



MPO/RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Online Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2024

PRESENT:

TAC Committee:

Rocky Wallace – Chair, Selah
Shaun Burgess, Toppenish
David Dominguez, Union Gap
Dan Ford – Toppenish
Paul Gonseth – WSDOT
Dennis Henne – Union Gap
Hector Mejia, Grandview
Kristin Melcher – WSDOT
Matt Pietrusiewicz – Yakima County
Bill Preston, Yakima
Raul Sanchez – Sunnyside
Ardele Steele – Zillah
Kate Tollefson – WSDOT
Robert Washabaugh - Yakima

Associate Participants

Stephen Hazzard – HLA
Mike Meskimen – G&O
Greg Story – Yakima Transit

YVCOG Staff:

Alan Adolf – Transportation Planning Manager
Byron Gumz – Regional Land Use Manager
Tami Hayward – Finance Specialist
Jeff Watson – Senior Transportation Planner

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Rocky Wallace, Chair, called the February 8, 2024, meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Hector Mejia moved to approve the meeting Minutes from the January 11, 2024, meeting. Dan Ford seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES

Alan Adolf, Transportation Planning Manager

Mr. Adolf reported on recent program correspondence and updates:

- Elizabeth Alba has stepped down as TAC Chair and Rocky Wallace will be filling that position. Ardele Steele accepted the position of Vice Chair.
- The Federal Rail Administration’s Northwest Region Workgroup is meeting today.
- Changing WSDOT representation on the TAC (Paul will address this later in the meeting).
- Transportation Improvement Board has some Complete Street opportunities for submittal of Complete Street projects – submittal deadline March 1st.

Information

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Upcoming 2024-2027 TIP Amendments

Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

We will be doing a March TIP amendment – deadline is February 23rd. Advance notification that you will be doing an amendment would be appreciated.

Information

CTR Program Update

Jeff Watson. Transportation Planner

- The CTR program is getting moving in earnest. We need to update all of our CTR plans for affected jurisdictions (Selah, Yakima, Union Gap, Moxee, and Yakima County). Updates must be completed by June of 2025. We have petitioned the state for permission to develop a regional plan but have not received a reply. Contemplating contracting this work out to a consultant.
- Will be contacting affected employers in the near future.

Information

FY 2024 – 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Alan Adolf

The public comment period has begun. You can go to the web page to comment. You will be able to comment until March 7th.

Open houses will be held virtually on February 13th and 20th, and in-person meetings at the Greenway (2/15), Zillah (2/27), Tieton (2/28), Grandview (2/29), and YVCOG (3/5).

Information/Discussion

STBG / TA / CMAQ / CRP: Forecast and Distribution Update

Alan Adolf

We have not yet been informed of our 2024 federal funding amounts and will be basing our projections on our 2023 funding levels (\$3.8 million). At this point we are over-obligated by about \$2.8 million (does not include 3 pending de-obligations). An additional \$400,000 to \$600,000 should be available after those projects are de-obligated.

Discussion of Obligations and Project Status and possible calls for projects. May have about \$400,000 available for populations of 50,000 or more – must be in the Greater Yakima Urban Growth Area (City of Yakima, Yakima County, maybe a couple of others).

We are planning a small STBG Call for Projects beginning February 26th if the Call for Projects process is recommended by TAC and approved by the Policy Board.

Decision: *Bill Preston moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board to approve 2024 STBG Call for Projects Application Process. Matt Pietruciewicz seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

2024 Traffic Counter Season Allocation Update

Alan Adolf

Next Friday, February 16th, at noon is the deadline for all jurisdictions wanting traffic counts to submit their requests. The application form was sent out as an editable pdf. Each jurisdiction is allocated up to 25 counts at this point. We do have a small amount of money available for video capture counts, which need to be arranged directly with YVCOG. Counts should begin mid-March.

Discussion

2024-45 UPWP Updates – SFY 2025 *Alan Adolf*

Will be amending the 2024-45 UPWP document – mostly financial – due to being awarded the Transit Feasibility Consolidated Grant and the Safety Action Plan. However, if there are tasks we should incorporate, we can include them. Please provide any comments or suggestions as soon as possible.

Information

NEW BUSINESS:

February 2024-2027 M/RTIP Amendment *Alan Adolf*

We have one (1) amendment in February (WSDOT) – I-82 Yakima River Bridge joint repair project – revision due to reduction in cost.

Decision: *Paul Gonseth moved for TAC recommendation to Policy Board for approval of February Amendment of 2024-2027 M/RTIP. Ardele Steele seconded. The motion carried.*

WSDOT State & Regional Updates *Kate Tollefson and Paul Gonseth*

Kate – sending out the poll for the air quality conformity today and looking forward to the UPWP meeting.

Paul – Randy Giles and Paul have both accepted positions at the ARA level. Paul will be in Construction and Randy will be in Design leaving Planning Manager and Local Programs Engineer position openings at SCR. They will both be doing double duty until the positions are filled. Updates on Heritage Connectivity Trail activities. Thanked those who sent in RAISE letters of support. Drafting the study report on Naches and it should be available in a couple of months.

Information

Member Updates The following jurisdictions/agencies provided updates:

Yakima
Yakima County
All Aboard Washington (via Alan) – Federal Rail Administration Workgroup – the Yakima (Auburn) to Helena, MT route has been selected as a preferred route for further planning and analysis.

Information

Next TAC Meeting: March 14, 2024, next TAC meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Other Business Regional Mobility Grant applications are due March 5th.

Public Comment None.

Adjourn Vice Chairman Rocky Wallace adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:
Rocky Wallace
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MPO/RTPO TAC Chair/Vice Chair

Date signed: 3/20/2024

Attest:

DocuSigned by:
Alan Adolf
57BE74C8C1DA40A...
Alan Adolf, Transportation Manager

Date signed: 3/21/2024