

YAKIMA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of August 11, 2016

*Present:* Santos Trevino (Vice Chair), City of Grandview; Ben Annen, HLA; Joe Henne, City of Selah; Lance Hoyt, City of Toppenish; Paul Gonseth, WSDOT; Brett Sheffield, City of Yakima; Alan Adolf, Yakima County; Annie Eagleclaw, Yakama Nation Tribal Transit; YVCOG Staff: Larry Mattson, Executive Director; Deb LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager; Brian Curtin, CTR Program Coordinator; and Tami Hayward, Office Specialist.

**Call to Order and Introductions** Vice Chairman, Santos Trevino, called the August 11, 2016, Yakima Valley Transportation TAC meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. at the YVCOG Offices (311 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Yakima, WA 98901)

**Approval of Minutes** Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the updated minutes of the July 14, 2016 meeting. Mr. Adolf seconded. The motion passed.

**Old Business**

*Program Updates* Mr. Curtin provided updates on YVCOG's various program activities, including the progress of GMA updates.

*STP Progress Report –* Mr. Curtin pointed out that there were a couple of very minor changes to the STP Progress report (PS&E of two Selah projects and one Toppenish project), highlighted in red.

*Fair Booth Volunteers* Ms. LaCombe circulated the fair booth sign-up sheet. YVCOG will have an independent booth this year, which will include transportation programs (MPO/RTPO 101 materials, CTR, MPACT).

*MPO/RTPO 101* Mr. Mattson reminded the TAC of the August 26th MPO/RTPO 101 training. The half-day training will begin in the morning and will include breakfast.

*Freight Projects for State Freight Plan* We are still waiting for confirmation that those freight routes that we requested show up into the State plan. There is no indication that they won't. She has advised the sponsors of the various sections hoping to be included in the State plan, to think about projects to put on those corridor sections.

There is a directed pot for the State money. The Legislature will be deciding who receives the funding.

There is a specific form that must be filled out for each project and submitted to WSDOT by August 31<sup>st</sup>. Once the TAC approves them, they will be brought before the Policy Board, with a request permitting Mr. Mattson to write support letters for each of the projects. There are \*\*\* projects.

Mr. Hoyt provided information on the I-82 SR-97 Freight Express Route ("Fruit Loop") project. It has been around since 2010 and fits the criteria to reduce freight miles. About 4.5 miles long and has projects happening on it right now.

Mr. Sheffield reported on the City of Yakima's proposed project, which would begin at SR-12 to I Street, I Street to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue to River Road and a little past. Some fruit warehouses going into those areas. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvement would replace trolley rail and improve the road. Also add some curb and gutter, and sidewalk on one side. On I Street, west of the tracks would be widened to three lanes and add sidewalk on north side. On First Street, the project has already been designed and is secured by STP funds.

Ms. LaCombe stated that all of the listed projects are vested through some other process, which is a good prep-up to show the investments are already being made in those projects.

Mr. Gonseth updated the TAC on WSDOT's proposed projects. US 12 safety corridor, Lowe Road.

No air quality modeling will be required.

Mr. Gonseth moved to recommend forwarding the freight projects for the State Freight Plan to the Policy Board for approval. Mr. Sheffield seconded. The motion carried.

## **New Business**

### *Director's Updates*

#### Fast Act Advisory Group Update

The FAST Act workgroup met three times. Jim Restucci represented small MPOs in the workgroup. The proposed allocation is 61% / 39% (ultimately 59% / 41%) – the State has agreed to give up some of their funding. The proposal was agreed to, but won't actually be presented to the Legislature for approval until January.

Will create an asset-management based competitive grant program. There will also be an incremental increase in the Surface Transportation Block Grant program. \$15 million per year (4 years) to local bridge programs – locals will decide on short span bridges and fish passage barrier corrections. And an average of \$19 million per year (4 years) for the STBG program.

The next step that is proposed is to get a small working group together this fall to develop the proposed criteria for the NHS grant. That way, should it be approved, they will be ready to begin awarding money.

Senator King was part of the group and believes it will pass the Senate Transportation Committee.

#### Governance Agreement

We have had no governance agreement since it was destroyed in the 1990 fire. We have been working with YVCOG's legal counsel to develop governance agreement that will encompass all of the YVCOG programs, instead of having separate agreements for each program. Mr. Mattson is hoping to receive a draft document from YVCOG's legal counsel, Jamie Carmody, today. Should begin the review cycle with the Policy Board in September.

#### Joseph Calhoun's Resignation

Joseph Calhoun has resigned and will be returning to work at the City of Yakima. We will miss him, but we don't plan on filling his position in the immediate future.

### *Intro 2017 Self-Certification*

Ms. LaCombe directed the TAC's attention to the table copies of our 2016 Self-Certification. This process must be completed before the new TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) can be completed. This document provides our reason for existence. Updated each year. WSDOT headquarters used to ask for the entire document, plus all of the attachments, but have now returned to the policy of only having to turn in the signature sheet. We retain the entire document for our records. It may be posted on our website in the future.

### *SFY 2016 UPWP Annual Report*

The UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program) lays out what we plan to do in the coming fiscal year. At the end of each fiscal year, we are required to do a UPWP Annual Report, *which tells what we actually accomplished*. The report is due 90 days after the end of the state fiscal year, so it is due to WSDOT at the end of September.

An updated report will be an action item on the September agenda.

### *MPA Boundary*

Ms. LaCombe briefed the TAC members on the process YVCOG is going through in order to update our MPA boundary. The urbanized area is determined by the census. The MPA includes 20 years' worth of projected growth.

She reminded them that the Policy Board is an open meeting, in case anyone is interested in attending.

**WSDOT State and Regional Updates**

Mr. Gonseth reported that progress is being made on the pass. One of the snow bridges should be completed before winter; the other one will probably be completed next year.

**Member Jurisdiction Updates**

Jurisdictions provided updates on their various projects.

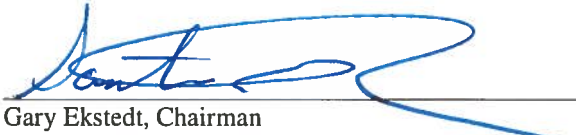
**September 8, 2016 TAC Meeting Location**

The September meeting will be held at the YVCOG offices (311 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Yakima, WA).

**Adjourn**

Vice Chairman Trevino adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Gary Ekstedt, Chairman

Date signed: 9/8/16

Attest:

  
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Deborah LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager

Date signed: 9/8/2016