 **Metro | Agenda**

Meeting: Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC)  
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2015  
Time: 5 to 7 p.m.  
Place: Metro, Council Chamber

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<b>5 PM</b>	<b>1.</b>	<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	<b>Peter Truax, Chair</b>
<b>5:02 PM</b>	<b>2.</b>	<b>SELF INTRODUCTIONS &amp; COMMUNICATIONS</b>	<b>Peter Truax, Chair</b>
<b>5:05 PM</b>	<b>3.</b>	<b>CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS</b>	
<b>5:10 PM</b>	<b>4.</b>	<b>COUNCIL UPDATE</b>	<b>Metro Council</b>
<b>5:15 PM</b>	<b>5.</b>	<b>CONSENT AGENDA:</b>	
	*	• Consideration of April 22, 2015 minutes	
	<b>6.</b>	<b>INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>	
<b>5:20 PM</b>	<b>6.1</b>	Regional Communication and Relationships - <u>DISCUSSION</u>	<b>Peter Truax, Chair</b>
<b>6:30PM</b>	<b>7.</b>	<b>MPAC MEMBER COMMUNICATION</b>	
<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>8.</b>	<b>ADJOURN</b>	<b>Peter Truax, Chair</b>

\* Material included in the packet

# Material will be provided at the meeting

**Upcoming MPAC Meetings:**

- Wednesday, May 27, 2015
- Wednesday, June 10, 2015
- Wednesday, June 24, 2015

For agenda and schedule information, please contact Alexandra Eldridge at  
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ការគោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ។ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬដើម្បីទទួលបានក្បួនលក្ខណ៍រើសអើងសូមចូលទស្សនាការប្រកាស [www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights)។  
បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការការបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គប្រជុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1890 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំដើម្បីអាចឲ្យគេសម្រួលតាមសំណើរបស់លោកអ្នក ។

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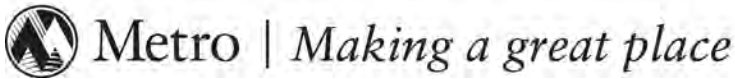
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## 2015 MPAC Work Program

*As of 05/08/15*

*Items in italics are tentative; **bold** denotes required items*

<p><b><u>Wednesday, May 13, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Communication and Relationships – <u>Discussion</u> (Chair Pete Truax)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, May 27, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equity Initiatives in the Region (Patty Unfred, Metro, external jurisdictions TBD; 30 min)</li> <li>2015 Urban Growth Management Decision: Development trends in past UGB expansion areas such as Damascus (Ted Reid, Metro; Mayor Diana Helm, City of Damascus; 65 min)</li> <li><i>Equitable Housing Update – <u>Information</u> (Emily Lieb, 20 min)</i></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, June 10, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Oregon Legislature update – <u>Information</u> (Randy Tucker)</i></li> <li><i>City of Beaverton presentation - <u>Information</u></i></li> <li><i>City of Hillsboro presentation - <u>Information</u></i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, June 24, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update Kick-off - <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Elissa Gertler, Kim Ellis; 35 min)</li> <li>Regional Transit Plan and Coordination with TriMet Service Enhancement Plans and SMART Master Plan Update – <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Elissa Gertler &amp; Jamie Snook, Metro; Eric Hesse, TriMet; Stephen Lashbrook, SMART; 25 min)</li> <li>2015 Urban Growth Management Decision: Planning within a range forecast for population &amp; employment growth (Ted Reid; 50 min)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, July 8, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Recap of Spring 2015 Growth Management Discussions (Ted Reid; 30 min)</i></li> <li><i>Powell-Division Transit and Development Project – <u>Information</u> (Brian Monberg; 30 min)</i></li> <li><i>Possible Tour Date, if desired by MPAC, or cancel</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, July 22, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Possible Tour Date, if desired by MPAC, or cancel</i></li> </ul>
<p><u>Wednesday, August 12, 2015</u> - Cancelled</p>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, August 26, 2015</u></b></p> <p><i>Community Planning and Development Grants update – <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Gerry Uba)</i></p>

<p><b><u>Wednesday, September 9, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update – Review draft work program – <u>Discussion</u> (Kim Ellis, Peggy Morell; 40 min)</li> <li>• Regional Transit Plan – Review draft Regional Transit Vision – <u>Discussion</u> (Jamie Snook; 40 min)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, September 23, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2015 Urban Growth Management Decision: Metro Chief Operating Officer Recommendation to Council - <u>Information/Discussion</u> (John Williams, Ted Reid)</li> <li>• <i>Discuss Regional Snapshot (John Williams, Ted Reid)</i></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, October 14, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorse 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update Work Plan – <u>Action</u> (Kim Ellis; 30 min)</li> <li>• 2015 Urban Growth Management Decision - <u>Recommendation to Metro Council</u> (Ted Reid; 45 min)</li> <li>• <i>Equity Initiatives in the Region (Patty Unfred; 30 min)</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, October 28, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid Waste Roadmap Update – <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Paul Slyman, Tom Chaimov; 60 min)</li> <li>• Metro Enterprising Places program - <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Lisa Miles; 45 min)</li> </ul>
<p><u>Wednesday, November 11, 2015</u> – Cancelled (holiday)</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, November 25, 2015</u> - Cancelled</p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, December 9, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Equitable Housing Summit Update (E.Lieb; 45 min)</i></li> </ul>	<p><u>Wednesday, December 23, 2015</u> - Cancelled</p>

**Parking Lot:**

- Presentation on health & land use featuring local projects from around the region
- Affordable Housing opportunities, tools and strategies
- Greater Portland, Inc. update
- “Unsettling Profiles” presentation by Coalition of Communities of Color



**METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)**

Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2015

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sam Chase  
Carlotta Collette  
Tim Clark, *1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair*  
Denny Doyle  
Maxine Fitzpatrick  
Mark Gamba  
Jeff Gudman  
Dick Jones  
Marilyn McWilliams  
Martha Schrader, *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair*  
Bob Stacey  
Peter Truax, *Chair*  
Jerry Willey

AFFILIATION

Metro Council  
Metro Council  
City of Wood Village, Multnomah Co. Other Cities  
City of Beaverton, Washington Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> Largest City  
Multnomah County Citizen  
City of Milwaukie, Clackamas Co. Other Cities  
City of Lake Oswego, Clackamas Co. Largest City  
Oak Lodge Water District, Clackamas Co. Special Districts  
Tualatin Valley Water District, Washington Co. Special Districts  
Clackamas County  
Metro Council  
City of Forest Grove, Washington Co. Other Cities  
City of Hillsboro

