



*Yakima Valley
Metropolitan and Regional
Transportation Planning Organizations*

State Fiscal Year 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016



Prepared by

*Yakima Valley Conference of Governments
Planning Staff*

Policy Board approved on 9/19/2016

Cover Photo

“Fair Avenue Roundabout Ribbon Cutting” Yakima, WA

The ribbon cutting that celebrated the completion of the Fair Avenue Roundabout occurred on November 17, 2015. The Fair Avenue Roundabout is the first phase of a greater project that will provide a north-south road across the former Cascade Saw Mill and construct an east-west corridor from north Yakima to Terrace Heights. The full project, which is a combined effort between the City of Yakima, Yakima County and WSDOT, will also modify the Yakima Avenue Interchange and provide additional capacity to I-82. The estimated cost of the full project is \$150 million.

- *Photo courtesy of Joseph Calhoun, YVCOG*

The Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) hereby gives public notice that it is the Organization's policy to assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. Title VI requires that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any Federal Aid Highway program or other activity for which YVCOG receives Federal financial assistance.

Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint with YVCOG. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with YVCOG's Title VI Coordinator within one hundred, eighty (180) days following the date of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Discrimination Complaint Form, please visit our website at www.yvcog.org or call Larry Mattson at (509) 574-1550.

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Introduction

The *Annual Report* relates directly to the *YVCOG SFY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program* (UPWP), which was approved by FHWA and FTA on June 29, 2015 and outlines in detail the planning tasks to be completed during a one-year cycle. The UPWP also functions as a set of performance measures for the planning activities reported in this document.

This report details how the Yakima Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Yakima Valley Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) used state and federal transportation planning funds during State Fiscal Year 2016 (SFY16). This report lists work completed, identifies revenue sources from the state, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and identifies the required local match amounts for leveraging the state and federal funding.

The Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) is the lead planning agency for the federally-designated MPO for the Greater Yakima Metropolitan area and is the state-designated RTPO, as required in accordance with the Washington State Growth Management Act (RCW 47.80.20). The YVCOG is responsible for work described in the *UPWP*.

This report on planning activities and expenditures was prepared by YVCOG planning staff. A map showing the planning boundaries of the Yakima Valley Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations is found in *Appendix A*.

SFY16 Accomplishments

The Yakima Valley Conference of Governments met or exceeded all federal and state transportation planning, programming and administrative requirements. Additionally, the YVCOG successfully accomplished the routine tasks set out under the work elements of the *SFY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program* (UPWP). Of special note are the following accomplishments:

For any deliverable with a "Final" date annotated, the document can be found on the YVCOG website: www.yvcog.org. The following tasks identified in the *YVCOG SFY 2016 UPWP* have been accomplished or, significant tasking has been accomplished during SFY 2016 for the following UPWP categories:

Annual Report for July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015

The UPWP annual report shows the regionally-significant transportation planning efforts accomplished with federal and state funding by the YVCOG and other jurisdictions or agencies. The annual report also identifies on-going transportation planning priorities for the YVCOG and compares the estimated UPWP budget vs the actual UPWP expenditures for SFY 2015.

Delivered: Annual Report for SFY15 Final 09-21-2015

Complete a Self-Certification Review

YVCOG is responsible to certify that all federal and state planning rules and regulations are being followed. Each year, in conjunction with the M/RTIP development YVCOG will complete a self-certification process to be reviewed by an interagency consultation team.

The Transportation Policy Board will adopt the certification and include the approved certification with the final M/RTIP in October of each year.

Delivered: MPO/RTPO Self-Certification Final 09-21-2015

Develop 2015-2018 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

YVCOG is responsible under state and federal statutes to conduct a programming process for the purpose of authorizing expenditures of federal funds for regionally significant transportation improvement projects. Each year, the M/RTIP development begins in the spring with the process and schedule notification to local agencies and, when available, notices of STP funding. Local TIPS are due to the YVCOG in June/July. The YVCOG TAC will review the document and projects to ensure the region's projects represent the priorities as identified through various prioritization processes. The TAC will recommend the M/RTIP to the Transportation PB for consideration during the September TAC meeting. The Transportation Policy Board will evaluate projects and conduct a public engagement process in order to approve a final M/RTIP by October. The program is then transmitted to WSDOT for inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Delivered: 2015-2018 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendments in July, September, and October 2015.

