



JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2022

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

AFFILIATION

Metro Council
Metro Council
Metro Council
Clark County
Cities of Multnomah County
City of Vancouver
Cities of Washington County
Clackamas County
City of Portland
Cities of Clackamas County
Washington County
Multnomah County
TriMet

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Carley Francis
Rian Windsheimer
Nina DeConcini
Curtis Robinhold

AFFILIATION

Washington State Department of Transportation
Oregon Department of Transportation
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Port of Portland

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Chris Ford
Scott Langer
Chris Warner
Duncan Hwang
JC Vannatta
Jef Dalin
Ty Stober

AFFILIATION

Oregon Department of Transportation
Washington State Department of Transportation
City of Portland
Metro
TriMet
City of Cornelius
City of Vancouver

OTHERS PRESENT: Alison Boyd, Ana Jovanovic, André Lightsey-Walker, Brenda Bartlett, Casey Gillespie, Chris Deffebach, Chris Fick, Cody Field, Dave Roth, David Aulwes, Dwight Brashear, Jamie Lorenzini, Jamie Snook, Jamie Stasny, Jeff Gudman, Jessica Engelmann, Kadin Mangalik, Karen Williams, Katherine Kelly, Mark Gamba, Mark Lear, Mark Ottenad, Mary Nolan, Matchu Williams, Matthew Flodin, Megan Neill, Monica Tellez-Fowler, Samantha, Shawn Donaghy, Shoshana Cohen, Stephen Roberts, Tara O'Brien, Taylor Steenblock, Will Farley.

STAFF: Alex Oreschak, Andy, Shaw, Anne Buzzini, Caleb Winter, Cindy Pederson, Dan Kaempff, Eliot Rose, Grace Cho, Jaye Cromwell, John Mermin, Kim Ellis, Lake McTighe, Lisa Hunrichs, Malu Wilkinson, Marielle Bossio, Matt Bihn, Monica Krueger, Ramona Perrault, Robert Spurlock, Ted Leybold, Tom Kloster, Victor Sin, Connor Ayers, 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 thanked those who attended the first JPACT/Council Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Workshop and introduced Metro Staff Margi Bradway (she/her) to speak.

Margi explained when JPACT will see follow up from the workshop on the vision and goals for the RTP.

Chair Craddick provided information about the next JPACT/Council RTP workshop and thanked presenters and attendees from the Climate Expert Panel that was held on June 22. Chair Craddick introduced Metro Staff Jaye Cromwell (she/her) to speak.

Jaye asked JPACT members if they can attend the planned August 25 JPACT/Council RTP workshop.

Margi shared the names and ages of traffic victims during the month of June:

James Robert Sheehan, 57, Robert Julian Hunker, 57, Maksim Mishuk, 24, Shana Keplinger, 32, Michael Eugene Sprague, 71, and three unidentified people.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

ACTION: With all in favor, consent agenda passed.

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation (RFFA) – Present public comment report and initial draft funding examples

Chair Craddick introduced Metro staff Dan Kaempff (he/him) to present to JPACT.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Dan presented the agenda for today's discussion, the process for selecting projects, the upcoming schedule, and reviewed the sources of information that are available for regional funding decisions. Dan highlighted updates to materials, the risk assessment report, the public comment report, provided funding package examples for discussion and refinement, and summarized TPAC input for developing recommendation.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Hardesty highlighted that this is an important opportunity to invest in safety and equity as a priority.

Dan agreed with Commissioner Hardesty's comments and highlighted the opportunity for these funds to advance safety and equity.

Commissioner Savas explained that smaller jurisdictions were heavily impacted by COVID and were unable to propose all the projects that they normally would have. He went on to express hope that Clackamas County projects are considered and that the regional funds should be used region-wide.

Dan recognized the challenges for local jurisdictions to apply for funding.

Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez (he/him) asked for more information on how a project is measured under the equity category. He followed up by asking how past JPACTs have grappled with balancing performance in the scorecards and commitment to regionalism.

Dan explained that the technical scoring is largely based on the geography of the project. He responded to Councilor Gonzalez's second question by explaining that looking at coordinating committee and community support are also important factors when determining where funds end up.

Margi emphasized the importance of the work that is done in coordinating committees.

Councilor Gonzalez stressed the importance of balancing the important work being done on urban arterials while bringing together regional priorities.

Mayor Steve Callaway (he/him) explained that the Washington County Coordinating Committee is bringing all projects together in one block and highlighted the importance of these projects. He stressed his concerns with equity with this funding, highlighting that some projects scored lower on the equity scale but they serve the most diverse constituents. Mayor Callaway noted that the equity scale does not fully recognize the depth of that is necessary.

Councilor Kathy Hyzy (she/her) echoed Commissioner Savas on the importance of the Clackamas County projects that are requesting funding and asked if projects that are related to non-RFFA funded transportation projects will be taken into account.

