

# ***East Multnomah County Transportation Committee***

**City of Fairview • City of Gresham • City of Troutdale • City of Wood Village • Multnomah County • Port of Portland**

## **Meeting Minutes 1/6/14**

### **Members**

Diane McKeel  
Tim Clark  
Lisa Barton Mullins  
Doug Daoust

### **Representing**

Multnomah County  
City of Wood Village  
City of Fairview  
City of Troutdale

### **EMCTC Staff**

Katherine Kelly  
Sean Files  
Joanna Valencia  
Rachel Ferdaszewski  
Mark Gunter  
Allan Berry  
Steve Kautz

### **Representing**

City of Gresham  
Multnomah County  
Multnomah County  
Multnomah County  
City of Wood Village  
City of Fairview  
TriMet

### **Guests**

Shirley Craddick  
Greg Olson

Metro  
Chair of Gresham Subcommittee on Transportation and  
Multnomah County Bike/Ped Committee  
City of Troutdale  
City of Gresham  
City of Gresham  
HHPR  
Metro  
City of Troutdale  
City of Fairview

### **Welcome and Chair's Comments**

EMCTC Chair, Diane McKeel, called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM and started with introductions. A quorum was present at the start of the meeting.

### **Opportunity for Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **Review and Approval of December 9, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Minutes for the December 9, 2013 meeting were emailed to the group prior to the meeting and also available at the meeting. Approval of the meeting minutes were deferred until a quorum was present. A quorum was present. Commissioner McKeel asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Barton Mullins moved to approve the minutes and Phil Healy seconded the motion. There was no discussion to the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Powell-Division Transit and Development Project**

Brian Monberg from Metro provided a presentation on the project. The project connects from Portland State University to Mt. Hood Community College. The project is currently in the phase of initiating the planning

phase. He went over the partnerships involved in the project which includes Portland and Gresham working on land use aspects and Metro, TriMet, ODOT and Multnomah County working on transportation aspects. TriMet is also working on Service Enhancement Planning around this time. Portland and Gresham will work together to identify key places that promote economic development and serve the community by leveraging future transit.

Brian emphasized that transit is important in East County and this corridor has high ridership and there is demand. This project is a follow-up to the policies developed in the High Capacity Transit Plan as well as it was endorsed in the East Metro Connections Plan. Brian went over a map of the corridor highlighting some key locations (i.e. business districts). He noted that this area has shown some growth with people living and working in the corridor. Brian went over the work that has occurred so far, including meeting with some stakeholders of the corridor. Brian went over the planning efforts that have occurred so far.

He went over the planning phase that will occur as part of the project. He went over the project schedule with the project running for about a year and a half. Brian discussed went over the Steering Committee and make-up of the group. The Steering Committee will be meeting at identified milestones in the process.

Brian concluded his presentation and asked EMCTC what is the best way to keep EMCTC engaged and informed as the project moves forward. Councilor Craddick followed up asking how to keep the cities involved as well.

Phil asked about freight movement and encouraged that Metro include freight interest either in the Steering Committee or by having conversations with freight stakeholders. Councilor Barton Mullins asked about the corridor and what is being planned for the corridor in terms of types of transit options being considered for the different sections of the corridor. Brian responded that the project and specifically the planning phase aims to look at the corridor and the options for transit.

Mayor Daoust asked about what is meant by the transit line. Brian responded that this process will look at the types of transit options that could include light rail, or bus rapid transit. Katherine added that the project will look at modeling the alternatives and will analyze impacts to the transportation system. The project will also look at land use market feasibility for opportunities for redevelopment.

Councilor Allen asked how often Metro will be meeting with project partners. Brian responded that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is meeting twice a month. Land use and transportation meetings are also meeting. Councilor Allen asked about bringing regular updates to EMCTC. Commissioner McKeel asked about having a business stakeholder along the corridor on the Steering Committee. Brian responded with some folks on the Steering Committee having both business and community alliance interests. Katherine added that it is anticipated that a panel of experts will be convened to address freight interests and other interests. Katherine added that the TAC is looking for contact info for businesses.

