

JPACT Worksheet

Agenda Item Title: Adoption of the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

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Purpose/Objective

The Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) considers the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) recommendation on adoption of the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) by Ordinance No. 23-1496.

Action Requested/Outcome

Approve Ordinance No. 23-1496 and its Exhibits, as recommended by TPAC, including discussion and consideration of MPAC's recommended change to RTP Project #12304 to split the Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP) into two phases.

As part of TPAC's deliberations, the committee specifically recommended that JPACT:

- discuss and consider MPAC's recommendation to Metro Council to split the Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP) into two phases due to the complexity and political nature of the issue;
- approve the other recommended actions that are contained in Exhibit B and Exhibit C (Part 1 and Part 2) to Ordinance No. 23-1496; and
- approve Ordinance No. 23-1496 and its Exhibits.

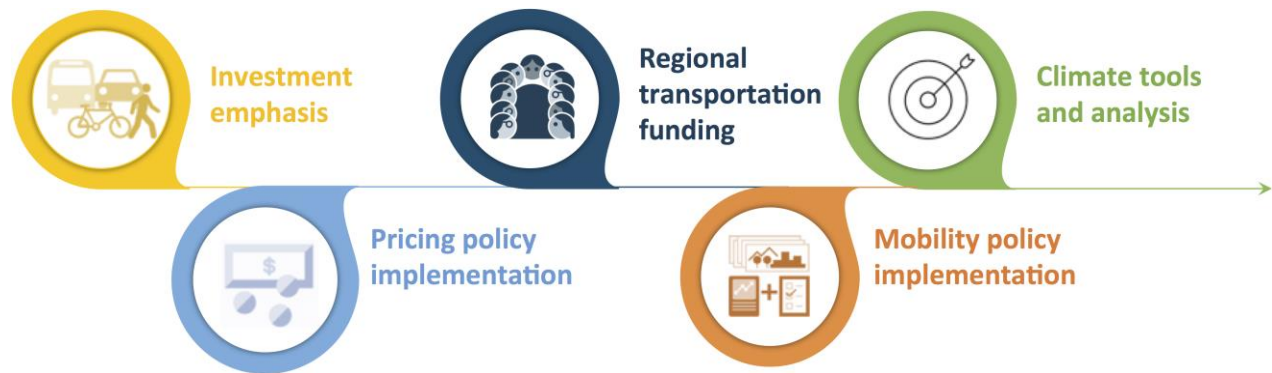
Background

A major update to the [Regional Transportation Plan](#) (RTP) has been underway since Fall 2021. As directed by Resolution No. 23-5343, a final 45-day public comment period was held from Monday, July 10 to Friday, August 25, 2023. The comment period built on the significant engagement and feedback received throughout the update to the RTP.

The comments received during the final public comment period represent a variety of perspectives and interests. Some focus on specific communities or neighborhoods and others focus on serving specific populations or interests across the region. Comments from these organizations and members of the public were considered by Metro staff alongside comments received from jurisdictional partners and regional advisory committees as part of developing the recommendations contained in Exhibit C (Part 1 and Part 2) to Ordinance No. 23-1496.

In September, staff invited JPACT input on draft staff recommendations on five key policy topics identified for further discussion by the JPACT, the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) and the Metro Council as the RTP is finalized for adoption. The policy topics are shown in **Figure 1**. Recommendations on each policy topic are reflected in Part 1 to Exhibit C as recommended by TPAC on November 3.

Figure 1. Key Policy Topics for Discussion and Recommendation



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

On October 18, the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) unanimously recommended that MPAC recommend the Metro Council adopt the 2023 RTP with the changes that are contained in Exhibit B and Exhibit C (Part 1 and Part 2) to Ordinance No. 23-1496. MTAC’s recommendation made some changes to the Metro staff recommendations and recognized that TPAC and JPACT will also make recommendations on Ordinance No. 23-1496 and its Exhibits in November.

On October 25, MPAC unanimously recommended that Metro Council adopt the 2023 RTP with the changes that are contained in Exhibit B and Exhibit C (Part 1 and Part 2) to Ordinance No. 23-1496. MPAC’s recommendation made some changes to the MTAC recommendations and recognized that TPAC and JPACT will also make recommendations on Ordinance No. 23-1496 and its Exhibits in November.

As part of MPAC’s action, MPAC recommended adding a new action to Policy Topic 2 (Pricing Policy Implementation) to amend the RTP Constrained Project List to split the I-5 and I-205: Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP) (RTP #12304) into two phases, retaining only the preliminary engineering (PE) phase in the RTP Constrained Project List and moving the construction-related phases (RW, UR, CN and OT) to the RTP Strategic Project List. This recommendation aimed to ensure local and regional concerns and ODOT commitments are addressed in the upcoming NEPA process and in project implementation.

