

**METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)**

Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2018

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Betty Dominguez

Mark Gamba

Linda Glover

Ed Gronke

Jeff Gudman

Kathryn Harrington

Jerry Hinton

Gordon Hovies

Martha Schrader

Don Trotter

**AFFILIATION**

Metro Council

City of Milwaukie, Other Cities in Clackamas County

City of Vancouver

Citizen of Clackamas County

City of Lake Oswego, Largest City in Clackamas County

Metro Council

City of Gresham, Second Largest City in Multnomah County

Tualatin Fire and Rescue, Special Districts in Washington County

Clackamas County

Clackamas County Fire District #1, Special Districts in Clackamas County

**ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Jennifer Donnelly

John Griffiths

Carrie MacLaren

**AFFILIATION**

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

Tualatin Hills Park &amp; Recreation District, Special Districts in Washington County

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

**MEMBERS EXCUSED**Denny Doyle (*Chair*)

Amanda Fritz

Pete Truax

Andy Duyck

**AFFILIATION**

City of Beaverton, Second Largest City in Washington County

City of Portland

City of Forest Grove, Other Cities in Washington County

Washington County

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Adam Barber, Katherine Kelly, Jennifer Hughes, Schuyler Warren**STAFF:** Nellie Papsdorf, Miranda Mishan, Roger Alfred, Sara Seid, Matt Korot, Kim Ellis, Jes Larson, Jamie Snook, Ernest Hayes, Tom Kloster, Elissa Gertler, Eliot Rose**1. CALL TO ORDER, SELF INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS**

Chair Pro-tem Mark Gamba called the meeting to order at 5:09 PM.

**2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS***There were none.*

### **3. COUNCIL UPDATE**

Councilor Betty Dominguez discussed the latest Regional Snapshot which showed how houselessness was affecting people in the region. She highlighted children's homelessness as a significant point of concern for school districts.

Councilor Dominguez shared that the regional housing bond framework was out for public comment, and discussed next steps for the housing bond. She reminded MPAC about the elected officials survey.

Councilor Dominguez announced the opening of the "Catio" at the Oregon Zoo, a partnership between the Pixie Project, Banfield Pet Hospital and the zoo. She shared that the Catio was designed to provide a space for cats to be socialized before being placed in a home for adoption.

### **4. MPAC MEMBER COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Carrie MacLaren explained that in the short session, the Oregon Department Land Conservation and Development received money to do housing technical analyses and code audits. She noted that this would not cover all needs in Oregon, and discussed their prioritization of requests. Ms. MacLaren provided a high level overview of the application process and explained that the application would be available on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Pro-tem Gamba asked if a city had recently done an analysis would they still be eligible for a code analysis. Ms. MacLaren explained that each city was available for one kind of analysis, and it as a selection process and that they were only able to offer four kinds of products because of timing. She noted that if a city had recently completed a housing needs analysis then they were in a good position to have more work done.

Councilor Dominguez asked if cities were eligible to collaborate with one another. Ms. MacLaren explained that Washington County and Clackamas County were specifically eligible in a different way. She shared htat they would entertain applications from cities that wished to work together, but that it was not a requirement.

Councilor Jeff Gudman provided an update on Region 1 ACT, and explained that ODOT came to the ACT to provide an update on the work that they would be doing this summer. He shared that I-5 would be particularly slowed down.

### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

*No quorum.*

## **6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **6.1 Regional Business Food Scraps Policy Update**

Chair Pro-tem Gamba explained that this item was information and intended as a follow-up to engagements with MPAC in April and October of 2016, and August 2017 related to a Regional Business Food Scraps Policy that the Metro Council would consider in July 2018. He introduced Ms. Pam Peck, Metro staff.

*Key elements of the presentation included:*

Ms. Peck explained that purpose of the presentation, and shared that Metro Council would be considering the policy for adoption in July 2018. She recounted that the purpose of the policy was to accelerate the recovery of food scraps collection from businesses.

Ms. Peck shared that food was the largest part of the region's waste and that it was a priority for recovery within the solid waste recovery plan. She explained that they wanted to look at options for food scraps, and that base on council direction they'd developed policies to meet objectives.

Ms. Peck discussed the development of the food scraps policy and the jurisdictions involved. She shared that they had worked together to figure out the best way to collect the most food waste. Ms. Peck highlighted the key policy elements, and explained the rollout of the policy and the three phases over which it would take place. She recalled the revisions based on comments and feedback from the council. Ms. Peck noted that local government adoption of the policy would be July 2018, and implementation would start in 2020, and all businesses would have to comply by 2023. She added that the implementation of the policy on schools was in the last phase, per feedback received.

