

Oregon Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC)
May 11, 2015 Meeting Minutes
Oregon Department of Transportation
ODOT, Region 2, Building X Conference Room
885 Airport Rd. SE, Salem, Oregon

Member Attendees:

Julie Brown, RVTB, Chair & Small Urban Provider rep.; **Allan Pollock**, SAMTD, Salem-Keizer Transit rep.; **Cosette Rees**, LTD, LTD rep.; **Aaron Deas**, Tri-Met, Tri-Met rep.; **Mary Jo Carpenter**, Community Connection of Baker County, OTA rep.; **Henry Heimuller**, Columbia County Commission, AOC rep. (West) ; **Julie Wilcke**, Ride Connection, Senior and Disability rep.; **Rob Inerfeld**, City of Eugene, League of Oregon Cities rep.; **Tim Wilson**, Citizen-at-large rep.; **Kim Curley**, Commute Options, TOGO rep.; **Ted Leybold**, Metro, TDM rep.; **Karen Friend**, COIC, Small Urban Provider rep. ; **Donald Leap**, AORTA, Passenger Rail rep.;

Member Attendees via Phone:

Ernie Palmer, Basin Transit, Rural Provider rep.; **Peter Runnels**, Harney County, AOC rep. (East)

Member Absent:

Jason Higham, TAC Transportation, Private Transportation rep.; **Phil Warnock**, Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments, Vice Chair and NEMT rep.

ODOT Rail and Public Transit Division (RPTD) Staff Attendees:

Hal Gard, Division Administrator; **Robin Bjurstrom**, Transit Manager; **Dinah Van Der Hyde**, Policy Section Lead; **Casandra Mance**, Training Program Coordinator; **Emily Fagin**, Program Assistant; **Jamey Dempster**, RTC Region 2 (via phone); **Jean Palmateer**, RTC Region 2; **Marsha Hoskins**, Region Section Lead; **Joni Bramlett**, RTC Region 4; **Laura Slater**, RTC Region 5; **Jennifer Sellers**, NW Rail Corridor Project Manager

Other ODOT Attendees:

Amanda Pietz, ODOT Transportation Planning Manager; **Lucia Ramirez**, ODOT Principal Planner; **Savannah Crawford Skewes**, ODOT Principal Planner, **Brian Hurley**, ODOT Sr Transportation Planner

Presenters and Visitors:

Dennis Pinheiro, Douglas County (via phone); **Lee Lazaro**, City of Corvallis (via phone); **Paige Townsend**, RVTB (via phone);

Meeting called to order: 1:08 p.m.

Item A: Welcome and Introduction - Chair Julie Brown

Chair Brown welcomed all to the meeting and briefly explained the meeting etiquette for in-person and telephone attendees.

Meeting Minutes Approval: The meeting minutes from the March 9, 2015 PTAC Meeting (Handout A1) were approved with no changes.

Item B: Opportunity for Public Comment - Chair Julie Brown
None offered.

Item C: Oregon Public Transportation Plan (OPTP) – Committee Roles and Project Overview, Amanda Pietz and Lucia Ramirez

Amanda provided an update of the status of the OPTP indicating a two year process timeline. There will be an advisory committee created made up of 15-17 members and will include PTAC representation. This person would need to wear many hats, and report back to PTAC. Director Garrett and OTC will make the final decision on committee members with first kick-off meeting taking place in early Fall, 2015.

Input from the planning committee and this group [PTAC] is very important. The new Transportation Plan and its planning committee will need to recognize different distinctions, understand and decide what's in and what's out, and identify roles. A number of things that we will be focusing on will include:

- How to maximize funding challenges
- Do what we can with what we already have
- Leveraging funding from other sources/services

If you would like to view the plan as it moves along; below is the link that will take you straight to the OPTP webpage: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/Pages/optp.aspx>

Noted: to view the PowerPoint used in this presentation, please use the following link:
<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/PT/stakeholders/ptac/2015/05/handout-b.pdf>

Item D: Oregon Bike and Ped Plan Update – Savannah Crawford

Savannah gave an update on the process of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This is a 20 year plan to identify and provide a vision and develop a policy framework for bicycle and pedestrian planning throughout the state. We traveled to each ODOT Region in the state for public outreach to identify significant issues to address as part of the plan.

