



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

# Agenda

Meeting: Tualatin Valley Highway Safety and Transit Project Steering Committee

Date: Thursday, September 14, 2023

Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Place: Washington County Public Services Building, Room 120D; 155 N 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Hillsboro, OR 97214  
 Zoom option  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86559063473?pwd=WDZNYi9FV1djRlRmQ0hjVVFLYU10QT09; Passcode: 693296; Webinar ID: 865 5906 3473>  
 (253) 215-8782 or (888) 475-4499

Purpose: Orient Steering Committee to, and seek feedback on, project schedule and approach. Provide update status of the Equitable Development Strategy and on community input to date on transit and roadway needs heard through EDS and RTP processes. Introduce topic of station location selection.

Outcomes: Committee understands and provides feedback on upcoming project direction. Committee is updated on public input to date. Committee is grounded in the topic of station location selection and prepared for discussion of draft locations in October.

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4:00 p.m.	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Are there any updates related to TV Highway you'd like to share from your community?</i></li> </ul>	Metro Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez
4:10 p.m.	Approval of April meeting minutes	Councilor Gonzalez
4:15 p.m.	Upcoming project process and schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Do you have any questions about the upcoming project work and the Steering Committee's role in it?</i></li> </ul>	Jess Zdeb, Metro
4:50 p.m.	Equitable Development Strategy and public input report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Are there any aspects of the public input that surprise you or you want to highlight to provide direction to the project team?</i></li> </ul>	Mohanad Alnajjar, Unite Oregon
5:05 p.m.	Introduction to identifying general station locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Do you have any feedback on the team's stations-related methodology and work to date?</i></li> <li>• <i>Do you have input for the team as they continue station/ Phase 2 design work and plan for future community conversations and engagement?</i></li> <li>• <i>Is there any other feedback you would like to share on the work to date?</i></li> </ul>	Jesse Stemmler, TriMet

5:50 p.m. Public comment

Councilor Gonzalez

5:55 p.m. Next steps

Councilor Gonzalez

*Upcoming TV Highway meetings*

- *Technical Working Group (September 22)*
- *Policy Group (September 27)*
- *Steering Committee (October 12)*

*In the event of unsolvable technical difficulties, the host will end the meeting and email a new link to committee members. Public participants may request the link by emailing [Yuliya.lee@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:Yuliya.lee@oregonmetro.gov).*

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**Metro**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

# Meeting minutes

Meeting: **Tualatin Valley Highway Steering Committee meeting**

Date/time: Thursday, April 13, 2023 | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Place: Hybrid meeting held at Washington County Public Services Building (155 N 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Hillsboro, Oregon), Room 120D and via Zoom webinar

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**Members, Alternates Attending**

Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Co-chair  
Mayor Malynda Wenzl  
Councilor Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg  
Commissioner Nafisa Fai  
Mayor Jeffrey Dalin  
Councilor Rick Van Beveren  
Rian Windsheimer  
JC Vanatta  
Mohanad Alnajjar  
Karmen Chavez-Sam

**Affiliate**

Metro  
City of Forest Grove  
City of Beaverton  
Washington County  
City of Cornelius  
City of Hillsboro  
ODOT  
TriMet  
Unite Oregon  
APANO

**Members, Alternates Absent**

Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Co-chair  
Maria Dolores Torres  
Nansi Lopez

**Affiliate**

Metro  
Adelante Mujeres  
Centro Cultural

**Panelists Attending**

Jess Zdeb  
Malu Wilkinson  
Yuliya Lee  
Kelly Betteridge  
Michaela Skiles  
Jamie Snook  
David Aulwes

**Affiliate**

Metro  
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TriMet

**Welcome and introductions** (Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Metro)

Jess Zdeb, Metro, called meeting to order at 4:13 p.m. and welcomed the attendees to the meeting. She gave a brief overview of the Zoom webinar logistics. The committee members proceeded to introduce themselves and provided updates pertaining to TV Highway project.

Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal asked the committee for approval of the meeting summary from March 9, 2023. With all in favor, the meeting minutes were accepted unanimously.

