

METRO COUNCIL

Work Session Worksheet

PRESENTATION DATE: April 10, 2018 **LENGTH:** 30 minutes

PRESENTATION TITLE: Draft Regional Transportation Safety Strategy

DEPARTMENT: Planning and Development

PRESENTER(S): Lake McTighe, x 1660, lake.mctighe@oregonmetro.gov

WORK SESSION PURPOSE & DESIRED OUTCOMES

Purpose: Update on how the Draft Regional Transportation Safety Strategy ("Draft Safety Strategy") implements Council policy direction.

Outcome: Council understands how policy direction has been addressed and provides further direction, if needed, to finalize the Draft Safety Strategy for public comment.

TOPIC BACKGROUND & FRAMING THE WORK SESSION DISCUSSION

- Metro Council will be asked to consider adoption of the final Regional Transportation Safety Strategy in December 2018, as part of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan.
- The Draft Safety Strategy sets regional policies related to transportation safety in the Regional Transportation Plan; analyzes crash data to identify the most common crash types and contributing factors in crashes; and identifies strategies and actions to reduce serious crashes.
- The Draft Safety Strategy updates the current Regional Transportation Safety Plan, which was completed, but not adopted in 2012.
- State Departments of Transportation and Metropolitan Planning Organizations must now report on the federally required safety performance measures identified in the federal transportation reauthorization bills MAP-21 and the FAST Act. To meet federal performance measure requirements, Metro has established annual safety performance targets that move towards zero serious crashes by 2035 in the Draft Safety Strategy; the annual targets were identified using a methodology that is consistent with the Oregon Department of Transportation's 2016 Transportation Safety Action Plan.
- Transportation safety, with a focus on serious crashes, is consistently a top concern and priority in public engagement and outreach, including the Regional Leadership Forums for the update of the Regional Transportation Plan.

Previous policy direction from Council on the Regional Transportation Safety Strategy

1. **Council Direction (2/28/17):** Include a Regional Vision Zero framework and target in the Draft Safety Strategy. (Metro Policy Advisory Committee "MPAC" and Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation "JPACT" confirmed policy direction at 4/12/17 and 4/20/17 meetings.)

Draft Safety Strategy: Commits to eliminating fatalities and serious injuries as a top priority and establishes a 2035 target of zero deaths and severe injury crashes. Establishes annual targets to get to the 2035 target and fulfill federal performance measure requirements. Provides a Vision Zero Safe System framework, new safety policies, strategies and actions.

2. **Council Direction (2/28/17):** Use Regional High Injury Corridors and Intersections to guide investments in the Regional Transportation Plan; identify safety projects in the Regional Transportation Plan to better understand how safety is being addressed. (MPAC and JPACT confirmed policy direction at 4/12/17 and 4/20/17 meetings.)

Draft Safety Strategy: Explicitly prioritizes Regional High Injury Corridors and Intersections, especially in race and income marginalized communities, for regional investments to increase safety. Provides a definition for safety projects to better understand how, where and when safety investments are being made.

3. **Council Direction (2/28/17):** Test two proposed safety system evaluation measures, Share of Safety Projects and Exposure to Crash Risk, in the first evaluation of projects in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan. (MPAC and JPACT confirmed policy direction at 4/12/17 and 4/20/17 meetings.)

Draft Safety Strategy: Tested two safety system evaluation measures in the first system evaluation of the Regional Transportation Plan.

- Share of Safety projects will be tracked to better understand regional investment in safety and in race and income marginalized communities, but will not be identified as a system evaluation measure (since it does not measure effectiveness of safety outcomes).
- Exposure to Crash Risk results were not meaningful, and will not be carried forward as a system evaluation measure. Due to an increase in people and vehicle miles traveled it is assumed that the absolute number of crashes could increase without fully implementing state, regional and local safety plans and adopted transportation and land use plans. It is also assumed that due to lower vehicle miles traveled per person, crash risk could go down, however it is unknown if crash risk for vulnerable users, including people walking and bicycling, people of color and people with low incomes, will decrease. The Draft Safety Strategy includes a recommended future implementation task to work with regional partners, Oregon Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to developing a Crash Prediction Model for future RTP updates to better understand how investments can reduce (or increase) crashes.

4. **Council Direction (3/20/18):** Council provided policy direction on using a racial and income equity lens in all aspects of the Regional Transportation Plan update.

Draft Safety Strategy: Uses a racial and income equity lens in safety maps and analysis, identifies racial, income and age disparities in crash risk as one of three overall safety trends that needs to be addressed; identifies strategies and actions using the racial and income equity lens.

How the safety strategy relates to other Metro programs

The Draft Safety Strategy has been developed in tandem and as part of the update of the Regional Transportation Plan. Modal and topical plans, such as the Draft Safety Strategy, provided detailed actions and a deeper understanding and fleshed out approach of major policy areas of the Regional Transportation Plan. Goals, objectives, performance measures and targets, and policies (including

maps) for modal and topical plans are included in the policy chapter of the Regional Transportation Plan. Recommended actions and next steps are noted in the implementation chapter.

Options for Council consideration

1. Support the Draft Safety Strategy as is
2. Support the Draft Safety Strategy, with additional policy direction
3. Do not support the Draft Safety Strategy

Staff Recommendations

Support the Draft Safety Strategy, with additional policy direction if needed

Anticipated challenges and opportunities

The following areas pose potential challenges for adoption, and are also areas of great opportunity.

1. Prioritizing funding for safety, especially in high injury and high risk corridors and intersections.
2. Applying a racial and income equity lens within the plan and in implementation strategies.
3. Adoption of the Draft Safety Strategy; the 2012 Regional Transportation Safety Plan was not adopted due to a lack of consensus on how to fund the plan.

Next Steps

- April 19, 2018 – Present Draft Safety Strategy to JPACT for input
- April 24, 2018 – Present Draft Safety Strategy to MPAC for input
- April 25-June 28, 2018 – Update Draft Safety Strategy based on input from Metro Council, JPACT, and MPAC
- June 29, 2018 – Release Refined Draft Safety Strategy for 45-day public comment period
- August 14 – October 1, 2018 – Update Draft Safety Strategy in response to public comment and responses from MPAC and JPACT
- October 10, 2018 – Recommendation to Council from MPAC on adoption of the final Safety Strategy
- October 18, 2018 – Recommendation to Council from JPACT on adoption of the final Safety Strategy
- November 11, 2018 – Direction from Metro Council to staff on finalizing Safety Strategy for Council consideration
- December 6, 2018 – Metro Council considers adoption of Regional Transportation Safety Strategy by Resolution

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

1. Has Council direction on the transportation safety policy been adequately addressed?
2. Does Council feel prepared to support the Draft Safety Strategy moving forward?
3. Is there additional Council policy direction on transportation safety?

PACKET MATERIALS

- Would legislation be required for Council action? Not at this time. Council is being asked to provide direction on the Draft Safety Strategy in advance of the public comment period in June 2018. Council will be asked to consider adoption of the final Regional Transportation Safety Strategy as part of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan in December 2018.
- What other materials are you presenting today?
 - Metro Council Work Session presentation on the Draft Regional Transportation Safety Strategy
 - Attachment 1: Draft Regional Transportation Safety Strategy (March 20, 2018)
 - Attachment 2: 2018 Metro State of Safety Report