

SOUTH WEST AREA COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION (SWACT)
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2024
Teleconference

❖ Roll Call ❖

Chair Nikki Messenger called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Roll was called, and a quorum confirmed. (14 voting members present. V = voting member for this meeting. Quorum = 10 (50% of filled [currently 20] primary membership positions.)

Commission Members and Alternates in Attendance (alphabetical)

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Allaway, Julie | Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians (Primary) | V |
| Alcorn, Brad | Curry County (Primary) | V |
| Boyer, Brant | Douglas County Stakeholder (Primary) | V |
| Craddock, Rodger | Aviation (Primary) | V |
| Dolgonas, Dick | Bicycle & Pedestrian (Primary) | V |
| Gilbert, Kristi | Douglas County City-At-Large (Primary) | V |
| Gray, Garrett | Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (Primary) | V |
| Hossley, Jim | City of Coos Bay (Primary) | V |
| Hunter, Chris | ODOT (Primary) | V |
| Jensen, Matthew | Coquille Indian Tribe (Primary) | V |
| Kent, Scott | Port (Alternate) | V |
| Kutch, Ron | Coos County Stakeholder (Primary) | V |
| Medeiros, Brandi | Douglas County City-At-Large (Alternate) | |
| Messenger, Nikki | City of Roseburg (Primary) | V |
| Pederson, Glen | ODOT (Alternate) | |
| Pryce, Loree | Bicycle & Pedestrian (Alternate) | |
| Rainville, Lonnie | Douglas County City-At-Large (Primary) | V |

ODOT Staff in Attendance

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Boardman, Jennifer | Region 3 Transit Coordinator |
| 2. Cornutt, Lisa | Region 3 Principal Planner |
| 3. Latham, Dan | Region 3 Public Information Officer |
| 4. Neavoll, Darrin | Region 3 Manager |
| 5. Thompson, Sarah | Region 3 Executive Analyst |

Guests in Attendance

- | | |
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| 1. Metz, Melissa | Coos County Area Transit |
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❖ Public Input ❖

- None

❖ Approval of Minutes ❖

- **Motion made and seconded to approve the May 10th, 2024, SWACT Minutes. (Rodger Craddock/Dick Dolgonas)**
- Discussion: None.
- *Motion carried.*

❖ Membership Updates ❖

a) Ralph Dunham – for Coos County City-At-Large Primary Representative

- **Motion made and seconded (Ron Kutch/Jim Hossley)**
- Discussion: None.

Motion carried

b) Rodger Craddock – Critical Oregon Airport Relief Grant Application SWACT Representative.

- **Motion made and seconded (Clayton Malmberg/Cheryl Cheas)**
- Discussion: None.

Motion carried

Chris Hunter informed the group that there is still a large number of vacant positions. John Burns, the Primary Freight/Rail representative has retired. ODOT will solicit for a new primary representative. There is a new city manager in Brookings. ODOT will reach out to him for interest. Everyone please look at the list and reach out to anyone you think would be interested in a position with the SWACT.

❖ 2025 – 2027 STIF Discretionary ❖

Presentation: Jennifer Boardman, Region 3 Transit Coordinator gave guidance for providing input on proposed projects under this funding opportunity in the South West Area. \$12M is available under the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Discretionary solicitation. \$10M is available for the Statewide Transit Network Program solicitation. \$91M in funding has been requested under these solicitations. \$3,901,780 has been requested across 4 applications in the SWACT area. ACT feedback is due back to ODOT no later than October 22, 2024, and the OTC will approve projects by March 2025. Projects to be considered in this area:

1. Coos County Area Transit District
 - a. Transit Hub project request of \$2,065,780 to construct a transit hub. Location has not been secured.
 - b. Powers Vanpool project request of \$36,000 to support rideshare growth and bridge the las 21-mile gap in the CCAT system of services.
2. Curry County
 - a. Vehicle Replacement project request of \$650,000 to replace 4 category D cutaway buses.
3. Pacific Crest Bus Lines

- a. Service Gap project request for \$400,000 to service gaps currently in place along the I-5 corridor between Ashland and Eugene.

The SWACT is asked to evaluate the project applications and provide a funding recommendation to Sarah to submit on the single Project Input Form.

Discussion: Dick Dolgonas asked if this was a statewide solicitation, so our projects are competing against each other as well as others around the state? Jennifer stated yes, that is why the feedback is so important. Nikki Messenger stated this is really difficult to achieve as the deadlines are outside of our normal meeting times.

Group consensus was to set up a subcommittee to review the applications and provide a recommendation. This subcommittee will consist of Lonnie Rainville, Clayton Malmberg, Matt Jensen and Loree Pryce. Sarah will send all of the applications out to all SWACT members and schedule a work session for the subcommittee.

❖ ACT Work Plan ❖

Presentation: Chris Hunter reminded the group that Goal 3 of the SWACT Work Plan is to create a priority project list. Projects must be on the highway system or touching the highway system. Chris asked the group their thoughts on creating a subcommittee to work on guidance for a project list solicitation to add to the work plan.

Discussion: Dick Dolgonas asked for clarification that it was only ODOT facilities or also connecting to it. Chris states yes as a start and then can expand to other items. Nikki Messenger asked Chris if he was looking for volunteers? Chris stated Yes. Nikki Messenger volunteered; Jim Hossley volunteered. Ron Kutch asked for the time commitment over the next 3-6 months. Chris asked for a kick-off meeting and two follow up meetings. Ron Kutch volunteered. Chris will set up a kick off meeting sometime in the next month or two.

