



Highway 62 Corridor Project

Date: November 5, 2004

From: Kathy Helmer, RVCOG

**Re: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TEAM (PDT) MEETING
MINUTES for October 28, 2004**

PDT Members in Attendance: Mike Arneson, Brian Dunn, David Elliott, Nick Fortey, Kathy Helmer, Skip Knight, Gary Leaming, Rick Levine, Jerry Marmon, John Morrison, Mike Quiltey, Jamie Snook, Debbie Timms.

Members Absent: Mark Gallagher, Mark Gibson, Greg Holthoff, Terry Kearns, Dan Moore.

Location: Conference Room, Rogue Valley Sewer Services, 138 W. Vilas, Central Point.

Guests: Jim Hanks, Kim Parducci.

Resource Technical Team in Attendance: Alex Georgevitch, Susan Landis, Shirley Roberts.

1.0 Introductions/Agenda Review/Minutes

John Morrison convened the meeting at 8:35 AM. John noted that Terry Kearns was on vacation and that Terry had asked John to facilitate the meeting in his absence.

Mike Montero, Chairperson of the CAC, was invited to make some comments on the CAC and its work. Mike said the CAC was very focused. They are asking excellent questions about meeting presentations. The group represents a broad range of interests and is a dynamic committee.

No corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting were identified and the group voted unanimously to approve them as written.

2.0 Report on the Agency and Public Scoping Meetings

Referring members to the memo in the meeting packet, John Morrison reported that attendance at the Agency Scoping meeting was very good. Terry Kearns led the meeting, reviewing the 16 areas of analysis to be addressed. Time was spent discussing specific agency areas of concern. Several hand-outs were provided and these were discussed. After the meeting, a site visit was arranged for agency staff wishing to view specific areas of concern. The Project Team desires to maintain continuous communication with the agencies throughout the project. Debbie noted her appreciation for the agency participation.

Regarding the Open House, John noted that the purpose was to understand public concerns about the highway and input for the project. Seventeen members of the public attended; it was held at the Family Resource Center in White City. People's concerns had to do with congestion on the highway and the danger people associated with driving the highway. They were also concerned about access issues near Cory and Agate Roads. The idea of stopping the project at Highway 140 was not popular with those who attended the Open House. They would prefer that it continue further north. Jerry Marmon said that people seemed to get the information they wanted at the Open House.

3.0 Traffic Issues Presentation

Jim Hanks provided a power point presentation on the Objectives of Traffic Engineering Analysis; the slides were in participants' meeting packets. Jim has worked in the field of traffic engineering for some 35 years. He is very familiar with traffic issues in the Medford area; he had a management role in the South Medford Interchange and in the North Medford Interchange projects.

Jim's presentation focused on what traffic engineers do and how they do it, the concepts and measures they use to understand traffic and its issues. Among other topics, Jim discussed highway and intersection capacity, crash rates for segments of Highway 62, safety analyses, and forecasting growth/future volumes via regional traffic modeling. He also spent time explaining the evaluation of alternatives. He also shared the Origin and Destination Study conducted in 1999.

There was some discussion of the usefulness of plotting crashes along the corridor.

4.0 A Look Ahead

Debbie Timms explained that the next meeting would be devoted to a discussion of the Purpose and Need and Transportation Problem. This meeting will be held at 8:30 AM, on November 18th in the Jackson County Public Works Auditorium.

5.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6.0 PDT comfort Check

John Morrison asked each PDT member to share his/her reactions to the meeting and process. David Elliott said he enjoyed the information. Skip Knight said he was comfortable. Nick Fortey said he would prefer that a map of the entire corridor be shown, rather than having maps of the two build alternatives in the meeting room. For him it was an issue of perception. Debbie Timms agreed that the group should start with a clean slate. Jerry Marmon noted that people always ask “Where did you end up?” and that there has been a long history to the overall project. Skip Knight said that we should honor the project history with some maps. Rick Levine said that the presentation had been very helpful. He was also bothered by the maps; he felt that they took away from the idea of starting with a fresh slate. Brian Dunn noted that the meetings on Purpose and Need would be the most important of all meetings. Debbie Timms expressed her appreciation to all for their participation. Jerry Marmon said that this meeting was giving everyone a good foundation for the rest of the process. Mike expressed his appreciation for the value of the presentation. John Morrison said that the group needed to take all these comments seriously.

Skip Knight expressed his appreciation for the group agreeing to meet earlier to accommodate his schedule.

7.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 AM.