



JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

November 10, 2011

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shane Bemis
Jack Burkman
Carlotta Collette, Chair
Shirley Craddick
Nina DeConcini
Craig Dirksen
Donna Jordan
Deborah Kafoury
Ann Lininger
Neil McFarlane
Roy Rogers
Jason Tell

AFFILIATION

City of Gresham, representing Cities of Multnomah Co.
City of Vancouver
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

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Sam Adams
Rex Burkholder
Steve Stuart
Don Wagner
Bill Wyatt

AFFILIATION

City of Portland
Metro Council
Clark County
Washington State Department of Transportation
Port of Portland

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Kathryn Harrington
Bart Gernhart
Susie Lahsene

AFFILIATION.

Metro Council
Washington State Department of Transportation
Port of Portland

STAFF: Aaron Brown, Andy Cotugno, Kim Ellis, Elissa Gertler, Mike Hogelund, Nuin-Tara Key, Alison Kean-Campbell, Tom Kloster, Ted Leybold, Kelsey Newell, Dylan Rivera, Amy Rose, Kathryn Sofich, Randy Tucker, Ray Valone, Sheena VanLeuven

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Chair Carlotta Collette declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Collette updated the committee on the following items:

- Metro has filed two applications for grants from the organization Smart Growth for America. Their technical assistance would help Metro conduct a regional parking audit and would support a Transportation Performance Measures workshop, which would help local jurisdictions as they reinvent their Transportation System Plans.
- The Oregon Metropolitan Planning Organizations Consortium (OMPOC) meeting was held last Friday, and well attended. OMPOC will meet again in Corvallis in January.
- Washington State recently held elections; the C-TRAN levy by a heavy margin.
- MAP-21, the most recent proposal for a federal transportation bill, has been released. A handout with Transportation for America's summary of the new bill was distributed to the committee and is available in the packet.

5. CONSIDERATION OF THE JPACT MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 13, 2011

MOTION: Mr. Neil McFarlane moved, Councilor Donna Jordan seconded, to approve the October 13, 2011 minutes.

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

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Comments on Proposed Amendments to the Oregon Transportation Planning Rule (TPR) and Oregon Highway Plan (OHP)

Chair Collette introduced Mr. Tom Kloster of Metro, who provided an overview of the effort to make amendments to the Oregon Transportation Planning Rule (TPR) and the Oregon Highway Plan (OHP). Amendments to these documents, requested by Senate Bill 795, need to be approved respectively by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) and the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) in advance of January 1st for implementation into state law. Mr. Kloster described these changes to the OHP as “profound,” noting that importance of moving away from a single measure of mobility and allowing more latitude for jurisdictions to plan for and build livable communities. In October, the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) reviewed and made recommendations to a draft letter to be signed by JPACT, the Metro Council and MPAC describing their interest in seeing these changes implemented. Mr. Kloster noted that TPAC was cautious to avoid “wordsmithing” and making recommendations on exact pieces of language of the amendments but expressed general support for the broad implications of these policies. Mr. Kloster asked JPACT to review the proposed

changes, and to consider approving the letter to the respective commissions; JPACT discussion included:

- The potential for these amendments to be reviewed after implementation to consider their success in deriving the desired policy outcomes. Mr. Kloster noted that it is currently expected that Metro and ODOT will produce staff reports sometime in the future that examines the successes and challenges of the amendments as detailed. Commissions typically revisit policies on a five year basis.
- The possibility of developing a regional process to let people know when Multi Modal Areas (MMAs) are proposed in nearby jurisdictions. Mr. Kloster noted that Metro staff could help facilitate notifying jurisdictions of MMA designations.
- The importance of consideration of the regional freight network in the designation of the MMAs.
- The need to ask the OTC to ensure that changes in the OHP are reflected in implementing documents. JPACT members noted that the document currently contains language providing specifics for locations designated as Special Transportation Areas (STAs), and committee members expressed interest in encouraging the OHP to eventually reconcile the differences in language between these STAs and the new language creating MMAs.

Ms. Susie Lahene of the Port of Portland requested to add language to the letter to note that designation of MMAs should include “consideration given to the regional freight network.” Councilor Jordan requested to make an amendment to the letter to encourage the creation of a process to notifying “potentially affected communities” of the designation of MMAs.

MOTION: Chair Collette moved, Mayor Craig Dirksen seconded, to approve the letter in support of the proposed amendments to the TPR and OHP documents as amended.

ACTION TAKEN: With 14 votes in favor and 1 abstention (Mr. Jason Tell), the motion passes.

Chair Collette encouraged JPACT members to join her in attending the November 16 OTC hearing on the OHP amendments in Silverton and the December 8-9 LCDC hearing on the TPR amendments in The Dalles in support of these amendments. A copy of Mr. Kloster’s slideshow is available in the meeting packet.

7. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 Regional Flexible Fund Allocation (RFFA) and ODOT Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Process and Public Comment Update

Chair Collette introduced Mr. Ted Leybold of Metro and Mr. Jeff Flowers of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to discuss their outreach efforts to solicit comments on proposals for the Regional Flexible Fund Allocation.

Mr. Flowers noted that ODOT had representatives at three locations near proposed TIP projects in an effort to try innovative, new public outreach strategies. Mr. Flowers noted that displaying

maps of the projects that specifically outlined the problem statement and the proposed solution at these outreach events helped increase the public's comprehension of the proposals.

Mr. Dylan Rivera of Metro noted the public outreach for the Regional Flexible Fund Allocation, highlighting the teamwork with the Environmental Justice working group. About 325 comments were received in total for all of the MTIP proposals, with over 120 of the comments specifically referencing the City of Portland's Bike Share proposal. Summaries of the public comments were shared with the staff of the project's lead agencies eight days after the public comment period ended. Mr. Rivera noted that the full contents of public comment on the Flexible Fund projects will be available on the web by November 14. JPACT is expected to vote on approval of the TIP and RFFA allocations in December, and these allocations will be prepared for adoption into the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program in the Spring of 2012. A summary of the comments received was distributed to JPACT members and is included in the packet.

7.2 Climate Smart Communities Scenarios – Report on Preliminary Findings and Next Steps

Chair Collette introduced Ms. Kim Ellis of Metro, who provided an update of the Climate Smart Communities Scenarios project. She stated that the project is close to completing the first phase, which has been exploring how different policies could have different potential reductions in greenhouse gas emissions for the region and how far current policies will take the region in achieving these emission reduction goals. The Scenarios project is designed to test bundles of plausible strategies; Ms. Ellis explained that there is no "silver bullet" that will single-handedly lead the region to reach emission reduction goals, and that continued partnerships and collaboration is integral to the success of the initiative. Phase 2 of the Scenarios project will utilize a framework derived by Metro's Six Desired Outcomes to examine the different sets of policies proposed in Phase 1, and will begin the effort to more fully examine the costs and cost savings of implementing these proposals. Early results indicate that of the proposals studied, policies regarding community design happened to have the single highest impact on greenhouse gas emission reduction. Ms. Ellis notes that the project team has been initiating conversations with policymakers and community leaders across the region to fully communicate the tradeoffs that accompany various climate smart policy initiatives. At this point in the process, the Climate Smart Communities project is not measuring the economic impacts of these policies. Ms. Ellis stressed the significance of the policy changes proposed by the various Climate Smart Communities Scenarios, stating that implementation of these policies will demand significant political leadership from elected officials. Ms. Ellis' slideshow and a handout detailing high level inputs studied in the Scenarios project are included in the meeting packet.

Ms. Ellis stated that she anticipates using the January JPACT meeting to ask the committee endorse the findings of the Climate Smart Communities scenario, and announced that the December 2 joint MPAC/JPACT summit has been postponed until early 2012.

7.3 Visit and Talk by Congressman Earl Blumenauer

Chair Collette introduced the Honorable Earl Blumenauer, who spoke to the committee about the region's vision for transportation investments and the increasing need for cooperation to secure limited federal funds. He spoke of his history of political involvement in the region and the

decisions in the past decades to invest in light rail, noting the regional teamwork needed to help the region “stretch” and extend high capacity transit to the system the region currently enjoys today. He noted that the federal government was going into an “extraordinarily difficult time” and that the limited amount of federal funds for projects suggests that the region desperately needs to develop a singular, unified voice to help the region secure these funds for necessary infrastructure improvements. Representative Blumenauer noted that JPACT recently sent a letter supporting five different projects for receipt of TIGER grants; this makes it difficult for congressional delegates to advocate for any of the region’s desired projects without a stated declaration of priority. Stating that the region’s citizens “believe in” the region’s decisions to maintain transportation options, Representative Blumenauer encouraged the committee to continue to think creatively and collaboratively on how to solve the region’s transportation problems, and stressed the need to encourage the region to speak with one unified voice.

8. **ADJOURN**

Chair Collette adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Aaron Brown
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2011

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

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
3.	Document	11/08/11	Transportation for America: Summary of MAP-21	111011j-01
6.1	Powerpoint	11/10/11	Proposed Amendments to the Transportation Planning Rule & Oregon Highway Plan	111011j- 02
7.1	Document	11/2011	Flexible Funds Program for 2014-15and Public Involvement Approach	111011j -03
7.2	Handout	11/03/11	Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project – High Level Inputs	111011j-04
7.2	Powerpoint	10/10/11	Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project	111011j-05