



METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)

Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2015

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Clark, *1st Vice Chair*
Carlotta Collette
Denny Doyle
Mark Gamba
Jeff Gudman
Jerry Hinton
Dick Jones
Keith Mays
Anne McEnerny-Ogle
Marilyn McWilliams
Renate Mengelberg
Craig Prosser
Bob Stacey
Peter Truax, *Chair*
Jerry Willey

AFFILIATION

City of Wood Village, Multnomah Co. Other Cities
Metro Council
City of Beaverton, Washington Co. 2nd Largest City
City of Milwaukie, Clackamas Co. Other Cities
City of Lake Oswego, Clackamas Co. Largest City
City of Gresham, Multnomah Co. 2nd Largest City
Oak Lodge Water District, Clackamas Co. Special Districts
Washington County Citizen
City of Vancouver
Tualatin Valley Water District, Washington Co. Special Districts
City of Oregon City, Clackamas Co. 2nd Largest City
TriMet Board of Directors
Metro Council
City of Forest Grove, Washington Co. Other Cities
City of Hillsboro, Washington Co. Largest City

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Sam Chase
Betty Dominguez
Tootie Smith

AFFILIATION

Metro Council
Clackamas County Citizen
Clackamas County

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Jim Bernard
Jennifer Donnelly
Ed Gronke
Brenda Perry
Jeff Swanson

AFFILIATION

Clackamas County
Department of Land Conservation and Development
Clackamas County Citizen
City of West Linn, Clackamas Co. Other Cities
Clark County

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Barber, Carol Chesarek, Chris Deffebach

STAFF: Craig Beebe, Grace Cho, Kim Ellis, Alison Kean, Nellie Papsdorf, Ramona Perrault, Ted Reid, Jamie Snook

1. CALL TO ORDER, SELF INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS

MPAC Chair Peter Truax called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. and declared a quorum. All attendees introduced themselves.

Chair Truax noted that Commissioner Tootie Smith was replacing Commissioner Martha Schrader as the primary representative for Clackamas County, with Commissioner Jim Bernard remaining as the alternate. He explained that the change necessitated appointing a new 2nd Vice Chair from Clackamas County to replace Commissioner Schrader and asked if there were any nominations.

MOTION: Mayor Denny Doyle moved and Commissioner Renate Mengelberg seconded, to appoint Mayor Mark Gamba as 2nd Vice Chair of MPAC.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Truax explained that the committee would also need to nominate a member to serve as 2nd Vice Chair in 2016, when his term will end and 1st Vice Chair Clark will move into the chair position. Chair Truax noted that he would serve on the nominating committee alongside 1st Chair Tim Clark and Councilor Jeff Gudman. He added that they would share a slate of nominees with the committee within the next couple of months.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

3. COUNCIL UPDATE

Councilor Collette notified MPAC members of the following items:

- On October 19, the Metro Regional Center will host Mr. Scott Bernstein, President of the Center for Neighborhood Technology, as part of its ongoing Regional Snapshots Speaker Series. Mr. Bernstein will discuss the “real cost of living” by taking a comprehensive look at affordability that includes the hidden transportation costs in housing choices.
- The Southwest Corridor Steering Committee met on October 12 and is working towards a final recommendation on a route for rapid transit between downtown Portland, Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), Southwest Portland, and Washington County. The committee is still evaluating whether to focus on light rail or bus rapid transit (BRT). They have tentatively agreed that if light rail is chosen, the route should go no further south than Bridgeport Village in Tualatin. The committee is still evaluating how to best serve Portland Community College (PCC) Sylvania and is on track to identify a final preferred package of transit, roadway, bike and pedestrian improvements for the corridor and a funding strategy to resource it, by April 2016.
- The Metro Council held its first public hearing on Stafford urban reserves on October 8. Metro is considering adopting new findings to address the state’s remand of the Stafford urban reserves; these findings would also have to be adopted by the Clackamas County Commission. The vast majority of the testimony on October 8 urged the Metro Council to focus on Stafford. Certain parties, including the Clackamas County Commission, would like Metro to consider eventually allowing urban development on what is now a rural reserve between the Cities of Wilsonville and Salem. Another public hearing will be held on November 19 at the Metro Regional Center to further discuss the designations.
- The Oregon Zoo is holding a workshop on November 20 to discuss lead-free ammunition. Using lead-free ammunition protects wildlife by preventing lead poisoning, particularly among raptors such as eagles and condors that rely on eating carrion. The workshop will

give an overview of what scientists know about lead ammunition and how lead-free ammunition can help protect the environment. Members were encouraged to attend.

