



MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

VIDEO CONFERENCE ONLY

MEETING MINUTES

November 10, 2022

**PRESENT:**

**TAC Committee:**

Dennis Henne – Chair, Union Gap  
Cus Arteaga - Grandview  
Todd Dorsett – Grandview  
Shane Fisher - Sunnyside  
Dan Ford - Toppenish  
Randy Giles - WSDOT  
Paul Gonseth – WSDOT  
Joe Henne - Selah  
Bill Preston – City of Yakima  
Matt Pietruciewicz – Yakima County  
Jeff Ranger - Naches  
Ardele Steele - Zillah  
Rocky Wallace – City of Selah  
Robert Washabaugh – City of Yakima

**Associate Participants**

Stephen Hazzard – HLA  
Mike Meskimen – Gray & Osborne  
Gary Wirt – All Aboard Washington  
Michael Uhlman – HLA

**YVCOG Staff:**

Alan Adolf – Transportation Program Manager  
Jeff Watson – Senior Transportation Planner  
Byron Gumz – Planning Manager  
Tami Hayward – Finance Specialist  
Jodi Smith – Communication Specialist

*(Z) Attended via Zoom - ALL*

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Dennis Henne, Chair, called the November 10, 2022, meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

***October 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes***

Rocky Wallace made a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 13, 2022 meeting. Bill Preston seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES**

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager*

Mr. Adolf reviewed shared updates and recent correspondence.

WSDOT has awarded YVCOG another \$12,068 of Redistributed and Sanctioned Funds. Must be addressed in our target.

Washington State Transportation Commission is continuing Forward Drive regarding road usage fees. The Commission has been running a pilot program of about 2,000 participants over the last couple of years and are seeking additional drivers to participate in the project.

YVCOG is looking at how our Technical Advisory Committee may be able to get involved in helping to find a solution to the issue of Human Trafficking. There is a strong relationship between transportation and trafficking (prostitution and labor) and it is a regional problem without much organized effort to resolve issue at this point. Over 1,600 incidents reported in Washington last year. YVCOG Senior Transportation Planner, Jeff Watson, has been doing some research and has learned of a national presence called ‘Truckers Against Trafficking’ which offers training for those who are interested. There is no real organized effort at this time. We would like to get the ball rolling and involve Washington State Patrol with monitoring truck stops, rest areas, etc. YVCOG staff is willing to take it on and see what we can do on a regional basis.

***Information***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

***2020 Transportation Alternatives Program – Approval Update***

*Alan Adolf*

Mr. Adolf reviewed the TAP Funding Advised Share Breakdown he prepared representing how state and federal agencies would like to see the funds distributed to different-sized jurisdictions to ensure fairness. We can handle the breakdown internally.

We will be moving forward with the 5 projects. The Award Letters are on the Policy Board agenda for approval and should be sent out before Thanksgiving.

***Information***

***MPACT Committee Activities Update***

*Jeff Watson, Sr. Transportation Planner*

An MPACT meeting is scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup> to review the Consolidated Grant applications. YVCOG has an application for Phase II of the Transit Feasibility. Seeking volunteers to sit on the prioritization committee.

Next Tuesday (3:00 to 6:00 p.m.) we will be having our Transit Feasibility Study Open House. The open house will be hybrid. This will be an opportunity to hear the results of the study so far and how we can use this information in future studies.

***Information***

***2023 Traffic Count Season Update***

*Alan Adolf*

The Traffic Count agreement with IDAX is a 3-year agreement and the total amount of funding we have agreed to spend during that timeframe is \$275,000 budget. We spent about \$91,000 in 2021. In 2022 we have spent about \$120,000, leaving us about \$67,000 for 2023.

Discussion on various scenarios of how counts could be broken up for 2023. We will not be doing a Needs Assessment for next year, but will be back in full swing in 2024.

***Information***

***2023-2026 M/RTIP Final Document***

*Alan Adolf*

The 2023-2026 M/RTIP final document Federal/State review was conducted on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

The review went well. We will no longer need to address CO after December 31<sup>st</sup>. We will still be addressing PM10. There were really no comments or corrections this year and the document has been submitted. Should have final approval in the next few weeks.

***Information***

**NEW BUSINESS:**

***Federal Funding Status***

We are anticipating significant increases in federal funding for 2023 and beyond, above our usual \$4.6 million allocation.

Grandview would like to request an additional \$1.2 million to augment their 2013 award. The cost of the project was originally \$3.4 million project, but with inflation

the project is now short about \$1.2 million. Our obligation target has been increased for this year, so it would benefit our region to go ahead and award Grandview the additional funding. The project is ready to go once they are awarded the additional funding.

We do need Grandview (Old Inland Empire Highway) to obligate this year, along with Mabton (Main Street), and Yakima (Nob Hill/Fair), and Toppenish (Jackson Street) in order to help us meet our obligation target. We have money available and we do need to obligate funds.

Sunnyside is about \$226,000 short on their 6<sup>th</sup> Street Project. In a holding pattern right now but ready to go. The augmentation money Sunnyside received last month was from the state, not YVCOG funds. Sunnyside could be eligible for WSDOT funds – the only downside is that it makes it harder to meet the obligation target.

Discussion on the pros and cons of possibly tying up funding into 2025 or 2026. Our strategy has always been to over-obligate.

**Decision:** Jeff Ranger moved that the TAC approve asking Mabton to step aside in order to award Grandview the additional \$1.2 million of STBG funds needed to complete their Old Inland Empire Highway project, providing Grandview obligates by June 1, 2023. Cus Arteaga seconded. The motion carried.

**2022-2023 Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Grant Preparation**

*Alan Adolf*

CMAQ application is out for review by WSDOT. Anticipate having about \$2.4 million available between unspent 2021-2022 on through 2026 funding and we can still do CO or PM10 projects even after our CO attainment period ends on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Hoping to make a call at TAC in December.

Discussion followed on whether \$500,000 max per project is acceptable and if some of the funding should be held onto until the PM10 20-year attainment period ends in 2024. Possibly do a call for projects with half of the funding now and keep the remaining funds and any new money to do county-wide CMAQ projects.

Toll credits will be available through 2026, so there would be no match required on your \$500,000 projects.

Possible Call for Projects in December and award letters could be out in March. Projects would need to be obligated by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Discussion**

**WSDOT State & Regional Updates**

*Paul Gonseth, WSDOT*

SR 24 study is moving ahead.

Grant process finally went through for Naches and we have money. Will be meeting with Alan Adolf and Jeff Ranger soon to discuss scope of work.

**Information**

**Member Updates**

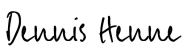
The following jurisdictions/agencies provided updates:

- Selah
- City of Yakima
- Grandview
- Union Gap
- All Aboard Washington

**Information**

**Next TAC Meeting:** December 8, 2022, next TAC meeting  
**Other Business** None.  
**Public Comment** None.  
**Adjourn** Chairman Henne adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:  
  
FA62E8642F6245E...  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Dennis Henne, Chair

Date signed: 12/19/2022

Attest:

DocuSigned by:  
  
F0975B7C74204CE...  
\_\_\_\_\_

Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: 12/19/2022