



DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

ODOT0000-0526

MS: 35

Meeting Date: 5/15/08

Issue Date: 5/30/08

The contents of this summary are assumed correct unless our office is notified in writing within five calendar days of receipt.

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY-EMT #35

Project: I-5 to 99W Connector
Purpose: Executive Management Team Meeting
Location: ODOT Region 1, Room 344

Attendees:

EMT	Fred Eberle	ODOT
	Jeff Graham	FHWA
	Mike McKillip	City of Tualatin
	Lawrence Odell	Washington County
	R. Scott Pemble	Clackamas County
	Mike Stone	City of Wilsonville
PMT	Amy Gibbons	ODOT
	Mark Turpel	Metro
	Tim Wilson	ODOT
	Vaughn Brown	Jeanne Lawson Associates (JLA)
	Jim Evans	Moyano Leadership Group
	Angie Jones	DEA
	Jef Kaiser	DEA
	Randy McCourt	DKS
	Scott Richman	DEA
Others	Michael Bowers	City of Wilsonville (EMT alternate)
	Gus Duenas	City of Tigard

Distribution: PMT, EMT, Interested Parties, File

The meeting began at 9:00 AM. The agenda and other materials were provided to EMT members in electronic format prior to the meeting and copies were distributed at the meeting. The agenda items are represented in "bold" headings.

- **Welcome/Introductions**
 - Lawrence started the meeting. No introductions were needed.

- **Alternatives Analysis**

- Lawrence noted that DEA has been logging agency review comments, and that we are close to the point of recommending to the PSC that the AA document with go out to the public for review and comment. He suggested that the EMT consider providing the public with more detailed information about the alternatives, including potential segments for phasing, and funding including tolling if applicable for any alternative.
- Fred agreed that we need to decide if this is ready to go out to the public. Before the June open houses we will have time to vet more detailed information as Lawrence suggested. He agreed that we should be clear with the public that any project of this size will likely be phased, but this should not necessarily have bearing on a corridor selection decision. Tolling is harder to address. It might pay for a portion of a project, but will not likely be enough to cover the whole cost. It is a complex issue that we should not let bog us down this early. This phase should select a corridor and how it would be funded would be resolved at a later phase. He noted that multiple white papers re: tolling are being prepared for the OTC.
- Mike McKillip noted that if we start throwing in our own recommendations, we are not going to be prepared to get into those discussions (i.e., tolling). We are going to get bogged down with those more detailed issues later, after a corridor is recommended, and he would rather wait until then. After gathering public input, we could discuss the ranges of funding mechanisms for the preferred alternative.
- Jeff said that if we only want to consider tolling options in Phase II, we should reflect that clearly in the RTP process
- Lawrence agreed, but also said that to not address tolling at all in this phase does not benefit the decision process.
- Scott said that we need to be clear what we are asking of the public and policy makers during the AA review and comment period. We look to the EMT to serve as the "bridge" between the technical team and policy makers, and the EMT will have an important role in helping to bring forth the policy implications for the PSC to discuss.
- Mike S. asked if the PSC and SWG will get copies of the comments on the AA, and Scott responded that they would. Scott also reminded the EMT that there will be a SWG AA work session on May 20th and a regular SWG meeting on May 22nd. The SWG will receive a draft AA document and the most current comments/responses log.
- R. Scott questioned the comment numbering that did not go in order. Scott said we initially organized comments in the order they were received and applied an index number to each. We then reorganized the comments to go in order of the

AA pagination. We also removed commenter names to focus on the comments. The EMT agreed to remove the confusing numbering and also agreed that it was not important how many people made the same comment.