Develop 2016-2019 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program and Amendments

YVCOG is responsible under state and federal statutes to conduct a programming process for the purpose of authorizing expenditures of federal funds for regionally significant transportation improvement projects. Each year, the M/RTIP development begins in the spring with the process and schedule notification to local agencies and, when available, notices of STP funding. Local TIPS are due to the YVCOG in June/July. The YVCOG TAC will review the document and projects to ensure the region's projects represent the priorities as identified through various prioritization processes. The TAC will recommend the M/RTIP to the Transportation PB for consideration during the September TAC meeting. The Transportation Policy Board will evaluate projects and conduct a public engagement process in order to approve a final M/RTIP by October. The program is then transmitted to WSDOT for inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Delivered: 2016-2019 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program Final 10-19-2015

Delivered: 2016-2019 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program Amendments in February, March, May, and June 2016.

Coordination of MPACT committee

In previous years, YVCOG coordinated the development of the HSTP with People for People and the Yakima County Special Needs Transportation Coalition. In December 2015, coalition coordination transitioned directly under YVCOG management and the new advisory committee is called Mobilizing Public Access to Countywide Transportation (MPACT). The group met quarterly during the last half of SFY 2016.

Delivered: Coordination meetings to reorganize coalition.

Yakima Valley Regional ITS Architecture Annual Update

YVCOG Staff completed the annual update to the ITS database in December 2015.

**Delivered: Yakima Valley Regional ITS Architecture Annual Update
Final 12-14-2015**

YVCOG Title VI Annual Report

YVCOG staff updated the YVCOG Title VI Annual Report for a two-year period February 1, 2014 – February 1, 2016.

Delivered: YVCOG Title VI Annual Report Final 2-17-2016

Develop 2015 Obligation Closure Report

YVCOG staff created and opened for public comment the 2015 Obligation Closure Report. The final draft was presented to the Transportation Policy Board and approved in March 2016.

**Delivered: Metropolitan and Regional Obligation Report for Federal Fiscal Year 2015
Final 5-19-2014**

Develop SFY 2017 UPWP

YVCOG staff developed the SFY 2017 UPWP. YVCOG organized and hosted an interagency meeting on April 15, 2016. The final draft was presented to the Transportation Policy Board for approval on May 16, 2016.

Delivered: SFY 2017 UPWP Final 5-16-2016

Update the Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan

The Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan (M/RTP) is an ongoing effort and core activity with formal updates required every four years. Amendments may occur as warranted by the incremental and evolving transportation planning process. The YVCOG will continually monitor local and state planning activities for consistency with the M/RTP. The M/RTP is required to have a 20-year planning horizon. The YVCOG updated and adopted the Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan on March 21, 2016.

**Delivered: 2016-2040 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan
Final 3-21-2016**

Partnership Building

YVCOG staff and members participated in the interagency consultation process, and collaborated with citizen and jurisdictional interests throughout the year. The following are notable instances that occurred in SFY2016:

1. Collaborated with the WSDOT South Central Region Office, the transit providers, and DRYVE/TRANS-ACTION Committees to coordinate transportation planning and economic development in the Yakima Valley region. These efforts included participation in the DRYVE/TRANS-ACTION information booth at the Central Washington State Fair (September 25-October 4, 2015).
2. Participated in quarterly Special Needs Transportation Coalition meetings and helped reorganize that group into the Mobilizing Public Access to Countywide Transportation (MPACT) with human services / transportation stakeholders in the region to assess the needs and gaps in human services transportation services and opportunities for better coordination.

