



JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

September 8, 2011

Metro Regional Center, Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rex Burkholder
Carlotta Collette, Chair
Shirley Craddick
Nina DeConcini
Craig Dirksen
Donna Jordan
Deborah Kafoury
Ann Lininger
Neil McFarlane
Roy Rogers
Jason Tell
Don Wagner
Bill Wyatt

AFFILIATION

Metro Council
Metro Council
Metro Council
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
City of Tigard, representing Cities of Washington Co.
City of Lake Oswego, representing Cities of Clackamas Co.
Multnomah County
Clackamas County
TriMet
Washington County
Oregon Department of Transportation, Region 1
Washington State Department of Transportation
Port of Portland

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Sam Adams
Shane Bemis
Jack Burkman
Steve Stuart

AFFILIATION

City of Portland
City of Gresham, representing Cities of Multnomah Co.
City of Vancouver, representing SW Washington RTC
Clark County

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Lisa Barton Mullins
Dean Lookingbill

AFFILIATION.

City of Gresham, representing Cities of Multnomah Co.
City of Vancouver, representing SW Washington RTC

STAFF: Aaron Brown, Andy Cotugno, Elissa Gertler, Alison Kean-Campbell, Ted Leybold, Kelsey Newell, Dylan Rivera, Amy Rose, Randy Tucker, Sheena VanLeuven

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

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

2. INTRODUCTIONS

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Collette announced that Gail Acheterman is stepping down from her position at the Oregon Transportation Commission, and that parking at the Metro Regional Center Parking Garage would no longer be validated for non-elected officials during JPACT meetings. Questions on Metro's parking policy should be directed to Kelsey Newell. Chair Collette also summarized discussions held by the JPACT subcommittee on finance in the previous two months, noting that these discussions about prioritizing regional investments is an important step for the region to remain competitive for receiving necessary federal funds.

Chair Collette directed the committee to the new draft Highway Mobility Policy, which is aimed at changing state law to encourage the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT's) policies to allow for extra flexibility to address local community concerns when planning for transportation infrastructure. Mr. Jason Tell of ODOT concurred, noting that these changes, requested by Oregon Senate Bill 795, demonstrates ODOT's commitment to working with local jurisdictions and adapting policy to address issues such as mobility and community along with access and throughput traffic. A new draft is expected shortly, and the document will have a public comment period.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Collette briefly summarized the consent agenda, noting that it contained the minutes from the July 14 JPACT meeting and two Resolutions (No. 11-4286, No. 11-4287) to amend the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) for three sidewalk projects from Transportation Enhancement funds and for the I-5 Carman Drive Ramp Operations Project.

MOTION: Commissioner Roy Rogers moved, Mr. Don Wagner seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Release of Draft Recommendation of Regional Flexible Fund Allocation for Public Comment

Ted Leybold and Amy Rose of Metro gave a presentation to JPACT members to discuss the process through which Regional Flexible Fund Allocations (RFFA) are released and available for public comment. Mr. Leybold presented that the Transportation Policy and Alternatives Committee (TPAC) asked the Vehicle Electrification Funds (VEF) subgroup to make a recommendation to JPACT that addresses their opinions on the best use of RFFA resources to promote vehicle electrification. The subcommittee anticipates adopting a direction in December. The slides of their presentation are included in the meeting packet.

6.2 TIGER III Applications

Andy Cotugno of Metro gave a presentation detailing the Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery III (TIGER III) Application process. The federal grant has become remarkably competitive, and Mr. Cotugno presented to JPACT the recommendation forwarded

to the committee from TPAC that the region should consider a process of evaluating future federal grant applications to ensure that the region's applications are qualified and suitable for receiving limited funds. This process could ask TPAC (or potentially a subcommittee formed of TPAC's citizen representatives) to apply a set of criteria to regional projects to ensure that the region only nominates projects most likely to receive federal funding. This process of committee review could also help improve individual applications through suggesting particular changes to the written proposals.

Mr. Cotugno solicited feedback from the committee; discussion included:

- A general consensus from JPACT members that the TIGER criteria are already rigorous enough, and that it would be unnecessary for any potential subcommittee to evaluate any other criteria beyond those required by the TIGER application. Mr. Cotugno had asked the committee if the region should evaluate these projects with any other requirements or considerations in mind.
- Concern that the region would have the ability to tell independent jurisdictions to not submit applications for TIGER III or future federal grants. Mr. Cotugno noted that the submission of a poor application doesn't hurt the chances of just that particular jurisdiction but that a series of poor applications hurts the chances of all of the applications submitted by a particular region, and that it might be prudent to limit the number of requests submitted by the Portland region. Commissioner Deborah Kafoury noted that Multnomah County had been working on an TIGER application for the Sellwood Bridge for nearly a year, and that the County intended to submit their proposal for funds even if the project wasn't recommended by a regional subcommittee.
- Concern about the "impartiality" of TPAC citizen representatives. Metro staff noted that the proposal for TPAC citizen representatives to review applications assumed that unlike TPAC members who represented and were employed by regional jurisdictions, the citizens would have the least bias and the best interests of the region at hand when determining which projects should move forward. Some JPACT members expressed concern that citizen representatives might not have the technical skills necessary to evaluate the technical, transportation engineering components of these applications.
- The amount of value added to each application by having extra review of these applications.

Char Collette asked the committee if they agreed that a review of applications would strengthen the region's chances at receiving federal funds, and that the region could decide in October if one or two of the projects in particular stood out as worthy of recommendation. JPACT members gave a general vote of confidence for this review process.

6.3 Resolution No. 11-4290, For the Purpose of Endorsing a Consortium Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant

Mr. Cotugno continued to address the committee and asked for endorsement of Resolution No. 11-4290. This resolution would allow the Metro Council as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to acknowledge the formation of a consortium to apply for the federal Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program. This application, due October 6 to

the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD), requires MPOs to partner with local governments, local HUD recipients, and community based organizations that represent disadvantaged populations to create a consortium to think about housing provisions on a metropolitan level. Mr. Cotugno noted that they are proposing to create an executive committee of this larger consortium, who would be able to make decisions relative to the grant.

MOTION: Mr. Neil McFarlane motions, and Councilor Donna Jordan seconds, to recommend Resolution No. 11-4290 to the Metro Council.

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

7. ADJOURN

Chair Collette adjourned the meeting at 8:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Aaron Brown
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

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

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
6.1	Powerpoint	9/08/11	2014-15 Regional Flexible Funds: Process update & release of projects for public comment	090811j-01