

**SUMMARY MINUTES
ROGUE VALLEY MPO POLICY COMMITTEE
MARCH 27, 2018**



The following attended:

Voting Members	Organization	Phone Number
Bob Strosser	Jackson County	774-6119
Ian Horlacher for Art Anderson	ODOT	423-1362
Jim Lewis	Jacksonville	899-7023
Kim Wallan	Medford	776-2058
Mike Quilty, Chair	Central Point	664-7907
Rich Rosenthal	Ashland	941-1494
Ruth Jenks	Eagle Point	941-8537
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
Mike Montero	Montero & Associates	779-0771

[RVMPO Policy Committee March 27, 2018 Agenda Packet](#)

Full meeting recording: [180327 RVMPO Policy Committee Meeting Audio](#)

NOTE: Due to server space restrictions, the hyperlinks to cut audio files for specific items have been eliminated. Please use the times listed behind each agenda item to forward to the segment you wish to listen to using the link to the full meeting recording above.

1. Call to Order / Introductions / Review Agenda 00:00 – 01:05

2:02 | *Quorum*: Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point, Jacksonville, Medford, Jackson County, ODOT, RVTD

2. Public Comment 01:06 – 01:31

Consent Agenda

3. Review / Approve Minutes 01:32 – 02:33

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

01:50 | Jim Lewis moved to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2018 meeting as presented. Ruth Jenks seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried by voice vote. Three abstentions were declared: Ian Horlacher, Rich Rosenthal and Tonia Moro.

Public Hearing

4. 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 02:34 – 07:24

The Chair read the procedure for the public hearing.

Karl Welzenbach reported that the 2018-2021 RVMPO TIP needs to be amended to adjust the following project:

- I-5 over Crowson Road north and southbound bridges (KN21228)
Description: “*Structural overlays.*”

The construction cost for the project has been increased by \$417,000. This amount is more than 20% of the original project cost, and therefore triggers a full TIP amendment. The timing of the amendment is intentional in order to avoid opening the Ashland Visitor’s Center only to immediately close it again to accommodate the structural overlays on the bridges.

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

Support: Mike Montero, 4497 Brownridge Terrace, Ste. 202, Medford, OR

Montero cited the amendment as a great example of coordination between the agencies and the MPO.

Opposition:
None voiced.

The Chair closed the public testimony.

06:41 | Tonia Moro moved to approve the amendment to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as presented. Rich Rosenthal seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Action Items

5. Public Advisory Council (PAC) New Member Application + Current Member Renewal 07:25 – 10:32

Welzenbach presented an application from Haley Cox, who wishes to represent West Medford on the RVMPO PAC. He also reported that Public Health representative Michael Polich's membership term is up for renewal for the period of March 2018 – March 2020. Polich's existing application was made available for review.

Rich Rosenthal spoke in favor of Ms. Cox's appointment, stating that she is very sharp and should bring excellent energy and expertise to the PAC, as she has done in her work as a Planner for Medford's Parks Department.

08:54 | Jim Lewis moved that Haley Cox be appointed to represent West Medford on the RVMPO PAC and that Michael Polich's membership as the Public Health representative be renewed for the March 2018 – March 2020 term. Tonia Moro seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Rich Rosenthal noted that Phoenix representative Diana Shilet would be moving to Portland next week, so her information should be removed from the PAC membership documents.

6. RVMPO TAC Bylaws Update 10:33 – 12:56

Between the RVMPO TAC's February 14 and March 14 meetings, minor language and/or formatting changes were proposed to *Article II(a)* and *(b)*; *Article III, Section 1*; and *Article VI, Section 1(c)* of the TAC Bylaws. At the March 14 meeting, the TAC moved to recommend approval of the changes to the Policy Committee. A [track changes document](#) was provided, specifying the revisions.

11:50 | Tonia Moro moved to approve the proposed revisions to the RVMPO TAC's Bylaws. Ian Horlacher seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Presentations

7. Proposed Project Streamlining 12:57 – 27:06

Karl Welzenbach [presented](#) an idea regarding GIS-based project streamlining for the MPO that could potentially be implemented at a planning level as the RVMPO develops/updates its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The goal of the streamlining effort would be to pre-identify issues (e.g. through SHPO, DEQ and other agencies) with projects before they are submitted for MPO funding consideration.

