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JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2021
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shirley Craddick (Chair)
Juan Carlos González
Christine Lewis
Nafisa Fai
Jo Ann Hardesty
Paul Savas
Travis Stovall
Steve Callaway
Kathy Hyzy
Rian Windsheimer
Sam Desue
Carley Francis
Anne McEnery-Ogle
Temple Lentz
Jessica Vega Pederson
Cutis Robinhold

AFFILIATION

Metro Council
Metro Council
Metro Council
Washington County
City of Portland
Clackamas County
Cities of Multnomah County
Cities of Washington County
Cities of Clackamas County
Oregon Department of Transportation
TriMet
Washington State Department of Transportation
City of Vancouver
Clark County
Multnomah County
Port of Portland

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Nina Deconcini

AFFILIATION

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Chris Ford
Emerald Bogue
Jamie Kranz
JC Vannatta
Jef Dalin
Scott Langer
Ty Stober
Michael Orman

AFFILIATION

Oregon Department of Transportation
Port of Portland
Cities of Multnomah County
TriMet
Cities of Washinton County
Washington State Department of Transportation
City of Vancouver
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

OTHERS PRESENT: Barbara Fryer, Bob Kellet, Brenda Bartlett, Brian Monberg, Chad Tucker, Chris Fick, Chris Lyons, Colin Cooper, Chris Smith, Chris Warner, Christina D,

Dan Eisenbeis, Dave Roth, Don Odermott, Eric Hesse, Erin Doyle, Gareth Prior, Gerik Kransky, Glen Bolen, Grace Cho, Jaimie Stasny, Jean Senechal Biggs, Jeff Gudman, Jeff Owen, Jennifer John, Julia Hajduk, Kari Schlosshauer, Katherine Kelly, Mark Gamba, Mark Lear, Mark Ottenad, Matt Grumm, Mike Bezner, Sarah Iannarone, Shoshana Cohen, Stacey Cowan, Stephen Roberts, Tom Margraf, Zach Lindahl.

STAFF: Alex Oreschak, Andre Bealer, Anneliese Koehler, Caleb Winter, Dan Kaempff, John Mermin, Kim Ellis, Lake McTighe, Lisa Hunrichs, Malu Wilkinson, Matt Bihn, Ramona Perrault, Ted Leybold, Tom Kloster, Victor Sin, Margi Bradway, Carrie MacLaren, Connor Ayers, and Jaye Cromwell

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

JPACT Chair Shirley Craddick called the virtual zoom meeting to order at 7:31 am.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Craddick asked Metro Staff Margi Bradway to read the names of those that have died in traffic accidents in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties.

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

Knyshya Latreace Wesley, 24, Gregory James Beuving, 50, William Harold Kavanaugh, 65, Charles Engblom, 44, Kevin C. Ford, 48, Dustin Armogeda, 33, Max Denning Chapman, 36, Kyle Neil Hansen, 45, and two unknown persons.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Resolution No. 21-5179 For the Purpose of Accepting the Findings and Recommendations in the Regional Congestion Pricing Study

Chair Craddick introduced Metro Staff Margi Bradway to review any pertinent information.

Ms. Bradway reminded members of the steps that have been taken so far to present the information in the study to JPACT. Technical staff was available to answer any member questions.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Hardesty expressed appreciation for staff work on the study and added that the transportation system as we know it faces challenges when it comes to safety, climate, and equity. She noted that she would like to see findings from the report inform future congestion pricing/tolling projects from ODOT.

Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson expressed appreciation for the work done around the report and noted that at Region 1 Area Commission on Transportation meetings conversations have been happening around regional congestion pricing. She emphasized the need to share information between ACT and JPACT if congestion pricing is going to be successful.

Commissioner Savas also thanked staff for their work on the project and noted that different areas around the region have different concerns and needs. He asked when JPACT will have a discussion about regional transportation policy.

Ms. Bradway clarified that the R1 ACT is an advisory body to the Oregon Transportation Commission and separate from Metro as an MPO that develops the Regional Transportation Plan. She added that a memo in the meeting's packet outlines policy development that goes into the RTP. Scoping for the RTP begins next month. Policy development for the congestion pricing part of the RTP will come to TPAC and JPACT separately from other aspects of policy development.

Commissioner Savas commented that the RCPS is a more local study and expressed a desire to have a more detailed level of analysis before making policy.

MOTION: Commissioner Hardesty moved to pass Resolution 21-5179 For the Purpose of Accepting the Findings and Recommendations in the Regional Congestion Pricing Study. Commissioner Pederson seconded.

ODOT Manager Rian Windsheimer asked if there was still a motion on the table from the last JPACT meeting.

Metro Attorney Carrie MacLaren clarified there was not a motion on the table at the last meeting when discussion was postponed. The motion just made was the only motion on the matter.

Mayor Steve Callaway had a technical issue that prevented him from being heard over Zoom.

ACTION: Commissioner Savas opposed, Councilor Temple Lentz abstained. With all others in favor, the motion passed.

