



**Date: Thursday, May 7, 2026**

**Time: 1:30 p.m.**

**Join In-Person**

**Location:** Ridge Room Conference Room,  
 Grants Pass City Hall, 101 NW A St,  
 Grants Pass, OR

**Transit:** Served by JCT Routes #10, 20, 35,  
 40, 50, 80 and 100. Paratransit  
 services are available for qualified  
 individuals.

**Contact:** RVCOG: 541-423-1375

**Or via Zoom**

**Meeting ID:** 884 8819 9210

**Phone #:** +1 346 248 7799

**Zoom Link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88488199210>

**Website:** [www.mrmmpo.org](http://www.mrmmpo.org)

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

**1. Call to Order / Introductions / Review Agenda**

**Chair**

**Consent Agenda**

**2. Review / Approve Minutes**

**Chair**

Attachment: [#1 MRMPO TAC Meeting Draft Minutes 04/02/2026](#)

**Action Items**

**3. 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program**

**Yazeed Alrashdi**

**Background:** Every three years the MRMPO is required to develop the next Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is used to prioritize projects in the MPO area over the short-term and is the mechanism by which funds are committed to specific surface transportation projects.

**Link to Website:** [#2 Draft 2027-2030 TIP](#)  
[#3 TIP Open House](#)

**Action Requested:** Recommendation of approval



**4. Support Letters for the BASICS Act H.R. 7437** **Ryan Maclaren**

Background: The *BASICS (Bridges And Safety Infrastructure for Community Success) Act (H.R. 7437)* updates federal transportation programs to reflect how infrastructure actually works on the ground. It directs funding to where people travel, where projects are ready, and where safety outcomes matter most.

Staff is proposing to send three letters of support, one to our Congress representative and two to our Senate representatives.

Attachments: [#4 Additional Resources](#)  
[#5 Letters of Support](#)

Action Requested: Recommendation of Chair signatures

**Discussion Items**

**5. Public Comment** **Chair**

**Regular Updates**

**6. MRMPO Update** **Ryan MacLaren**

**7. Other Business / Local Business** **Chair**

Opportunity for MRMPO member jurisdictions to talk about transportation planning projects.

**8. Adjournment** **Chair**

Scheduled Meetings		
MRMPO TAC	June 4, 2026	1:30 p.m.
MRMPO CAC	May 14, 2026	1:30 p.m.
MRMPO Policy Meeting	May 21, 2026	2:30 p.m.

All meetings are available in-person and online via Zoom unless otherwise noted.



**Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026**

Attendees:

Voting Members	Organization	Phone Number
Lily Morgan	Gold Hill	855-1525
Ryan Nolan, Vice Chair	Rogue River	582-4401
Charles Bennett	Jackson County	774-6115
James Philp	Jackson County	774-6236
Neil Burgess	Josephine County	474-5460
Scott Chancey, Chair	Josephine Community Transit	474-5441
Justin Shoemaker	ODOT	200-5784

Alternate Voters	Organization	Phone Number
Ian Horlacher	ODOT	

Staff	Organization	Phone Number
Ryan MacLaren	RVCOG	423-1338
Kelsey Sharp	RVCOG	423-1375
Yazeed Alrashdi	RVCOG	423-1378

Interested Parties	Organization
Jennifer Boardman	ODOT

**MRMPO TAC Meeting Minutes – Thursday, April 2, 2026**

[Agenda Packet](#)

[Meeting Audio](#)

**1. Call to Order at 1:30 P.M. / Introductions / Review Agenda 00:00 – 00:49**

Quorum: 4 jurisdictions represented.

**2. Review / Approve Minutes 00:49 – 02:00**

**00:56** Justin Shoemaker moved to approve the March 5, 2026, MRMPO TAC Meeting Minutes as presented. Seconded by Ian Horlacher.

No further discussion.

Motion passed by voice vote. Yes: Lily Morgan, Ryan Nolan, Charles Bennett, James Philp, Neil Burgess, Scott Chancey, Ian Horlacher, and Justin Shoemaker. No: None.



**Action Items**

- 3. 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program 02:00 – 04:16**
  - 03:27** Ryan Nolan moved to recommend approval of the 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as presented. Seconded by Justin Shoemaker.  
 No further discussion.  
 Motion passed by voice vote. Yes: Lily Morgan, Ryan Nolan, Charles Bennett, James Philp, Neil Burgess, Scott Chancey, Ian Horlacher, and Justin Shoemaker. No: None.
  
- 4. RVACT Alternate Member 04:16 – 11:14**
  - 07:44** Ryan Nolan moved to recommend Lily Morgan as the alternate voting member on the RVACT. Seconded by Neil Burgess.  
 No further discussion.  
 Motion passed by voice vote. Yes: Lily Morgan, Ryan Nolan, Charles Bennett, James Philp, Neil Burgess, Scott Chancey, Ian Horlacher, and Justin Shoemaker. No: None.

**Discussion Items**

- 5. DRAFT 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program 11:14 – 16:37**
  
- 6. Public Comment 16:37 – 16:54**  
*No comments received.*

**Regular Updates**

- 7. MPO Planning Update 10:40 – 20:55**  
*Update from Ryan MacLaren regarding the new Federal Transportation Bill proposed, the BASICS Act.*
  
- 8. Other Business / Local Business 20:55 – 01:05:44**  
*Updates from ODOT, Jackson County, Gold Hill, Rogue River, and Josephine County.*
  
- 9. Adjournment**  
 2:17 p.m.

