



TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE  
September 27, 2013  
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Buehrig  
Chris Deffebach  
Courtney Duke  
Elissa Gertler, Chair  
Nancy Kraushaar  
Katherine Kelly  
Heather McCarey  
Margaret Middleton  
Cora Potter  
Satvinder Sandhu  
Karen Schilling  
Rian Windsheimer

AFFILIATION

Clackamas County  
Washington Co.  
City of Portland  
Metro  
City of Wilsonville, representing Cities of Clackamas Co.  
City of Gresham, representing Cities of Multnomah Co.  
Community Representative  
City of Beaverton, representing Cities of Washington Co.  
Community Representative  
Federal Highway Administration  
Multnomah Co.  
Oregon Department of Transportation

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Mike Clark  
Steve Entenman  
Adrian Esteban  
Scott King  
Carol Gossett  
Alan Lehto  
Dean Lookingbill  
Dave Nordberg

AFFILIATION

Washington State Department of Transportation  
Community Representative  
Community Representative  
Port of Portland  
Community Representative  
TriMet  
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Ken Burgstahler  
Lynda David  
Phil Healy  
Eric Hesse

AFFILIATION

Washington State Department of Transportation  
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council  
Port of Portland  
TriMet

**STAFF:** Grace Cho, Beth Cohen, Mia Hart, Ted Leybold, John Mermin, Kelsey Newell, Ramona Perrault, Cassie Salinas, Patty Unfred, Malu Wilkinson.

**1. CALL TO ORDER, DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**

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

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair Gertler provided updates on the following items:

- Ms. Margaret Middleton is retiring and will no longer serve as the Cities of Washington County TPAC representative. TPAC members thanked Ms. Middleton for her service and expressed appreciation for her involvement.
- The recruitment for three TPAC community representatives is open through October 18<sup>th</sup>. Information about the position can be found on the Metro website.

Ms. Grace Cho of Metro provided an update on Resolution No. 13-4454, the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Acknowledgment Resolution. JPACT recommended the Metro Council adopt the resolution and Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 13-4454. Ms. Lake McTighe is creating an ATP/RTP workgroup to guide refinements of the draft Active Transportation Plan, which will then be proposed for adoption in as part of the RTP in Spring, 2014. Separately, Ms. Cho stated the Metro Council approved Resolution No. 13-4459 on September 26<sup>th</sup>, amending the 2012-15 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) to create a Transportation Alternatives contingency fund for 11 projects.

Mr. John Mermin of Metro provided an update on the 2014 RTP update process. RTP workshops were held in August, which included an overview of new transportation modeling, and in September, which covered existing conditions, demographic and economic travel trends, proposed policy edits for active transportation and safety, and project solicitation process. Information on the 2014 RTP update and all materials are available at <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/2014solicitation>. An overview of existing conditions will be shared at JPACT and Metro Council in November. A draft updated project list will be brought to TPAC February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Karen Schilling asked if TPAC is receiving an update or approval on the Regional Infrastructure Enterprise. Chair Gertler stated an informational overview could be requested, as an update is not currently on the TPAC Work Program.

### **3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON TPAC ITEMS**

John Lewis – Mr. Lewis of the City of Oregon City addressed TPAC members about Regional Flexible Funds. He began by recognizing Oregon City was not awarded regional flexible funds and stated his concerns related to the decision making process. The Data Resource Guide and local nomination guidance documents provided by Metro for the 2016-18 MTIP were valuable in the nomination process. The Oregon City project followed the guidance documents closely and was identified as a top priority by the technical committee. Mr. Lewis expressed concern that resource guides did not play a significant role in the decision making process, but is hopeful for process improvements in Clackamas County. Separately, Mr. Lewis commented that he supports the direction of the SW Corridor project and stated he is looking forward to next steps.

Jason Tuck - Mr. Tuck of the City of Happy Valley addressed TPAC members about Regional Flexible Funds. Mr. Tuck stated the RFFA process worked well in Clackamas County and suggested improvements for the flexible funds criteria. He suggested the criteria include an automatic point deduction from projects with existing bike lanes and sidewalks and identified this as a determining factor in funding for the Oregon City project. Mr. Tuck recognized the number of valuable projects exceeds available flexible funds.

### **4. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 30, 2013**

MOTION: Mr. Phil Healy moved, Ms. Karen Buehrig seconded, to adopt the Minutes for August 30 with the following amendments:

- Ms. Cora Potter was present at the TPAC meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup>;
- Ms. Karen Buehrig requested “Molalla Avenues, Oregon City was identified as a top priority in the technical analysis” be added under the Clackamas County RFFA outreach process;
- Mr. Phil Healy requested language edits under the Port of Portland Rail Plan summary: “Rail Plan projects extend to 2030. Recently completed projects include...”