❖ Region 3 Construction Updates ❖

Presentation: Dan Latham gave an update on projects currently under construction in Coos, Curry and Douglas County.

1. Oakland Bridge – replaces one lane historic bridge with a two-lane bridge that aligns with the current roadway. Estimated completion is Summer 2024.
2. Conn Ford Bridge – replaces 1964 bridge in Melrose on same alignment. Estimated completion is Summer 2024
3. Sandy Creek Bridge – replaces a failed culvert with a bridge on the Coos County Road system. Estimated completion is October 2024
4. Hancock Mountain Road to Drain – paves 12 miles of Umpqua Highway, repairs 4 bridges, adds center line rumble strips and a stop sign at Cedar Street in Drain. Estimated completion is October 2024
5. Big K Ranch Slide – repairs area where culvert failure damaged the roadway. Project replaces culvert and adds rock buttress five miles south of Elkton. Estimated to be completed by the end of the month

6. OR42 Bridge Repairs – three bridges east of Myrtle Point; Middle Fork Coquille at Hoffman (MP23.4), Endicott Creek (MP26.7) and Middle Fork Coquille (MP30.6). Construction estimated to be completed in October 2024
7. OR42 Culvert – replaces two culverts on EB OR42 near the US101 junction. WB culverts were replaced in 2022. Estimated completion is October 2024
8. Powers Highway ADA sidewalk ramps – adds new curb and gutters, ADA ramps, sidewalks and intersection improvements on 1st street between Alder and Fig Street. This is a Safe Routes to School grant project that is expected to be completed in October 2024
9. Reedsport Lane Reconfiguration – adds a second northbound travel lane. Estimated completion is January 2025

Discussion: Nikki Messenger asked when a project undoes previous work, where does that funding come from? Glen indicated they had to look for internal funding to make it work. Darrin stated it came from savings on other capital projects.

❖ Legislative Tour ❖

Presentation: Darrin Neavoll recapped the 12 stop statewide tour that is happening in Oregon with the Joint Committee on Transportation. This tour aims to build public understanding of transportation funding challenges and potential funding tools to address those challenges. Stops have already occurred in Portland, Tillamook, Albany, Eugene, Coos Bay, Medford, Ontario and Hermiston. Remaining tours are scheduled throughout the rest of the month in Bend, The Dalles, Happy Valley and Hillsboro. Each tour stop includes site tours, roundtable conversations with local officials, partners and community leaders and public hearings with a presentation from ODOT staff and public testimony.

Discussion: Jim Hossley thought it was a good tour. The local senator was impressed with the slide area and the cost of repair. Ron Kutch asked what the 50/30/20 split entails. Darrin reiterated it is the split of the state gas tax; 50% to ODOT, 30% to the Counties and 20% to the Cities.

❖ Region 3 Updates ❖

Presentation: Darrin Neavoll gave an update on items in the Region and across the State.

Region Updates:

1. Connect Oregon 9 final recommendation list was mailed out. Four out of the seven projects in Region 3 were recommended for funding. The OTC will vote on October 10th. If approved, this would be \$8M into Region 3. Darrin thanked Ron Kutch for sitting on the Region committee.
2. R3 submitted an AOP Culvert grant
3. R3 submitted a Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program grant for \$33M

Budget:

1. Hoping for structural changes but if not will be planning for both a 30% reduction in the 25-27 budget and also an increase in funding from a legislative package.

2. This would equate for Region 3 to 100 positions; 63 of which are maintenance.

OTC Updates:

1. July 31st – Aug 1st , OTC was in Florence
 - a. 2025-2027 Agency Request Budget
 - b. Project Delivery Improvements Update
 - c. LaneACT Update
 - d. Federal Redistribution Funding
 - e. 2024 – 2027 STIP Annual Amendment
 - f. I-5 Rose Quarter Funding Scenario
 - g. Interstate Bridge Replacement Program Update
2. October 10th – 11th, in Bend
 - a. Central OR ACT Update
 - b. Legislative Tour
 - c. Strategic Review Update
 - d. Approve Connect Oregon 9 Recommendations
 - e. Road User Fee
 - f. Truck Taxation
 - g. Jurisdictional Transfer Committee
 - h. Sharon Smith is retiring – Governor Kotek working on a replacement

Discussion: Nikki Messenger asked what the Jurisdictional Transfer Committee is working on. Darrin stated it is a committee working on an application process for ODOT and other agencies to apply for funding to move transfers forward.

❖ NOA's and Adjournment ❖

Chris Hunter – Dick Dolgonas reached out earlier about October being pedestrian safety awareness month and wanted to know what ODOT was doing for it. Chris informed the group that ODOT is doing a video/radio campaign statewide.

Chris Hunter – The annex is once again available in Coquille. Do we want to see about having 1 or 2 meetings in person soon? And if so, what time of year? Consensus varied between wanting all, a few, and one or two. Chris will look into scheduling the November meeting in Coquille and we can go from there.

Nikki Messenger adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

Next SWACT Meeting: Friday, November 8, 2024, at 10 am. Meeting will be in person at the Coquille annex, if available. Notice will be provided ahead of the meeting.