

YVCOG TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 15, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, James Restucci, called the March 15, 2021 meeting of the Transportation Policy Board to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL &  
INTRODUCTIONS

- Members present via Zoom teleconference: James Restucci, John Hodkinson, Bill Moore, Janice Gonzales, Brad Hill, Ron Anderson, Sherry Raymond, Jon Smith, Brian White, and Madelyn Carlson
- Members Absent: none.
- YVCOG staff present: Alan Adolf, Chris Wickenhagen, Lynn Deitrick, Jodi Smith, and Shane Andreas

Others present: Lance Hoyt – City of Toppenish

*\*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\*

Jon Smith moved to approve the [February 17, 2021 Meeting](#). Janice Gonzales seconded. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION  
PROGRAM  
CORRESPONDENCE

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

Update on Yakama Nation Heritage Connectivity Trail (HCT) Concept Plan Partnership between YVCOG, WSDOT, Yakama Nation, National Parks Service. Beginning to develop the concept plan and wrapping up final edits to be shared with Tribal Council in the next 45-60 days. If they approve, there will be an effort to reach out to all local impacted jurisdictions and other stakeholders regarding this bicycle and pedestrian trails plan, which could be integrated with transit and infrastructure improvements. An effort to improve safety.

UPWP Development Update (4:00)

- Workplan for each fiscal year. What we plan to do; how we plan to do it; how we intend to pay for it.
- Initial review document is ready.
- Will be presented to DOT as part of their UPWP review. Our state and federal review will be April 22<sup>nd</sup>. DOE, federal highways, federal transit, DOT, etc. will review and make their comments.
- Then presented to the Board in May/June for formal adoption.

All Aboard Washington (A Washington State passenger rail advocacy group) has been working with a few national groups. (5:14)

- As part of the Federal Rail Administration Reauthorization, there is legislation included to create Regional Rail Commissions.
- Multi-state effort that can address interstate rail (freight and passenger) issues with potential to bring passenger rail back to certain areas.
- Could potentially reconnect Seattle and Denver for the first time in 40 years.
- Interest is providing a Letter of Support to show our interest in being part of the discussion.
- Transportation for America – a national rail group – will be meeting with AAWA and Alan Adolf (YVCOG) tomorrow. John Hodkinson may

participate. Potential states that could be involved are: Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and British Columbia.

**Action:** *John Hodkinson moved that the Chair and Vice Chair work with Alan Adolf to create a letter of support for the Transamerica Reauthorization. No objections. The motion carried.*

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*Chris Wickenhagen, YVCOG Executive Director (12:48)*

### WSDOT / YVCOG “West Powerhouse Road Study” Agreement

- City of Yakima and Yakima County approached YVCOG regarding the use of STP funds for a transportation study – focusing on safety and operational issues at various intersections on West Powerhouse Road and SR 12.
- The study is of regional significance and touches on non-motorized connections to recreation areas.
- WSDOT has the expertise and ability to complete the study by the end of the 2021 calendar year.
- YVCOG has worked with WSDOT to develop the scope and a preliminary engineering agreement for WSDOT to complete this work on behalf of all parties.
- The TAC has approved the agreement and is recommending this agreement to the Policy Board for approval and signature.

**Action:** *John Hodkinson moved to authorize Chair to sign WSDOT Local Agency Preliminary Engineering Participating Agreement for the “West Powerhouse Road” Study. Janice Gonzales seconded. The motion carried.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### *MARCH 2021 M/RTIP AMENDMENT OF THE 2021- 2024 DOCUMENT*

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

- There are 3 amendments this month – 2 from the City of Selah and 1 from WSDOT.
- Public Comment period ended March 10, 2021.
- The TAC has recommended forwarding to the Policy Board for adoption.

**Action:** *Jon Smith moved to authorize the Chair to sign Resolutions 2021-04, 2021-05, and the March 2021 TIP Amendment Checklist. Janice Gonzales seconded. The motion carried.*

### *CY 2020 METROPOLITAN AND REGIONAL OBLIGATIONS & CLOSURES REPORT*

*Lance Hoyt, Chair Transportation Technical Advisory Committee*

### 2020 Metropolitan and Regional Obligations & Closures Report:

- The reporting period ended December 31, 2020.
- This report is completed each year, showing the current status of the MPA projects receiving federal funding.
- The main difference from last year’s report is that we are now an MPA instead of an MPO, meaning all YVCOG jurisdictions federally-funded projects are now reported, not just those within the MPO.

- The TAC has recommended forwarding the report to Policy Board for approval.

**Action: Janice Gonzales moved to approve and authorize the Executive Director to submit CY 2020 Metropolitan and Regional Obligations & Closures Report to WSDOT. John Hodgkinson seconded. The motion carried.**

**STP AWARD LETTER –  
YAKIMA'S E. NOB HILL  
& FAIR AVENUE  
INTERSECTION  
PROJECT FY 2024  
FUNDS**

*Lance Hoyt, Chair Transportation Technical Advisory Committee*

The City of Yakima has asked for an [STP Award Letter](#) re-affirming STP funding for the E. Nob Hill and Fair Avenue intersection project is secured and scheduled for FY 2024.

**Action: Janice Gonzales moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign funding letter confirming reasonably expected availability of FY 2024 funds. Bill Moore seconded. The motion carried.**

**WSDOT STATE & REGIONAL  
UPDATE**

*Brian White, WSDOT South Central Region*

- Waiting to see what revenue proposals might look like after going through the legislature.
- May be doing some work in the Seattle area.
- Construction offices are gearing up – looks like a robust construction season ... especially in Tri-Cities area.
- May start transitioning staff back into the office around July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Action: Information**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Policy Board meeting will be held April 19, 2021.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURN**

With no other business, Chairman Restucci adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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Date signed

**ATTEST:**

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

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Date signed