Margi agreed that it is harder for projects near the edge of the urban growth boundary to receive as high of a technical score and expressed that when there are related issues around a project they will look to be creative with funding.

Chris Ford (he/him) expressed that ODOT is open to having any conversations around opportunities for funding sources.

Councilor Hyzy wondered if there is something more that can be done to promote project readiness and noted that extra funds on one project should be put aside to help fund other projects. She followed up by asking how projects get to the point where they are considered ready for RFFA.

Margi explained that Metro supports project readiness and discussed project funding in more detail.

Mayor McEnery-Ogle asked if top projects do not get started in a certain amount of time are they removed from the list.

Dan responded by explaining that this has not happened in the past and steps are taken to try to minimize scoping and budget problems.

Chris Ford echoed Commissioner Hardesty's comments about the importance of safety and equity.

Councilor Christine Lewis (she/her) voiced that she would like to incentivize jurisdictions that have applied for funding for modest portions of a larger vision.

Dan briefly highlighted next steps and summarized the discussion up to this point.

5.2 Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge - Introduction

Chair Craddick introduced Alex Oreschak (he/him), Metro and Megan Neil, Multnomah County to present to JPACT.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Megan described the need for a seismically resilient Willamette River Crossing, the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge's (EQRB) purpose, the importance of the Burnside Bridge, how the EQRB Project will help recovery, the project timeline, key project committees, the locally preferred alternative, and Portland Bureau of Transportation updates. Megan highlighted how the EQRB will provide safer multi-modal connections, cost saving measures, how the funding gap can be closed, federal grant opportunities, and project next steps.

Alex discussed next steps for Metro.

Member discussion included:

Commissioner Savas asked if any lanes are planned to be convertible to meet demand changes in case of an emergency following an earthquake.

Megan responded by explaining that the bridge design criteria factors in any load needs for uses after an earthquake.

Mayor Callaway asked what earthquake modelling has been done to see how the US Bancorp Tower will affect Burnside in case of a large earthquake.

Megan explained that they don't know the resiliency of the Bancorp Tower but they do recognize that there will be blockages on Burnside in the event of an earthquake and the region will need to continue to improve its resiliency efforts.

Commissioner Hardesty expressed that the City of Portland is excited to be a partner in this effort. She voiced that a ramp on the bridge as well as maintaining a 17 foot width for commuters who are not driving are two conditions of approval for the City of Portland.

Councilor Gonzalez asked about the impact across all of Burnside, especially the west side, in case of an earthquake.

Megan explained that the county only has jurisdiction over the bridge and referred Councilor Gonzalez to emergency rout planners.

Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson (she/her) discussed the importance of this project for the region.

5.3 Better Bus Program

Chair Craddick introduced Matt Bihn (he/him), Metro, and David Aulwes (he/him), TriMet, to present to JPACT.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Matt highlighted the agenda for their presentation, described what Enhanced Transit Corridors (ETC) is, the purpose of enhanced transit, why enhanced transit is needed, and highlighted the impacts of delay. Matt discussed projects studied and implemented, how the projects advanced equity, the ETC program's achievements, and described what's next.

Member discussion included:

Sam Desue (he/him) thanked TriMet and Metro and expressed the need for partnerships from JPACT members to help identify projects.

Commissioner Hardesty expressed appreciation to Metro and TriMet and their continued efforts to make this project equitable. She voiced that 82nd Avenue is an area that should be looked at as an opportunity to use high capacity transit vehicles and stressed the importance of bus reliability. Commissioner Hardesty asked Sam for an update on TriMet's driver shortage.

Sam explained that TriMet was 350 operators short but have now seen an increase in hiring over the past three months and expressed hope that TriMet can start adding service back by late fall.

6. UPDATES FROM JPACT MEMBERS

There was none.

7. ADJORN

Chair Craddick adjourned the meeting at 9:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stellan Roberts

Stellan Roberts
Recording Secretary

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

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
3.0	Handout	7/21/2022	Climate and transportation expert panel summary	07212022-01
3.0	Handout	7/21/2022	Climate Smart Expert Panel Registrant List	07212022-02
3.0	Handout	7/21/2022	Climate Smart Expert Panel Slides	07212022-03
3.0	Handout	7/21/2022	JPACT Council RTP Workshop Series	07212022-04
3.0	Handout	7/21/2022	Visual summary of JPACT Council RTP Workshop Series	07212022-05
3.0	Presentation	7/21/2022	Fatal Crash Slide	07212022-06
6.1	Presentation	7/21/2022	RFFA Slides	07212022-07
6.2	Presentation	7/21/2022	Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge Slides	07212022-08
6.3	Presentation	7/21/2022	Better Bus Program Slides	07212022-09