

**SUMMARY MINUTES
ROGUE VALLEY MPO POLICY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 23, 2018**



The following attended:

| Voting Members | Organization | Phone Number |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Bob Strosser | Jackson County | 774-6119 |
| Jim Lewis | Jacksonville | 899-7023 |
| Kim Wallan | Medford | 776-2058 |
| 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 |
| Alternate Voting Members Present | Organization | Phone Number |
| John Vial | Jackson County | 774-6238 |
| Staff | Organization | Phone Number |
| Karl Welzenbach | RVCOG | 423-1360 |
| Stephanie Thune | RVCOG | 423-1368 |
| Interested Parties | Organization | Phone Number |
| Alex Georgevitch | Medford | 774-2114 |
| Jim Herndon | RVMPO PAC | 840-0741 |
| Mike Montero | Montero & Associates | 779-0771 |

[RVMPO Policy Committee January 23, 2018 Agenda Packet](#)

Full meeting recording: [180123 RVMPO Policy Committee Meeting Audio](#)

1. Call to Order / Introductions / Review Agenda 00:00 – 02:50

2:04 | *Quorum*: Ashland, Central Point, Jacksonville, Medford, Phoenix, Jackson County, ODOT, RVTD

- Councilor Kim Wallan has replaced Councilor Michael Zarosinski as the primary voting member for Medford.
- MPO resource binders were distributed to all primary voting members.

2. Public Comment 02:51 – 03:06

Consent Agenda

3. Review / Approve Minutes 03:07 – 03:47

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

03:22 | Jim Lewis moved to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2017 Special Meeting as presented. Rich Rosenthal seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Hearing

4. 2017-2042 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments 03:48 – 13:55

The Chair read the procedure for the public hearing.

In Ryan MacLaren’s absence, Karl Welzenbach reported briefly on two state-requested amendments to the 2018-2021 TIP. [**Correction to statement in recorded minutes and Item 4 information in the agenda packet**]: they are TIP amendments only, not RTP.

- **A** | Speed signs for Siskiyou Pass on I-5 could potentially be installed inside of the RVMPO boundary just south of Ashland. (If, however, no signs are ultimately installed inside the boundary, there will be another TIP amendment to remove the project.)
- **B** | Construction phase (application of sealant to bridge components) added for Salt Pilot project.

Both projects are using state (non-MPO) funds. Details of all projects were included in the agenda packet for review and are available online at www.rvmppo.org.

Regarding Amendment A: A “weather responsive variable speed system” is LED signage linked to a weather station that allows roadway speeds to be adjusted based on weather conditions. The signs are black on white and have the same legal enforceability as standard speed limit signs; the only existing one in Oregon to-date is in Baker City.

Due to their cost, Kim Wallan requested data support demonstrating the need for/perceived benefit(s) of installing the speed signs. Welzenbach stated that such information should be available in the ASHTO (American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials) document located on the MUTCD (Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices) website: <https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/>

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

None voiced.

The Chair closed the public testimony.

12:34 | Jim Lewis moved to approve the amendments to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as presented. Sarah Westover seconded.

Tonia Moro inquired about the possibility of the signs for Amendment A needing to be amended back out of the TIP. Per Welzenbach and Baker, such need will not be known until ODOT determines the specific placement of each sign.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

5. Public Advisory Council (PAC) New Member Application 13:56 – 17:59

Welzenbach presented an application from George “Ike” Eisenhower, expressing his desire to represent Phoenix on the RVMPO PAC.

Sarah Westover spoke in favor of the appointment.

15:11 | Tonia Moro moved that George “Ike” Eisenhower be appointed to fill the Phoenix vacancy on the RVMPO PAC. Jim Lewis seconded.

Bob Strosser expressed a favorable opinion of the candidate.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Welzenbach shared copies of two flyers that will be circulated in an attempt to fill remaining vacant positions on the PAC. One effort will be concentrated in White City, which for some time now has lacked PAC representation. Another RVMPO-wide effort will be made to elicit interest for the remaining geographic and special interest area vacancies.

Discussion Items

6. Public Comment 18:00 – 18:13

Regular Updates

7. RVMPO Planning Update 18:14 – 21:40

- *Performance Measures*

- The Safety Performance Measure (related to vehicular fatalities, serious injuries and bicycle/pedestrian accidents) will be brought to the TAC for discussion and a formal recommendation to the Policy Committee at their February 14 meeting. While staff will suggest to the TAC that the MPO adopt the state’s measures for safety, TAC sentiment and expertise will determine the recommendation forwarded to the Policy Committee for adoption at their February 27 meeting.
- To-date, there are no specified consequences for MPOs failing to meet adopted Performance Measures.
- Discussion of additional Performance Measures will be circulated through the MPO committees over the next eighteen months as their adoption deadlines approach.

8. Other Business / Local Business 21:41 – 30:05

- *January 26 OMPOC Meeting in Salem* | Karl Welzenbach, Mike Quilty, Rick Riker and Kelly Madding will attend. There will be discussion with legislators about technical and policy fixes for HB-2017.
- *COAR Grants* | Rogue Valley International airport will be awarded \$81,000 towards a \$2.7 million dollar project to buy another fire-fighting vehicle and a multi-purpose snow removal vehicle for the airport. Funds will also allow for the replacement of some sections of tarmac.
- *RVTD* | Solar panels, a new PR campaign and a new radio system are current happenings.
- *Ashland* | With the passage of a referendum in November, voters supported the reallocation of a portion of food and beverage tax funds from debt service of a waste-water treatment plant to help fund street improvements beginning later this year.
- *Central Point* | Pine Street construction is going well and is expected to be completed by November/December 2018.
- *Jackson County* | Work is beginning earlier than planned (in about ten days) on Table Rock Road.
- *Phoenix* | Capital improvement projects to resurface Church and Pine Streets have led to the discovery of deterioration of infrastructure under the streets, the remediation of which – along with plans in the TSP to build sidewalks – would require the removal of approximately 30 – 40 trees. Staff is developing proposals – such as possibly a “skinny street” or one-way streets – to help avoid or at least minimize the need for tree removal. The downtown road diet issue may return to the fore as the Church and Pine Street projects are reevaluated.

9. Adjournment 30:06 – 30:19

2:34

Scheduled Meetings:

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

RVMPO Policy Committee | Tuesday, February 27 @ 2:00 pm

RVMPO PAC | Tuesday, March 20 @ 5:30 pm