

SOUTH WEST AREA COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION (SWACT) Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2026 Teleconference
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❖ **Roll Call** ❖

Vice-Chair Brant Boyer called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Roll was called, and a quorum confirmed. (16 voting members present. V = voting member for this meeting. Quorum = 9 (50% of filled [currently 18] primary membership positions.)

Commission Members & Alternates in Attendance (*P = Primary; A = Alternate)

Allaway, Julie	Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians (P)	V
Bernhardt, Kathryn	Transit (P)	V
Boyer, Brant	Douglas County Stakeholder (P)	V
Craddock, Rodger	Aviation (P)	V
Dolgonas, Dick	Bicycle/Pedestrian (P)	V
Early, Brian	Freight/Rail (P)	V
Gilbert, Kristi	Douglas County City-At-Large (P)	V
Gray, Garrett	Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw (P)	V
Hunter, Chris	ODOT (P)	V
Jensen, Matthew	Coquille Indian Tribe (P)	V
Kent, Scott	Port (P)	V
Kutch, Ron	Coos County Stakeholder (P)	V
Messenger, Nikki	City of Roseburg (P)	V
Pederson, Glen	ODOT (A)	
Rowe, John	Coos County Stakeholder (P)	V
Rundel, Tim	City of Brookings (P)	V
Schafer, Deanna	Douglas County City-At-Large (P)	V

ODOT Staff in Attendance

1. Baker, Michael	Region 3 Planning Manager
2. Boardman, Jennifer	Region 3 Transit Coordinator
3. Cornutt, Lisa	Region 3 Principal Planner
4. Latham, Dan	Region 3 Public Information Officer
5. Neavoll, Darrin	Region 3 Manager
6. Thompson, Sarah	Region 3 Executive Analyst

Guests in Attendance

1. Bleau, Andre	Umpqua Public Transportation District
2. Bleau, Sheryl	Umpqua Public Transportation District
3. Heacock, Josh	Douglas County
4. Kamel, Amira	Umpqua Public Transportation District
5. Metz, Melissa	Coos County Area Transportation District
6. Rutherford, Nichole	City of Coos Bay

❖ Public Input ❖

- None

❖ Approval of Minutes ❖

- **Motion made and seconded to approve March 13th, 2026, SWACT Minutes. (Ron Kutch/Dick Dolgonas)**
- Discussion: None.
- ***Motion carried.***

❖ Membership Updates ❖

Two applications were submitted for vacant/expired positions:

- **Andre Bleau: Douglas County Stakeholder Primary**
- **Nikki Messenger: Douglas County Stakeholder Primary**

Motion made and seconded to appoint Nikki Messenger to the primary position (Deanna Schafer/Brant Boyer)

Discussion: None

Motion carried

Chris asked Andre Bleau if he would be interested in filling the open alternate position. He affirmed that he would be interested.

Motion made and seconded to appoint Andre Bleau to the Douglas County Stakeholder Alternate Position (Brant Boyer/Ron Kutch)

Discussion: None

Motion carried

❖ ACT Charter/Bylaws Update ❖

Presentation: Chris provided an update to the group regarding the charter and bylaws. We are currently drafting the updated charter to include the bylaws. Now is the time to make changes to both. We will send out a draft for review, and this will be a topic on the July agenda. We will then bring it back in September for adoption by SWACT.

Discussion:

None

❖ ACT/Modal Chairs Meeting ❖

Presentation: Brant Boyer and Chris Hunter both gave an overview of the topics discussed at the ACT/Modal Chairs meeting. Brant conveyed to the OTC that taxes are high enough as they are in the state and urged the OTC to find a better, more sustainable revenue source. Chris Hunter

shared the themes of the meeting revolved around safety, enforcement and behavior. Funding is the biggest topic at all the statewide meetings currently as most state departments are budget constrained.

Discussion: Dick Dolgonas asked what modal chairs were. He has seen there is a bike/ped advisory committee and would like more information on how he should be interacting with that group as a member of SWACT? And could we coordinate a meeting between them and the ACT bike/ped representatives? **A:** They are a statewide group and yes, Chris will reach out.

