



**METRO**

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE**

February 27, 2009

Metro Regional Center, 370A/B

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sorin Garber  
Elissa Gertler  
Mara Gross  
Nancy Kraushaar  
Mike McKillip  
Dave Nordberg  
Ron Papsdorf  
John Reinhold  
April Siebenaler  
Karen Schilling  
Paul Smith  
Louis A. Ornelas  
Rian Windsheimer

**AFFILIATION**

Citizen  
Clackamas County  
Citizen  
City of Oregon City, Representing Cities of Clackamas Co.  
City of Tualatin, Representing Cities of Washington Co.  
Department of Environmental Quality  
City of Gresham  
Citizen  
Citizen  
Multnomah County  
City of Portland  
Citizen  
Oregon Department of Transportation

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Brent Curtis  
John Hoefs  
Susie Lahsene  
Alan Lehto  
Keith Liden  
Dean Lookingbill  
Satvinder Sandhu  
Sharon Zimmerman

**AFFILIATION**

Washington County  
C-TRAN  
Port of Portland  
TriMet  
Citizen  
SW Washington RTC  
FHWA  
Washington Department of Transportation

**ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Andy Back  
Scott King  
Jessica Tump

**AFFILIATION**

Washington County  
Port of Portland  
TriMet

**STAFF**

Robin McArthur, Andy Cotugno, Amy Rose, Ted Leybold, Andy Shaw, Mark Turpel, Kelsey Newell, Kayla Mullis.

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**

Chair Robin McArthur declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ms. Jessica Tump of TriMet announced that due to the economic downturn, TriMet is forced to make a series of bus and MAX service reductions. A complete list of proposed service cuts can be found at TriMet's web site. The formal public comment period closes March 21, 2009.

**3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS TO TPAC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were none.

**4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Tump requested that on-street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) efforts be added to future agenda items.

Mr. Rian Windsheimer of ODOT requested that ODOT's Safety, Preservation and Bridge and Transportation Enhancement programs" be removed from future agenda items as ODOT has already held open houses on both subjects.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of TPAC Minutes from January 30, 2009**

The committee requested the following changes and corrections:

- Add Mr. Ron Weinman to the list of alternates present and record his votes in all amendments and motions;
- Change "...and ~~Mr. Andy Back~~ seconded" from Amendment #2 and add "Mr. Reinhold seconded;"
- Remove the second "~~David Nordberg~~" from the vote on Amendment #3 and add "Lynda David" to the vote in favor;
- Search and replace misspelled names throughout the document.

MOTION: Mr. Ron Papsdorf moved, Ms. Nancy Kraushaar seconded, to approve the January 30, 2009 TPAC minutes with the amended language.

ACTION TAKEN: With all in favor and one abstained (McKillip), the motion passed.

**Approval of Resolution No. 09-4029**

The committee requested the following changes to Resolution No. 09-4029 and staff report:

- Correct the resolution to read, "...(ODOT) has rewarded the ~~City of Portland~~ City of Tigard \$586,000 for active corridor management on OR-99W..."

- Correct the staff report to read, “~~The Immediate Opportunity Fund (IOF) supports~~ Operational Grants Funds support primary economic development in Oregon...”

MOTION: Ms. Karen Schilling moved, Ms. Kraushaar seconded, to approve Resolution No. 09-4029 with the amended language.

ACTION TAKEN: With all in favor, the motion passed.

## 6. ACTION ITEMS

### 6.1 **Resolution No. 09-4032, For the Purpose of Approving the Recommendation of the Policy Advisory Group Regarding the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Sellwood Bridge**

Mr. Ian Cannon of Multnomah County briefed the committee on the Sellwood Bridge Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). He overviewed the decision-making process for both project advisory committees; the Project Advisory Group (PAG) and the Community Task Force (CTF), comprised of local elected officials and citizens respectively. After extensive public outreach and PAG and CTF meetings, the PAG unanimously adopted a Sellwood Bridge LPA on February 6, 2009. (The PAG’s complete recommendation and set of conditions is included as Exhibit A to the resolution.)

