

**SUMMARY MINUTES
ROGUE VALLEY MPO POLICY COMMITTEE
MAY 23, 2017**



The following attended:

Voting Members	Organization	Phone Number
Jim Lewis	Jacksonville	899-7023
Michael Zarosinski, Vice Chair	Medford	772-1909
Mike Baker for Art Anderson	ODOT	957-3658
Mike Quilty, Chair	Central Point	664-7907
Rich Rosenthal	Ashland	941-1494
Sarah Westover	Phoenix	972-0869
Tonia Moro	RVTD	973-2063
Staff	Organization	Phone Number
Karl Welzenbach	RVCOG	423-1360
Dan Moore	RVCOG	423-1361
Ryan MacLaren	RVCOG	423-1338
Stephanie Thune	RVCOG	423-1368
Interested Parties	Organization	Phone Number
Alex Georgevitch	Medford	774-2114
Brad Bennington	Jacksonville	941-0901
Kelly Madding	Medford	774-2009
Mike Faught	Ashland	488-5587
Paige Townsend	RVTD	608-2429

1. Call to Order and Roll Call / Introductions/ Review Agenda

- Chair Quilty called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.; roll was called to confirm a quorum.
- Introductions took place. Welcome to Brad Bennington, Jacksonville Councilor, who will serve as alternate for Jim Lewis.
- The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Public Comment

None voiced.

Consent Agenda:

3. Review / Approve Minutes

The Chair asked if there were any additions or corrections to the previous meeting minutes.

On a motion by Jim Lewis, seconded by Rich Rosenthal, the minutes of the April 25, 2017 meeting were approved as presented. *The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

Public Hearing:

4. 2017-2042 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

The Chair read the procedure for the public hearing.

Ryan MacLaren presented eight proposed amendments to the 2015-2018 TIP; a detailed memo was provided for review. A 21-day public comment period – during which time no comments were received – was advertised on May 2 in the Medford Mail Tribune and posted on the RVMPO website.

At their May 10 meeting, the RVMPO TAC voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposed amendments to the RVMPO Policy Committee. However, shortly before today’s meeting, ODOT advised MacLaren to strike the proposal for amendment “F: OR62 Corridor Solutions Unit 2 Phase 3 (*Medford*) (KN 21015),” since the start date for that item has been delayed to the 2018-2021 TIP time frame.

Regarding proposed amendment “G,” Alex Georgevitch explained that the Jackson Street and McAndrews signal upgrades comprise minor modifications (back plates with reflective tape, etc.) to the existing signal for improved functionality.

The Chair opened the discussion to public comment, both in support and in opposition.

None voiced.

The Chair closed the public testimony.

Rich Rosenthal moved to approve the 2017-2042 RVMPO RTP and 2015-2018 RVMPO TIP amendments as adjusted, with the removal of amendment “F.” Mike Baker seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Action Items:

5. Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs) Update

Dan Moore reported that ODOT is updating its freight plan and critical urban freight corridor designations since Oregon is planning to add 77 new miles to its statewide urban freight system.

Based on a formula developed with Oregon MPO input, Portland will be receiving 34.6 of the 77 miles, leaving 42.4 for the non-Metro Oregon MPOs. Table 2 in Moore's memo (provided for review) detailed the specific allocations, showing that the RVMPO will receive a 5.2 mile share. With the initial requirement to apply the CUFC miles exclusively to TIP projects, RVCOG staff worked in conjunction with ODOT to identify eligible mileage segments; these segments were then shared with the TAC at their May 10 meeting.

However, subsequent to TAC input (the committee did not agree with the idea of applying for freight funds for projects already fully-funded in the TIP), and a decision by ODOT to expand project selection criteria to RTP projects, a new allocation schedule was created (ref. Table 4, provided), accompanied by a map and project details.

With these new mileage areas from RTP projects designated and with Policy Committee approval, the RVMPO can proceed to submit the 5.2 miles to compete for project funds (\$80 million available in freight funds through the Fast Act, available in Fall 2017) for the CUFC segments. Mike Baker noted that periodic modifications to the submitted CUFC designations will be possible over time.

On a motion by Jim Lewis, seconded by Michael Zarosinski, the Policy Committee approved submittal of 5.2 miles of designated CUFC project segments to ODOT.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion Items:

6. CMAQ Project Funding Recommendation

- Consensus regarding the distribution formula continues to elude the CMAQ work groups. Another attempt will be made on June 2; if agreement is not reached, the decision will be made by the OTC.
 - Julie Brown (RVTD) and Mayor VanArsdale (Rogue River) have been strong proponents for equity and finding middle ground throughout the distribution formula discussion process.
- Per Mike Quilty, work group members were advised by the OTC Chair “not to go hunting for the meaning of federal regulations related to CMAQ eligibility.”
- The RVMPO is the only MPO with alternative measure requirements related to air quality. The DEQ does not have the money or personnel to monitor/study other regions.

7. Public Comment

None voiced.

Regular Updates:

8. RVMPO Planning Update

Welzenbach reported that, although both the MRMPO and RVMPO met ODOT's deadline for 2018-2021 TIP approval, ODOT subsequently changed items in its STIP. As a result –and since the two documents' projects must match identically – ODOT is requesting that both MPOs re-adopt (not amend) their 2018-2021 TIPs to include the previously omitted STIP projects.

Since inadequate communication/coordination between ODOT and the MPOs has resulted in TIP/STIP discrepancies for the past six years, the FHWA has stated that the issue needs to be resolved, or future project funding could be affected. Welzenbach mentioned that efforts are underway and will be ongoing to overhaul the process from preparation through submittal stages.

9. Other Business / Local Business

Medford: Zarosinski shared that the 2010 Tiger Grant for the S. Stage Road overpass was ultimately unsuccessful due to a lack of identified funding sources. Medford is now attempting to create a viable funding plan prior to another grant submittal.

RVCOG: Moore reported that seismic retrofitting is the major project being considered for the Rogue Valley in the state transportation funding package.

Central Point: Chair Quilty shared the following:

- ODOT Rail has completed the paperwork allowing the Seven Oaks railroad crossing to be closed and the Twin Creeks Development crossing to be built.
- Work will begin on Pine Street in late summer/early fall to narrow lanes and widen sidewalks.
- Costco plans to be open on Table Rock and Hamrick Road by November 1.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

Scheduled Meetings:

RVMPO TAC | Wednesday, June 14 @ 1:30 pm

RVMPO Policy | Tuesday, June 27 @ 2:00 pm

RVMPO PAC | Tuesday, July 18 @ 5:30 pm