



JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)  
Meeting Minutes  
December 22, 2016  
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Craig Dirksen, *Chair*  
Shirley Craddick  
Paul Savas  
Steve Novick  
Tim Knapp  
Denny Doyle  
Neil McFarlane  
Rian Windsheimer  
Bill Wyatt

AFFILIATION

Metro Council  
Metro Council  
Clackamas County  
City of Portland  
Cities of Clackamas County  
Cities of Washington County  
TriMet  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
Port of Portland

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Bob Stacey

AFFILIATION

Metro Council

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Kathryn Harrington

AFFILIATION

Metro Council

OTHERS PRESENT: Teri Cummings, Michael Williams, Bob Howell, Mark Ottenad, Andrew Singelakis, Roberta Schwarz, John Bildsoe, Doug Riggs, Jamie Lorenzini, Jeff Fuchs, Joy Higgins, April Berthelsen, Brenda Perry, Russ Axelrod, Steve Miesen, Bob Martin, Mark Gamba, Robert Stowell, Edward Schwarz

STAFF: Ramona Perrault, Beth Cohen, Roger Gonzalez, Ernest Hayes, Nellie Papsdorf, Christopher Spencer, Ted Leybold, Dan Kaempff

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

JPACT Chair Craig Dirksen called the meeting to order and declared a quorum at 7:32 a.m.

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION ON JPACT ITEMS**

Mayor Russ Axelrod, City of West Linn: Mayor Axelrod gave testimony on the Regional Flexible Fund Allocation (RFFA) for the Highway 43 Multimodal Transportation Project. He mentioned that Highway 43 was a critical transportation corridor that was aging and facing a decline in infrastructure. He mentioned work that the City of West Linn was doing to revitalize the corridor to

be multi-modal and to better serve the Metro region. He continued to discuss the need for RFFA funding as critical to the project and the benefits of stimulating economic development.

Councilor Bob Martin, City of West Linn: Councilor Martin added to the discussion for the need of RFFA funding for the Highway 43 Multimodal Transportation Project, citing its overloaded capacity increased issues of safety on the corridor. Councilor Brenda Perry stated her concurrence with both Mayor Axelrod and Councilor Martin for the Highway 43 Multimodal Transportation Project.

Mayor Mark Gamba, City of Milwaukie: Mayor Gamba gave testimony on RFFA projects in the City of Milwaukie. He mentioned that the Monroe Street Neighborhood Greenways Project was still desired but that the Highway 43 Multimodal Transportation Project should take priority to increase safe use of the corridor. He suggested that the Highway 43 Multimodal Transportation Project take priority and to revisit the Monroe Street Neighborhood Greenway Project later in time.

Robert Stowell, City of West Linn: Mr. Stowell testified in favor of the Highway 43 Multimodal Transportation Project. He highlighted issues such as a lack of marked crosswalks and minimal road improvements.

Ed Schwarz, City of West Linn: Mr. Schwarz, President of the Savannah Oaks Neighborhood Association in West Linn, testified in favor of the Highway 43 Multimodal Transportation Project. He stated that Highway 43 was an important corridor for travel and that improvement of the road would help revitalize commercial properties in the area.

John Bildsoe, City of Gresham: Mr. John Bildsoe, member of the Powell-Division Steering Committee, testified in favor of the Division Street Sidewalks Project. He distributed photographs of the area and stated the need for designating more sidewalks along the corridor with the development of bus rapid transit (BRT).

### **3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair Dirksen, JPACT members, and staff provided updates on the following items:

- Chair Dirksen shared that Councilor Shirley Craddick, Metro Council, would serve as Deputy President of JPACT in 2017.
- Chair Dirksen expressed appreciation to the attendees of the recent Regional Leadership Forum and mentioned that Ms. Kim Ellis, Metro Staff, would provide an update of the discussions at the next JPACT meeting.
- Chair Dirksen discussed a recent active transportation related trip to Seattle and that there would be an upcoming lunch and learn to discuss shared concepts.
- Chair Dirksen mentioned the Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) Program and efforts by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to restructure CMAQ funding. He stated that all options would be considered and that testimony from external parties would have a clear impact on decision-making.
- Chair Dirksen announced that there would be an upcoming trip to Washington D.C. in the spring of 2017 for JPACT members and alternates.
- Chair Dirksen acknowledged that the meeting was the final JPACT meeting of 2016 and noted key accomplishments with the legislative agenda and RFFA, and expressed appreciation to members and alternates for their engagement.
- Chair Dirksen acknowledged departing JPACT members with certificates of appreciation.

