



Regional mobility policy update

An updated regional mobility policy will support shared regional goals and outcomes for greater Portland.



What is the regional mobility policy?

The regional mobility policy is one of the policies that helps the greater Portland region choose where to focus resources and how to manage the transportation system today and into the future. For decades, the region's policy has relied on a vehicle-based measure of mobility. The measure, also known as the v/c ratio, is the ratio of motor vehicle volume to motor vehicle capacity of a given roadway.

Why update the policy?

The v/c measure alone does not measure other modes of travel or important elements of mobility. This limited approach can lead to roadways that are planned for motor vehicles and not for people. An example of this is

when v/c determines the need for a large intersection that is difficult for people walking and rolling to cross. The updated mobility policy is a new way of thinking about mobility in greater Portland that supports shared state and regional goals.

How is the policy applied?

- Identifying mobility needs and potential solutions in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and local transportation system plans (TSPs).
- Evaluating the potential impacts of comprehensive plan amendments and zoning changes on the transportation system.
- Helping to determine the best approach to managing travel demand applying solutions such as building sidewalks, bike lanes adding transit and/or vehicle lanes.



Draft definition of mobility for greater Portland

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.

Outcomes

The updated policy will support the region in advancing desired outcomes for transportation and land use, including:

- Land use efficiency that includes more housing, jobs, services and mixed-use development in the region's centers.
- Travel options and connectivity that allow people to reliably and safely walk, bike, drive, and take transit to get where they need to go.
- Safe, efficient and reliable travel speeds for people, goods and services.

One key outcome of the regional mobility policy update is cross-agency coordination and collaboration to implement updated transportation plans and state land use rules.



Next steps

An action plan describes steps to incorporate the updated regional mobility policy into existing policy documents, guidance and procedures, and development of the data and tools needed for planners and other practitioners to implement the policy. The updated policy will be tested and refined through the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan before being considered for adoption by the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and Metro Council in November 2023. Pending JPACT and Metro Council adoption, the policy will be forward to the Oregon Transportation Commission for consideration in 2024.

Draft mobility measures and targets

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per Capita (VMT/Capita for home-based trips and VMT/Employee for commute trips to/from work)

Target: Achieve reductions required by OAR 660 Division 44 (GHG Reduction Rule): 20% by 2035, 25% by 2040, 30% by 2045 and 35% by 2050.

System Completeness

Target: Complete the “planned” network and system for walking, biking, transit, vehicles, freight and implement strategies for managing the transportation system and travel demand.

Hours of Congestion on Throughways

Target: Freeway system operates with four or fewer hours of congestion per day based on a speed of 35 mph. Other RTP throughways operate with four or fewer hours of congestion per day based on a speed of 20 mph.

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

Project contacts:

Kim Ellis

Metro project manager

Kim.Ellis@oregonmetro.gov

Glen Bolen

ODOT project manager

Glen.A.BOLEN@odot.oregon.gov