

**Northwest Area Commission on Transportation
Meeting Minutes, May 12, 2022**

Item 1

Welcome: The meeting was called to order by Marsha Kirk, Vice Chair at 1:04pm. The following members and guests attended:

NWACT Members in Attendance are denoted with an asterisk:

Clatsop County

Commission (v) Lianne Thompson*
Commission (a) Ted Mclean
Large City (v) Bruce Jones*
Large City (a) Steve Wright*
Small City (v)
Small City (a)
Citizen-at-Large Kathy Kleczek*
Citizen-at-Large Jim Knight

Columbia County

Commission (v) Henry Heimuller
Commission (a) Mike Russell*
Large City (v)
Large City (a)
Small City (v) Bob Brajcich
Small City (a)
Citizen-at-Large Rosemary Lohrke
Citizen-at-Large Ryan Pearson

Tillamook County

Commission (v) Erin Skaar*
Commission (a) Bill Baertlein
Large City (v)
Large City (a)
Small City (v)
Small City (a) Juliet Hyams*
Citizen-at-Large
Citizen-at-Large

Others in attendance:

Rachael Barry, City of St Helens
Jon Paul Bowles, Salmonberry Trail
Mark Buffington, ODOT
Ayreann Colombo, ColPac EDD
Terre Cooper, Tillamook EDC

Citizen-at-Large Patrick McIntire

Washington County

Commission (v) Jerry Willey*
Commission (a) Joe Younkins*
Large City (v) Marsha Kirk*
Large City (a) Jolynn Becker
Small City (v)
Small City (a)
Citizen-at-Large Mike Borresen*
Citizen-at-Large

Transit Districts

Columbia Co (v) John Dreezen
Columbia Co (a)
Clatsop County (v) Tracy MacDonald*
Clatsop County (a) Jeff Hazen
Tillamook Co (v)
Tillamook Co (a) Doug Pilant

Ports

Port of Astoria (v) Frank Spence*
Port of Astoria (a) Will Isom
Port of Columbia Co (v)
Port of Columbia Co (a)
Port of Tillamook Bay (v) Michele Bradley*
Port of Garibaldi (a) Mike Saindon

Geoff Crook, ODOT
Jeff Harrington, City of Astoria
Bill Jablonski, ODOT
Mary Johnson, City of Wheeler
Meg Leatherman, City of Astoria
Dave Sakau, City of Scapoose
Ken Shonkwiler, ODOT

Item 2

Minutes: Reviewed with one amendment; the name of the person giving public comment at the February meeting will be sought and updated.

Public Comment: Jesse Boroughs of Washington County: Is interested in the NWACT as a long haul trucker and resident. An area of concern is Highway 6 safety.

ODOT Region 2 Updates:

HB4053 is studying safety on a concerning 50 mile corridor of Highway 6. This will be a condition and needs analysis and will include public comment. The report to the legislature is due in September 2023 and will take previous studies into consideration. Liane Welch volunteered to be on the technical advisory committee.

Nehalem, Wheeler, and Bay City are accepting public comment on their joint TSP until mid-June. The Gearhart facilities plan is wrapping up this summer. Connect Oregon grant awards have been announced and include a travel lift at Hyak Tongue Point and extended rail siding in Westport for the Teevin Brothers in our area. The new Youngs Bay Bridge has new guardrail and will experience night closures in June. Seaside paving project continues. In Arch Cape, bridge work is underway. Garibaldi has a project under design. Jon Paul Bowles remarked his interest in working in aligning this project with goals for Salmonberry Trail construction. Mark Buffington is filling pot holes.

Staff changes at ODOT include hiring two inspectors. Ken Shonkwiler has been promoted to Senior Transportation Project Manager. Bill Jablonski has been promoted to Area 1 Manager.

In Columbia County work continues at Mallard & Bennet, currently working on new track surfaces. Work should largely be wrapped up this September. Highway 47 will be closed until October. Detours are in place but members voiced concern for local businesses affected by extended closure.

Washington County Update:

Haag Lake area slide repair construction will continue until summer. Highway 47 at Banks and Forest Grove intersections project is in the permitting phase. Stringtown Road is scheduled for 2023 construction. East Fork Dairy Creek bridge replacement is progressing. Michele Bradley noted that folks should be aware of rail funding deadlines.

Item 3

Presentation from ODOT Climate office

Geoff Crook from ODOT's Climate Office presented a slideshow outlining his office's mission and goals. There was a question and answer session where Jon Paul Bowles inquired if non-motorized transportation projects might be funded out of the Climate Office. Mr. Crook said not at this time. Marsha Kirk inquired about solar powered charging stations in the case of predictable disasters that would disable the electric grid. Mr. Crook believes this is in R & D and not currently available. Ken Shonkwiler notes that there is DLCD funding for technical assistance for planning purposes.

Item 4

IIJA ODOT Updates: Ken Shonkwiler presented slides on the OTC's allocations of flexible funding. Ken noted that while many existing programs would be receiving additional funding, ODOT would also be standing up at least two new programs from the ground up and updates on those would be

forthcoming. Jesse Borough asked about the funding allocation for climate projects and how the \$27m breaks down. Bill Jablonski said he would inquire.

Item 5

Member Updates: Jon Paul Bowles notes that the Salmonberry Trail is working in Barview to Garibaldi on a Safe Routes to School Project. Liane Welch notes that Bay City has a Highway 101 crossing that needs a safe pedestrian crossing option. Kathy Kleczek is excited about funding opportunities to manage tourist transportation and has concerns about Region 2 cutting funding for alternative transportation initiatives. Dave Sakau reports that safety on Highway 30 was a big concern at the City of Scapoose's annual meeting, as well as rail crossings and electric vehicles. Mike Russell shared the Columbia County continues to work on storm damage from February; also concerned about the time cost of completing portions of IJA funding applications. Rachael Barry shared St Helens shares concerns about safety on Highway 30 and that they're working on a riverfront redevelopment plan. Steve Wright noted that Seaside's next funding priority will be a seismic retrofit of the S Street bridge. Michele Bradley shared that she has an FAA weather reporting grant in the works, the POTB is having their preparedness plans audited, and Tillamook County is working on their hazard mitigation plans. Jeff Harrington notes that pedestrian flashing lights will be added to 23th and Marine Drive in Astoria, paving projects are underway, and OR 202 sidewalk project is out to bid. Erin Skaar shares that Neskowin's additional egress will open this May and work on the Capes Meares loop is underway. Mike Borreson shared concerns about how long Highway 47 would be closed and feasibility of detours.

Meeting adjourned at 2:48pm.