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TransPort Technical Advisory Committee

Wednesday, February 11, 2009 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. ODOT Region 1

Meeting Notes

In Attendance

Jen Bachman (DKS), Ben Baldwin (TriMet), Anthony Butzek (Metro), David Daily (C-Tran), D.J. Heffernan (Angelo Planning), Tu Ho (Beaverton), Jabra Khasho (Beaverton), Peter Koonce (Kittelson), Joe Marek (Clackamas Co), Jay McCoy (Gresham), Galen McGill (ODOT), Dennis Mitchell (ODOT), Josh Naramore (Metro), Jim Peters (DKS Associates), Deena Platman (Metro), Nathaniel Price (FHWA), Willie Rotich (PDOT), Abbas Shafii (Washington Co), Jessica Tump (TriMet), Ron Weinman (Clackamas Co), Caleb Winter (Metro)

OTREC Research – Future Flooding Impacts on Transportation Infrastructure and Traffic Patterns Resulting from Climate Change

Portland State University Professors Heejun Chang and Martin Lafrenz gave a presentation on the progress and findings to date for the TransPort supported study to investigate the impact of urban flooding on transportation infrastructure. The team has completed the field research and calibration of the hydrology and climate models. A copy of the presentation is included with the meeting summary.

Needs Assessment Review Part II

Jim Peters led a discussion on needs for transit signal priority and freight to complete the needs assessment inventory. TriMet agreed to provide a more complete review and send comments after the meeting. Additions under transit include pre-emption for high capacity rail and emergency management for weather.

For freight, it was suggested to rename "freight signal priority" as it is a safety improvement. The group also discussed whether to include electronic clearance of trucks as a need.

DKS will complete review of needs and begin to map strategies to needs.

Financing TSMO

Deena Platman facilitated a group discussion on how operations are funded today in the region and how should the region approach allocating dedicated regional flexible funds.

The group listed current funding mechanisms being use including gas tax, general fund, system development charges, leveraging other capital projects as examples. Operations are funding scavengers.

Members also discussed three options for allocating regional flexible funds – capital approach to fund larger capital intensive projects – 1 or 2 a cycle; grant approach – annual grant process to fund many smaller projects; hybrid approach funds some larger capital projects but also sets aside grant funds to support pilot projects and small needs.

Members felt that at least some of the regional funds should go to sustaining regional systems – PORTAL, ITS Network – and fund projects that integrate everyone, ex. expanded signal system. It was suggested that the investment list should be set up like a capital improvements program, which lists the projects that the money will be allocate to. There was support for creating a grant program to support smaller regional needs.

MAC Reader Demo Presentation

Peter Koonce and Willie Rotich shared findings from a demonstration of media access control (MAC) technology to gather travel time information. MAC readers are able to track unique addresses from Bluetooth devices. The demonstration was set up on SE Powell Blvd between Milwaukie and 52^{nd} and successfully tracked Bluetooth devices in order to calculate travel time information. A copy of the presentation is attached with the meeting summary.

Other Business

No discussion.