



Metro

JPACT Federal Policy Agenda

JPACT | April 15, 2021



What we know: Federal Transportation

Earmarks are (mostly) submitted!

Build Back Better/American Jobs Plan

Transportation Reauthorization



Greater Portland starts strong.

Why have a federal policy agenda?

- Speak with one voice
- Support each other
- Money and policy are two sides of the same coin
- Policy matters

Key reauthorization values

Reduce climate pollution

Improve safety and transit

Create jobs and access opportunity,
especially for people of color

Strong alignment
2018 RTP
Get Moving 2020

Robust Funding

Continue:

- More funding overall
- Support local and state innovative funding mechanisms, such as the road user fee
- Bridges of National and Regional Significance program
- Larger federal match for all programs, particularly Capital Investment Grants

Change:

- decreased focus on gas tax, bigger focus on more funding regardless of source

Sustainable Transportation

Continue:

- Support reinstatement of greenhouse gas emissions performance targets, develop VMT performance targets
- Focus on multimodal projects and support for transit
- Support investments in active transportation

Safe Transportation

Continue:

- Support for national Vision Zero efforts

Change:

- Increase Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds and support local allocation

Just Transportation

Change: these would all be new components of the JPACT Legislative agenda, they are drawn from the DeFazio H.R. 2 framework

- Support racial equity analysis in federal programs
- Support efforts at increasing apprenticeship funding and workforce training
- Support policy to require racial equity analysis as part of grant applications
- Support incentives in Capital Investment Grant program for increased density along transit lines

Resilient Transportation

Continue:

- Incorporate resiliency and adaptation as higher priorities in grant programs, investments, etc.
- Support regional and state disaster planning efforts

Change:

- Increased focus on disaster response particularly for fire and landslide disasters, not just disaster planning

Invest Locally and Regionally

Continue:

- Increase sub allocation to the local and regional level
- Create grant program to facilitate jurisdictional transfer
- Support local and state flexibility in developing projects and policies regarding autonomous vehicles, pricing programs, regional freight systems, and data collection and management

Change:

- Protect CMAQ funding for areas in attainment

Better Transit

Continue:

- Increase federal match for Capital Investment Grant program
- Expand Small Starts eligibility to include systems improvements, rather than specific bus lines and increase Small Starts cost limits
- Support transition away from diesel busses
- Recognize past performance of agencies in delivering projects on or under budget when making risk assessments for Capital Investment Grant program

Change:

- light rail vehicle size requirements

Where we go from here

Today:

JPACT update/feedback on policy themes

Next:

Staff continue drafting policy agenda

Return to JPACT in May

Late May/Early June- meetings with congressional delegation

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