### Agenda





Meeting: Regional Emergency Transportation Routes (RETR) Ph 2: Technical

Workshop 1

Date: Monday, March 10, 2025 Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Place: Zoom Meeting ID: 830 7608 9109; Passcode: 977235

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83076089109?pwd=jDZ1b0C73dkbV8NuRP1iU

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Purpose: Introduce the project and gather input to help develop a methodology for

tiering/prioritizing Regional Emergency Transportation Routes

Outcome(s): Participants orient themselves to the project and share ideas to help the

project team develop a prioritization methodology

2:00 p.m. Welcome! Introductions and Agenda Review

(Tom Kloster, Metro / John Mermin, Metro)

2:15 p.m. Project Background, Approach and Timeline

(John Mermin, Metro/Carol Chang, RDPO)

2:35 p.m. Small Breakout groups (Briana Calhoun, Fehr & Peers)

- Ice Breaker: How do you see the ETR designations impacting your work or emergency response processes?
- In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, what roadways do you need open first and why?
- What key locations do you need to get to first?
- What are the biggest logistical challenges in responding to an emergency?
- Who are we missing from these discussions that are part of the initial response decisions and communications?

3:20 p.m. Report back from small groups (Tom Kloster, Metro)

3:50 p.m. Next Steps (Carol Chang, RDPO)

- Community Based Organization (CBO) workshop April 3
- Project workgroup meeting April 10
- Develop draft prioritization methodology to share at next technical workshop in June date TBD

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www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights<sup>1</sup>
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# Regional emergency transportation routes (ETR) update | Phase 2

Prioritizing and tiering the network routes

Disasters, both natural and human-caused, can happen anytime, and the transportation system needs to be prepared to withstand them and support lifesaving and life-sustaining activities.

#### **Project overview**

New technology, data and mapping have greatly expanded the region's understanding of potential hazard risks, including earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, floods, volcanoes and other extreme weather events

Coordinated emergency management planning helps mitigate the risks these hazards pose to the public health and safety of communities and the region's economic prosperity and quality of life. Identifying emergency transportation routes is a critical element of emergency preparedness for the region.

First designated in 1996, regional Emergency Transportation Routes (ETRs) are travel routes that, in case of a major regional emergency or natural disaster, would be prioritized for rapid damage assessment and debris-removal to aid the movement of first responders, people who need medical care, fuel, supplies and equipment.

#### **Outcomes from Phase 1**

From 2019 to 2021, Metro partnered with the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) on the first phase of the project to reassess and update the designated RETRs for the five-county Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region, which includes Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah and Washington counties in Oregon and Clark County in Washington. Before that, the last update occurred in 2006.

The primary outcome of the first phase was a regionally-accepted network made up of 1,204 miles over 195 total routes connecting over 75% of state and regional critical infrastructure and essential facilities.



There were 89 new routes totaling 305 miles added to the network. Visit the <u>RDPO project</u> page to view the route maps and detailed regional ETR data charts.

Criteria across the following three dimensions were used to identify the best regional routes for emergency response during a seismic event

- Connectivity and access to regional assets and from state to local routes
- Route infrastructure resilience to multiple natural hazards
- Equitable access to vulnerable and isolated communities

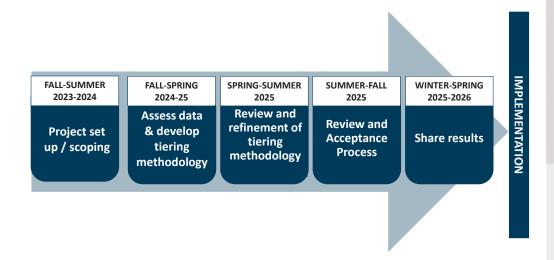
#### **Desired outcome for Phase 2**

This second planning phase will build on the previous work on regional ETRs by developing a tiering methodology and prioritization framework to inform which routes among the identified regional ETRs should be evaluated, cleared and opened first, next and last in a catastrophic scenario; and to guide on-going maintenance and capital investments to ensure top tier routes are increasingly resilient.



#### Project timeline and decision-making

Phase 2 scoping began in fall 2023 and the project is expected to be completed in spring 2026. Project recommendations will be brought forward for review and endorsement consideration by regional policymakers, including the RDPO Steering Committee, the RDPO Policy Committee, the Metro Council, Metro Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Southwest Regional Transportation Council (RTC).



#### **Project phases**

- **Fall 2023 to summer 2024**: Project set up and scoping
- Fall 2024 to spring 2025: Assess data and develop tiering methodology
- Spring to summer 2025: Review and refinement of tiering methodology
- **Summer to fall 2025**: Review and acceptance process
- Winter 2025 to spring 2026: Share results

#### Partnerships and collaboration

The regional ETR update project is co-led by the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) at the City of Portland and Metro and will be supported by a number of local, regional and state partners, as well as a consultant.

As in Phase 1, Phase 2 will rely on existing RDPO and Metro technical committees and working groups, as well as briefings to county-level technical coordinating committees to engage individual cities within each county in a coordinated manner.

