

**DRAFT**

**Meeting Summary**

Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT)

ODOT Virtual Meeting

455 Airport Road, SE, Salem OR 97301

Thursday, August 7, 2025

**This meeting was a hybrid meeting with people attending virtually. Attendance is listed as follows:**

**MWACT Members Present**

Anna Henson, ODOT Region 2 Area 3 Manager

Kit Johnston, Yamhill County Board of Commissioners – Virtual

Kyle Juran, Keizer City Council - Virtual

Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County Board of Commissioners, 2025 Chair

Michael Schilling, Dallas City Council

Micki Varney, Salem City Council – Virtual

Tom Hammer, Yamhill County Private Sector

Joaquín Lara Midkiff - SAMTD in place of Sara Duncan - Virtual

Chris Mercier, Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde - Virtual

Kevin Cameron, Marion County Board of Commissioners

**MWACT Members Absent**

Chris Chenoweth, McMinnville City Council, 2025 Vice-Chair

Chris Patoine, Polk County Private Sector

Angelica Ceja, Hwy. 22E Corridor, Aumsville City Council (Alternate for Della Seney)

April Newton, 99E/213 Corridor, Silverton City Council

Cynthia Thompson, Yamhill County Transit Association

Gary Bullock, Marion County Private Sector

Sara Duncan, SAMTD Board of Directors

Yvette Potter, 99W/18/47 Corridor

Frank Lonergan, I-5 Corridor, Woodburn Mayor

Della Seney, Hwy. 22E Corridor, Aumsville City Council

**Others Present**

Brandon Williams, ODOT (Alternate for Anna Henson)

Deza'Rae Collins, MWVCOG-SKATS Staff - Virtual

Jacqueline Green, Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association – Virtual

Kristine Evertz, Summit Strategies Government Affairs LLC – Virtual

Tammy Kunz, Keizer Community Diversity Engagement Committee – Virtual

Evan Manvel, DLCD

Alma Grijalva – City of Woodburn - Virtual

Cathy Clark, Mayor, City of Keizer - Virtual

Jason Freilinger, Silverton Mayor – Virtual

Linda Watkins, Mayor City of Carlton- Virtual

Ed Chamberland, DEA

Jim Tret, Mayor, City of Detroit

**Agenda Item 1. Call to Order and Introductions – 3:30pm**

Chair Mordhorst called the hybrid meeting to order at 3:30p.m. A quorum was established, and introductions were made.

***Summary of June 5, 2025, Meeting:***

The summary of the June 5, 2025, meeting was approved by consensus of the members present in-person and online.

***Public Comment:***

There were no comments from the public.

***Comments from the Legislative Delegation:***

There were no comments from the legislative delegation.

***OTC Comments:***

No OTC Commissioner was present. Anna Henson noted that she has reached out to the OTC staff to determine which commissioner is assigned to MWACT and has not heard back.

***Commission Discussion/Area Updates:***

Anna Henson gave brief updates on the following projects:

-Center Street Bridge Seismic Retrofit project – on track for Phase 1 to bid in early 2026. During construction, there will be nighttime closures of the bridge, impacting traffic. Coordination with EMS has occurred and will continue through construction.

- OR22/Hwy 51 project (safety project) – we have approval to move a phase of the project (interchange) into a separate project, and we will take that to the design acceptance phase (50% plans) and seek funding.

- OR99 Clow Corner Roundabout – finishing up this summer

- Projects in Construction all going well and basically on schedule: I-5 Aurora Donald Interchange, I-5 Kuebler to Delaney widening, and OR18 Newberg Dundee Bypass Phase 2A (OR219 interchange)

Anna also explained was the passing of SB 5541, a cost reduction bill to remove the facilitation of the ACTs statewide from the COG's and the administration of MWACT meetings shifts to ODOT.

Budget update: ODOT is facing laying off 483 people if a budget is not passed during the upcoming special session on August 29<sup>th</sup>. In addition to losing staff, we will be closing 12 of 22 maintenance stations statewide which results in lower levels of service for our highways. Less plowing and more road closures, less vegetation removal, less pot hole filling, encampment clean ups will be limited to those that pose a hazard to the traveling public (ie: tents near the roadway) and slower incident response.

## **Agenda Item 2. Scoping MWACT 2026-2027 Work Plan Updates**

Time to take a fresh look at our workplan – updates are due by the end of the year. Brandon to develop an outline for what is most important to include with using the most recent letter to the OTC outlining our priorities as a starting point. In general, all agree that implementing what we know is most important regionally. Potentially have a larger project priority list as an appendix to the Work Plan. Brandon asked the group if there is anything you would like to see in the current Work Plan that has not been included. Maybe something about vision and goals and include something about benefitting economic impact.

## **Agenda Item 3. Information for MWACT Members:**

**TSAP (Transportation Safety Action Plan)** – invitation to get involved; take survey. See flyer in meeting materials.

**Reduction of hard copy meeting materials.** Please reach out to Brandon or Anna to let us know if you are willing to go “paperless”. It would help us administer these meetings if all chose to go paperless.

**Rotation of meeting locations:** We discussed rotating the meetings between the three counties. No one opposed this idea. Next meeting will be hosted by Polk County. A suggestion was made that we highlight a project that is specific to the county that is hosting the meeting. No one was opposed.

Commissioner Cameron commented that at the last legislative session a bill was passed to allow counties to designate up to two “Safety Corridors”. Marion Co was one of the first in Oregon to do this as a pilot. Benefits of designating a Safety Corridor: doubling fines, funds for education etc. ODOT to bring someone to a meeting to get more details by the end of the year.

## **Agenda Build Brainstorm (full ACT input requested):**

Upcoming agenda items include the following:

OR22/Hwy 51 Intersection project

Capital Investment Plan (CIP) update

County designated Safety Corridor Information

**Next Meeting: Polk County hosting**

**October 2, 2025, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**

**Polk County Emergency Operations Center**

**820 Ash St, Dallas, OR**

**(After you enter the gate, turn to the right and parking along both buildings – meeting room is the blue building to the right)**