



TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE
February 27, 2015
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Williams
Karen Buehrig
Lynda David
Chris Deffebach
Carol Gossett
Judith Gray
Eric Hesse
Katherine Kelly
Nancy Kraushaar
Dave Nordberg
Karen Schilling
Steve White
Don Odermott

AFFILIATION

Metro
Clackamas County
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council
Washington County
Community Representative
City of Portland
TriMet
City of Gresham, representing Cities of Multnomah Co.
City of Wilsonville, representing Cities of Clackamas Co.
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Multnomah County
Community Representative
City of Hillsboro, representing Cities of Washington Co.

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Mike Clark
Susie Lahsene
Satvinder Sandhu
Kelly Brooks

AFFILIATION

Washington State Department of Transportation
Port of Portland
Federal Highway Administration
Oregon Department of Transportation

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Alan Snook
Phil Healy
Alan Lehto

AFFILIATION

Oregon Department of Transportation
Port of Portland
TriMet

STAFF: Elissa Gertler, Ted Leybold, Grace Cho, Dan Kaempff, Caleb Winter, Malu Wilkinson, Lake McTighe, Lisa Hunrichs, Joel Cvetko

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

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

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Williams updated members on the following items:

- The TPAC Community Representatives will be officially appointed by the Metro Council at the March 19 Council Meeting.

- The first of two workshops Regional Transportation System Definition will be held on Monday, March 9 from 2pm to 4pm in the Council Chamber. TPAC Members are welcome to attend.
- Lake McTighe gave a brief overview of the recent AT Forum event “How We Get Here Matters” by Ben Plowden, Senior Director at Transport for London. The presentation addressed how London has been working to create a “cycling revolution,” connecting the London’s 32 boroughs with a network of “cycle superhighways.” This project is a cornerstone of London’s transportation strategy, with four superhighways already in use and more expected in 2016.
- Chair Williams also reminded committee members that the Transportation Growth Management (TGM) pre-application period ends March 13, and suggested that members provide ideas for potential projects.

TPAC members shared the following updates:

- Karen Buehrig: Clackamas County is pleased to announce that the planning commission recently approved an active transportation plan for Clackamas County, an initiative supported by a Metro TGM grant.
- Karen Schilling: Multnomah County has a transportation planner position opening which will also be posted on the Multnomah County website.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

4. CONSIDERATION OF THE TPAC MINUTES FOR JANUARY 30, 2015

MOTION: Mr. Eric Hesse moved and Ms. Karen Schilling seconded the motion to adopt the TPAC minutes from January 30, 2015.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

5. MTIP LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

Mr. Ted Leybold provided an overview of two requested MTIP amendments and requested a recommendation to approve the MTIP amendments to JPACT. Mr. Leybold noted that there are two new projects proposed for the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) for the region. The first was an award from the Washington County federal discretionary TIGER program that Cities of Washington County and ODOT were fortunate to receive in this funding cycle. This award was for a little more than \$10M in federal funds to perform intelligent transportation system upgrades. The second amendment is for a bridge rehabilitation project in east Multnomah County.

Mr. Don Odermott added that the cities of Washington County are appreciative of the leadership of Washington County and ODOT for this project, which is an important investment for several high-tech employers in the area. The three arterial improvements directly affect Intel and other business in the high tech cluster.

Ms. Chris Deffebach noted that the application for this grant was submitted in 2014 in partnership with ODOT and the Cities of Washington County. The funding will help improve freight movements and communication technology to help make the roads smarter, and help address transit priorities.

Counties provided matching funds for the project. Consultants have been hired and updates will be provided on an ongoing basis.

Mr. Alan Snook added that ODOT is very pleased to have been awarded this funding and noted that this the only TIGER project to be awarded in the state of Oregon as it is a highly competitive process. Construction will begin in 2017 as one of the requirements is that the funds be used within a given time period.

MOTION: Ms. Deffebach moved and Ms. Schilling seconded to refer both recommendations to JPACT at their March meeting.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

6. TSMO/RTO ANNUAL PROGRAM UPDATE AND GRANT ALLOCATION RESULTS

Mr. Dan Kaempff and Mr. Caleb Winter provided an informational PowerPoint presentation regarding the Regional Travel Options (RTO) and Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) programs.

