



Governor's Transportation Vision Panel Innovation and Seismic Subcommittee

MEETING MINUTES, February 4th

SUBCOMMITTEE KICKOFF MEETING MINUTES

February 4th, 2015
9:00 am – 11:00 am

ODOT Headquarters, Room
440

355 Capitol St. NE,
Salem OR 97301

Subcommittee Chair:

Sean O'Hollaren (by phone)

Subcommittee Members:

Mark Frohnmayer (by phone)

Aron Faegre

Theresa Carr

Stuart Foster (by phone)

Gary Cardwell

Panel Co-Chairs:

Gregg Kantor

Larry Campbell

Panel Sponsor:

Karmen Fore

Facilitator:

Pete Pande

Resources and Support:

Sam Haffner

Michael Bufalino

Paul Mather

Additional Attendees:

Andy Cotugno

Topic 1: Panel Introductions, Minutes Approval, Charge Review

Minutes were approved as written

Karmen gave a review of the GTVP and Subcommittee's Charge. For a copy of this presentation, [click here](#).

- Set of recommendations for the governor for 2016 and beyond
- Look at intermediate steps that can set up a long term transportation goal
- A key objective for this subcommittee is to look at seismic issues and consider how to prioritize transportation needs to best respond to a Cascadia subduction event
- This group will also consider how to bring innovation to the work of the agency as well as how to lay the groundwork for private sector innovation
- As a secondary innovation goal, this group will identify near term tech innovations

It was also noted that the committee can help raise public commitment to seismic resiliency, and support efforts by the state to go beyond piecemeal investments.

Mark Frohnmayer noted an article on driverless cars for review by the Subcommittee

Topic 2: Presentation on Innovation by Michael Bufalino

Michael Bufalino is an ODOT research manager and also coordinates with the Universities on transportation innovations. For a copy of this presentation [click here](#).

Michael gave an overview of the subjects and subject matter experts that can assist this Subcommittee:

- Jim Whitty; road user charge program
- Automated road construction programs
- Galen McGill; ITS systems rolled out in Portland

Michael gave additional clarifications on the road user charge:

- The first VMT charge pilot program created privacy concerns
- The current program, now called OReGO provides options to report miles traveled to address privacy concerns
- Oregon is a national leader on this project
- The current pilot program is focused on passenger vehicles, though the commercial road mileage tax is similar in that it is measured by weight and miles
- Under the road user charge, users are discounted their gas tax. The intent is not to collect additional funds but to create a system where charges reflect road impacts as vehicles become more fuel efficient
- Jim Whitty can speak to lessons learned from this pilot, as well as structural, legal, and public perception, and private partnership issues.

Michael shared *informal* polls to the committee in order to identify where the group wants to focus on innovation.

Key innovation actors were identified:

- Individuals
- Startup companies
- Established private sector
- Non-profits
- Universities
- State and local governments
- Federal Government (eg. Early work on autonomous vehicles came from the Department of Defense)
- Foreign governments

Sean asked where innovation inside vehicle technology fits in to this actor chart. This is a grey area. It falls under private sector companies but there is a shift going on where the large auto companies are not the only players in this technology; a number of west coast companies are now doing a lot of the innovation. There is substantial USDOT funding, along with states like Michigan and California that are driving technology and funding.

Topic 3: Subcommittee Discussion on Innovation

Discussion:

A key consideration is which innovation actors are of greatest interest to the committee in meeting the charge of this subcommittee. What are the questions the committee needs to ask them?

- It would be good to outline who are the key players within each innovation actor category
 - *(Michael to share his 4-page list of specific innovators with the committee)*
- Oregon has several industry clusters focused on innovation; Drive Oregon is part of the Oregon Innovation Council. There is a drone industry cluster. These are important collecting points
- Oregon is in a unique geographic and climatic position for partnering with companies to test new vehicle technologies like self-driving cars
- Does ODOT work with Google Maps identify areas to innovate on smart phone technologies related to traffic? Michael noted that Galen McGill with ODOT could be a future speaker to address this question. Paul added that ODOT is engaged with Google and is working works with WAVE, a partner of Google.
- Some innovation will be driven by state and federal regulations on businesses to begin to roll out new technologies.
- Stuart noted that we should not dismiss foreign governments as actors in innovation. Much of what we can do should focus on being in a position to implement innovation rather than invent innovation on our part.

How are we poised to adopt innovation while protecting the public interest?

- A key example is Uber; how does the state prepare for disruptive technologies like Uber that create safety concerns, etc.? How do we create the space where we are not a roadblock to innovation, while preserving public priorities?
- Larry noted a need to consider restrictions that ODOT faces today related by innovation that can be corrected by recommendations that the panel makes. Michael suggested that Jim Whitty can speak to what the road blocks were in the Road User Charge Pilot.
- Need to consider role, function, and liability in undertaking innovations such as smart phone routing technology.
- Regulation of Uber in Portland is an example of where the state can play a role. We may not want 200 Oregon cities developing separate sets of regulations.
- While Uber is a small example of tech disruption, Oregon needs to position itself as a place that is perceived as adaptive to even larger innovations in our near future
- Not all innovation is of equal public interest. The committee needs to speak to fostering innovation, and at the same time, react to and adapt to innovations in a responsible way.

Discussion of subject matter experts that can help answer committee's questions:

- We may want to get guidance and suggestions from USDOT and other groups that have grappled with liability questions from innovation PPPs.
- Jim Whitty can speak to the challenges faced in Road User Charges
- Karmen noted expertise from the drone industry
- Andy Cotugno suggested including someone from OTREC (TREC)

Gary suggested that ODOT might benefit from a dedicated resource focused exclusively on transportation innovation. This is

something that the Panel could include as a recommendation. This could also support coordination of innovation actors across the state.

Michael shared his innovation survey. In answering the questions, he asked the committee members to think about a state-wide focus, and consider what innovation actors deserve mention in a Governor's report that is limited in size.

Topic 4: Overview and Next Steps

Next meeting (February 25th 9am-11am):

- Tentative plan is to focus on seismic issues
- Scott Ashford is available to speak to the subcommittee
- Additional ODOT seismic experts will be included

Stuart Foster suggested changing meetings times to after 10am instead of 9am starting in March. Sam will follow up with Sean, Theresa, and Aron on this proposed time.

Before next meeting, staff support will structure and organize key topic areas identified in the first two meetings. This Summary of Issues will be shared with the committee members in advance.

Action items:

Item:	Person(s) responsible:	Deadline:
Andy suggested mapping out a framework of invited speakers and topic areas. <i>[note: support staff is currently working with subcommittee chairs to map this out based on committee needs and feedback]</i>	Sean, staff support	Ongoing
Sean asked committee members to share ideas on invited speakers with him and the ODOT support staff.	Committee members	Ongoing
Subcommittee members review meeting minutes and be prepared to share questions or changes	Committee members	Before next meeting
Michael to share his 4-page list of specific innovators with the committee	Michael	ASAP
Sam to share informal polls in word format to committee members not present	Sam	
Complete and return Michael's Innovation Survey as soon as possible	Committee members	

Additional Reading:

Item:	Person(s) responsible:
Article identified by Mark on driverless cars: http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2015/01/27/how-ubers-autonomous-cars-will-destroy-10-million-jobs-and-reshape-the-economy-by-2025-lyft-google-zack-kanter/	Committee members