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oregonmetro.gov

JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2023

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Juan Carlos González  
Christine Lewis  
Ashton Simpson  
Travis Stovall  
Paul Savas  
Nafisa Fai  
Carley Francis  
Sam Desue  
Mingus Mapps  
Ali Mirzakhali  
Joe Buck  
Shawn Donaghy

AFFILIATION

Metro Council  
Metro Council  
Metro Council  
Cities of Multnomah County  
Clackamas County  
Washington County  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
TriMet  
City of Portland  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
Cities of Clackamas County  
C-Tran

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Anne McEnerly-Ogle  
Susheela Jayapal  
Steve Callaway  
Curtis Robinhold  
Rian Windsheimer

AFFILIATION

City of Vancouver  
Multnomah County  
Cities of Washington County  
Port of Portland  
Oregon Department of Transportation

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Emerald Bogue  
Jef Dalin  
Brett Sherman  
Chris Ford

AFFILIATION

Port of Portland  
Cities of Washington County  
Cities of Clackamas County

OTHERS PRESENT: Miles Pengilly, Mauricio Leclerc, Taylor Steenblock, Erin Doyle, Derek Bradley, Chris Lyons, Dan Bower, Katherine Kelly, Cody Field, Vanessa Vissar, Jeff Gudman, Shawn Canny, Shoshana Cohen, Eric Hesse, Will Farley, Kate Hawkins, Allison Boyd, Tom Shook, Matt Ransom, Jonathan Maus, Chris Deffebach, Andrew Plambeck, Jessica Pelz, Jack Heffernan, Brooke Jordan, Jean Senechal Biggs, Everett Wild, Mark Dorn, Jessica Berry, Matthew Hall, Glen Bolen, Julie Gustafson, Jamie Stasny, Gerik Kransky, Matthew Grumm, Mike Bezner, Michelle Bellia, Matthew Hampton, Sandy Glantz, Gwenn Baldwin, Steve Witter, Jaimie Lorenzini, Derek Bradley, Caleb Winter, Stephen Roberts, Sarah Iannarone, Jay Higgins, Brenda Bartlett, Dwight Brashear, Mark Ottenad, Alan Lehto, John Mermin, Tara O'Brien

STAFF: Carrie MacLaren, Margi Bradway, Jeff Kain, Anneliese Koehler, Matt Bihn, Tom Kloster, Jaye Cromwell, Ken Lobeck, Kim Ellis, Marielle Bossio, Malu Wilkinson, Ramona Perrault, Victor Sin, Eryn Kehe, Lisa Hunrichs, Glen Hamburg, Ally Holmqvist, Eliot Rose, Grace Cho, Connor Ayers,

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**

JPACT Chair Gonzalez (he/him) called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Chair Gonzalez called the role and declared a quorum.

**2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No members of the public chose to provide testimony.

**3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR**

Chair Gonzalez began by discussing the Urban Growth Management Functional Plan Annual Compliance Report, a mandatory annual report that analyzes the compliance of the jurisdictions to Metro Code Chapter 3.7, the urban growth management functional plan, and Metro Code Chapter 3.8, the regional transportation functional plan. Chair Gonzalez confirmed that all jurisdictions within the Metro region were deemed in compliance with the code.

Chair Gonzalez then noted that the next JPACT/Council Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Workshop on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Metro staff Margi Bradway (she/her) shared the names and ages of traffic victims during the month of December:

Gorgonio Reyes Barrera, 31, Jason Clark, Lillian Spahn, 24, Robert McIlwain, 54, Destanie King, 26, Elias James Whitcomb, 34, Maribel Campos-Vera, 31, Derrick Dean Shirley, 34, Kingman & El Hindawi, 69 & 92, Joseph Carrero, 34, Justin Summerland, 42, and 3 unidentified victims.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Gonzalez noted that there are two items on the consent agenda, Resolution No. 23-5319 For the Purpose of Amending the 2021-24 MTIP to Re-Scope the OR8/Canyon Rd Project to Reflect only the Beaverton Pedestrian Enhancement Portion Allowing it to Meet Federal Delivery Requirements, and Consideration of the February 16, 2023 JPACT Minutes.

**MOTION:** City of Portland Commissioner Mingus Mapps moved to approve the consent agenda seconded by TriMet General Manager Sam Desue.