Greg asked about the nodes and how that might affect economic development. Brian responded that well done stations could have impact by supporting business activity in the area (i.e. providing good connections for pedestrians). Katherine added that looking at zoning and additional density could also be an opportunity. Brian Martin added that some other alternatives could explore access to businesses.

Councilor Craddick noted that even though some of the East County cities aren't directly in the corridor, how the cities would like to be informed. Mayor Daoust asked how this corridor project affects the East Metro Connections Plan (EMCP) and the prioritization of EMCP projects. Commissioner McKeel commented that the EMCP allows us to look at the whole system and how this project enhances other projects in the EMCP. Looking at the connections will also allow us to look at other funding opportunities available for different projects. Councilor Craddick emphasized the need to look at the entire corridor especially in regards to north south transit connections. Steve Kautz from TriMet responded that they will look at this as part of the Service

Enhancement Plan effort. Phil commented that even though this looks at east-west connections, north south connections are just as important to look at to see how the whole East County is affected.

### **JPACT Agenda**

Brian Monberg went over the agenda. Updates will be provided on the Active Transportation Plan, the Powell Division Project, the UPDATE Act letter, and the Regional Transportation Plan. He went over the appointment changes for JPACT and TPAC.

Councilor Craddick went over the update to the Unified Planning Work Program and the amendment resulting from securing funding for sidewalk improvements in East Portland and funding Outer Powell projects. Councilor Craddick mentioned that there are right-of-way challenges for Powell. Craig Ward inquired about the differences between the two different planning efforts of the Powell-Division Corridor and the Outer Powell Concept Plan. Brian responded that the Outer Powell study has some recognition of high capacity transit. Brian as part of this effort will be working on coordinating the two efforts.

Councilor Craddick went over the JPACT Metro reps and informed the group of the representation.

### **EMCTC Highlights**

Joanna passed around a one page handout of EMCTC's highlights for 2013. She went over the list with the committee. Highlights included the Safe Routes to School Pedestrian Safety Video, success in securing funding for East County projects, and continued implementation of the East Metro Connections Plan.

Commissioner McKeel emphasized all the great work completed and appreciated everyone's engagement and participation in the committee. Councilor Craddick thanked Commissioner McKeel and Councilor Barton Mullins for their representation at JPACT.

### **East Metro Connections Plan (EMCP) Project List Review**

Joanna started off by providing background information for the RTP project list reminding EMCTC of their endorsement of the RTP list at their December meeting. This endorsed list included a roughly \$189M placeholder for EMCP projects. During the next few months, staff will be working to refine the placeholder to identify specific projects from the EMCP to add to the RTP list. Staff will be using the guidance provided at EMCTC's November meeting as they review the projects. Guidance including looking at emphasizing connections, looking at economic development opportunities, focusing on the four connections, completing the 242<sup>nd</sup>/Hogan Corridor, addressing the Powell-Division transit project, and looking at Sandy Blvd. Staff will be coming back to EMCTC with a recommendation for refining the EMCP placeholder on the RTP list by April.

Joanna asked if EMCTC had any other ideas for the TAC to consider. Commissioner McKeel suggested that staff look at how the EMCP projects may interplay with Powell-Division. Councilor Barton Mullins reminded folks of the importance of Sandy Blvd. Councilor Craddick asked about ensuring that jurisdictions are involved. EMCTC will be engaged as the lists are refined. Katherine added that many of the EMCP projects are already in the RTP and this addresses new projects. Sean asked about what percentage of the \$189M is estimated to be used for the new projects. Joanna responded that staff is still working on getting cost estimates in order to determine this. Katherine added that some projects are still pretty conceptual so it may be challenging to get cost estimates for those projects.

### **2014 EMCTC Representatives/Alternates**

Commissioner McKeel reminded everyone to email Joanna the names of their representatives and alternates. A vote for 2014 EMCTC Chair and Vice-Chair will be occurring at the February meeting.

**Other Business**

Katherine Kelly mentioned the open house that will be occurring for the Powell Division project on Thursday at 6:30pm at Mt. Hood Community College at the Town Gown room. Councilor Craddick asked if there was any effort being done to involve and engage students in the process. Brian responded that staff is doing outreach as part of the bus pass sales at Mt. Hood Community College.

The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.