



SUMMARY MINUTES (Corrected)
Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee

January 8, 2014

The following people were in attendance:

RVMPO Technical Advisory Committee

Voting Members in Attendance:

Alex Georgevitch	City of Medford
Ian Horlacher	ODOT
John Adam	City of Medford
Jon Sullivan	RVTD
Josh LeBombard	DLCD
Karl Johnson	City of Ashland
Kelli Sparkman	ODOT
Kelly Madding	Jackson County
Kevin Caldwell	City of Phoenix
Matt Samitore	City of Central Point
Mike Faught (for Maria Harris)	City of Ashland
Mike Kuntz	Jackson County
Paige Townsend	RVTD
Robert Miller	City of Eagle Point
Tom Humphrey	City of Central Point

Voting Members Absent:

Amy Stevenson	City of Jacksonville
Joe Strahl	City of Phoenix
Wayne Kauzlarich	ODEQ
Dale Schulze	City of Phoenix
Jeff Alvis	City of Jacksonville
Maria Harris	City of Ashland
Mike Upston	City of Eagle Point
Zach Moody	City of Talent

Others Present:

Scott Fleury, Mike Montero, Jenna Stanke, Jon Vial

Kevin Caldwell	City of Phoenix
Zac Moody	City of Talent

RVCOG Staff

Andrea Napoli, Sue Casavan, Bunny Lincoln

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Mike Kuntz called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Committee began with introductions. Bunny Lincoln has joined RVCOG as a contract employee hired to transcribe meeting minutes for both the RVMPO and MRMPO.

2. Review / Approve Minutes

Kuntz asked committee members if there were any additions or corrections to the September meeting minutes.

On a motion by Alex Georgevitch and seconded by Tom Humphrey, the minutes were approved as presented. Unanimously approved.

3. Public Comment

No public comment was forthcoming.

4. Annual Listing of Obligated Projects 2013

Andrea Napoli presented the draft application documents with the updated information. Federal funding sources include:

- Surface Transportation Program (STP)
- Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)

Alex Georgevich questioned whether the Lozier Lane improvements were a Medford or Jackson County project. A brief discussion followed, with the eventual resolution that Andrea Napoli would follow up on it, assuring that the information was correct.

Kelli Sparkman noted that two project increases were omitted from the list:

- Walker Avenue – Ashland
- Freeman Road – Central Point

Ms. Sparkman and Napoli will collaborate to rectify this situation prior to the January 15th deadline for completing any listing modifications. The Policy Committee will handle this matter at their March meeting.

5. Discretionary Funding Application Review, 2014-16

Andrea Napoli gave an overview of the application process. Any changes to the fourteen submitted applications must be provided to RVCOG by Friday, January 10th.

Available federal funds include:

- Surface Transportation Program (STP)
- Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)

Addition costs may be funded through local, and other, sources.

- 1-2. **Ashland** - Mike Faught introduced Scott Fleury, Ashland Engineering Manager, who presented details of the City's **chip sealing** and **East Nevada Street extension** projects. Project discussion items included:

- Revisions to show the percentages of federal Vs local funding
- Chip sealing qualifies for CMAQ funding
- An explanation of “fog” sealing, parameters for chip sealing longevity (good base) and double chip sealing
- Whether abutting residents might participate in rights of way improvement cost sharing
- Whether federal requirements will be met (verification on this item will be forthcoming)

3. **Central Point** - Tom Humphrey outlined project specifics for improvements, including roundabout construction, to **Hamrick & Beebe Roads**. 17% of the project costs will be contributed by the City. Discussion items included:

- Traffic Impact Study being conducted by Jackson County
- Importance of the route for long haul, heavy truck traffic, and the fact that the trucking industry does not like traffic circles
- JACO concerns regarding design standards and the importance of a thorough Operational Analysis for the project
- Interest in Central Point’s position regarding potentially necessary improvements to Vilas-Table Rock as a result of possible traffic pattern changes to Hamrick, Table Rock and Vilas Roads and their willingness to participate in any future, warranted off-site traffic mitigation
- The fact that the roundabout would contribute to creating a better “sense of place/neighborhood” for the area as residential development increases
- The roundabout design is compatible with the area’s TOD designation (as currently demonstrated in the Twin Creeks development)
- Potential maintenance challenges associated with roundabout traffic pattern changes and availability of alternative routes

4. **Eagle Point** - Robert Miller presented the City’s plans for improving the **East Main – Stevens Road** connection running from downtown, east toward the National Cemetery. Highlighted facts and discussion included:

- The route is the main access to the newly constructed Hillside Elementary School, and currently lacks shoulders, and bike/pedestrian access
- Funding participation (non-LID) is expected from adjoining owners as their approved developments are constructed
- Stevens Road is a direct connection to the National Cemetery, and is the location of the “Avenue of the Flags”, a major tourist attraction
- Whether the project would be designed to meet ASSHTO standards
- The roadways classification as a major collector
- Project phasing called out in the application viewed as beneficial and pro-active by TAC members

5. **Jackson County** - Jenna Stanke detailed the County’s **Regional Active Transportation Plan**. Highlights included:

