

YVCOG TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 20, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, James Restucci, called the September 20, 2021, meeting of the Transportation Policy Board to order at 1:32 p.m. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL &
INTRODUCTIONS

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

**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*

Sherry Raymond moved to approve the [August 16, 2021 Minutes](#). John Hodkinson seconded. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION
PROGRAM
CORRESPONDENCE

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

Updates were provided on the status of:

- YVCOG Assistant Planner position – hoping to fill this position by the end of the year;
- 2021 YVCOG Traffic Model – last done in 2018. Hope to have it completed by March;
- CTR/TDM programs and 2021 Fall Wheel Options; and
- MPO/RTPO Federal Funding Obligation.

The City of Zillah will host a [‘Teapot Dome’ Park & Ride Ribbon Cutting’](#) ceremony on September 24th at 11:00 a.m.

We are scheduled to begin preparation of the 2021 Annual Title VI Report. Should come before the Policy Board for approval in October.

Informational

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

[2022-2025 M-RTIP](#)

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

Review of the Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program [Development Schedule](#).

- This document is done annually to track secured federally-funded and regionally-significant projects
- Public comment period began September 14th and ends October 13th.
- 51 projects, not including County projects submitted after public comment period began. Will be included in the final document, which will be presented to Policy Board on October 18th.
- The 51 region-wide projects amount to just under \$200,000,000.
- Well-rounded list of projects – some federal, some state, some local funding sources.
- Second year we have included the performance measures and associated projects to show we are spending federal funding appropriately and in ways that meet the goals of the feds.

2022 Traffic Counter Needs Assessment

- Needs assessments were sent to jurisdictions on September Last year we did about 250 counts. This year around 330.
- Test effort with video capture on Yakima Greenway.
- Having conversations with IDAX about extending the contract, as we change from a one-year UPWP to a two-year UPWP. Hope to present extension at October Policy Board meeting.

Informational

NEW BUSINESS

SEPTEMBER 2021 M/RTIP AMENDMENT

Lance Hoyt, TAC Chair

- There is no amendment for September
- The October amendment will be the last of the 2021-2024 MRTIP period.

Informational

2021 MPO SELF- CERTIFICATION

Alan Adolf, Transportation Planning Manager and Lance Hoyt, TAC Chair

This is an annual confirmation by the MPO/RTPO certifying that we will follow the state and federal guidelines as to the funding sources we have, how we report our activities, engage the public, etc.

This document stays with YVCOG – only the signature page (already signed by Cliff Hall this year) is sent off the DOT each year.

Bill Moore moved to authorize YVCOG Chair to sign Self-Certification and authorization and submit to WSDOT-HQ. Sherry Raymond seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2021 UPWP ANNUAL REPORT

Alan Adolf, Transportation Planning Manager and Lance Hoyt, TAC Chair

Mr. Adolf and Chairman Hoyt gave an overview of the UPWP Annual Report, highlighting accomplishments throughout the 2021 fiscal year.

John Hodgkinson moved to authorize Executive to submit Annual Report to WSDOT-HQ. Bill Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CTR / TDM IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT CLOSURE - [PTD 0434](#) Alan Adolf, Transportation Planning Manager and Lance Hoyt, TAC Chair

This is a 2-year agreement, in the amount of \$148,610.00, to provide support for the CTR / TDM programs for the July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 biennium.

John Hodgkinson moved to the Transportation Demand Management Implementation Agreement PTD 0434 and submit to WSDOT. Bill Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

[CITY OF TOPPENISH TAP AUGMENTATION REQUEST](#)

Alan Adolf, Transportation Planning Manager and Lance Hoyt, TAC Chair

- This request was approved by the TAC at their September 9th meeting.
- The City of Toppenish is asking for an increase of \$57,000 in TAP funding to complete a 2020 fund project to re-roof the Train Depot.
- The bids came in about \$57,000 higher than the original estimate due to increased cost in supplies and labor, due to Covid-19.
- There is no match required for TAP funding. – 100% grant money.
- There is sufficient funding to cover this request and doesn't impact existing projects.

Bill Moore moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign and distribute the [revised TAP funding award letter](#) to City of Toppenish for an additional \$57,000 to the Train Depot Roof Rehabilitation Project. Sherry Raymond seconded the motion. The motion carried.

[2022 ITS ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE](#)

Alan Adolf, Transportation Planning Manager

This document is prepared each year and covers anything that is related to technology in your transit systems – internet, digital radios, etc., or projects such as synchronized school crossing cameras, etc.

Jurisdictions can refer to this when seeking ITS grant funds. It isn't purely transportation, but needs to be related.

The last update was in May of 2017 when the Yakama Nation was seeking funding for security cameras on their Tribal Transit busses.

Update window closes at the end of October.

This will come back before the Policy Board in November or December.

Informational

PASSENGER RAIL IN CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Alan Adolf, Transportation Planning Manager

Mr. Adolf gave an update on the status of the return of passenger rail to Yakima and surrounding areas.

The City of Yakima has expressed a desire to look further into this. Mr. Adolf met recently with Mayor Byers and Bob Harrison (Yakima), and Mayor Bruce Tabb (Ellensburg).

Ellensburg and Toppenish have done extensive repairs and remodeling to make their train depots viable. This removes up to \$50 million of the total estimated \$100 million in “depot” cost estimates, just by having depots available.

The total cost is estimated at \$300,000,000 to \$450,000,000.

Two of Kittitas County Commissioners are 100% in support of bringing back passenger rail, and the third commissioner could be convinced to support it.

The City of Yakima is presenting passenger rail in a study session and intend to engage Yakima County Commissioners. Will approach Senators Honeyford and King to gain their support.

A [former service route in that included] Denver to Seattle (which came through Yakima) was a very popular and successful route. There is good interest in re-establishing this route. It will be a multi-state effort – grass-roots effort – but will be a truly regional reintroduction of passenger rail. Once you exceed 750 miles of rail, federal involvement is triggered.

Senators King and Newhouse approached DRYVE and TRANS-Action regarding priorities.

Senator Cantwell’s office is putting together a passenger rail commission. Someone from our commission should be appointed to that commission when it comes out.

Informational

Randy Giles, WSDOT South Central Region

**WSDOT STATE &
REGIONAL UPDATE**

Mr. Giles provided an update on current happenings in the South Central Region –

- Making sure employees get their vaccinations. Will probably lose some of workforce due to vaccine refusal.
- Also looking at work-force impact associated with the vaccine process – working through contingency plans on what that might look like for delivery and services. Working on getting positions filled in anticipation of a larger program and possible loss of employees. (Snow and ice, design/engineering, etc.)
- Potential new revenue – may be able to fund additional projects to bolster revenue.

- Projects – focus will probably shift towards preservation, especially bridges. Will continue on with safety projects.

Information

WASHINGTON TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION UPDATE

James Restucci, WTC Member and YVCOG Chairman

Will be a virtual meeting beginning (Spokane) at 1 p.m. tomorrow – will be hearing from Spokane Regional Transportation Council, elected leaders from Spokane and surrounding area, as well as WSDOT regional administrator from the Spokane area.

Information and Discussion

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Policy Board meeting will be held October 18, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

With no other business, Chairman Restucci adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Restucci
YVCOG Transportation Policy Board Chair

Date signed

ATTEST:

Tamara Hayward, Financial Specialist

Date signed