



600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov

METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)

Meeting Minutes

April 23rd, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT

Elana Pirtle-Guiney
Candace Avalos
Jerry Hinton
Keith Kudrna
Terri Preeg-Riggsby
Omar Qutub
Joe Buck
Denyse McGriff
Brett Sherman
Sherry French
Ed Gronke
Pam Treece
Beach Pace
Allison Tivnon
Tim Rosener
Miles Palacios
Luis Nava
Wil Fuentes
Ty Stober
Dan Eisenbeis
Duncan Hwang

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Vince Jones-Dixon
JT Flowers
Kristin Greene
Brian Hodson
James Fage
Gerritt Rosenthal
Mary Nolan

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Salome Chimuku
Cathy Keathley
Jim Duggan
Laura Kelly
Katherine Kelly

AFFILIATION

City of Portland
City of Portland
City of Gresham
City of Fairview
Special Districts
Citizen of Multnomah County
Largest City in Clackamas County
Second Largest City in Clackamas County
Other Cities in Clackamas County
Special Districts Clackamas County
Citizen of Clackamas County
Washington County
Largest City in Washington County
Second Largest City in Washington County
Other Cities in Washington County
Special Districts Washington County
Citizen of Washington County
Clark County
City of Vancouver
Port of Portland
Metro Council

AFFILIATION

Multnomah County
TriMet
Oregon Dept of Land Conservation and Development
City in Clackamas County Outside the UGB
City in Washington County Outside the UGB
Metro Council
Metro Council

AFFILIATION

Multnomah County
City of Gresham
Special Districts Washington County
Oregon Dept of Land Conservation and Development
City of Vancouver

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Chair Brett Sherman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Metro staff Ramona Perrault read aloud the instructions for providing public testimony. There was none.

3. COUNCIL UPDATE

Councilor Hwang shared information on the following: Metro Budget update, Solid Waste Fee Setting update, Regional Waste Facilities Plan completion, Zoo expansion and California condor egg update, Regional Refresh Fund availability, Panorama Film Festival, GLEAN, and Cascade Pika Watch.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATE

Mayor Pace attended the grand opening of the Women's Performance Center for the Thorns and new WNBA team.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Sherman read the consent agenda into the record.

MOTION: Mayor Pace made the motion, second by Mayor McGriff.

ACTION: The consent agenda was approved.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Future Vision update

Malu Wilkson and Jess Zdeb presented on the Future Vision project and provided an update.

Chair Sherman asked about building in flexibility to allow for change over time.

Ed Gronke asked if Metro has received pressure from the federal government, particularly as Metro is including racial equity and climate change as part of this project. Wilkinson shared this is a local project with no federal funding.

Council President Hinton asked if it's Metro's job to do marketing for the region. Wilkinson answered that it is not marketing, it is a vision as required by Metro's charter. Hinton replied that he would like to better understand the impact. Wilkinson replied that it's a "north star" for our policy documents.

Chair Sherman asked for the current Future Vision document to be shared with MPAC.

Salome Chimuku asked about Metro's strategy for engagement. She hopes Metro will use best and emerging practices, adding that we can share engagement connections and should be intentional

about how we define success. Chimuku questioned how we can engage those who are already activated and also those who might be looking for ways to be plugged in.

Zdeb expressed appreciation for the offer to reach out to reach as many as we can. She is not envisioning subcommittees, but rather action teams that convene a couple times to get folks together over issues they're passionate about. Zdeb mentioned that it is challenging to ask people to think 50 years into the future when they're worried about the present. It's important to have goals that are achievable that people around the table can see themselves in.

Councilor Stober thanked staff for including Vancouver in the project.

Allison Tivnon wondered about Metro's role in making sure we have open space for the region into the future. Wilkinson answered that Planning is leading this effort, but it is an agency-wide effort, including Parks. Zdeb noted the recent DHM poll pointing out that people in the region say they stay here because of access to open areas and emphasized that research will influence our work.

6.2 TV Highway LPA update

Zdeb provided an update on the TV Highway Transit project.

Sherman asked how many buses it will take to meet the new headways. Zdeb answered it will take 15 buses, which is part of TriMet's financial contribution.

Commissioner Schrader asked how this will be funded, as she understands the federal program for this is oversubscribed, and TriMet is having financial difficulties. Zdeb answered that more people do apply than there is money, and if there are state dollars that don't come through, the committee will reconvene.

Pace explained local agencies have been asked to make up the financial difference, raising concerns that the price will go up. Zdeb answered that it's an ongoing discussion the partners will need to have. Pace suggested Metro consider dedicating RFFA bond dollars just to TV Highway and 82nd, since costs are going up.

Commissioner Treece reminded people this is a long project with many steps. She referenced the transportation measure that didn't pass, noting that the work was not lost, and TV Highway and 82nd are a result of that work.

Gronke is concerned the federal government could withhold funds from Metro and requested clarification about the relationship between TriMet and Metro. Zdeb explained that for major transit projects, Metro convenes all the project partners, and TriMet is at the table. When the LPA is adopted, the leadership role will flip to TriMet.

Chimuku is curious about what access to the workforce will look like and what jobs are accessible now. She is also curious about the workforce currently involved with the project as transportation and childcare are challenges for many. Zdeb answered that childcare did come up in the Equitable Development Strategy.

6.3 Community Connector Transit Study: Policy Framework and Assessment

Ally Holmqvist provided an update on the Community Connector Transit Study.

Sherman asked who holds the liability if there are volunteer drivers. Holmqvist answered that a lot of insurance is required with that model, and we're still looking at what will work for our region.

Hinton noted that Gresham is excited about this project and that the city needs these kinds of connections.

Mayor McGriff believes service in her area is bad. She hopes this project won't let TriMet off the hook for better service. Holmqvist mentioned there are already several small service providers throughout the region and discussed how some of those might be leveraged.

Treece referenced Grove Link and the possibility of a new service in the Bethany area. Washington County is eager to participate in this effective approach.

Pace is happy about identifying the gaps in service and working to fill those so workers can get to work.

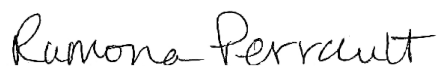
Chimuku mused about leveraging existing community connections for engagement, stating that folks can't use a service they don't know about.

Sherman thinks it's key that transportation be easy and accessible. He explained that the app has to be top notch, for example, and that it's critical to also think about users without access to an app.

7. ADJOURN

Chair Sherman adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ramona Perrault,
Committee Legislative Advisor