Ms. Peck announced that Metro would also consider a food scraps ban in 2024 based on the performance of the policy, based on an evaluation process that would be brought forward. She eexplained that the administrative rules had changed to add the distance waiver. Ms. Peck recounted that the original idea was to mmitigate costs for jurisdictions who were far away from Metro transfer stations. She noted that the Metro Council had asked staff to ensure that this waiver would advance the goals of the policy.

Ms. Peck explained that Metro would reimburse jurisdictions to offset the costs of travel to transfer stations and that these funds would have to go back to jurisdictions' food scraps collection program. She shared that this would allow for consistent programming.

Ms. Peck announced the opportunities for public comment, and the next steps for the food scraps policy.

*Member discussion included:*

- Mr. Ed Gronke asked where reimbursement funds would come from. Ms. Peck explained that it would be funded by the regional system fee, and their goal was to create a resilient regional system. Mr. Gronke asked if there were adequate facilities to compost food scraps. Ms. Peck shared that they had capacity now and were in the process of bringing in additional capacity.
- Commissioner Martha Schrader asked if it was full or partial reimbursement. Ms. Peck conveyed that it was partial cost recovery and that they were looking at the extra time required to drive to a Metro transfer station, and adding costs inflators to account for congestion.
- Commissioner Schrader asked if this applied to restaurants. Ms. Peck shared that it was based on the amount of food waste a business generated, and that phase 1 would include grocery stores and full service restaurants, then they would be incorporating smaller businesses. Commissioner Schrader asked if unincorporated areas would be affected, Ms. Peck clarified that they would not be.
- Commissioner Schrader asked if this would cause any market problems. Ms. Peck expressed that it was hard to make a general statement or projection about the market.
- Mr. John Griffiths asked about the conversion to energy process. Ms. Peck shared that the proposal was to convert energy into renewable natural gas.
- Mr. Gronke asked where the scraps were currently being processed. Ms. Peck shared that they were processed at JC Biomethane in Junction City and Pacific Regional Compost outside of Corvallis. She explained that they had launched an initiative called “Food Waste Stops with me” and asked restaurants to do webinars and other publicity to show how they’d been reducing food waste.
- Councilor Gudman asked a question on behalf of MPAC member Mr. Craig Prosser. He asked about the impact of food recycling on sewer treatment plants. Ms. Peck acknowledged that she hoped that more sewage treatment plants would be interested but that she couldn’t necessarily speak to that.

## **6.2 2018 RTP: Draft Regional Transit Strategy**

Chair Pro-tem Gamba explained that the Regional Transit Strategy was the transit modal component of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan. He shared that the strategy provided a coordinated vision and strategy for transit in the region, building off of the Climate Smart Strategy.

Chair Pro-tem Gamba introduced Ms. Jamie Snook, Metro staff, to present the draft transit policies and transit network map.

*Key elements of the presentation included:*

Ms. Snook explained what the transit strategy was and why it was happening now. She highlighted the objectives of the transit strategy and what had been added since it was last presented to MPAC. Ms. Snook shared their vision to make transit more convenient, accessible and affordable for everyone. She explained the four new transit policies and the policies that had been modified and what the modifications were.

Ms. Snook discussed the enhanced transit concept and the aim to make improvements to enhanced transit in reliability, speed and capacity. She shared the updates of the high capacity transit plan and what had been added and revised. Ms. Snook showed MPAC what the new map would look like and compared it to the current transit map. She noted the variety throughout the system.

Ms. Snook shared next steps for the transit strategy, including working on the enhanced transit concept pilot program and updates to the RTP project list. She explained the project schedule for enhanced transit concepts, and asked MPAC for feedback on the transit strategy.

*Member discussion included:*

- Councilor Gudman suggested adding information about the impacts of a potential congestion pricing policy on the transit strategy.
- Mr. Gronke suggested that the policy was aspirational rather than realistic. He raised concerns that many assumptions made in the policy were based on high density in areas that already did not have transit. Mr. Gronke asked if the transit system would increase first and then densification would follow. Ms. Snook explained that they wanted to ensure there was transit service available across the region, and emphasized that they were looking at how areas grow and whether or not they could be served by a transit line. She noted that they needed to be more creative, and there were some ideas about first and last mile connections and connecting less dense areas to create more of a network.
- Mr. Gronke asked about the balance between alternative transportation modes and mass transit and how the transit strategy aimed to strike that balance. Ms. Snook shared that there was ongoing thinking about this issue and Mr. Eliot Rose would address that in the technology strategy. She added that if they could make transit more accessible and affordable then it would become a competitive option.
- Ms. Elissa Gertler reminded MPAC that they were planning for twenty years ahead, and the RTP was a shared aspirational vision.

