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JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2023

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Juan Carlos González
Christine Lewis
Paul Savas
Nafisa Fai
Carley Francis
Mingus Mapps
Ashton Simpson
Joe Buck
Jesse Beason
Rian Windsheimer
Travis Stovall
Shawn Donaghy
Anne McEnery-Ogle
Sam Desue
Ali Mirzakhali
Curtis Robinhold

AFFILIATION

Metro Council
Metro Council
Clackamas County
Washington County
Washington State Department of Transportation
City of Portland
Metro Council
Cities of Clackamas County
Multnomah County
Oregon Department of Transportation
Cities of Multnomah County
C-Tran
City of Vancouver
TriMet
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Port of Portland

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Steve Callaway

AFFILIATION

Cities of Washington County

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Brett Sherman
Michael Orman
Jef Dalin
Brendan Finn
Emerald Bogue
Scott Langer

AFFILIATION

Cities of Clackamas County
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Cities of Washington County
Oregon Department of Transportation
Port of Portland
Washington State Department of
Transportation

OTHERS PRESENT: Sandy Glantz, John Doe, Millicent Williams, Gregg Snyder, Kirsten Pennington, Ariadna, Indi Namkoong, Andrew Bastasch, Erich Lais, Della Mosier, Dyami Valentine, Kirsten Beale, Sarah Iannarone, Everett Wild, Brett M., Mike Mason, Brenda Bartlett, Josh Channell, Doug Riggs, Margi Bradway, Dave Roth, Jean Senechal Biggs, Will Farley, Zoie Wesenberg, Alan Lehto, Jamie Stasny, Jeff Gudman, Mark Ottenad, Rebecca Stavenjord, Betsy Emery, Annessa, Karen Buehrig, Chris Smith, Matt Ransom, Brooke Jordan, Jess Zdeb, Kate Hawkins, Rory Bialostosky, Gwenn Baldwin, Neelam Dorman, Katherine Kelly, Ed Chamberland, Dwight Brashear, John Charles, Mandy Putney, John Mermin, Joe Cortright, boldaddy, Gerritt Rosenthal, Dave R., Anna Howe, Allison Boyd, Matthew Hall, John Serra, Ashley Bryers, Laurie Lebowsky-Young, Mike McCarthy, Daniel Moltke, Jaimie Lorenzini

STAFF: Connor Ayers, Jemeshia Taylor, Grace Cho, Kristin Dennis, Carrie MacLaren, Eryn Kehe, Victor Sin, Ken Lobeck, Ted Leybold, Matt Bihn, Roger Alfred, Craig Beebe, Andy Shaw, Lisa Hunrichs, Kim Ellis, Jaye Cromwell, Ally Holmqvist, Catherine Ciarlo, Caleb Winter

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

JPACT Chair Juan Carlos Gonzalez (he/him) called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Chair Gonzalez called the role and declared a quorum.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Metro staff Connor Ayers read aloud the instructions for providing public testimony.

City of Happy Valley City Councilor Brett Sherman discussed the two amendments from MPAC, one about the Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP) and the other about the toll revenue sharing agreement. He suggested that the JPACT members approve both amendments as originally proposed by MPAC.

City of West Linn Mayor Rory Bialostosky discussed the RMPP and how it is not clear how the benefits would outweigh the costs. He also raised concerns about diversion impacts to local streets and about the low-income toll program.

Sarah Iannarone explained that the pricing amendments ensure more oversight of ODOT to make sure that pricing is implemented through an equity lens and that local partners are treated fairly. She noted that the RMPP only works if local concerns are addressed, if the public can access the transportation options, and if system pricing is used to mostly manage demand.

Indi Namkoong explained that real congestion pricing can promote clean and affordable transportation options, but the pricing mechanisms need to be implemented thoughtfully and equitably.

Joe Cortright explained how the climate analysis in the RTP is not adequate and contains major contradictions. He mentioned that they are failing to meet their climate objectives and the inconsistency with their number of miles per day assumptions.

Ayers mentioned that there was testimony submitted after the deadline and that it will be distributed to the JPACT members later.

Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

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3. **UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR**

Metro Planning and Development Department Director Catherine Ciarlo (she/her) shared the names and ages of traffic victims during the month of October:

Morgan A Helms, Clayton Grant Kenyon, 67, Legend Michael Turay, 4, Jeremy David Clement, 29, Jerry Lynn Roth, 66, Chris William Garfield, 44, Ilya Ilech Bosovik, 24, Balbina Andrade, 63, Unidentified, Unidentified, Jamal Haji Hassan Kimo, 44, Jose Luis Macedo, 27, James Brian Fenimore, 65, Brandon Paul Coleman, 33, Mark S. Sinclair, 68, Bradley J. Burchard, 43, James E. Johnson and Lisa T. Johnson, 64 and 60, Alexander Joseph Vallejo, 22.

Chair Gonzalez gave an update regarding the 2027-2030 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and thanked Councilor Lewis for testifying at the OTC meeting.

ODOT Regional Manager Rian Windsheimer mentioned that OTC appreciates public comments and that he shared information on arterial safety at the meeting. He also shared that there are rolling slow-downs on I-205.

Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Gonzalez noted that there were two items on the consent agenda, the Consideration of the October 19, 2023 JPACT minutes and Resolution No. 23-5365, For the Purpose of Amending and Adding New Federal Discretionary Plus Metro TSMO Program Awards to the 2024-27 MTIP.

MOTION: Port of Portland Executive Director Curtis Robinhold moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Metro Councilor Ashton Simpson.

Clackamas County Commissioner Paul Savas raised concerns that there were no agendas or printed materials available for the meeting.

Chair Gonzalez asked Metro Staff to print out the agenda. He mentioned that the meeting packet was very large.

ACTION: With all in favor, the consent agenda passed.

Metro staff distributed agendas to the JPACT members.

Seeing no further discussion, Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

5. **ACTION ITEMS**

5.1 Ordinance No. 23-1496, For the Purpose of Amending the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan to Comply with Federal and State Law

Chair Gonzalez introduced Metro staff Kim Ellis.

Ellis noted the 2023 RTP timeline, the final steps toward adoption and the 2021-23 engagement efforts. She discussed TPAC's recommendation to JPACT for the Consent Items, the Discussion Items and for Ordinance No. 23-1496. During the presentation, the TPAC recommendation for Policy Topic 2, Recommendation 2 slide did not display correctly. Metro staff distributed the copies of the slide to the JPACT members.

Chair Gonzalez explained the procedure for voting on the action items and for amendments.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion on Action #1.

MOTION: Metro Councilor Christine Lewis moved to approve Action #1, seconded by City of Gresham Mayor Travis Stovall.

Commissioner Savas asked if his amendment under Chapter 2 should be introduced after Item #5.

Ellis confirmed the amendment should be after Discussion Item #5.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion on Action #2.

MOTION: City of Lake Oswego Joe Buck moved to approve Action #2, seconded by Windsheimer.

Windsheimer commented on the importance of safety to ODOT and that they have informed conversations about safety. He noted that some people would like more detail and that ODOT is committed to sharing safety data about the unbundling.

Multnomah County Commissioner Jesse Beason noted that he will need to leave before the end of meeting, but his staff will read something into the record on his behalf.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion on Action #3.

MOTION: Mayor Buck moved to approve Action #3, seconded by Mayor Stovall.

Windsheimer noted that there are still questions that need to be answered, such as pricing implementation and the NEPA alternative. He commented on the need to continue the conversation at other bodies, like at the OTC.

Windsheimer moved to amend the TPAC recommendation for Discussion Topic 2 by replacing Recommended Action 2, Page 7, Exhibit C, Part 1 language regarding the RMPP project with "Retain the I-5 and I-205 Regional

Mobility Pricing Project (RTP #12304) as a single project within the RTP Constrained Project List.”

MOTION: Windsheimer moved to approve the amendment, seconded by Mayor Stovall.

Chair Gonzalez asked Metro Staff to explain the process and where the amendment would be.

Ellis explained that Windsheimer’s amendment would replace one of the TPAC recommendations for Policy Topic Two listed from page 5 to 7.

Mayor Buck explained that the amendment ensures that the public have an opportunity to help shape the project as the project advances. He raised several questions about the RMPP, including the cost of the RMPP tolls and the mitigation of diversion. Mayor Buck also raised concerns that the RMPP disproportionately impacts certain communities and that the MTIP amendment process is insufficient for the RMPP

Chair Gonzalez asked Mayor Buck if he was speaking about the original MPAC amendment, not Windsheimer’s amendment.

