

YVCOG TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
July 17, 2023

CALL TO ORDER Vice Chairman, John Hodkinson, called the July 17, 2023, meeting of the Transportation Policy Board to order at 1:31 p.m. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

- Members present: John Hodkinson, James Restucci (Z), Patricia Byers, Janice Gonzales (Z), LaDon Linde, Sherry Raymond, Jon Smith (Z), Randy Giles (WSDOT), Madelyn Carlson.
- Members Absent: Jose Trevino
- YVCOG staff present: Alan Adolf, Shane Andreas, Vicki Baker, Byron Gumz (Z), Tami Hayward (Z), Albert Miller (Z), Alma Rabadan, Jodi Smith (Z), and Chris Wickenhagen.

Others present: Elizabeth Alba, TAC Vice Chair, Jack Galloway and Sandy Dailey (Union Gap City Council Members).

*\*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.

CONSENT AGENDA The following items were approved under the Consent Agenda:

- June 20, 2023, Minutes
- July Amendment to the 2023-2026 M/RTIP
- Amendment #1 of the 2024-25 UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program)

*Decision: Jon Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda items. Janice Gonzales seconded. The motion carried.*

*Alan Adolf, Transportation Program Manager*

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE

- **WSDOT RTPO Funding Award Letter SF 2023-25**  
We will receive \$198,488.00 for the 23-25 biennium – this is the same amount we have received for the last 20 years (except for 1 biennium) and is an ongoing concern for RTPOs around the state. The funding level does not reflect 20 years of inflationary increases.
- **Federal Rail Administration (FRA) Long Distance Study**  
Mr. Adolf will be participating tomorrow (July 18) morning in the NW Working Group’s 2nd meeting (via Zoom). YVCOG was added as a member representative of the workgroup earlier this year.
- **2023 SS4A Grant Update**  
We have submitted the Safe Streets and Roads for All application and are now waiting to hear back.

- **WSDOT US 97 & Jones Road Roundabout Project Groundbreaking – June 10<sup>th</sup>**  
 Last week Mr. Adolf had the opportunity to grab a shovel and participate in his first ground-breaking ceremony! This is the second of five planned US 97 roundabouts. The Heritage Connectivity Trail will most likely run along 97 (connecting to this and other roundabouts) from Union Gap to Wapato and maybe Toppenish.
- **Yakama Nation’s Heritage Connectivity Trail Logo**  
 Mr. Adolf presented the Yakama Nation’s Heritage Connectivity Trail’s official logo.
- **August Federal Redistribution Funds Available to Washington State update**  
 Washington State will receive \$125 million in redistribution funds. This is all contingent upon the state meeting its statewide federal funding targets, which looks promising at this point. Yakima’s North 1<sup>st</sup> Street Phase III project meets the criteria and we have requested up to \$5 million. We should hear back by the end of August.
- **YVCOG Long-Range Plan Booth at Central Washington State Fair update**  
 YVCOG will have a booth at the fair this year. Primary reason for the booth is to present our Long-Range Plan to the public. Our main goal is to gauge public interest on investment. Ordering new safety-related swag for giveaways. The cost of a 10 x 10 booth is \$1,100 and we are reserving two spaces.
- Mr. Adolf also noted that YVCOG Transportation Planner, Jeff Watson, has been chosen to participate on the Scenic Byways Commission as a private citizen. This will be a great opportunity to gather information for our bike/ped activities, etc.

***Information***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*Elizabeth Alba, TAC Vice Chair and Alan Adolf*

*2023 Public Participation Plan*

The TAC has recommended adoption of the 2023 Public Participation Plan – mainly for use with the Long-Range Plan, but it outlines our plan for outreach in general.

- Four in-person open houses, along with two virtual open houses and a radio interview, were conducted on the plan.
- Public Comment Period ran from May 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.

***Decision:*** *Jon Smith moved to adopt 2023 YVCOG Public Participation Plan Document and submit copy to WSDOT. Janice Gonzales seconded. The motion carried.*

*2023 Urban Highway Boundary Recommendations and Review*

The TAC discussed the revisions to the urban boundary maps at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Adolf explained that the boundary adjustment process occurs every 10 years, and provided a quick review of the Urban Highway Boundary map. Some of the formerly ‘urban’ jurisdictions are now designated as ‘rural’ due to a change in the rural and urban designations (population of 2,500 and up was considered urban, but it is now 5,000 people). Several of our cities still plan to design and develop to urban standards.

**Information**

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Elizabeth Alba and Alan Adolf*

*2022/23 CMAQ Performance Measurement and Target Concurrence*

Mr. Adolf provided a review of the document. This 4-year (through 20206) document demonstrates concurrence with regional and statewide targets for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program.

**Decision:** *Patricia Byers moved to authorize Chair to sign confirmation letter and authorize Chair to sign Resolution 2023-18 for adoption of 2022/2023 WSDOT and Local Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Performance Measures and Targets. Jon Smith seconded. The motion carried.*

**WSDOT STATE & REGIONAL UPDATE**

*Randy Giles, WSDOT South Central Region*

Randy is filling in for the Regional Administrator today. Hoping to have a permanent regional Administrator by next month.

Busy summer – construction season. A lot of preservation work, which is much needed – Status Pass, I-90, Highway 97, Highway 12, various bridge decks, Mabton bridge replacement, etc. A lot of our future preservation work has been put on hold. Will be focusing on improvement projects for a while.

**Information**

**WASHINGTON TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION UPDATE**

*James Restucci. WSTC Representative*

The WTC will be meeting tomorrow and Wednesday. Will hear about climate change from WSDOT’s State Department of Commerce’s Climate Change Program Manager. Will also receive a briefing from the U of W Transportation Center on WSDOT toll equity study. Update on vehicle miles traveled target setting and will then be hearing from King County on their new on-demand transit service (MetroFlex); updates on the road-usage charge, PSRC Equity Advisory Committee, and Columbia River I-5 bridge replacement program (now up to \$6 billion).

**Information**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Policy Board meeting will be held August 21, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURN**

With no other business, Vice Chair Hodkinson adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:



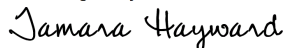
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James A. Restucci  
YVCOG Transportation Policy Board Chair

August 21, 2023

Date signed

ATTEST:

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Tamara Hayward, Financial Specialist