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Jerry Hinton  
Craig Prosser

AFFILIATION

City of Gresham, Multnomah Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> Largest City  
TriMet Board of Directors

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Chad Eiken  
Ed Gronke  
Jeff Swanson

AFFILIATION

City of Vancouver  
Clackamas County Citizen  
Clark County

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Armstrong, Anne Debbaut, Kathryn Harrington, Emily Klepper, Zoe Monahan, Kelly Ross, Jeannine Rustad

STAFF: Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Nick Christensen, Andy Cotugno, Elissa Gertler, Alison Kean, Brian Kennedy, Emily Lieb, Laura Odom, Nellie Papsdorf, Ted Reid, Randy Tucker, Nikolai Ursin, John Williams, Ina Zucker

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

MPAC Chair Peter Truax called the meeting to order 5:05 p.m. and declared a quorum at 5:20 p.m.

## **2. SELF INTRODUCTIONS & COMMUNICATIONS**

All attendees introduced themselves.

## **3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were none.

## **4. COUNCIL UPDATE**

Councilor Carlotta Collette notified MPAC members of the following items:

- Metro has released its draft 2015-2016 budget. The budget includes 513.6 million dollars in appropriations ranging from management of Metro's visitor venues and natural areas to operations of the solid waste system. The draft budget is available online and is open for public comment until mid-June.
- The Metro Council President and Councilors, as well as the Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett and Metro staff, are participating in a series of forums across the region called Our Shared Region to talk about Metro and its role in the region, and to discuss with local jurisdictions how to best achieve their shared goals. Councilor Collette noted that the last meeting would be April 23 in Fairview and encouraged MPAC members to attend.
- Metro's Let's Talk Trash series continues May 5 with a discussion of food scraps and the role they play in achieving greater benefits from the region's waste stream. The event is in conjunction with Science on Tap with doors open at 6 p.m. at the Clinton Street Theater.

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5.1 Consideration of April 8, 2015 Minutes**

### **5.2 MTAC Member Appointment**

MOTION: Councilor Jeff Gudman moved and Councilor Mark Gamba seconded, to adopt the consent agenda.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

## **6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **6.1 Metro Parks and Natural Areas System Plan**

Councilor Collette introduced the Parks and Natural Areas System Plan, Metro's management plan for the future of its system of parks, trails, and natural areas. Councilor Collette noted that in the past two decades voters passed two bond measures and a levy to invest in regional parks, trails, wildlife, and natural areas. She noted that Metro now owns around 17,000 acres of parks and natural areas and added that Metro staff hoped to receive input on the plan from MPAC.

Chair Truax introduced Metro's Interim Director of Sustainability Kathleen Brennan-Hunter. Ms. Brennan-Hunter gave an overview of Metro's history managing many of the region's natural areas, beginning with the first Metro-owned natural area, the Smith and Bybee Wetlands. She provided

insight into fundamental aspects of the management of Metro's parks and natural areas, including funding from the bond measures and levy as well as numerous partnerships with local neighborhoods, community groups, watershed councils, and non-profits.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter explained that a strategic path for moving forward could elevate Metro's network into a world-class parks and natural areas system. She noted that the System Plan would help organize Metro's work in this effort by guiding future decision-making, continuing beneficial stewardship, and increasing public access to parks and natural areas.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter then reviewed how the Parks and Natural Areas system operates today, including its investments in local communities. She explained that a total of 69 million dollars was dedicated to help local cities and counties buy additional natural areas, transform parks and trails, and improve existing areas. She also noted that about 200 Nature in Neighborhoods grants have been distributed across the region representing 15 million dollars of investment. Ms. Brennan-Hunter gave some examples of Nature in Neighborhoods projects and noted that the projects were the result of successful partnerships between Metro and its local partners.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter provided an overview of the parks, trails, and natural areas managed by Metro on behalf of the public and went over some new nature parks and trails Metro has recently developed, including future plans for Chehalem Ridge in Washington County.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter noted that another of the Parks' significant focuses was engaging diverse and historically underserved communities with the region's parks and natural areas and gave examples, including partnerships with the Center for Intercultural Organization, the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, and Self Enhancement, Inc. She added that Metro's Parks and Natural Areas also provide more traditional programs, such as conservation education, wildflower walks, and outdoor skills classes.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter then went over different forms of public outreach that Parks and Natural Areas staff have used to engage the public in the management of Metro's sites, including surveys and event booths. She explained that initial outreach efforts culminated with a set of six values to provide a foundation for the System Plan: nature, outdoor recreation, equity, connections with nature, vibrant communities, and stewardship.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter noted that the System Plan would be considered by the Metro Council in 2016 and thanked MPAC for its ongoing support.

*Member discussion included:*

Members discussed upcoming Natural Areas projects.

Councilor Mark Gamba thanked Natural Areas staff for their work with underserved communities, noting in particular the bridge over Kellogg Lake in the City of Milwaukie. He explained that providing connections to nature for underserved communities was important, and added that many low-income neighborhoods in Milwaukie have no parks within easy distance. He also noted a need for increased funding for local governments' parks projects.

Councilor Carlotta Collette agreed that funding is the number one need she hears from local governments and community groups. She added that Metro's grants programs such as the Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants are an essential part of Metro's commitment to maintaining and

improving the region's natural areas.

Chair Truax noted that the City of Forest Grove is continuing its work with the Fernhill Wetlands and stressed the importance of wildlife areas.

Ed Gronke stated that he found the Metro's Greenspaces Master Plan program to be a tremendous success. He asked if Metro was involved with other organizations such as the Nature Conservancy in order to expand available resources. Ms. Brennan-Hunter responded that Metro works closely with the Nature Conservancy and also partners with groups such as Columbia Land Trust that can leverage different funds.

Mayor Denny Doyle noted that the City of Beaverton would like to connect with Metro staff to discuss purchasing available land for natural areas and how to collaborate on such projects.