**Presentation: Updates on: FX brand, project cost, project ratings, and phasing feasibility** (Dave Aulwes, TriMet, Michaela Skiles, Metro, Jess Zdeb, Metro)

Jess Zdeb started presentation with a reminder of potential project scenarios. She shared cost estimate updates, which included:

- Cost estimate will change further with updated unit costs and design
- Minor corrections to baseline cost estimates
- BRT 2a construction and vehicle costs updated
- BRT 1 and group 2 theoretical cost extractions

Dave Aulwes, TriMet, continued presentation by elaborating on each cost estimate update. He noted scenario 2a added costs for the portion of the corridor that would not receive an initial Small Starts investment. These could include:

- Minimum local investment Hillsboro-Forest Grove would consist of:
  - Upgrade all existing stops to accommodate new articulated buses
  - Provide baseline stop improvements and minimal amenity upgrades based on existing ridership
  - Provide safe, ADA-compliant boarding areas for riders
  - Upgrade to in-street concrete bus pads at high ridership stop locations
- 5 additional vehicles required to operate the full corridor

He concluded with an overview of FX brand and considerations for scenarios 2a and 3a where an FX branded bus would run along a non-Small Starts improved portion of the corridor. Dave noted that:

- TriMet's first FX2-Division service launched September 2022
- FX uses a suite of transit tools to bring faster, more reliable service
- FX transit tools and their deployment informed by corridor specifics and needs
- FX transit service and associated investments address safety while improving overall rider experience/comfort
- TriMet currently exploring beyond Division how FX service and brand are defined

Michaela Skiles, Metro, shared with the committee chart showing revised project costs. She also explained ratings update elements, which included:

- Increased 2022 ridership estimates based on Fall 2022 TriMet data (from 60% to 70% of 2018)
- Increased BRT 3 and 3a Economic Development ratings based on information from Cornelius
- Updated Cost Effectiveness and Environmental Benefits ratings based on updated cost estimates

In conclusion, she explained revised draft Project Justification ratings and how revised information contributed to changes in ratings for each scenario.

Jess Zdeb gave a brief overview of project phasing considerations, that consisted of assuming initial investment will include improvements in non-Small Starts segment and phasing opportunities driven by content of initial investment. She highlighted further work that is underway, elaborating on the

following main points:

- Analysis of current travel patterns via HOP data
- Seeking FTA advice about required project elements and operating scenarios (FTA tour in May)
- Meetings with ODOT on pathway to approved design

Rian Windsheimer, ODOT, commented on his team's commitment and hard work to find the most optimal technical design options for the TV Highway project.

**Discussion** (Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Metro)

The committee members were asked the following discussion questions:

- Do you have any clarifying questions about the cost and ratings updates?
- Are there any scenarios that you believe can be dismissed at this point?
- What contextual project information or analysis would you need to see to get to LPA approval?
- If the preferred implementation scenario makes Small Starts investment in a portion of the corridor, what additional needs would have to be addressed for us to meet project goals and for you to be a champion for this project moving forward?

Councilor Rick Van Beveren, City of Hillsboro, inquired if every stop in the elected scenario will need to have weather protection features and if regular non-FX buses can service the corridor. Jamie Snook, TriMet, responded with a reminder of the basic criteria elements that would be needed for the CIG (Capital Investment Grant) funding, which included travel time savings along the corridor, headways of at least 15 minutes, shelters with weather protection and real time information, and branded buses and stations.

Mayor Jeffrey Dalin, City of Cornelius, pointed out that there is more than one way to display real time information. He also emphasized the importance of establishing shelters in the corridor and safety issues for the bus pulling in and out of the lanes for the bus stop.

Jess Zdeb noted that FX line stations with LED informational displays also serve as a lighting for the station.

Mayor Malynda Wenzl, City of Forest Grove, stated that improvements that contribute to safety are some of the top priorities for the City of Forest Grove, and inquired if those improvements can be considered as fulfillment of federal funding requirement. Project staff responded that such improvements need to be defined as part of the project.

Commissioner Nafisa Fai, Washington County, commented on the importance of this project for the Washington County. She noted that memo had been submitted to project staff to address some of the questions and concerns from the Washington County and shared few of the main points of the memo, such as interest in improving services for the entire corridor, possible ways to reduce costs, concerns about feasibility of local match funds, and looking into possibility of extending bus line 48. [Memo is attached to these meeting minutes.]

