

Attachment 1 – 28-30 Regional Flexible Fund Draft Bond Allocation Scenario – TPAC Comments

At the March meeting of TPAC, Metro staff provided an overview of the draft bond allocation scenario seeking a TPAC recommendation to JPACT to release the draft bond allocation scenario for public comment. After robust discussion and deliberations over a motion and amendments to the motion, TPAC could not reach consensus to move forward with a recommendation to JPACT. However, TPAC’s discussion and comments on the draft bond allocation scenario conveyed by members are summarized here for JPACT information. Comments organized by topic.

A recording of the meeting can be found at: <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/regional-leadership/metro-advisory-committees/transportation-policy-alternatives-committee>

Draft Bond Allocation Scenario Comments

- Some members of TPAC expressed they are unable to support the draft bond allocation scenario.
 - Different members noted they are unable to support the draft bond allocation scenario because their priority candidate project is not proposed to receive the full amount of bond proceeds requested.
- Some members of TPAC indicated support for the draft bond allocation scenario, but asked for recognition the draft bond allocation scenario remains fluid.
- Some TPAC members requested to see a second draft bond allocation option with different allocation levels of bond proceeds for JPACT consideration.
 - Some members asked to see a bond allocation scenario which increases the allocation level of bond proceeds to the transit capital projects, with particular emphasis on the frequent transit (TriMet FX) projects. This request was considered but did not receive majority support of the committee.
 - Another ask was for a scenario to support an investment of bond proceeds in all three transit categories eligible in this bond, but with priority allocations to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Capital Investment Grant (CIG) projects. This request was considered but did not receive majority support of the committee.
- Several TPAC members requested Metro staff communicate to JPACT the following:
 - With the draft bond allocation scenario not fully funding any of the projects requested amount of bond proceeds, but in particular for the FX projects/CIG projects, it creates significant risk on all the project’s ability to move forward as envisioned. Additional time is needed to process the implications prior to taking action on a final bond allocation scenario.
 - Some TPAC members suggested JPACT put forward only the list of candidate projects with the overall amount of bond proceeds available for the public comment period and not with individual allocation of bond proceeds to candidate projects.
- Some TPAC members reiterated and requested Metro staff include additional information about how the requested bond amount fits into each project’s funding strategy, including any leveraged funding and local funding represented in each project proposal as a result of the bonding amount.
- One TPAC member continued to stress the regional significances of the candidate projects despite geography. The same member encouraged regional partners and Metro staff to reach a draft bond scenario which creates regional unanimity even without uniformity.

Process Questions

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- TPAC members requested flexibility in the timing of different bond scenario development activities while recognizing the need to meet the July 2025 timeline for adoption of the 28-30 Regional Flexible Fund Allocation.
 - TPAC members noted the uncertainty at the federal level as well as the discussions during the state legislative session may impact or influence the funding strategy for several of the candidate projects. Several suggested taking more time to see how the overall funding landscape evolves before putting forward a final bond allocation scenario for TPAC, JPACT, and Metro Council action.
 - Several TPAC members asked whether information on the draft allocation scenario can be structured to meet the Program Direction process objective while allowing for more time to work through the specific details between public comment and up to the requested action in July 2025.
- Several TPAC members noted that the action to amend the content of the draft bond allocation scenario for release to public comment is a JPACT decision, and not one in which TPAC staff representatives have authority to make on behalf of their agency's role in the projects.

Public Comment Questions

- Several TPAC members provided input and asked questions as it pertains to the public comment format and how Metro plans to engage the public on the draft bond allocation scenario.
- Additionally, TPAC members asked about the level of detail that will be shared on the draft bond allocation scenario as part of the public comment.
- A TPAC member suggested that the public comment materials connect the draft bond allocation scenario to implementation of goals and values in the Regional Transportation Plan.