



600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov

METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)

Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2019

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christine Lewis

Sam Chase

Ed Gronke

Don Trotter

Amanda Fritz

Theresa M. Kohlhoff

Gordon Hovies

Mark Watson

Jerry Hinton

Dick Schouten

Linda Glover

Rachel Lyles Smith

AFFILIATION

Metro Council

Metro Council

Citizen of Clackamas County

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

City of Portland

City of Lake Oswego, Largest City in Clackamas
County

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Special Districts in Washington
County

Hillsboro School District Board of Directors,
Governing Body of a School District

City of Gresham, Second Largest City in Multnomah County
Washington County

City of Vancouver

City of Oregon City, Second Largest City in Clackamas County

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Gretchen Buehner

Anthony Martin

Jennifer Donnelly

AFFILIATION

City of King City, Other Cities in Washington County

City of Hillsboro, Largest City in Washington County

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Martha Schrader (Chair)

Denny Dole

Susheela Jayapal

Steve Callaway

Juan Carlos Gonzalez

AFFILIATION

Clackamas County

City of Beaverton, Second Largest City
in Washington County

Multnomah County

City of Hillsboro, Largest City in Washington County

Metro Council

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Gudman, Jeff Owen, Adam Barber, Mary Phillips, Laura Weizel, Dee Anders, Dr. Philip Mote, Dr. Vivek Shandas and Jean Senechal Biggs

STAFF: Sara Farrokhzadian, Marlene Guzman, Rebecca Small, Kim Ellis, Sasha Pollack, Laura Dawson-Bodner, Megan Gibb, Carrie MacLaren, Jeff Raker, Ernest Hayes and Ramona Perrault

1. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Christine Lewis chaired the meeting as Chair Martha Schrader, Vice-Chair Susheela Jayapal and second Vice-Chair Steve Callaway were excused from the meeting. Councilor Lewis called meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were none

3. COUNCIL UPDATE

Councilor Sam Chase encouraged MPAC members to attend the 2019 Build Small Live Large Summit. He noted that there were several sessions on small and middle housing. Councilor Chase spoke about the Transportation Forums in Washington County, Clackamas County and Multnomah County. He announced that Metro adopted the Construction Career Pathways Regional Framework at the October 24th Metro Council meeting.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

No quorum

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Regional Mobility Policy Update

Councilor Christine Lewis introduced Kim Ellis, Metro Principal Transportation Planner, to present on the Regional Mobility Policy Update.

Key elements of the presentation included:

Ms. Ellis noted that the Regional Mobility Policy Update emerged as a response to the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan's failure to meet the region's mobility policy needs. She explained that the Regional Mobility Policy Update considered how the region measures mobility. Ms. Ellis noted that the region's current mobility policy was centered on vehicles and did not closely align with the region's desired outcomes.

Ms. Ellis explained that Regional Mobility Policy Updates aimed to better align policy with regional values, goals and desired outcomes. She discussed how state, regional and local decisions were connected to the mobility policy. Ms. Policy provided examples of several mobility measures that the policy update planned to explore.

Ms. Ellis discussed the two-year timeline for updating Regional Mobility Policy. She noted that Metro was conducting a policy analysis and stakeholder engagement. Ms. Ellis noted that Metro received feedback from the Metro Council and JPACT members. She shared that Metro had received broad support from stakeholders on policy updates.

Member discussion included:

- Commissioner Amanda Fritz asked about how Metro's Regional Mobility Policy Update addressed climate change. Ms. Ellis explained that Metro aimed to learn more about how it measured congestion and the region's climate goals. Commissioner Fritz asked if there were discussions about making TriMet fare free. Ms. Ellis noted that it had not been considered in the scoping phase. Commissioner Fritz noted that Corvallis' fareless bus system had increased transit ridership.
- Councilor Lewis noted that the December 11th meeting focused on explaining how House Bill 2001 affected the Metro region.
- Councilor Gretchen Buehner noted that the City of King City finished negotiating their Transportation and Growth Management (TGM) Grant with ODOT. She asked

if she should contact Metro for progress reports. Ms. Ellis remarked that Metro would be contacting staff from the City of King City.

- Councilor Martin noted that he was interested in exploring policies related to greenhouse gas emissions and congestion. He noted that potential measures needed to consider access to transit alternatives.

5.2 Climate Change in Greater Portland: Considerations for the 2040 Growth Concept Refresh

Councilor Lewis introduced panelists, Dr. Philip W. Mote, Professor at Oregon State University and Dr. Vivek Shandas, Professor at Portland State.

Key elements of the panel presentations included:

Dr. Mote spoke about rising carbon dioxide emissions and human's role in altering the composition of the atmosphere. He explained Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP) and the potential trajectory of methane and carbon emissions based on different pathways.

Dr. Mote shared Northwest climate change scenarios based on RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5. He explained that extreme weather patterns were more likely in RCP 8.5. Dr. Mote discussed an analysis on extreme 1 day precipitation which revealed extreme weather at the 50 year mark.