3. Assured consistent regional evaluation of transportation facilities and recognized regional corridors with WSDOT and local agencies to comply with RCW 36.70A.
4. Reviewed the transportation elements of local comprehensive plans to ensure compliance and consistency with state law and the adopted regional transportation plan as required by RCW 36.70A.070. To assist in that, implemented a checklist and shared the certification process with all member jurisdictions as they prepare to update their respective Comprehensive Plans. Certifications started in SFY 2016.
5. Participated in Yakima Avenue IJR Executive Committee team.
6. Attended TTPO, Tribal consultation, and regional travel demand model development meetings with the Yakama Nation Engineering staff.

Coordination with national, state, and regional planning organizations

Participation in national and statewide committees and ad hoc work groups in SFY 2016:

1. MPO/RTPO/WSDOT Coordinating Committees – quarterly meetings (Deb LaCombe, Larry Mattson)
2. TRANS-ACTION/DRYVE – bi-monthly meetings (Deb LaCombe, Larry Mattson)
3. Participation in CTR Technical Advisory Group (TAG) (Brian Curtin)
4. Washington State Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Board representing affected RTPOs (Brian Curtin, Larry Mattson)
5. Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) Policy Committee (Larry Mattson)
6. Coordinated with other Washington State MPOs to assess federal and state policy (Larry Mattson, Deb LaCombe)
7. Coordinated with other Washington State MPOs, Washington Tribes, FHWA, FTA, Eastern Washington University and WSDOT to assess federal and state tribal transportation policies meeting as the Tribal Transportation Planning Organization (TTPO) (Deb LaCombe, Joseph Calhoun)
8. MPO/RTPO/Tribal Best Practices Guidance development – WSDOT consult (Deb LaCombe)
9. Statewide Travel Demand Model Advisory Team – WSDOT consult (Deb LaCombe)
10. Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridors Advisory Team – WSDOT consult (Larry Mattson, Deb LaCombe)
11. MAP-21 Target Setting Framework Team – WSDOT consult (Deb LaCombe)

Staff Development

Below is a list of work-related training sessions and professional conferences attended by the YVCOG's transportation planning staff during SFY 2016:

1. *Local Government Leadership Forum: Patrick Ibarra*, July 15, 2015 Yakima WA (Joseph Calhoun, Deb LaCombe, Larry Mattson)
2. *Eastern WA Planner's Forum*, July 22, 2015 / October 28, 2015 / January 27, 2016 / April 27, 2016, Moses Lake, WA (Joseph Calhoun)
3. *Building Supervisory Skills 301*, August 19, 2015, Kennewick, WA (Christina Wickenhagen, Larry Mattson, Deb LaCombe)
4. *Washington State Public Transportation Symposium*, August 23-26, 2015, Vancouver WA (Larry Mattson, Deb LaCombe)

