



600 NE Grand Ave.  
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oregonmetro.gov

JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2024

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Juan Carlos González  
Christine Lewis  
Ashton Simpson  
Paul Savas  
Nafisa Fai  
Carley Francis  
Anne McEnery-Ogle  
Ali Mirzakhali  
Steve Callaway  
Jesse Beason  
Mingus Mapps  
Joe Buck  
Sam Desue  
Rian Windsheimer  
Travis Stovall

AFFILIATION

Metro Council  
Metro Council  
Metro Council  
Clackamas County  
Washington County  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
City of Vancouver  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
Cities of Washington County  
Multnomah County  
City of Portland  
Cities of Clackamas County  
TriMet  
ODOT  
City of Gresham

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Curtis Robinhold  
Shawn Donaghy

AFFILIATION

Port of Portland  
C-Tran

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Scott Patterson  
Jef Dalin  
JC Vanatta  
Brett Sherman  
Michael Orman  
Scott Langer  
Chris Ford

AFFILIATION

C-Tran  
Cities of Washington County  
TriMet  
Cities of Clackamas County  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
ODOT

OTHERS PRESENT: Sarah Iannarone, COHV, Mike Manson, Gerik Kransky, Dwight Brashear, John Charles, Neelam Dorman, Mandy Putney, Brenda Bartlett, Katherine Kelly, Adriana Antelo, Sara, Ken Lobeck, J Stasny, Doug Allen, Cody Field, Leann Caver, Leah Navarro, Jeff Gudman, Eric Hesse, Cynthia Casto, Matt Ransom, Rebecca Stavenjord, Mark Ottenad, Margi Bradway, Michael Orman, Karen Buehrig, Cindy Pederson, Lakeeyscia Griffin, Derek Bradley, Jean Senechal Biggs, Monica Krueger, Kate Hawkins, Tom Markgraf, Ashley Bryers, Lindsay Baker, Jason Nolin, Eliot Rose, Sarah Paulus, Allison Boyd, Mike Bezner, Tracey Lam, Tara OBrien, Mike McCarthy, Shoshana Cohen, Jess Zdeb, Kate Hawkins

STAFF: Connor Ayers, Georgia Langer, Catherine Ciarlo, Betsy Emery, Michelle Bellia, Malu Wilkinson, Jake Lovell, Eryn Kehe, Ally Holmqvist, Caleb Winter, Kim Ellis, Kelly Betteridge, Victor Sin, Jenna Jones, Lisa Hunrichs, Grace Cho, Ramona Perrault, Lake McTighe, Tom Kloster, Jaye Cromwell, Marielle Bossio

**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.

Sarah Iannarone, The Street Trust, thanked Metro and shared that they can keep moving forward for how they are going to generate revenue.

Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

**3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR**

Chair Gonzalez introduced Catherine Ciarlo, who shared the fatal traffic accidents that have occurred since the last meeting.

Chair Gonzalez introduced Betsy Emery, who shared the agenda for the DC Trip.

JPACT Member Discussion:

Paul Savas asked when they will have an opportunity to determine their joint message.

Betsy Emery responded that they have a robust table of partners that have been involved in the planning work, and they have been collaborating with them on shared messaging. She shared that the key themes are not much different from last year and that they are looking at revitalizing their local economy and communities through transportation planning, and having a transportation system that's safe, mobility, improving mobility options to

increase access to low carbon transit. She added that another goal is maintaining and rebuilding critical transportation infrastructure.

Commissioner Paul Savas asked if they will have an opportunity to look at what they put together to make sure that it is an accurate reflection of what they all want to do. He shared that he wants to make sure that their needs are reflected in a way that they all agree.

Catherine Ciarlo responded that they will brief folks in April, but that the board should not hesitate to reach out and request to be briefed prior to that as well. She added that they will continue to talk about the theme of shared priorities and project priorities as they talk at the state level as well.

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Gonzalez noted that there were two items on the consent agenda, Resolution No. 24-5395 For the Purpose of Adding a New ODOT Carbon Funded Signal System Project Grouping to the 2024-27 MTIP to Meet Federal Transportation Project Delivery Requirements and Consideration of the February 15, 2024, JPACT Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** Commissioner Mingus Mapps moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle

**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 Regional Transportation Priorities and Funding: ODOT Presentation on Operations and Maintenance Funding**

Chair Gonzalez introduced Catherine Ciarlo, Metro and Lindsay Baker, ODOT to present on the 2027-2030 MTIP Program Direction and Work Presentation

Presentation summary:

Catherine Ciarlo shared the work plan and discussed that they have a series of informational presentations to ground JPACT members to ground them in the current state of transportation affairs.

