best support Vehicle Electrification efforts in the region, and Mr. Leybold and Mr. MacArthur detailed the four proposed uses of these funds. These options included:

- Market Research and/or a Public Education Campaign. The subcommittee noted that there is misconception and about electrified vehicles among the general public and that educating the public might be the best use of these limited funds.
- Last Mile Support. This option calls for investment in a demonstration project in which electric vehicles are used to shuttle passengers on trips between transit center sand employment/commercial centers.
- Workplace and Multifamily Charging. This option would invest in charging facilities near workplaces and multifamily complexes.
- Construction of charging facilities near Highways within metro area. This option would build on the efforts of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)'s Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery II (TIGER II) grant to build charging facilities along the interstate corridor.

These funds will be available in Oct 2013, to be used during the 2014-2015 allocation period. Committee discussion included a suggestion to study the City of Portland's Sustainable Freight Program and the limited impact that \$500,000 would have on the purchase of an actual fleet of electric vehicles. Metro staff hopes to have these documents out for public comment and anticipates TPAC formally recommending one option to JPACT at the November 11 TPAC meeting. Mr. Leybold's slideshow presentation is included in the packet.

MOTION: Mr. Lehto moved, Mr. Dave Norderg seconded, to recommend to JPACT to release these four potential vehicle electrification fund options to the public for comment.

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

6.0 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments: State Enhancements Project Awards, Carman Drive Ramp Project – RECOMMENDATION TO JPACT REQUESTED

Mr. Leybold presented to the committee two amendments to the Metropolitan Transportation Investment Program (MTIP) program. The first project, outlined in Resolution 11-4287, would restripe an interchange on Interstate 5 at Carman Avenue near Tigard. The second MTIP amendment (Resolution 11-4286) includes three sidewalk projects located respectively in Beaverton, outer southeast and outer northeast Portland. TPAC members noted the discrepancy in costs listed on the MTIP documents and those listed on documents provided by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC); Mr. RianWindsheimer noted that the OTC numbers did not include the matching federal funds, and that the project should use the OTC's projected estimates of \$1.55 million cited in the Resolution's staff report. TPAC members noted that future MTIP resolutions funding sidewalks should be more detailed about the specifics of sidewalks, such as the width, surface, and possible separation from the road, and requested that the schematics for the Carman Drive project be printed in color when provided to JPACT for ease of comprehension.

MOTION: Mr. Windshiemer moved, and Mr. Mike McKillip seconded, to recommend both MTIP amendments to JPACT, provide the committee with a copy of Resolution 11-4287 in color, and include the numbers from OTC.

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

7.0 Climate Smart Communities Scenarios: Project Status and Release of Strategy Toolbox Report – DISCUSSION

Kim Ellis of Metro provided an update to TPAC of the Climate Smart Communities Scenarios project. Metro staff is moving forward with the scenarios analysis and have produced a draft of the Strategy Toolbox Report, which reviews the range of potential policy tools available to meet statewide goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions as required by House Bill 2001. Ms. Ellis spoke towards how collaboration between JPACT, MPAC and other participants at the April 1

Climate Leadership Summit influenced the document, and that she will be bringing an updated copy of the Strategy Toolbox Report to the policy committees in the fall. Committee discussion included:

- Ms. Whalen raised concerns that the language in the document relies too heavily on disincentives to reduce driving. TPAC members suggested focusing more of the document’s language on the incentives for livable communities inherent in these policy tools and less on the disincentives, or “big sticks,” considered in the document.
- Concerns about if and how marginalized populations will be disproportionately impacted by Climate Smart Communities-related policies. TPAC members discussed how the potential changes in urban form proposed by Climate Smart Communities-based policies could create different benefits and burdens to different populations around the region.
- Comments about the specifics of how health impacts are related to climate smart communities. Ms. Heidi Guenin noted that many of the links between specific health outcomes (such as asthma, cancer, cardiovascular disease) and specific urban forms and policy outcomes cannot be necessarily assumed to be linked without fully vetting the explicit assumptions made in the document.
- The value of having Metro and other regional staff studying this issue. TPAC members noted that it was encouraging to see the region discuss climate change related policies when the discussion at the national level has largely subsided.
- Ms. Mara Gross mentions that the upcoming Regional Equity Summit, hosted by nonprofit Coalition for a Livable Future on September 14, will have breakout sessions addressing many of the issues brought up in this discussion.

