

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
Bleau, Andre	Douglas County Stakeholder (A)	
Boyer, Brant	Douglas County Stakeholder (P)	V
Coker, Lynn	Curry County (P)	V
Craddock, Rodger	Aviation (P)	V
Dolgonas, Dick	Bicycle/Pedestrian (P)	V
Dunham, Ralph	Coos County Stakeholder (A)	
Early, Brian	Freight/Rail (P)	V
Gilbert, Kristi	Douglas County City-At-Large (P)	V
Hunter, Chris	ODOT (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. DeWald, Teresa	Region 3 Local Agency Liaison
5. Goldstein, Stacy	Transportation Safety Action Plan Deputy PM
6. Latham, Dan	Region 3 Public Information Officer
7. McAllister, Walt	Safe Communities Program Manager
8. McGowan, Mary	Transportation Safety Action Plan Project Manager
9. Neavoll, Darrin	Region 3 Manager
10. Oberlander, Elijah	Region 3 Rogue Valley Area Manager
11. Thompson, Sarah	Region 3 Executive Analyst

Guests in Attendance

1. Anzur, David	Allweather Wood LLC
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2. Bleau, Sheryl
3. Heacock, Josh

Umpqua Public Transportation District
Douglas County

❖ **Public Input** ❖

- David Anzur with Allweather Wood LLC introduced himself and stated that he would be on the line if there were any questions when the group got to the topic of Connect Oregon.

❖ **Approval of Minutes** ❖

- **Motion made and seconded to approve May 8th, 2026, SWACT Minutes. (Brant Boyer/Tim Rundel)**
- Discussion: None.
- ***Motion carried.***

❖ **Membership Updates** ❖

- **None**

❖ **Transportation Safety Action Plan** ❖

Presentation: Mary McGowan and Walt McAllister gave a presentation on the objectives of the Transportation Safety Action Plan update, what they have learned from safety partners, and key outcomes of the latest crash data analysis. They went on to discuss the timeline and approval process for the plan update and opportunities for input with the public review period.

Discussion:

Ralph Dunham asked if there was any data generated around E-Mobility? A: Not enough, however, they have started tracking it better. It is an emerging problem, and there is action in draft to set a task force on a statewide level. Dick Dolgonas stated that the mix of vehicles on the roadway is changing. A: When bigger vehicles are tangling with smaller vehicles, it can be very dangerous. Nikki Messenger stated that maintenance is a safety category and is glad to see we aren't going away from maintenance as a safety factor. As a follow up, it was mentioned that the Safe Streets for All program helps with local plans and provides options for federal grants for local partners.

❖ **ACT Charter Review** ❖

Presentation: Chris Hunter ran through a side-by-side comparison of changes that have been incorporated into the draft ACT Charter Template. He asked the group to please review this document before the September meeting and be ready to talk through it and see if anyone has further comments, concerns, issues, or other changes that need to be vetted.

Discussion: Nikki Messenger asked if the expectation is to act on this document at the next meeting? A: If there are no additional comments, then yes, we can act. If there are other

comments or recommended changes, we'll come back to the following meeting for a vote, unless it is something simple, we can resolve right then.

❖ Capital Investment Plan ❖

Presentation: Chris gave a brief update on where ODOT is in formation of the CIP, the 10-year plan that will guide projects being added to the STIP. The list of projects chosen by the ACTs, the Regions and the Programs was then shared, showing overlap in a few projects. The Region ended up with a list of 16 candidate projects that will be shared with the Statewide CIP selection committee, which consists of members from AOC, LOC, and internal ODOT management teams. The final list will likely come back for a presentation at the September ACT meeting.

Discussion: None

❖ Connect Oregon ❖

Presentation: Mike Baker gave an overview of the Connect Oregon program, the process for project selection, conflicts of interest and the expectation of the ACT. There is only \$33 million available statewide for this round of the program as some of the funding was redirected during the budget balance by the legislature. That indicates that this round of funding will be even more competitive than before. The ACT was sent the application materials for projects in Region 3 and is now being asked to rank them, and then motion for 2-3 members that would sit on the Region 3 "Super ACT" that will provide the final ranking to the OTC.

Discussion: Many different ranking combinations were suggested and after a final discussion, a motion was made and seconded to rank the Allweather Wood LLC, Coos County Airport District, and Port of Coos Bay applications as High, and Medford Airport and Port of Gold Beach applications as Medium (**Deanna Schafer/Kathy Bernhardt**)

- Abstained: Brian Early, Rodger Craddock
- Opposed: Lynn Coker
- **Motion carried.**

A placeholder for the Super ACT meeting has been set for either August 3rd, 6th, or 10th. Members selected for this sub-committee are Nikki Messenger, Brant Boyer, Ron Kutch and Lynn Coker.

❖ Competitive Transit Grant Application Review ❖

Presentation: Jennifer Boardman ran through the applications for Region 3 that have been submitted. Coos County Area Transportation District has 4 applications, Umpqua Public Transportation District has 4 applications, and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians has one application. ACT feedback on these applications is due by August 19th and must be submitted by each ACT on the project form. The ACT can choose to rank the projects or just recommend a fund/no-fund for each project. Sarah will send out a follow-up email after this meeting reminding folks to send in comments for compilation.

Discussion: None

❖ Region 3 Manager Update ❖

Presentation: Darrin's update on events around the agency and within Region 3.

OTC Updates

March 26, 2026 – Special Meeting Highlights

- Interstate Bridge STIP amendment to add \$3,624,026,000 - Approved

June 11, 2026 – Meeting Highlights

- Agency Request Budget – Preliminary Approval
- 2027- 2030 STIP – Final Approval
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Bill 55th Anniversary Celebration
- I-205 Abernathy Bridge Project Update
- Major Projects Update
- Strategic Action Plan Update
- Fix-It Routes map Update
- Transportation Safety Action Plan Update
- Jurisdictional Transfer Advisory Committee Recommendations

July 31, 2026 – Next Special Meeting

- Virtual meeting focus on budget/Agency Request Budget.

July 31st, there is a special OTC meeting to provide further feedback on the ARB. It will return to the OTC agenda in August for final approval, and then engagement with the Governor's Office on the Governor's budget will commence until it is presented to Ways and Means in March 2027.

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, the second on June 1st and the 3rd will take place on July 7th. Subgroups have been assigned and started to meet between workgroups in mid-June. This work will continue through Fall 2026 and then final recommendations will be given to the Governor.

The Governor has appointed an Interim Director at ODOT until the end of the year, Chris Warner. Lisa Sumption has returned to her post as Director at State Parks as of July 1st. Chris is the Governor's Chief of Staff and was previously the Director of Portland Bureau of Transportation. DAS is currently conducting a competitive national search for a permanent Director.

Discussion: None

❖ NOA's and Adjournment ❖

Nikki Messenger adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

Next SWACT Meeting: Friday, September 11, 2026, at 10 am. via teleconference.