#### **4. CONSIDERATION OF THE JPACT MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2016**

**MOTION:** Councilor Shirley Craddick, and Mr. Bill Wyatt seconded, to approve the November 10, 2016 minutes.

**ACTION:** With all in favor, the motion passed.

#### **5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **5.1 JPACT Finance Subcommittee Recap**

Chair Dirksen gave an update on the JPACT Finance Subcommittee.

*Key elements of the presentation included:*

- Chair Dirksen informed JPACT about decisions prioritized through flexible funds and discussed an anticipated meeting for January 2017 to focus on active transportation.
- Chair Dirksen explained project development for connecting Metropolitan Area Express (MAX) lines to create an interconnected system. He mentioned that an Environmental Review (ER) was slated for completion in December 2017. He added that the project was a \$2 to 2.4 billion project with 50% of funding matched from the federal government with commitment from the Regional Flexible Funds.
- Chair Dirksen continued to discuss the Division Transit Project and outer Division improvements and methods to improve how buses function and the people they serve.
- Chair Dirksen remarked on the project timeline and federal requirements, stating that they were moving forward with the locally preferred alternative (LPA).

*Member discussion included:*

- Commissioner Paul Savas stated his appreciation for the JPACT Finance Subcommittee presentations but mentioned that he would like to see a more clearly defined role of the JPACT Finance Subcommittee through establishing guiding principles. Chair Dirksen responded that the primary goal was for the JPACT Finance subcommittee to make recommendations to JPACT related to funding sources and going to voters for a regional funding package.
- Commissioner Steve Novick highlighted the importance of an enhanced transit concept and ways to challenge existing transit related issues such as congestion. He gave thanks to Mr. Neil McFarlane for TriMet's willingness to use funds to support the diversity of transit needs. Chair Dirksen asked if there were any objections to having staff take review potential impacts of enhanced transit.
- Mayor Tim Knapp stated that the enhanced transit discussion was critical but questioned what the impacts would be if funding was delayed or deferred. Chair Dirksen responded that staff evaluation would help determine potential effects, and that CMAQ funding was equivalent to one-third of RFFA funds.
- Mr. Neil McFarlane stated his appreciation working with staff and elected officials and asked that a report be given back to JPACT. He continued to discuss ways to cope with rising density in the region and methods to maximize use of current road-space. Commissioner

Paul Savas mentioned that a portion of the analysis was dedicated to impacts on people served by transit.

- Mayor Danny Doyle asked for clarification on serving underserved communities. Chair Dirksen responded that staff would determine impacts.

## **5.2 JPACT Legislative Agenda**

Chair Dirksen provided a background on the Legislative Agenda for the region, advocating that JPACT members meet with State of Oregon transportation representatives to ask that the State invest in regionally significant projects as well. He then introduced Mr. Noah Siegel, Metro Staff, to lead the discussion.

*Key elements of the presentation included:*

- Mr. Siegel noted that the goal of the discussion was to go through the general legislative agenda and to bring JPACT a written format for adoption in January.
- Mr. Siegel stated that the Oregon Transportation Forum (OTF) had issued their legislative priorities and shared the key aspects of their proposal.
- Ms. Siegel highlighted that the objectives outlined in JPACT's Legislative Agenda would define their priorities, including the Climate Smart Strategy and Flexible Fund Strategy.
- Mr. Siegel remarked that Governor Kate Brown outlined state priorities and that the Metro region was signified as an area of economic importance.
- Mr. Siegel mentioned a need for funding to support maintenance, congestion relief, public transit and seismic resiliency.
- Ms. Siegel went through several projects highlighting the cost of funding. He added that methods should be considered that reduce a need for federal funding.
- Mr. Siegel discussed several strategies including bonding of funds and jurisdictional transfer. He touched on the potential for funds matching with ODOT and using funds dedicated to cities and counties in the region.
- Mr. Siegel stated that there was support for use of lottery funds and CMAQ funding.

