

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

Monday, August 13, 2018, 3:00pm-5:00pm

Gresham City Hall, 1333 Northwest Eastman Parkway

Members

Lori Stegmann
Emerald Bogue
Ted Tosterud

Representing

Multnomah County
Port of Portland
City of Fairview

EMCTC Staff

Katherine Kelly
John Niiyama
Chris Damgen
Joanna Valencia
Jessica Berry
Natalie Klingsporn
Nathan Clark
Jamie Snook
Eve Nilenders
Phil Healy

Representing

City of Gresham
City of Wood Village
City of Troutdale
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
Metro
TriMet
Port of Portland

Guests

Shirley Craddick
Ernest Hayes
Chris Gorsek
Jason Hitzert
Kem Marks
Francesca Patricolo
Shoshana Cohen
Mike Pullen
MaryJo Andersen
Tom Mills
Ian Cannon

Representing

Metro
Metro
Oregon House District 49 Representative
Representative Gorsek, Chief of Staff
Rosewood Initiative
City of Portland
City of Portland
Multnomah County
Multnomah County
TriMet
Multnomah County

- **Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Lori Stegmann called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm

- **Opportunity for Public Comment**

Kem Marks from Rosewood Initiative. He noted he wants to address the HB 2017 Transit item on the agenda. He noted there are some positives in the proposal but he noted that there are still deficiencies in the plan when it comes to east county (East of I-205). He noted Rosewood Initiative thinks the deficiencies still need to be addressed. He also noted that the 14, 15, 6, and possibly streetcar. He noted that Rosewood Initiative thinks that these routes do not serve low income communities are the funding should not be used in areas that are already transit rich.

- **Review and Adoption of July 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes – All**

Action Item

No Quorum – Item postponed to September

- **Region 1 Area Commission on Transportation – Committee Member Recommendation - Staff**

Megan Neill introduced herself and noted that she is co-presenting with Mike Pullen, the County's public information officer. She noted they presented this item 2.5 years ago. She noted that they are coming back today to show progress on the project. The main goal of updating the bridge is to make it seismically sound. She showed a map of the lifeline routes established in the late 1990s by Metro to identify the routes that we want to keep open and allow for movement after a disaster. She also showed the expected resiliency of these routes after a major emergency. What their study found is that a lot of the region's lifeline routes are vulnerable to collapse of the structure or adjacent structures. She pointed out where the Burnside is and how it is relatively free of adjacent structures that are unlikely to withstand an earthquake. She noted the County is working very collaboratively with other agencies around the region to ensure all emergency response plans are consistent.

She shared the timeline and noted that the phase they are in right now is the Feasibility Study phase. This has been a 2 year task aimed at raising awareness about the project, develop a long list of alternatives to study further, and then screen the alternatives into a narrower range to begin the environmental review process. She noted they're starting the Environmental Review phase, which is led by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), it is a 3 year process where they will evaluate alternatives, allow for public impacts, review the impacts of the alternatives and arrive at a final project design. After that, they'll enter a 2-3 year design phase. After the design phase, the construction phase could last 4-5 years.

She noted that there is a maintenance project currently underway on the bridge. She noted the purpose of the work is to keep bridge operating until they're able to do the seismic project. She also noted they're currently looking for funding for the future phases.

She described the current alternatives that they'll be bringing into the environmental phase. She also listed the Criteria they used to evaluate the projects:

Criteria included:

- **SEISMIC RESILIENCY** Support reliable and rapid emergency response after an earthquake.
- **NON_MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION** Support access and safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and people with disabilities.
- **CONNECTIVITY** Support street system integration and function for all modes.
- **EQUITY** Minimize adverse impacts to historically marginalized communities and promote transportation equity.
- **BUILT ENVIRONMENT** Promote land use compatibility and minimize impacts to parks and historic resources.
- **FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP** Ensure public funds are invested wisely.

The alternatives included the following:

1. Replace in place – wouldn't widen
2. Fixed bridge in the same place as it is today
3. Moveable bridge in same place as it is today
4. Moveable bridge with additional leg that takes advantage of the Burnside & Couch Couplet.

She noted that for each alternative they looked at the cost if you close it to traffic entirely vs. keeping some traffic movement during construction. She said they're not making a decision yet.

Mayor Tosterud asked if the County staff had looked at the I-35 West Bridge rebuild in Minnesota. He noted that the company built that bridge in about 9 months. Mayor Tosterud noted that the County's cost estimate is probably right, but being able to get it built in a year and a half would be great. Megan noted she would look into it.