Goals: Safety, mobility and efficiency; accessibility and connectivity; community and economic vitality; equity; health sustainability; coordination, cooperation and collaboration; strategic investment.

Next Steps:

- Continue Policy Development (Fall/Spring)
- Performance Measure Discussion (Winter/Spring)
- Funding and Implementation (Spring/Summer)

Amanda added that the Transportation Planning Unit works on all the plans so they work to create a comparable database. All the plans carry the same weight and should align together using similar language and style.

Noted: to view the PowerPoint used in this presentation, please use the following link:
<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/PT/stakeholders/ptac/2015/05/handout-d1.pdf>

Break 2:15 p.m.

Item E: Passenger Rail and Intercity Services – Jennifer Sellers

Passenger Rail is partnering up to improve schedule time performance, and market Passenger Rail to improve ridership. In 2014 there was a drop in ridership due to many challenges; schedule changes, gas prices, and freight shipment increases.

Jennifer highlighted a number of key points including the following:

- The Cascades Corridor or Pacific Northwest Rail Corridor is one of 10 corridors designated by the US DOT for high-speed intercity passenger rail.
- There are now seven Talgo trainsets – Amtrak owns 2, WSDOT 3 (Series 6) and ODOT recently bought 2 (Series 8)
- The Cascades service has received national attention – FRA reached out regarding a regional plan and the NCRRP is publishing a report on the corridor – successes and lessons learned to help other services.
- How HB 2918 and HB3401 has impacted ODOT's roles and direction
- Working with partnerships between Oregon and Washington, BNSF, UP, Talgo, Amtrak, MTR Western and BC

Noted: to view the PowerPoint used in this presentation, please use the following link:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/PT/stakeholders/ptac/2015/05/handout-e1.pdf>

Item F: PTAC Executive Committee Update – Tim Wilson

Tim shared that the Executive Committee discussed the Oregon Public Transportation Plan and PTAC members. They also previewed the PTAC Website updates, discussed the July PTAC meeting location, and how to further the four principles through a needs list.

The Executive Committee was asked to conduct a preliminary review of the State Management Plan to provide comments and feedback. Tim Wilson was asked if he could attend the Freight Advisory Committee Meetings as a guest and then share any useful information with PTAC members.

Item G: Oregon Transportation Forum (OTF) Update - Aaron Deas

Aaron shared that with the recent changes including a new Governor and lead senator, there seems to be confusion on who will take the lead on the difficult issues? Who does what, etc.?

They just met this morning and did not really get many answers. The PERS session and the State Kicker Issue seem to be top hot topics. The extra STF money is in the Governor and Co-Chairs budget and they are starting to push forward; that will be heard by the 23rd this month.

Item G: RPTD Administrator Update - Hal Gard, RPTD Administrator

Hal explained that OTC is working on an Enhanced Fix-It strategy. The federal reauthorization will have a big effect on future planning and what the enhanced package would look like. This will be a main topic at the next OTC Meeting and he will know more after those discussions take place.

There were a number of House Bills and Legislative Updates that Hal covered and a number of Committee members had questions.

Cassie Mance then showed the Committee members the updated PTAC Webpage that includes separate sections for transit stories and resources along with where to find the current working draft of the State Management Plan. The Plan is moving along and is now open for public comment. Public Transit will be collecting input until June 15, 2015.

Hal invited PTAC Members to a special Portland event, Ride the Orange Line. This is an opportunity to pre-view the new Tilikum Crossing Bridge and a short trip on the new Orange Line on June 23, 2015. You must rsvp; please talk with Marsha Hoskins or Karyn Criswell if you are interested or for more information.

Item L: Final Reminders & Adjournment - Chair Brown

Julie informed Members that Sue Dreier accepted a new position with Tacoma Transit. Allan Pollock, General Manager/CEO with Salem Keizer Transit, will fill her PTAC position.

Marsha Hoskins introduced Laura Slater. Laura is the new Region 5 Transit Coordinator starting April 13th.

Donald Leap invited members to the Cascade Corridor Display Train Event taking place in Salem, Oregon at the Riverfront Park on Saturday, May 16th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Chair Brown thanked everyone for being a part of the committee(s). The next PTAC Meeting is scheduled for July 13th in Medford, Oregon. Cassie will send out location and lodging information.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:15 p.m.