



Meeting minutes

Meeting: **Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) meeting**

Date/time: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 | 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Place: Virtual video conference call meeting via Zoom

Members Attending

Tom Kloster, Chair
Raymond Eck
Tom Armstrong
Laura Terway
Anna Slatinsky
Denny Egner, Milwaukie
Jamie Stasny
Adam Barber
Chris Deffebach
Jennifer Donnelly
Jeff Owen
Ramsay Weit
Andrew Morphis
Jae Douglas

Affiliate

Metro
Washington County Community Representative
Largest City in the Region: Portland
Second Largest City in Clackamas County: Oregon City
Second Largest City in Washington County: Beaverton
Clackamas County: Other Cities
Clackamas County
Multnomah County
Washington County
Dept. of Land Conservation and Development
Service Providers: TriMet
Housing Affordability Organization
Redevelopment/Urban Design
Public Health & Urban Forum: Multnomah County

Alternate Members Attending

Carol Chesarek
Erik Olson
Katherine Kelly
Laura Weigel
Jean Senechal Biggs
Julia Hajduk
Kevin Cook
Seth Brumley
Anne Debbaut
Rachael Duke

Affiliate

Multnomah County Community Representative
Largest City in Clackamas County: Lake Oswego
Largest City in Multnomah County: Gresham
Largest City in Washington County: Hillsboro
Second Largest City in Washington County: Beaverton
Washington County: Other Cities: Sherwood
Multnomah County
Oregon Department of Transportation
Dept. of Land Conservation and Development
Housing Authority Organization

Guests Attending

Colin Rowan
Mark Wilcox
Abby Hall
Jonathan Plowman
Zac Christensen

Affiliate

Multnomah County Drainage District
Multnomah County Drainage District
Environmental Protection Agency
Washington County

Metro Staff Attending

Lake McTighe, Transportation Planner
Sasha Pollack, Resiliency Coordinator
Ted Reid, Principal Regional Planner
Molly Cooney-Mesker, Communications

Rebecca Small, Regional Planner
Matthew Hampton, Transportation Planner
Tim O'Brien, Principal Regional Planner
Ally Holmqvist, Senior Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Tom Kloster called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Introductions were made. New MTAC members that attended the meeting were introduced and welcomed to the committee. An orientation will be planned for the newest appointed MTAC members soon.

- Denny Egner, Planning Director with the City of Milwaukie announced that he is retiring and this would be his last MTAC meeting. Acknowledgement and appreciation for the years of service to the committee was shared. The position of Clackamas County: Other Cities on MTAC will be filled with future recruitment.

2. Comments from the Chair

- **COVID-19 updates and information from Metro and Region** (Chairman Kloster)
Chairman Kloster announced that Metro Regional Center was expected to remain closed through January 2021, due to the COVID-19 continuation and safety concerns. Meetings will continue virtually for the committees and public. The Oregon Zoo is reopening in a limited manner which offers families and the community a safe, friendly and educational outing.

Jeff Owen announced that TriMet is messaging safety to travel on transit for essential trips right now. TriMet will adjust schedules moving forward as transit ridership and COVID-19 changes occur. Information on COVID-19 updates can be found at <https://trimet.org/health/>

- **Fatal crashes update** (Lake McTighe)
Ms. McTighe provided MTAC with an update the number of fatal crashes in the 3-county Metro region. Data as of June 22 reported 7 fatal crashes, bringing the total so far this year to 40. Since the time of the memo there have been 7 more fatal crashes in the region. Several contributing factors including increased vehicles on roadways and speed are adding an increased number of fatalities.

Andrew Morphis asked if tracking and reporting was being done for bicycle related crashes. Ms. McTighe noted pedestrian and bike fatalities related to vehicle traffic incidents were reported in the data.

Jeff Owen noted the increased fatalities were sobering but necessary to learn and understand. It was noted the memo in the packet was difficult to find. The committee received the packet in a different pdf format with instructions on how to locate the documents in the packet provided.

