

South East Area Commission on Transportation *Grant, Harney, and Malheur Counties*

BOARD MINUTES

July 25, 2022

Hybrid meeting VIA TEAMS Meeting or
Harney County Courthouse
450 Buena Vista, Burns OR

Board Members:

Grant County:
Tory Stinnett

Harney County:
Pete Runnels
Kirby Letham
Rick Paul (Alt)

Malheur County:
Dan Cummings
Jim Maret

At Large Positions:
Angie Jones, Transit

State/Regional Agencies:

Sean Maloney, Area Manager ODOT
Craig Sipp, Region Manager ODOT
Ken Patterson, ODOT
Lisa Perry, OTC Admin
Vickie Moles, Region 5 Communications Mgr.
Tom Strandberg, ODOT

Jamie Lemon, ODOT, Presenter
Paul Kennington, ODOT, Presenter
Feather Sams-Huesties, RDO, Business Or
Courtney Warner-Crowell-EORST
Kathleen Cathey, Senator Wyden's office

GEODC Staff

Judy Vicek, SEACT Support Staff

Guests:

Todd Fuller, Vale City Manager
Brittney White, Transportation Manager,
MCOA

Andy Perry, Anderson Perry & Assoc.
David Van Atta, Consultant
Justin Walker, Keller & Associates

Co-Chair Pete Runnels called the meeting to order. Self-introductions; Quorum not met.

Minutes to approve May 23, 2022 meeting tabled until the September meeting.

Public and/or Stakeholder Comments:

- None received

Guest Speaker: Oregon Federal Lands Access Program, Jamie Lemon, Transportation Planner, FHA

See Power Point

<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs-planning/studies/or-flap-needs-assessment>

Guest Speaker: Whiskey Creek Culvert Replacement, Paul Kennington, ODOT:

Keller & Associates youtube video:
<https://youtu.be/chopzjGOfg8>

24-27 STIP Development – Ken Patterson, ODOT

- STIP list format changed, PDF copy sent out
- Sean Maloney has lead the scoping & all projects have been scoped
- Next month should have an idea of different funding sources kicking in and which projects will be moving forward
- During winter 23-24 will start public involvement
- Receive input through May of 23
- OTC will finalize the STIP in their June/July meeting
- Lastly, Federal Highway will review & finalize
- Projects can potentially be started in the fall of 2023
- Summer of 23 will begin the early work of 27-30 STIP
- In the summer of 23 look forward to:
 - Applications for local bridge program, repair or replacement. IJJA has set aside \$15M for off system bridges
 - ARTS (Safety) program, looking for submittals for safety projects

OTC & Region Updates – Craig Sipp:

IJJA/OTC Update– Craig Sipp, ODOT

- Director Strickler Reported on two new hires, Erica McCalpine, Assistant Director of Social Equity and Carolyn Sullivan, Chief Administrative Officer
- DMV is having staffing challenges, which leaves them shorthanded at times. Offices are reducing hours. They are encouraging people to do as much as possible online
- Interstate bridge replacement project is engaging the Coast Guard permitting and on-going community engagement on both the Oregon & Washington side
- Urban Mobility Office started the construction on the Abernathy bridge in Oregon City widening it and making it seismically sound
- HB2017 I5 Rose Quarter project is going forward with public engagement. Construction to start in 2023
- 205/I5 Tolling project update. Tentatively set to start in 2023-2024. Funding will help pay for projects such as the Rose Quarter, Abernathy Bridge & the Interstate Bridge
- Community Workforce Agreement a concept for contractors to bid on projects, a pre-hire selective agreement focused on regulations for apprenticeship, diversity and local hiring preferences
- Federal Discretionary Fund will be split into four key areas all tentative based on the amount received. Interstate Bridge \$10M, Fixit program replacement funds \$18M, Operation & Maintenance \$100M, and ADA ramps.
- STIP projects – changes &/or amendments
- Budget cycle, Agency Budget was approved & moves forward to be adopted

Region Update:

- Recruitment process for the new Regional 5 District Manager is in process
- A lot of construction activity throughout, be careful in work zones, slow down

Small Cities Allotment/Local Projects – ODOT

- SCA application deadline was extended to August 31st and funding increased to \$250,000

