

**YAKIMA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of July 14, 2016**

Present: Gary Ekstedt (Chair), Yakima County; Santos Trevino (Vice Chair), City of Grandview; Mike Meskimen, Gray & Osborne; Mike Battle, HLA; Brad Cooper, Jacobs Engineering Group; Lance Hoyt and Rocky Wallace, City of Toppenish; Dennis Henne, City of Union Gap; Menglou Wang, City of Wapato; Paul Gonseth, WSDOT; Roger Arms, WSDOT Local Programs; Alan Adolf, Yakima County; Bob Desgrosellier, City of Yakima; Ardele Steele and John Simmons, City of Zillah; YVCOG Staff: Deb LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager; Brian Curtin, CTR Program Coordinator; Joseph Calhoun, Planner; and Tami Hayward, Office Specialist.

Call to Order and Introductions Chairman, Gary Ekstedt, called the July 14, 2016, Yakima Valley Transportation TAC meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. at the YVCOG Offices (311 N. 4th Street, Yakima, WA 98901)

Approval of Minutes Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the updated minutes of the June 9, 2016 meeting. Mr. Trevino seconded. The motion passed.

Old Business

Program Updates Mr. Calhoun updated the TAC members on the progress of Transportation Elements for various jurisdictions. The traffic counters are wide open now through the end of summer. He asked that anyone interested in having traffic counts performed, please fill out the traffic count form and return it to him.

Ms. LaCombe is working on the travel demand model – close to completing a base model. Staying abreast of notifications of proposed rule-making and performance measures that are coming out. Will update next month. Safety performance measures have been approved at the federal level and we are now waiting for them to be approved at the state level.

The internet is lit up with webinars regarding the differences between MAP-21 and FAST Act, and Ms. LaCombe will provide a summary next month.

STP Progress Report – Mr. Curtin asked TAC members to review the STP Progress Report. One update – Mabton Main Street reconstruction project – minor changes.

Ms. LaCombe stated that even though the STP funding has been increased from \$3.3 million to \$3.5 million, the effect on the Progress Report is small ... it doesn't move any projects up a year.

New Business

MPA Boundaries Jim Restucci is representing the smaller MPOs in the discussions regarding the transportation funding allocation between the MPOs and WSDOT. He is discussing the split with the governor and other MPO folks – in preparation for that, SRTC was putting together the MPA boundaries and urbanized areas. The MPA can include 20 years projected growth. We didn't update our MPA to include all of the urbanized area after the 2010 update. The Town of Naches and part of the Tribal lands are now part of the MPO, and have been since 2013 – so we are making the updates now. Lines up very well with the new Inter Local Agreement (ILA) that we are preparing. Naches rural roads do not automatically become urban.

In the past, STP funding split was tracked by Urban or Rural. The current tracking is very complicated. Ms. LaCombe is hoping they will go back to Inside or Outside the MPO boundary. This will have the greatest effect on Naches and Tribal funding pots.

The MPO can go county-wide, if we choose. Chelan-Douglas is the most recent area to have done this, and she will attempt to have Jeff Wilkins available by phone at the next TAC meeting.

Discussion on consequences of making the MPO county-wide. The TAC would like direction from the Policy Board on how they would like them to proceed with this matter.

Fair Booth Volunteers

The fair booth will be open from 9/23 – 10/2/2016. Looking for volunteers to man the booth – would prefer elected officials, if possible. Sign-in sheet to work in the booth is available.

Greenway is stepping out of the fair booth for the next year or two, but now that the Moxee trail is getting underway, the Greenway may be involved again in the next couple of years.

MPACT will be issuing a Call for Projects this year, so there will be a lot of outreach at the fair booth. MPACT is expanding its reach from special needs to include public transportation in general ... including walking/biking, passenger rail, air, etc. They will be taking on a wider involvement.

There will also be a lot of CTR outreach at the fair.

DRYVE/TRANS-Action Symposium

August 25th will be the 4th annual DRYVE/TRANS-Action Transportation Symposium – luncheon and panel discussion at Howard Johnson's Hotel. Keynote speaker will be Dale Learn, Yakima County's Washington DC lobbyist – will be discussing FAST Act. Trying to get Cantwell or Newhouse to head a panel to talk about the politics of FAST Act. The second panel will consist of state representatives reviewing the Connecting Washington transportation bill. The symposium will wrap up with a business view of how these transportation bills will affect business.

MPACT

Call for Projects this year – there will be a lot of outreach at the fair booth, along with a lot of CTR outreach.

Member Highlight by Menglou Wang, City of Wapato

Menglou Wang provided a Powerpoint presentation of Wapato's N. Wasco and Sitcum Avenue improvement. Received \$309,200 grant (Sied money) and a \$309,200 loan, to be repaid by Valicoff.

Michael *** stated that the greatest benefit of the project is that it allows Valicoff Fruit to continue to pursue their expansion, which will ultimately result in about 100 jobs. The project also resulted in several safety improvements.

Good bids – the City ended up 'in the black.' Didn't encounter many difficulties. Ribbon-cutting was held at the end of May. Newly-retired mayor, Jesse Farias, was given the honor of cutting the ribbon.

July M/RTIP Amendment

Mr. Curtin reviewed the July M/RTIP Amendment. The public comment period for the June amendment was completed yesterday – no comments received. The amendment involves 3 WSDOT projects: eliminating one project, replacing it was a lower-cost project, and reducing the cost on a third project.

Ms. Steele moved to approve recommending the July M/RTIP Amendment to the Policy Board for approval. Mr. Adolf seconded. The motion carried.

Project deadline for August TIP amendment is July 22nd.

Mr. Curtin asked that everyone submit their 6-year TIP to MPO/RTPO in SAW.

Request to Offer Passenger Train Survey at YVCOG Fair Booth

Lance Hoyt, Toppenish City Manager, requested permission to offer a passenger train survey at the YVCOG fair booth.

Mr. Dennis Henne moved to approve recommending that the Policy Board approve offering a passenger train survey at the 2016 YVCOG Central Washington State Fair booth. Mr. Trevino seconded the motion. The motion carried.

WSDOT State and Regional Updates

Mr. Arms stated that he had nothing new to report.

Mr. Gonseth reminded everyone that there is a lot of construction going on on I-90. Paving on 823 and US 12.

**Member Jurisdiction
Updates**

Jurisdictions provided updates on their various projects.

**August 11, 2016
TAC Meeting Location**

Mr. Trevino offered to host the August meeting in Grandview.

Adjourn

Chairman Ekstedt adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary Ekstedt, Chairman

Date signed: 9/8/16

Attest:



Deborah LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager

Date signed: 9/8/2016