Representative Gorsek asked if the County was considering working with TriMet to move the transit lines from the Steel Bridge to the Burnside as part of the project. Tom Mills noted TriMet is not looking into moving those lines from the Steel Bridge as it would likely create re-routing and service issues. He did note that the Steel Bridge is a concern for them. Councilor Craddick asked what the transit plans are for the bridge. Megan noted that the City has been working on an Enhanced Transit Corridor plan and one of the top projects to add a bus lane across the Burnside Bridge. She noted the bus only lane will be installed after the maintenance project is complete. She also noted that one of the design elements they're looking at is to make sure the bridge is "streetcar ready" since the long term Portland streetcar plan does include a streetcar over the Burnside Bridge. Councilor Craddick asked what sources of funding are being considered. She noted that the County went through a legislative process to be able to continue to use the vehicle registration fee for all bridges. Mike Pullen noted that by the end of the Environmental phase the county will need to have a funding plan for the preferred alternative. Mike noted that between now and November, the County will be doing outreach and get input from the public about their preferred alternative for the project. He noted they'll go to the County board in late Fall. At that point they'll begin the Environmental phase. He said they're looking for community members to participate in a multiyear monthly committee that will work through the Environmental phase and they would welcome someone from east county to participate. Mike also noted that they would like to periodically bring the item back to EMCTC for additional input. Councilor Craddick asked what kind of representatives they're looking for. Mike noted that people who are involved with a group. He noted they would like people who can represent more than their own views.

- **Region 1 Area Commission on Transportation – Committee member recommendation – Staff, Multnomah County and City of Portland.**

Jessica Berry noted that she had wanted to be able to take action on this item because the intent is to recommend support for several new Region 1 ACT members. Jessica asked if she could email committee members and have them vote via email. Commissioner Stegmann noted that she would like to do that. Jessica said she'll research if it is allowed and will send via email if it is.

Commissioner Stegmann asked to have committee members RSVP for the meeting so that we will know if we are going to have a quorum.

Jessica proceeded to explain the process staff had gone through to select 4 candidates for the committee. She noted that she sent out bios for the new members to the committee. The candidates are the following:

1. Dr. Phil Wu – Health Stakeholder
2. Jackie Yerby – Urban League of Portland
3. Hau Hagedorn – Portland State University
4. Orlando Lopez - OPAL

Jessica introduced Shoshana Cohen from the City of Portland and noted that the Region 1 ACT members represent all of Multnomah County including Portland. Shoshana commented that the City of Portland is very excited about the new members. Councilor Craddick noted it is a great group of people. Jessica noted that she would send out a poll via email, if possible. The Region 1 ACT meeting will happen Monday September 10th.

- **HB 2017 STIF, Regional Coordination Program applications –Jessica Berry**

Jessica noted she would introduce the item and then turn it over to Chris Damgen from the City of Troutdale and Francesca Patricolo from the City of Portland, the co-applicants for the projects. Jessica noted that Tom Mills from TriMet will be giving a presentation on the HB 2017 State Transportation Improvement Fund, Jessica noted that she will just be talking about one piece of the HB 2017. That piece will be the Regional Coordination Fund which is a sliver of the overall funding for transit in the region. She noted that the Regional Coordination Program funds are for shuttles and transit that comes into the TriMet district. She noted that the Transit Advisory Committee appointed a Regional Coordination Program committee to develop the program criteria to determine funding, score projects, and select final projects for funding. She noted that project solicitation is open now and applications are due this week. She noted that the Regional Coordination Program committee will make a recommendation to the overall Transit Advisory Committee at the August 24th meeting. She then noted that Chris and Francesca will provide presentations on the two applications being submitted to for Multnomah County.

Councilor Craddick asked what the goal of this particular funding program is. Jessica noted that this is for projects that are not ideal for traditional fixed route service because either the density isn't high enough or the road layout isn't conducive to large buses.

Chris Damgen gave a presentation on the Troutdale Reynold Industrial Park (TRIP) area Shuttle application. This is becoming a major job center and an area of rapid growth. He noted that just this year TriMet began serving TRIP with line 81, but he notes that the service does not run on weekends so the City is applying for this funding to provide weekend service to fill the gap in service. Troutdale sees a lot of potential benefit to the east county. Representative Gorsek asked why line 81 doesn't just run on the weekends. Tom Mills noted that FedEx doesn't have service on Saturdays and Amazon hasn't opened yet, so TriMet doesn't think at this time there is enough ridership to add the fixed route service on the weekend. He noted that the shuttle service is the right fit for this location and time.

Councilor Craddick asked who the responsibility for running the service. Jessica noted that Multnomah County hasn't determined how they'll do that yet. She noted that Washington County uses Ride Connection to provide the service. And that Swan Island Shuttle service is provided by PCC contracting with EcoShuttle. There are various ways to do it and it hasn't yet been decided. Emerald Bogue noted that this is a great service and will be good for the community. She said that the new Amazon facility could have as many as 2500 new employees. Mayor Tosterud said that the Main Streets on Halsey is working on a Park and Ride lot at the intersection of Halsey and Fairview Parkway. He said that PGE is really interested in partnering with the City on an electric shuttle and it will serve the Halsey Corridor from 207th to the bike station at Troutdale. He thinks the small cities will want to pull out of TriMet. Francesca Patricolo then presented on a proposal from Portland for a shuttle to serve the Airport Way Industrial Area. She noted that there are more than 11,400 jobs in this area. She noted that there is planning money in the proposal to study the times and locations of the service. She noted that the service would start and terminate at the Parkrose Transit Center, but are still determining days/times of the service. She noted that as soon as funding was announced she began receiving calls from community members who have been working on increasing transit service to this area.

