

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 2/10/14

Members

Diane McKeel
Doug Daoust
Lisa Barton Mullins
Phil Healy

Representing

Multnomah County
City of Troutdale
City of Fairview
Port of Portland

EMCTC Staff

Katherine Kelly
Joanna Valencia
Rachel Ferdaszewski
Grace Cho
Mark Gunter
Rich Watanabe
Allan Berry

Representing

City of Gresham
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
Metro
City of Wood Village
ODOT
City of Fairview

Guests

Rich Allen
Shirley Craddick
Alison Hart
Craig Ward
Chris Strong
Samantha Nelson
Steve Entenman

City of Troutdale
Metro
Gresham Chamber of Commerce
City of Troutdale
City of Gresham
City of Fairview
EMEA

Welcome and Chair's Comments

EMCTC Chair, Diane McKeel, called the meeting to order at 3:02 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 January 6, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the January 6, 2014 meeting were emailed to the group prior to the meeting and also available at the meeting. Commissioner McKeel asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Phil Healy moved to approve the minutes and Councilor Barton Mullins seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Election of 2014 EMCTC Chair and Vice Chair

This agenda item was delayed until the March meeting in order for Gresham to identify a representative and for Gresham and Fairview to identify their alternates. In addition there were no representatives from Wood Village present for the vote.

East Multnomah County Bicycle Tourism Initiative Strategy Update

Alison Hart from the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center passed out a handout and provided an update on the project. Alison went over the background from the project and the process thus far. The initiative is partially funded by the Regional Travel Options (RTO) funding. Alison went over the initial findings of the project. This included conducting a lot of research and public outreach. A policy maker's ride

was conducted in East County as part of the public outreach. Near term priority projects include: engaging businesses in bike friendly business programs; identify itineraries and route packages, leverage existing marketing, develop and grow events, and advance infrastructure projects to enhance connectivity. Alison recognized Heidi Beierle for all her hard work on this project.

Mayor Daoust inquired about targeting bicycle friend business. Alison went over the program. Councilor Craddick inquired about the concept of putting “more heads in beds” beyond just thinking about providing amenities for bicyclists. Alison responded that the project list identifies some options for addressing this. A big part of this is education, but also the need for a market to support this. Alison will send out more info on the Travel Oregon Bike Friendly Business program. Grace about how the other strategies would be implemented. Alison responded that the first five will be the key initiatives and the Chamber will have another year to implement other programs which includes looking for other funding to advance more initiatives. Grace encouraged Alison to bring back the project to EMCTC to keep the group updated.

Councilor Craddick asked about how to keep the EMCTC TAC involved and updated in the project. Katherine Kelly responded that initiative components could be reviewed with the City and that many of the components are already in city plans. Craig suggested that the initiative come before the Councils to present an “ask.” The committee had further conversation on future implementation and funding.

JPACT Agenda

Grace went over the agenda. ODOT will give an update on the STIP Enhance Project and will discuss the vacancies on the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC). There are proposed JPACT/MPAC meetings to go over the Climate Smart Communities policies in April and May. Action items include endorsing the Federal Transportation Revenue Proposal by Transportation for America. This proposal is to raise revenue for capital infrastructure projects. ODOT will be presenting on the statewide strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A presentation on the Climate Smart Communities project will be given to start exploring getting at preferred scenarios. DHM consulting will be polling JPACT on what residents are feeling on where investments should be. Kim Ellis will be reviewing the process for the Climate Smart Communities moving forward in shaping and adoption of the preferred approach for the project. Councilor Craddick reminded folks of the JPACT Washington DC trip and encouraged attendance.

East Metro Connections Plan (EMCP) and RTP Project List Review

Joanna distributed the EMCP project matrix. The matrix specifically calls out the new projects identified as part of the EMCP projects that aren’t currently in the RTP list. Staff has been working on refining the \$189M placeholder identified in the December EMCTC endorsed list. In reviewing the cost estimates prepared as part of the EMCP process, staff found that there was enough allotment to pull all the EMCP “99” projects into the RTP list. There would be additional allotment left to consider other projects. Staff will continue to refine the project list to spend this remaining allotment. This could include the addition of new Gresham TSP projects. If additional new projects are identified staff will bring a new list to EMCTC for consideration. Staff is asking EMCTC to endorse the addition of the EMCP “99” projects to refine the \$189M placeholder. The “99” projects are roughly valued at \$94M.

Councilor Allen asked about what happens when it is found that projects cost more than what was estimated for. Joanna responded that with cost estimates being conceptual, it is a struggle to define project costs. The cost estimates used has a high contingency built in to address these unknowns. The RTP list is also based on estimated future funding. Katherine clarified that two different RTP project lists are being developed. One is the constrained list, which is based on estimated funding that may be available and takes a look at our 20-year needs. The State list is the project list for beyond the 20-years. Grace added that the level of cost estimating is understood to not be too precise. More of the focus of the RTP project list is to ensure that the list contains projects that the region anticipates submitting funding for. Councilor Allen added that he is concerned about maintenance of the system and prioritizing of the projects. Grace acknowledged the challenge of maintenance and funding. Katherine added that some of the proposals for federal funding include consideration for

maintenance. Commissioner McKeel clarified that staff is asking for EMCTC endorsement to add the “99” projects in the RTP constrained list.

Mayor Daoust asked about the Hogan/Glisan project. Phil responded that this project is in the area of the Gresham Vista and this project improves the Multnomah County portions of the intersection that is anticipated to fail per the Metro models. Truck movements will be reviewed to clarify the project. Councilor Mullins asked about what is meant by the Transportation System Management projects. Staff responded that this addresses the ITS or “brains” of the transportation system and making improvements to how the systems communicates with one another.

Mayor Daoust moved to forward the EMCP projects to the RTP list. Councilor Barton Mullins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Arata Road Project Update

Joanna passed out a flier reminding folks of the open house being held after the EMCTC meeting. She provided a project update and informed the group of the design components and the equity components of the outreach for the project.

Upcoming TIGER 6 Grant Solicitation

Rich Watanabe handed out information on the upcoming grant opportunity. It is anticipated that a notice of the grant opportunity will be sent out in March. Councilor Craddick asked if any jurisdictions were considering applications. There were conversations about the challenge of having a “shovel ready” project and having match requirements. Grace asked about the possibility of leveraging NE 238th project funding. Phil responded that you can’t count federal monies towards the match.

Other Business

Phil brought up the Cost of Congestion Study for the region. The Port is getting ready to kick-off a statewide study, instead of just a regional study. Phil bring this back to EMCTC as the project moves forward. The study is available for review online at the Port’s website.

Rich Watanabe provided an update on the STIP and the start of the public comment period. He added that they are getting ready to kick-off the STIP process again so it would be good to start having conversations on projects and planning for the process. ODOT will also start looking at projects in high SPIS areas as part of the safety initiative.

Mayor Daoust updated the group on the NE 238th project that was held with the City, Metro and the County on issues and concerns raised by Councilor Allen. Councilor Allen agreed that the meeting was good and helped with the understanding on what the issues were and how to continue to be engaged as the project moves forward.

The meeting adjourned at 4:28pm.