

*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
9/9/13**

Members

Tim Clark
Lisa Barton Mullins
Rich Allen
Sean Files
Phil Healy

Representing

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

EMCTC Staff

Steve Gaschler
Katherine Kelly
Joanna Valencia
John Mermin
Mark Gunter
Vanessa Vissar

Representing

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

Guests

Shirley Craddick
Lake McTighe
Matt Freitag
Bill Peterson
Greg Olson

Tammy Hawkins
Craig Ward

Metro
Metro
ODOT
City of Wood Village
Chair of Gresham Subcommittee on Transportation and
Multnomah County Bike/Ped Committee
Division Midway Alliance
City of Troutdale

Welcome and Chair's Comments

EMCTC member Councilor Tim Clark called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. With both the Chair and Vice-Chair absent, Councilor Clark explained that a Chair Pro Tem would need to be elected. With this Councilor Clark called for nominations for a Chair Pro Tem. Councilor Mullins made a motion nominating Councilor Clark as Chair Pro Tem. Councilor Allen seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously for Councilor Clark to serve as Chair Pro Tem. Councilor Clark started the meeting with introductions. A quorum was present. Sean Files submitted a letter identifying him as a proxy for Multnomah County.

Councilor Craddick asked to add a discussion about the STIP to the agenda. Councilor Clark added it to the Other Business section of the agenda.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Review and Approval of July 8 and July 29, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the July 8 and July 29, 2013 meeting were emailed to the group prior to the meeting and also available at the meeting. Approval of the July 8th meeting minutes were deferred to this meeting date due to a lack of quorum at the July 29th meeting. Councilor Barton Mullins moved to approve the July 8th and July 29th

meeting minutes. Councilor Allen seconded the motion. There was no discussion to the motion. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

MTIP Regional Flex Funds 100% List

For this part of the agenda Councilor Karylinn Echols called in to participate in the discussion and vote. Joanna started off by handing out the 100% list recommendation identifying funding for the Sandy Blvd Gresham Project for the Active Transportation and Freight/Green Economy Regional Flex Funds Allocation for East County. Joanna went over the funding priorities reminding EMCTC of the STIP and MITP priority projects identified. Councilor Allen asked when the scoring matrix was last updated. Joanna responded that the last update was in May when the TAC scored the projects. Phil clarified if the REOF projects would also be considered. Joanna responded that the vote will need to include the two REOF projects for the TRIP Interchange Project and the County's NE 238th project. John Mermin asked about acknowledgment of the 75/25% split for the RFFA funding. Joanna clarified this, acknowledging that the committee recognizes that in absolute terms the project does not reflect the 75/25 split, however this project was identified as a priority project in East County. With funding limitations, this project achieves the goal of a complete project that has both active transportation and freight components. This project will benefit all of East Multnomah County by improving mobility and access to a regionally significant industrial area, enhancing safety, and building new multimodal facilities to and along US 30/Sandy Boulevard. Improvements fronting approximately 19 acres of vacant, state certified industrial land will support economic development by attracting employers and new jobs to a shovel-ready industrial site. The site is strategically located with easy access to I-84 and marine, rail, and air freight facilities. In addition the project completes about one mile of bike/ped facilities that improves connections to the Gresham/Fairview trail. This project also builds on previously approved funding on the east end of Sandy Blvd, funded in the last flex funds cycle.

Phil Healy made a motion to approve the Sandy Boulevard Regional Flex Funds Project, the Troutdale REOF project, and the NE 238th REOF Project. Sean Files seconded the motion. There was no discussion to the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Joanna went over the next steps that include staff preparing a letter reflecting the vote for submittal at the upcoming JPACT meeting. Sean asked about the timeframes. Joanna responded that the list will go to JPACT for recommendation to Metro Council this fall. The process will parallel the STIP process. It is anticipated that by November the 100% list will be finalized. John asked if there would be alternate at JPACT present. Sean responded that Commissioner McKeel will be present at the JPACT meeting.

Active Transportation Plan

Lake McTighe from Metro handed out information about the Active Transportation Plan. She briefed the committee on the draft Regional Active Transportation Plan. She mentioned that there have been concerns raised around the region about the plan, and the resolution and draft reflects revisions addressing these comments. The next steps included continuing to update the plan as well as updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). TPAC has recommended approval of the resolution to JPACT.

Councilor Allen commented that it was good to have a vision. He asked how far out the plan covers. Lake responded it plans to 2035 as part of the RTP. The plan is a guide and provides a big picture to coordinate projects at a regional level so it develops at a comprehensive way.

Councilor Craddick asked about addressing the concerns raised by the various stakeholders. Lake responded that the plan is getting better based on the input. She added that so far the comments received have been fairly simple to address in terms of clarifying language. Councilor Craddick added that it seems that the feedback includes concerns with the lack of information and how it all will work. Lake agreed and there have also been concerns raised about how this affects funding policy. She added that this more informs funding policy. The plan puts an emphasis on a balance multimodal system and includes consideration for freight. She added that there is about 3% of funding going to standalone bike/ped projects.

