MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VIDEO CONFERENCE

MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2021

PRESENT:
Mike Battle – HLA
David Dominguez – City of Union Gap
Randy Giles - WSDOT
Paul Gonseth – WSDOT
Dennis Henne - City of Union Gap
Lance Hoyt - City of Toppenish
Ty Jones – City of Selah
Janna Lewis-Clark - PAHTO
Larry Mattson - Jacob Engineering
Mike Meskimen - Gray & Osborne
Matt Pietrusiewicz - Yakima County
Bill Preston – City of Yakima

Ardele Steele - City of Zillah
Greg Story – Yakima Transit
Jase Testerman - Yakima County
Rocky Wallace - City of Toppenish

YVCOG Staff:
Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager
Shane Andreas, Financial Specialist
Tami Hayward, Financial Specialist
Jeff Watson, Senior Planner
Chris Wiekenhagen, Executive Director

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

TAC Chair, Lance Hoyt, called the January 14, 2021, meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Rocky Wallace made a motion to approve the Minutes for December 10, 2020 meeting. Jase Testerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

- The 2021-24 MRTIP Amendment Calendar was reviewed. February TIP amendment deadline is January 22nd.
- Yakima Greenway Master Plan Survey: The board is working on developing a series of surveys to look at how to move the Greenway forward for the next 10 or 20 years, in part to update their master plan, and strategizing future options for rebuilding the Greenway Foundation offices destroyed in the 2020 Labor Day fire. Will share with TAC and General Membership in order to gain insight on people’s interest on the Greenway.
- As an eastern Washington representative of the WSDOT TDM (Statewide) Technical Committee, Mr. Adolf shared that next week will be his first official meeting.
- Jeff Watson will be manning the CTR program. There is an effort in the legislature this year to address the CTR legal guidance. The B&O tax credit has historically been used to entice businesses to participate in CTR, and the current authorization runs through 2024. May increase the $2.75 million in credits, and other incentives such as statewide assistance pilot program regarding telework, and other tax credits. YVCOG may use this as a legacy of COVID. Trying to expand the CTR program beyond the metropolitan area into the rest of our boundary – Washington Beef in Toppenish, Walmart in Grandview, etc.
- Washington State Active Transportation Plan has been released. Series of webinars. Link will be sent out later today.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Transportation TAC Meeting
January 14, 2021
2021 Traffic Count Request for Quotes Update

Lance Hoyt, TAC Chairman, and Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

RFQ went out December 23rd and will close on January 15th.
- Requested volunteers to serve on the RFQ Prioritization Sub-Committee, which will meet in late January/early February.
- Volunteers to serve on committee: Rocky Wallace, Bill Preston, Paul Gcnseth, Dennis Henne or David Dominguez from Union Gap, Ardele Steele, Ty Jones or Joe Henne from Selah.
- Would like the work to begin no later than April 1st.
- 308 counts have been requested.
- Will keep software at YVCOG so jurisdictions can have perpetual access.
- YVCOG is hoping to do a video capture count on the Greenway, which we will use as a test for other potential locations around the county.

SFY 2021 Unified Planning & Work Program Amendment #2021-1

Lance Hoyt, TAC Chairman

- Incorporating the Powerhouse Road / SR12 Feasibility Study to “Program Administration” activity on pages 18-19 by amending the UPWP.
- No changes to the UPWP budget.


NEW BUSINESS:

January 2021-2024 M/RTIP Amendment

Lance Hoyt, TAC Chairman, and Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

- The January 2021-2024 M/RTIP Amendment public comment period ended yesterday, January 14th. No comments were received.
- 8 projects in this month’s amendment. (7 projects / 1 administrative revision)

Action: Bill Preston moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board for approval of January Amendment of 2021-2024 M/RTIP. Rocky Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STP / T-A / CMAQ Long Range Funding Update

Lance Hoyt, TAC Chairman, and Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

1. **Obligation Authorization Update – FY 2021 Funding Levels**
   - First deadline for confirming obligation is April 1st.
     - DOT is requesting that all projects looking at obligating before September 30th (end of the year), please indicate their intentions to do so.
     - At the end of the last federal fiscal year, the state received $70 million in bonus money – money from other states that was not obligated.
     - If we would like to take advantage of potential bonus money this next fall, any projects that will start obligating this year would advance construct in the event there is bonus money that comes back to the state. Should there be enough bonus money to fund all candidate projects under advance construction, could be backfilled in the 2021 year with the bonus dollars. Doesn’t take away from allotment numbers for next year. Several of our jurisdictions may want to take advantage of this opportunity. AC means you pay for it yourself – a huge risk.

2. **STP Planning Project Forecasting Opportunities (2021-2026)**
   - Funding has historically been increased by $200,000 to $250,00 each year. We are still looking at reauthorization, which is uncertain with the new configuration of the House and Senate, and White House, but we expect to at least keep the current levels.
• Our upcoming UPWP will be a two-year program, running from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. Our planning window is about 5 years.
• Opportunity to acquire some ownership of the County’s aerial photos. More opportunities for jurisdictions to take advantage of that data. Cost impacts?
• Considering the benefits of streetlight-style traffic data subscription – good for O&D study data.
• Through the end of the calendar year, we won’t have money available to fund new transportation feasibility studies, other than the Powerhouse/SR12 and Countywide Transit studies.

Action: Information

Executive Director Update
No update this month.

WSDOT State & Regional Update
Randy Giles, new Local Program Engineer, introduced himself to the TAC.
Paul Gonseth shared information received from OFM regarding the transportation budget. DOT is communicating with the Governor’s office to determine which projects are affected. May affect the East/West Corridor.

Action: Information

Member Updates
The following jurisdictions provided updates:
• Union Gap
• Yakima

Action: Information

Next TAC Meeting:
February 11, 2021, next TAC meeting.

Other Business
None.

Public Comment
None.

Adjourn
Chairman Lance Hoyt adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Mr. Lance Hoyt, Chair

Date signed: Feb 11, 2021

Attest:

[Signature]
Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: Feb 11, 2021