Other agencies and groups will be engaged and consulted as key stakeholders due to their roles in emergency response and/or critical infrastructure and social services for vulnerable populations, including community-based organizations and RDPO discipline-specific work groups.

This project is a collaboration between public, private and non-profit stakeholders, co-led by the five-county, bi-state Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) and Oregon Metro, the metropolitan planning organization designated by the Governor of Oregon to serve the urban portions of Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties.

Funding for this project is being provided by an Urban Areas Security Initiative grant.

#### Questions?

For more information contact:

#### **Carol Chang**

Senior planning coordinator RDPO

carol.chang@portlandoregon.gov

#### John Mermin

Senior transportation planner Oregon Metro john.mermin@oregonmetro.gov

rdpo.net/emergency-transportation-routes

Materials following this page were distributed at the meeting.





### REGIONAL EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION ROUTES PHASE II

TECHNICAL WORKSHOP 1 | MARCH 10, 2025







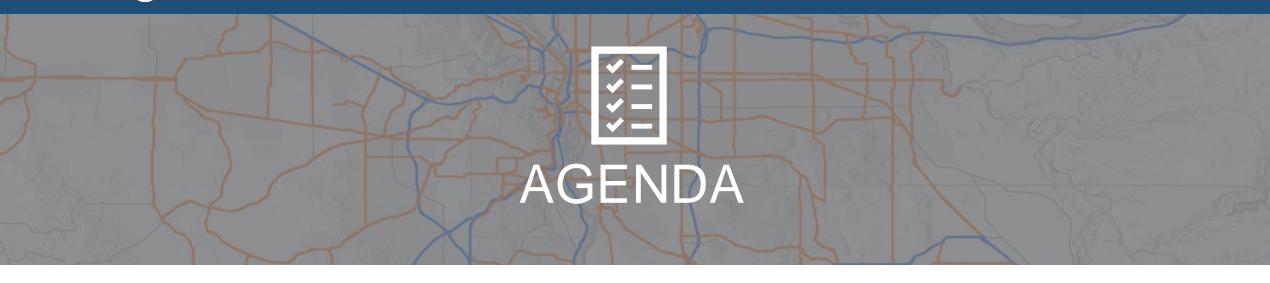


## WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS











Welcome & Introductions



Project Background



Approach & **Timeline** 



Breakout Groups



Report Back



Wrap-Up & Next Steps







- Introduce the project
- Bring together a broader audience representing more disciplines than we have at our project work group (transportation planning & emergency management)
  - Fire / Emergency Medical Services
  - Law Enforcement
  - Public works / Utilities
- Gather input that will inform development of a methodology for tiering/prioritizing Regional Emergency Transportation Routes to share at 2nd workshop in June













## **Emergency Transportation Routes**

ETRs are priority surface roads targeted during an emergency for:

- rapid damage assessment
- debris clearance or repair
- life-saving and life-sustaining response activities

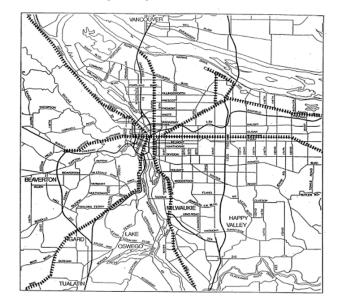
An ETR designation may also factor into long term maintenance and investment decisions.





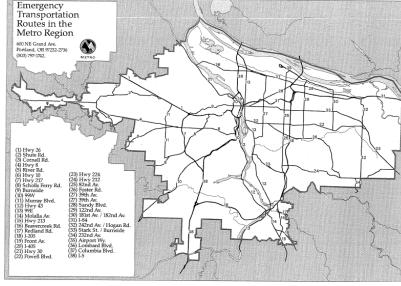
### **Brief History**

### Designated Emergency Lifeline Corridors (1994)

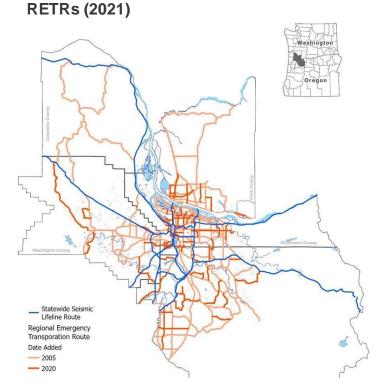


- 3 counties
- 6 routes identified
- Mainly N/S, E/W

#### **Emergency Transportation Routes (1996)**



- 3 counties
- First ETRs
- Relatively simple criteria
   flat, state owned, low land slide potential



- Expanded to 5 counties
- Considered connectivity & access, route resilience, community & equity





### ETR Project Overview

- Joint Metro and RDPO led effort
- Phase 1 work (2019 2021) updated the network in 5county region
- Phase 2 work (2024 2026) prioritize and tier network routes (called out in Metro's RTP chapter 8)
  - Data review and assessment
  - Workshops and engagement
  - Develop and apply methodology
- Out of scope evacuation or recovery planning, establishing operational guidelines, funding decision