- **Draft AA Comments Discussion**

- Scott said that we have held two agency work sessions to obtain comments on the agency review draft AA document. We are aiming to get the AA out to the public in June following SWG input on the draft AA. We are tracking and logging agency and SWG comments and drafting responses. The comment log will be distributed with the draft AA to the SWG.
- R. Scott said he sees 3 general categories of comments: I-5 related, disagreement with AA findings, and missing evaluation info. Given this, do we intend to incorporate revisions before the public release of the AA document?
- Mike S. asked about responses that show "the information will be provided". When will this information be provided? Scott replied that in response to comments, some revisions will be made to the AA document, and other items warrant being addressed through the alternatives refinement or later in the design phase EIS. Many comments have been not related specifically to the AA.
- R. Scott said that to summarize, the EMT needs to decide if we have enough information in the AA (including responses that will result in revisions) to make a decision.
- Fred said that if there is something that needs to be addressed before release of the draft AA, it should be discussed today. If we need to provide addenda to the draft AA for the SWG, we should resolve it.
- Jef said that the comment logs reflect the agency review. We will record all agency and SWG comments, and incorporate changes to release the report to the public.
- Fred recommended having copies of the comment log for the PSC at the May 28th meeting.
- Mark asked about the air quality which is not complete in the Draft AA. Jef said that the technical report was sent for review and will be summarized to go in the AA.
- Michael B. said that we need to resolve missing or misrepresented information in the AA document before it is released. He noted that he believes that the AA is lacking information to address project objectives 1B, 1D, 1G, 2B, 2C and objectives under Goal 4.
- Michael asserted that the draft AA does not address all key origins and destinations and the v/c maps show problems outside the project area on I-205,

I-5, 99W and other roads. Scott responded that the draft AA does address travel times for origins and destinations that relate to the regional portal and other key origins and destinations including travel to/from the state highway system for town centers and industrial areas. Randy added that the project will inform the RTP for affects to the transportation network outside the project area, and other RTP actions will address these larger system effects.

- Regarding objective 1D, Michael B. noted that Alts 4, 5, 6 have additional impacts to other facilities as shown in Figure 7.6-1 where some roads outside the project show as having a higher v/c ratio. He is looking for more description of these impacts on the larger network. Randy referred to the RTP as appropriate context for the relationship of the project to the larger network. Fred suggested we clarify the v/c changes. Some of these effects could be mitigated either in through the alternatives refinement, design level project, or by other RTP actions.
- Michael B. suggested that the draft AA include more information about emergency response effects to address objective 1G. He asked if TVFRD analyzed the alternatives. Scott responded that we have met with TVFRD and provided them data on the alternatives. They have expressed concern about the project not restricting or disrupting emergency service access. Randy added that the TVFRD has agreed that the comparative travel times information correlates to emergency responses. Mike S. noted that emergency response is a major issue on I-5 through Wilsonville where there are a high number of crashes and in Charbonneau since there is no fire station south of the river.
- Under objective 2B, Michael does not feel that the AA provides sufficient information about the alternatives effects on town centers, including potential impacts to parking, access, etc. Scott replied that information on various aspects of town centers is in discussed in the transportation, and land use/socioeconomics sections of the draft AA. Most of the information related to objective 2B is discussed qualitatively since design level information is not available. However, we recognize the need to refine the access impacts discussion in the AA.
- Michael B said that re: objective 2C, he expected to see a range of affected acreage and tax assessed value that should translate into a cost estimate for commercial, residential, etc. He does not know what the single cost estimate value represents when impacts are presented as ranges. He wants further discussion of the land use and ROW impacts along I-5. He wants to see those numbers and the real world acquisition costs that he believes are too low. He would rather have no cost estimate than an inaccurate one.
- Scott said that DEA will clarify the conceptual cost estimation methodology and provide a more detailed breakdown of costs with ranges for the AA. Fred added that the ODOT process will be compared to the methods DEA employed. A cost range will be provided.

- Mark noted that at this planning phase, the relative cost differences are more important than detailed costs. He cautioned against getting locked into a final cost estimate too early in the project process.
- Mike M. said the AA should identify what is coming up next in the process – alternatives refinement prior to PSC selection. He suggested adding an arrow box on Fig. 1-1.2 to show the alternatives refinement.
- Mike S. asked about funding for this phase and the EIS and suggested that this information be provided. Lawrence and Fred said that we have about \$30 million to continue the project development into preliminary design.
- R Scott reminded the group that as we anticipated, not all of the evaluation criteria would be useful for the purpose of selecting a corridor-level alternative.
- Scott said we plan to do an overview of the AA to the SWG at their meeting on Thursday. He proposed providing a transmittal, the latest comments/responses log, and draft AA report to the SWG before their May 20th work session.
- **Draft AA Summary Memo**
 - Scott said that the draft AA summary memo was intended for the EMT members to use with the PSC members for their briefings.
 - Lawrence said that this may also be useful for the SWG.
 - Fred said that as soon as we are comfortable with it, it should go out, but he is not comfortable with it. He suggested that by the end of June the EMT will frame up salient questions for the PSC. This could be a start to framing some questions.
 - Jim said that if the focus at the work sessions had been on the summary memo, it would have been directing the discussion to policy rather than technical data.
 - Lawrence suggested removing the project vicinity map to shorten the memo. He suggested adding clear introductory discussion of the color coded summary table to explain what it means.
 - Fred said he has concern at not having materials vetted by the EMT before they are distributed to the public. The color codes may need to be debated and agreed up on by the EMT. Fred reminded that the AA is not trying to recommend an alternative; the summary table is the same—three blue boxes does not mean a preferred alternative, it just illustrates how each alternative relatively performs under each criteria. He suggested that the summary table in Chapter 6 of the draft AA might be a better stand-alone summary, in addition to most of the text in the draft summary memo, but without the color-coded table that is in the draft memo.