Mr. Cannon acknowledged that there are still many steps that must be taken before construction begins and that a TPAC recommendation will be one of the first steps in that process. Endorsement of this resolution will direct staff to continue participation with Multnomah County and partner jurisdictions with respect to the LPA and the completion of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

The committee discussed:

- The bridge’s ability to be adapted to a four-lane road in the future;
- The multi-modal transit function of the bridge;
- Potential and existing funding sources and the Sellwood Bridge’s current presence in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP);
- The classification of the current bridge as an arterial or collector corridor and its’ importance in the regional system;
- Effects on the existing interchange during phased construction
  - Insurance of operation at no-build capacity during construction
  - No-build capacity operation’s effect on the use of phased construction methods
  - Cost effects of construction at no-build capacity operation.

MOTION: Mr. John Reinhold moved, Ms. Kraushaar seconded, to approve the recommendation of Resolution No. 09-4032.

ACTON TAKEN: With all in favor and one abstained (Siebenaler), the motion passed

## **6.2 Resolution No. 09-4022, For the Purpose of Amending the 2008-11 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) to Add Projects to Receive Funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**

### *Air Quality Conformity Assessment*

Mr. Mark Turpel of Metro briefed the committee on the air quality assessment of projects being considered for funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). A list of projects proposed to be included in the ARRA were assessed and recommended by staff to be either exempt, not regionally significant or, in a few cases, even though the date of project construction opening would be sooner, the previously approved air quality conformity determination analysis would not have changed and therefore the projects were asserted to already be conformed for the purposes of air quality. It was also noted that these project lists and proposed air quality assessment had been reviewed in consultation with state and federal partners. The projects included, local government project list, the ODOT project list and the SMART project list.

The committee discussed:

- Project lists submitted after the March 17<sup>th</sup> deadline and when they will be assessed for air quality.
  - Metro staff confirmed that projects submitted after March 17<sup>th</sup> will be assessed in the second phase of air quality assessment.
- The legitimacy of approving a 150% project list when 100% of projects will actually be funded
  - Metro staff confirmed that because all of the proposed projects are incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) they will be Air Quality conformed until their eventual implementation

MOTION: Ms. Kraushaar moved, Mr. Paul Smith seconded, to approve the air quality conformity assessment.

ACTION TAKEN: With all in favor and one abstained (Gross), the motion passed.

### *Recommendation to JPACT on Resolution No. 09-4022*

Mr. Ted Leybold and Mr. Andy Shaw briefed the committee on the project list included in Attachment A to Resolution No. 09-4022. The deadline for allocation of funds is set for one-year following the signing of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. There will be reporting requirements concerning project costs, time frame and job creation and Metro is currently developing a strategy to assess and meet these reporting requirements for the Portland metro region. JPACT has requested a two phase process for obligating funds received.

The committee then discussed the following points concerning the project list:

- The inclusion of projects list distributed by ODOT, TE and SMART at the meeting in the project list being recommended to JPACT

- The strain on other sectors involved in project implementation, like construction contracting, project management, purchasing, and the need to fast track all processes involved in projects.
- Concern about whether committee is prepared to make a recommendation
  - Jurisdictions are fitting existing projects into parameters of the bill
  - Need to continue with coordination and action by making a TPAC recommendation as soon as possible.
- Two additional funding items were suggested under an administrative category:
  - Safety Valve
    - Approving a projects above the 100% funding threshold to create a safety valve
    - Identifying additional projects that can be immediately allocated
    - Adding more money to existing projects as a safety valve instead of adding new ones
  - Project Delivery Staffing
    - Allocating funding for a consultant to work with Metro and ODOT Region 1 to aid in implementing projects
  - Hesitation in using funds for administrative purposes when funding amount is small to begin with
  - Administrative category added for discussion purposes in anticipation of a two phased allocation approval
- Hesitation in making recommendations before public comment period ends
  - Public comment will be available to JPACT before voting on amendment
- Recommending approval of both Phase I and Phase II projects in the Resolution up for vote before JPACT on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2009.
  - Projects are already incorporated into the RTP and thus represent regional interests.
  - Approving both Phases of project lists at once could help address the concern of meeting the restricted time frame
  - Local jurisdictions have had extensive discussions and made significant efforts to develop project lists in anticipation of stimulus bill
  - Without a Phase II process the opportunity to have valuable conversations about projects and outcomes would be lost
  - Metro and ODOT staffs have not had the opportunity to review projects submitted on Coordinating Committee Phase II lists that were previously identified as having issues relative to ability to obligate in the timeframe required. Further review of their ability to obligate will be required and will not be possible prior to JPACT action if both Phase I and Phase II lists are recommended for amendment into the MTIP.
- Recommending the project list be sorted by Transportation sector

