

**SUMMARY MINUTES
ROGUE VALLEY MPO POLICY COMMITTEE
APRIL 28, 2015**



The following attended:
MPO Policy Committee

Member	Organization	Phone Number
Bruce Sophie	City of Phoenix	535-1634
Colleen Roberts	Jackson County	535-1634
Jim Lewis	City of	899-7023
Julie Brown	RVTD	608-2413
Ruth Jenks	City of Eagle	941-8537
Mike Quilty, Chairman	City of Central	664-7907
Art Anderson	ODOT	774-6353
Mike Faught for Rich Rosenthal	City of Ashland	941-1494
Michael Zarosinski	City of Medford	
Darby Strickler	City of Talent	535-1566

Staff -

Dan Moore	RVCOG	423-1361
Andrea Napoli	RVCOG	423-1369
Bunny Lincoln	RVCOG	944-2446
Dick Converse	RVCOG	
Mike Cavallero	RVCOG	

Others Present -

Name	Organization	Phone Number
Mike Baker	ODOT	957-3658
Mike Faught	Ashland	552-2411
Mike Kuntz	Jackson County	
Mike Montero	Montero &	944-4376
Al Densmore	John Watt	601-0704
Alex Georgevitch	Medford	
John Adam	Medford	
Josh Le Bombard	DLCD	
Kelly Madding	Jackson County	
Karen Jones	Phoenix	

1. Call to Order / Introductions/ Review Agenda -

Chairman Mike Quilty, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Committee began with introductions.

2. Review / Approve Minutes -

Item #6 was brought to the top of the agenda, and renumbered as **#4**.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 24th meeting minutes. Mike Faught stipulated that he was representing Ashland at that meeting.

On a motion by Jim Lewis, seconded by Colleen Roberts, the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

3. Public Comment -

None.

4. Regional Problem Solving (RPS) Growth Areas.

Dick Converse gave a presentation on the May 15th modified memo outlining the MPO's role in collaborating with the various cities and reviewing Urban Reserve Land Use and Transportation connectivity conceptual plans as part of Regional Plan implementation and performance indicators. Concept plans must be adopted prior to Comp Plan amendments. Roads in growth areas (arterials) must be shown, and transportation connectivity, especially with other jurisdictional systems, is vital. The plans are only conceptual, and **not** comprehensive plans.

The anticipated process is that the TAC looks at the concept plan for compliance with the adopted Regional Plan, and then directs COG Staff to write a letter confirming that compliance. This is **not** an approval of the Plan, but, rather, a report on the Plan comments that would go back to the City. The TAC comments are then expected to be brought to the Policy Committee. The oversight focus for the Policy Committee is to determine that the TAC followed proper procedures in their review. To date, the Program Manager has been unable to bring reports to Policy Committee due to illness. After appropriate consideration, Central Point's letters regarding their concept plans have been prepared to outline the TAC's findings.

John Adam spoke about his previous involvement in the RPS process, and the drafting of the Performance Measures and concurred with the contents of the Staff memo. Colleen Roberts expressed that the review might be too broad, and that a smaller, subcommittee process might be better, with fewer, non-affected jurisdictions/agencies weighing in at the initial level. Mr. Converse also mentioned a smaller, less formal review oversight body, but with transparency reporting being a high priority. Josh Le Bombard reminded the Committee that the plans were conceptual only, without a Plan in process. The actual UGB amendment process will be subject to a much more strenuous approval process with a full review. Land need tests will need to be met, with some candidate lands possibly having to wait longer to be considered for UGB inclusion.

Chairman Quilty voiced his concern that the process was just asking for a "sign off" from the Policy Committee and the MPO. He felt the final decision should come from the Policy Committee, and the technical review body (the TAC). Art Anderson, ODOT, agreed. The political aspects, in addition to the technical ones, need to be reviewed on a broader scale. System connectivity is essential. He said ODOT would be uncomfortable without more involvement in the political discussions.

Mike Baker stated that he trusted the TAC review, and Dick Converse pointed out that there review criteria clearly spelled out in the Regional Plan.

