

## **PTAC Membership Discussion Brief**

***These notes are intended as a brief to assist the September 2011 discussion on PTAC membership, roles and responsibilities and determine priority for future PTAC policy work.***

**Background.** The Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) was appointed by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) in January 2000. It provides a forum for transportation providers serving the general public, older adults and people with disabilities, and other public transportation stakeholders to communicate with the OTC and ODOT. The PTAC reviews and makes recommendations on policy and investment options.

### **Policy is:**

***Wikipedia Definition of Policy:*** **A policy** is typically described as a principle or rule to guide decisions and achieve rational outcome(s). The term is not normally used to denote what is actually done, this is normally referred to as either procedure<sup>[11](#)</sup> or protocol. Whereas a policy will contain the 'what' and the 'why', procedures or protocols contain the 'what', the 'how', the 'where', and the 'when'.

***Policies*** are generally adopted by the Board of or senior governance body within an organization where as procedures or protocols would be developed and adopted by senior executive officers. Policies can assist in both subjective and objective decision making.

### **Discussion: In 2000 PTAC was formed to accomplish the following:**

- Recommend actions to the Public Transit Division, ODOT, and the OTC regarding public transportation policies and programs.
- Recommend actions to the Public Transit Division, ODOT, and OTC regarding changes to existing transportation policies, rules and law.
- Respond to issues brought to it by the OTC, ODOT, other partners and the public.
- Advocate for the transportation needs of Oregon's seniors and people with disabilities,
- Advocate for alternative transportation modes and travel options strategies.
- Support and endorse local community and regional public transportation and alternative travel solutions.
- Disseminate information on public transportation and travel options.
- Provide members to participate on the Public Transit Discretionary Grant Selection Committee for the OTC

PTAC members are asked to review and comment on whether these or other tasks should guide the work of the Committee today. Refer to the following list of potential issues requiring PTAC input in 2012:

**2012 Potential Policy Issues requiring PTAC input:**

- Review PTAC role and membership
- 5311 formula review
- New BETC program
- Input on State Management Plan update
- Priorities and goal setting for grant programs
- Training priorities
- Revise Special Transportation performance measures
- Veteran's Transportation Coordination
- State Coordination Assessment Project
- Transportation brokerages beyond medical transportation