

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:03 p.m.

Present: 7 - Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Bob Stacey, Lynn Peterson, Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Christine Lewis

2:05 Safety Briefing**Work Session Topics:**

2:10 Regional Mobility Policy Update

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)
[Metro/ODOT Mobility Policy Update Scoping Agreement](#)
[2018 RTP Interim Regional Mobility Policy](#)
[2018 RTP Mobility Policy Update Chapter 8](#)
[PowerPoint: Metro & ODOT Mobility Policy Update](#)

President Peterson introduced Ms. Margi Bradway, Metro's Deputy Director of Planning and Development, and Ms. Kim Ellis, Principal Transportation Planner. Ms. Bradway stated the purpose of today's discussion as to seek direction on the scope and approach in updating the region's mobility policy. She provided a brief overview of the importance of updating the region's mobility policy and described its potential influence on transportation planning, decision-making, and economic development.

Ms. Ellis reviewed the upcoming phases of the project and stated that we were currently in the scoping and initial community engagement phase. She explained the impact of the Portland region's recent exponential population growth and its effect on congestion and traffic accidents, and the need for these issues to be addressed. Ms. Ellis noted the relationship between the Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP), the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and the cities and counties transportation plans and Metro's role within this system.

Ms. Ellis explained the Level of Service (LOS) measure and its history within our region's policy. She stated the policy was initially built to tolerate higher congestions during AM and PM peak periods, while also protecting off-peak mobility to host movements of goods and personal travel.

Ms. Ellis provided an overview of the history of the Regional Transportation Plan from its initiation in 2000, including various policy updates and outcomes throughout the past 20 years. She also described volume-to-capacity ratio and how it is used today, such as in zoning changes, transportation system plans, operational design, and in development approval processes.

Ms. Ellis stated the purpose of the project as, in partnership with Metro and ODOT, to update the mobility policy framework and to develop alternative mobility measures and targets. She reviewed the project's objectives and asked Council for their feedback.

Ms. Ellis noted the performance measures to be used for the project, including vehicle miles traveled, people and goods throughput, mode share, and others. She mentioned the various partnerships that Metro will be engaging in for this project, including with the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT), other existing regional technical advisory committees, and targeted outreach to stakeholders. Ms. Bradway added public engagement would be initiated in November of 2020, once stakeholders provide further input and direction.

Council Discussion

Councilor Stacey inquired if development review was triggered solely by a plan amendment or if there were other factors taken into consideration. Councilor Dirksen stated

his concern for transportation mobility policies dictating land use, rather than land-use directing transportation policy. President Peterson inquired of the process necessary to move forward into the design portion of this project, and the potential to expedite that process.

Councilor Gonzalez requested clarification regarding the trip generation and how the analysis was conducted and implemented. Councilor Lewis advised for trip assumptions to take into consideration the gig economy and its continued growth. She additionally requested clarification regarding the distinction between thorough ways and arterial ways.

President Peterson inquired of how future demand for throughways may be managed and what tools may be available to help facilitate this process. Councilor Chase requested for the support of compact urban development and land use to be included in the project outcomes. He also suggested identifying meaningful and specific equity and climate goals, rather than grouping the two categories.

Councilor Stacey advised against expanding existing roadways to manage congestion, as this approach has historically been ineffective, and instead prioritize increasing the accessibility of public transit options. Councilor Gonzalez inquired of the relationship between the region's current mobility standards and the cities and counties immediately outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) who are still using the same roads and transportation systems.

President Peterson advised for a conversation with Metro's jurisdictional partners outside of the UGB to gain a better understanding of their affordable housing and transportation needs. She also inquired of how interchange management plans may fit into this project.

Councilor Dirksen stated his appreciation for mode share,

travel time reliability, and throughput as performance measures. However, he also advised that the other proposed performance measures could be viewed as factors to the three measures mentioned above, thereby decreasing their impact. Councilor Craddick inquired if ridership could be a potential performance measure.

President Peterson advised to be wary of the two emerging themes of "intuitive and understandable" and "easily calculated and lasting," especially since the technical aspects of transit are not inherently easy for the public to understand.

