

YVCOG TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 20, 2023

CALL TO ORDER Vice Chair, John Hodkinson, called the March 20, 2023, meeting of the Transportation Policy Board to order at 1:32 p.m. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

- Members present: James Restucci (Z), John Hodkinson, Patricia Byers, Sherry Raymond, LaDon Linde, Janice Gonzales (Z), Jon Smith (Z), Todd Trepanier, Madelyn Carlson (Z).
- Members Absent: none
- YVCOG staff present: Alan Adolf, Shane Andreas, Byron Gumz, Tami Hayward (Z), Angelica Saldivar, Jodi Smith (Z), Jeff Watson, Chris Wickenhagen.

Others present: Raquel Crowley (Senator Patty Murray’s office)

*\*Indicates notice of absence received prior to meeting.  
(Z) Attended via Zoom*

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\* LaDon Linde moved to approve the February 22, 2023 Policy Board meeting minutes. Patricia Byers seconded. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE *Alan Adolf, Regional Transportation Planning Manager*

**2023 Urban Highway Boundary Process** - We have received notification that the 2023 Urban Highway Boundary Adjustment Process is starting in earnest. This process happens every 10 years. Results of the 2020 census are shared with various departments and affects how we will plan ahead for urban roadway design and construction. The one big change is that the minimum population to qualify as Urban has increased from 2,500 to 5,000, which will have some impacts in our area. Feds determine the boundary. Will probably put Zillah, Moxee and some others in the rural category. New boundary will be brought to Policy Board for adoption this summer.

**March DRYVE and TRANS-Action Trip to DC** - There will be a DRYVE and TRANS-Action trip to Washington DC during the last week of March. YVCOG won’t be going back. Jon Smith will be coordinating the trip.

**2021-2023 WSDOT Financial Site Interview** – because of receiving Transit Feasibility study funds, went through a Public Transportation Funding Recipient compliance review on March 6<sup>th</sup>. This is the first time a ‘planning program’ has been asked to perform a compliance review. Overall we are doing a very good job. We will be providing some additional information – due by March 31st. The reviewer was very impressed with YVCOG’s management and tracking of funding.

***Information***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*2024-2025 Unified Planning  
Work Program Update*

*Alan Adolf*

Mr. Adolf provided a review of YVCOG’s proposed changes to the upcoming UPWP including new federal emphasis areas such as climate crisis and public involvement. This is our roadmap of activity for the next 2 years – what we intend to do.

Federal/State Review is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup>.

The most significant change we are making is to add a new “Task 9” which will include Regional Corridor Studies and multiple stakeholder Multi-Modal planning Activities.

The final UPWP should be brought before the Policy Board for approval at our May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

***Information***

*2022-2025 Yakima Region  
CMAQ Performance Measures*

*Alan Adolf*

We have been working on performance measures the last couple of months. We will present our performance measure concurrence later this spring. All of the information will be shared with the state and the state goals and local goals will be shown as one request. Those goals will be shared with WSDOT to include in the statewide total and then we will submit our letter and resolution saying we concur with the state and local efforts and goals.

***Information***

*2022 TAP Program Re-  
assessment Naches Project*

*Alan Adolf*

In January we did a TIP amendment to approve the Naches project. It was ruled as ineligible when it reached Olympia – partly because the title included the word “pavilion.” With WSDOT SCR’s assistance, we have revised the project parameters to meet eligibility criteria ‘construct an ADA compliant pathway to connect overflow parking and residential areas south of Orchard Street to Naches Trail and Depot’ including demolition and removal of structure/building obstructing pathway and proposed ADA parking area.’ This project addresses the same issues but includes additional deliverables making the project eligible. Naches has redeveloped their STIP item. The intent and deliverable are the same as the original amendment.

TAC has recommended approval of the Naches trail project revision and approval of the TAP funding award letter.

