



Minutes
Middle Rogue MPO Technical Advisory Committee
June 1, 2017

The following attended:

Voting Members	Organization	Phone Number
Chuck DeJanvier	Josephine County	474-5460
Ian Horlacher	ODOT	423-1362
Jason Canady	Grants Pass	450-6110
John Vial, Chair	Jackson County	774-6238
Scott Chancey	Josephine County Transit	474-5441
Alternate Voters / For	Organization	Phone Number
Tom Schauer for Lora Glover	Grants Pass	450-6072
Staff	Organization	Phone Number
Karl Welzenbach	RVCOG	423-1360
Ryan MacLaren	RVCOG	423-1338
Stephanie Thune	RVCOG	423-1368
Interested Parties	Organization	Phone Number
Chris Bucher	FHWA	
Lesley Orr	Bike/Ped	707-218-4025
Neil Burgess	Josephine County	

1. Call to Order / Introductions / Review Agenda

- Chair John Vial called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.; introductions followed.
- Due to lack of a quorum at the time of the Call to Order, the Chair requested that for all future meetings with action items on the agenda – even if a quorum has already been confirmed – all members be contacted again prior to the meeting to a) respond if they have not yet done so, or b) re-confirm their confirmations.

- In order to accommodate the lack of a quorum at the meeting's outset, a presentation from agenda item 6, "Updates on Currently Active MRMPO Projects," took place prior to the listed action items.

Note: Despite this procedural alteration, the minutes reflect all agenda items in their original order.

- During the presentation, another voter arrived; the quorum was met with voting members from Grants Pass, Jackson County, Josephine County, and ODOT in attendance.

2. Review / Approve Minutes

The Chair asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes of the March 4 meeting.

Chuck DeJanvier moved to approve the March 4 MRMPO TAC meeting minutes as presented. Scott Chancey seconded. *The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

Action Items:

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

Josephine County has requested that the MRMPO RTP and TIP be amended to include the following two projects:

- JCT – 5307 Transit Operations (FY16)
Description: "*Transit Operating Assistance*"
- JCT – 5307 Transit Operations (FY17)
Description: "*Transit Operating Assistance*"

Notice of a public hearing and comment period regarding the amendment was published in the Rogue River Press on Wednesday, May 24, and in the Grants Pass Courier and Medford Mail Tribune on Thursday, May 25. The 21-day public comment period will conclude on June 15, on which day the MRMPO Policy Committee meeting will conduct a public hearing and vote on the item.

Ian Horlacher moved that the TAC Committee recommend approval of the 2015-2040 MRMPO RTP and 2015-2018 MRMPO TIP amendments to the Policy Committee. Scott Chancey seconded. *The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

4. 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendments and 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Re-Adoption

Karl Welzenbach reported that, although both the MRMPO and RVMPO met ODOT's deadline for 2018-2021 TIP approval, ODOT subsequently changed items in its STIP. As a result – and since the two documents' projects must match identically – ODOT is requesting that both MPOs re-adopt (not amend) their 2018-2021 TIPs to include the previously omitted STIP projects.

Ryan MacLaren highlighted details of information provided in the agenda packet regarding the project additions/removals; most involved changes to names, changes to funding specifications, or the addition of project phases. MacLaren explained that none of the projects impact the conformity analysis or how the projects' funds are allocated.

In order to prevent such extensive amendments and potential TIP re-adoptions in future years (with possible project funding penalties as a result), Welzenbach noted that efforts are underway and will be ongoing to overhaul the TIP/STIP coordination process from preparation through submittal stages.

Scott Chancey moved that the TAC Committee recommend approval of the 2015-2040 MRMPO RTP amendments and 2018-2021 MRMPO TIP re-adoption to the Policy Committee. Jason Canady seconded. *The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

Discussion Items:

5. Public Comment

None voiced.

Regular Updates:

6. Updates on Currently Active MRMPO Projects

- *Josephine County:* Neil Burgess gave a comprehensive update regarding the “Merlin Road/Galice Road Sidewalk Improvements” project (Merlin Sanitarium Road to Robertson Bridge Road). Project funding of approximately \$700,000 came via the MRMPO and has been fund-exchanged.
 - Burgess will provide Rob Brandes with a copy of the project survey to distribute at next week’s Bike/Ped meeting to gather additional feedback.
 - Chris Bucher (FHWA) commented on the importance of designing everything to be ADA compliant and recommended flashing lights and crosswalks due to the 35mph speed limit.

7. MPO Planning Update

The final CMAQ PAC meeting will be held tomorrow in Salem; to-date, twelve scenarios of the formulaic distribution have been proposed. While all MPOs are facing cuts in CMAQ funds, the two smallest MPOs (RVMPO and MRMPO) are facing the biggest ones, while Portland’s will be smallest. The range scenarios are as follows:

MPO	Worst % Cut	Best % Cut	Potential Funding Increase
RVMPO	75%	31%	n/a
MRMPO	88%	18%	n/a
Portland	19%	n/a	11%

If a more equitable distribution method – and very solid recommendation to the OTC – cannot be decided upon at tomorrow’s meeting, one potential step could be to ask Congressman Walden to write a letter requesting FHWA to render an interpretation of the regulations.

Welzenbach also reported that transportation bill HB 2017-3 currently states that, “(G) *The governing body of the Middle Rogue Congestion Relief District shall be the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee.*” Welzenbach and RVMPO Chair Mike Quilty will contact legislators to recommend this be changed to have the MRMPO make its own political and taxing decisions.

8. Other Business / Local Business

None voiced.

9. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Scheduled Meetings

MRMPO Policy Committee | June 15, 2017 | 2:30 p.m.

MRMPO TAC | July 6, 2017 | 1:30 p.m.