**ACTION:** With all in favor, consent agenda passed.

Washington County Commissioner Nafisa Fai raised a question regarding the fatal traffic crashes slide, asking staff if there is an annual, aggregate report of these fatalities.

Bradway confirmed that there is an annual report of the traffic victims, stating that the most recent iteration of this report is still having its data processed. She noted that Metro received a \$2.4 million dollar grant for enhancing street safety, and that this money will provide the opportunity for greater analysis in these reports.

Commissioner Fai asked if this report will also include information about the safety improvements that have occurred over the duration of the year.

Bradway clarified that the reports discuss a wide array of performance measures that provide additional context to the overall safety of the region's roads.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Administrator Ali Mirzakhali questioned if this report includes a mapping of the fatal crashes, to which Bradway stated that it does.

Clackamas County Commissioner Paul Savas remarked that many of these fatalities are likely due to reckless behavior, such as attempting to crossing roads and highways outside of the crosswalk, and that this shouldn't be ignored in the reporting.

## **5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **5.1 State Legislative Agenda**

Chair Gonzalez introduced Anneliese Koehler (she/her), Metro, Chris Lyons, Clackamas County, Erin Doyle, Washington County, Taylor Steenblock, Multnomah County, Derek Bradley, City of Portland, Miles Pengilly, TriMet

#### *Key elements of the presentation included*

Staff provided a high-level overview of major legislative topics relevant to the Metro region. Lyons discussed tolling, noting that the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) plans to add tolling to I-205 will likely not be disrupted by any of the tolling bills introduced in the legislature. Steenblock remarked that another transportation package similar to House Bill 2017 (HB2017) is in the stages of development but will likely have different funding mechanisms. She then commented on several of the largest funding buckets in the region, including the Interstate 5 Bridge Replacement project, the Great Streets Program, and the Burnside Bridge Earthquake Readiness project. Bradley commented on zero emission transportation policies. Doyle explained the legislative motions regarding improving railway services. Pengilly shared insights from several different transportation committees that are now being considered by the legislature, primarily safety on public transit as well as the ongoing rise of pedestrian fatalities.

Metro Councilor Christine Lewis questioned the level of proposed funding relative to years past for the Great Streets program, as well as if there has been any additional direction from the legislature regarding jurisdictional transfer of readiness for any of the corridors.

Koehler stated that Metro's proposal for the program's funding is \$100 million, which would be added to the \$50 million dollars currently in the funding pool. As for jurisdictional transfer, she noted that there is a bill in the legislature that calls for the funding and jurisdictional transfer of Hall Boulevard, and that these conversations continue to unfold.

Commissioner Savas, noting that ODOT has cancelled the March Regional Tolling Advisory Committee (RTAC) meeting, expressed that there will likely be no further opportunity for regional leaders to discuss the implementation of tolling. Remarking that there is still much discussion to be had on this topic, Commissioner Savas called for the members of JPACT to agree to send a letter to ODOT requesting an extension to the public comment period for the I-205 tolling project.

Bradway explained that RTAC was created from the agreement between the Metro Council and ODOT, called the I-205 Tolling Agreement, and stated that it may be time for both JPACT and the Metro Council to review the progress of this agreement.

Commissioner Lewis expressed her support for the plan outlined by Commissioner Savas.

Chair Gonzalez suggested that this review of the I-205 Tolling Project could occur in the April JPACT meeting. Commissioner Savas interjected, remarking that time is of the essence and that the proposed letter would need to be sent sooner than the April meeting.

Bradway explained the motion process, stating that they could call a motion for JPACT members to vote on the proposed letter, or that the individual jurisdictions represented in JPACT, including Metro, could send letters to ODOT on their own accord.

**Motion:** Commissioner Savas called a motion that the committee submit a letter to ODOT requesting a 30-day extension of the public comment period for the I-205 Tolling Project, seconded by Commissioner Fai.

Commissioner Fai expressed her intent to support the motion, stating that Washington County is planning on submitting an extension request independently and urging other jurisdictions to do the same.

Port of Portland Director Emerald Bogue announced that the Port of Portland would abstain from this vote until they are able to see a draft of the letter and hear a response from ODOT.

Mirzakhilili asked if there is a legislative connection with this letter, or if it is purely administrative.

