



Regional mobility policy update

This joint effort between Metro and the Oregon Department of Transportation will update the way mobility is defined and measured in the Portland region.

Project overview

The purpose of this project is to update how mobility is defined and measured in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and local transportation system plans (TSPs), and during the local comprehensive plan amendment process in the Portland area. The updated policy will guide the development of regional and local TSPs and studies and the evaluation of potential impacts of plan amendments and zoning changes on the transportation system.

What is the regional mobility policy?

The region's current mobility policy relies on the volume-to-capacity ratio (v/c ratio) and thresholds adopted in the RTP and Policy 1F (Highway Mobility Policy) of Oregon Highway Plan (OHP). As the primary way of measuring vehicle congestion on roads and at intersections, the current measure is used to calculate the number of motor vehicles relative to the motor vehicle capacity of a given roadway during peak weekday travel times. The current policy does not measure other modes of travel or important elements of mobility.

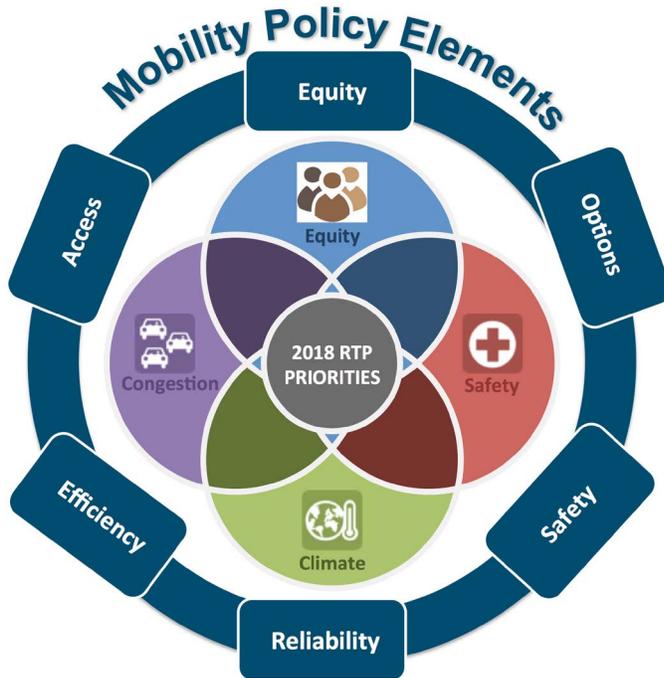
What are our expected outcomes?

The project's primary outcome is to recommend an updated mobility policy, measures and performance targets for the greater Portland region that clearly define mobility expectations for people and goods.

The process will result in policy recommendations to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT), the Metro Council and the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC). Pending approval by JPACT and the Metro Council and concurrence from the OTC, the updated policy for the Portland region will be applied and incorporated in the next update to the RTP (due in 2023). The OTC will be asked to consider adoption of the updated mobility policy for the Portland metropolitan area as an amendment to the Oregon Highway Plan.

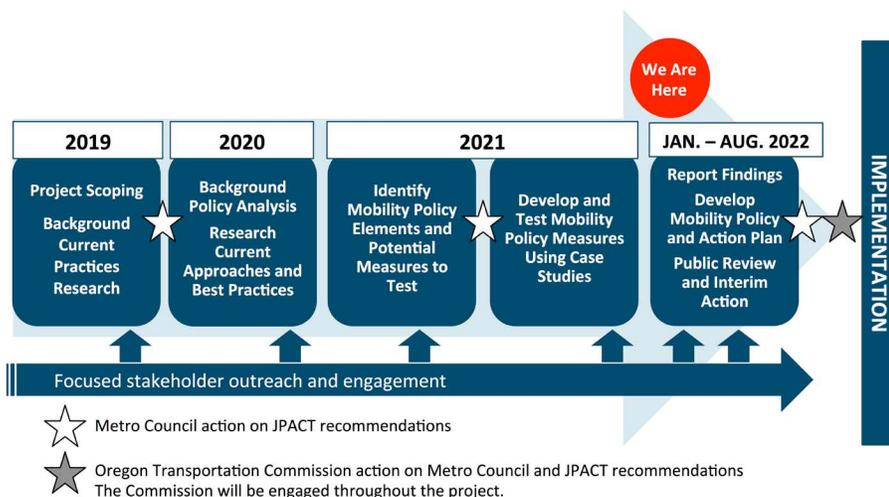
The draft definition of mobility for the Portland region

People and businesses can safely, affordably, and efficiently reach the goods, services, places and opportunities they need to thrive by a variety of seamless and well-connected travel options and services that are welcoming, convenient, comfortable, and reliable.



Where are we now?

The project team is now sharing case studies findings and potential options for the updated policy, including draft measures. The draft definition and elements of mobility for the Portland region and potential measures were shaped with input from policymakers, practitioners, community leaders and other stakeholders and with direction from JPACT and the Metro Council in Spring 2021. The process to update the Portland region's mobility policy started in 2019 and will continue through August 2022.



Mobility measures tested

Current mobility policy measure

Volume to capacity (V/C) ratio

Potential mobility policy measures

- Duration of congestion
- Queuing
- Travel speed
- Vehicle miles traveled (VMT)/capita
- Access to destinations/opportunity (all modes)
- Level of traffic stress (bike and pedestrian)
- Pedestrian crossing index (bike and pedestrian)
- System completion (all modes)

To sign up for project updates and learn more, visit:
oregonmetro.gov/mobility

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