



# Equity and Mobility Advisory Committee

Meeting #21  
February 1, 2023

# Welcome and Technical Info

- This meeting is being hosted in person, via Zoom webinar and being live-streamed on YouTube.
- EMAC Members are participating virtually and in person.
- For all others watching virtually, video and chat are disabled, and attendees are muted.

*What you say is part of the public record and open to public records requests through the Oregon Public Records and Meetings Law.*

# Centering Exercise



# Working Together Agreements



# **Where We've Been and Where We're Going**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator**

**EMAC Members**

# EMAC Statement of Purpose



- Neighborhood health and safety
- Low-income
- Transit and multimodal

*Providing input directly to the Oregon Transportation Commission, EMAC was convened in 2020 to ensure equitable toll project processes and outcomes.*

# Our Plan for Today

- Discuss and begin to deliberate on what EMAC should prioritize within the 2022 – 2025 Work Plan.
- Brainstorm what EMAC will want to see in a successful ODOT-EMAC Accountability Workshop.
- Update the committee on advancing process and outcome equity through ODOT's operationalization of EMAC's previous direction.

# Agenda

- Where We've Been and Where We're Going
- EMAC 2022 – 2025 Work Plan
- Turning Recommendations Into Commitments and Sustaining Accountability
- Update from ODOT on Advancing Equity
- Public Comment
- Going Forward



# OTC Liaison to EMAC

Updates from Commissioner Sharon  
Smith, Oregon Transportation Commission  
(OTC) Liaison to EMAC



# Recent EMAC Meetings

**EMAC Meeting 20**

**Oregon Highway Plan Toll  
Amendment  
Subcommittee**

**RMPP Indicators  
Subcommittee**

December 7, 2022

January 9, 2023

January 24, 2023

# **EMAC 2022-2025 Work Plan**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator**

**Rochelle Brahalla, Project Team**

**EMAC Members**

# EMAC 2022 – 2025 Work Plan

- **Toll Projects:** Coordination with toll project teams to strategize technical analysis, engagement, and mitigation.
- **Low-Income Toll Program and Rulemaking:** Coordinated recommendations on rules for customer service, low-income programming, and rate schedule.
- **Accountability:** Annual workshops with ODOT to deep dive into equity recommendations to sustain accountability and advance equity.

# Workstreams – Toll Projects

- **Engagement**
- **Indicators**
- **Mitigation and localized impacts**

# Workstreams – Low-Income Toll Program

- **Credits, discounts, and operations**
- **Engagement and enrollment**

# Workstreams – Accountability, Rate-Setting, and Revenue Allocation

- **Accountability and future oversight of the Toll Program**
- **Rate-Setting**
- **Revenue Allocation**

# EMAC's OTC Recommendation

## Guiding Questions

Per EMAC's Recommendations to the OTC (July 2022):

- **Rate:** What is the toll rate and the relative cost burden across aggregated demographic populations?
- **Revenue:** How and where is the toll revenue invested?
- **Responsibility:** Who is responsible for long-term oversight and adjustments of the toll program? How will those responsible demonstrate transparency and accountability?



# Rate Setting

EMAC will provide **recommendations to STRAC** to shape the following areas of their work plan:

- Rule development – customer interaction
- Rule development – rate setting process
- Engagement activities relating to rule development

# Revenue

EMAC will provide **recommendations to RTAC** to shape rules and guidelines to ensure equitable revenue allocation:

- Shaping priorities and balancing trade-offs
- Developing frameworks and metrics for prioritization

# Responsibility

EMAC will provide **input to ODOT** about how to build accountability within the Oregon Toll Program (OTP). Some themes for accountability include:

- Turning recommendations into sustainable commitments
- Developing oversight systems to ensure long-term equitable outcomes
- Demonstrating transparency and accountability to historically and currently excluded and underserved communities.

# EMAC Member Input

- Discernment
- Rate Setting and Revenue Allocation
- Effective Collaboration
- Accountability
- Engagement

# Discussion



- Where can EMAC enact the most significant impact on equity for the Toll Program?
- How can the work plan advance equity while addressing barriers to designing an equitable Toll Program?

