

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 7/8/13

Members

Diane McKeel
Tim Clark

Representing

Multnomah County
Wood Village

Alternates

Phil Healy
Rich Allen

Representing

Port of Portland
City of Troutdale

EMCTC Staff

Craig Ward
Katherine Kelly
Kelly Clarke
Sean Files
Kate McQuillan
Joanna Valencia
Mark Gunter

Representing

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

Guests

Shirley Craddick
Jerry Norquist
Mike Houck
Greg Olson

Metro
Cycle Oregon
Urban Green Spaces Institute/Intertwine Alliance
Chair of Gresham Subcommittee on Transportation and
Multnomah County Bike/Ped Committee
EMEA
TriMet

Welcome and Chair's Comments

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

Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Review and Approval of June 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the June 10, 2013 meeting were emailed to the group prior to the meeting and also available at the meeting. The committee reviewed the minutes. Phil Healy made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Clark seconded the motion. There was no discussion to the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Gresham TSP Update

Kelly Clarke from the City of Gresham presented Gresham's TSP Update and the progress so far. She handed out a project list and the proposed functional cross-sections. The last update occurred in 2002. The update has been organized in four sections. There have been a number of outreach efforts to the public and other stakeholders. The update aims to find a balance between all modes. The street classifications and cross-sections

have been refined to create street functions that support future land uses and is responsive to the community. The project lists identifies both corridor and intersection projects. The list also includes non-capital projects including improvements to the systems and development of plans and programs. The next steps include continued drafting of the TSP language and refinement of the project list. The goal is to adopt the TSP in the fall.

Commissioner McKeel asked how of the projects came out of the East Metro Connections Plan. Kelly responded that about 60% of the projects came out of the plan. Councilor Craddick asked about the policy regarding landscaping medians. Kelly responded that medians are used to create natural storm water areas, and are also used as a tool for access management. The TSP policy allows for landscape medians as appropriate. Councilor Craddick asked if the plan incorporates the Active Transportation Plan (ATP). Kelly responded that the plan will need to be modified to incorporate the final Active Transportation Plan. Katherine added that many of the policies align with what's being proposed in the Active Transportation Plan, but the challenge will be aligning with the proposed cross-sections coming out of the ATP.

Councilor Craddick asked about having other jurisdictions coming in to talk about their TSPs. Staff will work on bringing other TSP Updates to future EMCTC meetings.

Policy Makers Ride

Jerry Norquist and Mike Houck presented. They thanked EMCTC for inviting them to today's meeting and also for hosting the ride last year in East County. Jerry started with the history of the ride and provided information on the bike industry. He stated that the future of the industry is in bikes for transportation. The ride started in 2004 and centers around the concept of scenic bikeways. The ride highlights both good and bad aspects of facilities. They passed out handouts of trail projects happening in the state and region. Mike went over the work that the Intertwine Alliance is doing region-wide.

Jerry went over this year's ride detail. The ride includes key speakers that know about the area. The ride will start with Commissioner McKeel as a speaker. The ride will start at the Woman's Forum and will go to Cascade Locks. They shared a Cycle Oregon video.

Greg commented that he has observed more and more groups coming out to bike the Gorge and he feels that there is economic opportunity to take advantage of resulting from this. He noted that he has talked to some folks that work out towards the Gorge who will be using the trail to bike to work.

Councilor Craddick encouraged folks to participate, and asked if there were options for folks to participate if they are unable to bike ride. Jerry responded that there are options and the ride is short and mostly downhill. There will be a support van that folks can ride. The ride is designed to be one-way, but folks can have the option to bike both ways depending on their ability.

Councilor Clark asked if the trail maps identify the level of difficulty of the trails, noting the different types of users. Jerry responded that this information should be included and is important information that should be shared. He added that rideoregonride.com has descriptions that include level of difficulty. Mike added that the book *Wild in the City* includes ride information.

Commissioner McKeel asked about the bicycle counter on the Hawthorne Bridge and how the mechanics of counting works. Jerry responded that the counter is designed to capture only bike counts. He added that he continues to encourage the addition of other counters.

