

DRAFT Values and Outcomes for the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan

The purpose of this document is to convey values and desired outcomes for the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. The RTP defines the outcomes for regional transportation in the Portland metropolitan region for the next 25 years.

The RTP is a blueprint to guide investments for all forms of travel – motor vehicle, transit, bicycle and walking – and the movement of goods and freight. The plan identifies current and future transportation needs, investments to meet those needs and what funds the region expects to have available to over the plan period to build priority investments. The plan is updated every 5 years, and the next update is due in 2023.

Metro staff drafted the values and outcomes below based on input received during the 2023 RTP scoping phase. Since October 2021, Metro staff facilitated discussions of the Metro Council, regional advisory committees and county coordinating committees, conducted stakeholder interviews and held a community forum and focus groups to inform the draft values and outcomes below.

The values and outcomes will be reviewed and discussed by the Metro Council, Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity (CORE), the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC). These committees will play an important role in the final adoption of the RTP in 2023.

VALUE: RACIAL EQUITY

OUTCOMES

- Recognize and reverse patterns of historic, systemic racism and inequities related to transportation in the region.
- Strive to eliminate transportation system inequities and advance equity rather than just mitigating or doing no harm.
- Prioritize and center the voices of people and organizations representing Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities and other marginalized and underserved communities to achieve equity for all.
- Build an equitable transportation system that connects all people to their destinations.

ACTIONS

- Center the needs and priorities of BIPOC and other marginalized and underserved communities throughout the planning and policymaking process – from setting goals and priorities to policy development to collecting and analyzing data to prioritizing projects to evaluating success.
- Work with decision-makers on a common definition of equity and clear understanding of what investments are needed and where to advance racial equity and implement the regional transportation equity policies.
- Update equity data and analysis methods using Equity Focus Areas (EFAs) to identify areas of concentration of BIPOC and other marginalized and underserved communities to be prioritized for investment.
- Ensure that community partners have input and influence both how equity data is presented in the RTP and how results are interpreted and communicated.
- Develop new policies and best practices for anti-displacement for integration into the plans and projects in the RTP.
- Develop strategies for community stability to address potential displacement of low-income and BIPOC communities.

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VALUE: CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AND RESILIENCE

OUTCOMES

- Ensure continued reduction in greenhouse gases by meeting or exceeding the statewide targets for the region.
- Support future development and affordable housing in transit corridors and centers designated in the 2040 Growth Concept, where services are located and more travel options are available.
- Lead the transition to a low-carbon transportation system by planning for and invest in low-carbon travel options and supporting infrastructure and services.
- Use pricing tools as a means to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including the tools identified in Metro's *Regional Congestion Pricing Study (RCPS)* Report.
- Incorporate low-carbon technology into policies, plans and projects, including electric vehicles, electric bikes, electric scooters and other emerging technology to help meet emission reduction targets.
- Increase resilience of the transportation system to the effects of climate disruption and other disasters.

ACTIONS

- Update the Climate Smart Strategy to incorporate the latest data, best practices and strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our region.
- Update vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction target to align with meeting state greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- Improve climate data, methods and analysis tools to advance the region's ability to evaluate progress in meeting state greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- Invest in multi-modal projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including but not limited to transit, biking and walking, shared trips and other types of low-carbon mobility options.
- Update the Regional High Capacity Transit (HCT) Strategy and vision for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) to provide equitable access to rapid transit across the region.
- Develop policies on congestion pricing to provide a framework in the RTP that informs individual projects and plans that include congestion pricing or tolling.
- Consider emerging trends in technology in updating the Climate Smart Strategy.
- Revisit and refine the Climate Smart Strategy policies and fully incorporate the updated policies in the RTP, including:
 - Implement adopted local and regional land use plans.
 - Make transit convenient, frequent, accessible and affordable.
 - Make biking and walking safe and convenient.
 - Make streets and highways safe, reliable and connected.
 - Use technology to actively manage the transportation system.
 - Provide information and incentives to expand the use of travel options.
 - Make efficient use of vehicle parking and reduce the amount of land dedicated to parking.
 - Support Oregon's transition to cleaner, low carbon fuels and more fuel-efficient vehicles.
 - Secure adequate funding for transportation investments the support the Climate Smart Strategy.
- Incorporate best practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the safe and efficient movement of goods and people.

