



2023 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Transportation shapes our communities and our everyday lives. Access to transit, biking and walking connections, and streets and highways where traffic flows allows us to reach our jobs, schools and families. It connects us to the goods and services we depend on and helps keep nature and recreation opportunities within reach. Investment in the transportation system to provide safe, healthy, accessible and reliable options for getting around is important for the region’s long-term prosperity and quality of life.

As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Metro is responsible for leading and coordinating updates to the [Regional Transportation Plan](#) every five years. Together, the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Metro Council serve as the MPO board for the region in a unique partnership that requires joint approval of updates to the plan. The plan was last updated in 2018. The next update is due by Dec. 6, 2023, when the current plan expires.

The greater Portland region is facing urgent challenges. The impacts of climate change, generations of systemic racism, economic inequities and the pandemic have made clear the need for action. Safety, housing affordability, homelessness, and public health and economic disparities have been intensified by the global pandemic. Technology is changing quickly and our roads and bridges are aging.

During 2022 and 2023, Metro will engage local, regional and state partners, business and community leaders and the public to update the RTP through the year 2045. This document provides background about the RTP and timeline for the update.

WHAT IS THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN?

The RTP is the greater Portland area’s long-range plan that guides planning and investments in the region’s transportation system for all forms of travel – motor vehicle, transit, biking, and walking – and the movement of goods and freight.

The plan identifies current and future regional transportation needs, investment priorities to meet those needs, and local, regional, state and federal transportation funds the region expects to have available to make those investments. The plan contains:

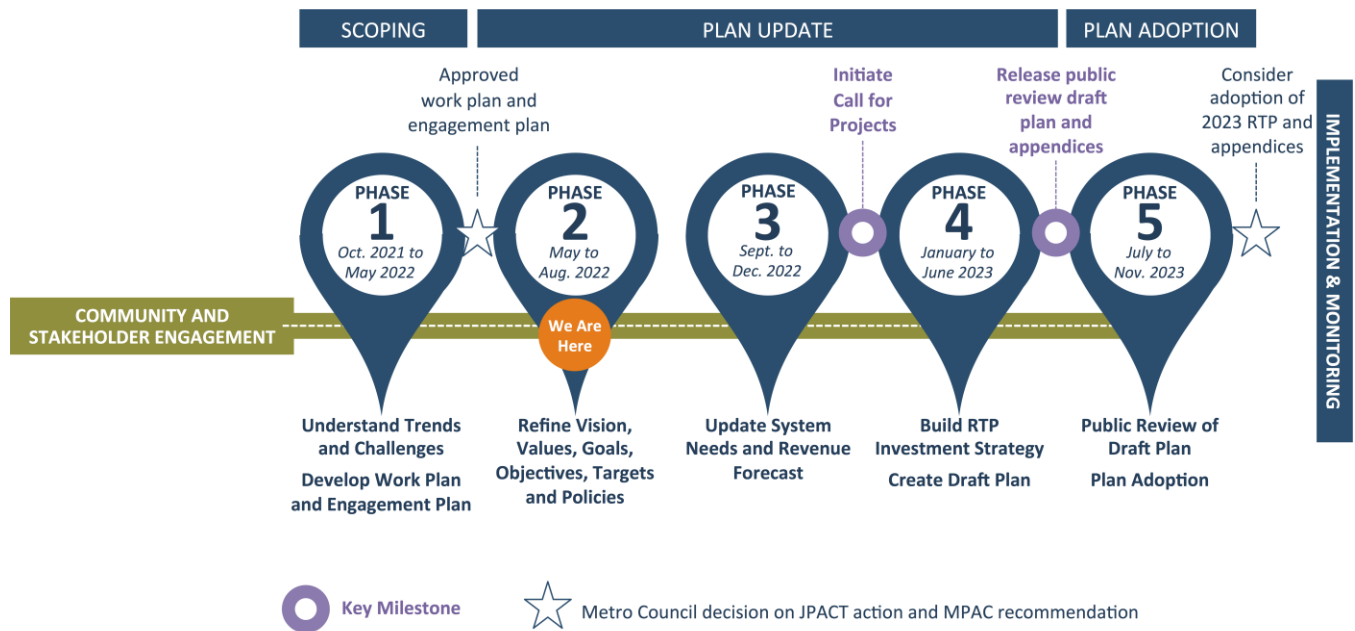
- **a long-term vision** for the region’s transportation system;
- **eleven goals and supporting objectives and performance targets** that identify what outcomes the region wants to achieve and indicators to measure progress;
- **policies** that guide decisions and actions in pursuit of our vision and goals;
- **a financial plan** that identifies how the region will pay for investments; and
- **an investment strategy** that includes major local, regional and state transportation investment priorities that address transportation needs and help achieve the vision and goals identified in the plan.

Together these elements guide planning and investment decisions to meet the transportation needs of the people who live, work and travel in greater Portland today and in the future.

Figure 1. Elements of the Regional Transportation Plan



WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE UPDATE?



Scoping

Oct. 2021 to May 2022

- Seek Metro Council, JPACT and MPAC feedback on trends and challenges facing the region and priorities for the update to address.
- Engage local, regional, state and community partners and the public to inform the overall scope of the update and process that will guide the development of the updated plan.

Decision: JPACT and the Metro Council approval of work plan and public engagement plan (by Resolution). (April and May 2022)

Plan Update

May 2022 to June 2023

- **Data and Policy Analysis:** Update vision, goals and policies and document how people travel and performance of the transportation system today by August 2022 to inform regional needs analysis and project list updates.
- **Revenue and Needs Analysis:** Update revenue forecast and complete needs analysis by December 2022 to support updating investment priorities.

Milestone: Call For Projects released. (anticipated in January 2023)

- **Investment Priorities:** Update project list priorities, evaluate performance and seek community feedback on updated priorities from Jan. to June 2023.
- **Draft Plan and Investment Strategy:** Prepare public review draft plan and investment strategy.

Milestone: Public review draft 2023 RTP and appendices released for 45-day public comment period. (anticipated in July 2023)

Plan Adoption

July to November 2023

- **~July 1 to Aug. 14, 2023:** 45-day public comment period with hearings, briefings to regional policy and technical advisory committees and county coordinating committees and other stakeholders, and Consultation activities with tribes and state, federal and resource agencies.
- **Sept. and Oct.:** MTAC and TPAC consider public comment and recommendations to MPAC and JPACT.
- **Oct. and Nov.:** MPAC and JPACT consider public comment and recommendations to the Metro Council.
- **Nov. 30:** Metro Council considers final action.

Decision: JPACT and the Metro Council consider adoption of the plan (by Ordinance). (anticipated in November 2023)