



**Summary Minutes
Middle Rogue MPO Policy Committee
July 20, 2017**

The following attended:

Voting Members	Organization	Phone Number
Chuck DeJanvier for Rob Brandes	Josephine County	474-5460
John Vial for Bob Strosser	Jackson County	774-6238
Mike Baker	ODOT	957-3658
Pam VanArsdale, Vice Chair	Rogue River	660-4414
Rick Riker	Grants Pass	479-7333
Staff	Organization	Phone Number
Karl Welzenbach	RVCOG	423-1360
Dan Moore	RVCOG	423-1361
Stephanie Thune	RVCOG	423-1368
Interested Parties	Organization	Phone Number
Lesley Orr	Bike/Ped	
Michael Bollweg	Rogue River	660-0093

1. Call to Order / Introductions/ Review Agenda

Vice Chair VanArsdale called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.; a quorum was confirmed with voting members from Grants Pass, Rogue River, Jackson County, Josephine County, and ODOT in attendance.

There were no changes to the agenda.

2. Review / Approve Minutes

The Vice Chair asked if there were any changes or additions to the June 15 meeting minutes.

On a motion by Mike Baker, seconded by Rick Riker, the Committee recommended approval of the June 15 MRMPO Policy Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Hearing

3. 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

The Vice Chair read the procedure for the public hearing.

ODOT has requested that the MRMPO 2015-2040 RTP and 2015-2018 TIP be amended to include the following four projects:

A. Sand Creek Road Bridge

Description: *“The bridge is currently closed, and the substructure rating has been updated to show that ‘failure is imminent’. The existing detour is two miles long, the roadway width is narrow, and there is a blind 90-degree corner that is a concern when school busses and first responders are operating during poor weather conditions. The detour is not suitable for long-term use.”*

B. Grants Pass-5310 E&D Transit Capital STP (17-19)

Description: *“Purchased Service; Preventive Maintenance and Vehicle Purchase”*

C. Josephine County-5310 Enhanced Mobility Program (17-19)

Description: *“Preventive Maintenance”*

D. ORE Salt Pilot PH 2: Bridge Deck Testing & Sealing

Description: *“Salt testing on bridge decks; design of sealing and overlay projects, and construction of protective systems.”*

Notice of a public hearing and comment period regarding the amendment was published in the Rogue River Press on Wednesday, June 28, and in the Grants Pass Courier and Medford Mail Tribune on Thursday, June 29. The 21-day public comment period concludes with today’s public hearing.

At their July 6 meeting, the MRMPO TAC voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposed amendments to the MRMPO Policy Committee.

There were no questions or comments by Policy Committee members.

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

None voiced.

The Vice Chair closed the public testimony.

John Vial moved that the MRMPO Policy Committee approve all four 2015-2040 MRMPO RTP and 2015-2018 MRMPO TIP amendments as described. Mike Baker seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion Items

4. MRMPO TAC Bylaw Revision Review

Dan Moore reviewed the proposed changes to the TAC Bylaws as provided in the agenda packet. Today's review of the revisions will serve to start the 30-day notification period required prior to voting as described in the TAC Bylaws: "*Written notice of proposed amendments shall be given to the membership of the committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting at which the bylaws are to be considered.*"

Pursuant to recommendations made by the Policy Committee at their June 15 meeting to the TAC regarding their proposed Bylaw amendments (which the TAC subsequently approved at their July 6 meeting), the following changes (in blue) are being proposed in order to classify DLCD and DEQ as ex-officio members in Article III, Section I, and to clarify the quorum-related language of Article IV, Section 3(b):

Article III, Section 1. Membership of the Committee

~~A single representative of:
Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)~~

Ex-officio members of the TAC shall include:
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Oregon Division of State Lands
Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Article IV, Section 3(b)

b. A quorum shall exist when the majority of member jurisdictions and agencies are present. Ex-Officio members shall not count toward a quorum.

Dan Moore noted that, in response to an error noted by Mike Baker in the subsection numbering of Article III, Section 1 (namely, no (a) is present; the subsections begin with (b)), staff will correct the error by adding (a) immediately ahead of the Section 1 text, as follows:

Section 1. Membership of the Committee

(a) The committee will be made up of ...

Staff will amend the TAC Bylaws as specified above and schedule the revisions as an action item on the August 17, 2017 Policy Committee agenda.

5. Public Comment

None voiced.

Regular Updates

6. Planning Update

CMAQ FUND DISTRIBUTION

- The OTC is meeting today to finalize the CMAQ distributions to the MPOs. The proposal before the OTC specifies a 47% funding cut for the MRMPO and a 55% cut for the RVMPO, both of which would go into effect in 2019 if approved.
- The OTC will also be deciding today whether to approve a request from Portland (submitted after the conclusion of PAC negotiations) for an additional \$1 million dollars off the top of the CMAQ funds to use towards meeting their greenhouse gas requirements. The other MPOs have submitted letters to the OTC voicing their disapproval of this request, especially in light of the facts that Portland is already taking the smallest cut of any MPO and will be in attainment for CMAQ effective October 2 of this year.
- Karl Welzenbach reported that Paula Brown, local area representative serving on the OTC, is desirous of CMAQ fund distribution occurring as a completely competitive grant process. This would make it difficult, though, for the smaller jurisdictions to compete against major projects in larger areas, and also difficult for the MPOs who cannot project fund estimates, but must rather work within fiscally constrained plans. Mike Quilty, RMVPO Chair, has spoken with Brown about these concerns.

CMAQ CARRYOVER BALANCES

- There has still been no reconciliation of the CMAQ fund balance discrepancies showing on reports from three different ODOT offices. Until accurate carryover balances for the MPOs are known, future project planning cannot take place.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

- Work on the MRMPO's next RTP will commence in 2018. For that planning process, ODOT will be using a new, activity-based transportation model that should work well for identifying types of trips on local streets as well as mode splits between transit/bike/ped. Tests of the model to-date have proven very accurate, which is encouraging. One hitch to use of the activity-based model (ABM) in southern Oregon is that the MRMPO and the RVMPO do not update their plans in the same year; this may cause some glitches in outdated data across the two MPOs in their respective plan years, but will be taken in stride.

OMPOC

- Welzenbach will forward the OMPOC meeting agenda to those individuals who plan to attend the August 11 meeting in Portland, and he will double-check the status of attendees' registration.

7. Other Business / Local Business

None voiced.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Meeting Schedule:

MRMPO TAC | Thursday, August 3, 2017 | 1:30 pm (***cancelled***)

MRMPO Policy Committee | Thursday, August 17, 2017 | 2:30 pm