Current Construction Projects – Sean Maloney, ODOT

- US20 Springs Rd to Harper Junction a large paving job & working on 5-6 bridges at the same time. Bridgework is complete. Paving & chip seal work will complete later this year. Re-strip next year.
- Snake River/Ontario Bridge Construction, E Idaho Ave into Fruitland. Resurfacing Project currently under construction to complete this year
- John Day sidewalk improvement project from 6th Avenue to the High School is having supply issues; it may or may not be done this year.
- I84 Dirky to Lime- maintenance pavement project- to be completed by September.
- I84 Meacham to Kamela, stage 2 under construction on schedule to finishing up this year
- I84 Upper Perry to Richland interchange, replacing the bridge rail & various deck repairs five bridges between La Grande & Baker City. Completion by November 2022
- I84 Ladd Canyon to N. Powder repaving in the slow lanes-Working at night time, project completion scheduled for November 2022

Regional Solutions – Courtney Warner-Powell, RST:

- Planning projects for housing in Burns/Hines & John Day.
- Hoping for some biomass extensions in conjunction with the housing projects in Harney County
- Prairie Wood products in Prairie City is up & running. Working behind the scenes in helping with permitting processes
- Grassy Mountain Mine is making good progress in the permitting process
- Treasure Valley Reload project working on getting additional funding
- City of Vale is interested in electric vehicle charging stations, reaching out to partners for possibilities
- Applying for 3 different infrastructure grants for the Wallowa Dam project
- Regional Solutions is working with the DEQ water issue in Morrow/Umatilla Counties

Tribe/City/County Updates:

City of Ontario – Dan Cummings:

- Had grand opening for the 56 apartment complex where they converted an old nursing home into apartments
- A 70 unit townhouses on the East side is under construction
- New housing incentive program has slowed down a little bit, mostly because contractors are so busy they aren't able to take on anymore work
- Two new sub-divisions are in the planning stages
- The 55 & older sub-division is under construction
- The complex on SE 5th Avenue had a pre-construction meeting last week

City of Nyssa – Jim Maret:

- A water line for the Transit Reload went out for bid in June & was able to award a successful bidder
- Local projects, large grain facility & a large onion facility is being built
- Did not get the Parks Grant.
- Decreased the lot sizes in the city limits to help with housing development in the future
- Working through the Wastewater Master plan

City of Hines – Kirby Latham:

- Water project is complete
- Wastewater system lift station and pump house will be updated with ARPA funds
- Wastewater city wide facility plan to highlight red flag areas

- Water conservation masterplan is due to the state this fall
- City of Hines collaborated with Harney County Economic Development on a housing project. The City donated some land; a developer came in & built the home. It is going well, the home is almost completed. The home will be auctioned off.
- A new park bathroom is designed & going out for bid.

City of Vale – Todd Fuller:

- Parks Masterplan survey back, hiking & biking trails was at the top of the list the citizens would like to see added to the area
- Received a COAR Grant to do improvements at the airpark
- Applying for an SCA grant
- Local Rail Road received a Connect OR Grant to replace a rail line

Transit – Angie Jones:

- Regionally - Notices of compliance went out for review from ODOT, reviews take place between Sept-December
- At the end of the fiscal year and reporting is busy
- Short only one relief driver instead of three full time drivers
- Having problems with getting out one of the construction projects due to high costs
- Took possession of a new vehicle that was on order from 2 years ago

Business:

COAR Grant Update – Haley Walker:

- COAR grants agreements are in process of being executed

Membership Review:

- Sean reviewed the Organizational Chart
 - Grant County needs to formalize Corum Ketchum to fill the city rep position
 - Malheur County, 2 vacant positions, Judge Joyce is working on filling the 2 positions
 - Harney County is fully staffed
 - At Large- Freight Rep and Bike/Ped vacant

Future Guest Speakers:

- Presentation on striping crews is planned for September
- The foam to asphalt pilot project on the Juntura Cutoff Rd, Andy Lindsey from Anderson Perry will do a presentation in September
- EV projects in November possibly
- Hines water project in November?

Next meeting:

Sept 26, 2022

Meeting Adjourned 12:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Vicek