

Milwaukie Transportation System Plan Update

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN (TSP)?

The TSP is a city-wide long-range transportation plan for Milwaukie that outlines existing conditions, needs, opportunities, priorities and future projects for all modes of transportation: walking, bicycling, transit, automobiles, rail, and truck freight. The TSP is an opportunity for Milwaukie residents, workers, and business owners to come together and determine a vision for the City's future with the goal of promoting livability and establishing a safe, efficient, and balanced transportation system. With an understanding of the needs and priorities of transportation system users and the local community, City staff will be better positioned to request and obtain transportation funding from federal and State agencies. The TSP will address the entire City of Milwaukie.

WHY IS UPDATING THE TSP IMPORTANT?

The City's existing TSP is outdated. Given the dynamic and changing environment in and around Milwaukie, the City needs an updated plan to guide transportation investments and development decisions. Furthermore, thanks to a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation, the City has the opportunity to develop this plan and make the City much more competitive when seeking funding to construct transportation projects.

HOW LONG WILL THE TSP BE USEFUL?

The TSP will plan for projects and funding over the next 10-20 years. As with any plan, it will need to be updated in time as more change occurs in the City and region. The goal of long-term plans is to manage change effectively so that changes are as beneficial as possible. The alternative is to not plan at all—leaving us to react to change as it comes along.

HOW WILL PUBLIC INPUT BE USED IN THE TSP?

Public input will be used to help make better more informed decisions about transportation solutions and priorities. Staff and elected officials need to know what is important to the community.

WHY IS PUBLIC INPUT SO CENTRAL TO THE TSP?

Funding agencies at the state and federal levels want to know that any plan the City develops is truly reflective of the community's goals and interests. It is very important, then, for citizens to not only be involved, but to work with each other and staff to develop a plan that considers the various interests and needs of the community—those of neighborhood residents, local businesses, and users of the transportation system.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DO I HAVE TO GET INVOLVED?

There are many ways you can get involved. You can stay informed by checking the City website <http://www.cityofmilwaukie.org/milwaukie/projects/tspupdate/tspupdate.html> and signing up to receive e-mail updates. You can serve on the TSP Advisory Committee or participate as a member on one of several mode-specific working groups. Involvement activities are planned in various formats with the goal of receiving feedback from as many citizens as possible and allowing for a continuum of involvement for residents. Comments can also be submitted to Transportation Liaison Gavin Hales at halesg@ci.milwaukie.or.us or by calling (503) 786-7643. Additionally, the City will seek feedback through a public survey, which will be available on the City's website in March of 2007.

WHAT IS THE GENERAL TIMELINE AND STRUCTURE OF THE TSP UPDATE?

The TSP update process began in December of 2006 and will continue until City Council adopts the new TSP in late 2007. The process began with several community briefings and will end with public hearings before City Council reviews the plan and votes to adopt it. Mode-specific working groups will begin to meet in February 2007. Depending on the mode, the groups will meet two to four times. The working groups will focus on the following topics: transit; traffic and street network issues; street design alternatives; and freight access issues. There will also be workshops to focus on pedestrian and bicycle issues and downtown parking.

WHAT WILL BE DONE WITH WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS?

Working group recommendations will be funneled to the TSP Advisory Committee, which consists of Milwaukie residents and business owners, technical experts, and other local stakeholders.

WHAT AGENCY AND STAKEHOLDER INTERESTS ARE REPRESENTED ON THE TSP ADVISORY COMMITTEE?

The Advisory Committee consists of residents from all over the city, several business owners, and other interested persons. In addition, the Advisory Committee includes representatives from the Milwaukie Center, North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce, real estate and development fields, PGE, Providence Hospital, the Railroad, North Clackamas School District, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Clackamas County, the Oregon Department of Land, Conservation and Development (DLCD), Metro, TriMet, North Clackamas Fire District, and the City Police Department.

WHO HAS THE “FINAL SAY” ON PRIORITIES?

The City Council, who will adopt the final TSP as a part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan, has the responsibility to decide what the City’s priorities will be. The Council will do this with extensive input from the TSP Advisory Committee, citizens, businesses, and staff.

HOW WILL THE TSP RELATE TO THE CITY’S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP)?

The Capital Improvement Plan implements the projects identified in the TSP. Once the TSP is updated and adopted, the CIP list will primarily come from the TSP project lists.

HOW DOES MILWAUKIE’S TSP UPDATE COMPARE TO OTHER TSP UPDATE PROJECTS IN THE STATE?

The level of public involvement built in to Milwaukie’s TSP update is the most extensive of any TSP update process conducted in the State of Oregon to date—both in terms of the number of involvement opportunities for citizens and the overall design of the various groups. One fairly unique aspect of this project, for example, is that the TSP Advisory Committee is composed of both technical experts and local residents. Typically, a TSP Advisory Committee is composed only of technical experts who meet separately from local residents and stakeholders.

HOW DOES THE TSP TIE IN WITH STATE, METRO, COUNTY, OR TRIMET PROJECTS THAT ARE BEING PLANNED?

The TSP update focuses only on the City of Milwaukie over the long term. Projects that are outside of Milwaukie’s jurisdiction have their own planning processes, are on different schedules, and are not managed by the City of Milwaukie. However, the City is coordinating with regional partners on these projects and encourages interested citizens to learn about and get involved in these projects.

WHO CAN I CONTACT WITH SPECIFIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

| Contact Person | Topic | Phone and Email |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Katie Mangle, <i>Planning Director</i> | Downtown Parking | (503) 786-7652 manglek@ci.milwaukie.or.us |
| Gary Parkin, <i>Engineering Director</i> | Traffic & Street Network | (503) 786-7601 parking@ci.milwaukie.or.us |
| Kenny Asher, <i>Community Development Director</i> | Transit | (503) 786-7654 asher@ci.milwaukie.or.us |
| Susan Shanks, <i>Associate Planner</i> | Street Design | (503) 786-7653 shankss@ci.milwaukie.or.us |
| Ryan Marquardt, <i>Assistant Planner</i> | Pedestrian and Bicycle Access | (503) 786-7658 marquardtr@ci.milwaukie.or.us |
| Brett Kelper, <i>Assistant Planner</i> | Pedestrian and Bicycle Access | (503) 786-7657 kelperb@ci.milwaukie.or.us |
| Alex Campbell, <i>Resource & Economic Development Specialist</i> | Freight Access | (503) 786-7608 campbella@ci.milwaukie.or.us |