

Minutes of Meeting
March 10, 2020 10:00 AM
Meeting Location:
Oregon Department of Forestry
415 Patterson Bridge Road
John Day, OR 97845

Members and Alternates present:

Adam Brown, Alan Daniels, Angie Jones, Barbara Cannady, Ben Burgener, Bill Harvey, Brandon Tanzey, Courtney Crowell, Craig Sipp, Dan Cummings, Doug Ferguson, Haley Walker, Jim Maret, Joe Hayes, Ken Patterson, Kenton Dick, Mavis Hart, Michelle Owen, Mike Barry, Nick Green, Paul Anderes, Pete Runnels, Rick Minster, Ron Neil, Susan Roberts, Tom Fellows

Guests present:

LeeAnne Ferguson, OTC Chairman Sharon Smith

ODOT Staff:

Grant Matlock, Howard Postovit, Jane Goode, Micah Winburn, Mike Barry, Sean Maloney, Sheri Folsom, Teresa Penninger, Tom Strandberg

Opening Meeting:

- Chairman Pete Runnels called the meeting to order
- Roll call of voting members – Quorum present
- Introductions: N/A
- Announcements: N/A

Public and/or Stakeholders Comments: If Any: N/A

Standing Items & Reports:

- N/A
- Safe Routes To School – LeeAnne Ferguson
 - Five E's: Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Encouragement, Evaluations and Equity. When all are met, 40% of students walked or biked to school.
 - SRTS Education Program details:
 - Next open in 2022
 - 1M annually awarded in 3 year cycles
 - Resources available year round
 - SRTS Construction funds by program for 21-22 total \$30M
 - Timeline for Project Identification Program (planning assistance):
 - April 1 – June 15, 2020 Optional Letter of Intent due
 - June 1 – August 31, 2020 Application phase
 - September 2020 Applications are scored
 - November 2020 ODOT notifies communities of awards

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- Key dates: April 1 (application materials online), June 15 (Letter of Intent due) and August 31, 2020 (Application due)
- Competitive Construction grant details:
 - April 1 – June 15, 2020 Letter of Intent due
 - June 1 – August 31, 2020 Applications due
 - September – October, 2020, Staff will review
 - October, 2020 SRTS advisory committee will make recommendations
 - December, 2020 Project list is presented to the Oregon Transportation Commission
 - January 2021-2025 Agreements signed and projects built
 - Key dates: April 1- materials are online, June 15- LOI due, August 31-applications are due
 - Project eligibility:
 - Address a barrier to students walking or biking to school
 - Must be within one mile radius of school
 - Local cash match requirement is 40%. This can be lowered if low income down to 20%.
 - Must align with a plan
 - Must have support of the local school district
 - Must be on a public road right of way
 - Must be committed to public outreach
 - Minimum \$60K, maximum is \$2M
 - Scoring matrix:
 - Focus area: Equity 39%
 - Highest priority safety 24%
 - Maximize resources 16%
 - Statute requirement 18%
 - Geographic balance does not affect the score
 - Project Delivery
 - Begin to expend funds asap, at least within 2 years
 - Completed in 5 years
 - Reimbursement grant
 - Quarterly project reports due
 - Must incorporate outreach
- Oregon Community Paths Program
 - Current 2020 projected estimate for the 21-24 grant cycle is \$14M
 - Combines State and Federal funds to address biking/walking paths
 - 30% cash match
 - Delivery within 5 years
 - Timeline:
 - Spring 2020 – program guidelines
 - Summer 2020 – Outreach
 - Fall 2020 – Submit Letter of Intent
 - Winter 2020 – Solicitation opens
- OTC/ODOT Updates – Ken Patterson – Craig Sipp
 - OTC/ODOT Update:

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- Winter operations: Continuing to work and improve on the Salt program. I84 continues to show improvements with less accidents and road closures. The new Tow plows can cover 24' of roadway with only one operator, which is a more efficient way to use existing work force.
- Work is being done in order to make the plows more visible to motorists in order to reduce incidents
- VMS boards in Baker Valley corridor are receiving some minor updates in order to make the reporting of the road conditions more accurate
- A third lane is being added to I84 through Ladd Canyon in order to assist freeway traffic during winter conditions and will allow the freeway to keep one lane open in the event of an accident
- Meacham and Cabbage Hill area are receiving more lighting and additional warning systems to assist motorists
- ODOT purchased new equipment including a snow blower to help maintain the roads more efficiently during winter operation
- Plows are receiving new technology with GPS's being installed to better assist drivers during winter storms. ODOT maps all roadways each year and that information is loaded into the GPS and will allow drivers to navigate more safely
- Flooding:
 - I84 west of Pendleton was closed due to the water across the roadway. Traffic was rerouted through Hermiston. Crews were able to respond quickly and the freeway was reopened within 72 hours
 - FHWA was engaged early to provide early approval for repair needs and emergency contracts
 - Safety was the highest priority