Commissioner Hardesty noted that Mayor Callaway was able to unmute and may be able to speak now.

Mayor Callaway stated that before the vote he would have liked to make an amendment to remove the words “and recommendations” from the motion.

Metro Attorney Carrie MacLaren advised that an action had been taken on a motion and that it had passed, but there were options for the committee to reconsider the motion if they wished.

Commissioner Savas advocated for reconsidering the motion in light of Mayor Callaway’s technical difficulties.

MOTION: Mr. Windsheimer moved to reconsider the motion. Commissioner Savas seconded.

Commissioner Hardesty expressed support for reconsidering the motion to hear from Mayor Callaway.

Mayor Callaway stated that the study is incomplete and expressed concern for applying the recommendations of the study.

Ms. Bradway explained that the study had fulfilled its intended purpose as it was laid out in the 2018 RTP. She commented that in her opinion the study was complete and thorough for its purpose. More studies could potentially be done at a granular level by the project owner. She added that at the moment there is funding for policy

development work but not for more detailed modeling.

Commissioner Savas asked for clarification on who the “project owner” of the study is.

Ms. Bradway clarified that the term “project owner” is used in the study to refer to any road authority who may want to toll in the future. She added that the study was done jurisdictionally blind to who owns the roads that were studied.

Commissioner Savas commented that the impacts to roadways and their owners had not been thoroughly analyzed. He advocated for a deeper level study before forming policy.

Director Curtis Robinhold stated that he would vote in favor of reconsideration of the motion because of Mayor Callaway’s technical issues, but would vote against the Mayor’s motion to strike “and recommendations” from the motion. He noted that JPACT’s job is to make recommendations, and that he believed the recommendations were good ones.

Councilor Hyzy and Councilor Lewis both agreed with Director Robinhold’s comments.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

MOTION: Mayor Callaway motioned to amend Resolution No. 21-5179 to remove the words “and recommendations”. Commissioner Hardesty seconded.

Commissioner Hardesty stated that she would not support the motion because of JPACT’s role as a policy body to make recommendations. She argued that no study will cover everything that needs to be known and expressed concerns for any further delays to implementing an equitable congestion pricing system.

Councilor Lewis spoke to how the study took a very high level view and reviewed four different mechanisms, while the region has generally been only focused on one. The study also dug into issues that have been overlooked in the past like diversion. She advocated for keeping the word recommendation and stated that she would like to see even stronger language.

Mayor Callaway noted that the RTP still comes through JPACT so members wouldn’t be passing the buck to another committee. He reiterated his concerns about creating

policy based on an incomplete study.

Councilor Hyzy agreed with Councilor Lewis and Commissioner Hardesty and stated that much of the confusion around the study would be cleared up as policy is made.

Mr. Windsheimer expressed support for the motion because he would like to see more analysis going into the recommendations.

Councilor Lentz explained to members that while she thought that the study was well done, she would abstain because the Clark County Council would like to vote against any sort of tolling proposal.

ACTION: Mayor Callaway, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle, Rian Windsheimer, Carley Francis voted in favor of removing the words “and recommendations” from Resolution No. 21-5179. Councilor Lentz and Commissioner Savas abstained. With all others opposed, the motion failed.

ACTION: Mayor Callaway and Commissioner Savas opposed. Mayor McEnerny-Ogle, Councilor Lentz, and Carley Francis abstained. With all others in favor, the motion passed.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 HB 3055 overview

Chair Craddick informed members that this item would be related to changes to HB 2017. She introduced Metro Staff Anneliese Koehler, Washington County Staff Erin Doyle, Clackamas County Staff Chris Lyons, and City of Portland Staff Stacey Cowan.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Ms. Cowan gave background on the bill and why ODOT and the legislature pursued it. The bill emphasized the need for a system wide approach. She explained that the bill is very high level and was not meant to account for every detail. She added that there will be more conversation around those details at JPACT in the future.

Mr. Lyons gave an overview of the project financing aspects of the bill. HB 3055 expands the use of funding generated by HB 2017 for the Rose Quarter project. ODOT may now spend funds on the I-205 project, Boon Bridge project, and implementation of tolling.

Ms. Doyle informed members that the legislation expanded on the congestion pricing

program that was established in HB 2017. She clarified that the revenue raised from the tolling program is subject to Article 9 of the Oregon Constitution. Diversion was called out as a major impact of implanting any tolling or congestion pricing program.

Ms. Koehler added that HB 3055 requires that the OTC ensure that the tolling program mitigate impacts to underrepresented communities and requires government to government collaboration. This applies to any government that enacts tolling in Oregon.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Hardesty asked what the plan is to improve the bill's uncertainties.

Ms. Cowan answered that opportunities may be limited because most jurisdictions are preparing for the upcoming short session.

Ms. Doyle added that some of the ambiguity is because more information is needed from federal partners.

Commissioner Hardesty expressed concern that there is not enough information while ODOT is already making decisions for the program. She added that there does not seem to be enough input from local governments.

