

JPACT Worksheet

Agenda Item Title: Resolution No. 25-5495: For the Purpose of Endorsing the Locally Preferred Alternative for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project – JPACT APPROVAL AND RECOMMENDATION REQUESTED

Presenters: Melissa Ashbaugh, Metro

Purpose/Objective

Ask JPACT to approve Resolution No. 25-5495 and to submit it to Metro Council for approval. Approval of the resolution endorses the 82nd Avenue Transit Project Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) and directs staff to prepare amendments to the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan reflecting the LPA.

The LPA demonstrates regional consensus on the general project parameters. After extensive public engagement, technical analysis, and collaboration across agencies, and direction from the steering committee, staff recommended a draft Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the steering committee to consider.

On January 16, 2025, the 82nd Avenue Transit Project Steering Committee unanimously recommended the LPA for the 82nd Avenue transit project.

The recommended LPA for high-capacity transit on the 82nd Avenue corridor is Frequent Express (FX) bus rapid transit with general station locations indicated on the map, operating between Clackamas Town Center Transit Center and Cully Boulevard and NE Killingsworth Street Area. (See Exhibit A to Resolution No. 25-5495.)

Outcome

The 82nd Avenue corridor has been identified by the region as a top priority for transit investment. It is called out in multiple adopted plans including the 2009 Metro Regional High Capacity Transit (HCT) System Plan, the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and the 2023 Regional Transit Strategy, which designates 82nd Avenue as a Tier 1: near-term HCT corridor, the highest priority for HCT investment in our region.

Project outcomes identified in the RTP are improved travel between Clackamas Town Center Regional Center and important destinations in southeast and northeast Portland with easier, faster and more reliable bus service as well as necessary safety and accessibility improvements, paving and signals.

The JPACT approval and recommendation to Metro Council and subsequent Metro Council approval of the LPA resolution will allow Metro staff to continue working with TriMet and other project partners to:

- Amend the 2023 RTP to reflect the LPA and a high-level funding plan
- Pursue federal funding
- Complete federally-required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation
- Refine design and costing
- Coordinate with City of Portland, Clackamas County, ODOT, and other partners as needed, on construction and design for improvements along 82nd Avenue
- Support the implementation and construction of the project
- Open a new FX bus line along 82nd Avenue in 2029

The resolution calls for LPA endorsement and directs staff to prepare amendments to the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan to reflect the LPA. The project is currently listed in the 2023 RTP. However, the 2023 RTP needs to be amended to reflect the LPA defining the mode, route, and general station locations and a high-level funding plan. The next steps and timeline for that future action include:

- Summer 2025: staff coordination to prepare amendments to reflect the 82nd Avenue LPA, as well as the TV Highway and Montgomery Park Streetcar LPAs
- Fall 2025: Public comment period
- Fall/Winter 2025: Review/discuss amendment and public comment at MTAC, TPAC, MPAC, JPACT, Metro Council
- Spring 2026: Seek adoption of RTP amendment

If JPACT does not approve and recommend endorsement to Metro Council and Metro Council does not endorse the Steering Committee LPA recommendation, the committee would need to restart to discuss changes, and all local jurisdictions would have to amend their endorsements of the LPA.

What has changed since JPACT last considered this issue/item?

Metro staff presented to JPACT on the 82nd Avenue Locally Preferred Alternative in February to answer any questions and get feedback prior to asking JPACT to make a recommendation for endorsement to Metro Council. The LPA has not changed since JPACT's discussion in February.

Since that time, Metro has presented to TPAC, MTAC, MPAC and the Metro Council. While there were questions around the LPA and next steps, there were no requests to amend/change the LPA. On May 2, 2025, the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) recommended that JPACT approve Resolution No. 25-5495.

In addition, the agency partners have endorsed the LPA via resolutions or letters of support.

Partner endorsements include:

- TriMet adopted Resolution 25-03-15 – Recommending to the Metro Council Adoption of the Locally Preferred Alternative for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project as Part of the Regional Transportation Plan on March 26, 2025.
- Multnomah County adopted Resolution No. 25-023- Approval of the 82nd Avenue Transit Project Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) on April 17, 2025.
- Port of Portland endorsed the LPA with a letter of support dated May 2, 2025.
- ODOT endorsed the LPA with a letter of support dated May 5, 2025.
- City of Portland adopted Resolution No. 37706 (Document no. 2025-093) and Exhibit C to Portland Resolution No. 37706 - Adopt the Locally Preferred Alternative for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project and Conditions of Approval on May 21, 2025.
- Clackamas County endorsed the LPA with a letter of support dated June 10, 2025.

What packet material do you plan to include?

- Resolution No. 25-5495, For the Purpose of Endorsing the Locally Preferred Alternative for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project
- Exhibit A to Resolution No. 25-5495: 82nd Avenue Transit Project LPA Language and Map
- Staff Report to Resolution No. 25-5495
 - Attachment 1: Local Actions of Support (1.a. through 1.f.)