Ms. Ellis asked that any further discussion or questions be sent to her by September 13, and that she is hoping to have preliminary quantitative results from the Scenarios Planning process this September. She will be sharing these findings with the TPAC/MTAC work group before bringing forward to TPAC, MTAC, MPAC and JPACT in the fall.

8.0 Application of Criteria to Review Candidate TIGER III Applications – INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

Andy Cotugno of Metro addressed the committee regarding the regional application for TIGER III grants. Concerned with an uncertain future for federal transportation funding, JPACT formed a subcommittee focused on studying and discussing finance options for funding regional transportation issues. Mr. Cotugno noted that the process of securing federal funds appears to have shifted from acquiring federal earmarks toward the successful application of competitive grant processes, and that both Metro and the region need to determine how to be more competitive in this environment of limited federal resources. The region has received TIGER grants in the past, and many regional jurisdictions are currently planning on applying for funds from TIGER 3, the upcoming solicitation that is currently accepting applications for projects. The JPACT subcommittee on finance has noted that limiting the number of regional TIGER applications and submitting a few, highly qualified projects may increase the region’s chances of acquiring these federal grants. Mr. Cotugno provided TPAC staff with the criteria the federal government uses in evaluating TIGER grants, asked the committee for any additional criteria the region should use when prioritizing TIGER applications, and queried further as to if TPAC

members believed a committee could be appointed in the future to evaluate regional applications. Committee discussion included:

- A general consensus that the current standards used by the TIGER grant process were already complicated and rigorous, and that Metro nor the region needed to evaluate individual projects with additional qualifications beyond those demanded by the rigorous application process.
- A discussion about the applications for TIGER funds currently expected from the region's jurisdictions. Discussed projects seeking funding included Multnomah County's Sellwood Bridge, a Multiuse path near the Sunrise Corridor, the Hillsdale-Olson intersection in Beaverton, and the Brookwood/US 26 interchange in Hillsboro.
- General consensus that a regional screen of the projects may help strengthen the quality of submitted applications. TPAC members noted that additional review of applications will help ensure the projects are thorough in addressing the multifaceted demands of TIGER grants. TPAC members expressed concern about having elected officials or interested parties serving on this committee, noting their conflict of interest in promoting projects in their districts over others, and Metro staff responded with the suggestion proposed by the JPACT subcommittee that this regional screening subcommittee could be comprised solely of TPAC citizen members.
- The potential for this committee to use categories (e.g., "meets requirements") instead of numerically ranking evaluated TIGER III applications; this could help alleviate the concerns of political pressure in assessing each project's merits.

9. **ADJOURN**

TPAC members asked to schedule a discussion of the Brookings Institute's Metropolitan Export Initiative report, which studies Los Angeles, Portland, Minneapolis, and Syracuse.

Chair Kloster adjourned the meeting at 11:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Aaron Brown
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR AUGUST 26, 2011

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

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
2.0	Memo	08/24/11	To: TPAC and MPAC From: John Mermin Re: Upcoming Transportation System Plan (TSP) Guidance activities	82611-t01
5.0	Slideshow		Presentation on Electric Vehicles	82611-02
6.0	Resolution	09/2011	UPDATED Resolution 11-4287	82611-t03
6.0	Resolution	09/2011	UPDATED Resolution 11-4286	82611-t04
7.0	Report	08/2011	Climate Smart Communities: Scenario Project Strategy Toolbox Report	82611-t05
7.0	Factsheet	08/2011	Climate Smart Communities Factsheet	82611-t06
8.0	Memo	08/25/11	To: JPACT From: Andy Cotugno Re: TIGER 3 Applications	82611-t07
9.0	Press Release	08/17/11	US Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood Announces \$19.4 Million in Grants for Oregon Highway Projects	82611-t08
9.0	Report	08/26/11	From NEI to MEI: About the Metropolitan Export Initiative	82611-t09