Scheduled Meetings		
MRMPO TAC	May 7, 2026	1:30 p.m.
MRMPO CAC	April 9, 2026	1:30 p.m.
MRMPO Policy Meeting	April 16, 2026	2:30 p.m.

## BASICS Act (HR 7437) Additional Resources

Click any of the links below to learn more about the ***Bridges And Safety Infrastructure for Community Success Act***

- ✓ Introduction to the BASICS Act

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e4ce2c88c9c84cb3b674fd06aed5e8d6>

- ✓ BASICS Act One Pager Overview

[https://ampo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/BASICS-Leg-One-Pager\\_2026\\_2.10.25.pdf](https://ampo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/BASICS-Leg-One-Pager_2026_2.10.25.pdf)

- ✓ BASICS Act Section by Section

<https://ampo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/BASICS-Section-by-Section-2.10.2026.pdf>

- ✓ BASICS Act Bill Text

<https://ampo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Bill-Text-BASICS-Act.pdf>



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

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

April 3, 2026

The Honorable Cliff Bentz, Congressman 2nd District  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1239 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Bentz,

On behalf of the Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization (MRMPO), I urge you to support and co-sponsor H.R.7437, the BASICS (Bridges And Safety Infrastructure for Community Success) Act, introduced by Representatives McDonald Rivet and Bresnahan.

The MRMPO helps direct federal transportation funding to the urbanized areas in Jackson and Josephine Counties, the cities of Grants Pass, Rogue River, and Gold Hill, Josephine Community Transit (JCT), and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), to improve safety, reduce congestion, and support economic growth for over 63,000 residents within the MRMPO planning area. What the BASICS Act does:

- Strengthens regional planning and uses federal dollars wisely. Created by Congress, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are responsible for developing fiscally constrained Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) that identify local priority projects that meet federal performance goals. The BASICS Act increases Metropolitan Planning (PL) funding so MPOs can meet growing federal requirements and deliver stronger plans and better project selection that reflects long-term community needs.
- Delivers regional priorities faster. The BASICS Act accelerates delivery of these regionally supported projects by increasing funding for the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program. As the most flexible federal transportation formula program, STBG allows states and regions to move projects forward efficiently and deliver tangible benefits for local businesses, workers, and communities in every congressional district.
- Ensures transparency and collaboration. Federal transportation dollars must be accountable to taxpayers. The BASICS Act improves transparency by reinforcing collaboration across federal, state, regional, and local partners to ensure that local voices are heard and transportation investments reflect what communities in the Grants Pass area need most.
- Focuses on road safety. With nearly 100 roadway deaths each day, the BASICS Act increases and protects funding for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). It also ensures that 25 percent of HSIP funds are delivered through MPOs for proven safety projects that build on the success of the Safe Streets and Roads for All program.

- Invests in repairing locally owned bridges. Counties own 38 percent of U.S. bridges. The BASICS Act ensures bridge funding reflects this reality by directing resources proportionally to locally owned bridges in each state. This means more support for repairing the worst-condition bridges in our communities.

The BASICS Act is supported by the Local Officials in Transportation (LOT) Coalition, representing more than 25,000 counties, cities, towns, MPOs, regional councils, and economic development organizations. Coalition members include the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), the National Association of Counties (NACo), the National League of Cities (NLC), and the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM). This broad coalition reflects the nationwide recognition that local and regional governments must have a stronger voice and better tools in shaping federal transportation policy.

There is nothing more basic than local roads and bridges. By supporting the BASICS Act, you will help ensure that cities, counties, and Metropolitan Planning Organizations, including the MRMPO, have the resources they need to deliver transportation systems that connect our neighborhoods, support our local economies and serve our residents every single day.

I ask you to reach out to the cosponsors of this bill, Representatives McDonald Rivet and Bresnahan to discuss how you can help support the BASICS Act in the next federal surface transportation reauthorization.

Sincerely,

Wade Elliot  
Chair, MRMPO Policy Committee



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

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

April 3, 2026

The Honorable Jeff Merkley, Senator  
U.S. Senate  
313 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Merkley,

On behalf of the Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization (MRMPO), I urge you to support and co-sponsor H.R.7437, the BASICS (Bridges And Safety Infrastructure for Community Success) Act, introduced by Representatives McDonald Rivet and Bresnahan.

The MRMPO helps direct federal transportation funding to the urbanized areas in Jackson and Josephine Counties, the cities of Grants Pass, Rogue River, and Gold Hill, Josephine Community Transit (JCT), and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), to improve safety, reduce congestion, and support economic growth for over 63,000 residents within the MRMPO planning area. What the BASICS Act does:

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I ask you to reach out to the cosponsors of this bill, Representatives McDonald Rivet and Bresnahan to discuss how you can introduce a bipartisan Senate companion bill. Thank you for your leadership and consideration. Strengthening regional planning and empowering local decision makers is essential to creating a safer, more connected, and economically prosperous future.

Sincerely,

Wade Elliot  
Chair, MRMPO Policy Committee



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April 3, 2026

The Honorable Ron Wyden, Senator  
U.S. Senate  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wyden,

On behalf of the Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization (MRMPO), I urge you to support and co-sponsor H.R.7437, the BASICS (Bridges And Safety Infrastructure for Community Success) Act, introduced by Representatives McDonald Rivet and Bresnahan.

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