*Member discussion included:*

- Chair Dirksen stated that he was supportive of the package and highlighted similar efforts from other states going through funding processes.
- Commissioner Paul Savas mentioned that he had received comments from Washington County and Clackamas County that there was a need for a larger funding package. He stated it was important to receive statewide support for several of the projects. He remarked that it may be best to prepare for a large scale campaign and reduce reliance on regional bonds.
- Commissioner Steve Novick mentioned the potential for an increase in the gas tax.
- Councilor Shirley Craddick asked that there be a discussion on support from the state legislature to consider a regional package. She stated that the Metro region share costs by building on state funds.
- Mayor Tim Knapp stated his concern that unless the economy grew significantly there would not be enough funds to invest in infrastructure without popular opinion in favor. He remarked that there was a need to start the discussion at the maximum funding level possible and to work down as arguments were made.

- Mr. Rian Windsheimer highlighted his belief that the regional commitment be framed in the formation of a request. He stated that the funding level was large but that there would be a return on the investment and that it should reflect fiscal constraint.
- Commissioner Steve Novick highlighted discrepancies between Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington in their transportation funding efforts and asked if there was a comparative study on taxes and funding in the two areas.
- Commissioner Paul Savas stated that he observed jurisdictions in the city of Seattle working cohesively with non-governmental organizations (NGO) and that more jurisdictions campaigned with the business community.
- Mr. Rian Windsheimer requested that the wording of CMAQ towards funding be more focused in terms of air quality.

### **5.3 Regional Flexible Fund Step 2 Project Selection**

Chair Dirksen introduced Mr. Ted Leybold and Mr. Dan Kaempff, Metro staff, to discuss the Regional Flexible Fund project selection with recommendations made from the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC).

*Key elements of the presentation included:*

- Mr. Kaempff stated that work was done with TPAC to make recommendations for project selection. He stated that several sources of qualitative and quantitative information were used to create a holistic recommendation and that Example B in the packet was recommended for adoption.
- Mr. Kaempff went through the recommendation made by TPAC outlined by the projects selected in the packet. He stated that the current package would not meet the needs of all the projects outlined but that several strategies existed to help accommodate that issue.
- Mr. Kaempff stated that project descriptions were available in the packet.

*Member discussion included:*

- Chair Dirksen asked if there was general approval from JPACT, but also reminded members to consider the remarks made by Mayor Mark Gamba earlier in the meeting.
- Mayor Tim Knapp mentioned discussions from the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) and the C4 Metro Subcommittee and that they determined Example B in the packet to best meet regional needs. He touched on the Highway 43 project as critical and stated he was unsure what projects in the package were for consideration of federal funding.
- Mr. Rian Windsheimer mentioned a need for public participation and comments to recognize what was best for the people served rather than through a technical rank.
- Commissioner Paul Savas stated his concurrence with Mayor Mark Gamba and Mayor Tim Knapp on siding with the Highway 43 project and revisiting the Monroe Street project later in time in order to best serve communities.
- Commissioner Steve Novick discussed projects specific to Portland and that efforts were made to currently funded projects to scale back on costs.
- Councilor Bob Stacey stated that project evaluation was subject to human judgment. He added that there was a good mix of projects in the package with support from communities they serve.

- Chair Dirksen summarized options on Example B and stated continued efforts to look at defederalization and utilize other funding sources.

**ADJOURN**

JPACT Chair Dirksen adjourned the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Spencer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christopher Spencer  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 22, 2016**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>
2.0	Testimony	12/22/16	Testimony from Mayor Russ Axelrod on RFFA	122216j-01
2.0	Testimony	12/22/16	Testimony from Edward Schwarz on RFFA	122216j-02
2.0	Testimony	12/22/16	Testimony from John Bildsoe on RFFA	122216j-03
2.0	Testimony	12/22/16	Testimony from Robert Stowell on RFFA	122216j-04
2.0	Testimony	12/22/16	Testimony from Roberta Schwarz on RFFA	122216j-05
5.1	PowerPoint	12/22/16	PowerPoint: Legislative Agenda for the Region	122216j-06
5.3	PowerPoint	12/22/16	PowerPoint: 2019-21 RFFA: Developing the Step 2 Project Recommendation	122216j-07
5.3	Handout	12/22/16	2019-21 RFFA Project Summary	122216j-08
5.3	Handout	12/22/16	Enhanced Transit Corridors	122216j-09
5.3	Handout	12/22/16	Enhanced Transit Corridors Typologies	122216j-10
5.3	Memo	12/22/16	PBOT to JPACT – Motion to Amend Step 1.A	122216j-11