



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Meeting minutes

Meeting: JPACT
Date/time: Thursday, October 16, 2025
Place: Metro Regional Center

Attendees

Multnomah County Commissioner Shannon Singleton
Washington County Commissioner Nafisa Fai
Clackamas County Commissioner Paul Savas
City of Gresham Mayor Travis Stovall
City of Cornelius Mayor Jef Dalin
City of Lake Oswego Mayor Joe Buck
Chris Ford, ODOT
JC Vannatta, TriMet
Dan Eisenbeis, Port of Portland
Ali Mirzakhali OR DEQ
Vancouver Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle
Carley Francis, WashDOT
Leann Caver, C-Tran
Metro Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez
Metro Councilor Ashton Simpson
Councilor Christine Lewis

Absent

City of Portland Keith Wilson

Chair Updates

Ted Leybold provided the monthly Fatal Crashes report
Members enjoyed the monthly Transit Minute video

Consent Agenda

Consideration of the September 18, 2025 JPACT Meeting Minutes
Motion: Savas
Second: McEnerny-Ogle
Action: Motion passed

Information/Discussion Items

Cooling Corridors

Metro staff provided a presentation.

Gonzalez thanked staff and commented what a privilege it is to feel cool and comfortable.

Savas would like a map that shows where cooling and hydration refuges can be found during heat events.

Vannatta appreciates this work and would like to include consideration of stress testing our transportation infrastructure system.

Dalin wasn't aware of the public resource of air conditioning units and will add that information to the city's newsletter. He noted that language barriers need to be considered and translation

provided. He also commented that trees are expensive to maintain and public support for neighborhood trees needs to be considered. He also shared that requirements for large sidewalks are pushing out space for trees.

Fai thanked the Metro team for the presentation and felt it had good information. She would like efforts to address heat events to include air conditioning for every low-income housing development and access to shaded outdoor space for the tenants.

Singleton appreciated the Resilience Hub in the report and would like to pursue that. All infrastructure projects, such as for libraries, should include resilience hubs. There's overlap among jurisdictions for managing heat and the region should be coordinated and leverage those opportunities. The County's Health and Transportation team is collaborating to align this work with their current Transportation Safety Action Plan. She also encourages staff to include outreach to the homeless population, because communicating with that community during a heat event is challenging.

Stovall believes this is critical work. He appreciates the work everyone is doing around cooling centers, but this is the next step. East County has a disproportionate impact from heat, and this work aligns with the efforts Gresham is taking. Jurisdictions should coordinate and leverage efforts. He believes the region should over-invest in the areas that have not had investment to mitigate heat.

Mirzakhilili noted employers should take responsibility for protecting workers, and Metro should consider outreach to businesses. Also, with the fires in recent years, clean air stations should be considered in addition to cooling stations.

Singleton would like the team to also consider affordable housing, considering the focus on unsheltered people.

Regional Emergency Transportation Routes Phase 2 Project Update

Metro staff provided a presentation.

Dalin noted you can't get out of Cornelius without crossing a bridge. Washington County is concerned about the change of Cornelius Pass from Tier 1 to Tier 2. It's the only north/south connector. He is also worried about how maintenance can impact emergency routes. They need to be passable.

Eisenbeis wanted to echo the comment on including routes to Tier One hospitals in Portland. That will be important for the emergency and for recovery.

Savas wanted to second the point about bridges. He believes we need some sort of plan that includes routes with the bridges in mind.

Gonzalez noted that the region needs funding for improving our bridges and maintaining our infrastructure. He mentioned the state as a partner in that, and he advocated for the need to continue to work on state funding for transportation.

Singleton added that during the JPACT trip, the region included resiliency as a need in our transportation system. The county has been working with the congressional delegation on that issue and how to communicate about it better to the federal government.

Forward Together: The Road Ahead & Planning for Service Cuts
Gonzalez recognized JC Vannatta for an introduction of the topic.

Vannatta shared that TriMet is facing high costs and expenses are exceeding revenues. Ridership has not improved as much as expected. He explained that administrative cuts and layoffs are happening. He noted TriMet is looking internally before cutting level of service.

TriMet staff Kate Lyman provided a presentation.

Dalin shared that frequency should be the first thing to cut, not the service. Service is a lifeline for people. He thinks the Mayor's Forum should meet with TriMet about this, too.

Savas agreed with Dalin. Clackamas County is very alarmed by this. He believes HB 2017's intent was to expand new service, but now that funding is being used to backfill. He noted 200,000 in Clackamas County live in the TriMet transit district but don't get service, and now TriMet is considering further cuts. He doesn't like the wording in TriMet's survey. He believes there should be a more scientific survey on this than what is under consideration. He asked Vannatta to explain why the rosy projection in February has changed. Vannatta answered that TriMet expected an increase in STIF that didn't happen. STIF revenues are down.

Eisenbeis thanked TriMet staff for their transparency and acknowledged layoffs are hard. He encouraged TriMet to work with employers on Line 77 that services the Troutdale industrial area to understand when service can support shifts for workers.

Singleton acknowledged this is difficult and appreciates the engagement. She asked if staff could share QR codes instead of URLs for sharing on social media for convenience for the public. She also asked staff to engage with community based organizations and in other places where people are already gathered. Holding independent events is often difficult for people to attend.

Mirzakhali appreciated how difficult this is and asked how TriMet is approaching this effort: the best level of service for some people or some service for the most people. That question needs to be surfaced better. He's concerned about having a system that is subpar across the board.

Fai said Washington County has a letter for TriMet's board. They understand the difficult situation and the impact of the State Legislature's inaction on funding. Also, they are disappointed to see proposed cuts to local shuttles that connect to TriMet's system. Those services are critical, and they would like TriMet to reconsider those cuts.

Lewis noted 1 in 4 Oregonians don't or can't drive. She pointed to the state for this transit funding problem. She said the state has refused to be a true partner in transit, and she listed examples across the country where states work closely with local jurisdictions on transit. She believes it's unacceptable. She would like to understand how much funding goes straight into service. She suggested there might be ways other agencies can take on some of the transit rolls to bridge this gap, followed by a unified region that demands the state be a real partner.

Dalin underscored the need for local circulators. He believes cuts to those services can't be on the table.

Gonzalez shared that transit is a factor in all of the region's goals. He wants JPACT leaders and regional decision makers to lean in more on funding.

JPACT Member Updates

There was none.

Adjournment

Councilor Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 9:29 AM.