



MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In-Person and via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2023

PRESENT:

TAC Committee:

Dennis Henne – Chair, Union Gap
Elizabeth Alba – Vice Chair, Sunnyside (Z)
Dan Ford – City of Toppenish (Z)
Bill Preston – Yakima
Ardele Steele – Zillah (Z)
Jase Testerman – Yakima County (Z)
Rocky Wallace – City of Selah (Z)
Robert Washsbaugh – City of Yakima (Z)

Greg Story – Yakima Transit (Z)
Kate Tollefson – WSDOT Regional Coordinator (Z)
Gary Wirt – All Aboard Washington

YVCOG Staff:

Alan Adolf – Transportation Program Manager
Jeff Watson – Senior Transportation Planner
Byron Gumz – Planning Manager (Z)
Tami Hayward – Finance Specialist (Z)
Albert Miller – Land Use Planner (Z)

Associate Participants

Stephen Hazzard – HLA (Z)
Mike Meskimen – Gray & Osborne
Kristen Melcher, People for People

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dennis Henne, Chair, called the May 11, 2023, meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Jase Testerman moved to approve the meeting Minutes from the April 13, 2023, meeting. Rocky Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES

Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Freight & Goods Transportation System (FGTS) Updates (5:10) – Still need jurisdictions to submit updates. Not due until June 15th, but the sooner you can get them in, the better.

Environmental Justice (EJ) Executive Order – the President signed an update to the executive order on April 21st. Will provide information in the upcoming months regarding how this will affect transportation.

Please submit TIP amendments as early as possible to give Jeff adequate time to process them as Alan will be on vacation from May 31st – June 11th. Jeff will be handling the June TAC meeting.

Information

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Upcoming TIP Amendment (8:22)

Jeff Watson, Senior Transportation Planner

June TIP amendments are due next Friday, May 19th, by noon.

Information

**CTR Program Updates
(8:50)**

Jeff Watson

Bike-to-Work Day – Friday, May 19th. Will be giving away some fabulous prizes at the Single Hill Tasting Room event that evening beginning at 4:30. Great charcuterie tray will be available, along with \$1 off your drink if you bring your bike helmet with you. Using this event to contact CTR affected employers, letting them know we're getting the program going again.

That state is still working on their distribution plan, but it appears we will be receiving about 30% more funding for this biennium than in the past. Will hopefully find out actual numbers next month – sounds like \$212,000.00.

Information

**2023 Traffic Count Season
Update (16:50)**

Jeff Watson

Traffic counts are progressing as planned. Currently in Yakima and will be moving on into YVCOG counts in Naches this month. Getting some counts back already from Toppenish and Sunnyside. Remember to write down the link to the information John will send you ... it is a perishable link.

Traffic counts are included in the UPWP – we plan to keep the program going at the same count average as we had prior to this year (20-25 counts, plus special counts).

Will be doing an RFP for traffic count services – 3-year contract).

Information

**2023 Urban Highway
Boundary Process**

Alan Adolf

Working with Ryan Clemmons from WSDOT – he is working on finalizing our maps. Hoping to have a zoom meeting with him before the end of the month. Please try to participate in the meeting. We can't shrink the boundary, but we can expand where appropriate. There are reasons to stay in the boundary even if you aren't required.

Information

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

Alan Adolf

The spreadsheet has been updated following last month's meeting. Does not take into account the possibility of bonus OA being available at the end of the year.

Things look really good as far as meeting our targets.

We had our quarterly MPO/RTPO meetings.

Jurisdictions provided project updates.

STBG Application Process subcommittee members – the subcommittee has been finalized (Dennis Henne, Bill Preston, Rocky Wallace, Jose Trevino, and Randy Giles) but have not met yet. Trying to have the application ready by late summer/early fall.

In 2022 we had \$4.6 million in STBG funds – due to some commitments that weren't distributed in 2022, the anticipated increase from 2022 to 2023 was actually a 10-12% decrease. We will be receiving \$3.8 million. The 61/39 split between state and local is supposed to increase to approximately 56/44 -even with locals getting a larger percentage of the pot, the pot appears to be shrinking. We will do our call based on the lower amounts.

Information

2023 Public Participation Plan (45:38)

Alan Adolf

Sent out an advance copy of the PPP – the plan on planning. This is the precursor to Long-Range Plan. Will be reaching out to jurisdictions regarding long-term wish lists.

