2023 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN



Community Engagement Summary

December 6, 2022

Engagement for the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan is guided by the <u>public engagement plan</u> approved by the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and Metro Council in May 2022.

Community engagement activities completed in phases two and three of the RTP update are summarized below as well as key planned engagement activities in phase 4. Additional engagement is planned for phase 5, as part of the RTP adoption process.

- Online public survey #2 (September 7 to October 17, 2022)

 The online interactive survey asked for input on transportation needs and priority investments. It was available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, and Russian and collected responses from 1,191 participants. Metro partnered with Community Engagement Liaisons to increase survey participation among underserved and underrepresented communities. Liaisons organized survey engagement activities for community members in Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington Counties. A summary report is available here.
- **Community leaders' forum #2** (October 13, 2022)
 The second community leaders' forum for the 2023 RTP shared how community input has helped to shape the updated RTP vision and goals and provided participants with information to support community organizations in engaging in the 2023 RTP project list development and refinement. A summary report is available here.
- Community events and advisory committees (September November 2023) Community members have been engaged in the High Capacity Transit (HCT) Strategy policy framework and draft vision at events across the region. The in-person events were hosted in partnership with TriMet and community organizations including Portland Community College Cascade, Rosewood Initiative, Centro Cultural and Slavic Family. The TriMet Transit Equity Advisory Committee and TriMet Committee on Accessible Transportation have also been engaged in the HCT Strategy policy framework and vision. More information about the HCT Strategy is available here. A summary of engagement on the HCT policy framework and vision is forthcoming.
- Black Indigenous and People of Color business forum (August 10, 2022)
 The listening session asked business owners/leaders of color throughout the region to share their transportation-related needs and experiences. <u>A summary report is available here</u>.
- Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation and Metro Council Workshops Series (5 workshops in 2022)
 Metro Council and JPACT members discussed key policy topics in support of the RTP update at a series of five workshops. Community members presented at the workshops

focused on regional pricing, safe and healthy urban arterials and high capacity transit, to introduce each topic from community perspectives. <u>Recordings of the workshops are available here.</u>

• **Tribal engagement** (ongoing)

The project team has been working closely with Metro's Tribal Policy Advisor to understand the Tribes interests in regional transportation planning and build relationships between the Tribes and Metro planning staff. Meetings to-date have focused on receiving input on the RTP vision and goals, potential environmental mitigation strategies identified in the RTP, and data and resources for the environmental analysis on RTP project and program priorities in 2023.

Upcoming engagement

Community engagement in spring 2023 will seek feedback on the draft investment priorities and ask community members and other stakeholders if the draft lists reflect projects that will advance the region's desired outcomes. Engagement will include continued conversations with public agencies, Tribal governments, community-based organizations, business representatives and the community at large. Key engagement activities will include:

• Community Based Organization-led engagement (Dec 2022 - June 2023)

Engagement led by community-based organizations is an important strategy for Metro meaningfully engaging Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) community members. Metro is partnering with seven community based organizations: Centro Cultural, Community Cycling Center, Next Up, OPAL, The Street Trust, Unite Oregon and Verde. These community partners will engage and elevate the voices of communities of color in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties, with a focus on engaging people at the intersection of multiple communities who have been historically underrepresented in decision-making processes. Community partners will engage throughout the winter and spring of 2023 and input will be shared the agency staff and decisions makers. This engagement is also intended to continue growing the capacity of communities of color to engage in regional and local transportation decisions, including future decisions beyond the 2023 RTP.

• **Online public survey** (April 2022)

A third interactive public survey will invite broad engagement in the draft investment strategy. The survey will again be promoted in collaboration with Community Engagement Liaisons to increase survey participation among communities who are typically underrepresented in online survey feedback.

Engagement of businesses, public agencies and other stakeholders has occurred through other activities. **Summaries of all engagement conducted to date can be found at**: https://www.oregonmetro.gov/public-projects/2023-regional-transportation-plan/engagement.