



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

JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2023

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Juan Carlos González  
Christine Lewis  
Paul Savas  
Nafisa Fai  
Carley Francis  
Jesse Beason  
Rian Windsheimer  
Travis Stovall  
Shawn Donaghy  
Anne McEnerly-Ogle  
Ali Mirzakhali

AFFILIATION

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Steve Callaway  
Mingus Mapps  
Ashton Simpson  
Sam Desue  
Curtis Robinhold  
Joe Buck

AFFILIATION

Cities of Washington County  
City of Portland  
Metro Council  
TriMet  
Port of Portland  
Cities of Clackamas County

ALTERNATES PRESENT

JC Vannatta  
Millicent Williams  
Jef Dalin

AFFILIATION

TriMet  
City of Portland  
Cities of Washington County

OTHERS PRESENT: Sara Ryan, Taylor Steenblock, Jamie Stasny, Matthew Hampton, Monica Krueger, Mike Bezner, Sarah Iannarone, Michael D. Walter, Mat Dolata, Brenda Bartlett, Jeff Gudman, Glen Bolen, Roger Geller, Tara OBrien, Allison Boyd, Abe Moland, Cindy Pederson, Jessica Pelz, Eric Hesse, Sara Wright, Shoshana Cohen, Jess Zdeb, Laurie Lebowsky-Young, Katherine Kelly, John Mermin, Cody Field, Scott Turnoy, Dwight Brashear, Jean Senechal Biggs, Mike McCarthy, Stephen Roberts, Nick Fortey, ADE-VLXDQ7M207, Sarah Paulus, Ford, Gerritt Rosenthal

STAFF: Connor Ayers, Jemeshia Taylor, Betsy Emery, Grace Cho, Jason Nolin, Anneliese Koehler, Kelly Betteridge, Ted Leybold, Michelle Bellia, Malu Wilkinson, Kate Hawkins, Tom Kloster, Ken Lobeck, Carrie MacLaren, Ally Holmqvist, Betsy Emery, Ramona Perrault, Lake McTighe, Jaye Cromwell, Catherine Ciarlo, Marielle Bossio, Tom Kloster, Tim Collins, Eliot Rose

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

JPACT Chair Juan Carlos 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**

Metro staff Connor Ayers read aloud the instructions for providing public testimony.

No members of the public provided testimony.

Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

**3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR**

Metro Planning and Development Department Director Catherine Ciarlo (she/her) shared the names and ages of traffic victims during the month of November:

Michael Allen Percy, 32, Unidentified, Kaleb Banzer, 19, Brayden Fear, 19, Unidentified, Unidentified, Antonio Davila Rodriguez, 40, Unidentified, Unidentified, Unidentified, Unidentified, Malik Isaac Belcha, 23, Dana Deardorf, Brady Roy Wehage, 22, Unidentified, Unidentified

Chair Gonzalez provided updates on the Cascadia High Speed Rail Project.

Clackamas County Commissioner Paul Savas commented that he has lost three family members to fatalities and that many people that have suffered from life changing injuries from traffic accidents.

Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Gonzalez noted that there were two items on the consent agenda, the Consideration of the November 16, 2023 JPACT Minutes and Resolution No. 23-5372, For the Purpose of Adding to the MTIP Fifteen New Project Awards Plus Amending and Canceling Four ODOT Projects to Meet Federal Delivery.

**MOTION:** City of Vancouver Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by C-Tran Chief Executive Officer Shawn Donaghy.

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

Seeing no further discussion, Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

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

### **5.1 Safe Streets for All Transportation Safety**

Chair Gonzalez introduced Metro staff Catherine Ciarlo (she/her) and Lake McTighe (she/they) to present.

Ciarlo gave an overview of the Streets for All (SS4A) program and noted that the region has one of the lowest traffic fatality rates in the country. She mentioned that traffic deaths are increasing and disproportionately impacts lower income people and communities of color. Ciarlo thanked the committee members for their work.

McTighe explained the actions between the Metro Council and JPACT and the Streets for All (SS4A) program grants. She mentioned the Safe System approach, how the approach has reduced serious crashes and partnering with public health for safe people. McTighe mentioned that the Portland region has one of the lowest fatality rates in the US, but that traffic deaths are increasing. They noted the focus on reducing serious crashes and explained that people of color, poorer areas and people walking are disproportionately impacted. McTighe noted that speed and intoxication are leading contributing factors and the role of larger and heavier passenger vehicles. She explained that urban arterials pose the greatest risk and what actions that JPACT can take.

Chair Gonzalez raised concerns that the number of deaths is increasing.

Commissioner Savas mentioned Clackamas County's Drive to Zero. He also raised concerns about the safety of people on trails and on transit. Commissioner Savas suggested that they also consider injuries that occurred on or near transit that are not vehicle related.

McTighe noted that they want to look at all modes and that the number of people killed or injured on transit is small. She mentioned that riding transit is the safest mode, but getting to transit needs improvement.

City of Cornelius Mayor Jef Dalin suggested looking at the policies that have contributed to the increasing fatality rate. He raised concerns about the lack of investment to get people off the highways and diversion.

Chair Gonzalez commented that having more highways was not the solution.

ODOT Regional Manager Rian Windsheimer noted that the fatality rate goes up exponentially as speed increases. He mentioned that pedestrian fatalities along high-speed streets have increase and ODOT's fatality elimination goal by 2050. He suggested investing regional flexible funds into safety projects.

Multnomah County Commissioner Jesse Beason discussed the intersection of public health and transportation safety. He suggested considering revenue sharing to mitigate the impacts to safety on streets and arterials cause by diversion. He asked if the increase in fatalities is worse than other regions across the country. He also asked about how they are considering heavy electric vehicles.