Councilor Clark recognized the work done and thanked Lake. He also mentioned that he appreciates broadening the scope of folks involved and opening up the discussions to involve folks that are not only transportation, but also includes land use and other interested parties similar to the approach taken for the East Metro Connections Plan. He added that he thinks that there is some fear in terms of policies and ranking projects, and also concerns with terms such as a road diet and impacts of that.

Joanna asked the committee if they would like to provide any information or guidance to JPACT representatives who will be taking action on the resolution acknowledging the plan, noting that there seems to be general support around the table. Phil added that he believes the Port will be supporting the resolution. Joanna added that from the County perspective, the revisions have addressed concerns raised to move forward with supporting the resolution.

ODOT Legislative Update and East County Projects Update

Matt Freitag from ODOT gave the legislative update. The first project was in regards to the \$5M received for the Outer Powell Blvd project. This includes NEPA work, public involvement and development of an alternatives analysis. Challenges include right-of-way impacts. ODOT will be meeting with Representative Fagan to go over the vision for the money. Right-of-way impacts are expected. Matt noted the Powell-Division High Capacity Transit Corridor Study is expected to kick-off this fall.

Matt went over the approval of Senate Bill 810 for the mileage user fee. The Bill provides for funding to develop a pilot project to enroll approximately 5000 vehicles to look at alternate ways of collecting user fees. Details are still being worked for the program. A report is due July 2015 on the pilot project.

Matt went over some quick updates for the projects in the area. He identified that ODOT is working on moving forward with the Outer Powell Safety project making improvements from 111th to 176th on the shoulders. The I-84 auxiliary lanes at the I-205 junction are scheduled for completion Fall 2013. The I-205 Airport Way Interchange is also being completed.

JPACT Agenda

John Mermin went over the JPACT agenda that includes three action items and two informational items. The first action item is a resolution to acknowledge the work completed thus far for the Active Transportation Plan that Lake will be presenting under a different agenda item. The second action item is to approve the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) work program. The third action item approves a contingency for 11 projects that received 2012-2015 MTIP funding. One East County Gresham project for Safe Routes to School will be affected. The two informational items includes an update on the Regional Flex Funds Allocation Public Comment period summary and an update from local coordinating committees on their local processes. The other informational item goes over State priorities identified for the message to the Federal government for reauthorization of MAP-21. Topics covered include increasing and diversifying revenue, and addressing safety and active transportation.

Councilor Craddick asked about support for the East Count Regional Flex Funds (RFFA) projects and if testimony or written support is planned to be submitted. Joanna responded that letters of support have been submitted as part of the local process. These letters of support will be transmitted to Metro as part of the local package identifying our top priority project. Joanna also added that Commissioner McKeel will be talking about the local process and our top priority project at the upcoming JPACT meeting.

East County Policy Makers Ride Reminders

Katherine reminded folks of the September 20th bike ride through East County. She went over the route. This ride builds on last year's ride and also is a kick-off the bike tourism project that will be conducted by the Gresham Chamber. Councilor Craddick asked if State Legislators have been invited. Katherine responded that someone from Earl Blumenauer's office has been invited, but not at the State level. Councilor Craddick added

that it might be beneficial to include them, especially in terms of looking at projects and funding. Katherine will add them to the invite.

Safe Routes to School Video Screening

Joanna passed out a flier of the upcoming screening of the Safe Routes to School video that the committee saw a preview of at a previous meeting. The screening will be held at Troutdale Elementary School during their assembly on Friday, September 27th at 2pm and all are invited.

Katherine added that Gresham and Multnomah County have started meeting to discuss opportunities for coordination of Safe Routes to School programs in East County.

Other Business

Councilor Craddick asked for an update on the STIP 100% list. Joanna briefed the group informing them that ODOT has released a draft 100% list. Sean added that the 100% list reflects a collaboration of priorities from the jurisdictions to identify their priorities. Joanna added that the NE 238th project was identified as the priority project for the STIP and the project was included on the ODOT 100% list. Unfortunately the Sandy Blvd project from the Gresham/Fairview City limits to 210th was not funded. Joanna added that this great news for East County and reflects great coordination with EMCTC, and continued demonstration of commitment of moving forward to implement the East Metro Connections Plan (EMCP). Katherine agreed and they are in support. Councilor Craddick emphasized that there seems to be general consensus for support of the NE 238th project from the group and asked if there was any. She asked if there were any efforts to try to influence the project another way. Katherine added that this represents the action the group took in November 2012 when developing a funding strategy and prioritizing projects for the STIP and MTIP process, and she has not heard of proposals for taking a different direction. Councilor Mullins asked about the Multnomah County Sandy project. Joanna responded that other funding sources will be sought as they come up to fund this project. Councilor Craddick congratulated the group. Sean added that it has been pretty amazing to be able to secure funding within a year of adoption of the EMCP.

Councilor Allen added that he continues to have concerns about the facility not being a four lane facility. Joanna responded that the County has been working with Metro on using the TRB Grant to start taking a look at the right-of-way and geotech, and safety. Councilor Allen asked if a four lane facility will be considered. Joanna responded that she has started receiving comments from the community that they will be working on addressing.

Sean informed the group that Commissioner McKeel has been asked by the governor to sit on the local Regional Solutions Team. The team will look at projects throughout the region, so it will be great to have a County representative on the team.

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.