4. MPAC MEMBER COMMUNICATION

Mr. Craig Prosser noted that the Governor recently appointed two additional members to the TriMet Board of Directors filling vacant positions and leading to a reassignment of board duties. He explained that this meant he would be transitioning off of MPAC and Ms. Shelly Martin would replace him as the primary member. He thanked MPAC for their time and expressed his appreciation for their work.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Consideration of September 9, 2015 Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Jim Bernard moved and Commissioner Marilyn McWilliams seconded, to adopt the September 9, 2015 minutes.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Introduction to Regional Snapshots Program

Chair Truax introduced the item by explaining that the Regional Snapshots Program is a new program that Metro staff is undertaking to spur an ongoing conversation about important topics related to growth management and transportation planning. Chair Truax introduced Principal Regional Planner Ted Reid and Senior Communications Specialist Craig Beebe to give an overview of the program.

Mr. Ted Reid noted that the Regional Snapshots Program followed up on recommendations from MPAC leading up to the urban growth management (UGM) decision. He explained that the program uses data and storytelling to provide updates on how the region is growing, changing, and moving. The first installment of the series was released in September and focused on housing. Upcoming topics will include jobs and the economy, transportation, and changing regional demographics.

Mr. Reid explained that there are three main components to the Regional Snapshots Program: the one-page topic summaries, the Speakers Series, and the website. Mr. Reid then introduced Mr. Craig Beebe to give an overview of the website. Key aspects included:

- Mr. Beebe emphasized that the website was intended to engage people with the information and leave them with a fuller understanding of the region's current issues. He noted that the website combines a number of different features to accomplish this including data, storytelling, graphics, video, and interviews.
- The first page informs the conversation before moving forward. It uses plain language and explanation to make the data more accessible for the public. Embedded videos help share the data in a number of ways to appeal to different learning styles. Mr. Beebe shared examples of the graphics on the website and noted that staff hoped to include more interactive maps in the future to allow people to connect directly with the information.

- Mr. Beebe added that the program also aimed to illustrate how large-scale data trends affect people's everyday lives. He explained that for the housing snapshot, shared at MPAC, staff interviewed people who had recently moved, people trying to move, people buying their first home, and others that provided examples of what housing experiences looked like on the ground level.
- Mr. Beebe noted that the website also provides a place to summarize the Regional Snapshots Speakers Series events. He gave the example of the recent event on September 18 and demonstrated how the website included a video of Ms. Kim-Mai Cutler's presentation on the Bay Area's housing crisis. He noted that the video had been viewed over 1,000 times. He explained that the videos will allow people to learn more about Metro's events and hopefully help them leave the page more informed and empowered to take part in regional conversations.

Member discussion included:

Members expressed their support for the series.

Marilyn McWilliams asked if the housing analysis aligned with the data in the 2014 Urban Growth Report (UGR). Mr. Beebe explained that the data represented in the Regional Snapshots Program came from a number of different sources, including staff research, the UGR, and the Census Bureau. He noted that the Regional Snapshots was predominantly aimed at making data already available more accessible. Mr. Reid added that it was important to note that the emphasis in the Regional Snapshots Program is on current conditions and historic data, while the UGR uses current data to forecast into the future.

Mr. Ed Gronke asked what the desired market was for the program and suggested making the program as user-friendly as possible. Mr. Reid responded that the program was aimed at broadening the percentage of people that understand Metro's work. He explained that the program hoped to use techniques that appeal to the general public to expand understanding of Metro's policies and programs.

1st Vice Chair Tim Clark commended the use of video and interviews to share data, noting that they helped make the research more accessible.

Mayor Mark Gamba expressed his support for the program and explained that it could help inform his own work on the Milwaukie City Council and across the region.

Mr. Keith Mays suggested developing a Regional Snapshot focused on Metro's solid waste work, to educate the public about one of the agency's key functions.

Commissioner Renate Mengelberg expressed support for the Snapshot. She explained that a potential next step would be to follow up on the project with an overview of best practices to use in order to address the problem, noting that such a resource would be very helpful to policymakers.

