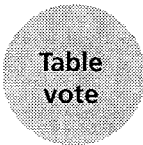




# Let's talk issues

## Tradeoffs and choices workshop questions

Mark your preferences for all questions in the space provided. You will be discussing the questions marked "table vote" with your small group during the workshop. Your table group facilitator will track the answers for your group and provide those to Metro. In addition, Metro will tabulate individual responses to all questions. Group and individual responses will be provided to local and regional decision-makers following the conference. Ask your table facilitator if you have questions about how to fill out this form.



### 1. Which two regional issue areas deserve greater emphasis?

Place an "X" next to your two top choices.

- |                                    | Keypad number |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| ____ Environmental protection      | (1)           |
| ____ Economy and jobs              | (2)           |
| ____ Transportation                | (3)           |
| ____ Housing options               | (4)           |
| ____ Neighborhoods                 | (5)           |
| ____ Town center development       | (6)           |
| ____ Farm and forestland           | (7)           |
| ____ Recycling and waste reduction | (8)           |
| ____ Arts and culture              | (9)           |
| ____ Parks and recreation          | (10)          |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

If you'd like a copy of the conference summary report check the appropriate box

Mail     E-mail

The conference report will be available on Metro's web site [www.metro-region.org](http://www.metro-region.org)

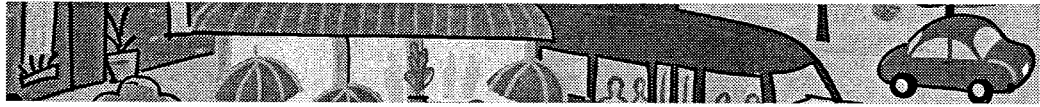


Table  
vote

## How can transportation serve our communities?

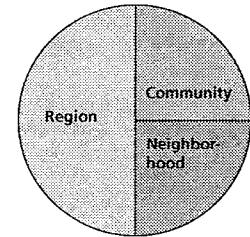
### 2. Should the focus of our transportation investments emphasize regional, community or neighborhood projects?

Circle the number that indicates your preference.

#### 1 Mostly regional

Investments to support travel throughout the region

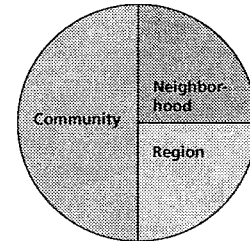
- Widen freeway and highways
- Clear accidents and breakdowns from highways
- Widen major streets
- Add more light rail and commuter rail
- Add more bus service on major routes and improve bike and pedestrian access to transit
- Develop regional trails
- Create terminal access for freight
- Expand carpool and vanpool programs



#### 2 Mostly community

Investments that support access to and travel within regional and town centers

- Retrofit streets in commercial centers and along transit corridors to enhance access to transit and improve safety (wider sidewalks, better crossings, street lighting, bus shelters and benches)
- Upgrade traffic signal timing
- Fix intersection bottlenecks
- Increase the frequency of bus service and streetcars
- Add bike lanes to neighborhood streets that connect to major streets and to major streets that connect towns
- Develop community trails
- Expand car share programs



#### 3 Mostly neighborhood

Investments that calm traffic and increase safety

- Improve local bike connections
- Add local sidewalks
- Add curb extensions, speed bumps and traffic circles
- Support school safety projects
- Invest in small buses that serve neighborhoods
- Restrict truck traffic in neighborhoods
- Connect trails to local sidewalks and bikeways

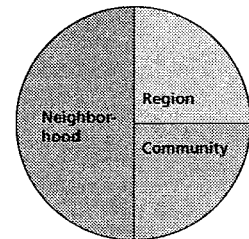


Table  
vote

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**3. What level of investment should we make in our transportation system in the next 5-10 years?**

Circle the number that indicates your preference.