Changes to the plan included adding some new technologies we have been required to use over the last 3 years because of Covid ... more electronics, virtual meetings, etc. The biggest change to the plan is that more of the document has been translated into Spanish.

Public participation period began May 1st and will end on June 30th. If you have comments, please send them to yvcog.transportation@yvcog.org email address.

Review of open house meeting schedule. Virtual open house on Tuesday was pretty well attended. Requested that TAC members send out the announcement to co-workers and other transportation stakeholders. Let us know if you have an event you would like us to attend.

We will have a fair booth for the Long-Range Plan this year. Will include aircraft, passenger rail, etc.

Long-Range Plan is due in March 2024.

Information

NEW BUSINESS:

May 2023-2026 M/RTIP Amendment

Jeff Watson

Public Comment ended 5/10/2023.

We have four (4) formal amendments (additions) in May:

- Yakima: Northside Alley Paving (\$500,000)
- Yakima Transit: Annual FTA Operating 5307 – Fixed Route (\$20.5 million)
- Yakima Transit: Annual FTA Equipment 5339 – Bus/Bus Facilities (\$1.9 million)
- Zillah: Third Avenue Sidewalk Improvements (\$417,000)

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

SFY 2024/25 UPWP (52:20)

Alan Adolf

The state and federal review was conducted on April 19th. There were only minor editing adjustments and the final document is ready. The main change to this year's plan was the addition of Task 9 – Regional Transportation (Corridor) Studies/ Multimodal Transportation Planning Activities.

Alan provided a review of the Estimated Revenue Summary. Total estimated revenues for the biennium is \$4,103,033 and expenditures of \$3,859,929 will result in an estimated 2024-2025 carryover of \$243,104.00.

We will begin working on our new contracts July 1st.

Decision: *Jase Testerman moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board for adoption of SFY 2024/2025 UPWP and submittal to WSDOT, including Resolution 2023-13. Rocky Wallace seconded. The motion carried.*

**FY 2024-2027 MPO/RTPO
M/RTIP Kickoff (58:35)**

Alan Adolf

We have received a few calls for STIP preparation assistance. Please reach out if you need help through the process. The sooner you can start putting your projects into the STIP, the sooner we can begin the vetting process.

We do need to track funding source population codes a little better, so make sure those new codes are available to you as you move forward – STBG Rural, STBG Medium. Need to make sure the subclassification for funding is inputted correctly and we will work with you on that.

Information

**2023 Federal Safe Streets &
Roads for All (SS4A) Grant
Application (1:01:00)**

Alan Adolf

Most of you have received NOFO emails for this program. Toppenish received a grant for their Safety Action Plan through them last year. YVCOG did not apply last year but may submit an application this year – wondering if the TAC is interested in YVCOG applying for a region-wide Safety Action Plan and what your theme might be – pedestrian/bicycle safety? Painting bike lanes and many other possibilities. Must apply for at least \$200,000. May need to fold Toppenish into the region-wide plan.

We would probably hire a consultant to prepare our plan.

Application is due July 10th (before July TAC meeting). Application is only 2 pages and wouldn't take long to prepare.

Will be addressed again at the June meeting.

Information/Discussion

**WSDOT State & Regional
Updates (1:29:27)**

WSDOT Representatives

Randy Giles:

We have a temporary Regional Administrator in place. Projects are still moving ahead. There is still a small amount of preservation funding available and we are currently in the process of determining which of those projects to move forward with.

Kate Tollefson:

Thanked YVCOG for their work on the UPWP.

Will look into the EJ question about any future requirements from the update.

Information

Member Updates

The following jurisdictions/agencies provided updates:

- All Aboard Washington

- HLA (Grandview, Granger)
- Gray & Osborne (Mabton)
- People for People
- Selah
- Toppenish
- Union Gap
- Yakima

Information

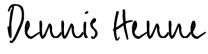
Next TAC Meeting: June 9, 2023, next TAC meeting

Other Business Alan reminded the TAC of the TIB workshop in Ellensburg on May 30th.

Public Comment None.

Adjourn Chairman Henne adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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 Mr. Dennis Henne, Chair

Date signed: 6/22/2023

Attest:

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F0975B7C74204CE...

 Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: 6/22/2023