Councilor Gonzalez inquired of the public engagement period and its implementation timeline.

2:55 Construction Career Pathways Project Update

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)
[Construction Careers Market Study Executive Summary](#)
[Construction Careers Framework Details](#)
[Construction Careers Overview](#)
[PowerPoint: Construction Careers Pathways Project](#)

President Peterson introduced Ms. Raahi Reddy, Director of Metro's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Program, Ms. Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Metro's DEI Regional Impact Program Manager, and Ms. Heidi Rahn, Metro's Deputy Interim Chief Operating Officer.

Ms. Reddy provided a brief overview of Metro's Construction Career Pathways Project (C2P2) and its goal to increase career opportunities for women and people of color within the construction industry. She stated additional outcomes of the project as to enhance regional coordination within the construction industry to leverage collective efforts, to establish consistent and equitable recruitment, training and retention practices, and to support the elevation of highroad industry standards to become the

norm.

Ms. Reddy noted the Public Owner Workgroup, which consists of 16 public agencies, and their efforts thus far to draft and finalize C2P2's regional framework. She reviewed the project's stakeholder engagement efforts, including multiple rounds of input sessions with community-based organizations, ongoing engagement with contractors, building trade partners, and contraction training providers, and a market study conducted in partnership with Worksystems, Inc.

Ms. Owens-Wilson provided an overview of the future of the construction industry, including expected workforce shortages within the near future due to retirement, low apprenticeship retention rates, and significant barriers of entry for women and people of color.

Ms. Owens-Wilson reviewed the current pathway to enter the construction industry which included completing a training program, an apprenticeship program, a construction apprenticeship program, and lastly attaining the certification of completion. She noted three main stages of this process that needed to be addressed for the policy framework to be effective as recruitment, retention, and establishing equitable policies.

Ms. Owens-Wilson summarized the project's proposed workforce diversity goals and their project cost thresholds. She also stated the second part of the framework to invest in recruitment and retention of diverse workers through collaboration with public and private partners.

Ms. Owens-Wilson explained the third goal to change the culture on job sites to better support and encourage positive workplace training and culture. She further noted the fourth element to the framework as to focus on

workforce agreements and to establish workforce standards, hiring goals, workforce harassment prevention policies, and safety rules which can be adopted by the projects partners.

Ms. Owens-Wilson mentioned the final component of the framework as implementing a coordinated regional system for tracking and reporting to ensure the ongoing monitoring of workforce diversity outcomes.

Ms. Rahn reviewed the adoption and implementation aspects of the project. She noted five critical areas of focus as identifying the project's budget, ensuring successful internal execution and capacity building, improving contractor engagement, implementing a reporting and monitoring system, and ensuring transparent and efficient contracting and solicitation processes.

Ms. Reddy requested Council's feedback on the proposed policy framework and its alignment with their priorities in preparation for implementation.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dirksen inquired of the difference in retention rates of women and people of color in the construction industry in comparison to the workforce as a whole.

Councilor Craddick asked of where individuals typically drop-out within the construction careers pathway.

Councilor Chase requested for clarification as to why the drop-out rate is significantly high.

Councilor Lewis advised for other jurisdictions to be included in the conversations surrounding the implementation of this project since they will be affected as well. Councilor Gonzalez inquired of the flexibility of the diversity goal threshold and the potential for private partners to intentionally attempt to stay in specific tiers. He

also asked of the implementation strategy in place to ensure values and outcomes are also achieved for sub-contractors.

President Peterson asked about of the \$5 million threshold and if procurement was included in that estimate. Councilor Gonzalez inquired of how C2P2 could assist in supporting other local jurisdictions to be able to implement similar workforce diversity goals. Councilor Dirksen inquired if the thresholds were instituted to account for the extra administrative costs of implementing equity and workforce goals within each project tier.

Councilor Stacey noted the eagerness and excitement of members of the Housing Bond Oversight Committee to work with C2P2. Councilor Chase advised being mindful of how C2P2 sets equity and workforce targets as to encourage leading the industry, rather than following in it. He inquired of the financial and funding aspects of the program, including how the external partners would invest in the program.

