

YAKIMA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of October 13, 2016

*Present:* Gary Ekstedt (Chair), Yakima County; Santos Trevino (Vice Chair), City of Grandview; Mike Meskimen, Gray & Osborne; Mike Battle & Stephanie Ray, HLA; Brad Cooper, Jacobs Engineering Group; Joe Henne, City of Selah; Lance Hoyt, City of Toppenish; Dennis Henne, City of Union Gap; Roger Arms and Paul Gonseth, WSDOT; Brett Sheffield, City of Yakima; Alan Adolf, Yakima County; Ardele Steele, City of Zillah; YVCOG Staff; Deb LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager; Brian Curtin, CTR Program Coordinator, and Tami Hayward, Office Specialist.

**Call to Order and Introductions** Chairman, Gary Ekstedt, called the October 13, 2016, Yakima Valley Transportation TAC meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. at the YVCOG Offices (311 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Yakima, WA 98901)

**Approval of Minutes** Mr. Trevino moved to approve the updated minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting. Mr. Adolf seconded. The motion passed.

**Old Business**

*Transportation Element Certifications - update* Ms. Conrad reminded TAC members that MPOs are required to certify the Transportation Elements of Comprehensive Plan Updates. The certifications are done after the Comp Plan is basically complete, in draft form, and they are in the public review comment phase. The elements first come to the TAC and then go to the Policy Board.

Grandview's certification is complete and their adoption is pending. Naches is nearing their public comment phase, and their Transportation Element Certification will probably come before you in December. Selah, Mabton, and Granger are still a while out, and Tieton, Wapato, and Union Gap are just beginning their updates.

Traffic counts are scheduled for in October for Tieton and Mabton. That will be the end of the traffic counts until spring.

Ms. Conrad announced that she has accepted a position at the North-Central Texas Council of Governments in Dallas-Forth Worth, and will be leaving YVCOG in about 4 weeks.

*STP Progress Report – Review of Long-range STP worksheet* Mr. Curtin provided an update on the STP Progress Report. Mr. Trevino brought up the idea of jurisdictions paying for their own right-of-way phase, in order to move your projects ahead to be ready to go to construction when those funds are available. Moxee may have trouble with that because their right-of-way amount is over \$670,000.00.

Discussion followed and it was agreed to put the right-of-way discussion on the November agenda, regarding establishing a policy.

*ITS Plan Update Schedule*

The ITS Plan is updated each November. It is a database inventory that is added to.

If you don't have a specific project yet – but it fits under the umbrella of the ITS Plan, you are already basically covered. If you don't believe your project is being covered in the ITS Plan, fill out the form Ms. LaCombe sent out and get your project included in the update.

The Plan is quite general. This really comes into play during this timeframe with the MPACT group. They have an opportunity to be included in the ITS Plan as well. Forms need to be turned into Ms. LaCombe by November 1, 2016 so she can get them included in the November agenda items.

*CMAQ Prioritized List – Part II*

The discussion of the CMAQ Prioritized List was tabled last month, due to a couple of the affected parties not being present.

The issue was the CTR Enhancements and the net effect vs. the cost of that project.

Joe Henne reviewed the handout displaying the funding schedule that was laid out by the subcommittee. The funding was distributed this way in order to allow YVCOG to receive some partial fund for their CTR project earlier. Mr. Curtin provided an explanation of how the additional funding enhances the CTR project. YVCOG's intention is to enhance the program and offer additional benefits and incentives – new marketing tools, employer training programs, expanding number of worksites and enhance campaigns. Funding helps increase incentives and provides additional advertising which in turn may increase participation.

Ms. Steele moved to accept the CMAQ Prioritized list as presented, and forward to the Policy Board for approval. Mr. Hoyt seconded the motion. Six members voted in favor of the motion, and two members (Yakima County/Union Gap) voted against. The motion carried.