- **Middle Housing Webinar Announcement for July 16** (Rebecca Small)
Ms. Small announced the Modern Middle Housing Virtual Tour on July 16, sponsored by Metro, the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Portland, and the Build Small Coalition. Cities in Oregon are re-introducing “middle” housing back into residential neighborhood as they respond to new state laws and the changing needs of our communities. Ms. Small encouraged the committee to register to learn about the state of middle housing and explore six exciting

projects. Asked if the tour would be recorded, Ms. Small reported the entire event, including questions and answers would be recorded and posted on the Build Small Coalition webpage; <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-partners/guides-and-tools/guide-equitable-housing/build-small-coalition>

3. Committee and Public Communications on Agenda Items – none given

4. Minutes Review from MTAC May 20, 2020 meeting. No additions or corrections to the MTAC May 20, 2020 meeting.

5. Multnomah County Drainage Districts and Levee Ready Columbia Projects (Colin Rowan and Mark Wilcox, MCDD/Laura Hicks, US Army Corps of Engineers)

Mr. Rowan and Mr. Wilcox provided information on the Multnomah County Drainage Districts (MCDD) with a background of flood history issues. The catalyst for finding solutions to future flooding lead to the Levee Ready Columbia Projects, and the USACE Feasibility Study.

Levee Ready Columbia is a partnership of over 20 organizations committed to a collaborative approach to floodplain management and modernizing the 27-mile levee system along the Columbia River in urban Multnomah County. Several studies, risk assessments and economic/environmental studies were conducted by MCDD, leading to the US Army Corps of Engineers Feasibility Study that began in 2018.

The USACE Feasibility Study, authorized by the Federal Government, is a formal three-year process used to identify problem areas, develop solutions to address them, and determine if there's federal interest in investing in local infrastructure. Ms. Hicks explained that if federal interest is identified, a report is delivered to Congress with recommendations and accompanying funding requests to complete the projects described in the report. The study area is a cornerstone to the regional, statewide, and national economy with over \$16B in annual economic activity generated from businesses and over \$7.2B in property values within the levee protection area.

In April 2020 the agency concluded that the tentatively selected plan, Alternative 5, is the plan to continue to refine and develop. A map of this area with proposed projects in the study was presented.

Next steps in the process:

- Further refinement of the height of protection, alignment, and pump stations
- Continue outreach and public involvement in coordination/collaboration with the local sponsor
- Refine costs and benefits of the single plan
- Complete feasibility level design analysis in support of a certified cost estimate
- Complete optimization, economic, and plan formulation processes to select a recommended plan
- Finalize NEPA and other Environmental Law Compliance actions

The pathway to modernizing the levee system is an important opportunity to bring expertise and federal funds to our area and help make the necessary repairs and improvements to our levees to meet safety standards and ensure continued reduced flood-risk for communities, property, and the environment.

Senate Bill 431 (ORS550) created an Urban Flood Safety & Water Quality District (UFSWQD) with the purpose of improving, operating, and maintaining “works” to:

- reduce the risk of flooding
- to protect people and property from flood risk
- convey water
- respond to flood emergencies
- contribute to improved water quality, habitat and landscape resiliency

The Levee Ready Technical Advisory Subcommittee scoping efforts has established recertification projects in the expanded district. The next steps in the process:

Feasibility Study: Complete Study, submitting final report Apr '21; next phase is Pre-engineering and Design

LRC Recertification Process: Multi-Benefit Workshops to complete project scoping; discussion non-FS project funding

UFSWQD: The Initial Board establishes Mission, Vision, Values and Strategic Plan; develops revenue model

Further information on the Levee Ready Columbia Projects and USACE Feasibility Study can be found:

<http://mcdd.org/who-we-are/ufswqd/>

<https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-and-Plans/Portland-Metro-Levee-System/>

6. **Building Blocks for Regional Resilience** (Sasha Pollack, Metro/Laura Hanson, RDPO/Abby Hall, EPA)
The Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RPDO) and Metro are the recipients of one of four national awards to partner with the EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program and FEMA in applying their new *Regional Resilience Toolkit*. The presenters explained that the toolkit and workshop will provide our region with technical assistance to build large-scale resilience to natural disasters, and to help us align resilience priorities across different federal, state, and local planning requirements and funding sources.

