



SUMMARY MINUTES
Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

January 15, 2014

The following people were in attendance:

MRMPO Technical Advisory Committee

Voting Members in Attendance:

Chuck DeJanvier	Josephine County
Ian Horlacher	ODOT
John Krawczyk	Rogue River
Josh LeBombard	DLCD
Kelli Sparkman	ODOT
Michael Black	Grants Pass
Rick Hohnbaum	Gold Hill
Scott Chancey	Josephine County Transit
Terry Haugen	Grants Pass

Voting Members Absent:

John Vial	Jackson County
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Others Present:

None

RVCOG Staff

Andrea Napoli, Dan Moore, Bunny Lincoln

1. Call to Order / Introductions / Review Agenda

Michael Black called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

2. Review / Approve Minutes

Black asked if there were any changes or additions to the November meeting minutes.

On a motion by Kelli Sparkman and seconded by John Krawczyk the committee unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

Michael Black reported that the MPO dues recommendation had been ratified, and that the appointment of a TAC member to the RVACT (Rogue Valley Area Commission on Transportation), as a non-voting member had also been approved.

Discussion Item:

3. Discretionary Funding Project(s)

Dan Moore gave a brief introduction of the protocols for federal transportation funds:

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

Chairman Black called for a round table discussion on application proposals from the various MPO participants. To date, none of the applications have been officially submitted.

1. **Grants Pass** -

Michael Black and Terry Haugen outlined several improvement projects spanning the Fiscal 2014 -18 time frame. Most include planning & development, design & right of way acquisition and construction. Pedestrian and bike facilities are a safety priority, with urban upgrades in some areas. STP funds are being sought for the predominance of the projects:

- Redwood Ave. improvements between Dowell and Darneille
- Pansy Lane to Redwood Circle
- Lincoln Road from Bridge to Lower River
- Fruitdale – Hwy. 99 to Hwy. 238

Grants Pass is also proposing application for CMAQ funding to construct an alternative fueling facility for either LPG or compressed gas. It is expected that this effort will be a collaboration between the City, Josephine County, the local school district(s) and trash collection company.

2. **Josephine County Transit** - Scott Chancey spoke to a proposed relocation of the Josephine County Transportation bus hub, and a possible link to Rogue Valley Transit routes. Connections to the Medford area have been recognized as a high priority by the Grants Pass City Council. Mr. Chancey also outlined the many common services offered by both transit districts, and stipulated to a number of serious reasons for collaboration between the two agencies, with the goal being to better serve the public transportation needs of the entire region in a mutually effective and economically beneficial manner.

3. **Rogue River** - John Krawczyk thanked RVCOG Staff for meeting independently with Rogue River representatives to explore potential projects, but stated that the City is not submitting any applications for this funding period.

4. **Gold Hill** – Rick Hohnbaum commented that Gold Hill did not have any projects to submit at this time.

5. **Josephine County** – Chuck DeJanvier addressed two bike/pedestrian projects on behalf of the County:

- The Merlin downtown core
- Beacon to Hillcrest (north of Interstate 5)

6. **RVCOG** – Dan Moore explained the COG’s CMAQ application to purchase a hybrid vehicle. The rationale for this is that personal cars are being used for travel to various COG meetings and functions, and use of the hybrid would greatly reduce pollution, as well as provide a much more cost effective method of transportation for staff and others. The application speaks to a 50/50 cost split between the Rogue Valley and Middle Rogue MPOs.

TAC members discussed the dynamics of how the hybrid purchase would meet CMAQ criteria and the required Emissions Benefit Analysis.

Kelli Sparkman commented that all the projects proposed for application appear to meet eligibility requirements. Based upon a question raised by the TAC, she also stated that County CMAQ funding might be funneled to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for administrative purposes.

Members discussed the County and Grants Pass request to withdraw from the Rogue Valley Area Commission on Transportation (RVACT) and how it might affect future funding for other entities in the MRMPO. Dan Moore said that the dynamics were unclear at this time, but that CMAQ and STP funding requests were still moving ahead. The entire RVACT withdrawal matter is legislative, and rests in the hands of the policy makers.

4. **MRMPO Planning Update** - Dan Moore shared that the Regional Transportation Plan is moving ahead, with draft goals, policies and the mission statement being created now. During the next fiscal year, a consultant will be hired to implement the public input portion of the Plan and move it toward adoption. Elements of the Regional Transportation Plan are being updated, as is the model. Grants Pass needs to provide land uses for existing and future needs. RVCOG is also working with ODEQ on a Limited Maintenance Plan for CO and PM-10 maintenance, and is developing the Work Plan for the coming fiscal year. The Plan will be submitted for review at the February meeting, with recommendations being sent to the Policy Committee. Dick Converse is writing the Public Participation Plan for the MPO, and will bring the draft to the TAC for review. Eventually, a decision must be reached on whether to create a Public Advisory Committee for the MPO.

5. **Public Comment**
None received.

6. **Other Business / Local Business**
None.

7. **Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.