

YVCOG TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman, John Hodkinson, called the December 20, 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: John Hodkinson, Janice Gonzales, Ron Anderson, Sherry Raymond, Randy Giles, and Madelyn Carlson.
 - Members Absent: * Brad Hill, Bill Moore, James Restucci, 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*

Ron Anderson moved to approve the October 18, 2021. Janice Gonzales seconded. The motion carried.

Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager

TRANSPORTATION
PROGRAM
CORRESPONDENCE

- We have had our review of the 2022-25 Metropolitan Regional Transportation Improvement Plan, which you approved in October. We had our Federal/State Air Quality Review on November 2nd. There were a couple of very minor adjustments – one to the financial table, and the other is a reference to December 31, 2022 being the end of YVCOG needing to monitor carbon monoxide as part of our overall analysis – so we will include references in future documents to that effect.
Approval Letters from FHWA and WSDOT are attached.
- All Aboard Washington held its year-end summit on December 11th. He and Mayor Byers had the chance to talk to the group about local opportunities to work with other states - Utah, Montana, Oregon, and Idaho - to try to bring passenger rail routes back to those states. They will be approaching Senators Murray and Cantwell to join in signing a letter already signed by those states, to send to Federal Rail Administration to see about the opportunity of Washington also receiving funds from the new federal transportation bill to look at passenger rail planning in our state to go along with the work that is going on in the other states.
- FFY 2021 Federal Funding Redistributed Funds - The last couple of years we have worked diligently on obligating our federal

transportation funds and have met our targets. This year we have received additional funding for 4 projects that were going to construction, plus an additional \$133,000 to be included in 2022 federal pot for construction! We are also in the process of lining up some of our STP projects, in the event that Washington state is able to exceed its 2022 funding target, putting us in a position to receive money that was not obligated by other states – bonus money.

- [CTR Law Change considerations for State Legislature](#) – flyer to be presented to the State leg by CTR and TDM executive committees. The laws have not been changed since the mid 90's and mainly address the large MPOs in the state – we are hoping to see more flexibility in how to use the money and develop programs locally.
- The [Human Services Transportation Planning \(HSTP\) Agreement](#) has been signed and returned to Yakima County. A two-year agreement covering not only our MPACT meetings but also the HSTP plan update and the grant process for the transportation Consolidated Grant process we will be starting in July for the 23-25 biennium. The contract amount is \$40,000.00.
- We had MPACT Board Member elections last week. Tom Gaulke (Entrust Community Services) will be Chair, Rocky Wallace (City of Selah) is Vice Chair, and Janna Lewis-Clark (Pahto Public Transportation) will be Secretary. Jan Ollivier will be stepping down as Chair.

Informational

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

W. POWERHOUSE ROAD / SR 12 TRANSPORTATION STUDY UPDATE

Alan Adolf

Workforce issues related to COVID have prevented us from having the study completed by this time, as we had planned. We are continuing to work on the program. There have been conversations with WSDOT regarding the need to extend the contract, and we hope to have something before the Board in January. The modeling aspect of the study has been completed. The next steps will be prioritizing the objectives for improvements and then taking it to the public.

Information

2021 ITS ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE

Alan Adolf

This document is updated each year. This is the document our jurisdictions and stakeholders refer to when applying for ITS grants (reader boards, webpage improvements, anything technology, including automated busses, etc).

No amendments or revisions to the ITS plan were received.

Decision: Janice Gonzales moved to adopt the 2021 ITS Plan document. Jon Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**2022 REGIONAL TRAFFIC
COUNT PROCESS UPDATE**

Lance Hoyt, TAC Chair

- The 2022 season ended October 29th.
- Final counts are either available now or will be shortly.
- January 31st is the deadline for jurisdictions to turn in their 2022 requests to YVCOG.

Information

**APRIL 2022 WTC IN YAKIMA
VALLEY** *Alan Adolf*

The WTC is scheduled to visit the Yakima Valley April 19th and 20th. An 'in person' hybrid event will be hosted by Union Gap – we have formed a committee to put together the event, including Dennis Henne, some of YVCOG staff, and Lance Hoyt to put together our presentation. There will be a bus tour on the 19th. Would appreciate thoughts from the Policy Board as to what you would like to see presented, which will include the northwest corridor. This will be the first in-person WTC meeting since March of 2019.

Information

NEW BUSINESS

**2022 MPA Safety Performance
Measures** *Alan Adolf*

Because of converting our MPA planning boundary from the MPO area to countywide in August of last year, our accident statistics have 'increased.' We knew there would be some modest reporting changes because we are now tracking ALL accidents throughout the entire county, which accounts for the jump. All future trends will be regionwide.

Decision: Sherry Raymond moved to recommend Policy Board authorize Director to sign confirmation letter and adopt Resolution 2021-19 for 2022 Safety Performance Measures and Targets. Seconded by Jon Smith. The motion carried.

City of Yakima FFC Request *Lance Hoyt, TAC Chair*

The City of Yakima requested changes in Federal Functional Classification for Bravo Company Boulevard (new construction - classification of Minor Arterial) and 88th Avenue (change classification to Major Collector).

Bravo Company Boulevard would spur redevelopment of Cascade mill site, and allow for bicycle, transit, sidewalks, and affordable and safe options for

travel for all citizens, etc. 80% of the area's residents are low income, which qualifies the area as an "Opportunity Zone."

The change in the 88th Avenue classification would make them eligible for state and federal funding assistance. 88th Avenue is a local access roadway that serves as a major collector for those neighborhoods. It is the sole access to Apple Valley Elementary school.

The TAC recommended that the Policy Board approve these classification requests at their December 9th meeting.

Discussion and Decision: Janice Gonzales moved to authorize YVCOG Executive Director to sign FFC Request Concurrence Letters for City of Yakima's Bravo Company Boulevard and 88th Avenue applications to WSDOT. Jon Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

*YVCOG / eRMSI 2021 On-Call
Model Assistance Contract
Amendment #1* Alan Adolf

We are requesting an amendment to increase the amount of our 2021 traffic modeling contract, in the amount of \$25,000, bringing the total contract to \$50,000. The need for this increase is partly due to the modeling being done on the Powerhouse/SR 12 Traffic Study.

Discussion and Decision: Jon Smith moved to authorize Chair to sign YVCOG/eRMSI YVCOG 2021 On Call Model Assistance Contract Agreement (Amendment #1). Janice Gonzales seconded the motion. The motion carried.

*WSDOT STATE & REGIONAL
UPDATE* Randy Giles, WSDOT South Central Region

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

Focused on winter operations. Staffing is down a little bit this year. May take a little longer getting to some of the smaller routes around the valley.

Getting ready to work on the Yakima/Union Gap and east west corridor projects.

Some available funds will be coming to YVCOG because there were other states and MPOs that didn't meet their targets in last fiscal year. Approximately \$1.4 million – sanctioned funds (redistributed).

*Washington Transportation
Commission Updated* Alan Adolf

Jim Restucci wanted to report that the Commission completed their Autonomous Vehicle Work Group 2021 Annual Report and is available if you are interested in reading.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Policy Board meeting will be held January 19, 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

With no other business, Vice Chairman Hodkinson adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



 James A. Restucci
 YVCOG Transportation Policy Board Chair

 Date signed

ATTEST:



 Tamara Hayward, Financial Specialist

2/11/22

 Date signed