



TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE
February 26, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Williams
Judith Gray
Nancy Kraushaar
Katherine Kelly
Joanna Valencia
Chris Deffebach
Karen Buehrig
Don Odermott
Dave Nordberg
Kelly Brooks
Charity Fain
Jared Franz
Cora Potter
Patricia Kepler
Adrian Esteban
Heidi Guenin
Nick Fortey
Lynda David

AFFILIATION

Metro
City of Portland
City of Wilsonville, representing Cities of Clackamas County
City of Gresham
Multnomah County
Washington County
Clackamas County
City of Hillsboro, representing Cities of Washington County
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ODOT
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Federal Highway Administration
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Dave Nordberg

AFFILIATION

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Phil Healy
Jason Gibben
Alan Lehto

AFFILIATION

Port of Portland
WSDOT
TriMet

STAFF: Ted Leybold, Dan Kaempff, Kim Ellis, Grace Cho, Ken Lobeck, Jeffrey Raker, Jamie Snook, Lisa Hunrichs, Lake McTighe, Elissa Gertler, Tom Kloster, Chris Myers, Scotty Ellis, Juan Carlos Ocaña-Chú.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Chair John Williams declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Williams introduced Caleb Winter (Metro) who provided a list of events and discussed upcoming opportunities to participate in events related smart city innovations such as driverless vehicles. He

encouraged TPAC members to stay involved and collaborate on topics and events that could be added to the calendar. The list will be frequently updated and circulated throughout the year.

Ms. Kelly Brooks (ODOT) provided a copy of the “Enhance 150% Project List” and “Proposed Projects for 2015-2018 STIP.” She delivered a brief update about the process for decision making and encouraged TPAC members to comment on the projects online. Mr. Ted Leybold (Metro) noted the timeline for the Enhance process and that JPACT members had expressed interest in discussing the priorities. He noted that Metro will organize a regional conversation about this issue, and that he would bring a discussion framework to the March TPAC for how to respond/provide input, relative importance of each item for the 150%, 110%, 100% list.

Ms. Brooks also discussed the “Freight Formula Funds” and the process and timeline for providing feedback to the Oregon Transportation Commission. At members’ request, Ms. Brooks agreed return to TPAC in the coming months to discuss freight network and funding issues.

Alan Lehto noted that the TriMet private sector partners have agreed to slightly raise payroll taxes to allow for service improvements over the next ten years. As part of that rollout, TriMet will be introducing some scheduling changes as early as March 2016, including early morning and late night trips that will give more opportunities for access to shift work. A public comment period for potential improvements and changes is currently underway.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS.

There were no citizen communications.

4. CONSIDERATION OF THE TPAC MINUTES FOR JANUARY 29, 2015

MOTION: Mr. Phil Healy moved and Ms. Chris Deffebach seconded the motion to adopt the TPAC minutes from January 29, 2015.

ACTION: The motion passed with Ms. Kraushaar and Ms. Brooks abstaining from the vote.

5. 2018 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE: BACKGROUND FOR REGIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM#1

Ms. Kim Ellis, RTP project manager, provided a brief project update. The RTP is updated every four years to meet federal and state planning requirements. The planning effort is an opportunity to update the region’s vision and strategy for investing in the transportation system over the next 25 years. In response to TPAC members’ discussion in January, Ms. Ellis provided a Status Report handout which outlines accomplishments for each of the work groups and engagement activities since her last appearance at TPAC. Ms. Ellis intends to provide this resource to TPAC every two months.

She also provided a memo that included work group meeting summaries, and rosters for each work group. She reminded members that the Metro website provides a portal for updates, documents, and tools at www.oregonmetro/rtp. Overview documents will be provided on the website.

Additionally, Ms. Ellis discussed Metro’s recent online survey. She noted that more than 5,000 people responded to the online survey, which shows a high level of public interest and engagement. Metro communications staff are synthesizing those comments in a summary report for review. Five questions related to the RTP were part of that survey. One of the more surprising trends in responses was related to concerns about the preparedness of the transportation system to extreme weather and natural hazards. Ms. Ellis will bring more detail about the survey results to her next appearance at TPAC.

Ms. Ellis updated the committee on progress for the “Regional Leadership Forums” which will be a series of discussion forums focused on regional transportation challenges of today and the future. Participants will include JPACT, MPAC and invited community and business leaders which will allow opportunities to foster leadership and collaboration, build relationships and provide direction that will shape the 2018 RTP. The first forum is April 22, with former mayor of Minneapolis, RT Rybak. Registration will be required and is expected to be online in March.

6. DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADVANCE RACIAL EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Mr. Juan Carlos Ocaña-Chíu and Mr. Scotty Ellis (Metro) presented highlights of the content of the draft strategic plan, and discussed how best to engage members’ organizations and constituents to solicit feedback on the plan

Dr. Phil Wu, Vice-chair of the Equity Strategy Advisory Committee (ESAC) spoke briefly about the steering committee’s role, which acts as a sounding board for the process, provides checks and balances, and has helped to define the vision and provide insights as the strategy has unfolded. He noted that the draft plan has resulted from a multi-sector effort of public and private entities and community-based organizations.

