

YVCOG TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 20, 2020

19

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair John Hodkinson called the February 20, 2020 meeting of the Transportation Policy Board to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

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, Norm Childress, Bill Moore, Janice Gonzales, Jonathan Smith, Todd Trepanier, and Madelyn Carlson  
Members present via teleconference: n/a  
Members Absent: Jim Restucci, Brad Hill, Sherry Raymond  
YVCOG staff present: Alan Adolf, Chris Wickenhagen, Mike Shuttleworth, Shane Andreas, and Tami Hayward  
Others present: *\*Indicates notice of absence received prior to meeting.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES\*

Norm Childress moved to approve the minutes from January 15, 2020. Jonathan Smith seconded. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

2020-2045 LONG RANGE  
PLAN UPDATE

Alan Adolf provided an update on the status of the Long Range Plan. 307 pages. It has been out for public comment since February 5<sup>th</sup>. The SEPA portion wraps up today (2/19/2020), and we have received one comment. We have received about 6 responses to the Long Range Plan, so far. Accepting comments until March 5<sup>th</sup>. Will be presented to the Policy Board for approval on March 16, 2020. We will then forward the resolution to the feds to make sure we are certified for another 4 years as meeting air quality requirements. Our plan estimates that we will still be below our 2% per year threshold in 2045.

We have had 265 responses to our transportation survey. All responses were in English. We will continue to work on our public outreach.

NEW BUSINESS

FEBRUARY 2020  
METROPOLITAN /  
REGIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION  
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
AMENDMENT (M/RTIP)

Alan Adolf presented the February M/RTIP Amendment. The TAC recommended Policy Board approval at their February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Only one addition: YVCOG is utilizing \$228,758.00 of STP funds to use for transportation planning activities, and will require \$35,703.00 of local matching funds, for a total of \$264,467.00.

No public comments were received.

**Action: Bill Moore moved to authorize the Chair to sign Resolutions 2020-04, 2020-05, and the February 2020 TIP Amendment Checklist. Jon Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**2020 TITLE VI ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr. Adolf presented the 2020 Title VI Annual Report, covering February 2, 2019 to February 1, 2020. The only revisions were names of staff members and trainings. No Title VI complaints were submitted.

**Action: Norm Childress moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Title VI Policy Statement and adopt the 2020 Title VI Annual Report and submit to WSDOT. Bill Moore seconded. The motion carried.**

**MPO / WSDOT FEDERAL FUNDING OBLIGATION AUTHORITY (OA) DISCUSSION**

Chris Wickenhagen, Executive Director, updated the Policy Board on the federal funds obligation policy status. It has been preliminarily agreed by the MPO's that if an MPO does not meet its obligation requirements for 2 years, they will be sanctioned. Obligation authority target date is August 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion on creation of internal policy – Commissioner Childress suggested the policy be a collaborative effort between YVCOG staff and the TAC. It was agreed that YVCOG staff will create a draft policy with options and TAC will then review and finalize the policy, and recommend adoption by the Policy Board.

**Action: Discussion.**

**FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020 STP PLANNING PROGRAM**

Ms. Wickenhagen explained that this is the typical STP Set-Aside Funds agreement we receive each year from WSDOT. These funds will be used to perform Countywide Transportation Planning activities through December 31, 2021.

**Action: Janice Gonzales moved to approve the chair to sign WSDOT Form 140-039 (Local Agency Agreement) and Form 140-101 (Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus) for the FFY 2020 STP Planning Program and submit to WSDOT. Bill Moore seconded. Motion carried.**

**REQUEST GOVERNOR'S ACTION TO EXPAND THE YVCOG METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA (MPA) BOUNDARY**

Ms. Wickenhagen explained the benefits of expanding the MPA boundary to include the entire county. We would receive a little more planning money, and we are already structured that way with TAC and Policy Board.

**Action: Janice Gonzales moved to authorize the Chair to sign Resolutions 2020-6, and direct the Executive Director to submit a request letter to the governor to expand the YVCOG's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary to encompass all of Yakima County. Bill Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**WSDOT STATE & REGIONAL UPDATE**

Todd Trepanier asked that everyone take the time to read the letter from the Secretary of Transportation to the four corners of the Legislature.

There is a change happening because of funding shortages, due to I-976.

Preservation and safety have been underfunded in the last few funding packages. Some want to drop the 6 original policy goals in the RCW – economic vitality, preservation, safety, mobility, environment, and stewardship, and replace them with accessibility, environment and climate, health, and equity and environmental justice. WSDOT did not intend to drop

the original goals, they want to add them to the original goals. WSDOT is asking jurisdictions to go to a planning organization, instead of lobbyists. The planning organization should present your project to the Legislature.

How do we want to move transportation forward? As a group, planning things out, using data, or to continue lobbying? WSDOT recommends using data.

Ms. Gonzales stated that it would be nice if it would work that way, but she isn't sure if it is realistic.

Discussion of SCR flooding disasters. The large disasters are eligible for federal reimbursement. Yakima County has been declared a disaster county because of Hwy 410 flooding.

**Action: Information**

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Adolf mentioned FAST Act II, and Moving America and the Environment Forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

With no other business, Vice Chair Hodkinson adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James A. Restucci  
YVCOG Transportation Policy Board Chair

4/16/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date signed

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tamara Hayward, Financial Specialist

3/16/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date signed