Mayor Buck confirmed that he was discussing the original MPAC amendment.

Councilor Lewis noted the confusion in the community on the purpose and the need for tolling on I-205. She explained that there was not a refined planning process for when there is no Gas Tax and where they use pricing on highways. Councilor Lewis also raised commented on the need to create alternatives and choices.

Commissioner Savas explained that the inconsistency and contradictions from other ODOT staff has led to confusion on what the RMPP is. He explained that aspects of diversion have not been addressed, including the increase in vehicle hours traveled and decreased safety on local roads. Commissioner Savas asked Windsheimer if ODOT has committed to any mitigation project for the diversion from I-205.

Windsheimer mentioned that the project is currently being developed and will continue to be changed as they respond to different concerns. He mentioned that the accountability and additional steps described in Topic A through G are appropriate, but his amendment is about the removal of the project of the fiscally constrained list.

Commissioner Savas noted that the mitigation that have they asked for is not present in the document. He mentioned that there needs to be more work to address the needs and questions being asked by the region.

City of Portland Commissioner Mingus Mapps explained that he supported Windsheimer’s amendment. He noted that the impacts of tolling need to be addressed, but not with last minute changes to the RTP.

City of Cornelius Mayor Jef Dalin raised concerns about accidents, that his community has no other travel alternatives besides driving and about increased diversion. He mentioned that many people in his community are unable to afford their bills. Mayor Dalin explained that despite these many concerns, he will still vote for these items to move the RTP forward.

Washington County Commissioner Nafisa Fai mentioned that she will vote for Windsheimer's amendment and the RTP. She recommended that ODOT continues to engage and listen to the public during the planning process.

Windsheimer appreciated hearing their concerns and explained that his amendment is about making sure the project is in the fiscally constrained list. He noted that they can still have conversations of how to implement the plan.

Mayor Buck raised concerns about the short notice and short comment periods. He noted the importance of having a robust public engagement for the process.

Councilor Lewis noted that the Clackamas County community is concerned because of the process and the lack of clarity. She hoped that they involve more local input into the process.

Chair Gonzalez noted that the JPACT members mentioned the importance of accountability and the MTIP process. He noted that many members would support a more robust engagement and a comprehensive work plan from Metro staff.

Metro Staff Catherine Ciarlo mentioned the MTIP process and that JPACT can ask Metro staff to have a more robust MTIP engagement process. She summarized the concerns and needs that the JPACT members had described, such as more time to hear information and more transparency.

ACTION: Commissioner Savas, Mayor Buck and Councilor Lewis opposed. With all else in favor, the amended motion passed.

Metro Staff Carrie MacLaren explained that the motion effectively replaced the main motion, so there did not need to be a subsequent action on that vote unless there were other amendments.

Windsheimer confirmed that his amendment and the rest of the TPAC recommendation for Policy Topic 2 were approved.

MacLaren confirmed that his amendment and the rest of the recommendation were approved.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion on Action #4.

MOTION: Councilor Simpson moved to approve Action #4, seconded by Mayor Buck.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion on Action #5.

MOTION: Robinhood moved to approve Action #5, seconded by Councilor Lewis.

Commissioner Savas suggested that the tools in Chapter 8 needed to be more robust and available to the public for consideration. He mentioned that the data should be available for them and the public to view.

Ellis explained that Chapter 8 describes the performance, but not a lot of detail on the tools. She mentioned that Appendix J describes the tool and that another appendix describes all the analysis tools that Metro uses. Ellis reminded the JPACT members about the climate expert panel in June of 2022 and that there is no perfect tool.

Ellis mentioned that part of the recommendations was in response to feedback they had received, including testimony from Joe Cortright on tracking GHG emissions for the region. She noted that Metro Staff is working to create an inventory that would be reported out and on forecasting.

Mayor Dalin mentioned measurement stations for particle monitoring and the possibility of putting these stations near the highway to collect data about air emissions. He suggested using this local data to then determine if these policies would make positive change.

Councilor Lewis noted that they intentionally trying to reduce climate impacts as they grow. She hoped that they can work with state partners to give them tools for an urban region.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Administrator Ali Mirzakhali explained that DEQ does operate an in-road monitor and that he can share that information.

Chair Gonzalez mentioned advances in artificial intelligence and in analysis of data that could be helpful for them.

ACTION: Commissioner Beason left the meeting prior to the vote. With all in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion on Action #6.

