



**Metro**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

# Meeting minutes

Meeting: **Tualatin Valley Highway Steering Committee meeting**

Date/time: Thursday, September 8, 2022 | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Place: Virtual webinar meeting held via Zoom

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## **Members, Alternates Attending**

Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Co-chair  
Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Co-chair  
Councilor Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg  
Commissioner Nafisa Fai  
Commissioner Jerry Willey  
Councilor Rick Van Beveren  
Mayor Jeffrey Dalin  
Mayor Pete Truax  
Rian Windsheimer  
JC Vanatta  
Ernesto Olivia  
Maria Dolores Torres  
Maria Caballero-Rubio  
Karmen Chavez-Sam

## **Affiliate**

Metro  
Metro  
City of Beaverton  
Washington County  
Washington County  
City of Hillsboro  
City of Cornelius  
City of Forest Grove  
ODOT  
TriMet  
Unite Oregon  
Adelante Mujeres  
Centro Cultural  
APANO

## **Panelists Attending**

Eryn Kehe  
Malu Wilkinson  
Yuliya Lee  
Tanja Olson  
Michaela Skiles  
Jessica Zdeb  
Jonathan Plowman  
Bernadette Le  
David Aulwes

## **Affiliate**

Metro  
Metro  
Metro  
Metro  
Metro  
Metro  
TriMet  
TriMet  
TriMet

## **Welcome and introductions** (Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Metro)

Co-chair Councilor Gonzalez called meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Committee members proceeded to introduce themselves. Ms. Eryn Kehe, Metro, reminded the committee members and attendees about Zoom webinar logistics. Councilor Gonzalez noted that there were not any fatal crashes on TV Highway since the committee's July meeting. He introduced new Tualatin Valley (TV) Highway project manager, Ms. Jessica Zdeb, Metro, and thanked Ms. Eryn Kehe, Metro, for her work.

Ms. Jessica Zdeb, Metro, thanked Councilor Gonzalez for introductions and gave a brief overview of her personal experience using transit and bicycle in the corridor to better understand the work that needs to be done there.

Co-chair Juan Carlos Gonzalez asked the committee for approval of the meeting summaries from May 12, 2022 and July 14, 2022. With all in favor, the meeting summaries were accepted unanimously.

**Presentation: Corridor characteristics** (Michaela Skiles, Metro)

Ms. Michaela Skiles, Metro, started presentation with a brief description of where TV Highway fits within Regional High-Capacity Transit (HTC) Network and defined project's study area. She continued her presentation with an overview of line 57, which included:

- Frequent Service route (15-minute frequencies most of the day)
- As of Spring 2022
  - 5<sup>th</sup> highest ridership in TriMet bus network
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> most productive TriMet bus line

Ms. Skiles elaborated on details concerning ridership and shared the results of Fall 2021 Line 57 rider survey. This survey asked respondents to answer demographics questions and consider their first transit ride of the day to answer others. Findings included:

- 1/3 took survey in Spanish
- Over half identified as people of color
- Almost 2/3 earn below 200 percent of the federal poverty level
- 70 percent of respondents don't have car access
- Half of trips are for work
- 75 percent walk to/from Line 57 stops

Ms. Skiles continued with an overview of the corridor's land use, population and employment density, and projected population and employment growth. She noted that corridor has high low-income population and communities of color, and higher proportion of residents with limited English proficiency. Ms. Skiles pointed out that most of the corridor is within Metro-defined Equity Focus Areas, identified in Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and explained where affordable housing is located within the corridor. She concluded her presentation with an overview of household characteristics and shared what other data is being collected to present to the Technical and Policy Work Groups, and Steering Committee.

**Discussion** (Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Metro)

The committee members were asked the following discussion questions:

- Is there anything that surprises you about these findings?
- Is this a good start to supporting decision-making about the project?
- Is there any additional local data that may help inform our analysis?

The committee members inquired about getting additional information on what defines gathering places for people of color, if there is a substantial portion of the work commuters traveling from the Hillsboro Center, if there would be any impact to agricultural lands in the corridor and how Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) land exchange might impact the project. In addition, the committee members asked for additional data on populations with different physical abilities.

Concerns were expressed about population displacement and impacts on the community, having to prioritize the need for High-Capacity Transit (HCT) and equity, personal security and safety at bus stops. In addition, committee members commented on importance of getting freight users engaged early in the process and that current decisions should consider future industrial and commercial developments in and around the corridor.

**HOPE grant schedule** (Eryn Kehe, Metro)

Ms. Eryn Kehe gave an overview of the project’s timeline and elaborated on the steering committee’s participation in the current stage of the project. She noted that presented timeline is a rough estimate, however, it gives the committee members a general idea of the project’s milestones and what will be expected of them.

