



Connecting our priorities to our vision

Regional Leadership Forum 3 summary

The region is looking ahead to how our transportation system will accommodate future growth and change – and what investments we should make over the next 25 years to build a safe, reliable, healthy and affordable transportation system.

On Dec. 2, 2016, the Metro Council convened Regional Leadership Forum 3, at the Oregon Convention Center. Nearly 60 city, county, regional and state policymakers, business and community leaders from across the Portland metropolitan area joined in bringing the perspectives of their constituents and communities to the conversation.

These leaders offered their views on:

- a **shared vision** for the region’s transportation future
- the current **funding landscape** on the federal and state level
- **priority challenges** to address in the next 10 years and beyond
- building a **path to future funding**.

What did leaders say?

Let’s go big.

We need to build a coalition with new and diverse voices.

We need to build trust and be accountable.

Equity and social justice should be integral to the vision.

Shaping our shared vision and desired outcomes

Participants reviewed and provided feedback on a draft vision statement for the region’s transportation future, developed from Regional Leadership Forums 1 and 2 discussions and additional engagement activities in 2015.

Our region’s shared economic prosperity and quality of life are sustained by a transportation system that provides every person and business in the region with access to safe, reliable, healthy and affordable ways to get around.

Draft vision presented at the forum

Feedback on the draft vision from the large group discussion and written comments submitted by participants included:

- It’s not a question of how much money it is, it’s a question of how persuasive the vision is to build public support.
- Equity and social justice should be integral to the vision and explicitly called out.
- “Sustain” feels like “stay where we are” rather than grow and enhance our prosperity.
- Need to include reference to a “well maintained transportation.”
- We need a stronger look toward the future.



Transportation priorities and funding

Leaders participated in group discussions to review and prioritize the region's top transportation challenges and actions that need to be taken to improve the funding deficit. Feedback from the discussions and written comments submitted by participants included:

Addressing the region's most urgent challenges

1. **Everything is intrinsically tied together – congestion relief can't be achieved without safer streets, better transit and fixing aging infrastructure.**

Leaders had a difficult time narrowing the challenges to the three most important, because they felt that they are all intertwined.

2. **We need to develop an equitable, inclusive transportation system.**

Leaders discussed the need to focus on the shared values, health and well-being of the populations they serve.

3. **We need to focus on funding first.**

Leaders agreed all of the transportation priorities need to be addressed through a comprehensive transportation package.

Building a path to funding our vision

1. **We need a big vision with specific projects that show how everyone will benefit from the region's transportation package.**

Leaders agreed it is important to finish the vision and clarify regional goals and priorities.

2. **We need to build a coalition, with new and diverse voices, to make the vision a reality.**

Many leaders agreed that to make the vision for the region's transportation system happen, a coalition with representation from throughout the region is needed.

3. **We need to engage communities in the process, build trust and be accountable to those we represent.**

Leaders agreed that it is important to educate people about how the transportation system plan supports their communities.

More information

News coverage of the forum is available at oregonmetro.gov/seedcorn.

A report on the forum will be available in February 2017. Find out more about the 2018 RTP update at oregonmetro.gov/rtp.