***Decision:*** *Patricia Byers moved to approve Town of Naches’ Trail Improvements project revisions and authorize Executive Director to re-sign Transportation Alternatives Program award letter. Sherry Raymond seconded. The motion carried.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

*March 2023-2026 M/RTIP  
Amendment*

*Alan Adolf*

There are three (3) formal M/RTIP amendments in March – submitted by Naches, Union Gap, and WSDOT.

- Union Gap’s Valley Mall Boulevard Resurfacing project is completed and is being removed from the STIP due to being obligated in 2022.
- WSDOT’s SR 24/Mabton Vicinity – Retrofit Bridges project is being removed from the STIP due to being obligated in 2022, resulting in a decrease of \$14,582,148 in CWA State Funds.
- Naches is adding \$389,380 in federal STBG funds for their Naches Trail Project – adding an ADA complaint pathway and parking area.

***Decision:*** *Sherry Raymond moved to approve the March 2023 M/RTIP Amendment. Patricia Byers seconded. The motion carried.*

*Calendar Year 2022 YVCOG  
Obligations & Closures Report*

*Alan Adolf*

Mr. Adolf introduced the 2022 Obligations & Closures Report – required for MPOs and RTPOs – this report allows us to confirm what happened the previous calendar year. The report covers federal funding obligations, closures, and de-obligations.

***Decision:*** *Sherry Raymond moved to adopt the March 2023 MRTIP Amendment and authorize Chair to sign. LaDon Linde seconded. The motion carried.*

*YVCOG Representation on FRA  
Workgroup*

*Alan Adolf*

YVCOG has joined the Federal Railroad Administration workgroup as a ‘small’ MPO representative for the federal NW region which includes WA, OR, ID, MT, CO, UT, and WY. The Spokane Region is also on the committee as a ‘large’ MPO representative. The first regional (Pacific NW) meeting was held about a month ago. Hollyanna Little Bull (Yakama Nation Transportation Safety Committee) is also part of the workgroup.

We will be providing input on the Amtrak Long-Distance Service Study which will focus on existing and planned rail service, including potential new routes and frequencies, Amtrak communities engagement, and evaluation factors.

***Information***

WSDOT STATE & REGIONAL *Todd Trepanier, WSDOT South Central Region*  
UPDATE

Additional information on the replacement of the Vantage Bridge deck replacement – precast panels. This work will take 3 summers, beginning in the summer of 2024. Very expensive to do and we are fortunate the project is eligible to receive funding. Mr. Trepanier encouraged meeting participants to tell people about the impacts – 1 lane in each direction except on select holiday weekends. Delays of approximately 2 hours during the good weather months of 2024, 2025, and 2026. Best to go through Tri-Cities if you’re headed in Spokane direction – do not deter through Vernita because Vernita Bridge is not in good enough shape to handle the additional traffic. Use I82 and 395.

Road closures due to accidents – protocols must be followed, but we re-open the roads as quickly as possible.

Waiting on the legislature to see who wins and who has projects deferred.

Mr. Trepanier announced that after 39 years working for WSDOT, mainly in South Central Region (SCR Regional Administrator for the last 6 years), he will be moving into the Regional Administrator position in the Eastern Region (Spokane) at the end of April. He is looking forward to being closer to his daughter and her young family.

***Information***

WASHINGTON  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION UPDATE

*James Restucci. WSTC Representative*

The Washington State Transportation Committee will be meeting in Ellensburg on April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

Route Jurisdiction Committee – another request, from the City of Richfield (sp?).

OTHER BUSINESS

Patricia Byers gave a verbal introduction to the new Yakima Airport manager – a former WSDOT Senior Planner, Robert Hodgman. Staff and council will have an opportunity to meet him tomorrow. Mr. Adolf announced he will be an associate member of the Technical Advisory Committee.

Next Policy Board meeting will be held March 20, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURN

With no other business, Chairman Restucci adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:



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James A. Restucci  
YVCOG Transportation Policy Board Chair

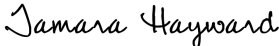
4/18/2023

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Date signed

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:



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Tamara Hayward, Financial Specialist