



AGENDA

Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Committee

Date: Thursday, September 17, 2020

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83400056289?pwd=YVdTNnZjOGNvV3g4T09VSFliaGFXUT09>

Meeting ID: 834 0005 6289

Passcode: 251594

Phone#: 253 215 8782

Contact: Office Specialist, RVCOG: 541-423-1375;

MRMPO website: www.mrmppo.org

1	Call to Order / Introductions / Review Agenda	Chair
2	Review / Approve Minutes	Chair
<i>Attachment</i>	#1 MRMPO Policy Committee Draft Minutes 07/16/2020	
Action Items		
3	Approval of the Citizen Advisory Committee	Karl Welzenbach
<i>Background</i>	The initial idea was to get the five individuals together in a “kick-off” meeting and have them decide the time of day and day of the month at which they would like to meet and bring that information back to the Policy Committee for their approval. It seems that we will not have accomplished this prior to the Policy Committee meeting and therefore staff is requesting that this item be tabled until October.	
<i>Action Requested</i>	Approval of the Citizen Advisory Committee	
4	Review and Approval of the Air Quality Conformity Determination for the MRMPO 2021-24 TIP	Karl Welzenbach
<i>Background</i>	Since the greater Grants Pass urbanized area has been determined to be in non-attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) the MRMPO is required to undertake an analysis of the projects contained in the RTP and in the TIP to ensure that we are not in violation of the State Implementation Plan. Since the MRMPO is under a Limited Maintenance Plan this is close to being a mere formality. None-the-less, staff is required to undertake an inter-agency consultation process as well as make the AQCD document available for public comment.	

<i>Attachment</i>	#2 Draft AQCD for 2021-24 TIP	
<i>Action Requested</i>	Adoption of AQCD for 2021-24 TIP	
5	Letter of Support for Inclusion into the 2024-27 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program	Karl Welzenbach
<i>Background</i>	Josephine County is looking for a letter of support for inclusion into the STIP of projects that would improve the “Y” intersection along OR199.	
<i>Attachment</i>	#3 Draft Letter of support	
<i>Action Requested</i>	Authorization for Chair to sign letter of support	
6	Public Comment	
Regular Updates		
7	Updates on Currently Active MRMPO Projects	Policy Committee Members
8	MPO Planning Update	Karl Welzenbach
9	Other Business / Local Business Opportunity for MRMPO member jurisdictions to talk about transportation planning projects.	Chair
10	Adjournment	Chair

- The next MRMPO Policy Committee meeting will be **Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.** in the Courtyard Conference Room at Grants Pass City Hall.
- The next MRMPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting will be **October 01, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.** in the Courtyard Conference Room at Grants Pass City Hall.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT RVCOG, 541-664-6674. REASONABLE ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE NEED FOR ACCOMMODATION PRIOR TO THE MEETING (48 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE IS PREFERABLE) WILL ENABLE US TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING.



Summary Minutes
Middle Rogue MPO Policy Committee
August 20, 2020

The following attended:

Voting Members	Organization	Phone Number
Mike Baker	ODOT	957-3658
Wade Elliot	Jackson County	774-6118
Rick Riker	Grants Pass	479-7333
Robert Brandes	Josephine County	474-5460
Pam VanArsdale, Vice Chair	Rogue River	660-4414
Valerie Lovelace, Chair	Grants Pass	479-0952
Alternate Voting Members Present	Organization	Phone Number
Staff	Organization	Phone Number
Karl Welzenbach	RVCOG	423-1360
Ryan MacLaren	RVCOG	423-1338
Kelsey Sharp	RVCOG	423-1375
Interested Parties	Organization	Phone Number
Lesley Orr	Bicycle/Pedestrian	On File

- **Meeting recording:** [August 20, 2020 MRMPO Policy Committee Meeting Recording](#)
- [08/20/2020 MRMPO Policy Committee Agenda Packet](#)

1. Call to Order / Introductions/ Review Agenda | 00:00:00 – 0:01:26
 2:32 p.m. | *Quorum:* 5 voting members, regardless of jurisdiction

2. Review / Approve Minutes | 00:01:26 – 00:03:22

00:02:17 | *Robert Brandes moved that the Policy Committee approve the July 16, 2020. Seconded by Rick Riker.*

No further discussion.

Motion passed with none apposed.

Action Items

3. Review and Letter of approval of Performance Measures Protocols as Delineated by Dept. of Transportation | 00:02:34 – 00:09:05

00:08:44 | *Mike Baker moved to approve signing of the letter of support. Seconded by Robert Brandes.*

No further discussion.

Motion carried with none apposed.

Discussion Items

4. Air Quality Conformity Determination for 2021-24 Transportation Improvement Program | 00:09:05 – 00:16:10

Discussion of the AQCD.

No public comment.

6. Public Comment | 00:16:10 – 00:16:19

No public comment.

Regular Updates

7. MPO Planning Update | 00:16:19 – 00:32:31

Discussion of the impacts on budget from the pandemic, including fund exchanges.

8. Other Business / Local Business | 00:32:31 – 01:00:47

Updates on the MRMPO Citizens Advisory Council.

Updates from Lesley Orr, Robert Brandes, and Wade Elliot

9. Adjournment | 01:00:47

Valerie Lovelace, Chair, adjourned meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Scheduled Meetings:

MRMPO Policy Committee | September 29, 2020 | 2:30 p.m.

MRMPO Technical Advisory Committee | September 9, 2020 | 1:30 p.m.



**Middle Rogue
Metropolitan Planning Organization**
Regional Transportation Planning

Gold Hill • Grants Pass • Rogue River • Jackson County • Josephine County • Oregon Department of Transportation

The Honorable Robert Van Brocklin
Chair, Oregon Transportation Commission
355 Capitol Street NE, MS #11
Salem, OR 97301-3871

Dear Sir:

The MRMPO is excited to see the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) is beginning work on the 2024-2027 State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). The STIP provides a tremendous opportunity to identify, and optimally fund, a great number of critical transportation projects around the state.

As you know, Highway 199 from Grants Pass heading west, has long presented a number of capacity and safety challenges for the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). To this end, ODOT has thankfully managed several improvements on 199 over the past 15 years, most recently the corridor safety improvement plan initiative has begun to increase driver awareness and safety. The next step of improvements will then be evaluated following the planned US199 Revised Environmental update (REA), as discussed in memorandum between ODOT, Josephine County and City of Grants Pass earlier this year.

While the results of this REA are obviously not known yet, both Josephine County and the City of Grants Pass feel it is critical to begin planning for future potential projects on this section of 199. Given the 2024-2027 timeline of the upcoming STIP, any identified projects will already be under a moderately long window, at a time when congestion in this area continues to frustrate local drivers, freight interests and tourists alike.

We are requesting strong consideration be given to the inclusion of two (2) critical next steps –

#1 - An environmental analysis of the ‘South Y’ intersection. This intersection is effectively the junction five distinct ‘highways’ - 99, 199, 238 and the Grants Pass Parkway. It’s readily apparent that this intersection will need a hugely expensive improvement in the future, and an EA is the first critical step. The EA will also give the County and City much better guidance about the potential future location of a 4th bridge.

#2 - Analysis and construction of a 3rd ‘slip-lane’ on 199 from the South Y to the Redwood Avenue intersection. The results of the REA will give much better guidance on the effectiveness of this project. Both the County and City of Grants Pass are nearing completion of their respective Transportation System Plans (TSPs). This seems like a very opportune time to better identify future projects in this areas, as well as hopefully beginning to earmark funding.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Valerie Lovelace, Chair, Middle Rogue MPO