



MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In-Person and via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2023

PRESENT:

TAC Committee:

- Dennis Henne – Chair, Union Gap
- Elizabeth Alba – Sunnyside (Z)
- Todd Dorsett – Grandview (Z)
- Dan Ford – Toppenish (Z)
- Paul Gonseth – WSDOT
- Matt Pietruciewicz – Yakima County
- Bill Preston – Yakima
- Jeff Ranger - Naches
- Ardele Steele – Zillah (Z)
- Jase Testerman – Yakima County
- Rocky Wallace – City of Selah
- Robert Washabaugh – City of Yakima (Z)

Associate Participants

- Stephen Hazzard – HLA (Z)
- LaDon Linde – Yakima County Commissioner
- Mike Meskimen – Gray & Osborne
- Gary Wirt – All Aboard Washington

YVCOG Staff:

- Alan Adolf – Transportation Program Manager
- Jeff Watson – Senior Transportation Planner
- Tami Hayward – Finance Specialist (Z)

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dennis Henne, Chair, called the March 9, 2023, meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Jase Testerman made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 9, 2023, meeting. Rocky Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES

Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Mr. Adolf reviewed shared updates and recent correspondence.

Review of 2023 TIP Amendment Schedule. April amendments are due by noon on March 24th.

We have received notification that the 2023 Urban Highway Boundary Adjustment Process is starting in earnest. This is 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. Cannot shrink the federal boundary but can increase it if it's geographically feasible. Naches is now out, and Moxee is now classified as rural.

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

YVCOG has been invited to be a participant in the Federal Railroad Administration's study of the restoration of long-distance passenger rail routes that were previously discontinued. YVCOG (representing a small MPO in our area) will be working with Spokane Regional Transportation Council (representing a large MPO in our area), and

the Yakama Nation (representing federally recognized tribes in our area) to represent our interests in this study.

Information

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

***2022 TAP Program Reassessment – Alan Adolf
Naches Project.***

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 that meet eligibility criteria. This project addresses the same issues but the additional deliverables are different and are eligible. Naches has redeveloped their STIP item. The intent and deliverable are the same as the original amendment.

Action: Rocky Wallace recommended the Policy Board approve Town of Naches’ revised project parameters and authorize Executive Director to sign award Transportation Alternatives Program award letter. Jase Testerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2023 Traffic Count Season Update Jeff Watson, Sr. Transportation Planner

We now have access to pedestrian data in StreetLight. Mr. Watson gave an example of midsection street crossings in the town of Naches using 2019 and 2020 data.

As for traffic counts – Everyone has submitted their lists and those will be submitted to IDAX this afternoon. Harrah has also opted out for this season. May have additional tube counts to offer to jurisdictions and should know how many this afternoon. First come, first serve. More counts have been submitted for summer and fall, so may have some openings in spring.

Information

2024-2025 UPWP Development Alan Adolf

Mr. Adolf provided a review of significant changes and updates to the state fiscal year 2024 UPWP. Basic outline is available if you want to make any last-minute comments. Not many changes other than some state emphasis areas. The one significant change we are making within the Tasks is to include Regional Corridor Studies/Multi-Modal Activities.

This is our game plan for the next two years. Still working out expected revenues.

State/Federal review is scheduled for April 19th, so if you have any changes you would like made to the document, get back to Jeff or Alan before that date.

Information

CTR Program Updates Jeff Watson

The TDM meeting was held yesterday – things in the CTR realm are picking up momentum at the state level. The state is updating the CTR guidebook, which will help us in developing our plans, and statewide plan is underway. We should begin updating CTR codes and plans in June of this year and the guidebook will be helpful.

Survey exemption for 2021-2023 has been approved.

Work continues on the survey tool itself.

They are working on a Tax Credit update for CTR-affected employers.

Trying to decide if they will continue the Ride Share Online program.

Drive-alone rate will be the performance measure in how we set our objectives and goals in CTR. The state drive-alone rate is currently 72% and Yakima County is 78%. The goal is to reduce by 10% over the next 4 years. They are allowing local jurisdictions to set their own performance measure.

