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JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2022

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shirley Craddick (Chair)
Juan Carlos González
Christine Lewis
Jessica Vega Pederson
Nafisa Fai
Paul Savas
Jo Ann Hardesty
Kathy Hyzy
Sam Desue
Nina DeConcini
Temple Lentz
Carley Francis
Travis Stovall
Anne McEnerney-Ogle

AFFILIATION

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Curtis Robinhold
Rian Windsheimer
Steve Callaway

AFFILIATION

Port of Portland
Oregon Department of Transportation
Cities of Washington County

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Emerald Bogue
Chris Ford
Jef Dalin

AFFILIATION

Port of Portland
Oregon Department of Transportation
Cities of Washington County

OTHERS PRESENT: Allison Boyd, Ally Holmqvist, Brenda Bartlett, Brian Monberg, Carrie Leonard, Chris Fick, Chris Warner, Cody Field, Don Odermott, Dwight Brashear, Eric Hesse, Erin Doyle, Glen Bolen, Jamie Lorenzini, Jamie Snook, Jamie Stasney, JC Vanatta, Jean Senechal Biggs, Jeff Gudman, Jonathan Maus, Katherine Kelly, Lake McTighe, Laurie Lebowsky, Mark Lear, Mark Ottenad, Mary Baumgardner, Mark Gamba, Mark Lear, Monica Krueger, Scott Langer, Sean Philbrook, Shoshana Cohen, Stephen Roberts, Tara O'Brien, Tom Markgraf, Vanessa Vissar, Will Farley, Zach Lindahl.

STAFF: Anne Buzzini, Anneliese Koehler, Caleb Winter, Craig Beebe, Eryn Kehe, Grace Cho, Jaye Cromwell, John Mermin, Ken Lobeck, Lisa Hunrichs, Michelle Bellia, Molly Cooney-Mesker, Ramona Perrault, Ted Leybold, Connor Ayres, Carrie MacLaren, Margi Bradway, Stellan Roberts.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

JPACT Chair Shirley Craddick (she/her) called the virtual Zoom meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Chair Craddick called the role and declared a quorum.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Craddick announced that a JPACT trip to Washington D.C. is under consideration from June 7-9 and asked JPACT members to let Metro know if they are interested by the end of the week.

Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson (she/her) explained that she will be unable to attend but encouraged others to attend if they are able.

Chair Craddick announced that Metro Council has postponed their vote on the I-205 tolling project to ask the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to clarify some of their commitments within the project.

Mayor Jef Dalin asked staff if Metro's decision will be made with sufficient time to allow ODOT to proceed within this construction season.

Metro Staff Margi Bradway (she/her) explained that the Metro Council vote is not delaying this project as there is still more budget work for ODOT to do.

Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty (she/her) expressed concern that this will tie the region into a funding mechanism that will not allow the region to have the multi-modal options or to create the region-wide system that they are hoping for. She explained that rushing to fill a construction timeline without thinking about how the whole system will operate is a mistake.

Commissioner Paul Savas (he/him) stressed his concerns around the tolling project as there are a lack of viable alternatives for commuters in the area. He encouraged the Metro Council to think about the impacts of their vote.

Council President Kathy Hyzy (she/her) advised JPACT members to watch the Council meeting on this topic, she thanked Council for the thoughtful discussion that they had with ODOT and explained that they are excited about the replacement of the Abernathy Bridge.

Chair Craddick asked Margi Bradway to read the names of those who have dies in traffic accidents in the Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties.

Margi shared the names and ages of victims during the months of March and the beginning of April:

Michael Scott Fields, 64, Catherine M Jarose, 70, James Martin, 35, Raymond M. McWilliams, 58, Laysea Mykal Liebenow, 22, Karen R. Kain, 57, Donald William Sharp, 24, Patrick Heath Bishop, 46, and five unidentified persons.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle (she/her) moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Hardesty seconded.

ACTION: With all in favor, consent agenda passed.

