

METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)

Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vince Jones-Dixon (Chair)
Joe Buck
Ed Gronke
Gerritt Rosenthal
Alex Howard
Mary Nolan
Brett Sherman
Duncan Hwang
Mark Shull
Sherry French
Denyse McGriff
Nadia Hasan
Kirstin Greene
Pam Treece
Luis Nava
Sharon Meieran
Thomas Kim
Glen Yung
Omar Qutub
Gordon Hovies

AFFILIATION

City of Gresham, Second Largest City in Multnomah County
City of Lake Oswego, Largest City in Clackamas County
Citizen of Clackamas County
Metro Council
Port of Portland
Metro Council
City of Happy Valley, Other Cities in Clackamas County
Metro Council
Clackamas County
Special Districts in Clackamas County
City of Oregon City, Second Largest City in Clackamas County
City of Beaverton, Second Largest City in Washington County
Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
Washington County
Citizen of Washington County
Multnomah County
TriMet
Clark County
Citizen of Multnomah County
Special Districts in Washington County

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Kim Harless
Terri Preeg Rigsby
Pete Truax
Ted Wheeler
Carmen Rubio
Brian Cooper
Brian Hodson
James Fage
Steve Callaway
Mark Watson

AFFILIATION

City of Vancouver
Special Districts in Multnomah County
Other Cities in Washington County
City of Portland
City of Portland
City of Fairview, Other Cities in Multnomah County
City of Canby, City in Clackamas County outside UGB
City of North Plains, City in Washington County outside UGB
City of Hillsboro
Hillsboro School District Board of Directors, Governing Body
of a School District

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Donnie Oliveira
Anthony Martin
Laura Kelly

AFFILIATION

City of Portland
City of Hillsboro
Oregon Department of Land Conservation and
Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Megan McKibben, Sarah Paulus, Gloria Pinzon, Laurie Petrie, Jean Senechal Biggs, Tom Armstrong, John Serra, Schuyler Warren, Camden Mckone, Colin Cooper, Stephen Roberts, Kendy Schwing, Chris Deffebach, Katherine Kelly, Rosalynn Greene, Julian Ramirez, Megan Beyer

STAFF: Estee Segal, Marta McGuire, Brianna Dolbin, Jeff Kain, Carrie MacLaren, Marissa Grass, Ally Holmqvist, Andy Shaw, Malu Wilkinson, Tom Kloster, Ina Zucker, Anne Buzzini, Eduardo Ramos, Eryn Kehe, Luis Sandoval, Jaye Cromwell, Connor Ayers

1. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS

MPAC Chair Vince Jones-Dixon (he/him) called the virtual Zoom meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Metro Staff Connor Ayers (he/him) called the role.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

No members of the public chose to provide testimony on agenda items.

3. COUNCIL UPDATE

Metro Councilor Duncan Hwang (he/him) began with an update to the Affordable Housing Bond (AHB), notifying the committee that the Portland Housing Bureau is planning four additional projects that will further expand housing development.

Councilor Hwang then provided an update on the Urban Growth Boundary land exchange, stating that the Metro Council is proceeding with the Rivertaris 2.0 exchange.

The councilor then spoke to Metro's 2023 Investment in Innovation grants, which provide funding opportunities to local businesses and organizations with creative strategies to decrease waste.

Lastly, Councilor Hwang remarked that the Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants program is now open and taking applications for projects.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

City of Oregon City Mayor Denyse McGriff reported that Oregon City will be hosting Clackamas cities on January 26th.

Chair Jones-Dixon alerted the committee that staff may organize several hybrid MPAC meetings in 2023 if there is sufficient interest.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Appointment of Chair, Vice Chair, and Second Vice Chair

Chair Jones-Dixon stated that the former MPAC chair, City of Lake Oswego Mayor Joe Buck, has recommended Mayor McGriff for the Second Vice Chair position.

Washington County Commissioner Pam Treece clarified that she is the current Second Vice Chair and is being nominated for the Vice Chair position.

MOTION: Citizen of Clackamas County Ed Gronke moved to adopt the appointment. TriMet Board of Directors member Thomas Kim seconded.

ACTION: With all in favor, the appointment was adopted.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 High-Capacity Transit Strategy Update: Readiness Tiers

Chair Jones-Dixon introduced Metro Staff Ally Holmqvist (she/her) and Margi Bradway (she/her).

Key elements of the presentation and member discussion included:

The presentation overviewed the current state of high-capacity transit in the metropolitan region, focusing on examining existing corridors and categorizing them into different readiness tiers for development. Staff explained that readiness is defined by both capacity for investment and need for high-capacity transit. A timeline for the project was provided.

