



600 NE Grand Ave.
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oregonmetro.gov

JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2021

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shirley Craddick (Chair)

Juan Carlos González

Christine Lewis

Roy Rogers

Jessica Vega Pederson

Paul Savas

Temple Lentz

Jo Ann Hardesty

Anne McEnerny-Ogle

Carly Francis

Rian Windsheimer

Curtis Robinhold

Nina DeConcini

Steve Callaway

Travis Stovall

Kathy Hyzy

Sam Desue

AFFILIATION

Metro Council

Metro Council

Metro Council

Washington County

Multnomah County

Clackamas County

Clark County

City of Portland

City of Vancouver

Washington State Department of Transportation

Oregon Department of Transportation

Port of Portland

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
(ODEQ)

Cities of Washington County

Cities of Multnomah County

Cities of Clackamas County

Trimet

MEMBERS EXCUSED

AFFILIATION

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Kathryn Harrington

Mark Shull

Scott Langer

AFFILIATION

Washington County

Clackamas County

Washington State Department of Transportation

OTHERS PRESENT: Jules Walters, Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg, Tom Ellis, Lacey Beaty, Frank Bubenik, Jason Snider, Colin Cooper, Rob Drake, Erin Doyle, Eli Kelly, Dave Roth, Grace Cho, Jaimie Huff, Jeannine Rustad, Jean Biggs, Jeff Owen, Jeff Gudman, John Williams, Jessica Berry, Kelsey Lewis, Mark Lear, Matt Grumm, Kim Bria, Kim McMillan, Scott Langer, Shoshana Cohen, Tara O'Brien, Taylor Steenblock, Tom Markgraf, Trevor Sleeman, Will Farley, Mike Besner, Nafisa Fai, Omar Jaff,

STAFF: Margi Bradway, Carrie MacLaren, Dan Kaempff, Tyler Frisbee, Kim Ellis, Connor Ayers, and Jaye Cromwell.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

No Emerald Bogue/ Curtis Robinhold during initial role. Also Sam Desue is temp TriMet manager.

JPACT Chair Shirley Craddick called the virtual zoom meeting to order at 7:34 am.

Chair Craddick provided instructions on how to properly participate in the virtual meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Jules Walters affirmed the support of the City of West Linn for including their Highway 43 project in the regional package of transportation priorities. She stated that they also strongly support the inclusion of I-205 improvements. She noted that Highway 43 is a major corridor, but lacks urgently needed safety features.

Mayor Tom Ellis announced that he supported the JPACT process in regards to federal earmarks. He advocated for including the Clackamas to Columbia Complete Streets project. He noted that its completion would spur housing and employment growth.

President Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg of Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District spoke in support of the regional reauthorization earmark package. She expressed appreciation for the inclusion of the West Side Trail Bridge. She noted the projects would support local jobs and urged JPACT members to support the package.

Mayor Lacey Beaty of Beaverton offered her support of the JPACT priority project list and urged JPACT members to support it. She noted that the situation in D.C. is rapidly changing but that the region had managed to come together to create a list of strong projects.

Mayor Frank Bubenik of Tualatin testified in support of the transportation projects listed in the JPACT package. He emphasized his support for Tualatin's Boons Ferry Road Active Transportation Corridor project.

Mayor Jason Snider of Tigard added that he agreed what others have said in support of the JPACT priority list.

City Manager Rob Drake of Cornelius spoke in support of promoting local rural roads in partnership with other Washington County cities.

3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR & JPACT MEMBERS

Chair Craddick welcomed General Manager Sam Desue from TriMet.

Mr. Desue thanked the chair and stated that he looked forward to working with JPACT members to address transportation needs in the region.

Chair Craddick introduced Metro Staff Margi Bradway to read the names of those who died in traffic accidents within Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington County.

Ms. Bradway shared the names and ages of victims during the month of December:

Jose Ignacio Contreras, 22, Donald Ray Harvey, 86, Antonio Lopez-Amaro, 57, Kenna Danielle Butchek, 35, Douglas Rosling II, 40, Joshua Stanley, 34, Karen McClure, 60, Jerry Ray Jeffries, 73, and Joshua Brooks Frankel, 27.

Chair Craddick gave an update on the 2020 Compliance Report in regards to urban growth management. She announced that the urban growth functional plan was largely being complied with, except for a few jurisdictions with ongoing projects that had recently had boundaries expanded.

Chair Craddick opened the meeting for updates from JPACT members.

Rian Windsheimer stressed the importance of emergency management, especially critical crossings and seismic resiliency.

Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson gave an update about outreach being done for the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project. She noted that Multnomah County had conversations with Congressional delegates and would be meeting with the Department of Transportation soon.

Ms. Bradway noted that the chat function in Zoom has been activated. She clarified that it is meant to share information, but not to have substantive conversations in order to maintain an accurate public record.

Commissioner Paul Savas spoke about Emergency Transportation Routes. He stressed that some routes in the ETR report may not actually be suitable in the event of a major natural disaster.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle moved to accept the consent agenda. Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty seconded the motion.

ACTION: With all in favor, motion passed.

5. **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

5.1 Regional Emergency Transportation Routes Discussion

Chair Craddick reviewed the work done by the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization and Metro. She noted that this discussion was meant as a continuation of the discussion from last week. She reminded JPACT members that next month they would be asked to make a recommendation to the Metro Council and introduced Metro Staff Kim Ellis and Laura Hanson.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Metro Staff Kim Ellis gave an overview to remind members of the project. She noted the feedback that they had gotten, including that they should connect ETR work with other work that has been done like the CEI Hub and the use of river routes during an emergency. She reviewed the next steps of refining maps, acceptance of the findings from various partners, and moving on to Phase 2.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Roy Rogers commended the job that Metro has done in terms of outreach to other jurisdictions. He noted that this is one of the most difficult upcoming projects that will require a lot of work.

Councilor Kathy Hyzy asked Ms. Ellis if full funding had been received and for a reminder about what Phase 2 would involve.

Ms. Ellis answered that full funding has been accepted for Phase 2 of the project. Phase 2 involves building on the data collected from the updated routes to develop additional criteria for tiering them by importance. She noted it would also involve working with local partners to operationalize routes. She added that ETRs are for first responders during an emergency, and evacuation was a separate area of work to do.

Commissioner Savas noted that during recent emergencies communication became much more difficult. He emphasized that it is important to know the timing and exact routes of evacuation and he did not see it in the current ETR plan.

Ms. Ellis responded that the current funding would not be sufficient for expanding on those routes, but that it is important work and funding should be pursued to do it.

Commissioner Hardesty noted that she believed that exact evacuation timing was done through the RDPO. She asked how the work done on ETRs and evacuation routes would overlap.

Ms. Hanson answered that Phase 1 was a partnership between RDPO and Metro which would hopefully continue in Phase 2. She noted that they would come together to discuss doing more work on evacuation routes in partnership.

Commissioner Hardesty emphasized that water rescue is something that could be more fleshed out.

Ms. Hanson noted that the final report recommended continue research into the use of water routes based on feedback from elected leaders.

Mr. Windsheimer noted that Commissioner Hardesty was part of the transportation incident management group and they could be helpful in their efforts.

Chair Craddick thanked Ms. Hanson and Ms. Ellis for their work and reminded JPACT members that the topic would be returning next month for a vote to approve the work.

5.2 RFFA 2025-27 Program Direction Briefing

Chair Craddick noted that Regional Flexible Funds Allocation are very important to the

region because of their flexibility. Each cycle begins by reviewing current commitments and how they would like to invest funds in the future. She introduced Metro Staff Margi Bradway and Daniel Kaempff.

Key elements from the presentation included:

Mr. Kaempff noted the four RTP priorities of equity, climate, safety, and congestion management. He gave an overview of what the timeline will be for allocating RFFA. He noted the timeline for allocating funds. He shared the program direction of the funds and the existing framework for distributing them. The first step is a series of ongoing investments and step two is capital projects. He noted the outcomes from the last cycle and feedback that had been received, which is contained in the packet distributed to members. One key issue is with step two funding strategies, which people felt should be revamped. He acknowledged that this would be a major topic of discussion during the coming months.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Rogers noted the 75/25 split previously used in step two had been different in the past and advocated for more flexibility during that stage.