Commissioner McKeel asked about the funding needs to complete the trail. Jerry responded that there is still a need for \$47M to complete the project. Councilor Craddick asked if the ride will include a portion of the new trail. Jerry responded that there will be a portion of the ride that will be on the old highway.

Safe Routes to School Update

Kate McQuillan from Multnomah County gave a presentation on the County's program. Jerry noted that Cycle Oregon has a Safe Routes to School grant program. Kate gave a brief overview of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program initiative. She noted that the County has been working with Troutdale and Sweetbriar Elementary Schools. Kate gave a preview of a safety video being developed with students from Troutdale Elementary. There will be a premiere event held in the fall for the video. She will send announcement to EMCT once the date is set.

Councilor Craddick asked about working with PTAs to be able to sustain the walking school busses beyond just the special events. Kate replied that the school has a PALs program which serves as their PTA. Members of PALs participate in the school's SRTS Action Team, and they have been involved in the implementation. There have been challenges in institutionalizing and sustaining the programs. This will be part of the next steps of continuing to develop SRTS in East County.

Greg Olson noted that there seems to be schools located where students need to be bussed. He commented that in future siting of schools, location needs to be strongly considered to encourage walking and biking to school by siting them near neighborhoods. He gave an example of a school in Santa Cruz where their program includes a tracking component where students can track themselves electronically as they bike to school.

Councilor Clark asked about the next steps for SRTS and how to turn the walking school bus activity into an activity that the school can have on their own without a special event. Commissioner McKeel added that there is an education piece that needs to be built on to encourage participation of walking on their own. With the program only being two years old, this will be part of program development. Kate added that there are challenges with parents being concerned with walking to school on their own that still need to be addressed.

JPACT Agenda

Councilor Craddick went over the JPACT agenda. A majority of the agenda are updates, including recent staff changes. Steve Wheeler will serve as interim Planning Director. An update to the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) will be given. The draft plan will be acknowledged to fulfill the TGM grant requirements. Councilor Clark asked if there was a big issue on this. Councilor Craddick noted that folks have requested additional review time and concerns have been raised regarding the recommendations and how they will apply both at the policy and implementation level. Rail-Volution is being held in Seattle this year, and she encouraged participation for folks that are interested. A legislative update will be given.

Katherine went over the change in Transportation Alternatives funding. This agenda item addresses the need to provide for contingency funding for 12 projects that are transitioning from Transportation Enhancements funding to the Transportation Alternatives funding. TPAC voted to support the contingency funding. She anticipates that future policy discussions on whether or not to continue to provide for contingency funding will occur.

Councilor Craddick continued with the rest of the agenda, noting that Jason Tell will give a brief update on the State Transportation Improvement Plan process. A tour of the Willamette Falls Blue Heron project will be held on July 10th. Folks interested in attending can contact Metro. Options for the property are still being explored. An overview of what drives transportation dollars will be given by Tom Kloster.

Joanna went over the Regional Flexible Fund Allocations for Step 1. This will be informational and goes over the Step 1 funding programs that Metro implements.

Councilor Craddick went over the upcoming RTP update. The process will not be as complete as a more robust update and Tom will be going over the elements that will be specifically covered as part of the process.

MTIP (Regional Flex Funds and REOF) Review and Update

Joanna distributed the public comments received so far for the projects for folks to be able to look through. She quickly went over the comments received. The comments were mainly received during the regional comment period. Comments were also received from Metro/ODOT. Staff will be working on responding to the comments as required by Metro and will submit those comments once the 100% list has been finalized. Joanna also went over the public outreach efforts conducted so far.

Councilor Craddick asked about the general format of the July 29th meeting and open house. After the regular meeting, the open house will be held with staff available to answer questions on the project. The public meeting format will give the public a chance to address EMCTC and provide oral and written testimony and ask questions. The meeting will be similar to the JPACT public meeting held.

Other Business

Rich reminded folks that the I-84 paving project is starting this weekend for eastbound traffic. Specific detour routes have not been designated, however ODOT has sent out options for folks to take. Mark asked if there was a smartphone app available for folks with route options. Rich responded that there wasn't an app.

Councilor Craddick informed the group that Metro Council will be meeting at the Gresham Chamber on Thursday at 5pm. This meeting is at East County to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Blue Lake Park.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.