

Meeting minutes



Meeting: **Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) Workshop**
Date/time: Wednesday November 10, 2021 | 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Place: Virtual online meeting via Web/Conference call (Zoom)

Members Attending

Tom Kloster, Chair
Karen Buehrig
Allison Boyd
Lynda David
Dayna Webb
Jay Higgins
Don Odermott
Chris Ford
Lewis Lem
Idris Ibrahim

Affiliate

Metro
Clackamas County
Multnomah County
SW Washington Regional Transportation Council
City of Oregon City and Cities of Clackamas County
City of Gresham and Cities of Multnomah County
City of Hillsboro and Cities of Washington County
Oregon Department of Transportation
Port of Portland
Community Representative

Alternates Attending

Dyami Valentine
Jaimie Lorenzini
Julia Hajduk
Jamie Snook
Glen Bolen

Affiliate

Washington County
City of Happy Valley and Cities of Clackamas County
City of Sherwood and Cities of Washington County
TriMet
Oregon Department of Transportation

Members Excused

Chris Deffebach
Eric Hesse
Karen Williams
Laurie Lebowsky
Jessica Stetson
Wilson Munoz
Yousif Ibrahim
Rachael Tupica
Katherine Kelly
Rob Klug
Shawn M. Donaghy
Jeremy Borrego
Rich Doenges

Affiliate

Washington County
City of Portland
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Washington State Department of Transportation
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Federal Highway Administration
City of Vancouver, WA
Clark County
C-Tran System
Federal Transit Administration
Washington Department of Ecology

Guests Attending

Jean Senechal Biggs
Vanessa Vissar
Jessica Engelmann

Affiliate

City of Beaverton
Oregon Department of Transportation
City of Beaverton

Guests Attending

Mike McCarthy
Gordon Howard
Jeannine Rustad
Heather Koch
Nina Carlson
Greg Theisen
Bob Kellett
Chris Smith
Greg LiLoreto
Jeff Owen
Morgan Coffie
Donovan Smith
Cindy Dauer
Jim Sjuln
Holly Smith

Affiliate

City of Tualatin
Department of Land Conservation & Development
Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District
North Clackamas Park & Recreation District
NW Natural
Port of Portland
Portland Bureau of Transportation

City of West Linn
HDR, Inc.
City of West Linn

Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District

City of Fairview

Metro Staff Attending

Dan Kaempff, Principal Transportation Planner
Lake McTighe, Senior Transportation Planner
Tim Collins, Senior Transportation Planner
Ted Leybold, Resource & Dev. Manager
Molly Cooney-Mesker, Communications
Eliot Rose, Tech Strategic Planner
Margi Bradway, Dep. Director Planning & Dev.
Bill Stein, Sr. Research & Modeler
Robert Spurlock, Sr. Regional Planner
Summer Blackhorse, Program Assistant
Kim Ellis, Principal Transportation Planner
Grace Cho, Senior Transportation Planner
Matthew Hampton, Sr. Transportation Planner
John Mermin, Senior Transportation Planner
Chris Johnson, Research Manager
Patrick McLaughlin, Investment Planner
Matt Bihn, Principal Transportation Planner
Caleb Winter, Principal Transportation Planner
Jodie Kotrlik, Program Coordinator
Marie Miller, TPAC Recorder

Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Kloster called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Introductions were made. Reminders where Zoom features were found online was reviewed. The link for providing ‘safe space’ at the meeting was shared in the chat area. Chair Kloster noted low turnout from TPAC community members at meetings. Metro is planning a proposal to address this for next year.

Public Communications on Agenda Items - none

Consideration of TPAC workshop summary, July 14, 2021 (Chair Kloster) For edits or corrections the committee may send to Marie Miller for final record.

Scoping Kick-off for 2023 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) (Kim Ellis, Metro) The presentation was noted as the initial discussion to begin identifying what is most important for the update to address and hear ideas for how the region should work together to update the plan. Background information and purpose of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was noted. The importance of the plan includes serving as a blueprint to guide investments in the region’s transportation system, coordination with local, regional, and state investment priorities and actions, and noting projects must be in the RTP to be eligible for federal and some state funding.

The outcome-based updated RTP will build on the 2018 RTP priority policies: Equity, Safety, Congestion and Climate. The vision for a complete and connected systems includes provides that 2040-based outcomes provide a broader policy lens, emphasizes multimodal solutions and making the most of past investments, and defines aspirational policy targets to guide investments to achieve vision and monitor progress.

A brief overview was provided of RTP priority project investment categories and geographic areas. The proposed RTP update process timeline was provided, with the current phase 1 underway.