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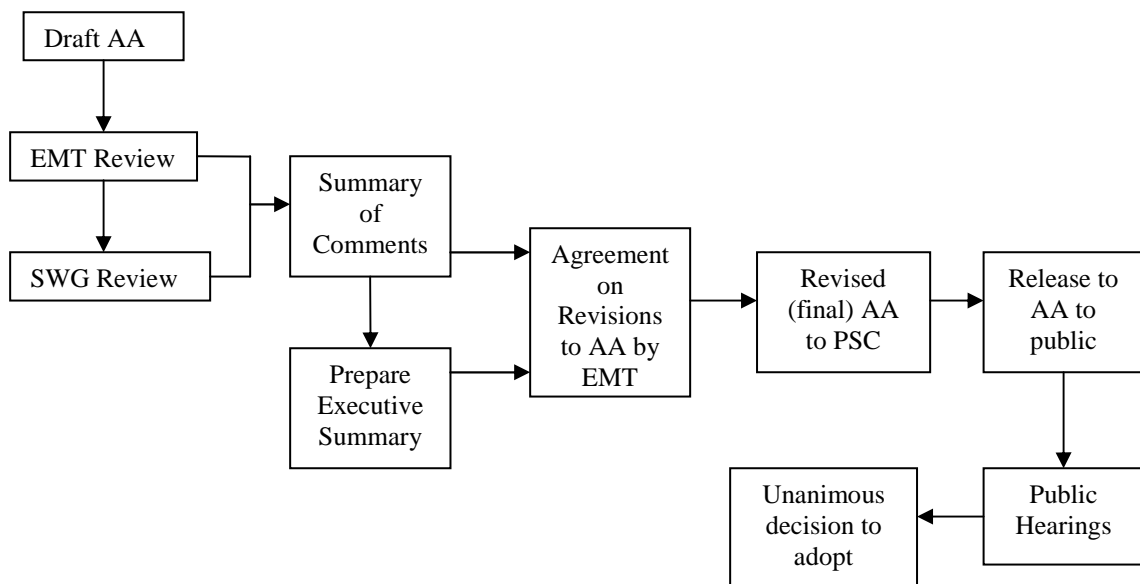
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- R. Scott did not think we need resolution of the draft summary memo today, we just need to decide before the public release of the AA report what needs to be added or changed. If we can agree that what goes out to the public includes the report, and the summary does not have to be attached to it.
- Jeff said that he would like to wait to make his value opinion after the public gets to review the AA document.
- Mike S. said that he agrees that the summary memo is a good idea, but he disagrees with content in the memo. He asked if the memo is an executive summary from the EMT. Scott responded that this is a draft from the consultants for PMT and EMT discussion.
- Michael B. said he feels heartburn about anything going to the public directly from the PMT--that the memo is essentially an executive summary, and he has an issue with it going out without EMT approval.
- Fred clarified that the PMT is Metro, ODOT, and Washington County staff; not the consultants. The process does not necessarily get us to public hearings in June. While he recognizes that PSC members want to move forward, he would rather put the document out when ready rather than abiding strictly to this schedule.
- Lawrence said the public needs some kind of summary. It might not be this one. We are not suggesting releasing something we are not comfortable with, but we also need to get information out that will help the PSC get to a decision.
- Mike S. wrote a proposed process for getting from the draft AA to a PSC decision on the white board. The EMT discussed this and agreed to the following general process:



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- **Public Involvement Update**

- This agenda item was deferred to the next EMT meeting.

- **Other Business**

- The next EMT meeting was scheduled for May 21st 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.