## Methods of Partner Engagement

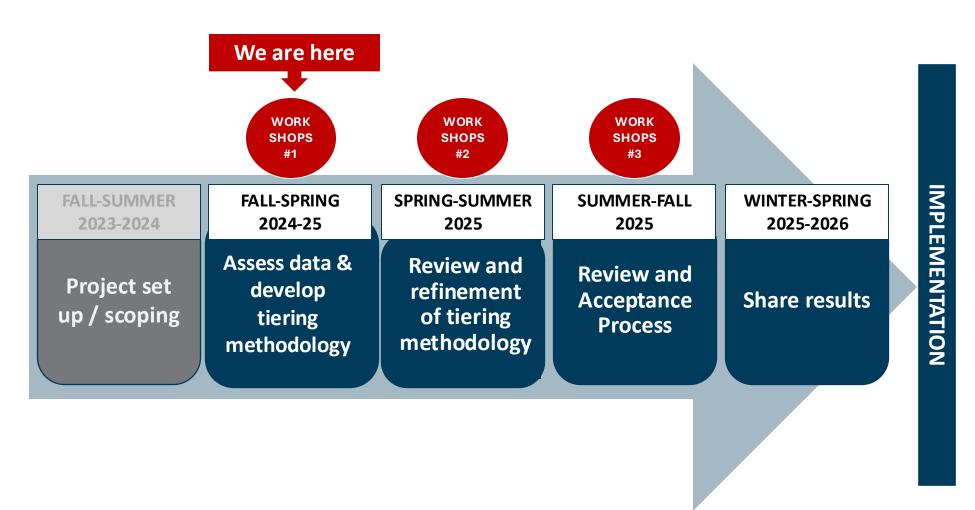
- Quarterly project work group
- Hold technical workshops to develop and refine prioritization criteria
- Engage community organizations to get input from disaster vulnerable populations
- Tribal Government informal consultation
- Briefings to technical and policy group at Metro (TPAC, MTAC, JPACT, Council) and RDPO committees /work groups







### Approach & Timeline

















### **Breakout Groups Logistics**

- Groups have been sorted into groups of 6-8 people by similar interest/function
- 40 minutes for discussion
- Each group will have a facilitator
- We're asking for a volunteer in each group to report back for your group (~3 mins) when we come together
- Those not participating in small groups are welcome to tune back in after they wrap up to hear the report back



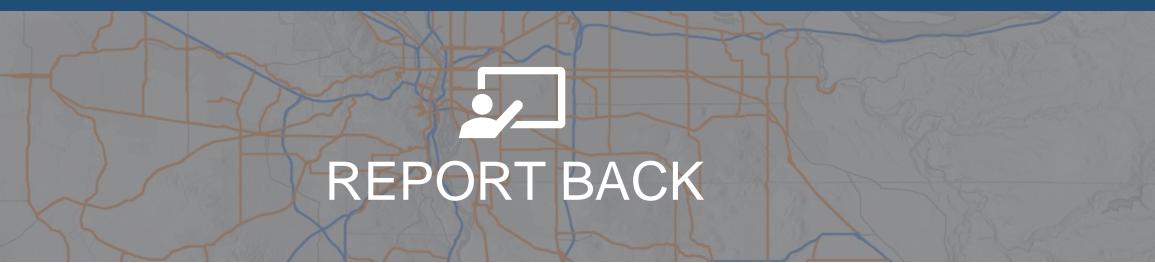


## **Breakout Groups Discussion**

- Ice Breaker: How do you see the ETR designations impacting your work or emergency response processes?
- In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, what roadways do you need open first and why?
- What key locations do you need to get to first?
- What are the biggest logistical challenges in responding to an emergency?
- Who are we missing from these discussions that are part of the initial response decisions and communications?



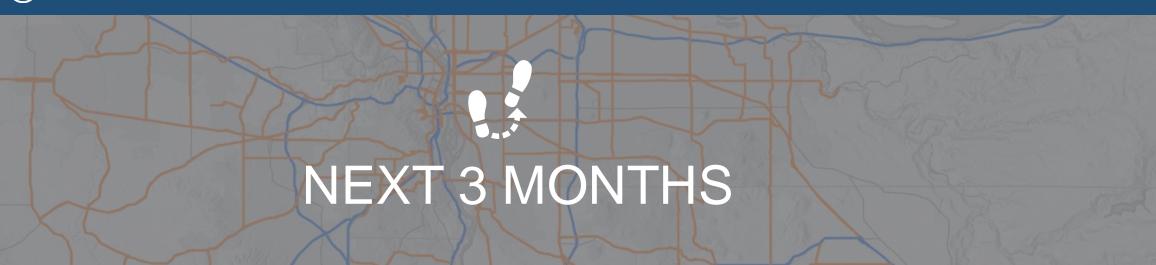




- In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, what roadways do you need open first and why?
- What key locations do you need to get to first?
- What are the biggest logistical challenges in responding to an emergency?







### FOR TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS

- Will share slides and notes
- Project team will draft a prioritization methodology to share at Technical Workshop #2 in June (date to be finalized)

### FOR THE PROJECT

- CBO workshop April 3
- Quarterly project work group meeting April 10









## THANKS FOR ATTENDING!

John Mermin, Metro john.mermin@oregonmetro.gov

Carol Chang, Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) carol.chang@portlandoregon.gov