



MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In-Person and via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

April 13, 2023

**PRESENT:**

**TAC Committee:**

Dennis Henne – Chair, Union Gap  
Elizabeth Alba – Vice Chair, Sunnyside  
Paul Gonseth – WSDOT  
Janice Lewis-Clark - PAHTO  
Matt Pietruciewicz – Yakima County  
Bill Preston – Yakima  
Ardele Steele – Zillah (Z)  
Rocky Wallace – City of Selah

Mike Meskimen – Gray & Osborne  
Greg Story – Yakima Transit  
Gary Wirt – All Aboard Washington

**YVCOG Staff:**

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

**Associate Participants**

Stephen Hazzard – HLA (Z)  
Rob Hodgman – Yakima Airport

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Dennis Henne, Chair, called the April 13, 2023, meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

***March 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes***

Rocky Wallace made a motion to revise the proposed March 9<sup>th</sup> Minutes to include more specific Federal Railroad Administration Study language. Paul Gonseth seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rocky Wallace moved to approve the meeting Minutes from the March 9, 2023, meeting. Paul Gonseth seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES**

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager*

May TIP Amendments are due by noon on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please email YVCOG that you will be making an amendment, including the amendment description, and additional email letting us know once you have submitted your amendment - this 2<sup>nd</sup> email gives us a heads-up to look through the STIP.

Freight & Goods Transportation System Updates are due to YVCOG by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please submit in the Excel spreadsheet format that we sent to you individually.

Congratulations to Yakima County – received \$2.5 million for their East-West Corridor project!

YVCOG’s annual UPWP state/federal review will be held in person/Teams on April 19<sup>th</sup>. After making any corrections, the UPWP will go before TAC and Policy Board in May.

***Information***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Transportation TAC Meeting  
April 13, 2023  
*A recording of meeting is available.*

***Yakima Airport Manager -  
Introduction***

*Robert Hodgman*

Rob Hodgman introduced himself as the new Yakima Airport Manager.

- He is brand new to Yakima and is thrilled to be here.
- He was an Army helicopter pilot for 24 years.
- Worked for WSDOT Aviation for 11 years.
- WSDOT Aviation experience has been invaluable in rotating into this job. It gave him a detailed understanding and a statewide view of airports.

There is a good possibility of there being a massive increase in our airport traffic due to the over-capacity of SeaTac airport. There is no other viable site. Will mean a large economic impact.

Will be presenting to the Washington State Transportation Commission on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Yakima Airport Manager position is a formal member of the TAC.

***Information***

***STP / T-A / CMAQ / CRP  
Long Range Funding  
Status (26:00)***

*Alan Adolf*

Discussion on STBG project status Selah and Yakima projects:

- Selah received lower bids than expected, so they will be de-obligating about \$259,000 on Valleyview/S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. / Southern Ave. Project. Alan/Paul indicated that the de-obligated funds should not affect us until the FY 2024 year and may still be returned to Selah if needed before the project ends due to currently unforeseen costs.
- Grandview is planning to obligate by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Yakima Nob Hill/Fair Avenue is still in the design phase. Yakima may need to request additional funding.

Still need a couple more people to participate on the STBG application subcommittee. Would like to do a call for projects before the end of the federal fiscal year.

So far Jose Trevino, Rocky Wallace, and Bill Preston have volunteered.

Discussion on status of Transportation Alternatives projects. Should be able to meet our targets.

***Information***

***2023 Traffic Count Season  
Update (41:12)***

*Alan Adolf*

Traffic counts should have started in Toppenish earlier this month and in Sunnyside next week. We are also looking at Moxee and Yakima in the spring session. No counts in June and July but will pick up in late August. We are doing some counts in Naches (Naches Corridor Study) and hoping to finish before the end of the school year. Also doing some counts in August in the Toppenish and Zillah area.

We will continue counts in the fall with Zillah, Selah, Mabton, Grandview, and Union Gap.

This is the final year of our IDAX contract, so we will need volunteers to serve on the RFQ selections committee.

Discussion on how to correlate StreetLight and IDAX data.

***Information***

**2023 Urban Highway  
Boundary Process**

*Alan Adolf*

Next Monday will be the first federal highways/WSDOT FHWA Census & Urban Boundaries training. The training runs from 11:00 to 2:00 and Jeff will probably stay in the training through the end. We would benefit from any TAC members' participation in the training. Please give Alan or Jeff a heads up if you attend.