MOTION: Councilor Lewis moved to approve Action #6, seconded by Mayor Stovall.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion to approve the Final Action.

Commissioner Savas called to amend Objective 1.2 System Completion to add "..., prioritizing investments in areas that have historically received fewer state and federal transportation funds, to ensure a regionally-balanced system."

MOTION: Commissioner Savas moved to approve the amendment, seconded by Mayor Buck.

Mirzakhali mentioned areas with less population and have received less investments. He asked how they would balance both investment in the regional network and in low populated areas.

Commissioner Savas explained that the amendment is about under-served areas that are populated. He agreed that they should not make investments where no one lives.

Commissioner Fai asked Metro Staff what the implications of the amendment are to the RTP. She also asked how they would reconcile areas that have more money than others with this amendment.

Ellis noted that the amendment is changing an objective within Chapter 2 of the RTP under the goal for Mobility Options. She explained that the policy direction of the objective as written was to work towards completing gaps in all parts of the region, including underserved areas. Ellis noted that the RTP policies are prioritizing completing gaps in high injury corridors and equity focus areas.

Mayor Stovall asked if the language of the amendment would make them use a specific type of approach as they make funding decisions. He mentioned that he is supportive of funding underinvested areas but was not sure about the language of the amendment. Mayor Stovall also asked how they would measure underinvestment.

Commissioner Mapps appreciated the spirit of the amendment, but needed to know how the amendment would impact their priorities.

Councilor Lewis noted that the objective is on page 2-9. She suggested on thinking about how people live and work in the region, instead of just on the funding formulas and the jurisdictional boundaries. Councilor Lewis agreed with the objective as written because it is a part of their work to spend funding at the local level in the best way possible.

Windsheimer mentioned an OTP policy that was relevant to the objective. He believed that historically receiving fewer transportation funds was not the appropriate measure.

Commissioner Savas explained that the amendment is intended to be high-level, like other sections in the RTP. He commented that people still need to go through these gaps to go to work.

ACTION: Commissioner Fai, Commissioner Mapps, Mayor Stovall, Windsheimer, Desue, Robinhold, Mirzakhali, Councilor Simpson, Councilor Lewis, Francis, Mayor McEnery-Ogle and Donaghy opposed. The amendment did not pass.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion to approve the Final Action.

MOTION: Councilor Simpson moved to approve the final action, seconded by TriMet General Manager Sam Desue.

ACTION: Commissioner Savas opposed. With all else in favor, the motion passed.

Seeing no further discussion, Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

5.2 Resolution No. 23-5348, For the Purpose of Adopting the 2023 Regional High Capacity Transit Strategy

Chair Gonzalez introduced Metro staff Ally Holmqvist.

Holmqvist explained a few procedures and the next steps in the process.

Chair Gonzalez called for a motion to recommend to the Metro Council approval of the High Capacity Transit Strategy, including Resolution No. 23-5348 and its exhibits.

MOTION: C-Tran Chief Executive Officer Shawn Donaghy moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mayor Stovall.

Commissioner Savas commented that there are areas where there is a severe shortage of transit services options, and those areas are not being addressed.

Mayor Dalin commented that more work needs to be done on Highway 99 West. He mentioned that they will continue to advocate for Highway 99 West to be moved to a higher tier.

ACTION: Commissioner Savas opposed. With all else in favor, the motion passed.

Seeing no further discussion, Chair Gonzalez moved onto the next agenda item.

6. UPDATES FROM JPACT MEMBERS

Windsheimer reminded the committee about the slow-downs on I-205.

7. ADJORN

Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 9:35 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jemeshia Taylor
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2023

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
3.0	Presentation	11/16/2023	Fatal Crash Slide	111623-01
5.1	Presentation	11/16/2023	Adoption of the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan Presentation	111623-02
5.1	Document	11/16/2023	Implications of Removing the Construction Phase of the Regional Mobility Pricing Project from ODOT's Fiscally Constrained List in the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan	111623-03
5.1	Document	11/16/2023	Revised ODOT Amendment on RMPP	111623-04
	Testimony	11/16/2023	City of Oregon City Mayor Denyse McGriff Testimony	111623-05
	Testimony	11/16/2023	City of West Linn Mayor Rory Bialostosky Testimony	111623-06
	Testimony	11/16/2023	John Charles Testimony	111623-07