RESULT: With all in favor, the motion passed as amended.

**5. 2016-18 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (MTIP)  
REGIONAL FLEXIBLE FUND ALLOCATIONS: RESOLUTION NO. 13-4467**

Mr. Ted Leybold of Metro provided an overview of Regional Flexible Fund Allocations (RFFA). The RFFA process began in fall 2012 with a three-step policy update including region-wide programs, Active Transportation and Complete Streets/Green Economy and Freight Initiatives, and Regional Economic Opportunity Fund. 29 projects and five region-wide programs were nominated. A regional public comment period was held, which included enhanced outreach to environmental justice and limited English proficiency populations. Project prioritization was determined by local technical evaluations and public comment opportunities.

Mr. Leybold provided a summary of recommended projects for each step of the flexible fund allocation. He identified the six region-wide programs (Transit-Oriented Development, Transportation System Management and Operations, Regional Travel Options, Corridor and Systems Planning, Regional Planning,) and High Capacity Transit (HCT) projects recommended for funding. For step two he described the 12 projects identified for funding in the Active Transportation and Complete Streets competition and five projects identified for the Green Economy and Freight competition. Lastly he described the five projects identified for the Regional Economic Opportunity Fund. The total 2016-18 Flexible Fund Allocation was \$142,000,000. Mr. Leybold highlighted the eight conditions of approval were applied to all projects and programs.

JPACT will be asked to recommend Council approve Resolution No. 13-4467 October 10<sup>th</sup> and Council will be asked to approve October 17<sup>th</sup>. Following action taken at JPACT and Council, RFFA process retrospective comments will lead to development of the next cycle of flexible fund policy criteria and adoption of MTIP. MTIP adoption includes programming for programs, air quality conformity, burdens and benefits of disparate impact analysis, and CMAQ eligibility, among other federal requirements.

Member comments included:

- Members discussed the local project recommendations process, specifically related to the difficulties surrounding funding recommendations for competing projects, such as selecting to fund a project without sidewalks over a project with deficient sidewalks and comparing projects that offer disparate data sets.
- Members stated a more defined decision-making process in the RFFA/REOF Nomination Policy packet would be valuable for both decision makers and applicants.

- Members asked clarifying question related to the conditions of approval. Ms. Cho stated the conditions of approval were derived from the responses that the jurisdictions provided from Metro and ODOT staff comments, and local and regional public comments.
- Members discussed the barriers surrounding STA designations, which may be required through conditions of approval. Members suggested editing the language to “shall consider pursuit of” from “shall pursue.”
- Members expressed concern surrounding imposing ATP guidelines on the City of Tigard and City of Beaverton projects, in view of Council only authorizing ‘acknowledgment of work completed to date’ on the ATP. Ms. Cho stated the ATP guidelines are not being imposed and Metro staff agreed to remove reference to the ATP guidelines from the Conditions of Approval. The Conditions were reviewed by applicant lead staff who had indicated they were amenable to considering the 14-foot trail when feasible.
- Members requested the Staff Report be added as an exhibit to Resolution No. 13-4467.

**MOTION:** Ms. Margaret Middleton moved, Ms. Katherine Kelly seconded, to approve Resolution No. 13-4467, For the Purpose of Allocating \$142.58 Million of Regional Flexible Funding for Years 2016-18, Pending Air Quality Conformity Determination.

**RESULT:** With all in favor, the motion passed.

## **6. SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR STEERING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Ms. Malu Wilkinson of Metro provided an overview of the Southwest Corridor Steering Committee recommendation on the Southwest Corridor Plan and Shared Investment Strategy in July. Metro staff and cities worked to involve the public throughout the process via neighborhood groups, open houses, and innovative online opportunities.

The Southwest Corridor Plan was first developed after the area was identified as the region’s top priority for high capacity transit and a top priority as a mobility corridor for transportation. Although the focus of the SW Corridor centered on transportation, the plan was framed through examining land use to ensure investments mirrored the desires of the communities. Transit investments, as well as roadway bicycle and pedestrian connections were built from the foundation of each community’s land use vision.

The four main recommendations from the SW Corridor Steering Committee surround local transit service enhancement and development to meet the needs of communities today; further study of both bus rapid transit (BRT) and light rail from Portland to Tualatin via Tigard; 81 roadway and active transportation projects were recommended for investment based on their support of the land use vision and HCT; over 400 parks, trails, and nature project investments. Lastly, a toolkit for development incentives and policy changes is provided to support investment decisions tailored to specific communities.

