

YAKIMA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
August 15, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hodkinson, Vice Chairman, called the August 15, 2016 meeting of the Transportation Policy Board to order at 1:36 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT
POLICY

It is the policy of the Transportation Policy Board to accept public comment on agenda items at the time the item is being discussed. Public comments regarding items not on the agenda will be heard at the end of the meeting.

ROLL CALL &
INTRODUCTIONS

Members present: John Hodkinson, Dan Olson, Janice Gonzales, Maureen Adkison, Mike Leita, Jon Smith (YCDA), Madelyn Carlson (PFP), Todd Trepanier (WSDOT)

Members Absent: Jim Restucci and Mario Martinez

YVCOG staff present: Chris Wickenhagen, Deb LaCombe, Brian Curtin, and Tami Hayward.

Others present: None.

**Indicates notice of absence received prior to meeting.*

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Ms. Adkison moved to approve the July 18, 2016 Minutes. Ms. Carlson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

*MPA Boundaries – Chelan
Douglas Q&A Call-in*

Ms. LaCombe explained to the Policy Board that in order to prepare for the recent conversations with the Governor, SRTC printed out each MPO map showing Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundaries. During that effort it was brought to her attention that, in 2010, the urbanized area for YVCOG's MPO had changed, but we had not yet adjusted the MPA boundaries according to Census Bureau information. She would like direction from the Policy Board on how to proceed with adjusting those boundaries. We have a couple of options as to how we adjust the boundary – the minimum would be to take in all of the urbanized area, plus 20 years of growth, or we could take a maximum approach and go county-wide with our MPA boundary.

Ms. LaCombe introduced Jeff Wilkins, Executive Director of the Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council, who called in to the meeting and provided the Policy Board with some background on the changes the Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council took about a year ago with their MPA boundary. Chelan-Douglas is the most recent region to have gone county-wide with their MPA boundary. Mr.

Wilkens spoke about their logic for going county-wide with the boundary, and specified some of the reasons he feels that expanding their MPA boundary has benefitted their region. For Chelan-Douglas, it resulted in a combined MPO/RTPO board and some reorganization of actual MPO/RTPO members as Okanogan County is no longer included in the Chelan – Douglas Transportation Council.

Mr. Hodkinson stated that because YVCOG already has a combined MPO/RTPO Policy Board, the benefit for Chelan-Douglas does not apply to YVCOG.

Mr. Leita responded that the map showed a lot more than a 20-year growth in the Urbanized Area. He questioned the accuracy of the map. He also said that moving the MPA Boundary to reflect the County Boundary can't really happen due to the Yakama Nation and the Firing Center.

Discussion at next month's meeting, the Policy Board would like to have a clearer map showing what the extreme and minimum boundaries would look like, and what happens if we make that our MPA boundary.' They also would like a map that gives them city boundaries and the city identified so they can identify the areas on the map better.

Ms. LaCombe recommended that Policy Board members speak with their technical experts to get their opinions on what makes sense for each jurisdiction in the Urbanized Area to include in the new MPA Boundary.

MPACT Guidelines

Mr. Hodkinson mentioned that the MPACT Guidelines were tabled in the July minutes, but are not included on the August agenda. Mr. Leita moved that the approval of the MPACT Guidelines be tabled until the September meeting. Ms. Adkison seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Freight Projects for State Freight Plan

Ms. LaCombe requested the Policy Board's permission for the YVCOG Executive Director to write and sign letters supporting the four summarized freight projects, submitting applications for inclusion into the State Freight Plan.

August 31st is the deadline for project submittals. Although the projects do not come through this Policy Board for approval, the four projects will most likely be forwarded to WSDOT. The Legislature decides who does and who doesn't get funded. A support letter from the Transportation Policy Board gives the projects a regional significance and will be viewed as such at the WSDOT and legislative levels.

Mr. Smith moved to approve that the Executive Director write and sign support letters for the freight projects to be included in the State Freight Plan. Mr. Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Fair Booth Volunteers

Ms. LaCombe circulated the Fair Booth Volunteer sign-up sheet.

The fair booth will include transportation, MPACT, and a passenger rail survey.

NEW BUSINESS

DRYVE/TRANS-Action Transportation Symposium

Mr. Leita quickly mentioned that DRYVE/TRANS-Action are jointly hosting a Transportation Symposium on August 25th, at the Howard Johnson in Yakima. \$20 per person registration includes lunch. Dale Learn will be the keynote speaker.

Director's Update

Deputy Director, Chris Wickenhagen, addressed the progress of the MPO/RTPO specific ILA. YVCOG determined that one Governance Agreement that included all of the different programs within COG, would serve the COG best rather than a separate agreement for each program. The Governance Agreement is with legal counsel, Jamie Carmody. Once the Governance Agreement is received, Larry will bring it back to the Executive Committee, not the Policy Board.

The Policy Board agreed that this would be a better arrangement.

Self-Certification – Introduction

Ms. LaCombe announced that it is time to begin preparation of the annual Self-Certification document. This document explains our reason for existence and must be completed each year before the TIP (*Transportation Improvement Program*) is prepared. The self-certification demonstrates that we are exercising fiscal constraint (spending only what is reasonably coming to our area) and we are accomplishing the tasks set in federal and state regulation.

The draft document will be presented to the Policy Board for approval and signature next month. Once approved, we will keep the actual document in our office and submit only the signature page to WSDOT. The signature page states that we are following all federal and state regulations and requirements and is signed by both the Transportation Policy Board and WSDOT.

The TIP public comment period draft copy will be presented to the Policy Board at the September meeting, and the final document will come before the board for approval in October.

SFY 2016 UPWP

The UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program) Annual Report is due by the end of September. Ms. LaCombe wanted to introduce the Annual Report to the Policy Board this meeting so that the purpose is clear prior to the review of the document.

Every year we develop the UPWP to identify what we are going to be doing in the coming year. The UPWP covers the State Fiscal Year and so begins in July and ends in June. In June, we begin preparation of the annual UPWP report that shows what we actually *did*.

You will see the updated version at next month's meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Madelyn Carlson (People for People) announced that the WSDOT Public Transportation Conference will be held in Wenatchee, September 18th through the 21st.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURN

With no other business, Mr. Hodkinson adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Restucci,
Yakima Valley Transportation Policy Board Chair

9/19/2016

Date signed

ATTEST:



Tamara Hayward, Policy Board Secretary

9/19/2016

Date signed