

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 12/9/13

Members

Diane McKeel
Tim Clark
Lisa Barton Mullins
Doug Daoust
Susie Lahsene

Representing

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

EMCTC Staff

Katherine Kelly
Sean Files
Joanna Valencia
Kate McQuillan
Phil Healy
Grace Cho

Representing

City of Gresham
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
Port of Portland
Metro

Guests

Shirley Craddick	Metro
Craig Ward	City of Troutdale
Kelly Clarke	City of Gresham
Kim Ellis	Metro
Steve Kautz	TriMet
John Williams	Metro
Bill Peterson	City of Wood Village
Greg Olson	Chair of Gresham Subcommittee on Transportation and Multnomah County Bike/Ped Committee
Steve Entenman	EMEA
Bridget Bayer	Historic Parkrose

Welcome and Chair's Comments

EMCTC Chair, Diane McKeel, called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM and started with introductions. A quorum was present at the start of the meeting. Commissioner McKeel recognized the end of the year and thanked everyone for their work in 2013. As part of the next EMCTC agenda, she asked staff to go over the 2013 accomplishments of the committee.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Review and Approval of November 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the November 4, 2013 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. Councilor Tim Clark moved to approve the minutes and Councilor Lisa Barton Mullins seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Climate Smart Communities

Councilor Craddick started off by introducing the project. She introduced John Williams, the Deputy Director for Metro's Planning and Development, and Kim Ellis who is the project manager for the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) project. The purpose of today is to have a discussion on the early findings of the analysis on the three scenarios. The three scenarios were presented that include: A. status quo, B. as planned, and C. as planned plus additional investments. Councilor Craddick commented that they are finding is that one size does not fit all and options need to be explored. Looking at the options and defining the preferred scenario will be part of the discussions moving forward.

John Williams noted that this is more than just a climate project and more than just reducing carbon output. Other outcomes are being looked at including job creation and impacts to the natural environment. He went over the brochure handout and the findings so far. The next steps of the project include having continued conversations on identifying the preferred scenario based on the findings so far, with the goal of identifying the scenario by fall of 2014.

Commissioner McKeel asked about the timeline and what the local agency comment period looks like. John responded that this most likely be meetings held with folks to get input. He added that he would like to know how to best engage EMCTC. Commissioner McKeel inquired about EMCTC's role. John responded that it seems appropriate to have the conversation at EMCTC which would then move up to JPACT via the reps that participate at EMCTC. Councilor Craddick inquired about ensuring that cities are involved.

Councilor Clark asked about being able to address freight and other emissions not covered by the CSC. He is concerned that this is only looking at cars and light trucks, and other emissions should also not be missed. John acknowledged that there are other emissions and Metro is trying to understand other outcomes as part of this process to address this concern. Kim added that there are other planning efforts occurring at the State level to take a look at all emissions as well. Councilor Clark asked about the testing process. Kim went over the modeling efforts that are occurring to inform this study.

Mayor Daoust commented that from the scenarios it looks like all plans are included. He inquired about what other things need to be considered if the local plans are already included. Councilor Craddick responded that the biggest limiting factor includes available revenues to fund the plans. Mayor Daoust commented that in response to the inquiry on EMCTC's role for this process, he feels that EMCTC is the appropriate venue to have the conversations. Susie agreed that EMCTC is the correct venue to have conversations. She added that with zoning there are other considerations beyond transportation that needs to be considered including land use factors, so these factors may impact the outcomes that Metro is considering and looking at as part of this project.

Kim summarized that Metro will be coming back to EMCTC as the process moves forward and will continue to have conversations at the committee level. Kim also added that working meetings from the different regional committees is also projected to be scheduled.

JPACT Agenda

Grace Cho from Metro went over the JPACT agenda. The Women's Transportation Seminar National Conference is being held in Portland in 2014. The JPACT trip to Washington DC is scheduled for March 5-6, 2014. Action items include an administrative action to address recalculating of air quality benefits per DEQ requirements. A request for JPACT endorsement on a Regional position on Federal Transportation Policy is being presented. Grace went over some of the positions. A letter to support the proposed UPDATE Act from Congressman Blumenauer is also being presented for action. The CSC project will be presented by Kim Ellis to JPACT. The Greater Portland Export Initiative will be presented to JPACT. This analysis looks at technology freight reliability. Commissioner McKeel commented that the agenda for the WTS Conference can be brought to EMCTC to see if folks are interested in attending.