6.2 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update

Chair Truax explained that the item focused on the draft work plan and engagement plan developed for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. He noted that Ms. Kim Ellis, Regional Transportation Plan update project manager, would provide a brief overview of what has been done since the last time she came before the committee in July to set a foundation for MPAC's

discussion. He added that she would also describe the next steps of the update process, including seeking MPAC's approval of the work plan and engagement plan at its next meeting to be held on October 28. Chair Truax emphasized that the committee's feedback was important as it would be used by staff to inform further refinements to the draft work plan and public engagement plan. He then introduced Ms. Kim Ellis.

Key elements of the presentation included:

- Ms. Ellis explained that the discussion was an opportunity for MPAC to evaluate the proposed draft work plan and public engagement plan before they went to the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) for its recommendation.
- The RTP is a key tool for implementing the region's 2040 Growth Concept, which aims to achieve positive goals and targets for the region's communities. Ms. Ellis explained that the plan is focused on achieving Metro's six desired outcomes by defining the region's priorities for the future and understanding the challenges it faces.
- Metro is required by the federal government to update its RTP every four years. The update adopted in July of 2014 was very limited and intended to keep the agency in compliance with federal law and eligible for federal funding. The 2018 RTP update will be much more comprehensive in a number of ways, as it will address many of the issues deferred in the 2014 update. For example, the Climate Smart Strategy and the Regional Active Transportation Plan were both adopted with recommendations for implementation in the RTP, including significantly expanding transit service and improving transportation safety through design, and these recommendations will be included in the 2018 update.
- Ms. Ellis noted that the update is also an opportunity to make progress on many of the challenges identified in the Urban Growth Report (UGR) and Climate Smart Strategy. It also provides an opportunity to check in on the progress made towards the 2040 Growth Plan, adopted in 1995.
- Since MPAC was last briefed on the RTP update in July, Metro staff have initiated the partnership phase of the update, engaging partners and the public to seek input on priorities for the RTP update to address. Public engagement strategies included: briefings, presentations, community discussion groups, online quick polls, work sessions with the Portland State University Center for Public Service and community leaders, and stakeholder interviews.
- As a result of the public engagement efforts, staff were able develop central and recurring themes that were echoed across the region. These themes served as a basis for the development of a more detailed work plan and engagement approach, and centered around the following: traffic, safety, funding, maintenance, reliability, efficiency, travel options, access to opportunity (jobs, education, and services), health, affordability, clear regional priorities, and advance consideration of economic and equity impacts.
- As an example of the input provided, Ms. Ellis shared the results of a quick poll that asked what transportation issues most impacted participants' quality of life. She noted that across all three counties, the top three challenges were traffic, safety, and maintenance. She explained that the stakeholder interviews would be completed in October and communications staff would summarize the feedback from these interviews to share with MPAC and other stakeholders by the end of the month.
- The draft work plan is organized into five phases, with the project currently in its first phase. Each phase has a set of key planning and partnership activities that lead up to a Metro Council milestone, with the goal of building regional agreement on specific elements before moving into the next phase of the project. The first phase began this summer and

started shaping the work plan and engagement strategy for the remaining phases of the update.

- There are eight policy priorities that define the primary focus of the planning work, policy discussions, and engagement activities to support development of the 2018 RTP: transit, transportation equity, finance, freight, transportation design, transportation safety, performance and return on investment, and policy actions.
- Regional Leadership Forums (joint meetings of the Metro Council, JPACT, and MPAC) will be used to hear from local and national experts, collaborate and discuss regional challenges, integrate public input, and provide policy direction to staff. The forums will be similar to the groups convened during the development of the Climate Smart Strategy and are proposed to be focused on the following topics:
 - 1. Trends, challenges, and our vision for the future
 - 2. Funding transportation
 - 3. Designing for safe, healthy, and equitable communities
 - 4. Measuring what we value
 - 5. Shaping regional priorities
 - 6. Adopting a plan of shared actions
- In addition, Metro staff will convene technical work groups to provide input to staff on draft materials and implement policy direction from Regional Leadership Forums. Work group members will include topical experts and representatives from the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) and the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC).
- Ms. Ellis explained that staff was striving through the 2018 update to be more inclusive, both in terms of having more opportunities for underrepresented communities but also better engaging the business communities and other stakeholders throughout the process. A variety of tools have been identified with the goal of leveraging other agency engagement efforts and connecting public input to the technical work and policy discussions in an inclusive and transparent manner. Ms. Ellis shared examples of planned public engagement strategies such as: Regional Leadership Forums, speakers' series, informational briefings and presentations, online quick polls, and multi-lingual materials.
- Next steps include:
 - October 21: MTAC makes its recommendation to MPAC.
 - October 28: MPAC considers approval of the work plan and engagement plan.
 - October 30: TPAC makes its recommendation to JPACT.
 - November 12: JPACT considers approval of the work plan and engagement plan.
 - November 17: The Metro Council discusses the recommendations from MPAC and JPACT.
 - December 3: The Metro Council considers approval of the work plan and engagement plan.
- Questions for discussion:
 - Policy priorities?
 - Regional Leadership Forums?
 - Overall work plan or public engagement plan?