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VALUE: SAFE AND HEALTHY STREETS

OUTCOMES

- Aim to eliminate fatal and serious injury crashes by 2035 by identifying priorities for improving safety and comfort for people traveling on the region's urban arterials.
- Prioritize investments in universal design and high-quality, connected, and safe pedestrian, bicycle, and transit networks, focusing on increasing safety in high-risk locations and on high injury corridors in Equity Focus Areas.
- Adopt policies and frameworks to allow for transfer of state-owned urban arterials to local jurisdictions, when and where appropriate, using the best practices and findings of Metro's Jurisdictional Transfer Assessment (JTA) Study.

ACTIONS

- Update High Injury Corridors to identify corridors to be prioritized for investment to complete all gaps in regional bicycle and pedestrian networks and ensure safe and convenient access to transit stops and stations.
- Identify best practices and strategies for investing in the region's urban arterials, many of which are High Injury Corridors.
- Develop a strategy for urban arterials in the region that aims to address their complex needs, including the need for investment in safety and related bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure using urban design best practices and standards.

VALUE: MOBILITY

OUTCOMES

- Maintain the transportation system that already exists in a state of good repair.
- BIPOC and other marginalized and underserved communities have equitable access to safe, reliable and affordable travel options, job opportunities, and key community places (such as medical, school, grocery, social and community services).
- Provide accessible, safe, affordable, and equitable transportation options to better connect people with opportunities and to the destinations they want to reach (e.g., education, jobs, services, shopping, places of worship, parks and open spaces, and community centers).
- Congestion is managed on the throughway system by implementing a comprehensive urban mobility strategy that includes congestion pricing and other demand management and system management tools and expanding safe, reliable and affordable travel options.
- Connect affordable transportation options to affordable housing to increase access to low-income persons.
- Identify opportunities to increase affordable transportation access to low-income and middle-income jobs, especially in the service industry.

ACTIONS

- Adopt a new multimodal mobility policy and standard, as developed in the Regional Mobility Policy Update, that provides a new approach to measuring the movement of people and goods and adequacy of the transportation system.
- Incorporate findings from the Regional Freight Delay Study, taking into account new trends and changes in urban freight, such as the increase of front-door delivery.
- Consider the growth in freight at ports and intermodal facilities, and the increasing number of distribution centers in our region in evaluating regional mobility.
- Examine how existing Transit Oriented Development programs can align with and support affordable housing programs.

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VALUE: ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

OUTCOMES

- Engage the community and a diverse range of stakeholders through a transparent and inclusive decision-making process within meaningful opportunities for input.
- Communicate the RTP's emphasis on equity, and particularly on the projects that can help eliminate transportation disparities, to partners early and throughout the process.
- Support community partners in shaping the 2023 RTP, including those elements that are led by partner agencies, and strengthen requirements for agency partners to collect and respond to community feedback when developing and prioritizing projects.
- Develop and use data, tools, and best practices that can support future local and regional planning and investment decisions.
- Communicate the interrelationships between the three priority outcomes of climate, safety and equity – marginalized communities have identified climate and safety as equity issues, because they disproportionately experience the impacts. Prioritize the many investments that address all of these priorities.
- Prioritize transformational change (decision-making processes throughout the RTP update) over merely relying on transactional change (the final decision).

ACTIONS

- Build on the extensive community input provided during 2018 RTP update, Get Moving 2020 process and the 2023 RTP scoping phase to shape the 2023 RTP policies, analysis, investment priorities, and public engagement.
- Report out progress on RTP at all stages of decision-making to allow for public participation and input.
- Monitor and report progress toward 2023 RTP values and outcomes at key project milestones.