#### *2017-2020 M/RTIP*

Each year, at this time, we examine the first 4 years of each jurisdiction's 6-year TIP. We list all of the projects with secured federal funding in the upcoming year's M/RTIP. The 2017-2020 M/RTIP has been completed with this information and demonstrates fiscal constraint.

The two-week public comment period ended on 10/12/2016, with no comments received. It was then sent to Nancy Huntley at WSDOT, and we have completed her requested changes. The document is now ready for your recommendation to the Transportation Policy Board for approval.

Though this is a four-year document it is updated each year, and there are six opportunities throughout the year to amend the plan.

Mr. Joe Henne moved to recommend the 2017-2020 M/RTIP to the Transportation Policy Board for approval. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Curtin also asked the TAC to look over the attached draft amendment schedule, in order to be familiar with amendment deadlines for the upcoming year.

#### **New Business**

##### *Director's Updates*

Ms. LaCombe informed the TAC members that the Transportation Policy Board has been working on the MPA boundary. The urbanized area has been out of date since 2010. The Census changed the urbanized area to include Naches and Parker. MPA must include the urbanized area, plus 20 years of projected growth, at the least.

The Policy Board considered the possibilities of going county-wide, and also a minimal approach. They favor the minimalistic boundary, and that will probably be adopted at Monday's Policy Board meeting.

You will see new maps come out, and John Rohrbaugh is working on a new legal description for the MPA.

Mr. Ekstedt commented that it should be quite similar to the County's urbanized area, and that Mr. Rohrbaugh might want to look at the information they have available. Ms. LaCombe explained that the new map should be very similar, but the lines probably won't be smoothed for aesthetic appeal.

Naches and Parker are now part of the MPO planning piece. All of their planning will now have to fit federal regulations. Their TIPs must now be submitted to YVCOG instead of directly to WSDOT.

##### *STBG Set Aside Call for Projects*

The next available pot of money to discuss is the STBG Set Aside (formerly known as TAP and Enhancements) funding. This funding is estimated at \$284,000 a year. Ms. LaCombe and Mr. Curtin receive a list every couple of months from Nancy Huntley, which gives the status of obligated projects, STP money, etc. Since the last of the TAP funding is programmed for 2017, and the M/RTIP shows 4 years of funding, 2017-2020, we have an opportunity for filling the rest

of the planning years with a Call for Projects. We could have a call for projects for up to \$1.36 million according to the report last received from Nancy Huntley at WSDOT – HQ but once all commitments are accounted for the Call will probably closer to \$980,000.

Ms. LaCombe inquired as to whether the TAC is interested in doing a Call for Projects at this time. The TAC members agreed that they would like to do a Call for Projects. Ms. LaCombe will convene a subcommittee and send out a doodle poll to determine the best date in October or November for a meeting.

*October M/RTIP  
Amendment*

Mr. Curtin reviewed the October M/RTIP Amendment. The public comment period for the October amendment was completed yesterday – no comments received. The amendment consists of one project for Yakima Transit. The project is to amend Yakima Transit’s operating budget (FTA funds). This will be the last amendment until January 2017.

Mr. Joe Henne moved to approve recommending the October M/RTIP Amendment to the Policy Board for approval. Mr. Adolf seconded. The motion carried.

**WSDOT State and  
Regional Updates**

Mr. Gonseth provided a brief update on the Highway 12 and various paving projects in the region. Selah bridges won’t be paved until next spring.

Mr. Arms stated that there is nothing new to report from the Local Programs team.

**Member Jurisdiction  
Updates**

Member jurisdictions provided updates on their various projects.

**November 10, 2016  
TAC Meeting  
Location**

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

**Other Business**

DRYVE and TRANS-Action meetings coming up right before Thanksgiving.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjourn**

Chairman Ekstedt adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Gary Ekstedt, Chairman

Date signed: 11/10/2016

Attest:

  
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Deborah LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager

Date signed: 11/10/2016