Mayor McGriff questioned why corridors in Clackamas County were determined to be low priority, stating that because tolling will soon be implemented in this area that the need for transit is greater.

Holmqvist remarked that these corridors are being evaluated solely on their readiness for high-capacity transit, not transit opportunities as a whole. She stated that additional transit investments are still looking to be developed in this region in the short term.

City of Beaverton Councilor Nadia Hasan asked about the engagement process with business leaders.

Holmqvist explained that they performed focus groups with small business leaders, as well as leveraging the Westside Multimodal Improvement Study in discussions with larger organizations.

Councilor Hasan noted her disappointment in seeing the West line categorized as a Tier 4 corridor, expressing that she would like to hear about opportunities to grow increase the readiness of this corridor.

City of Hillsboro Councilor Anthony Martin began by seconding Councilor Hasan's comment that the Westside should be examined in further detail, highlighting that the Amberglen area in Hillsboro is a notable corridor excluded from consideration. He provided criticism to the presentation and project approach, commenting that areas with high densities of in-person jobs should receive additional weight and that the scoring system for corridors was confusing and unclear.

Holmqvist clarified that the Forrest Grove corridor was placed in Tier 4 as there is currently a rapid-bus system in development on TV Highway, as well as the opportunity for a lightrail extension to run through this corridor.

City of Happy Valley Councilor Brett Sherman questioned if this tiering system will be periodically reevaluated, noting that many of the factors that affect readiness can shift rapidly.

Gronke asked if the development of rapid bus systems should be prioritized over implementing new lightrail lines given that rapid bus lines are significantly less expensive.

Commissioner Treece expressed that she would like to see this project evaluated alongside other ongoing transit projects to ensure that systems are developed efficiently.

Metro Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal recommended that staff rework several of the included maps and diagrams to improve clarity. He then responded to Ed Gronke's question regarding the costliness of lightrail, noting that in certain corridors the greater capacity and functionality of lightrail is essential and that its higher costs will be offset in the long term. Lastly, he remarked that the individual characteristics of each corridor make them difficult to compare without additional context being provided for each.

6.2 Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan – Phase 2 Gap Analysis Summary

Chair Buck introduced Metro Staff Marta McGuire (she/her) and Estee Segal (she/her).

Key elements of the presentation and member discussion included:

Segal began the presentation by providing background information on the Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan, detailing the project's goals and vision. The engagement process was analyzed in depth, with staff reporting that they engaged with community partners, business and industry, and local governments to identify facility gaps and strategize for future investment. The primary findings from this process were that more locations were needed for residential self-haul, particularly for large or hard-to-recycle items, improved services and amenities that aid in recovery, and greater warehouse space. Segal concluded the presentation with a preview of the next steps in the gap analysis and scenario development processes.

Chair Jones-Dixon read Mayor McGriff's question about which tribes were involved in the engagement process, to which staff responded the seven tribal governments received letters from Metro Council

President Lynn Peterson to participate in this project.

Councilor Hasan emphasized the importance of increasing access to facilities.

Commissioner Treece seconded Councilor Hasan's statement, remarking that there is a significant lack of access to garbage and recycling facilities, particularly on the West side of the region. She asked about the status of a plot of land purchased by Metro in Cornelius.

McGuire explained that the land purchased in Cornelius will be implemented into the Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan, but that development has been slowed so that this land can be evaluated in the systems approach.

Mayor Buck questioned how the modernization of the recycling system may alter the future system plan.

McGuire remarked that it is a great moment of convergence that the system facilities plan is being developed in conjunction with state efforts to modernize the recycling system, as this allows for additional funding opportunities.

Mayor Buck spoke to the high demand for collection services for hard-to-recycle items, citing the prominence of the private collection company Ridwell.

Councilor Martin echoed the statements from Councilor Hasan and Commissioner Treece about the lack of access to facilities in Washington County, adding that new or updated facilities should take resiliency into account in the planning process.

Mayor McGriff stated that Metro needs to provide a recycling option similar to the service provided by Ridwell.

Mayor Buck argued that Metro should leverage the success of private companies such as Ridwell, working cooperatively with these firms to increase the flexibility of the region's services.

7. ADJOURN

Chair Jones-Dixon adjourned the meeting at 6:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeffrey Kain
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 25, 2023

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
6.1	Presentation	01/25/2023	High-Capacity Transit Strategy Update: Readiness Tiers Presentation	012523m-01
6.1	Presentation	01/25/2023	Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan – Phase 2 Gap Analysis Summary Presentation	012523m-02