Response to Welzenbach’s proposal was generally favorable due to the enhanced coordination the platform would provide between permitting agencies and the MPO jurisdictions. Inquiries were voiced regarding 1) the permitting agencies likelihood of participation as well as 2) what type of mechanism would be in place to ensure the authenticity of their comments. Welzenbach conceded that there would be no way to compel the agencies to contribute comments although they would always be contacted with a request to review new projects when posted and submit comments within 120 days. Regarding ensuring authenticity, he explained that the website could be made secure, requiring logins from each authorized agency.

- Welzenbach is presenting the idea to all MPO committees as well as to the OMPOC members in April to elicit feedback to inform next steps.
- To-date, several ODOT staff are enthused by the project’s potential and John Rausch, ODOT’s Natural Resources Unit Manager, is supportive. Mike Baker would like to see the undertaking piloted regionally prior to seeking statewide adoption.
- Welzenbach believes that ODOT would have to agree to pay Oregon State University (OSU) to host the platform.

Discussion Items

8. RVMPO UPWP | FY2018-2019 27:07 – 30:35

Welzenbach reviewed highlights of minor changes to the categorization of Task 1 and Task 2 line items contained in the [Draft RVMPO UPWP FY2018-2019](#), which has been available on the RVMPO website for about one month now.

Any further comments should be emailed to kwelzenbach@rvcog.org by Friday, March 30. A recommendation for approval of the RVMPO UPWP FY2018-2019 to the Policy Committee will be sought from the RVMPO TAC at their April 11 meeting. The document will then be brought to the April 24 Policy Committee meeting for adoption, which is required in April.

9. Public Comment 30:36 – 30:50

Regular Updates

10. RVMPO Planning Update 30:51 – 34:13

- *Performance Measures* | Two more measures (three actually, but two are grouped together) will need to be adopted in October 2018:
 - 1) “*Performance of the Interstate System and the Remainder of the NHS*” and the “*Freight Movement on the Interstate System*”
 - Welzenbach will be recommending that the MPO simply adopt the state’s target measures for these.

2) “*On-road Mobile Source Emissions (through CMAQ)*”

- Since RVMPO CMAQ funding was cut in half, Welzenbach will be recommending that the MPO adopt only half of the state’s target amounts.
 - An issue of note with this measure is that the MPO is being asked to set targets for it with no data available. Only one monitor exists in Medford, with no data collected since 2009.
- *Transportation Planning Rule (TPR)* | The advisory committee met again last week and the new TPR is anticipated to be adopted by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) in May. According to the new language in the TPR, responsibility will fall to the local jurisdictions and agencies rather than the MPO, although some type of a coordination role may still exist for the MPO. Three options will be presented at the end of the proposed revisions to the TPR; depending on the option, LCDC’s report on economic impact will need to be modified.
 - Per request, Welzenbach will forward a copy of the most recent version to Tonia Moro and Paige West of RVTD.

11. Other Business / Local Business 34:14 – 38:22

- *OMPOC* | The April 27 OMPOC Meeting will be held in Grants Pass at the City Hall Council Chambers from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please RSVP to kwelzenbach@rvcog.org if you plan to attend so that catering can be planned accordingly.
- *RVTD* | At the May LCDC meeting, staff will present the draft of the new 40-year public transportation plan. The plan will also be taken out to the community via outreach efforts following the May meeting.
- *Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) Vacancy* | Paula Brown has resigned from the OTC. All are encouraged to consider recommending qualified parties so that the southern Oregon MPOs can continue to have strong local representation on the Commission.
NOTE: Due to changes in transparency requirements through HB2017, individuals who work for – or elected officials who serve – a political entity that would receive financing through ODOT are ineligible to be appointed to the OTC. If a person is appointed to the OTC *before* going to work for or being elected to serve such an entity, that person may retain their post on the OTC and simply declare a conflict of interest.

12. Adjournment 38:23 – 38:40

2:40

Scheduled Meetings:

RVMPO TAC | Wednesday, April 11 @ 1:30 pm

RVMPO PAC | Tuesday, May 15 @ 5:30 pm

RVMPO Policy Committee | Tuesday, April 24 @ 2:00 pm