Marilyn McWilliams asked about the status of the Tonkin Trail. She also added that the Tualatin Valley Water District uses the water trails near the Tualatin River and asked if Metro works with the Tualatin Valley Riverkeepers. Ms. Brennan-Hunter responded that Metro partners with the Riverkeepers and currently has a project in the pipeline concerning development of a new river access site on Farmington Road.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter asked committee members about the role they would like to play in the development of the System Plan moving forward. Chair Truax noted that he would like MPAC to have ample time to provide input in developing the System Plan. Mayor Willey agreed with Chair Truax, and added that regular updates and discussions would be needed to have successful regional collaboration.

## **6.2 2015 Legislative Session Update**

Chair Truax introduced Randy Tucker, Metro's Legislative Affairs Manager. Mr. Tucker provided an update on legislative affairs at the Oregon Legislature. He noted that several bills died on April 21, as they did not meet the end-of-the-day deadline for a committee vote. Mr. Tucker then gave an overview of some of the key bills that did not make it through committee, including a number of land use bills.

Mr. Tucker noted that the possibility of a transportation package coming out of the 2015 legislative session had been somewhat complicated by the controversy concerning the Clean Fuels Program but that there was still interest from some parties, noting Governor Kate Brown's focus on a transportation package in her State of the State address. He also added that the Oregon Transportation Forum would reconvene to organize a plan for moving forward and that a number of its provisions survived in other bills.

Mr. Tucker then gave an overview of some land use bills that survived the deadline, including a bill that would require conditional work permits to build new trails in farm zones and several bills related to the City of Damascus. Mr. Tucker also gave an overview of some economic development bills that survived, including an industrial site readiness funding bill and a brownfields clean-up and redevelopment bill.

Mr. Tucker noted that the City of Beaverton is leading an effort to lift the sunset on the vertical housing program which provides property tax abatements for multistory, mixed-use development. Mr. Tucker added that the bill is moving forward with significant leadership from the City of



Beaverton's lobbyists and has the support of Metro and the League of Oregon Cities.

*Member discussion included:*

Members discussed the pending legislation concerning the City of Damascus and its context.

Councilor Chase asked about possible legislation related to accessibility issues in Metro's Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. Mr. Tucker responded that the legislation was still being devised and was projected to head to the legislature next session.

Commissioner Martha Schrader thanked Randy Tucker for the update. She noted that although it wasn't passed, House Bill 3211 did provide leverage for Clackamas County to meet with people to discuss the remand, and added that she felt there was a positive outcome in terms of constructive conversation.

Members discussed Senate Bill 27 concerning the proposed Oregon Convention Center hotel.

Members discussed the inclusionary zoning bill and its conditions. Members also discussed affordable housing and potential budgeting issues related to the Oregon tax rebate.

Councilor Jeff Gudman asked about possible transportation package funding in light of the Clean Fuels program. Mr. Tucker responded that funding was uncertain. Members discussed different approaches to a transportation package. Chair Truax stated that there seemed to be a renewed focus on transportation needs. Mr. Tucker added that the focus seemed to be on maintenance as it is generally the first priority for local governments.

### **6.3 Urban Growth Management Decision: Likelihood of development in urban centers such as Portland**

Chair Truax introduced the topic, explaining that it related to the urban growth management (UGM) decision and focused on the likelihood of development in urban centers such as Portland over the next 20 years. He introduced Ted Reid from Metro's Planning Department. Mr. Reid reminded MPAC members that Metro staff had proposed to focus policy discussions related to the UGM decision on the following three topics related to regional housing needs: 1. Residential development potential in urban centers such as Portland. 2. Residential development potential in areas brought into the urban growth boundary (UGB) such as Damascus. 3. Choosing a point in the range forecast. Mr. Reid noted that the meeting's discussion of likelihood of development in urban centers such as Portland was the second of three installments focused on the Portland area.

Mr. Reid gave a brief overview of the last sixteen years of residential development in the region, demonstrating Portland's preeminence in terms of residential growth. Mr. Reid then gave some examples of the growth, including areas of Northwest Portland, North Williams Street, North Mississippi Street, and Southeast Division Street. Mr. Reid noted that the changes caused concern in communities as well, particularly in terms of gentrification and the lack of affordable housing.

Mr. Reid finished by emphasizing the need to consider who the region is planning for. He reminded MPAC members that 60% of new households will include just one or two people and will make less than \$50,000 per year. He also noted that half will be headed by someone over the age of 65.

Mr. Reid then introduced Tom Armstrong from the City of Portland's Bureau of Planning and

Sustainability.

Mr. Armstrong provided an overview of more recent development in the City of Portland, highlighting the city's ongoing focus on its centers and corridors. He noted that 50% of residential growth allocation will focus on centers and corridors, while 30% of residential growth allocation will focus on the central city, and the last 20% on residential neighborhoods. Mr. Armstrong noted that these focuses follow population trends for Portland over the past 14 years and also look ahead to Metro's 2035 regional forecast distribution.

Mr. Armstrong explained that there have been shifts in development activity in past years. He gave the example of East Portland, noting that its neighborhoods had not yet returned to pre-recession development levels, compared to the significant amount of growth in the inner neighborhoods. Mr. Armstrong noted that part of helping East Portland recover would rely on investing in the infrastructure gaps between neighborhoods, and gave a brief overview of a transportation planning project called East Portland in Motion that hopes to minimize these gaps.

Mr. Reid and Mr. Armstrong then introduced Ben Kaiser, an architect and general contractor as well as Principal and Owner of the Kaiser Group, a firm that has been very active in development in the City of Portland.

Mr. Kaiser shared his perspective as a developer in the Portland area. He noted the progression of development in Portland following the recession and added that the city is in its largest phase of construction ever, with more square footage in permits than ever before, particularly in East Portland. He explained that a large amount of the development is coming from companies based outside of Oregon, who have significant funding available for quick construction. As a member of the Design Commission, Mr. Kaiser noted that he has had telling experiences with many of the firms coming to Portland and gave insight into their role in Portland's development. Mr. Kaiser also went over the role of the urban growth boundary (UGB) in the city's development, noting that he felt the UGB helped Portland recover relatively quickly from the effects of the recession, as it helped maintained the built environment and strong core that attracts many develops to the area.

*Member discussion included:*

Marilyn McWilliams asked if Mr. Kaiser's firm built with Oregon's seismic risk in mind. Mr. Kaiser gave an overview of some steps firms take to prepare for seismic events.

