



## MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### VIDEO CONFERENCE

### MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2021

#### PRESENT:

Mike Battle - HLA  
Todd Dorsett – City of Grandview  
Randy Giles – WSDOT  
Paul Gonseth – WSDOT  
John Gruber - WSDOT  
Joe Henne – City of Selah  
Lance Hoyt – City of Toppenish  
Janna Lewis-Clark – Yakama Nation  
Mike Meskimen – Gray & Osborne  
HollyAnna Pinkham-Littlebull – Yakama Nation  
Jeff Ranger – Town of Naches  
Bill Preston – City of Yakima

Ardele Steele - City of Zillah  
Greg Story – Yakima Transit  
Jase Testerman - Yakima County  
Laura Vazquez, City of Mabton  
Gary Wirt – All Aboard Washington

YVCOG Staff:  
Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager  
Tami Hayward, Finance Specialist  
Marcus Richards, Transportation Planner  
Jodi Smith, Communications Specialist  
Jeff Watson, Senior Planner

#### CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman, Lance Hoyt, called the August 12, 2021, meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A quorum was present.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### *June 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes*

Jase Testerman made a motion to approve the [MINUTES for June 10, 2021](#) meeting. Ardele Steele seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

The [2021-24 MRTIP Amendment Calendar](#) :

- Two more opportunities this year to make amendments – September and October
- Deadline for submitting September amendments will be August 20<sup>th</sup>.

Introduction of new YVCOG Transportation Planner, Marcus Richards.

##### [2021 Traffic Count Program Update](#)

- As of the end of July we are wrapping up Wapato and into Zillah counts, continuing through the end of September/beginning of October
- Sending out the Needs Assessment next month, for the 2022 season.
  - Projecting 2022 needs to be similar to 2021. (330 counts)
- Continuing to work on the Turnstone effort.
- REMEMBER: access link to Turnstone is perishable, so [download your counts](#).

Congratulation Letters

- [National Highway System](#): Union Gap, Yakima
- [Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety / Safe Routes to Schools](#) (SRTS) Grants: Union Gap, Yakima
- [Federal Bridge](#) (BR): Yakima County

2022 Washington State Transportation Commission to Yakima Region (Union Gap) –

- Will be hosting them in a virtual or in-person format in 2022. We should be hearing the date within the next month or two.
- Will be reaching out to jurisdictions and stakeholders to make presentations to the Commission.
- May do a bus tour of some of the recently completed and under-way projects around the Valley.

Metropolitan Statistical Area(s) “MSAs” Federal Threshold Update –

- [MSA Population Size](#) – currently at 50,000. Efforts have been discussed to raise threshold to 200,000 (potentially meaning Yakima Region could lose its MPO). This could then result in a loss of certain planning funds.
- According to OMB, no action will be taken at this time. This should be a dead issue for a few years.
- The number of MPOs directly affects the amount of money we receive (more MPOs can dilute the amount of funding we receive), raising the threshold is seen as a way to maintain funding for mega-MPOs.
- The 2020, but more likely the 2030, census could potentially trigger another MPO consisting of Prosser, Sunnyside, and Grandview and surrounding areas. YVCOG will keep an eye on the census figures and any federal recommendations.

*Information*

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**[2022-2025 M/RTIP Development](#)**

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

- Thank you to those jurisdictions who have submitted their projects.
- In the process of reviewing with Nancy Huntley
- Will send an email out to those who need to make corrections – only for projects deemed eligible for the M/RTIP.
- 30-day comment period starts September 14<sup>th</sup> and runs through October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Will present to TAC and Policy Board in October.

*Information*

**[STP / T-A / CMAQ Long Range August 2021 Funding Update](#)**

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

- Received word from Nancy Huntley that Moxee’s Morrier Lane project was approved and obligated earlier this week.
- We should have exceeded our 2021 target – so no sanctions!
- Union Gap’s Ahtanum Road resurfacing project is underway, which will extend our 2021 funds into 2022 and will help reduce our 2022 target by about \$2 million – putting us in a better position for future bonus money. Thank you to everyone who got their numbers in.
- Mabton did get their \$66,000 HIP funds obligated and met the deadline.
- Hoping that since we met HIP obligation requirements, they will consider distributing money to the MPOs and RTPOs who did meet their requirements.
- The Senate has passed an infrastructure bill that now goes to the House.

*Information*

**[W. Powerhouse Road / SR 12 Transportation Study Update](#)**

*John Gruber (WSDOT), and Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

John Gruber provided a brief update on the [W. Powerhouse Road / SR 12 Transportation Study](#)

- In the middle of the W Powerhouse Road corridor study project.
- Good results from the survey – over 1,000 responses
- Improving the road for cars received the highest ranking, 2<sup>nd</sup> highest was improving intersections, and improving safety at high crash areas was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Summary table – a lot of support to provide sidewalks and bicycle lanes in the corridor. Weren't the top priority, but almost everyone supported this.
- Beginning the analysis of solutions, which will then be scored and reported to the M3 team.

*Information*

***Commute Trip Reduction / Traffic Demand Management Update***

*Jeff Watson, Senior Planner*

- No report this month.

*Information*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

***August 2021-2024 M/RTIP Amendment***

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

- The [August 2021-2024 M/RTIP Amendment](#) Public Comment Period closed on 8/11/2021
- No public comments were received.
- Six formal amendments (Toppenish; Union Gap – 2; Yakima – 2; Yakima Transit) and one administrative amendment

*Decision: Joe Henne moved for the TAC recommendation to Policy Board for approval of August Amendment of 2021-2024 M/RTIP. Greg Story seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

***Yakama Nation Heritage Connectivity Trail Concept Plan***

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

- [Concept Plan](#) was adopted by Tribal Council July 8<sup>th</sup>
- [2021-2022 Work Plan](#) outlines efforts over the next 12 months
- US Transportation Secretary, Pete Buttigieg, is supportive of this trail system effort
- Please feel free to read the Concept Plan

*Information*

***Executive Director Update***

No update this month.

***WSDOT State & Regional Update***

*Randy Giles, WSDOT*

- Congratulated YVCOG on reaching their obligation target
- Congratulations to jurisdictions who received various awards
- Pushing a lot of obligations in right now.

*Information*

***Member Updates***

The following jurisdictions/agencies provided updates:

- City of Zillah
- All Aboard Washington
- City of Mabton
- Yakima Transit
- Yakama Nation
- HLA

- Yakima County
- City of Yakima
- City of Selah
- City of Toppenish

*Action: Information*

**Next TAC Meeting:** September 9, 2021, next TAC meeting.

**Other Business** None.

**Public Comment** None.


**Adjourn** Mr. Hoyt adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Mr. Lance Hoyt, Chair

Date signed: September 9, 2021

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: September 9, 2021