Presenters shared the 2024 Transportation Priorities and Funding Workplan review.

Lindsay Baker discussed the 2025 Transportation Package Needs. The presenter shared the 2023-25 ODOT legislative budget, state highway fund sources and uses, HB 2017 funding distribution, as well as the structural funding challenges of the State highway fund. They shared ODOT's mission and priority focus, ODOT's core investments, and future needs.

JPACT Member Discussion:

Carly Francis shared that she appreciates the leadership and the work that is being done to take the information out of silos to create more unified efforts towards a shared goal and simplifying the information to make it accessible to a large audience.

Commissioner Paul Savas discussed the STIF and the legislative intent of HB 2017. He noted that in Clackamas County, they have not seen apportionment of those funds into areas where those employees live. Commissioner Savas shared that they were initially very excited about the revenue, but that the barriers may be due to state rules. He stated that he hopes they can tweak that because of the issues that the apportionment brings. Commissioner Savas shared that he would like to agree and see a path towards solving those problems, and that he hopes that the local jurisdictions will have an opportunity to talk about the challenges so that they are in closer alignment than they are today.

Mayor Joe Buck noted that without general obligation bonds, which also compete for the needs of schools, they do not have a lot of funds and there is a great need to meet these comprehensive needs of a complete system. He noted that there is so much money going into HB 2017, but they are not equitably seeing those results playing out, and that they need a path forward to see when and how they will see improvements to the transit system. He asked what the roadmap is to get there. Mayor Buck also asked what the funding gap is for paying per vehicle.

Lindsay Baker responded that the funding gap question is something that they have questioned a lot, and while she doesn't have an answer at this time, they are working on it. Baker added that they may look at a yield calculator, but it would be based off existing mechanisms that are in place today, they would have to accommodate and control for the fact that there are local gas tax fees across the state already, and they would not be considering what future mechanisms would yield.

Mayor Buck responded that no one knows what they are paying in the gas tax, but that these are important numbers. He added that helping people see that they are paying lower gas taxes than in previous years is important and thanked Baker for the information.

Baker shared that in HB 2017, the legislature created the payroll tax, which was less than six dollars a month. She shared that the outcome of that creates increased transit service in people's area.

Chair Gonzalez shared that it is important to be able to give the public the information to be part of this discussion and the solution.

Catherine Ciarlo shared that the RTP pull projects from local transportation system plans, and those in turn are often informed by these regional issue plans or topic plans that Metro puts together. Ciarlo added that Metro is almost done with the micro mobility, or micro transit study, which they expect to be complete within about 18 months. She noted that this will start helping feed the pipeline of projects that will fill in the gaps that Commissioner Savas and Mayor Buck brought up.

Christine Lewis noted that she expected the presentation to share how long they have before they hit the gas tax cliff. She asked how long they have before the gas tax funding will become a critical issue.

Baker responded that they have been in a decline in providing services with maintenance. She shared that they are already seeing a gap, and that they were planning to start on taking the external service facing reductions now. She shared that in the 25-27 biennium, that session will be where if they do not find a way to provide

some level of sustainability and resiliency and structural solvency, they will need to take public facing service cuts, which is why the 2025 session is so important for them. Baker added that if they cannot come to a solution by 2025, the cuts will create an even deeper decline in services.

Councilor Lewis asked if they could share the most updated version of their information on that.

Baker responded that they would make sure people have the most updated version of that soon.

Mayor Jef Dalin noted that one cent of gas tax generates \$22.5 Million of increased income. He noted that gas went up this week, and that there was no panic from residents. Mayor Dalin shared that while they get a lot of pushbacks from the trucking industry, they all need to come together on supporting the legislature with increasing the gas tax. He also noted that they have a thriving economy in Oregon, and that the kicker is huge this year. Mayor Dalin noted that they should get the entire state on board by getting projects that affect the entire state on the list of priorities so that the legislature will support it.

Commissioner Savas thanked Ciarlo for her response. He noted that people are severely underserved in some areas, adding that people are paying for things but do not get anything in return. Commissioner Savas stated that some people overpay, and some underpay, and that there are those who are underserved and those who are overserved. He noted that there are a lot of problems there and stated that it calls into question how they will approach this issue. He asked for more information on administrative costs. Commissioner Savas stated that if the locals were more involved and working hand in hand with the state previously, they may have been in a better place, and that they should involve locals in the future.