Ed Gronke noted that he understood Metro's residential growth forecast but questioned aspects of its housing predictions. He added that he has seen a lot of resistance to upzoning neighborhoods in order to accommodate population in his district.

Mr. Kaiser expressed a need for better education of consumers in regards to zoning and housing. He proposed that citizen outreach might improve the public's understanding of the region's neighborhoods and how they are developed.

Mr. Armstrong added that zoning is an issue that continues to develop and argued that frequent reviews and revisions of the city's zoning codes were necessary to keep up with the region's development needs.

Mayor Willey noted that many of the mayors in the region had concerns about the Urban Growth Report, specifically regarding a potential lack of housing options, and pointed out that in all areas

except Multnomah County, single-family housing outweighs multi-family housing. He also shared concerns about housing affordability and focusing most of the residential growth in the Portland area.

Maxine Fitzpatrick noted that in terms of the UGM discussion, it was important to consider impacts of residential growth not only on newcomers, but also on the region's existing population. She explained that at the city's Development Review Advisory Committee meetings, residents often share concerns about the significant amount of development in their neighborhoods. She added that there is also a serious issue of displacement that the region needs to consider and respond to.

Dick Jones noted that parking and congestion often come with multistory developments, particularly in suburban areas of the region without nearby access to transit.

Mayor Doyle expressed concern about Metro's projection that 60 percent of new households will earn less than \$50,000 per year, noting that the region should focus on improving that statistic. He explained that addressing this issue would be significant hurdle for local governments to overcome in the years ahead.

Councilor Gamba agreed with concerns about the projected income levels, adding that he felt many residents in the region were struggling to pay for housing. He inquired about other forms of single-family housing that might reduce the cost of housing and still allow people to enjoy the kinds of housing they would like to have. Mr. Kaiser agreed that there was large demand for alternative forms of single-family housing, particularly in high-density areas.

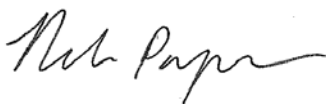
## **7. MPAC MEMBER COMMUNICATION**

- Councilor Jeff Gudman asked about his request that the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) review Metro's deadline requirement for local jurisdictions to provide Metro notice of proposed land use actions. Metro's Deputy Director of Planning John Williams responded that Metro's Planning Department intended to adjust its deadline to match the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development's (DLCD) new deadline the next time it updated its codes. He added that in the meantime, DLCD's deadline of 35 days would be observed by Metro staff.
- Chair Truax alerted members to a discussion topic he proposed for the May 13 MPAC meeting concerning regional relationships. He noted that he would distribute more information soon and hoped for a vibrant discussion.

## **8. ADJOURN**

MPAC Chair Peter Truax adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nellie Papsdorf  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APR. 22, 2015**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>2.0</b>	Handout	04/22/15	Updated 2015 MPAC Work Program	042215m-01
<b>4.0</b>	Memo	N/A	Let's Talk Trash Invitation	042215m-02
<b>5.0</b>	Flyer	04/13/15	MTAC Nomination for MPAC Consideration	042215m-03

May 2015

To: Members, MPAC

Fr: Pete Truax, Chair, MPAC

Re: Communications/Relationships Discussion

Two incidents come to mind when there is conversation about the barriers we sometimes face in trying to find common ground in building a future in the Portland metropolitan area.

The first incident that comes to mind is the drive by the Metro Council to gain passage of its parks maintenance operating levy. There was more, considerably more, than one discussion about this issue and what it meant to other special levies being proposed by cities and counties across the region. Concern was expressed that the Metro levy would negatively impact the chances of those city and county levies gaining passage. The rationale was often stated that people might find it more attractive to spend hard earned tax dollars on something along the lines of parks maintenance and operation rather than more mundane levy goals. And somewhere along the line, city and county officials came to the inaccurate conclusion that our advice not to proceed with the Metro levy was going to be the order of the day. Imagine our surprise when the Metro Council voted to proceed with the levy. It was a case of “They asked for our advice, and then they didn’t take it!” Oh, the audacity of it all.

And, many of us remember that night in September of 2012, when a motion was introduced and seconded that would set the housing density across the region at 20 units per acre. After a discussion of some 10-15 minutes (I could very well be wrong on that time frame), the motion was adopted with some five votes in opposition. It was that particular MPAC meeting that led to the informal alliance of Mayors across the region. There is a particularly interesting story on the Metro website (written by Nick Christensen) that details this event.

I would like to think that in the four years since then, we have worked a little better in our conversations that we are now doing more than the rearrangement of deck chairs on the Titanic. Our conversations are more civil. And with civility comes an increasing chance of progress.

But there is a distance left to travel.

Cities and counties still think at times that there is a Death Star roaming the halls of Metro waiting for the chance to bring everyone over to the Dark Side.

Those in Metro sometimes think that cities and counties need to get out of the dark ages and understand that decisions made in downtown (*insert city name here*) impact the lives of those living a mere (*insert number here*) miles away in (*insert another city name here*).

What I propose is that we take an opportunity to gather in groups of individuals to brainstorm as to how we make this work to all of our advantage. I know we have any number of regional organizations that chant the same mantra—“A win for Lake Oswego is a win for Tualatin.” We pay lip service to the “everybody wins” psalmody. But, in reality, how many of us follow that line? This is a very risky proposition for cities/counties to take. The issue of supporting another city’s goal, at our initial expense, is a tactic that often doesn’t sit well with those interested in short term goals. How many of us have had this conversation:

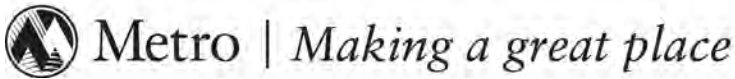
“Be patient. We will get our (water, steel plant, fruit juice factory) down the road.”

“Yeah, right.”

To those of you who ask “where does this go?” I say, “Beats the hell out of me.” I can’t guarantee any success, but I can safely say that if we do nothing, or if we pay lip service to these communication barriers, we aren’t going anywhere. To be pragmatic, there are school districts who have continually fallen short in goal setting and have been taken over by state government. There are numerous stories of cities facing loss of local control and/or local options. I don’t know much, but I do know that is not what we want in our region.

Thank you for your time. You have now reached the end of this memo. Where we go from here is up to us.

Materials following this page were distributed at the meeting.



