



METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vince Jones-Dixon (Chair)
Ed Gronke
Alex Howard
Gordon Hovies
Mary Nolan
Brett Sherman
Mark Shull
Sherry French
Kirstin Greene
Joe Buck
Terri Preeg Rigsby
Tim Rosener
Glen Yung
Pam Treece
Omar Qutub
Denyse McGriff
Carmen Rubio
Steve Callaway
Luis Nava

AFFILIATION

City of Gresham, Second Largest City in Multnomah County
Citizen of Clackamas County
Port of Portland
Special Districts in Washington County
Metro Council
City of Happy Valley, Other Cities in Clackamas County
Clackamas County
Special Districts in Clackamas County
Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
City of Lake Oswego, Largest City in Clackamas County
Special Districts in Multnomah County
Other Cities in Washington County
Clark County
Washington County
Citizen of Multnomah County
City of Oregon City, Second Largest City in Clackamas County
City of Portland
Largest City in Washington County
Citizen of Washington County

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Kim Harless
Gerritt Rosenthal
Nadia Hasan
Ted Wheeler
Sharon Meieran
Brian Cooper
Brian Hodson
James Fage
Susan Greenberg
Duncan Hwang
Thomas Kim

AFFILIATION

City of Vancouver
Metro Council
City of Beaverton, Second Largest City in Washington County
City of Portland
Multnomah County
City of Fairview, Other Cities in Multnomah County
City of Canby, City in Clackamas County outside UGB
City of North Plains, City in Washington County outside UGB
Beaverton School Board, Governing Body of a School District
Metro Council
TriMet

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Rebecca Stavenjord

Laura Kelly

Anthony Martin

AFFILIATION

City of Milwaukee, Other Cities in Clackamas County

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

City of Hillsboro, Largest City in Washington County

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean Edging, Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg, Stephen Roberts, Laura Combs, Megan McKibben, Sandy Glantz, Brian Martin, Gerry Mildner, Cynthia Castro, Jamie Stasny, Tom Armstrong, Colin Cooper, Laurie Petrie, Sarah Iannarone, Sarah Paulus, Jaimie Lorenzini

STAFF: Ally Holmqvist, Malu Wilkinson, Roger Alfred, Ted Reid, Kim Ellis, Jeff Kain, Connor Ayers, Eliot Rose, Eryn Kehe, Eduardo Ramos, Tom Kloster, Andy Shaw

1. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS

MPAC Chair Vince Jones-Dixon called the Zoom meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Metro Staff Connor Ayers (he/him) called the role.

Metro Staff Roger Alfred confirmed that there were enough members present to declare a quorum.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public chose to provide testimony on agenda items.

3. COUNCIL UPDATE

Metro Councilor Mary Nolan (they/them) began by providing an update on Metro's acquisition of land in a highly used wildlife corridor. Land acquisitions have also been made in the urban target area to protect the mainstem of Crystal Springs Creek.

Councilor Nolan alerted the committee of changes to the solid waste fee at Metro transfer stations. They noted that Metro's Waste Prevention and Environmental Services department is planning to convene a forum among local jurisdictions and stakeholders regarding the fee changes. The councilor then briefly discussed the Greater Portland Cleanup Project.

Councilor Nolan then provided an update on Metro's corrective action with Multnomah County regarding their work on the Supportive Housing Services (SHS) program.

They remarked that the HVAC system at the Arlington Schnitzer Concert Hall has failed.

Lastly, Councilor Nolan informed the committee that Metro Council President Lynn Peterson will be delivering a State of the Region speech on June 6th.

Ed Gronke asked if Metro has made any progress towards moving one of the waste transfer stations.

Councilor Nolan responded, noting that efforts had been made to move the Metro South facility. However, the prospective property failed the environmental assessment, effectively restarting the progress on the project.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Clackamas County Commissioner Mark Shull asked Councilor Nolan why the MPAC committee was included in Metro's considerations to raise the solid waste fee.

Councilor Nolan stated that the engagement process was different in 2023 than in previous years, resulting in MPAC not being involved in these discussions. They then provided additional context on the decision-making process of establishing the new fee level.

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) Deputy Director Kirstin Greene announced that today marks the 50th anniversary of Oregon's Land Use Planning Program, with Governor Kotek declaring a proclamation that May shall be established as Land Use Planning Month.

City of Hillsboro Mayor Steve Callaway asked Councilor Nolan if Metro added accountability measures onto private waste haulers and their tipping fees at transfer stations.

Councilor Nolan remarked that Metro intends to conduct a thorough analysis of the regional waste system, and that this review will serve to answer the question Mayor Callaway is proposing.

Mayor Callaway expressed his enthusiasm for such a review, noting that he would be interested in playing a key role in the analysis.

Chair Jones-Dixon informed the committee that the June MPAC meeting will be held in-person at the Metro Regional Center.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 MPAC Consideration of MTAC Nominees

5.2 Consideration of the March 22nd, 2023 MPAC Minutes

5.3 Consideration of the April 26th, 2023 MPAC Minutes

MOTION: Washington County Commissioner Pam Treece moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Shull seconded.

ACTION: With all in favor, the consent agenda was approved.

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6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Update on Oregon Housing Needs Analysis

Chair Jones-Dixon introduced Metro staff Ted Reid and DLCD staff Sean Edging.

Key elements of the presentation and member discussion included:

Edging provided a high-level overview of the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA) policy, detailing the provisions of the project and how it interfaces with Metro's role in establishing a regional growth management plan. He began by giving context to the legislative history that resulted in the OHNA policy, how the OHNA serves the goals of House Bill 2001 (HB2001), and the project's methodology. The presentation then explained the role that Metro will play in coordinating with the provisions of the program. A timeline for the policy's next steps was provided.

