



**Summary Minutes
Middle Rogue MPO Policy Committee
April 19, 2018**

The following attended:

Voting Members	Organization	Phone Number
Barry Eames	Grants Pass	218-1403
Chuck DeJanvier for Dan DeYoung	Josephine County	474-5460
Darin Fowler, Chair	Grants Pass	660-3696
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
Rob Brandes	Josephine County	474-5460
Staff	Organization	Phone Number
Karl Welzenbach	RVCOG	423-1360
Ryan MacLaren	RVCOG	423-1338
Stephanie Thune	RVCOG	423-1368
Interested Parties	Organization	Phone Number
Jason Canady	Grants Pass	450-6110
Lesley Orr	Grants Pass Bike/Ped	
Wade Elliott	Grants Pass	640-6114

[MRMPO Policy Committee April 19, 2018 Agenda Packet](#)

Full meeting recording: [2018-04-19 MRMPO 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 – 00:59

2:30 | *Quorum*: 5 voting members, regardless of jurisdiction

2. Review / Approve Minutes 01:00 – 01:30

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

01:11 | Pam VanArsdale moved to approve the March 15 MRMPO Policy Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Rick Riker seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Hearing

3. 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments 01:31 – 10:54

The Chair read the procedure for the public hearing.

Ryan MacLaren reported that the MRMPO RTP and TIP need to be amended to add Project A below, but that only the TIP would be amended for the combination of the two projects specified under Project B:

A. Southern Oregon Seismic Triage (KN 21296)

Description: *“Perform seismic upgrades on 17 bridges and 7 hillside slopes.”*

- Copies of the “Rogue Valley Seismic Event Highway Triage Approach” document were made available for reference.
- The MRMPO has seven bridges (three on I-5 and four on Highway 99) included in the seismic triage plan; the RVMPO has one landslide (south of Ashland).
- \$35 million was earmarked by HB2017 for the seismic triage work.

B. Grants Pass Signal & Pedestrian Upgrades (KN 19960) **and** I-5 Exit 58 – 6th & Morgan (KN 17477)

Description: *“The original project K19960 included a signal at 7th and M Street; after project kickoff it was determined that the justification for the signal was not appropriate for ARTS funding of the project. The signal was removed from the project allowing those funds to be moved to other safety projects, primarily K18880 for Region Rumble Strips.” It has been determined that the safety improvements in K17477, I-5: Exit 58 6th & Morgan Intersection Improvements, are aligned with the same type of safety upgrades remaining in K19960. Combining the two projects with similar funding sources and common safety and ADA improvements will create a single project to utilize the funding effectively and efficiently. The proposal is to combine K19960 and K17477, utilizing K19960 and its current project name.*

- The projects are already in the RTP, so no amendment is necessary for that document.

- The elimination of \$1.3 million in project cost (the “M” & “6th/7th” intersection has been dropped) triggers a full TIP amendment, since the funding change exceeds 20%.

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

None voiced.

The Chair closed the public testimony.

10:12 | John Vial moved that the MRMPO Policy Committee approve the proposed amendments to the 2015-2040 RTP and/or the 2018-2021 MRMPO TIP, as applicable per above. Barry Eames seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Action Items

4. MRMPO UPWP | FY2018-2019 10:55 – 13:02

The UPWP is required for every MPO by the federal government and comprises the MPO’s annual program budget, delineating how much planning money will be received, where it is coming from and how it will be spent. The document has been publicly noticed for over one month now, and has been reviewed previously by both the TAC and Policy Committees. Adoption of the document is required this month.

Welzenbach reviewed highlights of two minor changes to the categorization of line items contained in Sections 1 and 2 of the [Draft MRMPO UPWP FY2018-2019](#).

12:40 | Mike Baker moved that the MRMPO Policy Committee adopt the FY2018-2019 MRMPO UPWP as presented. Rick Riker seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion Items

7.* Public Comment 13:03 – 15:20 (*numbering error on agenda; there was neither an Item 5 nor an Item 6)

- Lesley Orr provided registration forms for the annual “Ride the Rogue” event, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year and will take place on September 22.

Regular Updates

8. Planning Update 15:21 – 28:22

- *New Proposed TPR* | The TPR is still under review by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). Under the existing TPR, the MPO was required to develop a regional TSP that was consistent with the RTP and the TSPs of each jurisdiction. According to the new language

in the TPR, however, responsibility for TSPs and Alternative Measures will fall to the local jurisdictions and agencies rather than the MPO, although the MPO can act as a coordinator if there is unanimous agreement across the jurisdictions.

- Communities with populations of fewer than 5,000 [sic: actual figure is 2,500] will be exempt from reporting requirements under the new TPR; it should be noted, though, that some funding sources do require proposed projects to originate from a plan. That plan, however, does not necessarily need to be a TSP; it could, for example, be a transportation element within a comprehensive plan.
 - Welzenbach will report back to the Policy Committee with an answer to this question: If an exempt community currently has in place, or decides to adopt a TSP, would they then be required to fulfill all the reporting requirements under the TPR, or could the TSP serve as their plan document for potential project funding, while keeping their exemption status intact vis-à-vis the TPR reporting requirements?
 - Smaller communities requesting assistance from MPO staff to help with the reporting requirements (if they were, in fact, required to report) could be problematic, since it would essentially require federal funds to be used for state-mandated requirements.
- Three options may be presented at the end of the proposed revisions to the TPR; depending on the option(s) selected by the local governments, LCDC's report on economic impact may need to be modified.
- DLCD was originally planning to take the rules to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) in May, but now it is likely that the Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) will convene once more, delaying presentation of the proposed new TPR until July.
- *Obligation Reports* | The MRMPO FFY2016 & FFY2017 obligation reports (i.e. annual lists of obligated projects) have been published.

9. Other Business/Local Business 28:23 – 36:58

- *Jackson County* | John Vial
 - Rogue River Greenway project update provided; project match funded by “Ride the Rogue” revenues. An agreement with the railroad regarding a necessary bike/ped crossing seems achievable at this point.
- *Josephine County* | Rob Brandes
 - Merlin sidewalk project update provided; easements are in place for about 75% of affected owners. The size of one bump-out has been reduced and references to “bike lanes” have been replaced with “shared use area” to alleviate lingering concerns of interested parties.

10. Adjournment 36:59 – 37:05

3:07 p.m.

Scheduled Meetings

MRMPO TAC | Thursday, May 3, 2018 | 1:30 pm

MRMPO Policy Committee | Thursday, May 17, 2018 | 2:30 pm