Discussion on whether telework is an option for CTR – should be taken into consideration because it has decreased traffic and results in decreasing the drive-alone numbers. Will be considered in the baseline.

CTR funding budget allocation formula is being re-examined. No decisions yet.

Information

NEW BUSINESS:

March 2023-2026 M/RTIP Amendment

Jeff Watson

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.
- WSDOT’s SR 24/Mabton Vicinity – Retrofit Bridges project is being decreased by \$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: Jeff Ranger moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board for approval of March Amendment of 2023-2026 M/RTIP. Jase Testerman seconded. The motion carried.

STP / T-A / CMAQ / CRP Long Range Funding Status

Alan Adolf

There has been a decrease in our STBG funding from about \$4.6 million to \$3.8 million. Not much of an impact on meeting our targets. Transportation Alternatives funding doesn’t really change. CMAQ project award letters were approved and mailed out.

Hoping to be back up to our normal levels or even higher in 2025-2026.

CRP has been added to the spreadsheet, but we are still waiting on the state for guidance on how to award and obligate this money. May do a multi-year call.

Updates from various jurisdictions on project status.

Information/Discussion

2022-2025 Yakima Region CMAQ Performance Measures

Alan Adolf

Transportation TAC Meeting
March 9, 2023
A recording of meeting is available.

This is a correction to a comment made last month - We will present our performance measure concurrence later this spring or early summer. The projects that were awarded will be included in the statewide total, and they will send that back to us along with their projected local benefits, and that will constitute the performance measure of Concurrence. A little longer process due to WSDOT performing an extra step.

Information/Discussion

2023 YVCOG Region Obligation & Closures Report (1:06)

Jeff Watson

Mr. Watson gave an overview of the Obligations & Closures report, which covers federal funding obligations, closures, and de-obligations. This report covers calendar year 2022.

Decision: *Paul Gonseth moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board to adopt the 2023 Obligation & Closures Report and submit to WSDOT. Rocky Wallace seconded. The motion carried.*

2023-26 STBG Application Development Sub-Committee Update

Alan Adolf

Seeking volunteers for a subcommittee to assist in preparing a new STBG grant application – including application layout and content; jurisdictional eligibility; recommended application timelines; scoring and prioritization; and awarding and obligation guidelines. Jose Trevino, Rocky Wallace and Bill Preston have volunteered but we would like to add at least a couple more people to the subcommittee.

This isn't a big rush but we would like to start meeting in a month or two, and maybe have our first Call for Projects (in over a decade) this summer.

Information/Discussion

WSDOT 2023 FGTS City & Port Data Submission Request

Alan Adolf

Freight and Goods Transportation System – bi-annual data update. Will be sending out a jurisdiction-specific email requesting a list of updates to all road segments that fall within the FGTS list. Traffic count numbers, reclassifications, etc. We need the status on updated road segments by June 15th.

Information/Discussion

WSDOT State & Regional Updates (1:23:48)

WSDOT Representatives

Paul Gonseth – Finished 2nd survey and open house for Moxee study. We had 450 responses. Results will be forwarded to Mr. Adolf. Older people are usually the most vocal and engaged study participants.

Good news on Heritage Connectivity trail – we have received AC. Hollyanna has set up a meeting on March 24th – will be going over national parks part, etc.

The WSTC will be meeting in Ellensburg in April (18th – 19th), and Hollyanna is on the agenda to speak.

Information

Member Updates

The following jurisdictions/agencies provided updates:

- Grandview
- Selah
- Sunnyside
- All Aboard Washington

Union Gap
Yakima
Yakima County
Zillah

Information

Next TAC Meeting: March 9, 2023, next TAC meeting

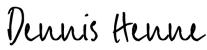
Discussion

Other Business None.

Public Comment None.

Adjourn Chairman Henne adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

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Mr. Dennis Henne, Chair

Date signed: 4/24/2023

Attest:
DocuSigned by:

F0975B7C74204CE...
Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: 4/24/2023