On November 3, TPAC used the MPAC recommendation as a starting point and made a strong recommendation for the 2023 RTP to move forward for adoption, with 13 voting in support and 3 opposed. As part of TPAC’s deliberations, the committee specifically recommended that JPACT:

- discuss and consider MPAC’s recommendation to split the Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP) into two phases due to the complexity and political nature of the issue;
- approve the other recommended actions that are contained in Exhibit B and Exhibit C (Part 1 and Part 2) to Ordinance No. 23-1496; and
- approve Ordinance No. 23-1496 and its Exhibits.

TPAC's recommendation to JPACT on the RMPP was split vote, with 9 in support of forwarding this item for JPACT discussion and consideration, and 8 either opposed or abstaining.

Concerns raised about the RMPP during the TPAC discussion included:

- desire to ensure the RMPP NEPA work, other project analysis and implementation will:
 - provide the information needed to understand that what is being developed will meet the goals and policies of the RTP and adequately address previous ODOT commitments;
 - provide time to do the analysis to understand the impacts of the project on safety, diversion and other outcomes; and
 - provide time for engagement with public, policymakers and regional advisory committees before the construction phase is included in the RTP Constrained project list.

Concerns raised about the MPAC recommendation to phase the RMPP during the TPAC discussion included:

- precedent of an advisory committee recommending a change to an individual project in the RTP, particularly at the end of a two year process; and
- uncertainty about the timeline, project cost and process changes implications for RMPP and other related tolling projects.

To inform the JPACT discussion on the MPAC recommendation on RMPP, TPAC requested that Metro and ODOT staff provide as much relevant information as possible to JPACT on the precedent of an advisory committee, such as MPAC, recommending a change to an individual project on the RTP project list and the impact of MPAC's recommended change on the RMPP timeline, project cost and process change implications for RMPP and other related tolling projects, including ability of ODOT to complete NEPA. A memo documenting Metro staff responses to questions raised about the RMPP recommendation is included in the packet. ODOT staff may have additional information to share at the meeting.

The ordinance and Exhibits A, B, and C as recommended by TPAC are included in the meeting packet.

- **Ordinance No. 23-1496** For the Purpose of Amending the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan to Comply with Federal and State Law
- **Exhibit A – Public Review Draft 2023 Regional Transportation Plan and Appendices.** This exhibit includes the public review draft 2023 Regional Transportation Plan and appendices, including the financially constrained project list. *Note: amendments to this exhibit will be documented in Exhibit C but those amendments will not be incorporated in Exhibit A until after adoption by JPACT and the Metro Council.*

- **Exhibit B – Regional Framework Plan Amendments.** This exhibit amends the existing Chapter 2 of the Regional Framework Plan with the new goals and objectives included in Chapter 2 of the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan.
- **Exhibit C – Summary of Comments Received and Recommended Actions.** This exhibit documents substantive comments received and Metro staff recommended actions, including proposed amendments to Exhibit A. The comments and recommended actions in Exhibit C are organized in two parts:
 - **Part 1 to Exhibit C: TPAC Recommendations on Key Policy Topics to Discuss** (“*Discussion items*”) – These recommendations, and the public comments they respond to, raise important policy considerations that warrant further policy discussion by MPAC, JPACT and the Metro Council.
JPACT is requested to consider TPAC’s recommendation and make a recommendation to the Metro Council for each of these topics. JPACT may choose to make a recommendation on each of these topics individually or as a package.
 - **Part 2 to Exhibit C: TPAC Recommendations for Consideration on a “consent basis”** (“*Consent Items for Consideration As a Bundle Without Discussion*”) These recommendations address technical edits, fine-tuning, clarifications and substantive comments identified through the public review process for consideration on a “consent basis” without further discussion. New wording is shown in underline; deleted words are crossed out in ~~strikeout~~.
JPACT is requested to consider TPAC’s recommendation and approved these recommended actions as a “consent items” bundle without further discussion.

Final Steps

JPACT will consider TPAC’s recommendation on November 16. The Metro Council will consider MPAC and JPACT’s recommendations on Ordinance No. 23-1496 on November 30, following a final public hearing.

For more information about the update, visit oregonmetro.gov/rtp.

What packet material do you plan to include?

- Ordinance No. 23-1496
- Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 23-1496
- Exhibit B to Ordinance No. 23-1496
- Exhibit C (Part 1) to Ordinance No. 23-1496
- Exhibit C (Part 2) to Ordinance No. 23-1496
- Exhibit D to Ordinance No. 23-1496
- Staff Report to Ordinance No. 23-1496
- RTP Engagement Summary – 2022-23
- Memo: Metro staff responses to questions raised about the MPAC recommendations on the Regional Mobility Pricing Project