Commissioner Pederson discussed HB 3055 from Multnomah County's perspective. She reminded members that Multnomah County manages the bridges over the Willamette, which are likely to be heavily affected by diversion from a tolling program. She expressed disappointment that multi-modal improvements were not included in the bill. She advocated for periodic reviews before and after congestion pricing is implemented. She also expressed gratitude for seeing a path forward for low-income rates.

Mr. Windsheimer noted that it's encouraging that so many people are so engaged with this conversation. He added that the lack of specificity in the bill provides more opportunity for conversations between partners.

Commissioner Savas discussed the need for alternatives to be in place for people if they are going to change their behavior, which requires more investment in an effective transit system.

Commissioner Hardesty noted in the chat that she would like to see a congestion pricing system that exempts low-income people.

6.2 Progress on our Regional Traffic Safety goals – update

Chair Craddick reminded members that the Regional Transportation Safety Strategy was recommended by JPACT and adopted by the Metro Council in 2018. She introduced Metro Staff Lake McTighe to present a report on the progress made to date.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Ms. McTighe reported on the adopted regional safety performance targets, progress made over the last two years implementing the 2018 Regional Transportation Safety Strategy, and Metro's annual safety work program. She acknowledged that the information in the report represents members of the community that have died. She gave an overview of the regional safety strategy. She shared that traffic deaths and injuries are increasing, and not on track to achieve the goal of Vision Zero traffic deaths. She noted analysis of data indicates that people of color tend to experience greater disparity in traffic crashes. More action is needed to achieve the goal of eliminating racial disparities in traffic safety. While progress has been made on some actions, safety could be prioritized more. She explained each strategy and the progress that has been made on them. She highlighted that despite not meeting goals, the region has one of the lowest traffic death rates in the country. A major takeaway is to do more of what is working. She concluded by going over Metro's role in transportation safety.

Member discussion included:

Mr. Windsheimer expressed appreciation for the report outlining next steps on what can be done to improve safety. He suggested bringing back individual solutions to discuss at JPACT.

Ms. McTighe noted that there are a lot of conversations and coordination happening around safety.

Commissioner Hardesty noted that the region is not on track to meet our goals, and there are still major racial disparities. She emphasized the importance of having good data to know where to target investments. She noted that traffic infractions can only be processed by the police and stated that she hoped to see the region push the legislature to change this in the future.

Councilor Hyzy emphasized that the numbers were grim and that the region is paying the price for underinvesting in an active transportation system. She noted that small cities like Milwaukie have a lot of tools to create designs, but could use a better understanding of what measures are working to reduce traffic deaths. She discussed how many of the communities represented on MPAC are dealing with diversion.

Commissioner Savas stated that he would like to see more of a focus on areas that represent a transition from urban to rural. He argued for a minimum standard of having

walkable streets that are within a certain distance of transit facilities or schools.

Curtis Robinhold asked for more detail on the chart showing the goals versus actual data on traffic deaths over time. He noted that despite actions taken, deaths are trending in the wrong direction.

Ms. McTighe commented that in addition to that chart there are others showing different types of traffic incidents that are regularly reported to ODOT and the FHWA. She noted that there are many reasons for the increase in traffic deaths, and that it is a national trend. At the same time, there are places internationally that are seeing a decline in traffic deaths.

Councilor Lewis discussed the public right of way and the importance of allowing people to take space on a sidewalk or crosswalk safely. She reminded members to keep the public right of way in mind among the many discussions of mobility.

Commissioner Hardesty asked what actions the group could take as a result of the information that was presented.

Ms. Bradway discussed the federal, state, and regional strategies that were included as a call to action in the materials distributed to members. She emphasized that there is not one solution to the problem, and that each jurisdiction has a role to play.

Ms. McTighe added that safety is not an isolated topic and can be included when addressing the other topics that JPACT discusses throughout the year.

Mr. Windsheimer informed members through the chat that ODOT had dedicated \$10 million to safety improvements in high-crash corridors. He suggested dedicating discretionary funding from the federal transportation package to safety projects.

7. UPDATES FROM JPACT MEMBERS

Director Sam Desue informed members that TriMet had given the Federal Transit Administration a tour of the Division transit project. He added that the Red Line improvements project would be breaking ground in less than two weeks. TriMet would also soon have someone analyze the service that it provides to the region.

Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez spoke to the future opportunities that the region will have to make input for hotspot investment and an equitable congestion pricing system.

Mr. Windsheimer encouraged members to attend the Region 1 ACT conversations that are happening. There is an equity advisory group to tolling which he listed in the chat: <https://www.oregon.gov/odot/tolling/Pages/Advisory-Committee.aspx>.

8. ADJOURN

Chair Craddick adjourned the meeting at 9:20 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connor Ayers

Connor Ayers
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
3.0	Presentation	09/16/21	August Traffic Fatalities	091621j-01
6.2	Presentation	09/16/21	Regional Traffic Safety Goals Presentation	091621j-02