Comments included:

- Members requested clarification and presenters confirmed that there were no action items on the information presented.
- Members also noted that it would be helpful to have a package of information that allows review of the applications that were submitted and selected for grants, demonstrates evaluation criteria on which grants are scored, and provides an overview of how the selections are made by the grant committee. This information might assist jurisdictions to create and submit better applications for the RTO funds.
- Mr. Kaempff noted that staff would make the documents available to committee members via an FTP site.
- Committee members also noted that it would be helpful to further discuss TPAC's role and involvement in updating the strategic plan. Several committee members requested the opportunity to provide strategic feedback about how funds are allocated.
- Mr. Kaempff confirmed that there would be an additional discussion opportunity in July, when staff return to TPAC for guidance on updating the strategic plan.
- Mr. Leybold clarified that the sub-allocation of TSMO funds to specific projects would be processed as administrative amendments to the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

7. TRANSIT PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

Mr. Alan Lehto (TriMet) and Malu Wilkinson (Metro) introduced the concept of reallocating transit project development funds. Mr. Lehto provided an overview of the proposal and clarified that the information will be introduced and discussed at this meeting with no action required by committee members.

Currently there are \$5.861 million in unspent transit project development funds (from the 2012-2013 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation –RFFA process). The proposal is to reallocate these funds for further implementation of high capacity transit (HCT) project development.

As detailed in the memo, Mr. Lehto noted that consistent with the policy in the 2012-2013 RFFA, TriMet and Metro propose to reallocate the transit project development funds that had been targeted for the suspended Lake Oswego to Portland Transit Project to support current regional HCT priority projects. The proposal includes three elements which are further outlined in the memo provided by Mr. Lehto and Ms. Wilkinson:

- Capital improvements along the Willamette Shoreline
- Powell Division Transit and Development Project
- Southwest Corridor

Comments included:

- Several members expressed support for the proposal and noted that it was a thoughtful and strategic approach.
- Ms. Karen Buerig asked for clarification regarding the long term vision for investments in the Lake Oswego corridor.
- Mr. Lehto noted that the right of way is an opportunity for transit or rail or other transportation. It makes sense to continue to preserve that corridor for future use.
- Ms. Wilkinson added that part of the maintenance of the right of way is to ensure the safety of the corridor, and also has to do with addressing some of the stormwater concerns along the shoreline. She also clarified that the proposal ensures that funding is being focused in areas where partners need it.
- Members encouraged Mr. Lehto and Ms. Wilkinson to provide additional detail on the issues regarding Willamette shoreline to clarify the need to preserve that right of way.
- Mr. Alan Snook suggested other creative ways to use the funding could be to fill gaps in other projects that have not been funded to completion. He noted that couple of projects that went through STIP (including Barbur and Powell Blvds projects) were underfunded. A suggestion was made that some of this money could be allocated to support those projects.
- Mr. Lehto noted that the timing is critical. The team is working towards project development for Powell Division by July 1, 2015. Approval of this proposal would meet the commitment to funding that FTA requires. Decision on this funding allocation must be made and confirmed by the end of April 2015. He also noted that the bonds were sold in tax-exempt status, so they cannot be considered planning money, but must be used as project development funds.
- Ms. Wilkinson clarified that a resolution will be brought to TPAC at the end of March 2015 for approval and recommendation to JPACT.

8. ADJOURN

Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Hunrichs, Planning and Development

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF FEB. 27, 2015

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Agenda	2/27/2015	Meeting agenda	022715T-01
1.0	Work Program	2/19/2015	Work program	022715T-02
4.0	Meeting Minutes	1/30/2015	Meeting minutes	022715T-03
6.0	Handout	2/26/2015	2016-18 RFFA TSMO Project Recommendation	022715T-04
6.0	Handout	2/26/2015	2015-17 RTO Grants Outcome	022715T-05
6.0	Presentation	2/26/2015	RTO & TSMO Program Updates	022715T-06
7.0	Memo	2/26/2015	Reallocation of transit project development funds	022715T-07