

I-5 ROSE QUARTER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Date: April 6, 2020

Department: Planning & Development

Work Session Date: April 7, 2020

Prepared by: Ally Holmqvist,

ally.holmqvist@oregonmetro.gov

Presenter: Margi Bradway,

margi.bradway@oregonmetro.gov

Length: 30 min.

ISSUE STATEMENT

The I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project adds auxiliary lanes and shoulders to reduce congestion and also reconnects and redesigns the local street network in the project area. The project is currently being designed by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

During a Metro Council meeting on April 2, 2020, Metro Council directed staff to prepare a list of values and desired outcomes for the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project. This outcomes and values will provide guidance and input to the first meeting of the Rose Quarter Executive Committee.

Staff will present on the draft Values, Outcomes, and Actions Paper, which includes:

- overarching core values consistent with Metro's goals;
- a list of expected project outcomes for each value that will result in community and regional benefits;
- a list of specific actions that could be recommended for incorporation as part of the project scope, schedule, or process.

The draft paper also includes notes regarding actions ODOT has taken or are underway to date.

ACTION REQUESTED

Discuss the draft paper and provide guidance on the values, outcomes, and requested actions that will inform input provided at future Executive Steering Committee meetings.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

The draft paper reflects the goals, objectives, and principles in the Regional Transportation Plan, Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, and Climate Smart Strategy.

POLICY QUESTIONS

- Are there additional or different values that should be reflected?

- Are there additional or different outcomes that should be incorporated to promote a transparent and inclusionary decision-making process?
- Are there additional or different actions that should be recommended?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council may consider the draft paper as proposed, with changes, or not at all in guidance for input provided at future Executive Steering Committee meetings.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Providing guidance on values and outcomes, as proposed, is an opportunity to communicate and align the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project values and principles with those in Metro's Regional Transportation Plan, Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, and Climate Smart Strategy.

BACKGROUND

The I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project adds auxiliary lanes and shoulders on I-5 to reduce congestion and improve safety on the Interstate and redesigns the multimodal local street network. The project aims to improve traffic flow while also improving community connections by redesigning overpasses and reconnecting neighborhood streets, enhancing public spaces, and promoting economic development opportunities. The project's transportation improvements allow the City to implement the development goals for the N/NE area and realize the City's Central City 2035 Plan.

In January, the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) directed ODOT to complete eleven actions as part of the I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project in response to partner and stakeholder concerns.

On April 2, 2020, the Oregon Transportation Commission approved moving forward with the federal Environmental Assessment process for the I-5 Rose Quarter Project. The Commission directed ODOT to continue to work with local government partners on a set of actions the Commission approved in January. Those include:

- Retaining a consultant to develop alternative design concepts for highway covers over I-5 in the Rose Quarter area capable of supporting multi-story structures;
- Conducting a peer review of the project's air quality and noise reports with a panel of experts to assure air and noise quality analysis and mitigation measures are sufficient;
- Continuing to work with the Executive Steering Committee made up of local government officials and other community leaders;
- Through minority-owned business and workforce programs, provide job opportunities in the Albina area;
- Consulting with the Community Advisory Committee and Community Opportunity Advisory Committee on local community concerns and needs; and
- Implementing congestion pricing in the Rose Quarter corridor to manage traffic demand and finance multimodal transportation improvements.

President Peterson will be Metro Council's representative on the newly-formed Rose Quarter Executive Committee.

ATTACHMENT

- I-5 Rose Quarter Project: Values, Outcomes, and Actions Paper
- Proposed OTC Actions on Rose Quarter Improvement Project