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oregonmetro.gov

JOINT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION (JPACT)

Meeting Minutes
February 20th, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shannon Singleton
Nafisa Fai
Paul Savas
Keith Wilson
Travis Stovall
Jef Dalin
Joe Buck
Rian Windsheimer
Sam Desue
Ali Mirzakhali
Anne McEnery-Ogle
Juan Carlos Gonzalez
Ashton Simpson
Christine Lewis

AFFILIATION

Multnomah County
Washington County
Clackamas County
City of Portland
Cities of Multnomah County
Cities of Washington County
Cities of Clackamas County
Oregon Department of Transportation
TriMet
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
City of Vancouver
Metro Council
Metro Council
Metro Council

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Curtis Robinhold
Carley Francis
Leann Caver

AFFILIATION

Port of Portland
Washington State Department of Transportation
C-Tran

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Heidi Lueb
Brett Sherman
Chris Ford
Michael Orman
Devin Reck
Scott Patterson

AFFILIATION

Cities of Washington County
Cities of Clackamas County
Oregon Department of Transportation
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Washington State Department of Transportation
C-Tran

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

JPACT Chair Juan Carlos Gonzalez (he/him) called the meeting to order at 7:30 am. Chair Gonzalez called the roll and declared a quorum.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Metro staff Ramona Perrault read aloud the instructions for providing public testimony.

Chris Smith: Representing No More Freeways, raised concerns about the MTIP amendment

Sarah Iannarone: Executive Director of The Street Trust, raised concerns about securing funding for projects and expressed support for regionalism

3. UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Gonzalez introduced Ted Leybold, who shared the fatal traffic accidents that have occurred since the last JPACT meeting.

Ted Leybold additionally presented the Transit Minute. Leybold provided updates on ridership numbers and trends from 2024, noting the results of recent investments and progress on the regional vision for transportation.

Chair Gonzalez highlighted the redistribution of funds to the MTIP on the consent agenda, the trip to Washington D.C. planned for Fall 2025, and the ongoing State Legislative Session in Salem.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Gonzalez stated that there were three items on the Consent Agenda: Consideration of the January 16 Minutes, Resolution No. 25-5464 For The Purpose Of Amending Nine Existing Metro Regional Flexible Funding Allocation (RFFA) Projects With Awarded FFY 2025 Redistribution Supplemental Funding Into The 2024-27 MTIP, and Resolution No. 25-5465 For the Purpose of Canceling an ODOT Rail Hazards Safety Project and Adding Three New Metro Planning Studies to the 2024-27 MTIP.

MOTION: Mayor Joe Buck moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle.

ACTION: The consent agenda was unanimously approved.

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 28-30 Regional Flexible Fund Allocation- Revised Bond Scenarios Discussion

Ted Leybold, Metro, introduced the topic.

Grace Cho, Metro, presented on the recent work regarding the proposed bonding of a portion of the 28-30 Regional Flexible Fund Allocation (RFFA) Program.

Discussion:

Mayor Joe Buck advocated for a regional approach and specifically mentioned Tualatin Valley (TV) Highway, 82nd Ave and Sunrise Corridor.

Mayor Jef Dalin stated Washington County wants to move the three big corridor projects forward.

Commissioner Shannon Singleton inquired about why the Burnside Bridge takes the largest cut and how the scenarios connect to the original scoring of the projects.

Grace Cho explained Metro staff will meet with Multnomah County staff to review these details. JPACT recommended direction that outlined purpose and principles for the bond proposal, along with an open solicitation and technical evaluation. Metro staff has worked with TPAC to take those projects and measure them against JPACT's direction.

Ali Mirzakhilili expressed interest in a risk analysis to assess partial funding of projects and serving the most constituents.

Grace Cho answered that a risk assessment was done by an outside consultant, and those results were shared at the December JPACT meeting.

Commissioner Paul Savas concurred with Mayor Buck and Mayor Dalin and wanted to recognize there is a substantial imbalance in transportation assets in the region: Clackamas County is lacking investment even though it is home to fastest growing communities and Sunset is a planning project to try to get more funding for transit in Clackamas County. Commissioner Savas supports a diversity of transit types.

Councilor Christine Lewis noted that it is important to fund projects to reach points of significance through all parts the region. Councilor Lewis stated the economic opportunities projects unlock should be a priority, particularly around housing and jobs; state and local funding opportunities can supplement federal dollars.

Commissioner Nafisa Fai emphasized \$84 million is a significant investment. Washington County is a regional partner, and we need to think as a region. Washington County is in support of fully funding TV Highway, in scenarios 3 and 4. Transit needs to cross borders.

Sam Desue reported that TriMet wants to focus on projects the leverage federal funds that significantly improve transit and maximize RFFA to leverage CIG projects; TriMet doesn't have match, and RFFA has historically been the source for match.

Chair Juan Carlos Gonzalez requested that staff remind attendees how the bonds get repaid.

Grace Cho explained future RFFA funds will go toward paying those bonds. Ted Leybold explained what comprises RFFA funds.

Chair Gonzalez asked about the timeline for the upcoming weeks.

Ted Leybold explained Metro staff will be meeting with jurisdictional staff to continue discussing details and synthesizing JPACT feedback.

5.2 Rose Quarter MTIP Discussion

Ted Leybold, Metro, presented on the specifics of the MTIP amendment.

Megan Channell, ODOT, presented on the project and introduced the panel of presenters.

Jeff Morelan, Raimore Construction, presented on the workforce and contracting opportunities.

Caitlin Reff, PBOT, described the City's continued commitment to this project.

JT Flowers, Albina Vision Trust, described their work on the area around Moda Center.

Discussion:

Commissioner Paul Savas underscored the significant amount of time and work toward building the Rose Quarter funding package and expressed his continued strong support of the project. Commissioner Savas recalled learning how much diversion happens when I-5 is congested and that freeway projects help local streets by stopping diversion, in addition to other positive community, safety, and climate impacts.

Commissioner Shannon Singleton expressed appreciation for the work and recalled facilitating the compromise for the Rose Quarter cover design. Commissioner Singleton highlighted the project as an important economic investment opportunity that can be used to uplift families in poverty.

Rian Windsheimer, ODOT, thanked all the partners working with them on this project and recognized the joint effort as well as the Legislature's funding commitment.

Councilor Ashton Simpson thanked partners and emphasized how important the project is for community. Councilor Simpson spoke to continuing to move forward with the project despite chaos at the federal level.

JT Flowers replied that in the face of federal uncertainty, the regional partners need to remain committed to delivering a fully developed and scoped-out project. Flowers reported that proposals to remove funding for the highway cover portion of the project would not be an acceptable outcome for Albina Vision Trust.

Mayor Joe Buck recommended a conversation around the different funding sources for all major projects and assessing the funding risks.

Chair Juan Carlos Gonzalez thanked the panel for attending JPACT and presenting to the committee.

5.3 82nd Avenue Transit Project LPA Update

Melissa Ashbaugh, Metro presented on the 82nd Avenue Project Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) Update.

Discussion:

Councilor Christine Lewis expressed appreciation for the tremendous work among many to make transit function better for people in the region.

Sam Desue thanked everyone for their partnership, and stated the TriMet Board would be voting to endorse the project.

6. MEMBER UPDATES

There were none.

7. ADJOURN

Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emma McIntosh

Emma McIntosh,
Recording Secretary