5. **ACTION ITEMS**

5.1 Resolution No. 22-5255, For the Purpose of Approving a Work Plan and Public Engagement Plan for the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan Update

Chair Craddick introduced Metro Staff Kim Ellis (she/her) to present the work plan and public engagement plan that has been recommended by TPAC.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Kim outlined the purpose for today's presentation, what the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is, explained that the RTP is a key tool for implementing the 2040 Growth Concept, how partners and the public have been engaged since October, the RTP timeline, and five key policy topics which are: safe and healthy arterials policy, regional congestion pricing policy, climate smart strategy, high capacity transit strategy, and regional mobility policy. Kim then explained how the community and partners will be engaged moving forward and dove into phases two through five of the RTP which were: phase two - data and policy analysis, phase three - revenue and needs analysis, phase four - build RTP investment strategy, and phase five - public review and adoption process. Kim discussed TPAC's recommendation and highlighted upcoming public discussions on this topic.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Savas explained that he has a minor, friendly amendment to the resolution to make sure that one of the pillars of the RTP is to keep a keen eye on economics. Commissioner Savas voiced concern that employers will lose employees if the Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP) moves forward, this could push employers out of the region.

Kim explained that at least two roundtables for businesses and employers are planned and there are employers that are a part of the stakeholder advisory committee.

Margi voiced that she has reached out to the director of the Portland Business Alliance to have them help staff a larger business regional conversation.

Commissioner Hardesty thanked Metro for their work and explained that the Portland Business Alliance does not represent small businesses. She suggested that Metro reaches out to Minority Chambers and Business for a Better Portland if they choose to reach out to smaller businesses.

Kim responded by explaining that there are focus groups identified in the RTP engagement plan which can be used as a way to engage with small businesses in particular.

Mayor Jef Dalin (he/him) asked if there will be opportunities to add elements to the work plan in the future and mentioned the following elements that he would like to see addressed: corridors that run parallel to Highway 217, mesoscopic modeling implementation, tools around VMT modeling, and analysis around how regional metrics are established in regards to transit.

Kim responded by explaining that the corridors mentioned by Mayor Dalin are either outside of Metro's Urban Growth Boundary or are currently part of the RTP evaluation. She explained that Metro does not have a region-wide mesoscopic model and that more discussion will occur around VMT modeling as it is related to the regional mobility policy work. Finally, she explained that Mayor Dalin's concerns around transit will be looked at in a needs assessment.

Mayor Dalin voiced that town halls out in communities that this plan will influence are important to reaching a broad range of individuals.

Kim explained that they can look to provide this form of engagement for JPACT if there is interest.

Margi acknowledged the difficulties around planning public engagement throughout the pandemic.

Council President Hyzy asked if in needs analyses around bus rapid transit there will be a way to look at final miles.

Kim responded by explaining that a study of everything including biking, walking, driving, and other types of mobility connections into the fixed route transit system has been identified as a

study that needs to be done and will be a follow up piece of work that will be scoped out and put into chapter 8.

MOTION: Commissioner Hardesty moved to approve Resolution No. 22-5255. Seconded by Commissioner Vega Pederson.

MOTION: Commissioner Savas moved to strike the ninth whereas in the amendment that reads, “WHEREAS, the first phase of the update included a formal scoping period to build agreement...” until TPAC and staff approve this going forward.

Margi thanked Commissioner Savas and explained that she and Kim see this as a friendly amendment.

This motion was seconded by Commissioner Hardesty.

Chair Craddick asked for clarification on the impact of this amendment.

Kim explained that the whereas in question was inadvertently included and explained that TPAC’s recommendation was to keep the values and outcomes in draft form and have that inform updates to the vision, goals and objectives.

ACTION: With all in favor the motion to approve Resolution No. 22-5255 passed.

ACTION: With all in favor the motion to approve Resolution No. 22-5255 as amended by Commissioner Savas to strike the ninth whereas in the resolution passed.

5.2 Regional Flexible Fund Allocation (RFFA) Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Additional Allocation

Chair Craddick introduced Metro staff Ted Leybold (he/him) to present TPAC’s recommendation.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Ted explained that the program direction for the RFFA will be updated and highlighted the RFFA process timeline and four investment priority criteria which are: equity, climate, safety, congestion. Ted summarized the previous funding forecast and trails bond funding, he then provided a project solicitation and federal authorization bill update. Ted then presented TPAC’s recommendation including the updated funding forecasts.

Member discussion included:

Chris Ford (he/him) presented the idea to dedicate funds to safety and equity in the region.

Commissioner Savas asked if there is a project that addresses the goal of trying to have a regionally balanced transportation system.

Ted responded by explaining that the step two investments make funds available to address the issues being raised by Commissioner Savas and the additional investments that were proposed for TV Highway, 82nd Avenue and McLoughlin Boulevard are targeted towards facilities that have been underinvested.