5. *RTPO Coordinating Committee Meeting*, August 25, 2015 / November 16, 2015 / February 22, 2016 / May 23, 2016, Seattle, WA (Larry Mattson, Deb LaCombe)
6. *Title VI Preventing Discrimination in the Federal Aid Program training*, September 10, 2015, Yakima, WA (Brian Curtin, Shawn Conrad, Joseph Calhoun)
7. *Crucial Conversations*, September 16, 2015 / September 23, 2015 / September 30, 2015 / October 7, 2015 / October 14, 2015 / October 21, 2015 / November 4, 2015, Yakima, WA (Larry Mattson, Christina Wickenhagen, Tami Hayward, Shawn Conrad, Brian Curtin, Joseph Calhoun, Deb LaCombe)
8. *IACC Conference*, October 20-22, 2015, Wenatchee WA (Shawn Conrad)
9. *SEPA Training*, September 24, 2015, Richland, WA (Joseph Calhoun)
10. *PAW 2015 Fall Conference*, October 6-8, 2015, Chelan, WA (Joseph Calhoun)
11. *Federal Grants Requirements and Management Training*, October 13, 2015, Yakima WA (Christina Wickenhagen, Deb LaCombe)
12. *Vision MS Training*, October 7-9, 2015, Leavenworth WA (Christina Wickenhagen)
13. *Strategic Visioning Training*, October 21-23, 2015, Presidio CA (Christina Wickenhagen)
14. *AWC Labor Institute*, October 20-22, Yakima WA (Christina Wickenhagen)
15. *TIP Manager User Group meeting*, October 12, 2015 / April 18, 2016, Ellensburg, WA (Brian Curtin, Deb LaCombe)
16. *Critical Transportation Workshop Series*, October 27, 2015, Yakima, WA (Joseph Calhoun)
17. *FY 2015 NW Tribal Transportation Program Training/Conference*, November 2-4, 2015, Airway Heights, WA (Deb LaCombe)
18. *MPO Coordinating Committee Meeting*, November 17, 2015 / February 23, 2016 / May 23, 2016, Seattle, WA (Larry Mattson, Deb LaCombe)
19. *Flagger Certification Training*, February 19, 2016, Kirkland, WA (Joseph Calhoun, Deb LaCombe)
20. *STIP Training*, April 12, 2015, Union Gap, WA (Brian Curtin, Deb LaCombe)
21. *CTAA Conference*, May 23, 2016, Portland, OR (Joseph Calhoun)
22. *Safety Performance Measures FHWA/NHTSA Workshop*, June 14, 2016, Seattle, WA (Deb LaCombe)
23. *NARC - Be Your Best Executive Director training*, August 9-11, 2015, Austin, TX (Larry Mattson)
24. *TRB – Annual Meeting*, January 11-12, 2016, Washington D.C. (Larry Mattson)
25. *Mid-Columbia Council of Governments*, April 24-25, 2016, Hood River, OR (Larry Mattson)

SFY 2016 Expenditure Summary

			Roll Up of Actual SFY2016 Planning Expenditures							
UPWP Major Activity or Task	Estimated Planning Budget from SFY2016 UPWP	Actual SFY2016 Planning Expenditures	FHWA Invoiced	FHWA 13.5% Match	FTA Invoiced	FTA 13.5% Match	RTPO Invoiced	STPUS Invoiced	STPUS 13.5% Match	
1. Program Administration	\$392,993	\$279,200.45	\$145,734.10	\$22,744.63	\$45,716.84	\$7,135.00	\$57,869.88			
2. Data Collection and Analysis	\$51,981	\$71,547.96	\$26,504.07	\$4,136.47	\$18,992.85	\$2,964.20	\$18,950.36			
3. Develop a SFY 2015 UPWP Annual Report	\$8,663	\$1,873.49	\$580.67	\$90.62	\$1,030.45	\$160.82	\$10.92			
4. Develop a SFY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017	\$11,552	\$8,294.63								
5. Develop a Title VI Annual Report	\$8,663	\$2,305.88	\$1,174.02	\$183.23	\$409.20	\$63.86	\$475.56			
6. Complete a Self-Certification	\$5,775	\$1,126.32	\$705.02	\$110.03	\$152.35	\$23.78	\$135.13			
7. Develop 2015-2018 M/RTIP Amendments	\$11,552	\$8,152.26	\$4,297.57	\$670.72	\$1,487.27	\$232.12	\$1,464.59			
8. Develop 2015 Obligation Report	\$2,889	\$605.48	\$315.18	\$49.19	\$84.25	\$13.15	\$143.71			
9. Develop a 2016-2019 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program (M/RTIP)	\$11,552	\$8,770.95								
10. Develop a Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan (M/RTIP)	\$221,830	\$96,748.16								
11. Develop an ITS Annual Update	\$8,663	\$4,387.07								
Total Estimated Budget	\$736,113.00	\$483,012.65	\$207,202.36	\$32,337.94	\$80,978.82	\$12,638.31	\$92,388.41	\$49,708.81	\$7,758.01	

Appendix A
MPO AND RTPD PLANNING AREA MAPS