The discussion continued among the members, and included:

- The weight of the TAC comments, and the fact that they were not an approval"
- "Collaboration" with the County and MPO is required to meet the Plan performance measures
- The potential importance of running the TAC findings/recommendations by the Policy Committee as an agenda item, with any compliance letter being signed by the Policy Committee
- The importance of the fact that the MPO is a funding mechanism for transportation expansion, and the need to have adequate information/discussion opportunities before making any compliance determinations
- The various cities do a lot of the actual technical work, providing same to the TAC
- The TAC needs to kept as a body to review the Conceptual Plans – Mike Cavallero
- Due transportation funding involvement, the MPO and Policy Committee need to be fully informed on what various jurisdictions are planning for future major transportation projects

- The Policy Committee needs to be the entity sending any conceptual plan comment letters
- A concept plan executive summary and connectivity maps need to be part of the information provided to the Policy Committee
- A Policy Committee cost effectiveness review could be warranted with respect to right of way acquisitions
- Staff should be present to answer any Policy Committee technical questions when the concept plans are presented
- Regional support is essential to minimize the potential of future third party litigation when candidate lands are not chosen for UGB inclusion
- Answers on future available funding are important factors
- Updated TSPs are just plans, but do not necessarily speak about funding mechanisms

The Committee asked Staff to bring the matter back to the next meeting, showing a level of examination of the areas in question, and a review of TAC comments. The Committee wants to be the entity endorsing the comments on a particular URA. If felt to be warranted, the Committee might also provide constructive comments back to a jurisdiction.

The final letter/comments will come from the Policy Committee. It will not constitute an “approval”.

Public Hearing #1:

5. RVMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) 2015-16

The Chair read the public hearing procedure.

Dan Moore presented an overview of the 2015-16 UPWP. The budget and dues schedule was approved in February. The RVMPO self-certification that activities fulfill federal requirements for metropolitan planning is included.

Various State/local entities are working out new funding formulas for allocations of MPO planning funds. The RVMPO had a reduction of \$14,000 in funds. \$84,000 were carried over. An Associate Planner is being sought by the COG to cover additional Staff workloads. Some costs will be split with MRMPO. Matching funds for FTA are coming from “in kind” contributions.

Items specifically noted included:

- Update of the next RTP (2017-42)
- Update Public Participation Plan.
- Environmental Justice Assessment
- Updating the ITS Plan

The TAC and PAC reviewed the Program and recommended approval. Cost breakdowns are separated for the RVMPO and MRMPO, including five (5) FT COG employees. Staff time is tracked, and split accordingly, with the MRMPO. The MRMPO budget is \$270,000+/-

Jonathan David is not returning to as Program Manager. Dan Moore will be assuming that

position. The COG is fully staffed for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Chair opened public testimony.

In support: None received

In opposition: None received

The Chair closed the public hearing.

Julie Brown spoke about the importance of IT to RVTD.

Jim Lewis made a motion to adopt the 2015-16 Unified Planning Work Plan (Resolutions 2015-1 and 2015-2). The motion was seconded by Julie Brown, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Public Hearing #2

6. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) & Regional Plan Amendment (RTP)

The Chair read the public hearing procedures

Andrea Napoli presented ODOT's proposal to amend the Antelope Road Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling Station into the RTP Project List and TIP. A vicinity map was included in the documentation.

The TAC recommended Policy committee approval of the amendment at their April 8th meeting.

The Chair opened public testimony.

In support: Mike Montero spoke in support of the amendment.

In opposition: None received

The Chair closed the public hearing.

Jim Lewis made a motion to adopt the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) & Regional Plan Amendment (RTP). Seconded by Ruth Jenks. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Action Item:

7. RVMPO Planning Update

- Dan Moore is taking Jonathan David's place as RVCOG Program Manager.
- RVMPO evaluations are currently underway, including the Alternative Measures Final Report and Strategic Assessment (SA) looking at the region's transportation plans, and inputting them into a model providing information on strategies for GHG reductions. An on-line survey is a part of the Assessment. The SA is a voluntary process.
- The RTP update is ongoing.

8. Public Comment

None received.

9. Other Business / Local Business

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.