

**Northwest Area Commission on Transportation
Meeting Minutes November 10, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Heimuller. 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) Dave Sukau
Small City (v) Bob Brajcich
*Small City (a) Scott Jorgenson**
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)
Citizen-at-Large
Citizen-at-Large
*Citizen-at-Large Patrick McHugh**

Washington County

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

Transit Districts

Columbia Co (v) John Dreeszen
Columbia Co (a)
*Clatsop County (v) Tracy MacDonald**
*Clatsop County (a) Jeff Hazen**
Tillamook Co (v)
Tillamook Co (a)

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

Others in attendance:

Tony Hyde, Columbia County
Juliet Hyam, ColPac EDD
Casey Garrett, Columbia County
Peter Brandom, Cornelius
Calvin LeSueur, ColPac EDD
Ken Shonkwiler, ODOT
Betsy Emery, Senator Merkley
Jayson Bucholz, ODOT
Liane Welch, Bay City
Megan McKibben, Washington County
Brian Worley, Assoc. Oregon Counties
Arla Miller, ODOT
Susan Gladwin, public comment
Jeff Harrington, City of Astoria
Robert Stevens, CWCOG
Nicole Stevens, Tillamook Co resident
Chris Laity, Tillamook County
Bill Jablonski, ODOT
Rep. Suzanne Weber
Travis Brouwer, ODOT

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Heimuller called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.

NWACT Consent Calendar:

Minutes were reviewed. Kathy Kleczek made a motion to approve, Marsha Kirk seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Susana Gladwin of Clatsop County shared her experience driving Highway 202 and requested a fog line on the road be considered.

ODOT Region 2 Updates:

The Highway 6 Corridor Study is under way and the stakeholders will have their first meeting in December 2022. Two Great Streets projects will be funded in our region: US 101 in Gearhart and Highway 30 in Astoria.

The transportation system plan for Wheeler, Nehalem, and Manzanita will be completed soon. At this time, public engagement continues for Garibaldi's project.

Two projects will go to design in 2023: sidewalks on OR 202 in Astoria, pedestrian crossing at the middle school in Banks.

Upcoming projects include: Highway 101 in Seaside between Avenues A and K. A new bridge at Highways 26 & 47. Highway 101 at Perkins will finish in 2023.

Recently complete work includes: Wilson River and Vernonia bridges, Youngs Bay Bridge signal and guardrail work between Warrenton and Astoria, project at Highway 26 and Necanicum. It is anticipated that the project at Highway 30 and Mallard in Columbia County will be completed by year end.

Agency updates include successful hiring and information about the 2024-2027 STP projects. Details will be forthcoming in January.

Oregon Coast Bike Route Plan

Members were made aware the official plan has been adopted, reviewed areas of potential change in the region, and provided links for further reading.

NWACT Leadership & Roster

The nominating committee recommended a slate of candidates. They proposed Commissioner Lianne Thompson for Chair, Bay City, City Manager Director Liane Welch for Second Chair, Councilor Marsha Kirk for Second Chair Third Chair. The membership discussed current rules for voting and alternate members. The slate will go to vote in January.

ODOT Budget Projections; STBG Fund Exchange programs

The ACT reviewed a presentation from Travis Brouwer regarding ODOT's budget projects and STBG Fund Exchange Program. At this time, it looks like agencies may be asked to reduce their budgets by 6% in the next budget and 10% the year after that.

Discussion included Commissioner Heimuller inquiring as to whether the DMV system could be taken out of ODOT's responsibilities to reduce costs and improve outcomes. Mr Brouwer said that was not a plan at this time.

Commissioner Thompson inquired about raising the budget dedicated to ACTs and if ODOT is diverting funds from road maintenance to address social equity issues.

Member Updates:

Kathy Kleczek announced that Cannon Beach's first TSP has been approved and reminded folks that Car Free Travel information is available for dissemination.

Tony Hyde announced the opening of the new Knife River training center in Albany offering a million square feet of indoor heavy equipment space.

Jeff Harrington shared that water issues on Highway 202 must be addressed before the sidewalk project can commence. Also there will be a rapid flashing beacon added to 23rd and Highway 30 in Astoria.

Liane Welch shared that Bay City will be applying for a Community Paths grant.

Chris Laity commented that future projects included in the Oregon Coast Bike Plan would push cyclists in a rural road without amenities to keep them safe. Also shared was the four fold increase in cost of replacing an old culvert with new standards, especially in relation to ODOT's predicted funding cuts.

Michele Bradley shared AUS project is seeking a legislative earmark.

Tracy Macdonald commented that anticipated bus stop project at Ensign Road and Highway 101 in Warrenton is still of interest.

Jeff Hazen shared that the Returning Citizen training program will begin in December utilizing a bus donated by TriMet in partnership with BMI. He will also be leaving his role with PTAC.

Robert Stevens from Southwest Washington joined NWACT to share information and an invitation to comment on long-range planning efforts they are undertaking.

Joe Younkens shared that Washington County has the Cherry Creek bridge project out to bid, the Banks Main Street project is moving along, and Highway 47 at Martin project to add a roundabout will commence in 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48pm.