The local adoption process will be completed by October 14<sup>th</sup> and Council will be asked to approve the plan to move forward towards implementation on October 31<sup>st</sup>. After adoption, staff will continue to work with the steering committee to narrow down transportation design options to be completed by June 14, 2014. Projects will be narrowed based on how they align with the HCT, in addition to consideration of park and nature investments, and affordable housing. The goal is to

complete an integrated and collaborative approach as a nationally competitive model for transportation and land use design.

Member comments included:

- Members expressed appreciation of Metro staff and collaborative efforts with ODOT and TriMet. Members stated they are looking forward to next steps and implementation of the Southwest Corridor Plan, namely related to TriMet service enhancements.
- Members asked if any there are any anticipated controversies related to the plan. Ms. Judith Gray of the City of Tigard stated there is a ballot measure in the spring on whether the City of Tigard should oppose all HCT. Implications for Tigard and the SW Corridor are unknown; however Tigard's main objective is to provide the best possible information to communities.
- Ms. Wilkinson stated Exhibit B to the resolution was not included in the TPAC packet, though it will be included in the final resolution. Ms. Wilkinson provided an overview of Exhibit B.

MOTION: Ms. Karen Schilling moved, Ms. Margaret Middleton seconded, to recommend the Southwest Corridor Plan and Shared Investment Strategy and next steps for implementation for consideration at JPACT.

RESULT: With all in favor, the motion passed.

## **8. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT GUIDE**

Ms. Patty Unfred of Metro provided an overview of the Public Engagement Guide. Federal requirements under Title VI state the public involvement guide for transportation must be updated every four years. This year's update transcends transportation and encompasses an agency-wide approach with the Public Engagement Guide. The draft guide is currently out for public comment and revisions are ongoing until finalized in October. The guide is written for three audiences: Metro staff to use as a guide for best practices, local government staff to use a resource, and the general public to break through mysticism surrounding planning processes.

Ms. Cassie Salinas of Metro stated the guide is divided in six sections: introduction; governing structure; services; public meetings and events; public engagement in regional land use and transportation planning, which addresses Metro's approach, the region's six desired outcomes, public engagement activities for key decisions, and procedures for local public engagement for project sponsors; and best practices for inclusive public engagement and outreach, which includes steps for developing an engagement plan, examples of engagement techniques to reach underrepresented populations, and methods used to consistently measure our effectiveness when engaging the community. Ms. Salinas summarized the local engagement and non-discrimination check list and provided examples of tools and techniques Metro uses to engage the public, such as interactive web pages, surveys, open houses, and social media.

The 45-day public comment period closes September 30<sup>th</sup>. A revised version of the Public Engagement Guide will be brought to TPAC for final review and recommendation to JPACT on November 1<sup>st</sup>, JPACT will be asked for approval November 14<sup>th</sup>, and Council will be asked to approve the guide November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Member comments included:

- Members asked how staff coordinated with local jurisdictions to develop the guide. Ms. Unfred stated each county has a representative on the Public Engagement Review Committee. Additional outreach was conducted through engagement committees' interested parties email lists.
- Members asked clarifying questions related to the expectations of local jurisdictions to align their transportation plans with the new Public Engagement Guide. Ms. Unfred stated there are certain expectations for transportation plans to align with the guide and referred members to the local government checklist. The Public Engagement Guide sets the standards, which are then adopted in specific actions related to transportation plans.
- Members asked clarifying questions about synthesizing comments on the Public Engagement Guide. Ms. Salinas stated staff identified key themes from public comments received primarily through an online survey, which is intended to be a more general overview of best practices as a way to provide feedback.

## 9. ADJOURN

Chair Gertler adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mia Hart  
Recording Secretary

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
2	Handout	N/A	2014 RTP Update Committee Calendar	092713t-01
4	Minutes	8/30/2013	August 30 TPAC Minutes Draft	092713t-02
5	Legislation	N/A	Resolution No. 13-4467	092713t-03
5	Letter	9/1/2013	City of Portland RFFA Recommendations	092713t-04
5	Letter	9/5/2013	Clackamas County RFFA Recommendations	092713t-05
5	Letter	9/11/2013	Multnomah County RFFA Recommendations	092713t-06
5	Letter	9/11/2013	Washington County RFFA Recommendations	092713t-07
5	PPT	N/A	2016-18 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation – Final Recommendation	092713t-08
7	PPT	N/A	Public Engagement Guide	092713t-09