

YVCOG TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 21, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Chair James Restucci called the September 21, 2020 meeting of the Transportation Policy Board to order at 1:33 p.m. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL &  
INTRODUCTIONS

- Members present via teleconference: James Restucci, John Hodkinson, Janice Gonzales, Bill Moore, Ron Anderson, Brian White, and Jon Smith
- Members Absent: Brad Hill, Sherry Raymond, and Madelyn Carlson\*
- YVCOG staff present: Alan Adolf, Chris Wickenhagen, Lynn Deitrick, Jeff Watson, Tami Hayward, Shane Andreas, and Jodi Smith
- Others present: Raquel Crowley

*\*Indicates notice of absence received prior to meeting.*

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES\*

John Hodkinson moved to approve the minutes from June 11, 2020. Bill Moore seconded. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*2021-2024 Metropolitan &  
Regional Transportation  
Improvement Program Update*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager (2:35)

- In the middle of 2021-2024 M/RTIP 30-day comment period.
- Comment period ends October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Will be presented to Policy Board for approval on October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Outreach has been completely electronic.
- 42 projects - \$155,910,400.00 in projected layouts over the next 4 years.
- Federal or regionally significant projects – doesn't include locally funded or state-funded projects.
- Comments can be made electronically – on the site or emailed to Alan.

***Action: Information***

*Regional Traffic Count  
Program Update & 2021  
Traffic Counter  
Jurisdictional Needs  
Assessment*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager (15:30)

- Our traffic counting season this year is August through October.
- IDAX is a little over half-way through counts and have turned in one invoice.
- Beginning to look at 2021 counts program and RFQ.
- 2021 season should run April 1 through end of October
- We should be able to do more in 2021 than the originally budget 248 counts in 2020
- Will be sending a form to jurisdictions for their 'wish lists'
- Are starting RFQ process for the 2021 season.

***Action: Information***

*MPO/RTPO's Federal  
Funding Obligation  
Authority Update*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager (7:45)

- Over-obligated in STP federal fiscal year 2020 – good news
- Started obligations of TAP and CMAQ funds, which we should see before the end of fiscal year (September 30<sup>th</sup>)
- Target for next year should be somewhat lower due to over obligating this year.
- Following up with jurisdictions to make sure they will be able to move forward with obligating 2021 funds.
- Received an email newsletter from Representative DeFazio (D-Oregon) – US House (Congress) Transportation Committee Chair – sounds as though the House has approved a one-year continuing resolution, carrying on the FAST Act transportation bill (no word from the Senate yet)
- FAST Act ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) - \$748,000 – kind of extra STP – spent down all but approximately \$65,000. We are in conversation with DOT and City of Moxee to swap out an equal amount of STP dollars and have Moxee obligate the last \$65,000 of HIP funds. Deadline to use these funds is about a year away.

***Action: Information and Discussion***

**NEW BUSINESS**

*September 2020 Metropolitan /  
Regional Transportation  
Improvement Program  
Amendment (M/RTIP)*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager (13:40)

- Public comment period: 8/26/2020 to 9/9/2020
- Yakima Transit submitted two projects -
  - [Yakima Transit] ADDITION – Fixed Route Bus Improvements. Purchase of 19 Thermo King engine heaters and 19 solar panels for battery charging for fixed route buses in Yakima Transit's fleet. \$89,760 in Federal "5339" Transit funds and \$22,420 in Local funds. Total Project Cost: \$112,180.
  - [Yakima Transit] ADDITION – Gillig Six (6) Bus Purchase. Purchase of 6 new 35-foot Gillig "Low Floor" busses for fixed route operations to replace six buses currently in service. \$2,400,000 in Federal "5339" Transit funds and \$600,000 in Local funds Total Project Cost: \$3,000,000
- No comments were received

***Action: Janice Gonzales moved to adopt Resolution 2020-20, 2020-21, and the September 2020 TIP Amendment Checklist. Bill Moore seconded. The motion carried.***

*2020 YVCOG UPWP Annual Report*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

- This report reviews the previous UPWP year (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)
- Our opportunity to list our accomplishments over the last year. Including, but not limited to:
  - 314 (Transit Planning) Agreement w/ Yakima Transit
  - Performance Measures efforts (primarily safety)
  - MPO (MPA) Boundary - our planning boundary is now the entire County
  - Completion of the 2020-2045 Long Range Plan

***Action: John Hodgkinson moved to authorize the Executive Director to submit Annual Report to WSDOT headquarters. Janice Gonzales seconded the motion. The motion carried.***

*2020 Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Self-Certification*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

- This document is required in order to receive federal funds – we must meet certain compliance requirements in order to remain eligible for funding.
- It is the Policy Board and Executive Committee's promise to adhere to MPO guidelines.

***Action: Janice Gonzales moved to authorize the Chair to sign the Self-Certification and authorize to submit to WSDOT headquarters. Jonathan Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.***

*2021 Intelligent Transportation Systems (\*TS) Annual Plan Update*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

The ITS Annual Plan is updated each year. This plan gives jurisdictions and participating agencies an opportunity to update their architecture inputs. It provides documentation to apply for grants associated with ITS. The plan should be before the Policy Board in November or December for adoption.

***Action: Information***

*Commute Trip Reduction Program / Fall 2020 Wheel Options Update*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

- October is our normal Wheel Options season.
- Due to COVID-19 and a revamping of the CTR program, the fall event has been cancelled.
- The CTR survey, normally done in even-numbered years, has been postponed to next spring. Will probably get back to regular schedule in 2022.
- Looking at returning the CTR program back to a county-wide effort, as it was 25 years ago. It would go beyond the business that are required to participate and include others who would like to participate.

***Action: Information***

*Miscellaneous Transportation  
Issues*

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager (32:55)

- The feds have decided to change the due date of the Title VI report. It was approved in February, but in order to align better with the federal fiscal year, we will be submitting again in October. Just a timing change.
- Our plan was updated in 2019

***Action: Information***

*WSDOT STATE & REGIONAL  
UPDATE*

Brian White, WSDOT South Central Assistant Regional Administrator (34:50)

- WSDOT engineering staff, other than field inspectors, are teleworking.
- Continuing with construction program – designing and delivering highway construction projects.
- Completed the South Union Gap project.
- I-90 detour, preparing for Phase III, is back underway. Blasting begins about an hour before sunset, and will continue on into October.
- Highway 12 is closed due to fire, etc.
- Interesting time for DOT, looking at how the legislature will handle revenue shortfall.
- Maintenance crew is getting ready for winter.

***Action: Information***

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Restucci provided an update on the Washington Transportation Commissioner meetings. They re-named SR 902 the Gold-Star Memorial Highway.

Urban transportation systems always receive a disproportionately higher amount of transportation funding.

Ms. Wickenhagen spoke on Alan Adolf's letter regarding the proposed Yakima Valley support for the Palouse RTPO. Transportation is a big picture and we want to show our support for other areas. We all affect each other.

Raquel Crowley shared that the CR in Transportation was signed this morning for another year. House and Senate are in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURN

With no other business, Chairman Restucci adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Digitally signed by Hon. James A. Restucci  
Reason: I am approving this document  
Location: Yakima County, WA  
Date: 2020.10.20 10:46:50 -07'00'

October 20, 2020

Date signed

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James A. Restucci  
YVCOG Transportation Policy Board Chair

ATTEST:

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Tamara Hayward, Financial Specialist

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Date signed