# Poll Instructions

## Join by Web

1. Go to **PolIEV.com**
2. Enter **INPUT**
3. Respond to poll

## Join by Text

1. Text **INPUT** to **22333**
2. Text your poll response

# Poll: Where do you want EMAC to focus its efforts first in 2023?



1. **Toll Projects** – Engagement
2. **Toll Projects** – Indicators
3. **Toll Projects** – Mitigation and localized impacts
4. **Low-Income Toll Program** – Credits, discounts, operations
5. **Low-Income Toll Program** – Engagement and enrollment
6. **Accountability** and future oversight of the Toll Program
7. **Rate-Setting**
8. **Revenue Allocation**

Respond at [pollev.com/input](https://pollev.com/input)

Text **INPUT** to **22333** once to join, then **A, B, C, D, E...**

# Where do you want EMAC to focus its efforts first in 2023?

Toll Projects - Engagement **A**

Toll Projects - Indicators **B**

Toll Projects - Mitigation and localized impacts **C**

Low-Income Toll Program - Credits, discounts, operations **D**

Low-Income Toll Program - Engagement and enrollment **E**

Accountability and future oversight of the Toll Program **F**

Rate-Setting **G**

Revenue Allocation **H**



# **Turning Recommendations Into Commitments & Sustaining Accountability**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator  
EMAC Members**

# Accountability: EMAC's Guiding Questions

Per EMAC's Recommendations to the OTC (July 2022):

- **Who is responsible for long-term oversight and adjustments of the toll program?**
- **How will those responsible demonstrate transparency and accountability?**

# Foundational Statements

Provide investment for **reliable, emissions-reducing, competitive transportation** options

Develop solutions to **address climate and equity** at the same time

Provide **toll-free travel options** for people struggling to meet basic needs

Deliver equity investments **by day one of tolling**

Provide a **user-friendly system** (language, tech access, and ability)

Extend **equitable benefits into SW Washington**

Work in **coordination with regional partners** to build an equitable transportation system

# Shaping an Equitable Toll Program



**Congestion Management**



**Revenue Generation**



**Disadvantaged, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses**



**Community-Based Organizations**



**Accountability**



**Rate-Setting**

# ODOT Accountability Workshops

**ODOT workshops will be held in July 2023 and July 2024 to focus on turning EMAC's recommendations into a work plan.**

- EMAC will support ODOT in creating commitments for sustainable, accountable equity processes and outcomes.
- EMAC will support ODOT in development of the Low-Income Toll Program.



*As EMAC looks ahead to these workshops, this is a shared opportunity to define a vision for an accountability structure that will sustain an equitable Toll Program.*

# Small Group Discussion Questions



- What does healthy accountability look like between ODOT and Equity Framework Communities?
- What do you want to see in the future?
- What will you bring to the conversation now?

# Small Group Discussion Logistics



- **In-Person:** Please separate into 2 groups according to the symbol on your name card.
- **Virtual:** Please join us in the separate Zoom meeting (see email from Nick Fazio).
- **General public:**
  - In-person: Please feel free to listen in on either group discussion.
  - **Virtual:** Please remain in the webinar until the session begins again.

**BREAK**

**10 minutes**



# **Update from ODOT on Advancing Equity**

**Jessica Stanton, Facilitator**

**Commissioner Sharon Smith, OTC**

**Rochelle Brahalla, Project Team**

**Anne Pressentin, Project Team**

**Garet Prior, ODOT**

**Erika McCalpine, ODOT**

**James Paulson, RTAC Liaison**

**Dr. Phil Wu, STRAC Liaison**

# Oregon Highway Plan Toll Amendment

- Oregon Highway Plan (OHP) incorporated language from EMAC's 2022 recommendations to OTC.
- OHP Toll Amendment was our first look at a process of accountability, with ODOT reporting on how EMAC's recommendations were incorporated into decision-making processes and documents.
- The OTC adopted the OHP Toll Amendment during their meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

# RMPP Indicators

- Reviewed proposed indicators for RMPP NEPA analysis
- Discussed quantitative and qualitative data availability
- EMAC members shared input for developing qualitative study methods to analyzing impacts on historically excluded and underserved communities
- EMAC Members to provide feedback by February 8<sup>th</sup>

# I-205 Draft Environmental Assessment

- 45-day comment period: TBD
- Invite feedback on the findings of the draft Environmental Assessment.
- Online engagement to include webinar and virtual public hearing.
- In-person engagement to include community drop-in sessions, in-language outreach, and discussion groups (more on next slide).
- Briefings available for community organizations; let us know of any potential briefing opportunities for organizations you work with!

