

**SUMMARY MINUTES
ROGUE VALLEY MPO POLICY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 28, 2014**



The following attended:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Al Densmore, Vice Chairman	City of Medford	772-1116
Art Anderson	ODOT	774-6353
Bill Cecil	City of Talent	535-1566
Bruce Sophie	City of Phoenix	535-1634
John Vail for Don Skundrick	Jackson County	774-6118
Jim Lewis	City of Jacksonville	899-7023
Paige Townsend for Julie Brown	RVTD	608-2143
Mike Quilty, Chairman	City of Central Point	664-7907
Rich Rosenthal	City of Ashland	941-1494
Ruth Jenks	City of Eagle Point	826-4212
<u>Staff</u>		
Dan Moore	RVCOG	423-1361
Jonathan David	RVCOG	
Andrea Napoli	RVCOG	423-1369
Bunny Lincoln	RVCOG	944-2446
Mike Cavallero	RVCOG	

Others Present

Mike Kuntz, , Mary Wooding, Alex Georgevitch, Ian Horlacher, Mike Baker, Mike Montero, Greg Holmes, Josh LeBombard, Tara Weidner, Bob Cortwright.

1. Call to Order / Introductions/ Review Agenda -

Vice Chairman Al Densmore called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. Introductions followed.

2. Review / Approve Minutes -

On a motion by Jim Lewis, seconded by Bruce Sophie, the minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

3. Public Comment -

None.

4. Public Advisory Council (PAC) Appointment

The PAC recommended approval of Mary Wooding's application.

On a motion by Jim Lewis, seconded by Rich Rosenthal, Mary Wooding was appointed to the Public Advisory Council as a representative from Ashland. The voice vote was unanimous.

5. Strategic Assessment

Jonathan David presented a review of the Strategic Assessment process and approval recommendations up to this point.

Bob Cortwright, DLCD, opened the Strategic Assessment presentation, explaining that it was a joint effort between ODOT and DLCD and related to reducing greenhouse gasses around the State. Tara Weidner explained her role in the process, and working with the newest Regional Strategic Planning Model.

Mr. Cortwright explained Strategic Assessment and walked through the recently completed Corvallis Plan, the first completed Assessment. He reviewed the following items:

- Historical project background 2009-10.
- Portland's Scenario Planning
- Scenario Planning Guidelines, a broader process than strategic planning (required for Metros)
- The 20% reduction goal
- Statewide Transportation Strategy (ODOT implementation)

At this point, the MRMPO has no reduction targets or obligation to comply with same.

Strategic Assessment is a new "tool" to assess how existing, adopted plans/data can help to meet the established GHG reduction goals by 2035. RTP & Land Use Plans, as well as census information are used in the process.

The Base Case is set at 2010 for Current Conditions (the most recent data available).

The Reference Case is established at 2035.

The members discussed various aspects related to the categories upon which the Assessment is expected to provide information:

- Household travel costs
- Transportation & energy costs
- Air quality
- Mixed-Use development
- Health impacts
- Vehicle miles traveled
- Travel delay
- Fuel consumption
- Walk trips & bike miles
- Greenhouse gas emissions

Other items discussed included:

- How the Assessment could help local municipalities and agencies evaluate and update their transportation plans and make informed investment decisions
- How the Regional Strategic Planning Model (RSPM) allows for the analysis of smaller geographic areas and the understanding of future transportation trends, as well as identification of potential policy actions to successfully reach local goals. Statistics and data used include census data, Oregon travel data & surveys, national travel study trends, adopted land use & transportation plans and TAZ-level travel models.
- Assessments can usually be completed within six months.
- Funding and no-cost technical assistance are available through ODOT.
- Technical assistance (no-cost) is also provided b DLCDC.

Mr. Cortright and Ms. Weidner shared more specific details of the Corvallis Assessment (CAMPO), with Power Point slides covering:

1. State agency assistance provided
2. Key Findings and Factors on per capita greenhouse gas declines to 2035
3. Key Factors and Findings on public health improvements
4. Key Findings on reaching the target GHG reductions
5. The availability of multiple options to reach the reduction goal
6. Policy impacts by reductions in emissions, household travel costs and road congestion
7. Factors evaluated by RSPM
 - ❖ Regional Context
 - ❖ Local Actions: Community Design, Marketing & Incentives
 - ❖ Collaborative Actions: Vehicles & Fuels, Pricing

Mike Quilty arrived at 2:25 PM, and assumed leadership of the meeting.

CAMPO funding to Corvallis was \$20,000. A discussion ensued about funding, staffing, current projects and timing for an RVMPO Strategic Assessment.

John Vial asked about what would happen if an SA showed that targets were not being met, and whether potential legislation might be enacted to mandate planning, as opposed to the current “voluntary” status of the SA issue. The “target rule” will be reviewed by the State next year. Mr. Vial also expressed concern that there might be a legislative mandate to implement Scenario Planning at some point.

Mike Quilty also brought up the issue of potential future, unfunded mandates, and the imperative need to provide accurate data for the southern Oregon region.

Tara Weidner shared that that the State had a definite need to hear from southern Oregon.

The Committee members generally expressed further anxiety about future funding costs/sources, modeling procedures/flexibility, benchmarks, current/future federal government policies in a contentious political environment, and the volatility of the regional assumptions, while many people in other areas of the State do not understand the unique qualities of the southern Oregon region. It should be clearly articulated in the SA that any assessment is only illustrative for evaluation purposes, and does not signify endorsement of any plans or policies, but only demonstrates possibilities related to currently adopted plans.

Bob Cortwright explained that the LCDC and State legislative greenhouse gas targets are actually looking out to 2050. Mike Quilty also spoke about plug in vehicle facilities, and commented that the SA would provide a good way to codify SO use of alternative fuel vehicles.

Other MPOs are also involved in the SA process, but the Middle Rogue and Albany MPOs do not have established targets at this time.

On a motion by Jim Lewis, seconded by Art Anderson, the Committee directed Staff to draft a letter to approve moving forward with a regional Strategic Assessment in partnership with ODOT and DLCD. The motion passed by voice vote, with John Vial voting nay.

6. MPO Planning Update –

- Jonathan David passed out informational documents regarding transportation funding possibilities.
- The addition of a Bike Ped position has been discussed by the TAC. The PAC was solidly behind leaving the representation formula (population based) as it is in the Bylaws.
- Mass Transit positions are not jurisdictionally bound. The new Bike/Ped position would be the same.
- Art Anderson spoke about the OTC and funding mechanisms.
- Jonathan David encouraged southern Oregon representation on the OTC.
- Other, non-jurisdictional, TAC positions may be discussed at future meetings.
- Jonathan Davis asked the Committee to select a December 1st or 2nd date for the next meeting, using email responses.

On a motion by Al Densmore, seconded by John Vial, Staff was directed to create language to amend the Bylaws to create a Bike/Ped position on the Public Advisory Council.

7. Public/Audience Comment –

- John Vial suggested a review of TAC/PAC multi-modal representatives and membership positions. He also expressed his opinion that the TAC should not be doing what might be construed as Policy Committee work. Art Anderson spoke again about his concern about available funding, and Mike Quilty reiterated that local data is vital for backup to protect the region from unfunded mandates. Vial shared that the whole issue come down to trusting .LCDC/DLCD.
- Mike Quilty attended the OTC meeting and said that ODOT will be revisiting the redisbursal of certain unaccepted public transportation funds.
- There will be an RVACT meeting on Nov. 4th. Mike Quilty will attend.

8. Other Business / Local Business

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.