Committee members expressed appreciation for the presentation, and the team provided additional clarity on several issues that were raised, including:

- public engagement to ensure rights and access for disabled citizens;
- clarification that this is an internal Metro-focused document, but that through the RTP and other programs, Metro will be convening and supporting the regional discussion about this work;
- training and educational efforts about unconscious bias,
- accountability measures and department-specific ways to apply the work;
- process and timeline for individual Metro departments to incorporate tools and resources into programs and initiatives

Chair Williams noted that collaboration with TPAC members and jurisdictions will be important to the success of this effort.

7. MTIP & RFFA POLICY UPDATE

Mr. Ted Leybold and Mr. Dan Kaempff (Metro) provided a briefing regarding the outcomes of public comment opportunity and the policy proposal framework for updating the RFFA policy. The response to the public comment period as well as the workshops showed a high level of interest and engagement with over 7,000 respondents.

The responses focused on the following policy priorities:

- Affirm Climate Smart Strategies policy
- Desire to implement Safe Routes to School (SRTS)
- Continue investment in High Capacity Transit
- Leverage other funding opportunities
- Support for the Step 2 funding split, maintaining separate project categories

From the responses, the workshops, and regional engagement, the following main policy objectives have been identified:

- Investment in Safe Routes to School – There is clearly significant interest around the region in prioritizing safety improvements around schools and developing programs. This could be addressed by increases to the Regional Travel Options program, targeted towards investing in programs at schools – potentially adding \$350 to 700K/year. This could also include a process to review and refine Step 2 project criteria to support SRTS.
- Investment in regional corridors (SW Corridor and Powell/Division) This would increase the high-capacity transit bond, providing the initial local funding commitment to leverage additional sources to develop and build the region’s two new high-capacity transit lines:
- Project development on regionally significant throughways - Are there new ways we can be creative in the use of our flexible funds to improve regionally significant roads? This would include a committed regional partnership to review ways to position for other sources of funding. Potential strategies and their associated trade-offs would need to be considered to ensure successful investment in regional corridors and major throughways.
- Climate Smart Strategies. This could include continued and enhanced investments in RTO, potentially adding \$50-100K per year to allow citizens to use the transportation system more effectively, and the Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) program to which \$50-100K per year could be added.
- Maintain existing investments to ensure continued development of the region’s Active Transportation network

Mr. Kaempff noted that this strategy would provide for near-term successes by ensuring continued investment in active transportation and improvements to safety on arterials. It would create a regional Safe Routes to School investment strategy, and allow our region to follow through on our commitment to Climate Smart Strategies. Long-term outcomes of the framework would include the region’s ability to move forward on two new transit investments, improve freight mobility, and the creation of a suite of regionally significant projects that could potentially leverage additional funding sources.

Committee members expressed appreciation for the presentation, and the team provided additional clarity on several issues that were raised, including

- As criteria are developed, ensuring that multiple outcomes can be achieved, and having more discussion about how specific or flexible the criteria are.
- Clarify RFFA as an all modes funding policy.
- Allow for complex projects to be judged holistically so that the ratios of various project elements meeting RFFA criteria are reflected.
- Clarify HTC bond issues and whether it specifically applies to SW Corridor, Powell-Division or other opportunities. Implications of the new Federal FAST Act were discussed.
- With respect to the proposal to increased investments in RTO –ensure that programs are partnered with infrastructure.
- Clarify project development issues with respect to regionally specific roadways and throughways. With the new funding at federal and state levels, there may be opportunity to partner within the region to accomplish regionally significant projects that would address freight bottlenecks.
- Suggestion to include the TOD program and other regional programs in financial summaries of RFFA funding allocations.
- Specify whether there is a competitive fund for freight projects.
- The bond option may be a unique opportunity to leverage funds.
- Ensure capacity for schools to ascertain priorities, and clarify how those can be administered and managed to ensure a successful endeavor.

Mr. Leybold and Mr. Kaempff will bring this framework to the March 17 JPACT meeting, after which the framework will be further refined and detailed. They will return to TPAC in late March for additional discussion.

8. **ADJOURN** Chair Williams noted that the next meeting be held on March 25, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa Hunrichs", written in a cursive style.

Lisa Hunrichs, Planning and Development

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 26, 2015

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1	Agenda	2/26/16	2/26/16 TPAC Agenda	022616T-01
2	Work Program	2/19/16	2016 TPAC Work Program	022616T-02
3	Meeting Summary	1/29/16	1/29/16 TPAC meeting summary	022616T-03
4	Handout	2/24/16	2018 RTP Status Report	022616T-04
5	Handout	2/18/165	2018 RTP Update Technical Work Group Meetings	022616T-05
6	Memo and attachments	2/24/16	To: TPAC and Interested parties From: Kim Ellis, RTP Project Manager Re: RTP Update – Technical Work Group Meetings	022616T-06
7	Handout	2/24/16	2018 RTP Rosters for Technical Work Groups	022616T-07
8	Report	Winter 2016	Draft Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	022616T-08
9	Memo	2/19/16	To: TPAC and Interested parties From: Cliff Higgins, Planning & Development Communications and Daniel Kaempff, Regional Flexible Funds Project Manager Re: Public feedback to reform regional flexible funds policy	022616T-09
10	Handout	2/1/16	Enhance 150% Project List (Adopted by R1ACT on 2/1/16)	022616T-10
11	Handout	undated	Proposed Project for 2015-2018 STIP	022616T-11