McTighe noted that fatalities are rising across the country, but other countries have declining fatality rates. They mentioned the correlation between Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and traffic crashes.

Commissioner Beason also asked if there was any data on the deeper psychology of crashes besides distraction by technology.

McTighe noted that there are many contributing factors for crashes. She explained that interventions like separation between users, slower speeds and expanding transit can help create a safer system.

McTighe added that the negative impacts of heavier vehicles will increase. They mentioned focusing on the systemic changes that help reduce the harm of crashes as a counterbalance to those heavier vehicles.

City of Gresham Mayor Travis Stovall suggested rebalancing of transportation investments in the region to prioritize areas with more traffic accident deaths. He commented on the need for more funding and to expand public transit. Mayor Stovall added that roundabouts can decrease fatal accidents at intersections. He asked if the homeless population is also disproportionately impacted.

McTighe noted that the houseless population is disproportionately impacted, but most of the deaths are still by motor vehicle. She mentioned some examples of the interventions that can be made to reduce traffic deaths and make it safer for homeless people, such as lower traffic speeds and protected bikeways.

Metro Councilor Christine Lewis suggested looking at how other systems function as they do future investments. She also suggested getting data on fatal and serious injury crashes that are caused by people not abiding by the rules of the road or behaving normally.

McTighe mentioned that they are looking into developing a regional safety prediction model. They noted that safety prediction models can include factors such as level of education and percent of the population. McTighe added that they could look at systemic changes that can reduce harm when people make mistakes in an urban environment.

Chair Gonzalez announced that the Regional Freight Delay and Commodities Movement Study Update will be moved to the January meeting.

Commissioner Savas commented that intoxicated people take various mode of travel that causes accidents. He added that the data is based on reported accidents and that the data does not factor in the entire system.

Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Millicent Williams commented that they need to ensure that the choices people make do not result in them potentially dying. She mentioned the potential impacts of tolling, such as diversion and more people on the arterials.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Administrator Ali Mirzakhilili noted that the RTP does not have models to predict crashes yet. He asked what is being done to develop these tools.

McTighe noted that they used their partners, who are developing projects, to do a cost benefit analysis and to understand the safety impacts of the individual projects. She mentioned that if JPACT and the Metro Council are interested, they can look into a regional planning models that could predict the safety investments. McTighe added that it is challenging to predict overall at the regional planning level.

Washington Department of Transportation Southwest Regional Administrator Carly Francis responded to Commissioner Beason's question about electric vehicles by mentioning the importance of vehicle design and where the weight of the vehicle is loaded.

Ciarlo explained that they have a lot of data from other places that show what kinds of tools work to address serious injury crashes. She noted that those tools focus on separation of vulnerable people from less vulnerable ways of travel and they tend to focus on speed. Ciarlo commented on the importance of investment into these tools to see better safety outcomes.

Washington County Commissioner Nafisa Fai agreed with the comments about system improvements and address the behavior. She asked if they could do an education campaign for the more problematic corridors. Commissioner Fai mentioned witnessing a family crossing a railroad to get to the bus stop on TV Highway and asked how to fix some of the loopholes that exist.

Chair Gonzalez summarized the comments and suggestions from the committee members. He mentioned that there will be a large transportation package conversation in 2025 and hoped that they continue to prioritize safety.

Seeing no further discussion, Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

## **5.2 Sunrise Corridor Visioning Project Update**

Chair Gonzalez introduced Metro Staff Kelly Betteridge (she/her) and Clackamas County staff Jaime Stasny (she/her) to present.

Betteridge noted changes over time to the Sunrise Corridor through sharing her and her family's experiences.

Stasny discussed the land acknowledgement, where the project area is, and the history of the corridor. She mentioned past studies done in the corridor and the transportation outcomes from past work. Stasny discussed the context of the present local community, the visioning overview, and the visioning goals. She noted the project timeline, their partners, and their engagement outreach.

Commissioner Savas noted that safety is a priority for the Sunrise Corridor. He explained that there is a large concentration of people on the south side of Highway 212, but the only way for these people to get

to services or to schools on the north side of the highway is by car.

Councilor Lewis commented on the intentionality of talking to the community and making sure that people are not being displaced. She also discussed the challenges of having various land uses in the corridor and finding transportation solutions.

Windsheimer mentioned the various needs that have to be accommodated for in the corridor, like for the Fred Meyer distribution center and for schools. He looked forward to I

Mirzakhilili asked about the makeup and selection process for the steering committee.

Stasny explained the steering committee will be 20 members and will include local jurisdictions, TriMet, community members, interested parties and their leadership cohort. She added that applications will be due on Friday and the selection process will begin next week.

Seeing no further discussion, Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

### **5.3 Regional Freight Delay and Commodities Movement Study Update**

This item was moved to the January JPACT meeting.

### **5.4 JPACT 2024 Workplan Process Preview**

Chair Gonzalez introduced Metro staff Catherine Ciarlo to present.

Ciarlo discussed the proposed work plan highlights and the RTP implementation work.

Chair Gonzalez asked that committee members send him and Metro staff items that they want to see or to prioritize for next year.

Seeing no further discussion, Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

## **6. UPDATES FROM JPACT MEMBERS**

There were no updated from the JPACT members.

## **7. ADJORN**

Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jemeshia Taylor  
Recording Secretary

12/14/2023

Minutes 6

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2023**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>
3.0	Presentation	12/14/2023	Fatal Crash Slide	121423-01
5.1	Presentation	12/14/2023	Safe Streets for All Presentation	121423-02
5.2	Presentation	12/14/2023	Sunrise Corridor Community Visioning Presentation	121423-03
5.4	Presentation	12/14/2023	2024 JPACT Workplan Process Presentation	121423-04