

# Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) Minutes

**Thursday, Feb. 4, 2016**

**Time:** 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Development Service Building  
Main Floor Auditorium, Room 115  
150 Beavercreek Road, Oregon City, OR 97045

## **Attendance**

**Members: Clackamas County:** Paul Savas (Co-chair); John Ludlow; **Canby:** Brian Hodson (Co-Chair); Traci Hensley (Alt.); **CPOs:** Laurie Swanson; Marjorie Stewart (Alt.); **Damascus:** Diana Helm; **Estacada:** Brent Dodrill; **Lake Oswego:** Jeff Gudman; **Metro:** Carlotta Collette; **Milwaukie:** Mark Gamba; Wilda Parks (Alt.); **Molalla:** Jimmy Thompson; **Sandy:** Jeremy Pietzold; **Sanitary:** Susan Keil; **Transit Agencies:** Stephan Lashbrook (Urban Alt.); Julie Wehling (Rural); **Water Districts:** Hugh Kalani; **Wilsonville:** Tim Knapp

**Staff:** Gary Schmidt (PGA); Trent Wilson (PGA);

**Guests:** Mark Ottenad (Wilsonville); Councilor Brenda Perry (West Linn); Jaimie Lorenzini (Happy Valley); Ben Bryant (Happy Valley); John Lewis (Oregon City); David Barenberg (West Linn Consultant); Megan McKibben (Cong. Schrader); Ed Hall (Sen. Merkley); Zoe Monahan (Tualatin); Dan Bates (Boring); Dan Chandler (Clackamas Administration); Stephen Williams (Clackamas DTD); Rich Watanabe (ODOT)

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Welcome & Introductions**

*Commissioner Paul Savas & Mayor Brian Hodson, Co-Chairs*

### **Housekeeping**

Jan. 7, 2016 Minutes approved.

2016 C4 Retreat poll results showed that C4 members were interested in having a 2016 retreat in June, taking place across a Friday and Saturday. Doodle poll to go out in the following week to assess availability.

## **STIP Update**

Commissioner Savas reviewed the 150% list presented to the R1ACT on Feb. 1. The list indicated a top 5 group containing only one project within Clackamas County: Improvements to Hwy 43 in West Linn.

Discussion included questions about "matching funds" and "on state vs. off state" projects receiving favor, but the projects selected did not indicate that to be true. Some members were frustrated that no rural projects were chosen, considering the history of the ACT's formation beginning with an interest to support rural systems. Commissioner Savas reminded members of the ability to draft a minority report, but also warned that this round should not "taint the R1ACT or the STIP process, since there was so few dollars to allocate to projects" compared to previous STIP rounds.

## **City Annexation Discussion**

Dan Chandler, Clackamas County Strategic Policy Administrator, shared history about annexations in the state of Oregon. He identified three groups of people to consider when discussing the challenges of annexation: Those who have built, those who are building, and those who vote.

Members discussed questions to spur conversation, including:

- Is providing urban services to non-urban areas a rational policy?
- Is there a way to find consensus whereby more services equals "city" services?
- What are the means for breaking down partition density, and is that a way to reach consensus on how to classify "city" services?
  - Who sets the minimum partition size?
- Cities are tasked with community planning, but in most cases are not in charge of how the growth occurs because of voter approved annexations and the inability to "add land". Has policy been set based on aspirational approvals or is the policy actually practical?
- Should regional planning override voter approval?
- Have health-hazard conditions ever been used as a means for annexation?

Other points made include:

- Clackamas County has the largest unincorporated population in Oregon, outnumbering the incorporated population. This gap will widen if Damascus disincorporates.
- Observation that annexation votes generally do well when the economy is doing well, and poor when the economy is poor.
- Clackamas County is interested in seeing dense unincorporated areas of the County be annexed into cities, but recognizes that tools are limited for both the County and the cities.
- SB 100 was brought up as means to protect farm lands from development.

## **Willamette River Debris**

*Presented by Mayor Gamba*

Mayor Gamba presented information detailing the challenges of log buildup at Milwaukie's Waterfront Park, especially in the winter and in high water/rain events. Buildup creates safety concerns and is costly to remove. Mayor Gamba recognizes this is a challenge for other waterfront communities and was curious of other city efforts to reduce buildup.

Members agreed that log buildup is a nuisance, but that there are limited resources to address the issue. Discussion also included comments about laws restricting movement of log debris.

No next steps were agreed upon.

## **County VRF Update**

*Presented by Gary Schmidt*

Mr. Schmidt reviewed previous discussion by the Board of County Commissioners to consider pursuing a Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) at the November 2016 election to address funding gaps for deferred maintenance on roads, with a potential advisory vote in May 2016. The commissioners have not decided on a specific ask, to date. Options include a county-wide \$25 VRF, which would return 40% of received dollars back to the cities in the County, and also a hybrid option that includes both a reduced VRF coupled with a small gas tax. The deadline for a May ballot measure is Feb.26, so the BCC will be making the "advisory vote" decision in advance of that date. The final measure would include a 7 year sunset on the VRF.

Discussion included preference for the VRF by the city members, since gas tax revenue is not likely to return to the cities. C4 members also encouraged the County to emulate Washington State's education campaign for their recently accepted state-wide \$.03 gas tax.

Regarding the sunset of the VRF, commissioners clarified that the cost of construction and maintenance does not disappear at the end of the 7 years, nor will the funding gap decrease entirely. It is hoped that the 7 year VRF will allow the County to showcase their good work by responsible use of the funds, and by completing promised road projects that citizens would find palatable extending the VRF into the future.

### **Monthly Updates**

- R1ACT – No updates
- Metro Mayors Consortium – No updates
- JPACT/MPAC Update
  - JPACT: RFFA discussion to surface in March and April. More dialogue expected on the TriMet bonding proposal
  - MPAC: Meetings cancelled for February. The Equitable Housing Summit taking place next week.

### **Adjourn**