

**Northwest Area Commission on Transportation  
Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Thompson. NWACT Members in Attendance are denoted with an asterisk:

**Clatsop County**

Commission (v) **Lianne Thompson\***  
 Commission (a) Terry Hendryx  
 Large City (v) **Elisabeth Adams\***  
 Large City (a)  
 Small City (v) **Steve Wright\***  
 Small City (a)  
 Citizen-at-Large Kathy Kleczek  
 Citizen-at-Large

**Columbia County**

Commission (v) **Casey Garrett\***  
 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 **Betsy Johnson\***

**Tillamook County**

Commission (v) **Doug Olson\***  
 Commission (a) **Chris Laity\***  
 Large City (v) Aaron Burriss  
 Large City (a) Nathan George  
 Small City (v)  
 Small City (a) **David McCall\***  
 Citizen-at-Large  
 Citizen-at-Large Patrick McHugh

**Washington County**

Commission (v) Jerry Willey  
 Commission (a) **Stacy Shetler\***  
 Large City (v)  
 Large City (a) **Jolynn Becker\***  
 Small City (v) **Marsha Kirk\***  
 Small City (a)  
 Citizen-at-Large **Don Odermott\***  
 Citizen-at-Large **Mike Borresen\***

**Transit Districts**

Columbia Co (v) **John Dreeszen\***  
 Columbia Co (a)  
 Clatsop Co (v) **Debbie Boothe Schmidt\***  
 Clatsop County (a) Craig Johnston  
 Tillamook Co (v) **Mary Johnson\***  
 Tillamook Co (a) **Brian Vitulli\***

**Ports**

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

Others in attendance:

Tova Peltz, ODOT  
 Bill Jablonski, ODOT  
 Caroline Crisp, ODOT  
 Mark Buffington, ODOT  
 Arla Miller, ODOT  
 John Walsh, City of St Helens  
 Colin Cooper, ColPac EDD  
 Nate Stice, Regional Solutions Team  
 Kevin Leahy, Clatsop SBDC & CEDR  
 Peter Brandom, City of Cornelius  
 Tony Hyde, Knife River  
 Mehda Pulla, Washington County  
 Anne McBride, City of Seaside  
 Ayla Hofler, PCP District 31

\*Members denoted with asterisks were in attendance.

## **Item 2: Consent Calendar**

Minutes were reviewed. David McCall motioned to accept the minutes and Steve Wright seconded; passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Betsy Johnson requested information about the restriping project in Astoria. Bill Jablonski shared that the project was in Astoria's TSP and funding was mostly federal.

Betsy Johnson inquired about permitting for a Verizon tower on Highway 6. Bill Jablonski suggested that she contract with the Department of Forestry, as ODOT does not comment on those types of permits.

Betsy Johnson requested an update on Banks Fire Department request for emergency access to Highway 26 from their fire station. Bill Jablonski noted that stop lights are not allowed on highways without ODOT analysis and that at this time there is no scheduled communication between ODOT and interested parties. Stacy Shetler requested flashing lights for the fire station for emergencies.

## **Items 3: Oregon State Policy & Highway Safety Discussion**

Lieutenant Hasenkamp attended the meeting and shared data with the group regarding meritorious service from local officers, accident statistics, and contact information for county-level contacts. The group asked questions and there were several comments including: Marsha Kirk shared the desire for enforcing school bus rules, Pat McHugh gave appreciation for increased presence in Tillamook County, Arla Miller shared concerns about speeding in Knappa, and Lianne Thompson shared her concerns about pedestrian crossings on Highway 101.

Lianne Thompson also asked about the ability for ODOT and OSP to provide a list of 'easy' fixes for safety along Highway 30 that focused on low-cost and near-term solutions. Bill Jablonski suggested she look to the 2025 legislative session to see what ODOT is considering.

## **Item 4: 2027-2023 STIP and Great Streets 2.0**

Tora Peltz, ODOT's Delivery and Operations Deputy Division Administrator, presented information about the next STIP planning process and the Great Streets Program.

Lianne Thompson asked how DEI is being weighted and shared concerns about rural areas ability to compete for funding. Stacy Shetler and Don Odermott shared concerns about using census tract data for eligibility purposes.

Tora Peltz shared that there would be upcoming community engagement.

## **Item 5: ODOT DEI Training & ACT Code of Conduct**

Lisa Brown ODOT's Equity and Civil Rights Program Manager a presentation on Equity Guidance. Lianne Thompson encouraged members to bring this information to our work as a group.

## **Item 6: NWACT Member Updates**

Sunset Empire Transportation District shared that their next step in service restoration will be a fixed route in Warrenton. Financial conditions will dictate the timeframe to return this service.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:04pm.