

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, January 24, 2019

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council work session call to order at: 2:03 p.m.

Work Session Topics:

2:10 Regional Investment Strategy: Regional Transportation Investment Measure Outcomes

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)

[PowerPoint: Transportation Principles & Task Force](#)

Council President Peterson introduced Mr. Andy Shaw and Ms. Tyler Frisbee, Metro staff, and Ms. Alison Brown of JLA Public Involvement. Mr. Shaw gave a brief overview of the various transportation projects that have been implemented to try to minimize the negative effects of the region's recent growth increase in preparation for the transportation measure. Ms. Brown provided a timeline overview of the steps that have been taken to build a solid foundation for the future of the transportation investment measure, including surveying more than 19,000 citizens to gain their feedback. She reviewed the following top four priorities as results from the survey: safer roads, more reliable trips, an equitable system, and a climate friendly system.

Ms. Brown described the principles of the transportation bond, which consisted of the sub-categories of structure, priorities, process, design and risk management, and outcomes. Mr. Shaw provided additional detail, stating that the three key components of the investment structure were near-term corridor projects, long-term corridor investments and region-wide programs. He then explained that the priorities would focus on decreasing time spent in traffic, increasing safety, affordability, and efficiency, leveraging state funding, and emphasizing the safety of people of color.

Mr. Shaw added that the engagement process would focus on ensuring that people of color are fully represented

through a broad coalition. Mr. Shaw explained that the design and risk management priorities were set to ensure that measure funding does not overrun its budget, projects are up to regional design standards, design is based on performance based practical design, thorough project delivery risk assessments are completed, and that a federal match is assumed.

Mr. Shaw identified the following outcomes for the measure: increasing safety, mobility, accessibility, resiliency, reducing GHG emissions and encouraging innovation and technology.

Council Discussion

Structure

The Council discussed the definition of the term “corridor,” concluding that the definition needed further clarification, especially in regard to how Metro’s role in interstate, state, and through-way corridors. Councilor Stacey requested clarification around the phrasings “short term” and “long term”. Councilor Lewis cautioned the use of temporal terms as public perception may be drastically different from Metro’s definition. Council President Peterson suggested using the phrases such as “Phase 1” and Phase 2” rather than short or long term.

Councilor Chase inquired about Metro’s role in providing future reduced fare for the region and noted the State of Oregon was funding a low-income fare program. Council President Peterson responded that the low income fare funding covers a variety of topics for discussion including youth fares and school transportation. She also emphasized stakeholder demand for a clearly defined regional strategy regarding reduced fare.

Councilor Craddick suggested including more explicit language regarding transit investments in corridors. Councilor Gonzalez stated his support for projects that incorporated multimodal options and programs that would provide a free transportation option for low-income families and individuals.

Councilor Lewis suggested including the phrase “stabilized funding” to the language supporting regional goals. Councilor Craddick recommended including language differentiating between one-time funding and funding in perpetuity to ensure that Metro would be able to live up to its promises.

Priorities

Councilor Gonzalez stated his support for Metro’s Climate Smart Strategy and recommended adding language that defined how transportation investments would align with Metro’s climate goals. Councilor Stacey emphasized the use of multi-modal transit in the region and noted the importance of prioritizing safety for a variety of modes of transit.

Councilor Gonzalez suggested removing the language “less time stuck in traffic” from the first priority bullet point in the Metro Council Direction handout. Councilor Lewis recommended including the phrasing “first and last mile” for the second priority bullet point in the same handout.

Councilor Stacey proposed including training sessions for transportation task force members on Metro’s Climate Smart and regional investment strategies. Councilor Chase also recommended including a separate bullet for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) priorities.

**** Break from 3:35 to 3:45**

Process

Councilor Lewis recommended adding specific language around increasing transparency and accessibility to the public. Councilor Gonzalez requested further emphasis on the community's involvement in the process and Metro's goal to engage and empower members of the community.

Councilors also discussed the importance of accountability and agreed language should be added regarding the oversight committee and the committee's role in this process.

Design & Risk Management

Councilor Lewis suggested adding a bullet point regarding design that incorporates accessibility for people of all abilities. The Council discussed the language used regarding matching federal government funding and requested for the phrasing "for planning purposes" to be added.

Outcomes

Councilor Lewis recommended the accessibility outcome include accessibility for people of all abilities. Council President Peterson inquired how innovation would be measured and whether it was a crucial outcome for every project. Councilors Craddick and Stacey discussed their concerns regarding the measurability of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and suggested setting a specific target that the projects should aim to reach. Ms. Frisbee responded that staff would identify definitive metrics and return to Council at a later time.

2:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Mr. Andrew Scott, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, noted a new policy change would allow for health care coverage to

be effective immediately for new employees. He mentioned an email update to Council on potential media attention surrounding a new transportation tool Metro’s emerging technology team was testing.

3:40 Councilor Communication

Councilor Gonzalez shared that Centro Cultural had submitted a sponsorship application to Metro and explained that he would not be involved in any review or consideration of the application. Councilor Lewis announced that Metro would be participating in the upcoming Walkability Action Institute with Clackamas County.

Councilor Craddick gave a brief review of the quarterly Regional Trails Forum. She also added that the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) was preparing a letter to the Oregon legislature addressing the regions position on the cap and invest bill.

Councilor Chase reported on the last Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) meeting and remarked that nominations were still needed for the first and second chair of the committee. Councilor Dirksen gave a brief overview of the Greater Portland Inc. committee meeting in early January.

3:50 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janani Srinivasan, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2019

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	01/24/2019	Regional Investment Strategy: Transportation Principles & Task Force	012419cw-01
2.0	Handout	01/24/2019	Tenative Metro Council Direction on Transportation Investment Measure Framework and Package Development	012419cw-02
3.0	Handout	01/24/2019	Draft Transportation Funding Task Force Charge	012419cw-03