President Peterson requested for the percentage of construction workers lost due to the recession who have not returned to the industry.

3:40 Legislative Update

President Peterson introduced Mr. Randy Tucker, Metro's Legislative Affairs Manager. Mr. Tucker stated Governor Kate Brown had signed House Bill 3431 into effect, which pertains to vending facilities on public properties. He reported that the Cap and Trade bill did not receive enough votes to pass the Senate, and the future of the bill is uncertain.

Mr. Tucker noted three potential actions the House and Senate may take in response to the remaining bills, which included ending the current session, calling for a special session to be initiated, or having the session extended. Mr.

Tucker stated House Bill 2001 had passed the House with 43 votes and Senate Bill 226 concerning Damascus was headed for the House floor.

Council Discussion

Peterson inquired of the status of the Southwest Corridor funding. Mr. Tucker noted that the Southwest corridor project's funding had ultimately been excluded from the governor's budget; however, there were suggestions to bring the bill back next session.

Councilor Craddick inquired of House Bill 2772 about the household hazardous waste. Mr. Tucker responded that the bill had not received enough votes to pass and is thereby dead.

4:10 Chief Operating Officer Communication

President Peterson introduced Mr. Andrew Scott, Metro's Interim Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Scott stated he would be out of the office on June 27th and 28th. He mentioned an upcoming Gilliam County site visit and reminded Council to avoid decisions or deliberations regarding policies during the trip since it is not a publicly noticed meeting.

Mr. Scott noted an LGBTQ+ gallery taking place on the first floor of Metro's building and added that the gallery would be on display throughout the month of July.

4:15 Councilor Communication

President Peterson introduced Mr. Ernest Hayes, Policy Advisor to Councilor Sam Chase, to discuss letters drafted by the region's jurisdictions. Mr. Hayes provided a brief overview of the intention of the letters, which were in response to the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s recent rulemaking regarding immigrant status and shelter accessibility for transgender individuals. He added the focus of today's discussion to be

concerning immigrant status, with the other topic following later this summer.

Mr. Hayes noted the response letters as a multi-jurisdictional effort in collaboration with Multnomah County, Washington County, Clackamas County, City of Portland, the Governor's office, and other participants. He reviewed upcoming events concerning these efforts, including a potential press conference to show support for the impacted communities and a public comment period by HUD.

Mr. Hayes requested for Council questions or feedback regarding the letter pertaining to immigrant status.

Councilor Gonzalez reported on his recent trip to Denver, CO to attend the All-American City Awards and stated the City of Cornelius had won.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dirksen stated his support in opposition to the rule changes proposed by HUD and the importance of preventing the potential effects of separating families and households. He additionally suggested edits to the letter and requested for the conversation to be approached in a manner that focuses on facts of the proposed rule rather than opinions.

Councilor Chase stated his support for the letter excluding the proposed changes and added that it accurately reflects the potential impacts of the rules changes, especially based on the previous actions and intentions of the current administration.

Councilors Gonzalez, Lewis, Stacey, and President Peterson noted their support for the letter excluding the proposed

changes as well. Councilor Gonzalez emphasized the actions and strategies taken by the current administration with intent to discriminate based on race and national origin and the importance of a leading organization such as Metro standing in solidarity with the affected communities. Councilor Lewis brought to light the impotence and necessity for HUD to take into consideration disparate impact, or potential disparate impact, within its rulemaking process.

Councilor Gonzalez inquired when the letter would be released to the public.

4:20 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janani Srinivasan, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 25, 2019

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	6/25/2019	Metro & ODOT Mobility Policy Update	062519cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	6/25/2019	Construction Careers Pathways Project	062519cw -02
3.0	Letter	6/25/2019	Draft Comments by Metro Council Regarding HUD-2019-0044	062519cw -03
4.0	Letter	6/25/2019	Draft Proposed Edits by Councilor Dirksen on Comments by Metro Council Regarding HUD-2019-0044	062519cw -04