



## 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 Wickenhagen, 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 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 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:

**2021 Traffic Count Request for Quotes Update**

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

RFQ went out December 23<sup>rd</sup> and will close on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

- 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 Gonseth, 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 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 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.

*Action: Jase Testerman moved to recommend to Policy Board for approval of SFY 2021 UPWP Amendment Document (2021-1). Paul Gonseth seconded. The motion carried.*

**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 14<sup>th</sup>. 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 1<sup>st</sup>.

- DOT is requesting that all projects looking at obligating before September 30<sup>th</sup> (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,

  
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 Mr. Lance Hoyt, Chair

Date signed: Feb 11, 2021

Attest:

  
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 Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: Feb 11, 2021