OTC – Commissioner Sharon Smith

- Commissioner Smith discussed the new changes going on with the Oregon Transportation Commission. A new Commission Chair, Bob Van Brocklin has been appointed
- There is a growing concern over the lowering funds vs the increase in need. More fuel efficient cars, less driving affects funds available. We need to be creative in how do we fund projects
- Focus on maintaining our infrastructure, STIF funding and Transit availability
- **New Business:**
- Online and Public Open House for STIP projects – Ken Patterson, Sean Maloney, Howard Postovit, Grant Matlock, Laura Slater
 - Every project in the state is online and comments are accepted until April 10, 2020
 - There are 44 projects in Eastern Oregon for a total of \$44M in funds. The following 5 projects were highlighted:
 - **Meacham to Kamela pavement upgrade**
 - Need: Tire chain and stud wear has caused severe damage to the surface. Rain and snow collect in the tire ruts. Some safety features do not meet standards.
 - Solution: Resurface passing lane with asphalt with a life span of 20 years replace slow lane with concrete which has a 50 year life span

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- Resurface ramps with asphalt
- Upgrade existing guardrail and install new cable median barrier
- Anticipated benefits: Improve efficiency, safety and reduce traffic impacts/delays due to roadway repairs
- Funding and schedule: Design 2019-2020, Construction 2021-2022 at a cost of \$50M
- **US20-OR201 Burns to Ontario**
- Purpose and Need: Improve freight efficiency. This highway has narrow and curvy road sections, which require oversize loads to use long detour routes. Truck storage solutions are needed during closures. Safety improvements are needed on some intersections.
- Solution: Create pull out areas for oversized loads, which allows them to avoid longer detour. Create parking opportunities for trucks at closure locations. This will reduce the impact to travel lanes. Multiple safety improvements
- Funding and schedule: Design 2020-2021, Construction 2022-2023 at a cost of \$12.6M
- **OR82 Bear Creek bridge**
- Purpose and need: This Bridge allows year round access to and from Wallowa County. It is a freight route, Hells Canyon Scenic Byway, scenic bikeway. The current bridge is 80 years old, is aging, and has deteriorating surfaces.
- Proposed Solution: Replace existing bridge with a wider and safer structure.
- Benefits: Improved safety, improved fish passage in Wallowa River as well as improved freight mobility. Maintenance costs will be reduced.
- Funding and schedule: Design 2019-2021, Construction 2022 at a cost of \$15.4M
- **Exit 216 EB/ramp traffic management**
- Description: Install traffic management systems to control traffic during closures
- Purpose and need: This exit is the most frequently closed and congested location in Eastern Oregon. Existing signage and closure gates are inadequate. The new system will allow employee too remotely and safety close I84 and effectively inform motorists of closure and detours.
- Solution: Install new variable message signs and variable speed limit signs. Install remotely controlled gates to close eastbound ramp. Install cameras and lighting to improve safety
- Benefits: Improve safety for ODOT maintenance staff and will allow maintenance personnel to concentrate their effects on clearing and reopening the roads. Improved safety for the traveling public and freight industry who will be directed to a safe parking location or detour route. This will prevent miles of long backup and relieve congestion
- Funding and schedule: Design 2021-2022, Construction 2023 at a cost of \$1.9M
- **US30 Hughes Lane Intersection**
- Description: Design and construct intersection improvements

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- Purpose and need: Connects at a sharp angle, sections of sidewalk are deteriorated or missing. Schools and buses are in the area.
- Proposed solution: Add or upgrade sidewalks, improve intersection
- Benefits: Improve safety for traffic as well as pedestrians
- Schedule: 2-022-2023 design, Construction 2023-2025 at a cost of \$8.8M



R5 21-24 PL
presentations.pdf

- Local Program & JTA Update – Mike Barry
 - Special City Allotment Program: N/A
 - Local Program:
 - 6th St project in Umatilla has begun
 - Little bridge in Weston is getting started
 - Fund exchange money is out
 - ARTS: N/A
 - IOF:
 - Earmarked projects please send in updates to Mike Barry.

- Old Business: N/A

Partner Updates – All

- County/Cities Roundtables: Ontario home construction has picked up, downtown beautification is ongoing. The project design for a new river trail from the state park south to the Idaho Bridge is underway. The trail will be named Tator Tots Trail. Ontario will be breaking ground on the first multi-modal use trail on April 13, 2020. John Day reported that two SCA projects for ongoing intersection improvement and repair for minor flood damage. They have submitted \$15M project for a BUILD grant, which was reviewed but not approved. They will resubmit again. They have applied for \$10M in economic funds. Burns/Hines are looking for a new City Manager
- RST: Ryan Degroff is the new Regional Development Officer for Business Oregon. The Eboard just approved funds for housing for flood damage. SEACT: Hines Mill will become an alfalfa pellet mill creating 15 new jobs. NEACT: Wallowa Lake dam project-will have all necessary signatures on MOA by next meeting. This will release \$14M for rehabilitation for Wallowa Lake
- By-ways Update: N/A
- LOC/AOC Update: N/A.

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- Transit Update: Joe Hayes stated that STIF funds are being used to allow free transit fare in several counties in our region
- Burns Paiute: June 1, 2010 their transit program started. This year is their 10th year anniversary. Plans are being made for celebration. Funding for the Transit comes from special transportation fund, street improvement fund and some Federal funds. By using Federal funds, a new bus was purchased and application is being submitted for additional funds to purchase a van with handicap access. Housing: a new 10 unit sub division with smaller houses is being discussed
- Bike/Ped Update: Thank you expressed to the Districts maintenance personnel for snow removal and the upcoming need for sweeping the gravel off the bike lanes
- Freight Update: N/A
- CTUIR Update: N/A
- MPO Update: N/A

Meeting adjourned at 1:05pm