Councilor Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg, City of Beaverton, inquired about the process of securing local funds for the project. Ms. Kehe responded that conversations about funding start at the staff level and will begin shortly. Ms. Malu Wilkinson, Metro, agreed with Ms. Kehe, and assured the committee that conversations about funding for project development will occur in the coming months.

Mr. JC Vanatta, TriMet, asked Ms. Kehe to elaborate about Small Starts funding and what it means to the steering committee. Ms. Kehe explained that Small Starts is a grant program of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The grant would require 50/50 local match funding, and in the past projects it proved to be successful mechanism for securing federal funds.

Commissioner Nafisa Fai, Washington County, inquired if Ms. Kehe could explain the process of environmental review and asked if there would be opportunities for the community involvement in the process. Ms. Kehe stated that environmental review is a required process when applying for federal funding and project staff working closely with FTA to determine the level of detail that will be required for that review. She also noted that there would be numerous opportunities for the communities to be involved in various stages of the project.

Ms. Kehe concluded her presentation with a detailed overview of project’s timeline from current stage to approval of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).

Councilor Rick Van Beveren, City of Hillsboro, inquired if LPA is determined by the Steering Committee or just recommended, and if LPA recommendation would be for the entire TV Highway corridor. Ms. Kehe responded that the Committee will make a recommendation for the LPA to be included in the Regional Transportation Plan which is eventually approved by Metro Council. Ms. Kehe also responded that Metro has been advised by FTA that moving an LPA of entire corridor forward would be the best course of action.

**Presentation: Public Involvement Plan** (Bernadette Le, TriMet, and Eryn Kehe, Metro)

Ms. Bernadette Le started presentation by sharing TV Highway project’s goal, which is to create a concept design that, “is supported by the community, in particular transit riders and communities of color.” She shared public involvement principles, which included:

- Transparency and trust with the public
- Equitable opportunity for participation

- Plans reflect meaningful community feedback
- Key stakeholders' sense of ownership in project outcomes
- Participation by a diverse cross-section of the community along TV Highway

Ms. Le explained that target audience would consist of:

- Transit riders, in particular communities of color and low-income communities
- Spanish-speaking population
- People under the age of 18
- Families with children
- Transit riders who use mobility devices

Ms. Eryn Kehe continued presentation by introducing community partners in outreach, which included APANO, Adelante Mujeres, Unite Oregon, Bienestar, Centro Cultural, and Muslim Educational Trust. She elaborated on planned various involvement activities, such as:

- Information sharing
- Community workshops for Equitable Development Strategy (EDS)
- Concept plan online engagement
- Steering Committee hearing
- Translation

Ms. Kehe proceeded to give an overview of three different phases of the project, which included:

**Phase One – Summer/Fall 2022:**

- Communicate the need for faster, safer, and more reliable transit along TV Highway
- Describe project goals and decision-making process
- Share information on project timeline and data collected
- First EDS workshop

**Phase Two – Winter 2022/2023:**

- Describe project process and concepts
- Gather and review public input from EDS community workshops
- Second EDS workshop

**Phase Three – Spring 2023:**

- Describe project process and concepts
- Gather and review public input from EDS community workshops
- Online engagement tool
- Third EDS workshop
- Public hearing

**Discussion** (Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Metro)

The committee members were asked the following discussion questions:

- Are there specific groups or individuals that you recommend involving?
- Are there engagement strategies you know work well in your community?

The committee members commented on the importance of using various languages in its community outreach activities, shared additional information on specific scheduling of outreach events to ensure community's feedback is received prior to the committee's decision-making, and follow-up feedback

opportunities are provided. Update was requested on Equitable Development Strategy and on any safety improvements that are planned or being implemented in the corridor. Concerns were raised about possible negative impacts on drivers and the freight community. The committee members emphasized the importance of including them in the process of providing feedback to ensure informed decision-making.

**Public comment**

No public comment was submitted.

**Next steps** (Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Metro)

There being no further business, co-chair Juan Carlos Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Yuliya Lee, TV Highway Steering Committee Recorder

Attachments to the Public Record, TV Highway Steering Committee meeting, July 14, 2022

Item	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1	Agenda	9/8/2022	09/08/2022 TV Highway Steering Committee meeting agenda	090822TVHSC-01
2	Document	9/8/2022	05/12/2022 TV Highway Steering Committee meeting minutes	090822TVHSC-02
2	Document	9/8/2022	07/14/2022 TV Highway Steering Committee meeting minutes	090822TVHSC-03
2	Document	8/19/2022	Memo – TV Highway Characteristics Draft 8/19/22	090822TVHSC-04
2	Document	8/25/2022	Schedule graphic – Draft 8/25/22	090822TVHSC-05
2	Document	8/19/2022	Public Involvement Plan 8/19/22	090822TVHSC-06