Phase 1: Understand trends, values, priorities and vision for future - October 2021 to Feb. 2022

Phase 2: Update Goals, Objectives, Targets and Policies - March to June 2022

Phase 3: Update Needs and Revenues - July to October 2022

Phase 4: Build RTP Investment Strategy - November 2022 to June 2023

Phase 5: Public Review and Adoption - July to November 2023

Comments from the committee:

- Jeannine Rustad appreciated the great information from the materials and presentation. It was good to see the focus on mobility with importance of networks in bike/pedestrian connections to transit in RFFA funding carried into the RTP. Another thought on trails is including funding for substandard regional trails (i.e., trail that don't meet width or accessibility requirements/targets).
- Heather Koch added as parks providers, we work with Metro, local and county governments. When there are calls for projects, I will look forward to guidance on how we partner to submit priorities. NCPRD is heading into System Plan update and we want to ensure we dovetail priorities with TSPs and RTP. I don't know yet if our priorities will need to be also adopted in local TSPs before submitting priority projects to be considered with RTP. We all have so many overlapping planning timelines.
- Jamie Snook noted the Bus Rapid Transit work incorporated in the updated RTP. Asked if trends from post-pandemic were being incorporated in this update plan, Ms. Ellis reported that Eliot Rose will be providing more information on these trends and shared with staff to help study assumptions and models for the future. Tim Collins noted the commodity movement study will provide impacts from the pandemic and changes with ecommerce and freight. Further coordination with TriMet and transit providers will help shape planning efforts.
- Karen Buehrig appreciated the efforts and presentation. The concerns submitted previously were noted in the packet. It was noted the relationship building and understanding of roles between committees and Metro Council with possible workshops for greater development of the RTP. It was encouraged to move forward with work already done with congestion pricing fees and integrate the work being planned with ODOT for a comprehensive approach in the RTP. Also suggested was identifying ways with high aspiration of mode-share to be achievable and realistically planned and implemented.
- Glen Bolen noted the great planning partnership between Metro and ODOT over the past several years that developed the Jurisdictional Transportation projects and Regional Mobility Policy projects. More projects are planned that will help in the development of the RTP.
- Don Odermott noted the importance of including work with congestion pricing with more analysis and detailed modeling, recognizing how traffic diversion is occurring. It was noted by Metro modeling functions and systems were being evaluated for better, relevant and prioritized strategies planned that will be incorporated into the updated RTP.

Ms. Ellis reminded the committee that in through January 2022 more input on the scope and definition of the RTP will be sought, with a draft work plan presented in February. Committees are encouraged to contact Ms. Ellis directly with comments and questions.

Federal Legislative Session Update (Tyler Frisbee, Metro) Agenda item was not presented. The committee will receive memo on information regarding legislation updates following the meeting.

Westside Multimodal Improvements Study (Matt Bihn, Metro/ Vanessa Vissar, ODOT) An overview of the Westside Multimodal Improvements Study was presented. This study is scheduled for an 18-month period that is just starting. The purpose of the study is to Identify needs, challenges, and opportunities, address existing deficiencies, support future growth, consider potential multimodal projects, strategies, and technologies, develop and evaluate a preferred set of investments and programs, and recommend solutions to move forward and identify lead agencies.

The project study area was shown along Highway 26 in Washington County. Jurisdictional and community partners will be asked to join the Project Management Group, Steering Committee and add input to technical workshops for the project. The project overview and timeline was provided. Currently, conditions and needs are being evaluated. These include travel conditions and patterns, locations/causes of congestion, travel markets, land use and economic conditions.

Methods and assumptions for the study were reviewed. Types of data collections, regional economic profiles, and data from previous studies and surveys will lead to identified needs, and the problem statement. The evaluation criteria for the study was reviewed. Alternative development and evaluation developed at the technical sessions will lead to modeling and engagement for the preferred alternative/final report that will include package of investments for incremental phasing, and implementation plan and next steps.

Comments from the committee:

- Jamie Snook noted that coordination with the TV Highway plan and this project is important, especially in public outreach for clarity in messages. It was confirmed that this study would look at the whole study area, and individual projects would be developed from there.
- Jeannine Rustad noted the importance to have stakeholder organizations involved in the committees, not simply transportation providers. Mr. Bihn confirmed they are now forming the groups and committees and will reach out for these members.
- Nina Carlson asked how are you reaching out to businesses, and which do you pick to include in stakeholder roundtable groups? My ask would be that you include both PGE and NW Natural and that we maintain close coordination on road project planning as the ROW is very crowded and important to your utilities in this region.
- Dyami Valentine noted the Washington County Transit Study and TriMet Express Transit Bus Study was should be aligned and considered part of this work. He would encourage outreach to various stakeholders as this project is being developed.
- Don Odermott noted the COVID-19 funding package Metro developed that included bus transit planning. Westside Park & Ride was another opportunity to coordinate with this study. Trail system connections to transit and public/private partnerships in this area are encouraged to be looked at with the study.