❖ Region 3 Construction Updates ❖

Presentation: Dan Latham gave an update on projects currently under construction in Coos, Curry and Douglas County. There are 12 projects that are in, will be or have recently completed construction for 2026.

1. Southern Oregon Wrong Way Driver Mitigation – is a project to add features that alert drivers they are entering interchange off-ramps from the wrong direction. This work is taking place on all I-5 off-ramps from the California border to Curtin (MP 1-163) and is expected to be completed by June 2026.
2. North Umpqua River Bridges (Winchester) – Repairs both I-5 Winchester Bridges, resurfaces the travel lanes, upgrades bridge rails and adds protective screening. Project will start this Spring and run through Summer 2026.
3. Lookingglass Creek to Interstate 5 – paves OR42 from Winston west to I-5, adds traffic signal and other safety features, and adds or replaces ADA sidewalk ramps. This two-year project started in February. The first year was concrete work and this second year will be paving. The anticipated completion for this work is September 2026.
4. OR42 Rockfall Mitigation – project will remove loose rock from the slope at mile point 36.1 and add a new drainage ditch. Construction is scheduled for March – May.
5. US101 to Cedar Point Road – will pave nearly 10 miles of OR42, add rumble strips and replace several culverts. This is a two-year project that started last spring and will continue until fall 2026.
6. Chandler Bridge – repaints the bridge, replaces tower ladders and platforms on OR241 at MP 3.5. This is a two-year project that started last summer and continues until fall 2026.
7. Arizona Slide Repair - will construct a new vertical shaft and horizontal drains. This work started in late March 2025 and will continue through Fall 2026. This work will not impact the roadway.
8. ADA Curb Ramps – at 149 locations are being built in four communities; Brookings, Gold Beach, Myrtle Point and Roseburg. This work is anticipated to be completed by Summer 2026.

Upcoming Projects for Summer and Fall of 2026

9. Southwest Oregon Rural Intersection Safety Improvements
10. Oregon 138E Paris Reservoir
11. Highway Barrier Upgrades (Coos/Curry)
12. US101: 80 Acres Landslide Repair

Discussion: Deanna Schafer asked if impaired drivers are the biggest need for the Wrong Way Driver Project? A: yes, it can be or poor lighting or distracted driving.

❖ Region 3 Manager Update ❖

Presentation: Darrin gave an update on events around the agency and within Region 3.

OTC Updates

March 12, 2026 –Meeting Highlights

- HB3991 Implementation, Budget, Legislative Outcomes
- I-5 Rose Quarter, Abernethy & Interstate Bridge Replacement Project Updates
- Continuous Improvement Advisory Committee (CIAC) Update
- Legislative Concept Development for 2027 Session – Informational
- Key Performance Measure Changes – Approve
- Formal Public Involvement Policy (PIP) – Adoption
- Audit Accountability Committee – Approve Policy Changes
- Right to Access Plan – Informational Update

May 7, 2026 – Next Meeting in Corvallis

- I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project Update
- Interstate Bridge Replacement Program Update
- I-205 Abernathy Bridge Project Update
- Center Street Bridge Project Update
- Continuous Improvement Advisory Committee Quarterly Report
- Policy Option Package Approval
- Oregon State Rail Plan

The Agency Request Budget is being worked out currently with the intention of being approved at the OTC meeting in June. It will then go to the Governor where it will be worked until January. ODOT is working on balancing service levels with the current revenue forecast.

The Governor has created the “Rebuilding our Transportation Vision” workgroup that will meet monthly to review current service levels, current and projected revenue and evaluate how Oregon will perform. They will be working on developing a tiered, comprehensive transportation investment framework that supports economic development, affordability, and a safe, accessible, and reliable transportation system. Their first meeting was May 1st, and the next will be June 1st. Subgroups will be assigned and will meet between workgroups starting in mid-June. This work will continue through Fall 2026 and then final recommendations will be given to the Governor.

Discussion: Ron Kutch gave a thank you to ODOT staff for all their work. The SWACT has your back.

❖ NOA’s and Adjournment ❖

Nikki Messenger adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Next SWACT Meeting: Friday, July 10, 2026, at 10 am. via teleconference.