The committee requested the following corrections to the project list:

- 1-5 Wilsonville: no auxiliary lanes
- Correct the description for the Multnomah County project under Sidewalks, Bikes & Trails to reflect the actual project description.
- Review and balance all sub-region targets to reduce total allocation to 100 percent of funds.
- Correct the description of projects on pg. 2 of attachment
- Include projects distributed by ODOT, Transportation Enhancement (TE) and SMART in the Resolution Attachment
- Include Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project numbers in the project list chart

MOTION: Mr. Papsdorf moved, Ms. Elissa Gertler seconded, to recommend both Phase I and Phase II projects listed in the Proposed Stimulus Projects by Transportation Sector chart, the ODOT supplemental project list, the SMART supplemental project list and the TE supplemental project list to be amended into the MTIP on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 with the requested corrections.

ACTION TAKEN: With 11 in favor (Nordberg, Gertler, Papsdorf, Windsheimer, Tump, Schilling, Kraushaar, Back, McKillip, Garber, Smith) and 4 opposed (Reinhold, King, Gross, Siebenaler), the motion passed.

## **7. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP): Freight Framework**

Ms. Bridget Wieghart of Metro briefed the committee on the Freight Framework that will be integrated into the 2035 RTP update. The committee has identified the following key issues for the regional freight transportation system:

- Congestion hotspots
- Reliability
- Network Barriers
- Land use
- Impacts
- Investment priorities
  - Core throughways system
  - Bottlenecks
  - Access to industrial areas
  - Marine and freight rail transit

The committee discussed:

- Blending travel demand models to create a needs assessment for crafting principals for development
- The use of access management as either a mandate or a tool and the possible results of each
- Incorporating Washington County areas into the industrial counties examples
- Addressing weigh station traffic on major corridors

TPAC is scheduled to review and then adopt the freight framework in September and November 2009 respectively.

**7. ADJOURN**

As there was no further business, Chair McArthur adjourned the meeting at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kayla Mullis  
Recording Secretary

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2009**

The following have been included as part of the official public record:

ITEM	TOPIC	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
4.0	Memo	02/27/09	To: JPACT and Interested Parties From: Councilor Rod Park Re: Integrating Regional Freight and Goods Movement Action Plan into 2035 RTP Update	022709t-01
6.1	Resolution	N/A	Updated Resolution No. 09-4032	022709t-02
6.1	Report	N/A	Sellwood Bridge Project: Policy Advisory Group LPA decision	022709t-03
6.2	Resolution	N/A	Updated Resolution No 09-4022	022709t-04
7.1	Chart	N/A	Proposed Stimulus Projects by Sub-region	022709t-05
7.1	Chart	N/A	Proposed Stimulus Projects by Transportation Sector	022709t-06
7.1	Chart	N/A	Proposed SMART Stimulus Projects	022709t-07
7.1	Chart	N/A	MTIP Amendment Project List for Stimulus Funds	022709t-08
7.1	E-mail	2/24/09	From: Mark Turpel Subject: AQ - Portland Metro - Conformity I-5 Aux lanes, Hogan Road/242nd	022709t-09
7.1	Chart	N/A	ODOT Air Quality Conformity Project List for Economic Stimulus Funds	022709t-10
7.1	Letter	N/A	To: Ms. Gail Achterman, OTC From: Rex Burkholder Subject: OTC Economic Stimulus Funds	022709t-11
7.1	Chart	N/A	Projects Proposed for Transportation Enhancement Portion of ARRA Funds	022709t-12