Member discussion included:

Councilor Stacey explained that the 2018 RTP update would be significantly more comprehensive than the 2014 update, and noted that there had been a lot of political turnover since 2014 so many would be engaging in the update process for the first time. He emphasized the importance of collaboration between the advisory committees, technical committees, and the Metro Council in order to make the process a success.

Mr. Dick Jones suggested including the polling information in the packet and expressed interest in learning more about how the polls aligned with the RTP's priorities.

Mr. Mays inquired about the substance of the projects proposed in the 2018 RTP. He noted that he would like to have more emphasis on how the region would resource the implementation of RTP projects. Ms. Ellis responded that the JPACT Finance Subcommittee was currently beginning conversations around regional transportation funding. She also noted that the second Regional Leadership Forum scheduled for June 2016 would include a broader regional discussion about transportation finance.

Mayor Mark Gamba expressed interest in evaluating the RTP from a larger systems perspective. He explained that it would be important to consider the problems carefully before deciding how and whether or not to address them. He shared examples of creative solutions to transportation deficiencies and encouraged staff to consider atypical solutions.

Mr. Swanson noted that JPACT discussed the 2018 RTP update on October 8 and shared some of the feedback he heard at that meeting, including suggestions such as: ensure that the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) response teams are able to fix transportation system problems efficiently, manage congestion while acknowledging that it will never disappear completely, and include workforce development and higher educational opportunities for technical education as part of the RTP work. He also noted that he appreciated comments from JPACT members expressing interest in fostering better bi-state coordination moving forward.

Mayor Willey asked if the 2018 RTP was a policy document and if it included specific transportation projects. Ms. Ellis responded that the RTP sets regional policy around transportation and decision-making, but also identifies projects eligible for state and federal dollars. She added that the plan also includes actions that would be required to implement the plan at the local, regional, and state level.

Mayor Willey asked how people would be selected to serve on the working groups. Ms. Ellis responded that Metro staff have been seeking volunteers from the technical committees and noted that they aimed to have representatives from each of the counties as well as small and large cities. She noted that staff also hoped to include transportation and equity experts.

Mr. Prosser asked if it would be possible to have a report on the current RTP in the early phases of the process, including where the region is in terms of meeting the goals and priorities developed in the 2014 RTP and where it falls behind.

Mayor Doyle asked if the Regional Leadership Forums were intended to refine the 2018 RTP's policy priorities. He explained that it would be important to prioritize which projects are critical and which might not be realistic. He agreed with Mr. Prosser that an evaluation of the last update's progress would help direct what the priorities should be.

Mr. Gronke echoed the committees concerned about financing. He also noted that it would be important to consider future transportation system innovations such as self-driving automobiles, that could have significant effects on how the system works.

Mayor Willey noted that Washington County was currently working on its Transportation Futures Study and explained that it could be a valuable resource to the 2018 RTP as it addresses many of the same issues (such as system redundancy and congestion) and looks at a variety of funding mechanisms. He offered to have staff come make a presentation about the study and what they've learned so far. He also expressed concern about the limited amount of Regional Leadership Forum meetings focused on financing the plan.

Mr. Mays noted that he was looking forward to the transit components of the plan following the increased operational dollars TriMet would be receiving as part of the recent payroll tax increase. Mr. Prosser explained that TriMet's Service Enhancement Plans would be helpful resource in the development of the plan.

Members discussed creating a coordinating group that would include representatives from leadership positions across the region's jurisdictions and inform the RTP's development. Mayor Willey suggested that creating such a group would help ensure local jurisdictions are involved directly in the update's development and provide credibility to decisions moving forward.

7. ADJOURN

MPAC Chair Truax adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nellie Papsdorf", with a stylized, flowing script.

Nellie Papsdorf
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 14, 2015

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
N/A	Handout	10/14/15	Updated 2015 Work Program	101415m-01
3.0	Handout	N/A	Regional Snapshot Speaker Series – True Affordability	101415m-02
6.1	Handout	09/01/15	Regional Snapshots – Housing	101415m-03