Commissioner Savas expressed a desire to focus on underserved areas in terms of modality. He noted areas in Clackamas County that have no transit service. He acknowledged that bus garages are absent from Clackamas County, but more importantly there is a lack of service. He asked if the RFFA could be used to serve underserved areas.

Mr. Kaempff commented that this is the time for people to bring forward their needs.

Commissioner Savas noted that if the region wants less people using cars, an alternative is needed for people to use instead.

Commissioner Vega Pederson asked about the total amount available in the step two process outside of bonds.

Mr. Kaempff responded that he had included last year's funding to give an idea of funds available. They are still estimating the funding available but current estimates are \$100 to \$150 million.

Councilor Hyzy advocated for continuing to scrutinize the RFFA process. She noted that RFFA can make crucial projects possible. She emphasized that the complexity of the RFFA process can be a barrier for smaller cities. She also commented that not constraining dollars too much is important to fund certain projects.

Commissioner Hardesty expressed appreciation for the conversation and positioning the region for a new energy future. She emphasized centering climate and racial justice in projects across the region.

Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez agreed with Commissioner Hardesty and noted that the RFFA process presented an opportunity to position the region for a good future.

5.3 JPACT Priority Update

Chair Craddick noted that earmarks would be available in upcoming federal legislation, which have not been available for a decade. She emphasized that earmarks are for the region as a whole, and they must speak with one voice. She introduced Tyler Frisbee and Tom Markgraf to share the results of the federal package they have been working on.

Ms. Frisbee thanked Chair Craddick and emphasized that this is a rapidly changing situation. She noted that April 9 is the due date for earmarks, which changed the original plan. This is the first time in 10 years that earmarks have become available for projects. Ms. Frisbee noted that the Portland region starts strong because of its history of working together to engage with earmarks.

Mr. Markgraf emphasized that this region is known to speak with one voice, which makes a big difference to members of congress. This has helped the region receive more money than other regions and has given the Portland region a great reputation.

Ms. Frisbee gave an overview of the timeline. She noted the key reauthorization values of reducing climate pollution, improving safety and transit, and creating jobs. These themes are ones that the region has already been emphasizing. She shared guidelines for projects that are presented. Projects should be built within 3-5 years, have a clear finance plan, have minimal risk, and a clear interest to the congressional delegation.

She emphasized that with the situation changing often being nimble is important, and so they have prepared two proposals, one with high priority projects and a more ambitious package. She shared an overview of the smaller priority regional package which is currently the most likely followed by a summary of the more ambitious package. Ms. Frisbee shared that the larger package features many of the same projects but expanded, along with some new projects not included in the smaller package. She listed the next steps of finalizing the package, engaging with Congressional delegation, submitting proposals, and bringing a federal policy agenda to the next JPACT meeting.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Savas emphasized speaking with one voice, including in Salem.

Mr. Markgraf agreed and concluded that this is a historic time which requires speaking as one.

Commissioner Hardesty thanked Mr. Margraf and Ms. Frisbee and expressed concern about equity not being a part of the message.

Commissioner Rogers asked for JPACT members to speak with one voice and emphasized that all the projects nexus with the entire region.

Mr. Windsheimer also emphasized speaking with one voice and mentioned that ODOT's priority is the Congestion Management Plan with the Portland Metro area.

Mayor Callaway reiterated his appreciation for staff and expressed his support for the projects in the package.

All members indicated their support for the package with a thumbs up.

6. AJOURN

Chair Craddick adjourned the meeting at 9:07 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Connor Ayers
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 18, 2021

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
2.0	Testimony	03/18/21	Letter in Support of Highway 43	031821j-01
3.0	Presentation	03/18/21	February Traffic Fatalities	031821j-02
5.1	Presentation	03/18/21	Regional Emergency Transportation Routes Presentation	031821j-03
5.2	Presentation	3/18/21	2025-2027 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation Presentation	031821j-04
5.3	Presentation	3/18/21	JPACT Priority Update Presentation	031821j-04