Councilor Craddick said she was really excited about these projects and that they'll be really good for the community.

- **HB 2017 Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund, funding proposal – Tom Mills, TriMet**

Tom Mills gave an overview of the HB 2017 State Transportation Improvement Fund. He noted that this is an Employee Payroll Tax. Tom noted that they expect to receive approximately \$49M in the first full year of funding. Increase frequency for low income areas, converting fleet to electric, fare mitigation program, expansion of bus routes and service for low income areas (geographic expansion), improve services from outside the district to within the district, as well as reducing fragmentation are some of the improvements identified. The legislation noted that they need to set aside 1% for student transportation. He said they're intending to release a draft Plan in September and receive public comment. The plan needs to be completed and sent to ODOT in November.

Tom also noted they have a Transit Advisory Committee. He noted that Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson is on the committee as well as former Commissioner Diane McKeel.

He went on to describe the components of the program that the committee has been making decisions about.

- Student Transportation Program 1% to the Transit Access Program to be used for student transportation. Schools can apply directly for the funds and would decide how to spend it.
- Non Diesel fuel program - \$5M annually toward investigating and purchasing non diesel fuel vehicles.

He noted that other programs pursuing funding include Portland Street Car and Services for Elderly and Disabled Transit Service and that there are members of the public who want to see a free monthly pass for all youth. He noted that other community members don't want that as some schools are not served by transit now.

He went on to note that there will be some one time only funds that they'll use for new vehicles, enhanced transit corridors, safety and security, and new amenities at bus stops.

He then presented the proposed new service enhancements in east Multnomah County. He described the three scenarios:

- Service Scenario – based on serving more riders, focuses service in more dense areas and therefore serves more people.
- Coverage Scenario – provides more coverage regardless of the density or ridership. Serves more areas on the map.
- Combined Scenario – includes both coverage and service increases in east Multnomah County.

He noted that the Division Transit Project and the reallocation of the service hours are shown on the map, but that the final decision about where those service hours will go are not yet determined. Representative Gorsek noted that the increase on 162nd and the additional service on Line 20 will be great. Tom noted that there will be an open house on the project in September at Gresham City Hall. He noted there will also be an online open house.

Katherine Kelly pointed out that the handout suggests increase in service but it doesn't say if what the span of service would be and what the headways will be. Tom noted that they would be 15-minute headways and that all frequent service lines reduce their frequency later in the day.

Joanna asked about the extension of the red line to the fair complex. Tom noted that Joanna asked if once the committee approves the plan, will they still need to meet? Tom noted that the legislation requires the committee is required to meet twice a year. After the committee approves the plan in October, they'll probably stop meeting monthly. He noted that the committee does have to approve any projects that are submitted to the State's discretionary fund program. So they will have to meet about that.

- **JPACT Updates–** Councilor Shirley Craddick and Jamie Snook, Metro

Jamie Snook noted that the JPACT meeting for this month has been cancelled. Jessica noted that the RTP comments are due today.

- **Project Updates, Staff**

- **Division Transit and Development Project Update:** nothing new.
- **Safe Routes to School Update:** MaryJo noted that SRTS is gearing up for back to school. She noted the County is working on the new HB 2017 Infrastructure Grant. MaryJo noted that the county and the City of Gresham are looking at some projects.
- **East Metro Connections Plan Implementation:** nothing new
- **ODOT Region1 ACT Update:** discussed at this meeting
- **Main Streets on Halsey/ Halsey Street Corridor:** Mayor Tosterud noted that Johnson Economics provided info. Mayor Tosterud's takeaway from the study is that people want restaurants.
- **RTP Update:** Comments due today
- **Multnomah County CIPP:** Public engagement in the fall
- **ODOT Value Pricing:** OTC action soon
- **Historic Highway Congestion and Transportation Safety Plan:** Commissioner Stegmann noted that the opening of the highway has been postponed due to two new landslides.
- **Pleasant Valley TSP refinement:** Gresham will take the 4 alternatives to the public in late September.
- **Columbia to Clackamas Corridor Plan:** Gresham and ODOT still working on IGA
- **Troutdale Town Center Plan update:** Johnson Economics performed economic analysis in the downtown.

- **Other Business**

Chris noted that Troutdale has been working with Chet Hagen on the small Cell Antennae installation that will begin to happen around the region. Katherine noted that Gresham staff just gave a presentation to their Council on that and offered to give a presentation at the next EMCTC meeting.

- **Next EMCTC Meeting:** September 17, 2018.
Meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm