



Urban Mobility
STRATEGY

Oregon Toll Program Equity and Mobility Advisory Committee

Wednesday, December 7, 2022



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



Our plan for today

- Welcome and introduce new and existing members.
- Gain a deeper understanding of EMAC's purpose, mission, vision, and accomplishments. Reflect on past successes and challenges.
- Review the EMAC 2022 – 2025 Work Plan. Share ideas for an inclusive, successful committee.
- Provide updates on the Low-Income Toll Program and Toll projects for committee understanding and questions.

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Where We Have Been
- Where We Are Going
- Toll Project Status Update
- Low-Income Toll Program Update
- Public Comment
- Going Forward

Welcome and Introductions

Jessica Stanton, Facilitator

EMAC Members

Welcome!



Please share with the group:

- What brings you to EMAC?
- What aspirations do you have for working with EMAC?
- Anything else, personal or professional, you'd like to share with the committee?

Where We Have Been

Jessica Stanton, Facilitator

Mandy Putney, ODOT

Erika McCalpine, ODOT

Sharon Smith, OTC

EMAC Members

Overview



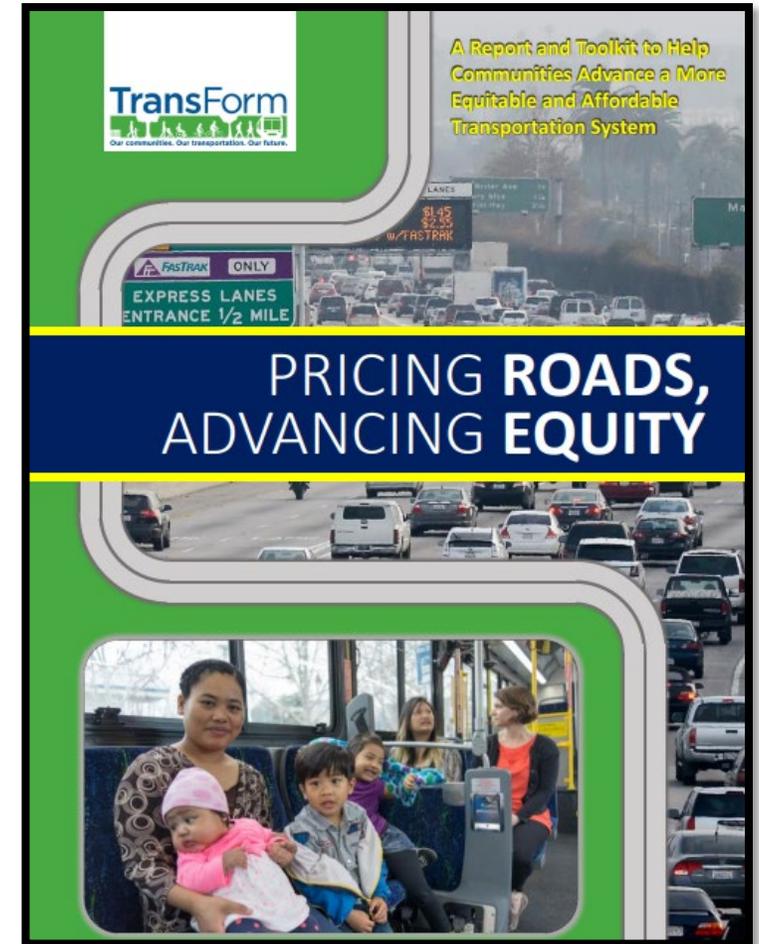
- EMAC charter and OTC charge
- Equity Framework and Trauma Informed Approach
- I-205 Toll Project Performance Measures
- Foundational Statements
- Shaping an Equitable Toll Program Recommendations
- Commissioner's reflections as the OTC Liaison

Equity and Mobility Advisory Committee & Oregon Transportation Commission

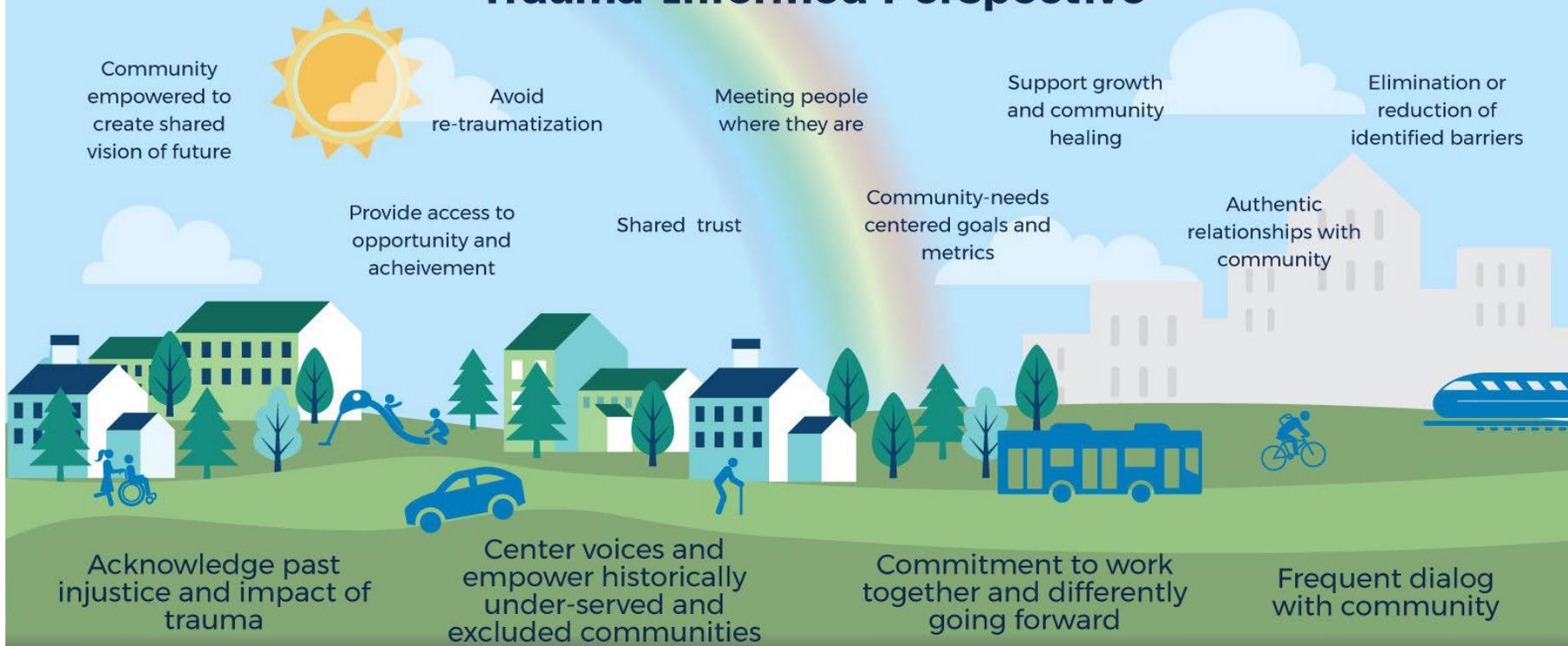


- Neighborhood health and safety
- Low-income
- Transit and multimodal

Oregon Toll Program: Equity Framework



Trauma-Informed Perspective



Recognize Signs of Community Trauma

Community members feel blamed rather than partners in creating positive change

Meeting daily needs outweighs planning for future

Disempowerment and lack of community ownership

Economic, educational, and employment uncertainty and instability

Health disparities

Long-term stress and negative mind and body impacts create doubt about future

Reduction of material wealth and feeling of value

Loss of sense of place or community

Distrust, disconnection, and apathy

Historical community disinvestment

I-205 Toll Project Performance Measures



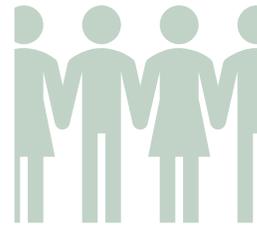
Transportation Affordability



Access to Opportunity



Community Health



Community Safety

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

OTC Liaison to EMAC

Commissioner Sharon Smith has served as the OTC Liaison to EMAC since 2020



Discussion



What helped EMAC be successful these past two years? What were the challenges? What stands out to you about EMAC?

BREAK



5 minutes

Where We Are Going

Jessica Stanton, Facilitator

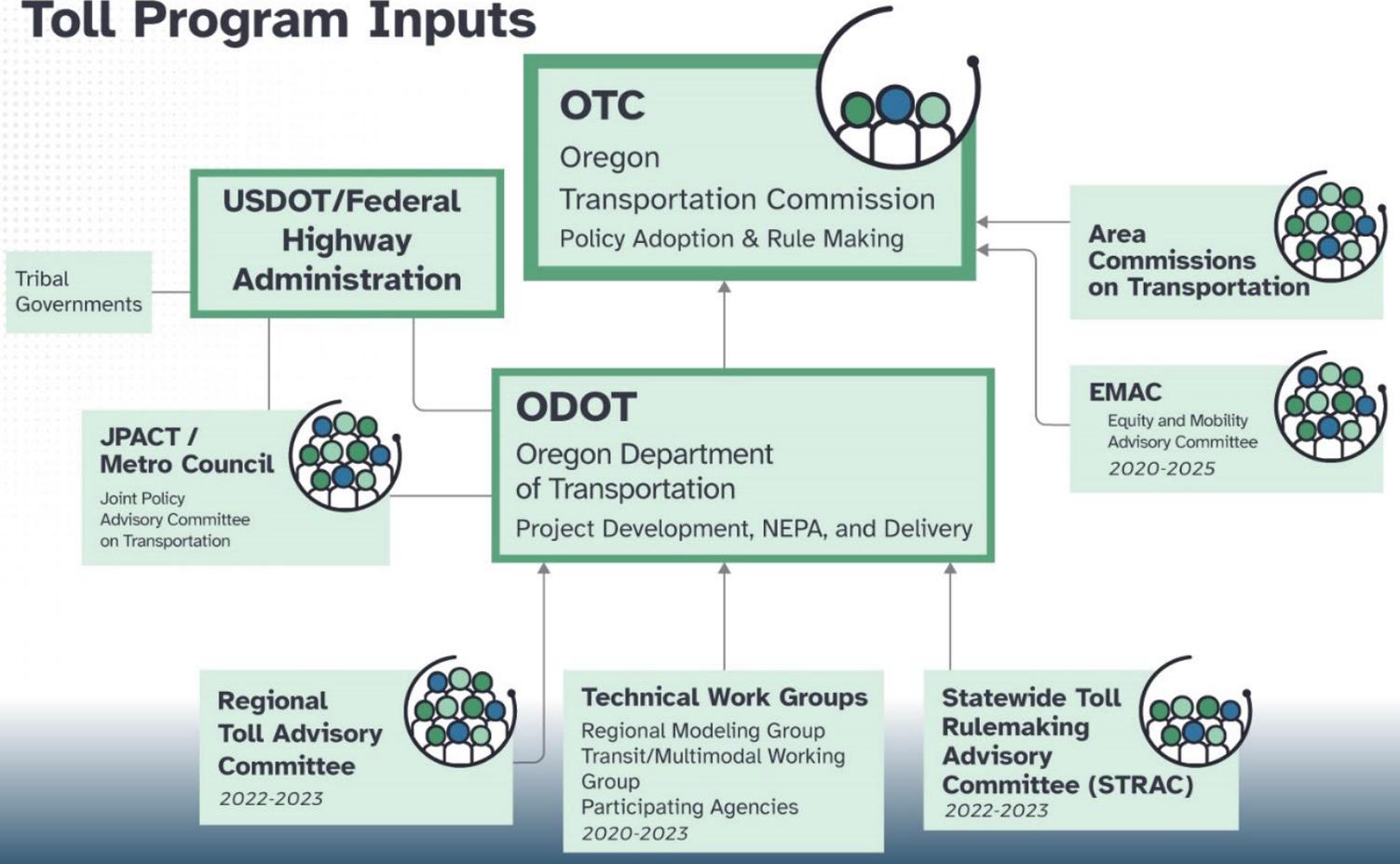
EMAC Members

EMAC 2022-2025 Work Plan Objectives



- **Toll Projects:** Coordination with toll project teams for involvement in project analysis
- **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

Toll Program Inputs



Broad Public and Stakeholder Engagement & Input Received by All Committees and Agencies

EMAC and Toll Advisory Committees



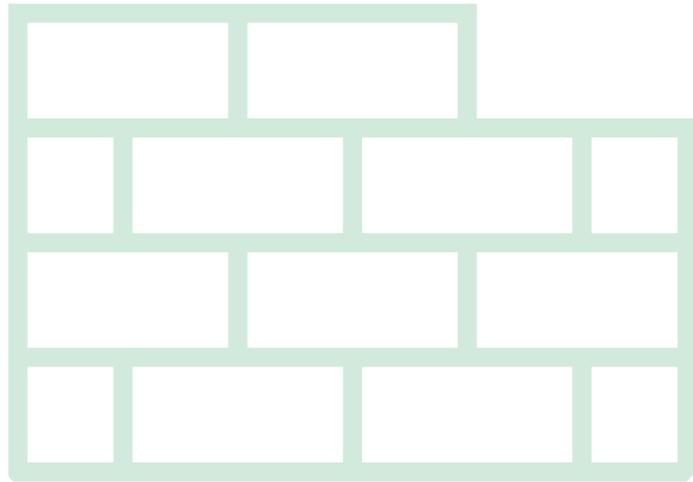
Statewide Toll Rulemaking Advisory Committee (STRAC)

- An active member of EMAC will have a seat on STRAC to ensure alignment and timely status updates.
- EMAC will provide recommendations to STRAC on the draft rules and rate setting process (including low- income program options) for I-205 Toll Project prior to STRAC's recommendation to ODOT.

Regional Toll Advisory Committee (RTAC)

- An active member of EMAC will have a seat on RTAC to ensure alignment and timely status updates.

Low-Income Toll Program



EMAC will support ODOT in shaping, implementing, and creating accountability structures for a Low-Income Toll Program (LITP).

- EMAC will provide feedback and recommendations to STRAC on toll pricing and the inclusion of a low-income tolling option.
- EMAC will support outreach plans required to reach robust participation levels.

Toll Project Updates

EMAC will continue to inform development of tolling projects.

I-205 Tolling Project

- EMAC will provide feedback and recommendations to the project team on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

Regional Mobility Pricing Project (RMPP)

- EMAC will provide feedback and recommendations on indicators for the Environmental Justice (EJ) and Social and Cultural Resources tech reports.
- EMAC will provide feedback and recommendations on mitigation strategies.
- EMAC will provide feedback and recommendations on engagement strategies.

Turning OTC Recommendations into Commitments

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

- OTC approved EMAC's Recommendations for Shaping an Equitable Toll Program in July 2022.
- EMAC will support ODOT in creating commitments for sustainable, accountable equity processes and outcomes.
- EMAC will support ODOT in creating an implementation plan for the Low-Income Toll Program (LITP).



Summary of EMAC Recommendations

2023 Timeline	Recommendation	Recipient
January / February	RMPP Environmental Assessment (EA) indicators; comments on I-205 EA Public Involvement Plan (PIP).	Tolling Project Team
March	Low-Income Toll Program (LITP) and customer interaction rule development.	STRAC
May	I-205 toll project rate setting and rulemaking; recommendation for ODOT Workshop 1 (July 2023).	STRAC; ODOT Workshop 1
September	Initial I-205 toll rate decision and STRAC Progress Report. RMPP EA PIP.	STRAC; Tolling Project Team
Fall	Present Progress Report for Accountability.	OTC
November	Final Recommendation for LITP.	ODOT

Summary of EMAC Recommendations

2024 Timeline	Recommendation	Recipient
May	Putting the LITP into practice; recommendation for ODOT Workshop 2 (July 2024).	ODOT
Fall 2024	Present Progress Report for Accountability.	OTC



Discussion

What are the opportunities and challenges with this work plan? What are EMAC's priorities for this plan?