Commissioner Savas expressed that he hopes that the region can find ways to commit to increasing transit coverage where there is none.

Commissioner Hardesty expressed that each proposed project provide critical infrastructure improvements to areas that have been neglected for a long time and voiced support for the proposals as presented.

Mayor Dalin agreed that TV Highway, 82nd Avenue and McLoughlin Boulevard have been long under-addressed and there is a long list of other corridors that have also been under-addressed.

Margi clarified that Metro is not asking JPACT to take action on IJA funding today, instead they are looking for red-flags that JPACT would like to address and informal approval to move forward at this time. Action will be formally brought to JPACT at a later date for the allocation of these funds.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 TV Highway Corridor Project Update

Chair Craddick introduced Eryn Kehe (she/her), Metro and Jamie Snook, TriMet to present to JPACT.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Eryn described the Helping Obtain Prosperity for Everyone (HOPE) Grant.

Jamie explained that the work that will be done with HOPE grant funds is around public transit planning and equitable development strategy and described public transit planning.

Eryn described the equitable development strategy, the corridor needs, and the partnership between TriMet, Metro and a number of other bodies/jurisdictions. Eryn explained the committee structure, JPACT's role, and grant outcomes and details.

Member discussion included:

Mayor Dalin explained that there is a struggle with bus rapid transit along the corridor because TriMet's data shows that many riders along this corridor commute with short trips while bus rapid transit is used to get people a long ways in a short amount of time. He stressed the importance of understanding what the community wants.

Commissioner Hardesty agreed with Mayor Dalin's point around the importance of understanding how members of the community commute through this corridor. She explained that this project is an example of the importance of enhanced transit corridors and better bus investments.

Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez (he/him) described the importance of TV highway to residents who live nearby. He described that the comprehensive look at the corridor is what excites him most about the project moving forward.

Jamie responded to Mayor Dalin by explaining that TriMet will be investigating data around community needs and ridership. Jamie stressed that this is one of the most transit dependent communities in the region.

Eryn highlighted that bus rapid transit can look a number of different ways and they will be looking to make a unique solution that works for the corridor.

Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle invited members of JPACT to see Vancouver's bus rapid transit system.

6.2 2022-23 UPWP-Review and discussion of draft UPWP and TPAC recommendation

Chair Craddick introduced John Mermin (he/him), Metro to present to JPACT.

Key elements of the presentation included:

John described what the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is, what it isn't, the UPWP document organization, TPAC recommendation, and next steps.

Member discussion included:

There was none.

7. UPDATES FROM JPACT MEMBERS

Mayor Dalin expressed that any death on a roadway is a terrible thing, but presenting a death that occurred during the commitment of a felony in the same way as another accident does not do justice to those who were killed in other incidences.

Margi proposed to bring more information to JPACT in a future meeting on where staff receives traffic death data.

Carly Francis (she/her) discussed the differentiation of proactively looking for situations that match places where traffic incidences have occurred versus putting safety dollars toward where a fatality happened.

Margi explained that as a part of the RTP update conversations JPACT will be updating the high-crash corridor map and having a conversation about safety.

Sam Desue thanked Metro, TriMet, and community partners around the T.V. Highway project. He explained that this corridor is a key high capacity transit priority for TriMet. Sam explained that the Forward Together planning process has upcoming workshops in Clackamas and Washington Counties.

Commissioner Hardesty asked if there is a way to know the number of traffic related deaths in the region that involve homeless individuals.

Commissioner Savas highlighted how difficult it is to obtain fatal crash data and the dangers of rural roadways. He also voiced the importance of understanding the size of the commute shed even though it is outside of Metro's jurisdiction and the dangers of rural roadways.

8. **ADJORN**

Chair Craddick adjourned the meeting at 9:25 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stellan Roberts

Stellan Roberts
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2022

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
3.0	Presentation	4/21/2022	Fatal Crash Slide	04212022-01
5.1	Presentation	4/21/2022	RTP Update Slides	04212022-02
5.2	Presentation	4/21/2022	RFFA Program Direction Update Slides	04212022-03
6.1	Presentation	4/21/2022	TV Highway HOPE Grant Introduction Slides	04212022-04
6.2	Presentation	4/21/2022	2022-23 UPWP Slides	04212022-05