Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov



Minutes

Tuesday, October 25, 2022 10:30 AM

https://zoom.us/j/615079992 (Webinar ID: 615079992) or 929-205-6099 (toll free)

Council work session

10:30 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Peterson called the Work Session to order Council Members: Nolan, Gonzalez, Craddick, Rosenthal, Hwang

Work Session Topics:

Council Discussion

10:35 RTP Needs Assessment and Performance Measures

Attachments: <u>Staff Report</u>

Attachment 1

Council Discussion

Presentation Summary: RTP stake holders want a better organized needs assessment (mobility, safety, equity, climate, and vibrant community.

Key findings:

Each year there is an average of 563 deaths while traveling within the region. There was a decrease in bicycle deaths. Pedestrian deaths made up 2% of crashes while making up 38% of fatal crashes.

Deaths within equity focused areas increased.

Areas have become less safe since Metro began tracking the data.

Councilor Craddick brought up the alarming rate of pedestrian fatalities and wanted to know if there was a way to track all the traffic accidents involving homeless people.

Margi Bradway answered on to say council should follow up

with the project's safety lead and that it can often be difficult to track pedestrian fatalities within the homeless community as many are not identified due to not having identification. Pedestrian deaths were increased during the pandemic due to speed factors, increase in alcohol, distracted driving, and dangerous driving behaviors.

Councilor Craddick moved on to ask Margi Bradway two question's regarding climate & call for projects more specifically how to work diligently and stay focused on the topics such as reducing greenhouse gas and emissions. Secondly she wanted know if there could be a way to have an annual reporting on the progress of climate change where it can be brought up to council regularly to keep track and she went on to say this did not need to be answered but it was a suggestion to think about. The second question Councilor Craddick asked had several follow up questions such as; what status do the projects have to be at to be in for the time of the calling? Do they have to be in RTP? What can we do to make sure all these projects are competing, and have the chance to receive funding? Margi Bradway went on to say there will be a deeper dive in a different work session to answer these questions more appropriately. Answer: for the projects to go in RTP they do need to be in the TSP and be publicly vetted with public input on them. Margi went on to say she will be back to councilor Craddick with a rough draft going into better details and that Kim allice and Ali Holmquist are the lead for call for projects and will talk about how metro is lengthening the goals for outcomes and objectives.

Councilor Nolan went on the complement the team on their work.

Councilor Gonzales asked how Metro can realistically shift the money that comes into the transportation. Margi Bradway answered by telling Councilor Gonzales that it is based on an outcome and value-based way as there is not enough money to do everything the organization wants to do.

Councilor Gonzales followed up by saying that there needs to be more done with what Metro has as the budget is not sufficient to fulfill other areas within transportation. He went on to thank the team on their presentation.

Councilor Rosenthal started off by thanking the team on the presentation. Councilor went on speak about fiber and communities, and how it does not make much sense to him as people make up communities and not the other way around. He went on to say the RTP needs to be revolutionary not evolutionary. He followed up with two questions: do we have a consistent and used method to compare all the RTP projects? Why is there an increase in fatalities even with the new safety features implanted into vehicles?

Margi Bradway went on to answer the first question by saying it is a new goal for them to come up with an answer for it. They are also trying something new by looking at the projects twice and doing a high-level outcome analysis submitted. She went on with questions such as, is it improving safety or not? And doing a second deep dive in the following months of December and January. She then asked Elliot Rose to answer the second question Councilor Rosenthal asked.

Elliot Rose answered by saying that speed, mass, size, and weight of vehicles is also a large factor into deaths.

Margi Bradway went back into the conversation by saying experts have not figured out a way to implement new technology into vehicles that can detect a person.

Councilor Craddick asked how the RTP can reflect and report back/bring attention about speed? Is there a measurement of success regarding speed?

Margi Bradway answered by saying she can do whatever

Craddick directs her to do. She explained that Blake has a detailed report explaining the performance measures and will send Councilor Craddick the report, however she did not have an answer on how to bring attention to the topic. Councilor Craddick emphasized this should be a much higher priority. She also asked if there is more time to move more funding into the MPO's away from the DOT? She went on to say we must put more emphasis on MPO's rather than the highway system.

Margi Bradway answered by saying that is the policy position that they have taken. She explained that when there is formula or discretionary funding, the lead Tyler Frisby is the one overlooking every detail.

Councilor Nolan went on to speak on the history of local government.

Councilor Rosenthal mentioned that it strikes him the whole issue of tolling skews the whole argument about the economic equity. He asked, whether or not tolling will change our perception of equity?

Margi Bradway answered by saying, no it does not change the focus on equity. She mentions you can look at where high- and low-income people live and how they access their jobs and destinations, and how they can afford the system. Councilor Rosenthal expresses how backlash from the community may require more public addressing and may potentially slow down the progress.

Margi Bradway replied by acknowledging that she knows this is a likely outcome and says it is not going to go away. Elliot Rose went back into the conversation addressing Councilor Rosenthal by saying the city of Portland has done a very well thought out equity pricing for the tolling project. Christine Lewis Spoke about tolling and how there is a gap between the work being planned. She mentions that all the pieces of infrastructure are controlled by ODOT and that is where most of the major investments go. She also goes into

the fact that the most vulnerable are the pedestrian's as they may not want to commute very far within the jurisdiction, they live in. She asks, how can we reduce neighborhood speeds and get through the ODOT process? How can we right into the planning right away? Margi Bradway explained that Metro is in full support of dropping speeds and is open to more idea's involving dropping speed limits in school zones and neighborhood and is willing to talk more about it in the future. Councilor Craddick Brought up that (unidentified word) should include speed limits and asked how that could be implanted.

Margi Bradway explained that it has been mentioned in the planning however since it is not highly important area to go into it has not been implemented for that reason.

The rest of the five-minute discussion went on about the current work being done and the progress being made. No further questions were asked.

11:20 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Chief Operating Officer added no further comment on this discussion other than adding that she will set up another meeting to go deeper in the questions that were asked.

11:25 Councilor Communication

11:30 Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Work Session at 12:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

sermad mohamad

Legislative Assistant