- The Plan would be on a regional/MPO scale
- Bear Creek Greenway and Trails improvements
- The Plan would create RTP supplement identifying regionally significant Bike/Pedestrian projects and potential corridors
- Plan's primary focus would be on 1) interconnected bike systems throughout region, including existing periphery areas (White City, Eagle Point, Jacksonville), and 2) reasonable pedestrian connections to transit services
- STP funding source, plus TGM grant possibilities (TGM grant funding is limited)
- "Planning" projects do not qualify for CMAQ monies
- Plan goal would be to identify existing, regional bike/pedestrian barriers and identify various mitigation projects
- Cost would be approximately \$200,000 (including consultant(s)), with a to be determined cost sharing by various jurisdictions

6. **Jackson County** - Mike Kunz provided information about current **Table Rock Road (classified as an arterial in Transportation System Plans of all affected jurisdictions)** traffic problems as related to exceedingly high volumes of truck traffic, proposed project improvements (from Lone Pine Creek to Biddle Road), and their inclusion in the Biddle Road/I-5 arterial system (a joint County, Medford and Central Point collaboration). Specifics presented included:

- Section design standards
- Specific improvement locations
- Consideration of RVTD area transit plans
- Equally shared funding (JACO, Central Point and Medford)

7. **Medford** - Alex Georgevitch highlighted the details of the **Barnett Road Adaptive Timing Project**, stipulating to the fact that it would benefit existing facilities by improving transportation mobility.

8. **Medford - Columbus Avenue Extension.** Alex Georgevitch provided logistical and cross section details of the proposed 800' extension of Columbus Avenue to Rossanley Drive. The project will include bike/pedestrian facilities.

9. **Medford - Foothill Road (Hillcrest to Mc Andrews).** Alex Georgevitch explained the current/future importance of Foothills Road as a local and regional north south major arterial. While predominantly serving vehicular traffic, Foothills also supports a significant amount of truck traffic. The proposed project is reliant on favorable financing, and will be "pulled" if it does not pencil out at this time. Specific, modified design standards, intersection illumination and signalization were discussed, as well a willingness of adjoining property owners to work with the prevailing jurisdictions on pre-determined right of way reservations related to potential future development and limited access solutions. Mike Kuntz reiterated the regional significance of the route, and the need for a Master System Plan.

A brief follow up discussion further the importance of the Lone Pine/Cedar Links segment of Foothills, as it relates to design/construction costs and the massive Pacific Power substation(s) in the area.

With I-5 viaduct improvements looming on the horizon, ODOT views Foothills as a vital transportation connection in the region. After the proposed Table Rock Road upgrades, Jackson County considers Foothills as the next highest priority for implementation.

10. **Medford - Springbrook (Cedar Links to Pheasant)**. Alex Georgevitch presented the application as an extension of the recently completed Springbrook/Delta Waters intersection project. Highlights include:

- Continuation of a recent CMAQ funded improvement
- A roundabout at Cedar Links (deemed a preferable option in a Kittleson Traffic Engineering report) Vs a conventional traffic signal
- Local implementation of “Safe Route to Schools” program
- Completion of a majorly significant bike/pedestrian connection through the Medford
- Funding is the highest priority due to the transportation “fill in” project component
- Roundabout is viewed as an excellent improvement for public health and safety

Medford’s presentation was concluded with the statement that their project priorities were:

1. Springbrook Avenue
2. Foothills Road (If appropriate funding cannot be secured, the application will be pulled. More information on this matter will be presented at the next TAC meeting.)
3. Columbus Avenue (Will move to #2 priority if Foothills is dropped.)

11. **RVCOG** - Andrea Napoli articulated RVCOG’s desire to purchase a **hybrid vehicle** to allow employees to travel on COG business without having to use their personal cars. The acquisition would have financial benefits for the COG, and be funded on a 50/50 basis, by the RVMPO/MRMPO, utilizing CMAQ funds.

12. **RVTD - Clean Fuel Fleet**. Paige Townsend articulated RVTD’s desire to purchase six (6) fleet cars, four (4) cng dedicated to be used transport bus drivers from the main RVTD facility to the transfer station on Front Street on Medford and two (2) dual fuel designated for use on longer trips. One (1) would be subject to higher usage by the RVTD Field Supervisor in performance of his/her duties as a “quick responder”, handling ongoing system oversight and emergency issues. RVTD would provide a 10.27% funding match.

13. **RVTD - Valley Feeder Pilot Project**. Paige Townsend explained that this three (3) year pilot project would provide demand response, non-traditional, reservation based RVTD service to rural areas not located in close proximity to conventional transit stops. Vehicles utilized (20) would be those currently used in the existing ADA transportation program, thereby filling spaces that often remain empty during the day.

6. MPO Planning Update

Andrea Napoli stipulated that RVCOG website changes are imminent. Mike Faught asked if the upgrades would go to the Policy Committee prior to going live. Ms. Napoli responded that the Committee would review the proposed changes at their March meeting.

7. Public Comment

None received.

8. Other Business / Local Business

None offered.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.