- 1 **Low** – No new revenues (purchasing power lost due to inflation)
- 2 **Medium low** – Add additional revenues to maintain current level of investment. Slowly add system capacity, fall significantly behind regional transportation performance expectations; fall further behind in maintenance and preservation backlog (including bridge repair).
- 3 **Medium** – Same as option 2, but raise fees and taxes to meet state and local standards for maintenance and preservation (including bridge repair).
- 4 **Medium high** – Same as option 3 for maintenance and preservation, but add revenue to build key regional, community and neighborhood projects.
- 5 **High** – Same as option 4, but increase funding to implement the 20-year Regional Transportation Plan and meet all maintenance, preservation, bridge and performance (mobility and access) standards identified in the plan.

Table  
vote

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**4. If you had to identify additional funding sources to finance transportation projects and find a way to pay for maintaining the existing system, what two funding sources would you prefer?**

Place an "X" by your top two choices.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property tax assessment  | <input type="checkbox"/> Auto title fees                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gas tax  | <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle registration fees                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> System development charge<br>(assessed to developers and new residents; covers only new construction projects) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fee on miles driven                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increase transit fares   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fees based on truck weight and miles driven |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fees (all day or rush-hour tolls; covers only projects within corridor where toll is collected)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                 |

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**5. What are your specific transportation funding priorities? Please assign the percentage of the transportation budget that should go to each of the following items for a total budget that equals 100 percent.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More sidewalks          | <input type="checkbox"/> Freeway expansion             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More bus service        | <input type="checkbox"/> Light-rail expansion          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Widening major streets  | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining bridges and roads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter-rail expansion | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More bikeways           | <b>Total 100 percent</b>                               |



Table  
vote

## Can we keep it green?

### 6. Which strategies should be emphasized to support private landowner stewardship of fish, wildlife and water resources?

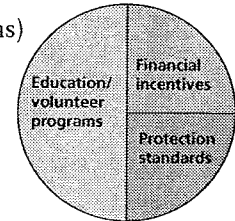
Circle the number that indicates your preference.

#### 1 Education and volunteer programs

- Provide technical support (for field work and grant applications)
- Give habitat restoration grants
- Organize volunteer work parties
- Provide information to landowners

##### *Impacts and outcomes*

- Lowest program cost/highest potential loss of protection
- No enforcement
- Self-selected audience
- Builds constituency and understanding of natural resource issues
- Creates strong opportunities for partnerships
- Difficult to measure effectiveness

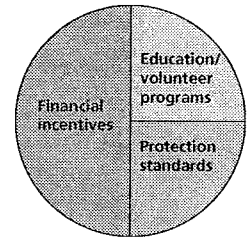


#### 2 Financial incentives

- Acquire land through willing-seller program
- Buy development or easement rights
- Share costs (joint development)
- Credit or defer taxes
- Streamline regulations (faster permit process)
- Transfer development rights

##### *Impacts and outcomes*

- Requires new funding
- Participation is discretionary
- Specific segment of the community benefits financially from program
- Creates opportunity for greater education of targeted residents
- Programs are hands-on and require time-intensive stewardship
- Local governments can participate as well

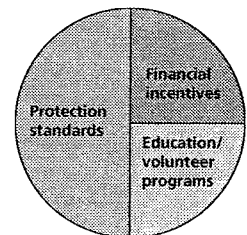


#### 3 New protection standards

- Zone to restrict land use
- Set habitat-sensitive design guidelines for new developments
- Increase enforcement efforts
- Increase restoration requirements (e.g., planting native species)
- Establish minimum setbacks

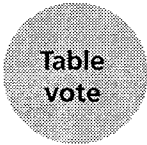
##### *Impacts and outcomes*

- Requires new funds
- Requires enforcement system
- Applies region-wide
- Applies equally across communities
- Costs of program shared by all
- Could reduce property development opportunities
- Could result in larger urban growth boundary expansion
- Assures higher level of effective protection



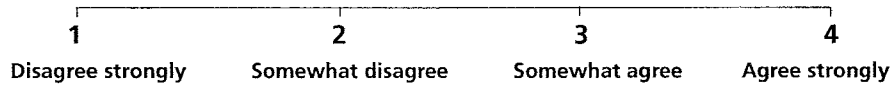
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Some communities in the region offer more parks than other communities. Some communities lack certain kinds of parks such as sport centers, sport fields, nature parks, trails, public plazas and playgrounds. There is a limited amount of available land so the need for land for parks must often compete with the need for land for schools, businesses, housing and other purposes. Funding sources also are limited.