Federal Transportation Facilities Legislation and UPDATE Act

Councilor Craddick went over this item that is being presented at JPACT. This list represents the policies that JPACT will be promoting during their trip to Washington DC. She asked for concurrence and support from the committee to be able to move forward in supporting this list.

Councilor Craddick also went over the letter of support for Congressman Blumenauer's HR 3636- the UPDATE Act for increased gas taxes. Councilor Barton Mullins responded that Fairview intends to sign it. Commissioner McKeel asked the committee for any thoughts on providing JPACT support. Mayor Daoust responded that he intends to sign. Commissioner McKeel asked the other jurisdictions to get back to her if they have any concerns on supporting the action at JPACT.

RTP Project Solicitation

Joanna passed out the proposed staff recommended project list and the allocation breakdown. An action to endorse the list is being requested. Joanna went over the process, the allocation breakdown and the list. Katherine clarified the differences between the federal and state list. Susie inquired about the constrained list and if this represents the planned scenario. Grace responded that the financially constrained list from the 2035 list was used for the scenario analysis. Bill Peterson asked if the new list would then be considered. Grace responded that the new lists would then be modeled. Joanna went over the strategy used to address the East Metro Connections Plan (EMCP) that includes the identification of placeholders to implement the plan further recognizing that further conversations need to occur to prioritize projects. She went over the new projects and placeholders for the Active Transportation Plan, the Powell-Division project, and Phase 3 projects of the EMCP. Bill asked about modeling the projects. She responded that basic concepts are available to include in the projects. Susie added that basic cross sections are also available. Katherine added that new EMCP projects are more challenging to model since they are still pretty conceptual. As part of this process, a basic scope and modeling information is being submitted. Grace added that Metro also recognizes that some projects are pretty general in the information available and they can work with that as part of the model.

Councilor Craddick asked if the projects are listed in order. Katherine responded that the phases help establish a timeline schedule. This also informs the modeling and establishes a framework for future funding cycles. Joanna added that the Willamette River Bridges are under a different allocation and are included on the bottom of the list.

Councilor Craddick asked about the next steps for the RTP list. Joanna responded that continued coordination and looking at funding opportunities as they come out and choosing projects that are strong candidates. She emphasized the importance of developing an EMCTC strategy on project priorities, so when opportunities come out, the committee is prepared to take full advantage of the opportunity. Susie reinforced the importance of developing a strategy and knowing when funding is available and ensuring that we have a "short list" of projects. Commissioner McKeel agreed with having a strategy and she continuously receives feedback on the last STIP/MTIP cycle and the committee's strategy in implementing the EMCP.

Commissioner McKeel inquired about the placeholder projects as part of the Troutdale TSP, since the TSP had not been adopted yet. The projects are consistent with the TSP and are included in the list to anticipate the adoption of the TSP. Staff also mentioned that the RTP process continues into the fall and it is anticipated that the Troutdale's TSP should be completed by spring 2014. Councilor Craddick asked about the process with vacating the 242nd ROW as it relates to the RTP. Katherine responded that the ROW was removed as part of the RTP Amendment that occurred earlier in the year. All that remains is the adoption of the Troutdale TSP.

Commissioner McKeel asked for a motion to endorse the list. Phil added that there are some minor corrections on the project description for two projects that need to be made. Susie made a motion to endorse the RTP project solicitation list (Form A). Mayor Daoust seconded the motion. There was no discussion to the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner McKeel thanked staff for their work on developing the list.

2016-2018 MTIP Update: Regional Flex Funds Approved

Joanna informed the committee that the MTIP projects have been approved, both for the Regional Flex Funds and the Regional Economic Opportunity Fund. The funds are for 2016-2018.

2014 Meeting Schedule

Joanna handed out the 2014 meeting schedule. She will follow-up and email an electronic format of the schedule to the group.

Other Business

No other business. Commissioner McKeel recognized the work of the TAC and thanked them. She also wished everyone a Happy Holiday!

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.