- Councilor Dominguez highlighted the value of transit fare reduction, and emphasized the need for a multiple pronged approach to broadening the transit network.
- Chair Pro-tem Gamba asked if the plan considered undergrounding the MAX system through downtown Portland and an electric bus fleet. Ms. Snook recounted that this was being considered and they were looking to embrace and explore some of the technology options where it would be appropriate. Chair Pro-tem Gamba asked if the MAX line system going to Oregon City and Wilsonville was being considered in the strategy. Ms. Snook confirmed and shared that there were good service options in that area.
- Councilor Dominguez asked where the Southwest Corridor would terminate. Ms. Snook noted that it would terminate at Bridgeport, but was still in the planning phase.
- Ms. Gertler reminded MPAC that they were seeing these plans because they would vote on the RTP recommendation to the Metro Council soon.

### **6.3 2018 RTP: Emerging Technology Strategy Discussion Draft**

Chair Pro-tem Gamba shared that Metro had been developing a strategy to help the region prepare for new technologies in transportation. He introduced Mr. Eliot Rose who would be sharing the full discussion draft of the technology strategy for information and discussion.

*Key elements of the presentation included:*

Mr. Rose defined emerging technologies and highlighted some different types of technologies that were emerging. He explained why there was a need to engage with these technologies and how this strategy did so. Mr. Rose reminded MPAC that their goal was not to deploy technology but guide new technologies to create a more equitable and livable region.

Mr. Rose shared how the technology strategy would be a part of the RTP as an appendix to the RTP, and integrated throughout the RTP strategies and policies. He shared what was new and what had been discussed. Mr. Rose recounted the time frame of looking at new technologies, and discussed division, policies, and implementation actions and next steps for implementation.

Mr. Rose explained the policy vision behind the RTS and the four core policies, including equity, choices, information and innovation. He defined each of the four core policies and how they were in line with the RTP goals. Mr. Rose highlighted the changes made to this version of the policy, and emphasized the focus on transit. He conveyed that transit with more frequent service would be competitive against Uber and Lyft.

Mr. Rose discussed how short term actions would add to longer term success. He explained the evaluation of technologies being considered by local partners and how each would impact regional goals. Mr. Rose recounted the two year next steps for Metro on emerging technologies, and reminded MPAC that there was a need to advocate for state and federal policies that supported their goals.

Mr. Rose highlighted next steps through 2018 and the adoption of the draft RTP.

*Member discussion included:*

- Mr. Gronke asked how they planned to implement equity. Mr. Rose explained that there were a variety of options, including the City of Portland 50c fee levied on Uber and Lyft trips to make them more affordable. He suggested concierge services or subsidies, and noted that people with Oregon Trail cards were eligible for reduced fees on Bike Town. Mr. Rose conveyed that there was a lot to be done from a policy and program perspective, and remarked that while there were concerns because many technologies were operated by private entities, public servants needed to work to address equity.
- Councilor Dominguez raised concerns about the kinds of jobs that Uber and Lyft provided. She shared that some drivers were advocating for unionizing, and that the City of Portland seemed receptive.
- Mayor Gamba asked who was on the Autonomous Vehicle Taskforce. Mr. Rose noted that he would send a link to the taskforce website. Ms. MacLaren shared that she was on the taskforce and available to relay input.
- Councilor Harrington expressed her thanks to Mr. Rose for putting together an accessible and clear presentation.
- Councilor Gudman asked if the money associated with implementation was anticipated to be included in the 2020 transportation bond. Ms. Gertler shared that it was difficult to say, and that the idea was to use the RTP as a potential starting point for goals that the region agreed on.
- Mr. Rose explained that they did not have a strong project focus in the strategy, and the reason they were starting with the policy side was because the private sector was pushing much of the technology. He added that there was a need to understand the role of Metro in these partnerships before adding money. Councilor Gudman clarified that there was a dollar impact, but it hadn't been refined yet.
- Ms. Gertler conveyed that Metro was not searching for a role as an implementer, but rather setting a policy framework. Councilor Gudman emphasized the need for the dollar impact on the public to be made clear. Mr. Rose noted that this was helpful feedback.
- Councilor Dominguez emphasized the importance of remaining open minded and flexible about technology.

## **7. ADJOURN**

MPAC Chair Pro-tem Gamba adjourned the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Miranda Mishan", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Miranda Mishan  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 9, 2018**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>6.1</b>	Handout	2/2018	Food Scraps Separation Proposal Q&A: Businesses	050918m-01
<b>6.2</b>	Presentation	5/9/18	RTP Transit Strategy PowerPoint	050918m-02
<b>6.3</b>	Presentation	5/9/18	Emerging Technology Strategy PowerPoint	050918m-03