Regional Flexible Fund Allocations (RFFA) Update (Dan Kaempff, Metro) A brief presentation was provided on the Regional Flexible Fund Allocations (RFFA) project application process and timeline. The 2025-2027 RFFA Program Direction estimates that approximately \$41,250,000 is available for capital project funding (Step 2 of the RFFA funding framework). Additional funding is available in this RFFA cycle for regional trails projects. Up to \$20 million will be awarded from the voter-approved 2019 Metro Parks and Nature measure. Trails projects that meet RFFA eligibility requirements may be funded through either or both sources of available funding.

The call for project proposals is scheduled to open on Monday, November 22, 2021. Instructions and application materials will be available for download at oregonmetro.gov/RFFA. Metro staff are conducting a proposers' workshop on Friday, December 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. (via Zoom). This workshop is intended to assist applicants in developing their proposals. A particular focus will be on helping applicants understand what level of detail is needed in their proposals to create accurate project scopes, budgets and timelines. Providing a thoroughly detailed proposal is essential to ensure a successful project delivery through the federal and ODOT processes. Project proposals are due by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 25, 2022.

Enough applications must be submitted to meet the federal requirements for conducting a competitive allocation process. To ensure sufficient time is available to evaluate applications, Metro will accept no more than 42 total applications. Limitations on applications are:

Portland: 12 applications

Washington County and cities: 11

Clackamas County and cities: 10

Multnomah County and cities (exclusive of Portland): 9

Minimum funding award for various levels of project development and construction were provided. The 2025-2027 RFFA Program Direction identifies project selection criteria. These criteria are derived from the four investment priorities that emerged from regional input for the 2018 RTP. Projects that receive RFFA dollars should demonstrate how they will make improvements to the regional transportation system. Funding criteria for the Trails Bond to guide investments must satisfy community engagement and racial equity criteria.

Performance measures, project readiness, risk assessment, public comments and input from coordinating committees will be used in the evaluation process. Application materials will be available on 11/22/21. Proposers' workshop: 12/10/21, 1:00 p.m. Proposals due: 2/25/22, by 4:00 p.m. Final recommendations will be presented TPAC and JPACT in September 2022 before Metro Council action scheduled October 2022. For further information on the RFFA application process the committee is encouraged to contact Mr. Kaempff or Robert Spurlock, Regional Trails Planner, directly.

Comments from the committee:

- Jeannine Rustad asked will greater match funding in the application. Mr. Kaempff noted the match is not scored but left to decision makers on this for project evaluation. Ms. Rustad noted that part of the Infrastructure package has a clause that allows Federal funds set aside for trails to be managed as they would be managed as part of the recreational trails system. Would this be taken into account in the RFFA cycle. Ted Leybold noted that ODOT already distributed some funds to State Parks which may allow for more park projects. But the RFFA funds have set criteria with the funding allocations. Follow up questions on this can be discussed.

Committee comments on creating a safe space at TPAC – no comments received.

Adjournment

There being no further business, workshop meeting was adjourned by Chair Kloster at 11:30 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie Miller".

Marie Miller, TPAC Recorder

Attachments to the Public Record, TPAC workshop meeting, November 10, 2021

Item	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1	Agenda	11/10/2021	11/10/2021 TPAC Workshop Agenda	111021T-01
2	TPAC Work Program	11/08/2021	TPAC Work Program as of 11/08/2021	111021T-02
3	Minutes	7/14/2021	Minutes for TPAC workshop, 7/14/2021	111021T-03
4	Memo	10/26/2021	TO: TPAC, MTAC and interested parties From: Kim Ellis, Principal Transportation Planner RE: 2023 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update – Kick-off Scoping Process	111021T-04
5	Memo	11/04/2021	TO: Kim Ellis, Project Manager From: Karen Buehrig, Clackamas County TPAC Member RE: Input into RTP Scoping and RTP Vision and Values	111021T-05
6	Presentation	11/10/2021	2023 Regional Transportation Plan update	111021T-06
7	Presentation	11/10/2021	Westside Multimodal Improvements Study -Initial Work Plan	111021T-07
8	Memo	11/03/2021	TO: TPAC and interested parties From: Dan Kaempff, Principal Transportation Planner RE: 2025-2027 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation Step 2 Project Solicitation	111021T-08
9	Presentation	11/10/2021	2025-2027 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation (RFFA)	111021T-09