



# Memo

Date: June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Subject: JPACT Priorities for the 2025 State Transportation Package

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**Purpose:** A shared position statement that describes Metro and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) transportation values and priorities. This statement will be the foundation for our comments and engagement in processes leading up to a 2025 State transportation funding package.

**Background:** JPACT's 2025 State Transportation Package values and priorities are rooted in visioning conversations to date with regional partners and the 2023 update to the Regional Transportation Plan, which is a blueprint to guide investments for all forms of travel – motor vehicle, transit, bicycle and walking – and the movement of goods and freight throughout the Portland metropolitan region. The Regional Transportation Plan identifies current and future transportation needs and investments, and outlines what funds the region expects to have available over the next 25 years. The plan is updated every five years with input from community members, business and community leaders and governments as an opportunity to work together towards a complete transportation system.

## **JPACT Priorities for a State 2025 Transportation Package:**

The Greater Portland metropolitan area wants a safe, reliable and equitable transportation system that supports our quality of life, environment and economic prosperity. We aim to build and operate a system that connects people to places that matter, gets products to their destination locally and across the globe, and gives families reliable and affordable options to move and contribute to the long-term health of our region.

Our region needs continued investment to achieve these goals. The Portland metro region accounts for more than 40 percent of the State's population and is the epicenter of Oregon's economy. As our region continues to evolve to support growing industries, housing and community centers, commerce, and tourism, we need expanded transportation options and solutions that prepare our entire State for a brighter future.

The 2025 State transportation package provides an opportunity for all levels of government and community to work together and deliver a better transportation system for the future. Our region is focused on preparing for future disruptions in technology, the urgency of climate action and resiliency and an expected Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. Economic vitality and recovery depend very much on the efficiency and reliability of our transportation system, and we lack the funding at the state and local level to respond to these opportunities and challenges. We are at a pivotal moment and seek partnership and leadership from the State.

Our communities need:

- **Short-Term Funding Solutions.** Stabilize our existing state and local transportation system funding sources so we can prioritize the operations and maintenance of our existing facilities. Retain the existing 50/30/20 State Highway Fund revenue split.
- **Long-Term Sustainable Funding.** Invest in developing long-term, sustainable revenue solutions to provide much needed state and local operations and maintenance dollars for multi-modal investments into the future. Ensure local agencies maintain taxing authority for new types of funding and continue to receive a proportional local share of all applicable revenues.

## Attachment A

- To Finish What We Started. Build government trust and accountability by ensuring the successful completion and leveraging of federal funds available for the major bottleneck projects identified for the Portland Metro Region in HB 2017.
- Safe Urban Arterials and Main Streets. Increase investment in safety-focused state programs like Great Streets that prioritize complete solutions to improving the most dangerous urban arterials through a single program. These investments should prioritize safety on major travel corridors where developing housing and job opportunities compound the disrepair.
- Transit. Increase state funding options for transit capital and operations, to improve and expand transit service statewide. Access to reliable, affordable, and convenient transit is vital to ensuring that Oregon's transportation system is equitable and reduces its climate impacts.
- Resiliency. Ensure that our critical transportation infrastructure like airports and bridges are able to withstand large scale, known and unknown, climate and natural disasters and adapt infrastructure for the needs of future generations.

The Greater Portland metro area is committed to advancing robust and meaningful programs that support these priorities. Together we can create legislation that responds to the evolving economic and environmental needs across the state and our region.

DRAFT