## 2015 MPAC Work Program

*As of 05/13/15*

*Items in italics are tentative; **bold** denotes required items*

<p><b><u>Wednesday, May 13, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Communication and Relationships – <u>Discussion</u> (Chair Pete Truax)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, May 27, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equity Initiatives in the Region (Patty Unfred, Metro, external jurisdictions TBD; 30 min)</li> <li>2015 Urban Growth Management Decision: Development trends in past UGB expansion areas such as Damascus (Ted Reid, Metro; Mayor Diana Helm, City of Damascus; 65 min)</li> <li>Equitable Housing Update – <u>Information</u> (Emily Lieb, 20 min)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, June 10, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Oregon Legislature update – <u>Information</u> (Randy Tucker)</i></li> <li><i>City of Beaverton presentation - <u>Information</u></i></li> <li><i>City of Hillsboro presentation - <u>Information</u></i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, June 24, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update Kick-off - <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Elissa Gertler, Kim Ellis; 35 min)</li> <li>Regional Transit Plan and Coordination with TriMet Service Enhancement Plans and SMART Master Plan Update – <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Elissa Gertler &amp; Jamie Snook, Metro; Eric Hesse, TriMet; Stephen Lashbrook, SMART; 25 min)</li> <li>2015 Urban Growth Management Decision: Planning within a range forecast for population &amp; employment growth (Ted Reid; 50 min)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, July 8, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Recap of Spring 2015 Growth Management Discussions (Ted Reid; 30 min)</i></li> <li><i>Powell-Division Transit and Development Project – <u>Information</u> (Brian Monberg; 30 min)</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, July 22, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Possible Tour Date, if desired by MPAC, or cancel</i></li> </ul>
<p><u>Wednesday, August 12, 2015</u> - Cancelled</p>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, August 26, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Community Planning and Development Grants update – <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Gerry Uba)</i></li> </ul>

<p><b><u>Wednesday, September 9, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update – Review draft work program – <u>Discussion</u> (Kim Ellis, Peggy Morell; 40 min)</li> <li>• Regional Transit Plan – Review draft Regional Transit Vision – <u>Discussion</u> (Jamie Snook; 40 min)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, September 23, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2015 Urban Growth Management Decision: Metro Chief Operating Officer Recommendation to Council - <u>Information/Discussion</u> (John Williams, Ted Reid)</li> <li>• <i>Discuss Regional Snapshot (John Williams, Ted Reid)</i></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, October 14, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorse 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update Work Plan – <u>Action</u> (Kim Ellis; 30 min)</li> <li>• 2015 Urban Growth Management Decision - <u>Recommendation to Metro Council</u> (Ted Reid; 45 min)</li> <li>• <i>Equity Initiatives in the Region (Patty Unfred; 30 min)</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, October 28, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid Waste Roadmap Update – <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Paul Slyman, Tom Chaimov; 60 min)</li> <li>• Metro Enterprising Places program - <u>Information/Discussion</u> (Lisa Miles; 45 min)</li> </ul>
<p><u>Wednesday, November 11, 2015</u> – Cancelled (holiday)</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, November 25, 2015</u> - Cancelled</p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, December 9, 2015</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Equitable Housing Summit Update (E.Lieb; 45 min)</i></li> </ul>	<p><u>Wednesday, December 23, 2015</u> - Cancelled</p>

**Parking Lot:**

- Presentation on health & land use featuring local projects from around the region
- Affordable Housing opportunities, tools and strategies
- Greater Portland, Inc. update
- “Unsettling Profiles” presentation by Coalition of Communities of Color



## **METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC) BY-LAWS**

Approved March 13, 1996; Revised March 26, 1997; May 1998; September, 1999; October, 2000; November, 2000; June, 2001; March 12, 2003; April 25, 2007; June 24, 2009; June 30, 2011

### **ARTICLE I**

This Committee shall be known as the METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (“MPAC”) created by Section 27 of the 1992 Metro Charter.

### **ARTICLE II MISSION AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** MPAC shall perform the duties assigned to it by the 1992 Metro Charter and any other duties the Metro Council prescribes.

**Section 2.** The purposes of MPAC are as follows:

- a. MPAC shall perform those duties required by the Metro Charter, including:
  1. Providing consultation and advice to the Council on the Regional Framework Plan (Metro Charter Section 5 (2));
  2. Providing consultation and advice to the Council on the possible inclusion in the Regional Framework Plan of other growth management and land use planning matters, determined by the Council to be of metropolitan concern, which will benefit from regional planning, other than those specifically identified in Metro Charter Section 5 (2) (b);
  3. Providing consultation and advice to the Council on any amendments to the Regional Framework Plan (Metro Section 5 (2) (d));
  4. Approve or disapprove the authorization for Metro to provide or regulate a local government service, as defined in Metro Charter Section 7 (2), in those cases in which Metro does not seek or secure such approval directly from the voters; and
  5. Providing advice to the Council before it adopts an ordinance authorizing provision or regulation by Metro of a service which is not a local government service as defined by the Metro Charter (Section 7 (3)).
- b. Other duties prescribed by the Council.

**ARTICLE III  
COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1. Membership**

- a. The Committee will be made up of **representatives** of the following voting and non-voting members:

1. Voting Members:

Multnomah County Commission	1
Second Largest City in Multnomah County	1
Other Cities in Multnomah County	1
Special Districts in Multnomah County	1
Citizen of Multnomah County	1
City of Portland	2
Clackamas County Commission	1
Largest City in Clackamas County	1
Second Largest City in Clackamas County	1
Other Cities in Clackamas County	1
Special Districts in Clackamas County	1
Citizen of Clackamas County	1
Washington County Commission	1
Largest City in Washington County	1
Second Largest City in Washington County	1
Other Cities in Washington County	1
Special Districts in Washington County	1
Citizen of Washington County	1
Tri-Met	1
Governing Body of a School District	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>

2. Non-voting members:

Oregon Dept of Land Conservation and Development	1
Clark County	1
City of Vancouver	1
Port of Portland	1
City in Clackamas County outside UGB	1
City in Washington County outside UGB	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

b. Except as provided in Section 2 voting members and alternates representing jurisdictions shall be appointed from among members of the governing body. All voting jurisdictions represented by members, including cities within each county, shall have territory within Metro boundaries.

- c. Non-voting members or alternates may either be members of the governing body of a jurisdiction or serve as a Chief Operating Office or Planning Director or equivalent.