Toll Project Status Update

Jessica Stanton, Facilitator

Mandy Putney, ODOT

Josh Channell, Project Team

Urban Mobility Strategy Map

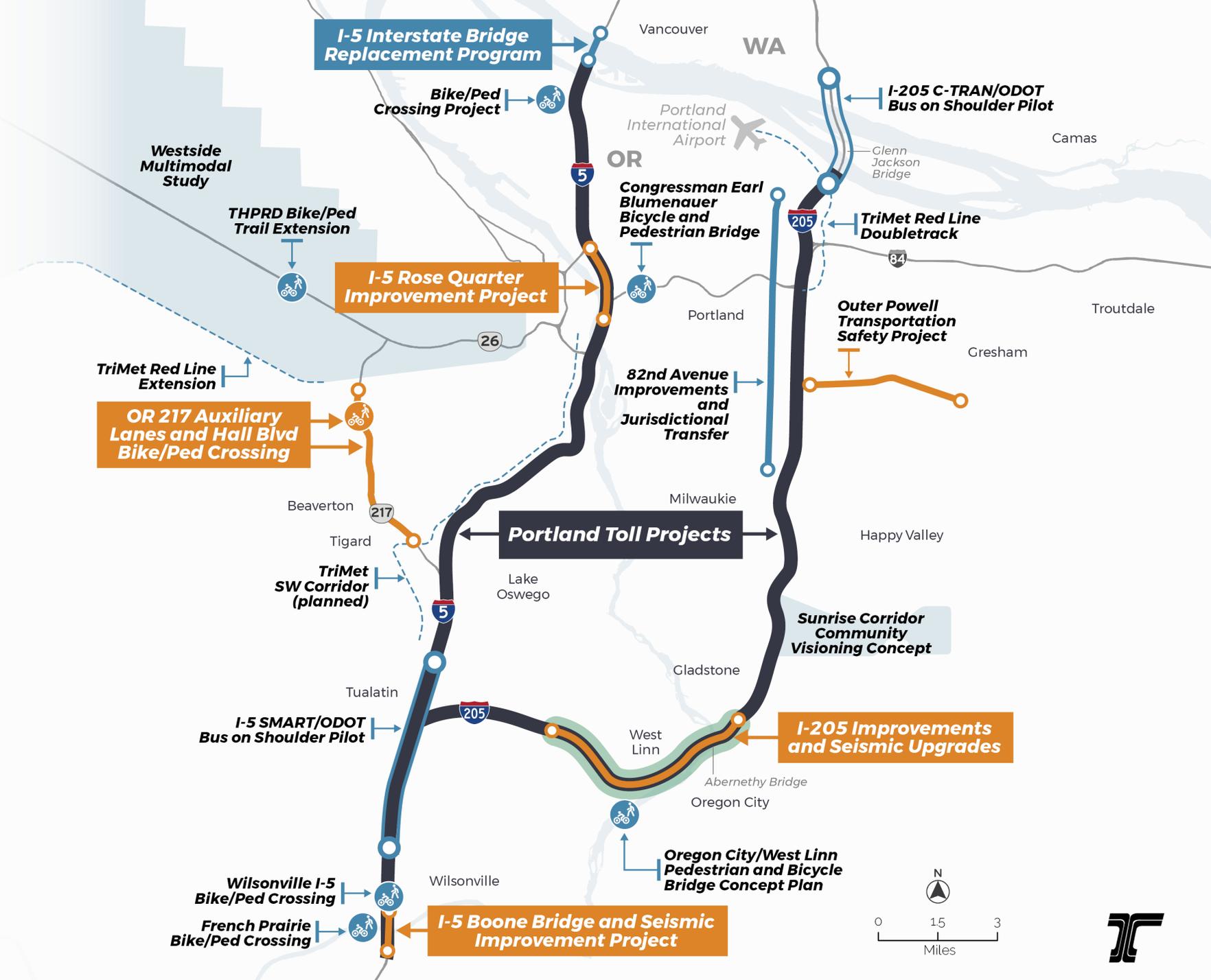
ODOT Projects

-  System Improvement Project
-  Bike/Ped Crossing Project
-  Regional Mobility Pricing Project
-  I-205 Toll Project

Partner Project with ODOT Support

-  System Improvement Project
-  Bike/Ped Crossing Project
-  Bus on Shoulder Pilot
-  TriMet Project
-  Multimodal/Community Study

Note: Core project names are boxed



I-205 Tolling Project Update



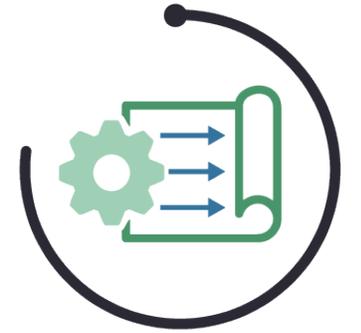
- **I-205 Environmental Assessment (EA) Progress and Update**
- **EA Technical Analyses:** EMAC informed strategy for the Environmental Justice (EJ) and Social Resources and Communities technical reports.
- **Mitigations to offset potential impacts**

Regional Mobility Pricing Project Update



- RMPP National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Scoping Period
- Studying Potential Impacts and Benefits
- RMPP NEPA Scoping Engagement

Regional Mobility Pricing Project Scoping Comment Period



We're beginning an environmental analysis to identify **potential benefits and impacts** of the proposed action. The start of the analysis is called “scoping” – and we're looking for public input to inform the study.

What is scoping?