**7. Should we ensure that there is a minimum level of park and recreation facilities for every community in the region?**

Circle the number that indicates how much you agree or disagree.

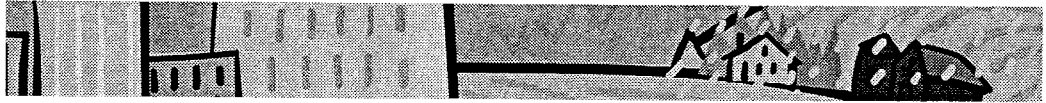


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**8. If you had to identify additional funding sources to build new parks and trails and find a way to pay for their operation, what two funding sources would you prefer?**

Place an "X" by your top two choices.

- Property tax
- Business tax
- Real estate transfer tax (assessed on real estate property transactions)
- System development charge (assessed to developers and new residents; covers only new construction projects)
- User fee
- Utility tax (from water, gas, electric bills)
- Voluntary contribution program (on income taxes or utility bills)
- Consumer tax on recreation-related products
- Excise tax (a tax on Metro user fees that can be directed to parks)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



## The urban growth boundary – tradeoffs and choices

As you've heard throughout the day, the Metro Council will be deciding later this year whether to move the urban growth boundary and, if so, where. You've also heard about other issues such as natural resource protection and transportation finance and how all of these issues relate to each other.

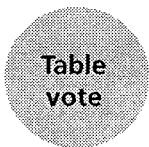
### 9. Of the following list of issues, which two are the most important to you?

Place an "X" next to your top two choices.

- Protect farm and forest land
- Protect fish and wildlife habitat
- Preserve existing neighborhoods
- Increase housing values
- Increase housing affordability
- Support healthy economy and jobs
- Preserve private property rights
- Improve the transportation system
- Invest in infrastructure (roads, water and sewer lines)

There are different approaches for how we manage growth. Each approach has tradeoffs. How we grow affects whether the urban growth boundary is moved, changes in housing values, residential densities, traffic congestion and how much housing and jobs go to neighboring cities.

The “potential impacts” noted in the question 10 chart are derived from a variety of analysis tools, expert review and discussions with professionals in such fields as transportation, land use and economics. For more information on current state and regional growth management policies, see the Participant’s Guide.



**10. Recognizing that there are costs and tradeoffs to each approach, which of the four approaches would you emphasize?**

Circle the number that indicates your preference

Approaches		Potential impacts						
		UGB expansion	Increases in housing values	Residential densities	Traffic congestion	Public investment	Growth in neighboring cities	Existing land uses
<b>1</b>	<b>Implement current state and regional policies</b>	High	Moderate	Moderate	Least increase of all approaches	Low – no new investments	Low	No changes
<b>2</b>	<b>Hold the urban growth boundary</b>	None	Moderate	High – limited vacant land for housing	Similar to approach 1 above	High to attract development in centers	Moderate	Substantially more houses in neighborhoods
<b>3</b>	<b>Develop new urban community in Damascus</b>	Moderate	High	Moderate	Higher than approach 1 and 2	High for jobs, housing and roads in Damascus	Moderate	Changes rural residential land to urban
<b>4</b>	<b>Enhance town and regional centers</b>	Moderate	High	High	Highest of all approaches	High to attract development in centers	Moderate	Focuses more housing in centers



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OPEN SPACES

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**11. Should Metro expand the urban growth boundary for warehouse and high-tech jobs even if this might mean developing high-quality farmland?**

Place an "X" next to your answer.s

a. Warehouse jobs

\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_ No      \_\_\_ Unsure

b. High-tech jobs

\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_ No      \_\_\_ Unsure

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**12. Should the region make transportation, economic development and other investments in town and regional centers to encourage more housing and jobs to be developed there?**

Place an "X" next to your answer.

\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_ No      \_\_\_ Unsure