Baker agreed with with Commissioner Savas and stated that they have fewer than 1000 vehicles in their road use charge program. She shared that they would have a higher administrative overhead cost but that less than one percent of total revenues are spent on administration. She noted that they are happy to come back to discuss the road use charge program in greater depth.

Chair Gonzalez shared that there is a desire to discuss long term revenue and restructuring solutions.

Ali Mirzakhaili stated that they need to keep the outcomes in mind. He noted the fee for EV registration, stating that they need to make sure that the parts of the government are not in conflict with each other. He asked what else they can do and noted that they should not shy away from complicated formula and discussions.

Commissioner Jesse Beason asked who oversees understanding the public needs, doing public-will building, and creating public interest in acting. He also asked if there has been a conversation of charging EVs through charging stations. Commissioner Beason asked what other countries have done in terms of disincentivizing driving. He reiterated Councilor Lewis' point that they should do one big difficult thing once and work together.

Baker shared that the conversation about public-will building is very important and that the question about public will is a reason for why she is here, stating that they need to identify the priority and determine what the broader public campaign is.

Rian Windsheimer stated that sharing the video that was played in the presentation is a step that people can take to create public understanding. He noted that sharing outward and inward is very important.

Chair Gonzalez shared that he wants to build a regional vision and work together with jurisdictions that are also experiencing these issues to create tangible change.

Commissioner Nafisa Fai noted that she has not heard anyone expressing that they do not want to work with ODOT, which is a testament that everyone is in this together to solve this problem. She noted that they need to set priorities and levels of expectations, asking when they will do that and who will oversee it.

Ciarlo responded that Commissioner Fai's question is exactly the type of question that they were hoping would emerge from these conversations. Ciarlo noted that between June and July, JPACT will start to inform some regional principles and priorities, but that ODOT shared the need for a sustainable funding source today. She noted that many local agencies are struggling with maintenance and operations funding, and that those could become priorities. Ciarlo noted that they have a couple of presentations coming up on the HB 2017 projects as well as alternative funding mechanisms. Ciarlo added that there will be trade offs and the region will need to be clear in what they want and support in terms of funding sources.

Commissioner Fai shared that they have hard problems to solve ahead of them, and Washington County looks forward to helping.

Francis asked how they will finish what they have started while looking at the problems that are actively emerging. She asked how they will make the values of maintenance and operations meaningful and clear to the public.

Chair Gonzalez noted that finishing what they started, operations and maintenance are important, as well as all the new projects they would like to begin make things very difficult.

Commissioner Mingus Mapps shared that he agrees that the state transportation system is intertwined with local transportation systems and that they need to move forward together. He noted that operations and maintenance are very important, especially after the ice storm which set them back. Commissioner Mapps noted that there are so many projects they need to get done while also filling potholes. Commissioner Mapps shared that the politics and economics are very difficult, and that failure is not an option. He stated that Portland will be at the table to help the partners figure out how to move forward. Commissioner Mapps added that they should move towards indexing for inflation. He also shared that the pilot project for vehicle miles traveled will be a solution, and that they should stay on track to get there.

Sam Desue shared that he is becoming more aware of the magnitude of the problem that is upon them and noted that the worst potential outcome is that the legislature does not pass a transportation package in 2025. Desue shared that they all need to work collaboratively on this and bring in labor, freight, construction, and other business communities to discuss this so that they can win bipartisan support.

Windsheimer mentioned that while it is important that they talk about this, they need to start the next phase of helping build the level of understanding with the public, talking with partners, and meeting with the legislature. Windsheimer noted that there was a lot of transportation needs in 2017 and they were able to pass their needs in the legislature due to their conversations with the legislators.

Chair Gonzalez shared that they will likely invite the ODOT team back this year and thanked Lindsay Baker for her presentation.

**6. UPDATES FROM JPACT MEMBERS**

There were no updates provided from the JPACT members.

**7. ADJORN**

Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 9:19 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Georgia Langer*

Georgia Langer,  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2024**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>
3.0	Presentation	03/21/2024	Fatal Crash Slide	032124-01
5.1	Presentation	03/21/2024	2025 Transportation Needs: ODOT Presentation	032124-02