



JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
FEBRUARY 9, 2012
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sam Adams
Shane Bemis
Rex Burkholder
Jack Burkman
Carlotta Collette, Chair
Shirley Craddick
Nina DeConcini
Craig Dirksen
Donna Jordan
Ann Lininger
Jason Tell
Don Wagner

AFFILIATION

City of Portland
City of Gresham, representing Cities of Multnomah Co.
Metro Council
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.
Clackamas County
Oregon Department of Transportation, Region 1
Washington State Department of Transportation

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Deborah Kafoury
Neil McFarlane
Roy Rogers
Steve Stuart
Bill Wyatt

AFFILIATION

Multnomah County
TriMet
Washington County
Clark County
Port of Portland

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Susie Lahsene
Diane McKeel

AFFILIATION.

Port of Portland
Multnomah County

STAFF: Andy Cotugno, Kim Ellis, Alison Kean Campbell, Nuin-Tara Key, Robin McArthur, Lake McTighe, Dylan Rivera, Randy Tucker, Elissa Gertler, Kelsey Newell, Sheena VanLeuven, Marc Week, John Williams

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. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. John Charles of the Cascade Policy Institute expressed concern over TriMet's decrease in service while there will be a payroll tax rate increase every January through 2024. He was also concerned about the cost of fringe benefits to TriMet's employees and the expense of the Westside Express Service (WES) project. He also expressed unease over using federal money to pay for light rail. Mr. Charles noted two citizen initiatives and another to be filed that would stop light rail expansion in Clackamas County.

Mr. Steve Schopp of Tualatin stated his concern that Clackamas County citizens did not want light rail expansion nor do they want Metro asking the federal government for funds. He also expressed concern over removing an Elks community center in place of Section 8 housing near a proposed Max stop. Mr. Schopp stated that Clackamas County residents would vote in opposition of light rail. Chair Collette clarified that the Elks community center is not under plans to be removed.

Mr. John Ludlow of Wilsonville expressed concern over diverting budget funds from other public sections such as Police and Fire. Mr. Ludlow noted that Clackamas County is short 50 million dollars for road maintenance and that is the same amount as the Rail Flex Fund. Mr. Ludlow was also concerned about committees of Clackamas County and Metro deciding funding projects without direct voting.

Mayor Tim Knapp of Wilsonville announced that the City of Wilsonville last year had a record year in construction building permits. The City of Wilsonville also saw a strong uptick on industry, expansion and relocation. Mayor Knapp informed that the committee that private sectors interest in freight travel, transportation impacts and planning for continued growth in the area.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Collette reminded the committee that the 30 day public comment period on the 2012-2015 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) ends noon on Monday, February 13, 2012. The comment period addresses project schedules, air quality conformity, determination and staff administrative authority.

Chair Collette informed the committee of two initiatives filed in Clackamas County and the city of Milwaukie related to light rail transit. The initiatives would require approval to use city/county resources to finance, design, construct, or operate any public rail transit system. In Milwaukie, the earliest initiative could come to voters in the September 12th special election.

Chair Collette announced that round IV Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants are now available. Congressman Earl Blumenauer recommends that the committee submit one project from Washington County. The City of Portland also has a project the city is considering for submission. Chair Collette asked the committee what process they wanted to use to decide what should be submitted for the TIGER IV grant. The committee expressed desire to go through a ranking process and include other regional leaders who are not at the table to have time to give input.

The committee viewed a televised speech from Congressman Blumenauer from the floor of the United States House of Representatives honoring Ms. Gail Achterman, who passed away recently. Mr. Jason Tell of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) added that at a time of deep separation Ms. Achterman was an inspiration and he hoped people could make it to her memorial scheduled for the afternoon of February 9th.

4. CONSIDERATION OF THE JPACT MINUTES FOR JAN. 12, 2012

MOTION: Councilor Rex Burkholder moved, Ms. Susie Lahsene seconded, to approve the JPACT minutes for January 12, 2012.