Mayor Callaway firstly asked what role housing developers play in this policy. He then asked how DLCD's methodology and accountability systems will work in conjunction with Metro's systems.

Edging affirmed that DLCD's methodology will match that of Metro's, explaining the individual responsibilities that will be held by each organization.

Mayor Callaway asked staff how housing distribution across cities will be determined.

Edging responded, stating that the distribution process is still in the process of being developed. He spoke to the difficulties of developing a system that ensures the equitable allocation of housing across jurisdictions with varying levels of need.

City of Beaverton Councilor Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg requested clarification on the funding strategy for this policy.

Edging provided information about several bills moving through the Oregon Legislature that will be able to provide funding opportunities for the provisions of the OHNA.

City of Lake Oswego Mayor Joe Buck questioned if there is a state-strategy for recruiting a construction workforce for this project.

Edging noted that the Housing Production Advisory Council is working on removing barriers to further housing development, and that managing the construction workforce is a key priority of the council.

City of Oregon City Mayor Denyse McGriff expressed concerns that the State and the Governor are focusing on the wrong entity, cities, to provide low-income housing, when this funding should be given to housing developers.

Councilor Nolan alerted the committee that Metro staff Ted Reid is present and may be able to answer additional questions related to how Metro interfaces with the OHNA.

6.2 High Capacity Transit: Draft Strategy Report

Chair Jones-Dixon introduced Metro staff Ally Holmqvist (she/her).

Key elements of the presentation and member discussion included:

The presentation overviewed progress on the High Capacity Transit project, providing details on the project's draft report. The report serves as a framework for establishing the regional high-capacity transit strategy, identifying the necessary actions and investments to bring this vision into reality. A timeline of the project's progress was provided.

City of Happy Valley Councilor Brett Sherman questioned if Metro is able to provide technical assistance to the jurisdictions to advance their level of readiness for transit development, or if there are any incentives to accelerate this process.

Holmqvist noted that many of Metro's grant programs may be leveraged to improve transit readiness.

Commissioner Treece expressed her disappointment that roadway 99W has been moved to Tier 4 readiness, then questioned if 99W could qualify for the Better Bus system or if there are funding opportunities that could advance this corridor's readiness.

Holmqvist remarked that the Better Bus system has its own set of eligibility criteria from high-capacity transit, but that many Tier 3 corridors are eligible for the service. As for funding opportunities, Holmqvist again highlighted that many Metro grant programs could be utilized by the jurisdictions to obtain more funding.

Mayor Shull urged that we express caution when continuing to advance high-capacity transit in dense areas at the expense of the Tier 3 and 4 corridors. He stated that without sufficient transit investment, that it will be very difficult create increases in ridership in these areas.

Mayor Callaway expressed disappointment that many of the comments from the Washington County Coordinating Committee (WCCC) have not been incorporated into the planning for this project.

Holmqvist addressed the mayor's concerns, discussing several of the challenges with the transit examples raised.

6.3 2023 RTP: Project List Input and Draft System Analysis

Chair Jones-Dixon introduced Metro staff Kim Ellis (she/her) and Eliot Rose (he/him).

The presentation recapped the key findings and public input of the draft system analysis, as well as reporting the feedback gathered in the May 11th JPACT/Metro Council Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Workshop. Information was provided on the projects included in the RTP's constrained list. The key findings from the draft system analysis revealed that the RTP makes progress towards regional goals, but falls short of meeting several target outcomes, with mixed results towards the mobility, equity, and economy goals, and a negative trend towards safety goals. Ellis discussed opportunities to further advance the RTP's goals in the near term. A timeline of the project's next steps was provided.

Councilor Hartmeier-Prigg expressed concerns that the safety, equity, and climate goals will likely not be met in this cycle of the RTP. She asked what will happen if the region fails to meet these targets, and if there is a strategy in place to change approaches.

Ellis noted that the public comment period provides an opportunity for changes to be made to the draft list to better reflect the region's goals.

Chair Jones-Dixon read a comment posted by Mayor McGriff, questioning the timing of the public comment period aligning with many jurisdiction's periods of recess.

Ellis stated that staff is working on a strict timeline to ensure that the final RTP is completed in time, and are working to make sure that the project is as accessible and approachable for the public as possible.

Councilor Sherman asked staff if there is a way to overlay the ongoing work of local transportation service providers (TSPs) with the regional transportation system map.

Ellis explained the structure of the RTP, noting that local transportation projects have been proposed and reviewed by local transportation planners.

Mayor Buck requested clarification on the relationship between the RTP and state-level transportation funding.

Staff remarked that the RTP works in collaboration with state-level funding, and that more information on this coordination will be included in the revenue forecast.

Mayor Buck then asked what role the Metro Council will play in working with the state.

Ellis stated that there will be more conversation moving forward establishing the roles of the Metro Council, MPAC, and JPACT.

City of Sherwood Mayor Tim Rosener firstly requested access to read the summary detailing the outreach process for the RTP.

Ellis remarked that both the summary, as well as the full documents, will be available on the Metro website as well as being sent out the MPAC committee.

Mayor Rosener questioned if the goals were gauged on a regional basis.

Rose noted that staff would be able to provide more specific geographic measures, but that the general RTP goals are based on a regional model.

7. ADJOURN

Chair Jones-Dixon adjourned the meeting at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
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Jeff Kain

Jeffrey Kain
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 24, 2023

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
6.1	Presentation	05/24/2023	Oregon Housing Needs Analysis Presentation	052423m-01
6.2	Presentation	05/24/2023	High-Capacity Transit: Draft Strategy Report Presentation	052423m-02
6.3	Presentation	05/24/2023	2023 RTP: Project List Input and Draft System Analysis	052423m-03