**Information**

**FRA Long Distance Rail  
Study Update**

*Alan Adolf*

Next meeting for the northwest region will be held in June or July. May meet regionally before then to give us an idea of where we're at – meeting with the City of Yakima on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Information**

**CTR Program Updates  
(50:00)**

*Jeff Watson*

Things are continuing to heat up at the state level. Still working on guidelines and tax credits, along with the distribution formula for jurisdictions.

We have updated our list from 9 to 23 and will be submitting that to the state later today. We will begin work on CTR plans and code updates for all the jurisdictions.

Bill Preston had some questions about telework being an allowable CTR "action". Alan / Paul confirmed that the state recognizes telework as an allowable reported action for CTR trip tracking.

May 19<sup>th</sup> we will be holding a Bike to Work event – something similar to last year.

**Information**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

*Jeff Watson*

We have seven (7) formal amendments in April:

- Grandview: Stover Road
- Union Gap: Regional Connector Phase 2B
- Yakima County: 2 projects for the East-West Corridor
- WSDOT – 3 projects for ADA Compliance and Intersection Safety
- Mabton – an administrative amendment

**Decision:** *Paul Gonseth moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board for approval of April Amendment of 2023-2026 M/RTIP. Rocky Wallace seconded. The motion carried.*

**City of Mabton: STBG  
Augmentation Request**

*Alan Adolf*

The Mabton/BNSF Crossing Agreement has been finalized and Mabton is ready to obligate construction funds pending approval of an additional \$206,000.00 resulting from accumulated inflation since the project was awarded in 2013. We have not done a formal award letter because we haven't needed it until this point. Mabton's 10-year obligation window ends in October, so they need to obligate soon. If this is approved, we should meet our obligation target.

**Decision:** Rocky Wallace moved that TAC recommend Policy Board approve an augmentation of \$206,000 in STBG funding for Mabton’s Main Street Reconstruction Project. Bill Preston seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**2023 Public Participation Plan Update (1:12:50)**

Alan Adolf

In preparation for kicking off the 2024-2045 Long-Range plan this summer, we are preparing the Public Participation Plan – this is how we will involve ourselves with the public over the next four (4) years. In-person meetings, Zoom meetings, outreach, etc.

Public comment period will run from May 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Comments are welcome.

**Information**

**CY 2023 FTA Certification & Assurances Agreements (1:26:25)**

Alan Adolf

One of our first annual certification activities of the year – it is YVCOG’s confirmation that we will comply with the Federal Transit Administration funding guidelines. There are no significant changes – same providers and we have not received notification that any of the providers have gone Union.

**Decision:** Rocky Wallace moved that the TAC recommend the Policy Board approve 2023 FTA Certifications and Assurances Agreements and sign labor letter. Paul Gonseth seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**WSDOT State & Regional Updates (1:28:59)**

WSDOT Representatives

Paul Gonseth provided an update on regional activities.

- Finishing up the SR 24 study – a lot of interest in making it four lanes. WSDOT will not recommend.
- Starting up with Naches study - met with several Naches businesses regarding the study.
- This summer there will be a TSMO (Transportation System Maintenance Operations) workshop– 25 people. Will be held sometime in June. Free.
- Local Bridge program applications are closing soon – rural, off-system bridges. Turn in applications as soon as possible.

Todd Trepanier (WSDOT’s South Central Region’s Regional Administrator) is officially transferring to Spokane. It will probably be 4 months before his position is filled.

**Information**

**Member Updates (1:37:00)**

The following jurisdictions/agencies provided updates:

- HLA (Grandview. Granger)
- Selah
- Union Gap – Dennis will be retiring at the beginning of 2024
- Yakima
- Yakima County
- Yakima Transit

**Information**

**Next TAC Meeting:**

May 11, 2023, next TAC meeting

**Other Business**

None.

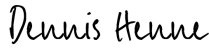
**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjourn**

Chairman Henne adjourned the meeting at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Mr. Dennis Henne, Chair

Date signed: 5/17/2023

Attest:

DocuSigned by:  
  
F0975B7C74204CE...  
Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: 5/17/2023