Dr. Mote explained that the Northwest experienced a snow drought in 2015 with temperatures higher than normal. He described the projected change in snow water equivalent, noting that on almost every occasion snow pack decreased by 50 percent. Dr. Mote emphasized the cascading effects of decreased snow pack on fish populations and hydro power. He raised concerns about the shifts in stream flow patterns of the Columbia River at Bonneville. Dr. Mote revealed that climate change resulted in later peak flows for the Columbia River at Bonneville.

Dr. Mote noted that human-caused climate change doubled the area burned in the Western United States since 1985. He provided an overview of the impacts of climate change including increased heat waves, modest increases in heavy rainfall, reduced mountain snow and lower summer stream flow. Dr. Mote remarked that proactive adaptation actions helped to reduce the impacts of climate change.

Dr. Shandas discussed the effects of climate change on the Metro region. He explained that Portland was seen as a place of climate refugee. Dr. Shandas shared information on

contemporary climatic analogs for 540 North American urban areas. He provided a climate justice framework for guiding planning in the face of climate change. Dr. Shandas noted that a climate justice framework was grounded in the principle that all individuals have the right to be protected from environmental degradation. He added that this included shifting the burden of proof to individuals, organizations, policies and practices that increased impacts to historically marginalized communities.

Dr. Shandas delved into the links between climate change and increased detrimental health effects. He noted that climate change increased air pollution effects, flood and storm related effects as well as heat-related illness and death. Dr. Shandas explained shifts in local weather patterns such as the increased likelihood of extreme weather. He discussed Portland's potential fire danger and historically marginalized communities increased susceptibility to heat related illness and nuisance flooding.

Dr. Shandas explained several built environmental factors that helped mediate regional temperature such as tree canopy and vegetation coverage. He noted that climate change was tied to increased tree mortality and morbidity. Dr. Shandas shared adaptation strategies to extreme weather patterns such as building multifamily buildings with surface parking and maximizing vegetation.

Dr. Shandas shared his findings on his research entitled "The effects of the 1930s Home Owners' Loan Corporation (HOLC) "Redlining" Maps." He noted a link between HOLC redlining and current temperatures in cities. Dr. Shandas also encouraged MPAC members to read his upcoming book entitled *Urban Adaptation to Climate Change: The Role of Urban Form Mediating Rising Temperature*.

Member discussion included:

- Councilor Jerry Hinton asked about the different temperature effects of cement and asphalt roads. Dr. Shandas noted that asphalt and concrete behave differently, with asphalt absorbing two or three times more heat than concrete does. Councilor Hinton asked about the role rain gardens played in reducing temperatures in low income neighborhoods. Dr. Shandas noted that increased vegetation reduced future heating in low income neighborhoods.
- Councilor Buehner asked about Metro's ability to help mitigate the effects of arctic methane release. Dr. Mote noted that climate change models also represent the effects of arctic methane release. He raised concerns about climate change models' reliability and models failure to foresee the connection between Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and ozone depletion. Councilor Buehner asked if cities in the Portland region should revisit vegetation code enforcement as a way

to mitigate climate change. Dr. Shandas suggested that cities in the Portland region should enforce vegetation codes in the face of climate change.

- Commissioner Dick Schouten asked Dr. Viviek to explain the challenges associated with measuring ground temperatures. Dr. Viviek noted that satellite sensors detect long wave radiation but often fail to account for the differences between ambient air temperature and ground temperature.
- President Gordon Hovies noted that areas like Powell Butte and Northeast Portland had increased fire risk in September and October. He also raised concerns about infrastructure vulnerability with increased fire risk.
- Councilor Martin asked the panelists to discuss the benefits and drawbacks of high density building. Dr. Shandas noted that Metro needed to consider how building materials affect local temperature signatures.
- Commissioner Rachel Lyles Smith asked the presenters to share strategies for balancing other priorities while also being attentive to climate change. Dr. Mote talked about the contrived narrative on the climate crisis and noted that it traces back to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- Mr. Ed Gronke raised concerns about Metro's commitment to the urban growth boundary and high density building codes in the face of climate change. He expressed his support of Dr. Shandas' efforts to protect tree canopies as a way to mitigate climate change. Dr. Shandas urged Metro to consider climate sensitive designs for urban development. Mr. Gronke expressed several affordability challenges that faced innovative design.
- Councilor Theresa Kohlhoff noted that Metro's 2020 Transportation Investment Measure had the opportunity to invest in transit access as a way to mitigate climate change. Councilor Kohlhoff expressed her appreciation for the presentation.

6.0 ADJOURN

Councilor Lewis adjourned the meeting at 7:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marlene Guzman

Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 23, 2019

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
5.1	Presentation	10/23/19	Regional Mobility Policy Update Presentation	102319m-01
5.2	Presentation	10/23/19	Climate Change in Greater Portland: Considerations for the 2040 Growth Concept Refresh Panel Presentation	102319m-02
5.2	Presentation	10/09/19	Climate Change in Greater Portland: Considerations for the 2040 Growth Concept Refresh Panel Presentation	102319m-03