Chair Gonzalez remarked that reports from staff have certainly created discussion in the state legislature. He looked towards staff for clarification on the motion process for drafting a letter.

Bradway stated that the motion can call for the creation of simple extension letter to be sent to ODOT. Answering Mirzakhilili's question, Bradway commented that the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) has been crafted with a precise policy direction for tolling that informs the region's stance towards tolling.

Koehler suggested that the members discuss tolling with their jurisdiction's government affairs team to ensure that their viewpoints are heard by the legislature.

**Action:** With nine members voting yes, and four members abstaining to vote, the motion passed.

Commissioner Fai questioned if JPACT members will get to see the letter before it is sent to ODOT.

Bradway stated that given the straight-forward motive of the letter and its time sensitivity that a draft would

typically not be circulated to members before it is sent, but that if members would be in favor that a draft could be sent beforehand.

Commissioner Fai expressed that it is important to include the reasoning behind several members abstaining to vote in the letter.

Bradway responded by remarking that the motion was not to write a letter discussing the policy implications of tolling, but rather was simply to extend the public comment period from 60 to 90 days.

Commissioner Fai asked Lyons if the nine bills introduced in the legislature related to tolling are all from the perspective of trying to minimize the impact of tolling.

Lyons stated that the bills vary significantly in their stances towards tolling, with some outright calling for a ban on tolling while others make specific provisions to the way that tolling is conducted.

Ford provided context on why the RTAC meeting had been cancelled, as well as requesting that the letter notes that ODOT abstains from commenting.

City of Lake Oswego Mayor Joe Buck questioned if representatives in the legislature are concerned about the implications of the initiative petition.

Lyons remarked that there hasn't been a significant deal of discussion on this initiative, although he commented that there are a few bills that may be proposing very similar provisions to the petition.

Mayor Buck discussed the importance of this petition, particularly as a member of Clackamas County.

## **5.2 Montgomery Park Transit and Development Project**

Chair Gonzalez introduced Dan Bower, City of Portland, and Mauricio LeClerc, City of Portland, as well as calling on City of Portland Commissioner Mingus Mapps and TriMet General Manager Sam Desue to introduce the item.

### *Key elements of the presentation included*

The presentation provided a background on Portland Streetcar, explaining the governance structure, system routes, demographics, and current fleet. Bower then discussed the opportunity for future growth with Streetcar, displaying graphics depicting the projected growth of ridership in relation to housing. As a part of this discussion, Bower spoke to extending services to other corridors, reaching new communities with transit opportunities. The Montgomery Park Transit and Land Use Development Strategy was briefly discussed, although staff noted that this project would require continued follow-up. This project would extend Portland Streetcar 1.3 miles to the Montgomery Park site, providing a new transit opportunity and creating a new space for future industrial and residential growth. Staff provided a timeline for the project, highlighting key steps in the development process.

Commissioner Fai questioned how staff plans on addressing opposition from local residents and business owners.

Bower stated that there has been extensive community outreach efforts for this project, starting as early as 2019. He noted that the new Streetcar line will not remove parking on NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. LeClerc commented that they have been working closely with the business association in Northwest Portland, and that this development would still allow future growth in the area.

Commissioner Savas asked if there is an inventory of how many home ownership opportunities are available for high-density development.

Bower remarked that there is not currently a model for high-density housing in this way. He noted that people tend to prefer single-family housing over multi-family developments, so staff is working to create systems that will allow for affordable housing in this area.

Commissioner Savas expressed concerns that the development of the Montgomery Park area may result in rising housing prices, and therefore displacement, and that high-density housing is likely a strong option to prevent this.

Bogue announced her excitement for this project, thanking staff for their presentation.

LeClerc highlighted that the project's scope originally focused on both sides of Highway 30, but that the plans have shifted towards the left side of the highway to better address density and provide greater access to industrial jobs.

## **6 UPDATES FROM JPACT MEMBERS**

Ford remarked that ODOT will be sending a letter to the TPAC and JPACT committees explaining future steps in the Regional Transportation Plan.

## **7 ADJORN**

Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 9:06

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeffrey Kain  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF March 16, 2023**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>
3.0	Presentation	3/16/2023	Fatal Crash Slide	3162023-01
5.2	Presentation	3/16/2023	Portland Streetcar Presentation	3162023--02