

MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: June 9, 1983

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

PERSONS ATTENDING: Members: Charlie Williamson, Dick Pokornowski, Bill Young, Ed Ferguson, John Frewing, Larry Cole, Mike Lindberg, Wes Myllenbeck, Richard Waker, Margaret Weil, Ed Hardt, Bruce Etlinger, and Earl Blumenauer (alternate)

Guests: Larry Rice, Washington County; Ted Spence, ODOT; John Price, FHWA; Vic Rhodes, Geoff Larkin and Steve Dotterer, City of Portland; Winston Kurth, Clackamas County; Howard Harris, DEQ; Sarah Salazar, Port of Portland; Paul Bay, Tri-Met; Keith Ahola, WSDOT; and Gilbert Mallery, RPC of Clark County

Staff: Rick Gustafson, Andy Cotugno, Keith Lawton, Karen Thackston, Bill Pettis, Peg Henwood, and Lois Kaplan, Secretary

MEDIA: None

SUMMARY:

1. AMENDING THE TIP TO TRANSFER UMTA SECTION 5 FUNDS FROM CAPITAL ASSISTANCE TO OPERATING ASSISTANCE

Andy Cotugno reviewed the Section 5 funds that are available to Tri-Met and C-TRAN, noting that Tri-Met's Capital Program is funded but they have a shortfall in Operating Assistance. Authorizing a transfer of funds from Capital Assistance to Operating Assistance would allow Tri-Met the most effective use of local funds.

Action Taken: It was moved and seconded to recommend approval of the Resolution amending the TIP to transfer UMTA Section 5 funds from Capital Assistance to Operating Assistance. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

2. AMENDING THE TIP TO INCLUDE A PROGRAM OF PROJECTS UTILIZING SECTION 9A FUNDS

Andy related that the Section 9A program is available for one year on a formula-apportioned basis for capital-related projects and represents the first allocation following the gas tax increase. He reviewed the various projects outlined on Exhibit "A" to the Resolution and indicated that only the major

sub-headings would be incorporated in the TIP. He added that approval of this amendment would give Tri-Met and UMTA flexibility to use funding for back-up projects that merit federal funds.

Action Taken: It was moved and seconded to recommend approval of the Resolution amending the TIP to include a program of projects utilizing Section 9A funds. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

3. AMENDING THE TIP TO INCLUDE A NEW TRI-MET PROJECT--HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Andy explained that Section 4(i) funds are used for demonstration projects utilizing "innovative techniques and methods in the operation and management of transit." This project is intended to combat employee absenteeism with the expectation of increased productivity. Paul Bay indicated that such a program has been in effect at Tri-Met and that last year's employee absenteeism went from 17 percent to 11 percent, and it is hoped that this project will help to continue that trend.

Action Taken: It was moved and seconded to recommend approval of the Resolution amending the TIP to include a new Tri-Met project--Human Resources Management. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

4. ALLOCATING FINAL INTERSTATE TRANSFER FUNDING AUTHORIZATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN FY 1983

Andy pointed out that JPACT and the Metro Council had formally adopted a Resolution in April which initially authorized implementation of Interstate Transfer projects for the third quarter of FY 83. Approval of this Resolution would finalize the release of Interstate Transfer funds for the remainder of FY 83, noting the unused portion (\$20 million) is to be carried over for use in FY 84.

A first draft of the e(4) highway program for the period of FY 82 through FY 87 for the Portland region was distributed. Andy explained that, on the summary sheet, the "total" column represented the funding amount to be sought for right-of-way and construction each year. The amount of "formula" funds to be received each year is unknown, although it is anticipated to be about \$15 million. Andy reported that, over the last three years, the Interstate Transfer lists have been adopted on a yearly basis but that the Committee will be asked in the near future to consider a Resolution incorporating the Interstate Transfer Program on a longer timeframe.

Action Taken: It was moved and seconded to recommend approval of the Resolution allocating final Interstate Transfer funding authorization for implementation in FY 1983. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

5. ODOT SIX-YEAR PROGRAM

Andy explained that the material presented is to make the Committee aware of the projects contained in ODOT's Six-Year Program. The proposed criteria and ranking of projects are the result of TIP Subcommittee input to ODOT as representative of the region. Andy indicated that ODOT's first draft of the program update will be released in September followed by public hearings, with adoption slated for December.

Major accomplishments of the TIP Subcommittee included dealing with the criteria and the application of that criteria to key projects of interest in the Portland area. Criteria offered by the State was considered by the TIP Subcommittee to be rural-biased, and revisions were recommended which involved: 1) relying on future traffic conditions (congestion); 2) intent to de-emphasize maintenance of projects; and 3) to increase the importance of economic development criteria.

Ed Hardt explained the problems involved in trying to rank projects statewide on a technical basis, noting the many factors involved in evaluating a project's importance.

During discussion, it was suggested that Commissioner Yturri, Chairman of the Oregon Transportation Commission, be invited to tour the project areas and discuss the importance of highway investment in the Portland area.

Mr. Hardt explained that the Portland metropolitan area is already getting the lion's share of the Interstate and Interstate Transfer funding allocated to the State, which results in the use of Primary funds for the balance of the State. He also felt that the list of "modernization" projects submitted by Metro for consideration in the ODOT Six-Year Program needs to be refined and cut to be more realistic.

Committee members indicated that criteria should be a part of the proposed ranking system that takes into consideration projects that result in the transfer of ownership of roads to be more in line with State vs. local responsibility. It was felt that there is nothing in the proposed criteria trying to rationalize a road system allocating responsibilities where they are most appropriate.

Rick Gustafson stated that it is Metro's strategy to gain jurisdictional support of a project list on behalf of the region. If

JPACT were in agreement on regional needs, it would serve as a formidable input to ODOT in setting priorities.

Action Taken: It was generally agreed that the list be refined and that Commissioner Yturri and the Oregon Transportation Commission be invited to discuss policy issues relating to the Six-Year Program.

6. ANNOUNCEMENT

John Frewing related that Tri-Met was the recipient of one of ten national rideshare awards. He wanted the Committee to be aware of this national recognition and the importance of their role in ridesharing.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

REPORT WRITTEN BY: Lois Kaplan

COPIES TO: JPACT Members
Rick Gustafson
Don Carlson
Ray Barker