# I-205 Draft Environmental Assessment

- In-person engagement opportunities:
  - Meeting people where they are at places like grocery stores, community centers
  - Do you have other ideas of where we could meet people with project information?
- Coordination with equitable engagement project partners:
  - In-language discussion groups
  - In-language information sharing online and at community events
  - Discussion group with community-based organizations

# Regional Mobility Pricing Project: Scoping Comment Period

- 50-day comment period: Nov. 18, 2022 - Jan. 6, 2023.
- Invited feedback on Draft Purpose and Need, Proposed Action, and topics to study in the Environmental Assessment.
- Approximately **4,500** public comments received.
- **100** participants at public webinars and **dozens** of community and agency conversations.
- Webinar topics of interest: minimizing **rerouting**, **low-income discounts**, specifics of **how tolling and toll payment will work**, **funding**, and **I-205 Toll Project**.



## Learn more, share your voice!

We're studying tolling on **I-5** and **I-205** to **reduce traffic** and make everyday **travel safer for you**. Tell us what you think!

[Click here to submit your comments](#)  
by **January 6, 2023**



# Regional Mobility Pricing Project: Next Steps

- Ongoing **review of public comments** and draft report to summarize what we heard.
- **Consider input received** during scoping prior to conducting analyses for the Environmental Assessment.
- Ongoing **public updates and engagement**.
- **Publish Draft Environmental Assessment** in late 2023 for public review and comment.



# Low-Income Toll Program

- Briefing provided to the Oregon Legislature Joint Committee on Transportation
- Developing work plan for State Toll Rule Advisory Committee (STRAC) to inform EMAC and STRAC involvement
- Working with back-office operations teams to prepare options for further analysis and discussion this spring-summer



# Office of Social Equity and Civil Rights



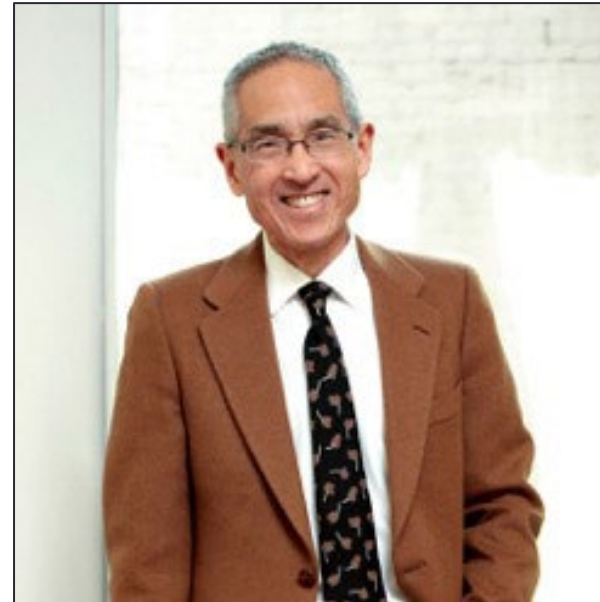
**Erika McCalpine**  
Assistant Director  
ODOT Office of Equity  
and Civil Rights

- BS and MA in Business Management from the University of Alabama
  - Specialty areas: Human Resources and Organizational Behavior
  - Certification in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion from Cornell University
- Management and leadership in companies like Fidelity Information Services and AT&T
- Faculty, University of Alabama
- Faculty and Faculty Senate President, OSU-Cascades (first Black woman to hold the role)
- *Source Weekly's* 2019 Woman of the Year, in service to Central Oregon

# Toll Program Committees



**James Paulson**  
Regional Toll Advisory Committee  
(RTAC)



**Dr. Philip Wu**  
Statewide Toll Rulemaking Advisory  
Committee (STRAC)

# **Public Comment & Discussion**

# Public Comment



- We will start with those who are providing public comment in person. Then we will move to those who have raised their hands to comment virtually.



- We will call on you when it is your turn to speak. Please **raise your virtual hand** so the Project Team can unmute you when they call on you.

## To provide comments at any time:

**Email** [oregontolling@odot.oregon.gov](mailto:oregontolling@odot.oregon.gov) with “EMAC Public Comment” in subject line to provide written comments.

**Call** 503-837-3536 and state “EMAC Public Comment” in your message to provide verbal comments.

Thank you for your participation.

# Public Comment Discussion



Is there anything you are hearing in your communities or in the public comments that you want to discuss?

Do you have any questions for ODOT about toll project status updates?

# Next Steps

- Work plan next steps
- Future EMAC meetings
- Meeting evaluation
- Closing



**Urban Mobility**  
STRATEGY

**THANK YOU!**