

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 1/5/15

Members

Diane McKeel
Tim Clark
Doug Daoust
Phil Healy
Jerry Hinton
Ted Tosterud

Representing

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

EMCTC Staff

Katherine Kelly
Chris Strong
Sean Files
Joanna Valencia
Kate McQuillan
Mark Gunter
Bill Petersen
Craig Ward
Steve Kautz
Vanessa Vissar
Rich Watanabe
Terra Lingley
Grace Cho

Representing

City of Gresham
City of Gresham
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
City of Wood Village
City of Wood Village
City of Troutdale
TriMet
TriMet
ODOT
ODOT
Metro

Guests

Shirley Craddick	Metro
Steve Novick	City of Portland
Chris Warren	City of Portland
Margi Bradway	City of Portland
April Bertlesen	City of Portland
Claude Cruz	West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce
Karen Shaaf	West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce
Steve Entenman	HHPR, East Metro Economic Alliance
Bob McDonald	Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce

Welcome and Chair's Comments

EMCTC Chair, Commissioner Diane McKeel, called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM and started with introductions. A quorum was present.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Review and Approval of December 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the December 8th, 2014 meeting were emailed to the group prior to the meeting and also available at the meeting. Tim Clark moved to approve the minutes. Phil Healy seconded the motion. There was no discussion to the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Area Commission on Transportation (ACT) Nominees

Commissioner Novick and staff from the City of Portland joined EMCTC to discuss the categories of Multnomah County nominees desired for the new Region 1 Area Commission on Transportation (ACT). Multnomah County will appoint eight members to the ACT, including one County Commissioner, one City of Portland Commissioner, one additional City elected official, one business and labor representative, and four additional seats that are to be determined. The discussion today with EMCTC and City of Portland is to discuss the stakeholder groups represented for the four additional seats and potential individual for those seats plus the business and labor seat. Commissioner McKeel noted that Mayor Bemis from the City of Gresham has expressed interest in the seat available to an additional City elected official.

EMCTC TAC shared a list of potential stakeholder categories. Stakeholder priorities for the City of Portland include health, environmental justice, and community based organizations. Multnomah County had expressed interest in having low income, transit rider representation. The City of Gresham suggested individuals to represent low-income transit riders. Multnomah County agrees with the cities of Portland's and Gresham's suggestions, and would also like to see safety and emergency services represented on the ACT. Councilor Hinton suggested considering the automobile industry. EMCTC also added school district representation as a priority, particularly if the school district boundaries cross multiple East Multnomah County jurisdictions such as Reynolds or Centennial School District. Councilor Craddick expressed her desire to see geographic equity represented in Multnomah County's nominees for the ACT.

EMCTC staff will work to begin contacting suggested individuals that align with EMCTC's stakeholder representation priorities in the following categories of: 1. health; 2. environmental justice; 3. community based organizations; and 4. safety/emergency services/safe routes to school. Staff will also work on identifying a business/labor nominee. EMCTC will take action on the final list of ACT nominees at the February meeting.

Regional Travel Options Grant

Applicants for the 2015-17 Regional Travel Options (RTO) grant provided brief presentations to EMCTC about their submitted grant proposals. EMCTC asked the applicants questions to be followed-up on via email following the meeting. Given the limited allocation funds EMCTC has to distribute, EMCTC asked all the applicants to follow-up on if and/or how each proposal could be scaled back (for example, if only \$50,000 could be awarded).

Bob McDonald, the Interim Executive Direction of the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce shared the East Multnomah County Bicycle Tourism Initiative (BTI) proposal which is seeking \$95,000 from the RTO grant program. EMCTC asked Bob to follow-up with further clarification on how all the East County cities will be part of this project.

Claude Cruz, the Executive Director of the West of Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce provided an overview of their grant request for \$50,710 for the Gorge Hubs and "Final Mile" Initiatives. EMCTC asked Claude how this project would be sustained after the grant's two-year cycle, and similarly asked how this proposal would include the other East County cities.

Kate McQuillan, Transportation Planner from Multnomah County, shared the proposal for the East Multnomah County Safe Routes to School program which is seeking \$142,162 in RTO grant funding. EMCTC requested Kate follow up on how a regional East County Safe Routes to School program would be sustained after the two-year grant cycle.

Katherine Kelley, Transportation Planning Manager for the City of Gresham, provided an overview of the City's proposal for the Gresham Sharrows: Ruby Junction MAX to Gresham/Portland Border project which is seeking \$63,260 in RTO grant funds. EMCTC asked Katherine to follow-up on which long-term plans does this proposal implement, particularly as it relates to connecting downtown Portland with downtown Gresham.

EMCTC Staff from all the represented EMCTC agencies reviewed and scored the four proposals using the criteria provided by Metro's Regional Travel Options program, and presented a draft EMCTC TAC staff recommendation. EMCTC members will take action and will be voting at the February 2015 regular meeting to determine how to allocate the \$100,000 sub regional allocation as part of the RTO grant selection process. The minimum award through the sub regional allocation process is \$50,000. Staff clarified that if a project does not receive sub regional allocation dollars, or only receives partial funding from these dollars, the projects would still compete at the regional level where there is approximately \$1.2 million available.

JPACT Agenda

Councilor Craddick and Metro staff person Grace Cho reviewed the January 2015 JPACT agenda. Grace focused on Action Item 5.1, the resolution to endorse regional policy and funding priorities for the 2015 state Transportation legislation. The resolution endorses the Oregon Transportation Forum's (OTF) funding and policy package recommendations. Metro staff and agency staff have discussed a few key amendments as outlined in the JPACT meeting packet.

Councilor Craddick urged EMCTC to consider the possible amendments that relate to the distribution of ODOT's "Enhance" funds, favoring the amendment that would allocate 50% of the state's "Enhance" funds to local Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) to disperse for project's of regional or local significance. The process for how the MPOs, which for Portland region would be Metro, to select projects to fund has not yet been determined. The second possible amendment for the 50% of the "Enhance" funds is to allocate the funds using a 30/20 formula (30% to counties and 20% to cities) on the basis of population. EMCTC discussed the benefit of having the 50% allocated to Metro being that larger projects of more regional significance would be more likely to be funded with the example of NE 238th Drive being funded through large pots of regional funds that would not otherwise have been funded. The downside, however, would be local cities and counties losing the guaranteed formula money. Katherine reminded EMCTC that any amendment would need to be raised at JPACT, and that moving forward without direction for the "Enhance" funds is a third option.

2015 EMCTC Representatives / Alternatives

For the City of Troutdale, Mayor Daoust will be the EMCTC representative, with Council Rich Allen as the alternate. For the City of Fairview, Mayor-elect Tosterud will be the EMCTC representative, and Councilor Brian Cooper will be the alternate. The Cities of Wood Village and Gresham will follow up with Joanna for their EMCTC representatives.

Project Updates

There were no project updates.

Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.