The workshop for our 5-county (Clark, Columbia, Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington) region is scheduled for Fall 2020 and will focus on the region’s natural hazard mitigation plans. The goal of the Regional Resilience Workshop for Natural Hazard Mitigation is to support regional coordination by establishing regional priorities and expanding equity in local Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans in order to reduce our vulnerability to natural hazards and to leverage federal and philanthropic funding opportunities.

FEMA and EPA collaborated to create the Regional Resilience Toolkit to better address the need for large-scale action on resilience. By elevating a region-wide conversation about mitigation needs in our communities, the RDPO stakeholders and Metro will enhance visibility of key opportunities to advance priority natural hazard resilience efforts at scale.

The workshop objectives are:

1. Identify shared regional priorities for natural hazard mitigation.
2. Integrate equity through Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning

3. Promote regional collaboration and coordination
4. Identify potential funding opportunities for regional mitigation actions.
5. Inform the next NHMP update cycle with COVID-19 pandemic considerations
6. Connect NHMPs to other local and regional planning efforts
7. Elevate existing mitigation work and enhance local efforts

Further study with the Regional Resilience to natural hazards that was identified as what was missing: climate change, equity lens, hazards (public health, biological threats, terrorism & cyber-attacks), identification of responsible agency/bureau, project cost estimates, actionable action items, living document (usability with a web interface), and goal-oriented planning.

At the workshop this fall, feedback on these questions would be asked for input: Are the chosen hazards universally relevant? Beyond Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, what other plans should we be looking at? Who should we make sure is in these workshops? What regional scale policies and projects can help improve resiliency? MPAC will be presented with materials on the planned workshop in September with workshop outcomes and top five regional priorities selected as next steps.

Comments from the committee:

- Chairman Kloster asked if State MPO's could participate in the workshop with input on wildfire smoke impacts and other natural hazard mitigation plans. Ms. Hall agreed that peer-to-peer feedback was beneficial and could be possible with varying sizes of workshops and discussions.
- Denny Egner asked how local governments were being reached with plans for the workshop. Ms. Pollack reported that the first outreach would be to larger cities in the region, counties and jurisdictions, and through Emergency Planning Management arms of these entities. As more relevant entities are identified with interest in attending or adding input on plans, these contacts would be included as well. It was noted that the flyer on the upcoming workshop would be mentioned at the August 7 TPAC meeting.

7. Adjourn

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned by Chair Kloster at noon.

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Miller, MTAC Recorder

Attachments to the Public Record, MTAC meeting, July 15, 2020

Item	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1	Agenda	07/15/2020	07/15/2020 MTAC Meeting Agenda	071520M-01
2	MTAC Work Program	07/17/2020	MTAC Work Program, as of 07/17/2020	071520M-02
3	MTAC/TPAC Workshop Work Program	07/17/2020	MTAC/TPAC workshop Work Program, as of 07/17/2020	071520M-03
4	Memo	07/02/2020	TO: MTAC members and interested parties From: Lake McTighe, Regional Planner RE: Fatal crash update	071520M-04
5	Handout	07/15/2020	Modern Middle Housing Visual Tour Flyer	071520M-05
6	Meeting minutes	05/20/2020	Draft minutes from MTAC May 20, 2020	071520M-06
7	Handout	07/15/2020	Regional Resilience Workshop for Natural Hazard Mitigation	071520M-07
8	Handout	07/15/2020	Regional NHMP Analysis	071520M-08
9	Handout	07/15/2020	Regional Resilience Meeting Roadmap	071520M-09
10	Presentation	07/15/2020	The Portland Metro Levee System and the USACE Feasibility Study: Modernization and Addressing Vulnerability	071520M-10
11	Presentation	07/15/2020	Building Blocks for Regional Resilience Workshop: Regional Mitigation	071520M-11