



MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In-Person and via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2022

PRESENT:

TAC Committee:

Dennis Henne – Chair, Union Gap
Todd Dorsett – Grandview
Randy Giles - WSDOT
Paul Gonseth – WSDOT
Janna Lewis-Clark - PAHTO
Matt Pietruciewicz – Yakima County
Jeff Ranger - Naches
Ardele Steele – Zillah
Jase Testerman – Yakima County
Rocky Wallace – City of Selah
Robert Washabaugh – City of Yakima

Associate Participants

Stephen Hazzard – HLA
Deb LaCombe - HLA
Mike Meskimen – Gray & Osborne
Gary Wirt – All Aboard Washington

YVCOG Staff:

Alan Adolf – Transportation Program Manager
Albert Miller - Planner
Jeff Watson – Senior Transportation Planner
Byron Gumz – Planning Manager
Tami Hayward – Finance Specialist

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dennis Henne, Chair, called the January 12, 2022, meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

Byron Gumz introduced Albert (“Al”) Miller, YVCOG’s new Associate Planner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Jase Testerman made a motion to approve the Minutes of the December 8, 2022 meeting. Jeff Ranger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES

Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Mr. Adolf reviewed shared updates and recent correspondence.

Mike Gribner has been promoted from WSDOT Eastern District Regional Administrator to WSDOT Assistant Secretary for Regional Operations.

The Yakama Nation is planning to take a more active roll in the passenger rail effort and may consider leading the effort.

Information

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2022-2023 CMAQ Grant / CRP Eligibility Process Update

Alan Adolf

Four formal CMAQ applications received: Selah, Union Gap, Yakima, and YVCOG. Awarding somewhere around \$1.8 million.

Will probably do a second call with remaining money.

Still hoping to make CMAQ a county-wide opportunity within the next couple of years.

Received several CRP (carbon reduction) applications. State has not yet come up with guidelines on how to disburse the funds. These applications let us see the need.

Will do a formal CRP Call for Projects once we receive guidelines from the state. If you haven't already submitted an application, you will still be eligible to submit.

Applications for both CMAQ and CRP are due January 20th.

Mr. Adolf asked for 4 or 5 volunteers to serve on the CMAQ Prioritization subcommittee, meeting at the end of January/beginning of February.

Rocky Wallace and Todd Dorsett volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. Mr. Adolf will send out an email to recruit a couple more volunteers.

Information

2023 Traffic Count Season Update

Alan Adolf

Mr. Adolf thanked everyone for filling out the traffic count survey.

Three jurisdictions have opted out of traffic counts for 2023.

YVCOG will be doing some counts this year – if they are in your jurisdiction, they will be available to you.

2022 traffic counts are available for distribution.

Allocation of sites should be sent out by next Friday.

Streetlight subscription should be approved at next week's Policy Board meeting. Very valuable tool, especially for Origin/Destination study.

Information

2024-2025 UPWP Development

Alan Adolf

Beginning development of the UPWP for the next 2 years. Looking at needs for upcoming biennium.

Please let us know if there will be changes in your organization regarding TAC representation so we can update our rosters.

Now is the time for jurisdictions to start turning in Wish List items, including corridor studies, etc. By having it approved by DOT in the UPWP it simplifies our approval process later.

Unfunded Needs – a couple of projects are being moved off of the list and into Program Management.

Information

CTR Program Updates

Jeff Watson, Sr. Transportation Planner

The TDM technical committee is pushing the Jurisdictional Commute Trip Reduction Plan Updates and associated codes back either one or two years. Also considering whether it will be required again in 2 years or 4 years.

Will be providing some training and guidance on preparing the plan updates.

Concentrating on getting the CTR program back up and rolling.

Mr. Adolf mentioned that there is a possibility of creating a rural CTR program. Participation would most-likely be voluntary to begin with.

Information

NEW BUSINESS:

**January 2023-2026 M/RTIP
Amendment**

Jeff Watson

There are 10 formal M/RTIP amendments in January – submitted by Grandview, Naches, Yakima, Yakima County, and WSDOT.

Decision: Jeff Ranger moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board for approval of January Amendment of 2023-2026 M/RTIP. Jase Testerman seconded. The motion carried.

Federal / State Funding Status

Alan Adolf

Current allocations for 2023 STBG/CMAQ are not yet available. Still using 2022 figures of about \$4.6 million for STBG, \$350,000 for CMAQ and \$54,000 for Transportation Alternatives. Anticipate a significant increase for 2023.

Mabton and Toppenish provided updates on the status of their STBG projects. Sunnyside has not yet obligated. No update on Yakima project.

Information

**2023 MPA Safety Performance
Measures**

Alan Adolf

Will be kicking off our federal performance measures over the next few months. Measures will be based on the MPA (county-wide) region, rather than the MPO area of the past. Beginning with Safety Performance target.

Mr. Adolf reviewed the cover letter, to be signed by YVCOG Executive Director, regarding safety performance targets.

Decision: Rocky Wallace moved to recommend Policy Board authorize Director to sign confirmation letter and adopt Resolution 2023-XX for 2023 Safety Performance Measures and Targets. Jeff Ranger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**2023 Yakima Transit – PTASP
Performance Measures**

Alan Adolf

Yakima Transit has updated their Public Transit Agency Safety Plan. Because they receive federal funds we do a transit safety document based on their projects – they update each year and we have 6 months to concur. This letter covers the 7 different target areas they are addressing in their plan.

Decision: Ardele Steele moved to recommend Policy Board authorize Director to sign confirmation letter and adopt Resolution 2023-XX for 2023 Transit Agency Safety Performance Measures and Targets. Jeff Ranger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**2023-2025 Biennium UPWP
Funding**

Alan Adolf

We have received federal planning information – we should receive a significant increase in our MPO planning funds. Formerly received \$350,000 per year – new anticipated amount is \$425,000 per year.

Federal Transit should be increasing \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year.

No news on RTPO – amounts have not been updated since 1995. Still receiving about \$200,000 each biennium. Statewide total was increased from \$4.5 million to \$4.9 million

to keep up with inflation. May want to speak with your legislators about the need for increasing this funding.

Information

WSDOT State & Regional Updates

WSDOT Representatives

Paul Gonseth – updated the TAC on the Heritage Connectivity Trail and the RAISE grant – a lot of red tape and paperwork related to the grant. Starting up with the Naches pedestrian study shortly. Will be holding an SR-24 study open house next month.

Randy Giles – upcoming bridge call (this spring) for projects focused on off-system bridges.

Information

Member Updates

The following jurisdictions/agencies provided updates:

- All Aboard Washington
- Grandview
- PAHTO
- Selah
- Union Gap
- Yakima
- Yakima County
- Zillah

Information

Next TAC Meeting:

February 9, 2023, next TAC meeting

Chairman Henne brought up the issue of the difficulty of having a quorum at TAC meetings. Discussion on in-person vs. hybrid meetings, etc.

Discussion

Other Business

None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjourn

Chairman Henne adjourned the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

 Mr. Dennis Henne, Chair

Date signed: 2/24/2023

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

 Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: 2/24/2023