The committee members asked about benefits of FX line buses, taking a look at modeling data for bus

lines 48 and 57. Rian Windsheimer expressed interest in the alternative ways of servicing the corridor, such as use of smaller electric buses, and emphasized the importance and interest in safety improvements.

Councilor Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg, City of Beaverton, agreed with Rian Windsheimer on safety needs and noted that solutions need to be sustainable. She inquired if transit improvement is a required component of the FTA funded project. Jess Zdeb responded that TV Highway project is a transit project, and some of the safety improvements will be part of it. Councilor Ashley Hartmeier-Prigg noted that preferred scenario at this time would be servicing the entire corridor to best meet the goals and needs of the communities.

JC Vannatta, TriMet, updated the committee that TriMet's hiring efforts are going very well, so that is no longer creating as adverse an impact on TriMet's operations and reliability.

Mayor Jeffrey Dalin inquired about costs versus benefits (travel time savings) analysis and provided an example of queue jumps, the bus design and stop optimization. Dave Aulwes noted that there would not be major costs from road widening for queue jumps but that the project would repurpose existing right turn lanes for these transit priority treatments.

Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Metro, commented if scenario 2a would be most feasible to move forward with. Councilor Rick Van Beveren inquired about update on the railroad crossing segment of the corridor. Rian Windsheimer responded ODOT, TriMet and Metro teams are working on finding a way to resolve challenges associated with railroad crossing. He added that scenario 1 (service the entire corridor) may still be a viable option if there are ways to save money on some of the improvements. Jess Zdeb responded with proposal to take a closer look at the costs breakdown and noted that the biggest costs of this project are associated with unavoidable road improvements.

Commissioner Nafisa Fai cautioned against compromising safety for the sake of money savings and highlighted need for comfort to increase ridership. She inquired what percentage of local match funds was for FX line and if state funds can be contributed to the project. Dave Aulwes responded that it was 50 percent local funding and that state funding is a possibility. Mayor Jeffrey Dalin commented on the importance of choosing the right improvements for each station along the corridor. Jess Zdeb added that in order to pursue a legislative ask for state funding, the committee would need to agree on the project as a priority. Commissioner Nafisa Fai asked for additional information on what the path to pursue state funds would look like.

The committee members deliberated and agreed to remove scenarios 2 and 3 from further consideration. Commissioner Fai and Councilor Hartmeier-Prigg noted they were also comfortable with removing scenario 2b from consideration, but there was not broad agreement on that point. JC Vanatta noted that questions about changing Members noted that they eliminated these scenarios because of 1) interest in retaining a one-seat ride along the corridor, 2) seeing investment in the whole corridor in terms of safety improvements and transit experience, and 3) because scenarios 2 and 3 also didn't look competitive from a ratings perspective.

Commissioner Fai asked whether the LPA needs to identify only one option. Michaela Skiles responded that we could identify the whole corridor as the LPA but include a fallback option of a "minimum

operable segment” that is shorter. Committee members highlighted the need to look for creative ways to bring improvements to the entire corridor by exploring and combining different funding opportunities, whether federal or state sources that can get to the long-term vision.

Karmen Chavez-Sam, APANO, commented that her focus is particularly on Equitable Development Strategy in the corridor but is very happy to hear the focus on safety and figuring out creative solutions for the project. Mohanad Alnajjar, Unite Oregon, commented on the importance of improving the rider experience along the whole corridor so that community members can and want to choose to ride transit. He also noted the importance of working on other aspects, like affordable housing, that can help community thrive with the transit project.

**Public comment**

No public comment was submitted.

**Next steps** (Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Metro, Jess Zdeb, Metro)

Jess Zdeb gave a brief summary of the upcoming events and meetings. There being no further business, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Yuliya Lee, TV Highway Steering Committee Recorder



Attachments to the Public Record, TV Highway Steering Committee meeting, April 13, 2023

Item	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1	Agenda	4/13/2023	4/13/2023 TV Highway Steering Committee meeting agenda	041323TVHSC-01
2	Document	3/9/2023	3/9/2023 TV Highway Steering Committee meeting minutes	041323TVHSC-02
3	Document	4/13/2023	Project Scenario Evaluation, Part 2 – April 13, 2023	041323TVHSC-03
4	Memo	4/11/23	TV Hwy BRT Project – Staff Responses to Questions for Steering Committee	041323TVHSC-04