



2023 Regional Transportation Plan

Public engagement approach overview

March 2022

Metrowill implement a public engagement plan for the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) that builds on previous and concurrent engagement efforts and relationships, is informed by input from partners and the public, and advances Metro's Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. The engagement for the 2023 RTP will provide opportunities for people who live, work and travel across the region to make an impact on the plan. The information gathered from engagement activities will be shared with decision-makers in a variety of ways to ensure they have opportunity to contemplate and fully consider public input. The Draft Public Engagement Plan is in development.

Public engagement goals

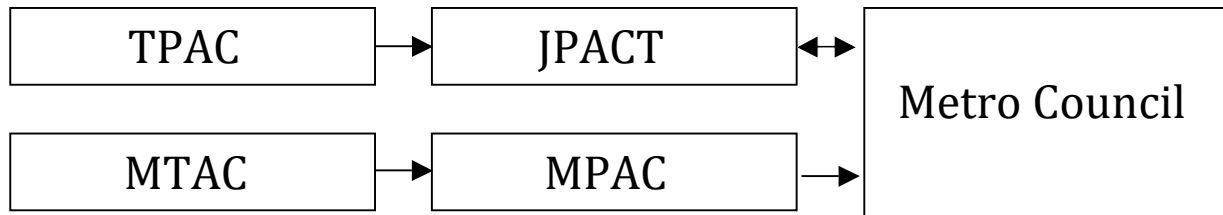
- Learn about the transportation needs and priorities of communities across greater Portland.
- Reflect the priorities identified through community engagement, prioritizing the input provided by underserved and historically marginalized communities, in the elements of the 2023 RTP that guide investment decisions.
- Build support for and momentum to achieve community-driven objectives and build public trust in Metro's transportation planning process.
- Strengthen existing and build new partnerships with local, regional, state and federal governments, Tribes, business and community leaders, academic institutions, and historically underrepresented communities including Black, Indigenous and people of color, people with disabilities, people with low incomes, and people with limited English proficiency) as well as youth and older adults for sustained involvement in decision making.

Public engagement objectives

1. Communicate complete, accurate, understandable, and timely information to the public and partners throughout the project.
2. Provide inclusive, meaningful public engagement opportunities and demonstrate how input influenced the process.
3. Actively seek public input prior to key milestones and share with Metro Council and regional committees in a manner that best supports the 2023 RTP decision-making process. Develop meaningful public engagement activities to generate input relevant to project milestones.
4. Build community capacity to participate in and make an impact on transportation policy and investment decisions.
5. Build the capacity of regional decision makers and Metro staff to effectively translate community priorities into effective policies and actions.
6. The 2023 RTP outcomes reflect the experiences of people living and working in the region.

7. Comply with all public participation requirements. Ensure engagement approach meets requirements as articulated in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, the Environmental Justice Executive Order, the Federal Highway Administration’s 23 Code of Federal Regulations Section 450.316, Oregon’s Statewide Planning Goal 1 for citizen involvement, and Metro’s Public Engagement Guide.
8. Coordinate engagement efforts with relevant Metro projects and programs. Incorporate engagement needs of relevant Metro projects and programs to create a coordinated effort that connects projects and programs for the public as they learn about and provide input on the 2023 RTP. Projects and programs include but are not limited to the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and Regional Flexible Funds Allocation (RFFA) process and major planning efforts underway such as, the Westside Multimodal Improvements Study and the Tualatin Valley Highway Corridor Plan.

Regional Transportation Decision-Making Framework



The regional advisory committees will serve as the primary engagement mechanisms for collaboration and consensus building. In addition to these committees, engagement with other interested individuals, communities, and organizations will continue to be an important element of the engagement strategy.

Public engagement practices

The process will employ community engagement that informs, consults or involves people based on their identified level of interest in the project. The project team will seek specific input using a variety of public engagement tools. The engagement is intended to make the 2023 RTP planning process accessible and to ensure that stakeholders can have meaningful voice in the process. The approach is guided by the following engagement practices:

- 1) demonstrate how the decision-making process operates and where/when to provide input,
- 2) provide outreach early enough in the decision-making process to promote meaningful opportunities for the public to shape policies and outcomes,
- 3) track how input is considered by decision makers and impacts final action or outcome of decision,
- 4) provide follow up with those who provided input about final action or outcome of decision,
- 5) seek public evaluation of engagement experience, and monitors engagement of historically underrepresented communities, and
- 6) adjust engagement to respond to results of evaluation.