- d. Alternates shall serve in the absence of the regular members.

- e. Metro Councilors will participate with the Committee membership with three non-voting liaison delegates appointed by the Metro Council.
- f. The composition of the MPAC may be changed at any time by a vote of both a majority of the MPAC members and a majority of all Metro Councilors (Metro Charter, Section 27 (2)).

**Section 2. Appointment of Members and Alternates**

- a. Members and alternates from the City of Portland, the counties of Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington, the largest cities of Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties, excluding Portland, and the second largest cities of Clackamas and Washington counties shall be appointed by the jurisdiction.
- b. Members and alternates from the cities of Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties, other than those directly entitled to membership, will be appointed jointly by the governing bodies of those cities represented. The member and alternate will be from different jurisdictions. The member and alternate will serve until either he or she leaves office or is replaced by an appointment by the governing bodies of those cities represented. The member and alternate may be reappointed. In the event the member's position is vacated, the alternate will automatically become the member and serve until the governing bodies of those cities represented have appointed or re-appointed representatives.
- c. Members and alternates from the special districts with territory in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties will be appointed jointly by the governing bodies of those districts represented. The member and alternate will be from different organizations. The member and alternate will serve until either he or she leaves the district or is replaced by an appointment by the governing bodies of those district represented. The member and alternate may be reappointed. In the event the member's position is vacated, the alternate will automatically become the member and serve until the governing bodies of those district represented have appointed or re-appointed a representative.
- d. Metro Council delegates will be appointed by the Metro Council President. The delegates may be removed by the Council President at any time.
- e. Members and alternates representing citizens will be appointed by the Metro Council President and confirmed by the Metro Council consistent with Section 26(1)(m) of the 1992 Metro Charter and will represent each county in the region. Members and alternates will be appointed to designated terms of a length to be determined by the appointing authority, but for a period of not less than two years. Members and alternates may be reappointed. Terms of the members and alternates will be staggered to ensure continuity. In the event the member's position is vacated, the alternate will automatically become the member and complete the original term of office.
- f. Members and alternates from the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (Tri-Met) will be appointed by the governing body of that District. The member and alternate will serve until removed by the governing body.

- g. Members and alternates from the Land Conservation and Development Commission will be chosen by the Chairperson of that body. The member and alternate may be removed by the Chairperson at any time.
- h. Members and alternates from the Port of Portland will be appointed by the governing body of that organization. The member and alternate will serve until removed by the governing body.
- i. The member and alternate from the school boards in the Metro Region will be appointed jointly by the governing bodies of the school districts represented. The member and alternate will be from different districts. The member and alternate will serve until either he or she leaves office or is replaced by an appointment by the governing bodies of those school districts represented. The member and alternate may be reappointed. In the event the member's position is vacated, the alternate will automatically become the member and serve until the governing bodies of those school districts represented have appointed or reappointed representatives.
- j. Appointments of all members and alternates shall become effective upon the appointing authority giving written notice addressed to the Chair of MPAC and filing the notice with the Clerk of the Metro Council. The determination of the relative size of cities shall be based on the official population estimates for Oregon issued by the Center for Population Research and Census, School of Urban and Public Affairs, Portland State University, or alternative official population estimates if that source ever ceases estimating population. If the official population estimates result in a change in the relative population of a city entitled to membership, then the term of membership of the affected city or cities shall terminate 90 days after the release of the official estimate and new member(s) shall be appointed as provided by these by-laws. Members and alternates may be removed by the appointing authority at any time.

#### **ARTICLE IV MEETINGS, CONDUCT OF MEETINGS, AND QUORUM**

- a. A regular meeting date, time and place of MPAC shall be established by the MPAC Chair. Special or emergency meetings may be called by the Chair or a third of the members of MPAC.
- b. A majority of the members (or designated alternates) shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. The act of a majority of those voting members present at meetings at which a quorum is present shall be the act of MPAC, except in exercising the duty of authorizing Metro to provide or regulate a local government service as described in Section 7 (2) of the 1992 Metro Charter. In these cases a majority vote of all voting MPAC members is required.
- c. Subcommittees or advisory committees to develop recommendations for MPAC may be appointed by the Chair and ratified by MPAC. At a regularly scheduled meeting MPAC shall approve subcommittee membership and MPAC members and/or alternates and outside experts. The Chair of any citizen advisory committee shall neither be the Chair of MPAC nor be an MPAC member, except upon the agreement of a majority of the advisory committee membership. MPAC members of any citizen advisory committee of MPAC shall participate on a nonvoting basis.

The Metro Technical Advisory Committee (“MTAC”) is an advisory committee to MPAC. Its purpose shall be to provide MPAC with technical recommendations on growth management subjects as directed by MPAC. MTAC shall have the following representation:

<b>Non-Voting Chair</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Citizen Representatives</b> <i>(one from each county)</i>	<b>3</b>
Local Jurisdictions:	
<b>Cities</b> <i>(one from each below)</i>	<b>10</b>
• City of Portland	
• Largest city in each county (not including Portland)	
• Second largest city in Clackamas County	
• Second largest city in Washington County	
• Other cities in each county	
• Vancouver, Washington	
<b>Counties</b> <i>(one from each below)</i>	<b>4</b>
• Multnomah	
• Washington	
• Clackamas	
• Clark	
<b>State Agencies:</b> <i>(one from each below)</i>	<b>2</b>
• ODOT	
• DLCD	
<b>Service Providers:</b> <i>(one from each below)</i>	<b>6</b>
• Water and Sewer	
• Parks	
• School Districts	
• Private Utilities	
• Port of Portland	
• TriMet	
<b>Private Economic Development Association</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Public Economic Development Association</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Other Organizations:</b> <i>(one from each below)</i>	<b>8</b>
• Land Use	
• Environmental	
• Housing Affordability	
• Residential	
• Redevelopment/Urban Design	
• Commercial/Industrial	
• Green infrastructure, design & sustainability	
• Public Health & Urban Form	
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>36</b>

Each jurisdiction or organization named shall annually notify MPAC of their nomination. MPAC may approve or reject any nomination. Revision of the membership of MTAC may occur consistent with MPAC bylaw amendment procedures. If any membership

category (member and alternate) is absent for three (3) consecutive MTAC meetings, the representatives shall lose their voting privilege. MTAC members who acquire non-voting status may regain their voting status after attending three (3) consecutive MTAC meetings. A quorum for MTAC meetings shall be a simple majority of voting MTAC members. MTAC shall provide MPAC with observations concerning technical, policy, legal and process issues along with implementation effects of proposed growth management issues, including differing opinions, with an emphasis on providing the broad range of views and likely positive and negative outcomes of alternative courses of action. MTAC may adopt its own bylaws provided they are consistent with MPAC bylaws and are approved by a majority vote of MTAC members.

- d. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER, Newly Revised.
- e. MPAC may establish other rules of procedure as deemed necessary for the conduct of business.
- f. Unexcused absence from regularly scheduled meetings for three (3) consecutive months shall require the Chair to notify the appointing body with a request for remedial action.
- g. MPAC shall make its reports and findings, including minority reports, public and shall forward them to the Metro Council.
- h. MPAC may receive information and analysis on issues before it from a variety of sources.
- i. MPAC shall provide an opportunity for the public and the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (“Metro CCI”) to provide comment on relevant issues at each of its regularly scheduled meetings.
- j. MPAC shall provide a minimum of seven days notice to members of any regular or special meetings, and a minimum of three days notice for emergency meetings.
- k. MPAC shall abide by ORS Chapter 192, which provides for public records and meetings.

## **ARTICLE V OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

- a. A Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair shall be elected by a majority of the voting members for a one year term of office ending in January of each year. A vacancy in any of these offices shall be filled by a majority vote of MPAC, for the remainder of the unexpired term.
  - 1. Nominations may be received at the first meeting in January for Chair, First Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair.
  - 2. The First Vice Chair shall become Chair following the completion of the Chair’s term, unless a majority of MPAC elects a different member to serve as Chair.

3. The Second Vice Chair shall become the first Vice Chair following the completion of the first Vice-Chair's term, unless a majority of MPAC elects a different member to serve as first Vice-Chair.
  - i. The Second Vice Chair shall be a rotating position to keep balance for a) county/geographic representation; and/or b) city/county/special district representation after the previous year's first vice chair moves up to chair and the first vice chair is selected.
- b. The Chair shall set the agenda of and preside at all meetings, and shall be responsible for the expeditious conduct of MPAC's business. The Chair may establish or utilize a Coordinating Committee comprised of the three officers and the Metro Council responsible for long-term planning of MPAC business and agendas. Three members can cause a special meeting to be called with a minimum of seven days notice.
- c. In the absence of the Chair, the 1st Vice-Chair, and then the 2nd Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair.

#### **ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS**

- a. These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the MPAC membership, except that Article III related to the MPAC membership may not be amended without the concurrence of the majority of the Metro Council.
- b. Written notice must be delivered to all members and alternates at least 30 days prior to any proposed action to amend the by-laws.

As I will not be able to attend the May 13 MPAC meeting, I wanted to pass along thoughts I have on the *Regional Communication and Relationships* discussion. Please share these with MPAC:

**1. Relevance of MPAC**

- As you point out in your memo, the opinions of MPAC do not get much consideration at Metro Council (unless, of course, MPAC supports proposed Metro actions)
- The composition of MPAC may be a contributing factor. Greater local jurisdictional representation could lead to more informed feedback

**2. Regional relationship with Metro Council**

Of greater concern is how Metro Council takes into account local jurisdiction feedback in its decision making. The following are some thoughts on how regional relationships could be improved:

- Involve local jurisdictions early in the process
  - For programs aimed at “assisting” local governments, have staff and MTAC involved in formulating work plans, including desired outcomes, project goals and process
  - Active Transportation is a good example of how leaving out local jurisdictions can cause delay and push back
  - Involving local jurisdictions early in the process will provide the opportunity for greater understanding, buy-in and trust
- Greater transparency on Metro’s overall work plan
  - DLCD recently adopted a 5-year work plan that informs the public on upcoming projects, legislative priorities and initiatives. We were surprised to learn that Metro doesn’t have a similarly adopted work plan
  - Knowing Metro’s work plan will allow us to allocate staff to participate in projects of regional significance
- Better dialogue between Metro and local jurisdictions
  - Prior to launching new initiatives, Metro should start with a conversation with local governments to learn what is happening at the local level. Oftentimes, local jurisdictions are undertaking good work without state or regional mandates. Additionally, there is collaboration on a regional and/or sub-regional level outside of Metro-led initiatives (particularly in Washington County)
  - Greater consideration needs to be given to input provided by local governments. Metro Council should take more time in its deliberation to such regional input and explain why it chooses to follow such input or take different action. It is the local governments that ultimately implement the decisions of Metro Council and the local governments that answer directly to our constituents



## Parks and nature

***Metro's parks and natural areas preserve more than 17,000 acres of our region for recreational enjoyment and environmental protection. Supported through voter-approved bond measures and a 2013 property tax levy, Metro's parks and natural areas attract hundreds of thousands of visitors from around our region.***

**Newell Creek Canyon:** Metro has purchased a 12-acre parcel on Fox Lane in Oregon City that will provide a future trailhead and gateway into Newell Creek Canyon, a 215-acre natural area. Neighbors are helping shape a plan for public access, and opportunities for trails, habitat restoration, education and other improvements. Contact: Barbara Edwardson, 503-797-1925 or Dave Elkin, 503 797-1876

**International Trails Symposium:** Trails enthusiasts are invited to the Fifth Annual Regional Trails Fair from noon to 5 p.m. May 17 at the Oregon Convention Center. The free, family friendly fair features booths from 30 local and a dozen international trail groups. Visitors can attend workshops, watch a demonstration of trail construction, enjoy a rock wall, mini disc golf course, playground equipment, mountain bike pump track, prizes and more. This year's fair is part of a 2015 International Trails Symposium, May 17 to 20. Metro is a sponsor of the symposium. Contact: Mel Huie, 503-797-1731

**Cooper Mountain Nature Park:** Visitors to Cooper Mountain Nature Park this spring and summer might also encounter a new, temporary addition: cattle. As part of efforts to restore native prairies, a pilot project starting this month will bring a small number of cattle to Cooper Mountain's prairies to graze. Grazing is a traditional and effective method of land management. The cattle are being evaluated as a possible way to help maintain a healthy prairie by controlling weeds and creating space for native, rare wildflowers to flourish. This project is being coordinated in partnership with the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District. Contact: Curt Zonick, 503-797-1729

**Killin Wetlands Natural Area:** An open house scheduled for May 19 will give community members a chance to share their thoughts about a conceptual design for public access at Killin Wetlands Natural Area near Banks. The design will be based on suggestions received from community members at a Feb. 18 open house. The 590-acre site is popular with birders in search of American bitterns and soras. The site has no formal public access, and birders often set up scopes on Cedar Canyon Road. The planning work is being funded through money from the 2013 parks and natural areas levy. Farming will be allowed to continue on another portion of the site. Contact: Alex Perove, 503-797-1583

**North Tualatin Mountains:** Metro is scheduled to hold a community open house May 6 to share several options for each of the four properties in the North Tualatin Mountains and to listen to community feedback about each option. Metro is considering some options that could allow off-road cycling as well as hiking, trail running, wildlife viewing, picnicking or other activities. The options will also include opportunities for habitat restoration, conservation education, volunteering and other priorities that community members identified. Contact: Dave Elkin, 503 797-1876

## Land and transportation

*Working together, our region can reduce traffic, improve our economy and maintain the qualities that make this region a great place. Metro works with 25 cities and 3 counties to protect local community values and preserve our region's farms and forests.*

The **Southwest Corridor Plan** will hold a community forum on May 12 at Wilson High School in Portland. Topics to be discussed include the tradeoffs of high capacity transit options in Southwest Portland, and more information about the benefits and impacts constructing transit tunnels. Additionally, the public will be invited to share thoughts on an interactive online mapping tool from May 5 to 19. Project contact: Noelle Dobson, 503-797-1745.

The ninth edition of Metro's **Bike There! map** will be released May 25. The map features 1,008 miles of on-street routes and 550 miles of off-street trails, displayed through a color-coded legend with suitability ratings to help riders choose the routes that best fit their comfort and ability. The new edition will be sold for \$6, a price reduction of \$3. It is dedicated to Mark Bosworth, a former Metro principal GIS analyst who disappeared in southern Oregon during the 2011 Cycle Oregon ride. Metro's Regional Travel Options program will mark the launch with an Instagram photo contest and events. Project contact: Marne Duke, 503-797-1551.

On May 6, Metro's **Transit Oriented Development Program** celebrates the grand opening of The Rose Apartments, a two-building, 90-unit apartment complex in Portland's Gateway District. The development is close to trails, stores and the MAX Blue Line, and features a mix of market-rate and income-restricted housing units. Project contact: Jonathan Williams, 503-797-1931.

The **Oregon Brownfields Coalition**, a diverse statewide public-private coalition which Metro has helped convene, is supporting two bills in the 2015 Oregon Legislature. One bill, HB 2734, would allow local governments to create land banks and property tax abatements. The other bill, HB 2289, would create a state income tax credit to foster cleanup and redevelopment of polluted sites statewide. Project contact: Brian Harper, 503-797-1833.

**New LIDAR data:** Metro has partnered with 28 cities and other groups around the Portland region to produce new, detailed LIDAR mapping. The new data includes detailed ground elevation maps, as well as information about vegetation, building height, floor-to-area ratio and more. Combining the work among partners provided more than \$5 million in savings. For more information, contact Karen Scott-Lowthian, 503-797-1700

## Waste reduction and management

*Metro manages our region's garbage, recycling and compost systems, and encourages residents and businesses to make the most of what they don't want.*

**Ask Metro and Haz Tu Parte:** "Ask Metro" and its Spanish counterpart, "Haz Tu Parte," help people find resources related to waste prevention, recycling and disposal, getting around, MetroPaint and healthier homes. These outreach efforts will promote Metro's Tools for Living with radio, print, digital and out-of-home advertising from May through October. Coupon pages and green cleaner spray bottles in English and Spanish will be distributed through community events and partners. Contact: Katie Edlin, 503-799-5567

Metro's **Natural Gardening Program** is now in full swing at farmers markets and other events around the region. In partnership with Oregon State University Master Gardeners, the program talks to tens of thousands of residents each year about safe and healthy yard care and reduction of pesticide use, and provides tools and prompts such as an e-newsletter, coupons for pesticide disposal at Metro's sites and for gardening tools at local retailers, as well as a pledge to reduce or eliminate garden pesticides at home. Contact: Carl Grimm, 503-797-1676

**Let's Talk Trash:** The next Let's Talk Trash event, "Ignoble Rot: Food Scraps as Compost and Energy," will be held 7 p.m. May 5 in conjunction with Science on Tap at the Clinton Street Theater in Portland. David Allaway with DEQ will share insights for different ways of dealing with food scraps while reducing what we throw away. Contact: Ken Ray, 503-797-1508

**Transfer system configuration:** Metro has formed a task force to evaluate the public-private transfer system. The task force's fourth public meeting was April 30. The task force consists of garbage haulers, transfer station operators and other facility operators that handle most of this region's waste. Contact: Ken Ray, 503-797-1508.

**Long-term management of garbage:** In early April, Metro issued a Request for Expressions of Interest in order to gain information from companies about technologies and processes, in addition to landfills, for managing the region's solid waste. Responses are due May 15 and will inform Metro Council decisions this summer and fall focusing on particular technologies for further study and possible procurement. Contact: Rob Smoot, 503-797-1689.

## Visitor venues

***Metro's visitor venues – the Oregon Zoo, the Oregon Convention Center, the Expo Center and Portland's Centers for the Arts – support the livability of our region and promote economic development and tourism.***

**Oregon Convention Center Hotel:** A bill in the Oregon Legislature would clarify Metro's authority to issue revenue bonds to invest in a 600-room Hyatt near the Oregon Convention Center. Senate Bill 927 was approved by the Oregon House on April 27 after passage by the Senate in March. It awaits the signature of Gov. Kate Brown. A legal challenge to the project is pending in the Oregon Court of Appeals. Contact: Andy Shaw, 503-797-1746.

**Oregon Zoo:** Elephant Lands — the fourth of eight major projects funded by the community-supported 2008 zoo bond measure — is scheduled to begin hosting elephants this month. It will open to the public later this year. Elephant Lands is four times larger than the zoo's current elephant habitat, extending around most of the zoo's eastern end, from south of the concert lawn north into the area formerly housing Elk Meadow. Contact: Hova Najarian, 503-220-5714.