



Agenda
Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
Public Advisory Council

Special Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 8, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Rogue Valley Council of Governments
Jefferson Conference Room
155 N. First Street, Central Point
Transit: served by RVTD Route #40
Phone: 541-423-1360 (Sue Casavan, RVCOG)
RVMPO website: www.rvmopo.org

- 1. Call to Order/Introductions/Review AgendaAaron Prunty, Chair
2. Review/Approve Minutes (Approve at regular November meeting)Chair
3. Public Comment (3-minute limit for each speaker).....Chair

Action Item:

- 4. Strategic Assessment.....Bob Cortright / Tara Weidner

Background: Bob Cortright, DLCD and Tara Weidner, ODOT will give a presentation about an opportunity to participate in a strategic assessment of the RVMPO region's transportation and land use plans.

Attachment: #1 - Strategic Assessment information; links below provided by ODOT and DLCD (hard copies of documents will be available at meeting)
- Corvallis Area MPO report: http://www.corvallisareampo.org/files/Strategic%20Assessment%20Report_20140710_FINAL.pdf
- Corvallis Area MPO scenario viewer: http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/Pages/scenarioviewer.html
- ODOT Strategic Assessment video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=x2OV9KowEyE

Action Requested: Forward recommendation to Policy Committee.

- 5. MPO Planning Update Jonathan David
6. Other Business.....Chair
7. Public Comment.....Chair
8. Next Meeting.....Chair

** The next Public Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. at Rogue Valley Council of Governments, Jefferson Conference Room **

9. Adjourn..... Chair

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CALL SUE CASAVAN, 541-423-1360. REASONABLE ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE NEED FOR ACCOMMODATIONS PRIOR TO THE MEETING (48 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE PREFERABLE) WILL ENABLE US TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING.

Strategic Assessment of Transportation and Land Use Plans and Policies

Frequently Asked Questions



What is a strategic assessment?

A strategic assessment evaluates the region's adopted plans and policies, assesses how far those plans help the region reach its goals over the next 20 years, and identifies alternative paths to achieving those goals. It also identifies the value of state-led actions such as newer clean vehicles and fuels. Largely a technical exercise, the assessment provides information that can help inform decisions about the future, helping communities to understand where the current path will take us and what options exist for the region. This can inform plan updates and general decision-making. Additional work may be desired to help answer specific policy questions or to evaluate scenarios to formulate a vision for the region. If additional work is desired, support for scenario planning or additional analysis may be provided. You can view a short video about strategic assessments at

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/OSTI/Pages/scenario_planning.aspx.

The purpose of the strategic assessment is to estimate travel (all modes) and emissions likely to result if adopted plans are implemented and current trends continue. The assessment can provide information about:

- Household travel costs
- Transportation and energy costs
- Air quality
- Mixed-use development
- Health impacts
- Vehicle miles traveled
- Travel delay
- Fuel consumed
- Walk trips and bike miles
- GHG emissions

How does it work?

A strategic assessment uses the Regional Strategic Planning Model (RSPM) to estimate future greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other outcomes based on state and local conditions. ODOT and DLCD staff work with MPO and local government staff to gather the data needed to develop the model inputs, and ODOT staff run the model. ODOT and DLCD staff then work with the MPO staff to develop a report of the model outputs. The report also includes possible next steps for the region.

Why should our region conduct a strategic assessment of our plans?

The results of a strategic assessment can help the region determine whether current plans and trends are achieving the outcomes the region wants to see, and identify potential actions to better meet the region's goals. The results of the assessment can also help local governments better understand issues and quantify the effect of adopted policies as they review and update the area's transportation plans and make investment decisions. It can also bolster collaboration on policies such as transit, parking, and state-led actions such as implementation of pay-as-you-drive insurance, by quantifying the value of such policies. The effort can inform the public of new policies and the tradeoffs of alternative paths to meet regional goals. In addition, the information provided in the assessment is intended to

help local officials decide whether to pursue a more comprehensive analysis of land use and transportation options through formal scenario planning.

How will the results of a strategic assessment be used?

It is entirely up to the region and individual jurisdictions how the information is used. A strategic assessment can inform planning efforts and general decision-making and can be further expanded upon to develop a detailed vision and even performance measure of interest to the area. *It's important to note that conducting a strategic assessment doesn't obligate a region to conduct scenario planning or to make any changes to current plans.*

What is RSPM?

The Regional Strategic Planning Model (RSPM), a regional-level version of the award-winning GreenSTEP model, is a model ODOT has developed specifically for planning in metropolitan areas. The RSPM allows smaller geographic areas to quantify the potential future effects of existing or new policies. These might include various transportation and land use strategies to meet state GHG reduction targets and other regional goals. The RSPM models the households in the metropolitan planning area, and assigns specific attributes and land use characteristics to each household to determine their travel and emissions. This modeling tool is strategic, in that it supports analysis when there are a number of unknowns about the future. RSPM is a valuable new addition to the region's planning toolbox. It can help a region understand future trends and identify policy actions to reach local goals. Traditional models, such as urban travel demand models, can be used to help implement the regional vision and specific policy actions identified by the RSPM analysis.

How long does a strategic assessment take to complete?

The timeline for a strategic assessment can vary from region to region, but because a strategic assessment is primarily a technical exercise based on adopted plans, it can generally be completed within about six months.

How much staff time is required to complete a strategic assessment?

The amount of staff time required on the part of the MPO is relatively small, mainly to coordinate with local jurisdictions and with ODOT and DLCD staff on information-gathering efforts for RSPM inputs. The time and effort required on the part of the local government staff could vary depending on the level of interest and desired involvement by the local governments.

Is there funding available to help our region complete an assessment?

Yes, funding is available from ODOT through an intergovernmental agreement to offset MPO staff time costs for the strategic assessment effort. In addition, technical assistance from ODOT and DLCD is provided at no cost to the MPO. Dedicated funding is available for this work through the end of the biennium.

More questions? Contact us!

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