- Invite input on the range or “scope” of community and environmental issues to study. **A 50-day comment period is now open through Jan. 6, 2023.**
- Once complete, the results will be published in a report called an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Proposed Study Topics

- Effects to transportation system:
 - Travel reliability and safety on I-5 and I-205
 - Neighborhood traffic
 - Freight movement
 - Transit use and reliability
 - Access (to goods and services, community resources, medical needs, etc.)
- Climate change
- Air quality
- Benefits and impacts to historically excluded and underserved communities
- Regional economy and competitiveness
- Toll costs and effects on household budgets and expenses

Scoping Engagement Update

- ~2,000 comment form submissions and emails to date
- 100* public webinar participants at two webinars on Nov. 29 and Nov. 30. Spanish interpretation was provided on Nov. 30 .
- 75 Participating Agency webinar participants
- ~3,000 visitors to scoping webpage
- Direct outreach through community tabling events & community engagement liaisons
- Ongoing partner agency, committee, and community briefings

**Zoom webinar attendees and livestream views*

Notification and Advertising

- **UMS November newsletter notice**
- **Press release**, distributed on 11/18
- **Media briefing** on 11/18
- **Social media organic posts and advertising**, including Facebook ad in Spanish
- **Digital and print ads** in regional and multi-cultural publications
- **Website** notices
- **Emails and outreach toolkits** sent to regional agency partners, EMAC, city/county newsletters, and CBOs
- Community Engagement Liaisons (CELs) **notifications**
- **Tabling event** at Lents International Farmers Market
- **Email, social media and newsletter reminders**



¡Infórmese y comparta su opinión!

Estamos estudiando cobrar un peaje en la I-5 y la I-205 para **reducir el tráfico** y **hacer más seguros los desplazamientos diarios**. Díganos lo que piensa.



Seminarios
informativos en
línea el **29 y 30** de
noviembre.

Interpretación simultánea en
español el 30 de noviembre.

Comente antes del
6 de enero del 2023



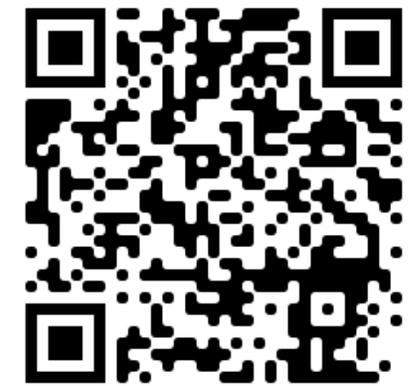
How to Comment

Comment period closes on January 6, 2023



ONLINE COMMENT FORM

<https://tinyurl.com/CongestionPricingScoping>



EMAIL

oregontolling@odot.oregon.gov

Please include
"Scoping Comment"
in the subject line.



MAIL

Oregon Department of
Transportation
Attn: Oregon Tolling Team
Scoping Comment
123 NW Flanders Street
Portland, Oregon, 97209

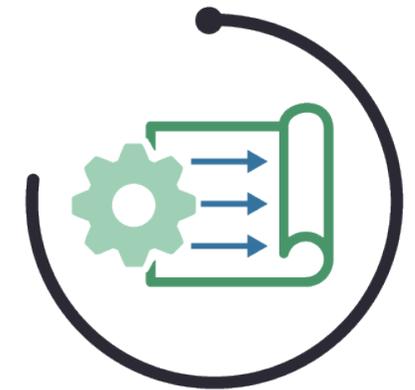


VOICEMAIL

503-837-3536

Next Steps

- Input received during scoping will be considered prior to conducting the Environmental Assessment analyses.
- Partners will have opportunities to learn/see early results throughout the NEPA process.
- The draft Environmental Assessment will be posted in 2023 for public review and comment.
- The earliest tolling could begin under the Regional Mobility Pricing Project is late 2025.



Discussion



Thinking about how this project might affect you, your community, and the environment, are there other issues that you think we should study? What comments or questions does EMAC have on the process of engaging the community?

Low-Income Toll Report Update

Jessica Stanton, Facilitator

Garet Prior, ODOT

OTC Approval

OTC adopted the Low-Income Toll Report in September 2022.



Key Findings

- Provide a significant toll discount for households with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.
- Provide a smaller, more focused toll discount for households with incomes above 200% and up to 400% of the federal poverty level.
- Use a verification process that leverages existing programs and further explore self-certification to qualify for program enrollment (or toll discounts).

Options to Develop a Low-Income Toll Program and Best Practices for Implementation

A Report to the Oregon Legislature
September 2022



Discussion

EMAC feedback regarding the Low-Income Toll Report Update



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 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?

Going Forward

Next Steps

- Work plan next steps
- Future EMAC meetings and sub team meetings
- Meeting evaluation
- Closing



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THANK YOU!