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

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Resolution No. 12-4330, For the Purpose of Endorsing a Regional Position on the Authorization of a Surface Transportation Act in the US Congress

Mr. Andy Cotugno of Metro introduced Resolution No. 12-4330. The resolution, if adopted, would approve a position paper to send to the federal Oregon delegation from the Portland Region urging Congress to take action on transportation authorizing legislation. Mr. Cotugno briefly provided an overview of the transportation bills recently approved in committees of the United States House of Representatives and Senate, the similarities and differences between the two and how each could affect the metro region. The resolution calls out 10 major principals in which the Portland metro region has concern. Mr. Cotugno noted that due to the recent Highway Bill in the US House , one recommendation, relating to streamlining the permitting processes, was recently added but was not given to TPAC because the House bill was approved by the house committee on transportation and infrastructure after the January 27th TPAC meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Jason Tell moved, Mayor Craig Dirksen seconded, to approve the Resolution No. 12-4330.

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

5.2 ODOT's Congestion Tolling Policy

Mr. Cotugno introduced ODOT's Congestion Tolling Policy. In September 2011 ODOT proposed a draft policy concerning ways to implement tolling in the State of Oregon. The Portland metro region supports moving forward with consideration of the Oregon Transportation Commissions congestion/tolling policy but would like to add its own regional interests to the discussion. Since there is little application of tolling/congestion pricing outside of Portland, the JPACT needs to be closely connected with the Oregon Transportation Commission when implementing tolling/congestion pricing policy. Mr. Cotugno outlined the concerns brought forth in the paper specifically on how to better evaluate tolling/congestion pricing projects and asked the committee for acceptance of the comment letter.

MOTION: Councilor Burkholder moved, Councilor Donna Jordan seconded, to submit a letter to Mr. Jason Tell of ODOT outlining the regions components on Congestion Tolling Policy.

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Shane Bemis expressed concerns that the acceptance of the letter could be interpreted by the public as an endorsement of tolling.

Councilor Burkholder clarified the letter is not an endorsement of tolling/congestion pricing, but merely outlines issues, the region believes the State and region should consider if and when deciding to implement tolling/congestion pricing.

ACTION TAKEN: With all in favor, and one abstained (J. Tell), the motion passed.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Greater Portland Metro Export Initiative

Mr. Noah Siegel of the City of Portland presented the Greater Portland Metro Export Initiative strategy assessment. In developing the market assessment and the Metro Export Initiative (MEI) strategy the Portland Development Commission(PDC) has attempted to identify policy issues and suggest changes at

different levels that will increase the success of Portland area exports. These recommendations are intended to compliment the 2001 National Export Strategy with specific suggestions for effective implementation at the state and local level.

The committee discussed the following items:

- The completed project findings will officially be released on February 15th and will be presented to the federal government in March.
- Key transportation needs to assist export initiatives especially freight transit. Specifically short and long term issues. Short term issues would be improvements such as intelligent Transfer Systems. Long term issues could be bigger projects like relieving freight choke points
- The new focus on service exports and the issue of the Federal Government not tracking service as an export.
- How to improve the accessibility of exports to manufacturers beyond the City of Portland.
- How to diversify the export market. Technologies currently dominate export market in the area.
- Updating the lock systems in Clackamas County and opening up barge traffic along the river.
- Talk about priorities. The difficult reality of not being able to support every project.

7. ADJOURN

Chair Collette adjourned the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marc Week
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2012

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

ITEM	Document type	Doc Date	Document Description	Document No.
	Work program	02/09/12	Updated work Program	020912j-01
3	Handout	02/12	US DOT TIGER IV Grant Program	020912j-02
3	Handout	2/12	TriMet Service Trends	020912j-03
5.1	Resolution	02/09/12	RESOLUTION NO. 12-4330	020912j-04
5.1	Handout	2/12	American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act Summary of surface transportation provisions	020912j-05
5.1	Handout	2/12	Summary of MAP-21	020912j-06

6.1	PPT	2/9/12	Greater Portland Metro Export Initiative abbreviated for JPACT: Updated	020912j-07
6.1	Handout	2/9/12	Greater Portland Metro Export Initiative Policy Memo	020912j-08