

YAKIMA VALLEY MPO/RTPO POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2016

CALL TO ORDER Mr. Restucci, Chairman, called the April 18, 2016 meeting of the Yakima Valley MPO/RTPO Policy Board to order at 1:34 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY It is the policy of the Yakima Valley MPO/RTPO 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: Jim Restucci, John Hodkinson, Mike Leita, Mario Martinez, Dan Olson, Madelyn Carlson (PFP), and Brian White (WSDOT)
Members Absent: *Janice Gonzales (NCAC), Maureen Adkison, and *Jonathan Smith (YCDA)
YVCOG staff present: Larry Mattson, Deb LaCombe, Joseph Calhoun, and Tami Hayward.
Others present: Janice Corbin and Raquel Crowley (Sen. Patty Murray's office)
**Indicates notice of absence received prior to meeting.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Mr. Olson moved to approve the March 21, 2016 Minutes, corrected to reflect that Mr. Hodkinson called the meeting to order. Mr. Hodkinson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

(Re-)Creating the ILA (Interlocal Agreement) Mr. Mattson informed the Policy he intends to create a 'hybrid' interlocal agreement, using elements of YVCOG's original ILA and Skagit County COG's interlocal agreement. A draft will be available for review at the May Policy Board meeting.

Human Services Transportation Coalition Ms. LaCombe thanked Mr. Hodkinson for attending the first meeting of the HSTC on March 22, 2016. She advised the Policy Board that the group had elected Jan Ollivier (People for People) to serve as Chair, Vernita Adolf (Pro Trans) as Vice Chair, and Jennifer Orlando (Yakima Transit) as Secretary. The HSTC officers were approved by consensus of the Policy Board.

A subcommittee has met to prepare proposed Guidelines for the Coalition, and those Guidelines will be presented to them at the May 10th meeting. If approved by the HSTC, the Guidelines will be brought before the Policy Board for approval on May 16th.

Letter to Governor on Federal Funding Formula Mr. Mattson provided a brief review of the letter he intends to send to Governor Inslee, regarding reallocation of the current funding formula 66/34 split. The letter is based on a draft prepared by PSRC. The Governor's office will be

convening a meeting within the next 30 to 60 days to discuss this reallocation of the funding split.

Mr. Leita requested that Mr. Mattson contact Gary Ekstedt to confirm mention of the Meyer's Bridge quote he included in the letter, before sending the letter out.

Mr. Mattson would like to make this letter available to other cities who might like to incorporate parts of it in their own letter to Governor Inslee.

Ms. Crowley requested that an electronic copy of the letter be forwarded to her.

Mr. Hodkinson moved to approve the Chair to sign the federal funding revision request letter, and to provide copies to YVCOG members as a template for letters from them. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Mattson will contact Mr. Ekstedt for verification of the Meyer's Bridge quote before mailing the letter to the Governor.

NEW BUSINESS *Director's Update*

- Island County is now the 15th RTPO in the state of Washington, which reduces our portion of the funding bucket by \$362.00. We are adjusting our budget accordingly.
- YVCOG is planning to host 'Transportation Planning 101' sometime in late May/early June. This training will be offered to the Policy Board, and also to the General Membership. The training should be quite detailed and a lot of people could benefit from it.
- Mr. Mattson asked the Board to consider changing the name of the 'Yakima Valley MPO/RTPO Policy Board' to 'Yakima Valley Transportation Policy Board.' He believes this would provide clarity and simplification.
- Josephine Eckert, Legislative Assistant to Patty Murray, visited Yakima on March 31st. She held a joint DRYVE and TRANS-Action meeting, then toured three Upper Valley projects (East/West Corridor - mill site, Morrier Lane, the South Union Gap and beltway projects) and then visited informally with Mr. Mattson and several of the Policy Board members. This was not a special meeting – a quorum was not present, and no official business was conducted. Notes from the meeting are available.

Reviewing Proposed Yakima Valley Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridors

Ms. LaCombe explained that the Critical Urban Freight Corridor map included in the agenda packet originated at WSDOT-HQ based on land use analysis they completed and want YVCOG to review. Ms. LaCombe will be setting up meetings to review the corridors with the jurisdictions in the urban mapping area. The Critical Rural Freight Corridor map included in the packet was developed by YVCOG staff and proposed to the WSDOT-workgroup as a consideration for including some reference to a lower valley freight loop bypass between I-82 and US 97. Ms. LaCombe will be setting up meetings to review the corridors with the jurisdictions in the rural mapping area. She will forward colored maps to the

Policy Board members since the black and white copies in the printed packets lose information distinction.

WSDOT has requested this as part of their statewide plan. There is a fixed threshold for urban and rural freight miles – this is an opportunity for us to tweak and make recommendations for changes to the overall balance.

The goal is to que Yakima County up for any grant funding that becomes available due to FAST-Act freight funding.

UPWP Interagency Meeting – Visit Summary – The UPWP Interagency meeting was held on April 15th. We will receive a formal set of comments regarding the meeting. Brian White, Paul Gonseth, Gary Ekstedt, and Jon Smith attended the meeting.

Two items of discussion –

- YVCOG Interlocal Agreement – they can look at it and make comments, but they don't have a real say as to content. It will be the 14 cities and the County that sign off on the agreement.
- Toppenish 97 Freight Loop will be included in the UPWP as an identified unfunded need to coincide with the CRFC/CUFC work.

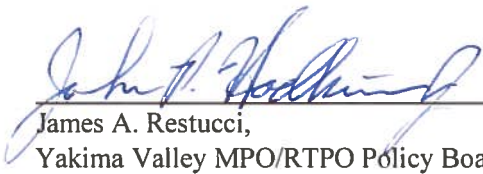
OTHER BUSINESS

YVCOG Display Booth at Central Washington State Fair Discussion of whether or not to purchase a display booth at this year's fair was tabled until the May meeting. Board members asked for direction from staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ADJOURN With no other business, Mr. Restucci adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Restucci,
Yakima Valley MPO/RTPO Policy Board Chair

5/16/16
Date signed

ATTEST:


Tamara Hayward, Policy Board Secretary

5/16/16
Date signed