

July 30, 2026 | 10 a.m. PT / 11 a.m. MT

**In-Person Cancelled
Via Teams Meeting
Meeting ID: 605 965 59 #**

SEACT Board Meeting Minutes

Members and Alternates present:

Rick Paul, Dan Joyce, Jim Maret, Brittany White, Andy Wood, Patty Dorroh, CallieJo Hardiman, Mike McLaughlin

Guests present:

Courtney Crowell, Justin Walker, Walter McAllister, Jared Jungman, Mark Hagedorn, Rachel Zakem, Antonio Suseri, Phil Chang, John Rowell, Bruce Carswell, Jacob Cain, Barry Murphy, Jesse Steele, Steve Chrisman, Burns Fire Department, Jacob Cain, Tim Helbig, Danielle Schuh

ODOT Staff:

Sean Maloney, Michelle Owen, Angie Jones, Vicki Moles, Sarah Morris

Opening Meeting:

- At 10:02 a.m. Commissioner Patty Dorroh called the meeting to order.
- Roll call of voting members – 4 members-no quorum delay approval of minutes.
- Announcements: Commissioner Dorroh thanked firefighters, ODOT, and other responding agencies for their hard work, dedication, and efforts in fighting local wildfires.
- Walter McAllister acknowledged Mary McGowan and commended her for the thorough and well-prepared presentation on the Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP).
- June Minutes: Quorum reached. Commissioner Dorroh requested a motion to approve. Jim Maret motioned, Andy Wood seconded. Approved.

Presentations:

- Transportation Safety Action Plan – Walter McAllister, ODOT Senior Transportation Planner
- Connect Oregon Projects – Michelle Owen
 - Port of Morrow-Jacob Cain-Terminal 3 Face Dock Improvements
 - Bruce Carswell-Oregon Eastern Railroad Infrastructure Upgrade Phase 4

Southeast Area Commission on Transportation (SEACT)

- Columbia Rail-Jared Jungman-Weston Industrial Lead Rehabilitation Project
- Burns Municipal Airport-Mark Hagedorn-Water Distribution for municipal Airport
- Grant County Regional Airport-Callie Jo Hardiman
- Pendleton Airport-Steve Chrisman/Jesse Steele-Commercial Air roadway
- Baker City Municipal Airport-Barry Murphy-Rehabilitation Runway 17-35

Region Updates – Sean Maloney for Ken Patterson, Region 5, ODOT

- Recruitment for winter seasonal maintenance positions are underway.
- Local Hazmat contractors are no longer accepting ODOT highway work due to unpaid services, which is delaying cleanup efforts and lengthening road closure durations.
- The Region 5 Interchange Safety Study is underway; staff are prioritizing high-priority improvements.
- Staff are preparing and providing training for the upcoming nuclear waste transport shipments travelling through Oregon this summer, including emergency response planning and coordination.
- The Swiveling Traffic Signal in Pendleton has been installed and is operational. It is designed to swivel to accommodate oversized loads and has received significant public attention.

Local Projects – Michelle Owen, ODOT

- Small City Allotment Program:
 - Region 5 was awarded 6 small city allotment grants, including Hines, Island City, Summerville, Enterprise, Heppner and Union.

Current Construction Projects – Sean Maloney, Area Manager ODOT

- 2026 Projects:
 - [I-84: Farewell Bend - N. Fork Jacobsen Gulch \(22919\)](#) – two-year project scheduled for completion by Oct. 31, 2027.
 - [I-84: Eastern Oregon Durable Striping](#) – project completed.
 - [I-84: Roadway Illumination project](#) – project completed.
 - [Region 5 Chip Seal Projects](#) – U.S. 95: fog seal application week of Aug. 17; permanent striping tentatively scheduled for Sept. 2-4.
 - [OR 86: Guardrail Upgrades Final Phase](#) (continues from 2025) – project completed.

Transit Updates – Angie Jones - ODOT

- Federal formula grant applications and revisions are in progress and scheduled for final review on July 16.

Southeast Area Commission on Transportation (SEACT)

- Scoring is underway for the competitive grants for the ACTS 2 project ranks. R5 projects all cover existing routes that are in place except for one NEACT project. STIF funding is small for small communities. STIF formula opens in August.
- Commissioner Chang and the Region's STIP/CIP representatives did an excellent job representing their projects; however, very few ACTS projects are appearing on the awarded-projects list, with funding identified as the key issue. There was encouragement to review the STIP and CIP and ask why so little is included in the immediate plans; in Commissioner Chang's opinion, the primary reason is limited state funding.
- STIF Projects has a subcommittee to rank ACTS Projects-NEACT has three representatives on the subcommittee: Noodle Perkins, Tom Fellows, and Paul Anderes. Requesting three representatives from SEACT. SEACT Representatives who volunteered include Judge Dan Joyce, Jim Maret, and Rick Paul.
- Gratitude to Burns-Paiute Public Transit for providing their services to support emergency fire evacuations in the area.

City/County/Tribal/Transit Updates – City/County/Tribal/Transit Representatives

- Harney County – Kleinschmidt Associates will be working with ODOT to develop a flood mitigation plan for Harney County. A big thank you to the wildfire fighters for their efforts in protecting communities and infrastructure.
- Malheur County-Ontario Airport, Andy Wood- The airport is preparing for a pre-construction meeting this week for a new helicopter parking pad.
- Transit – Brittney White: Malheur Express is available as a transit resource to support wildfire response and evacuations. A new bus was delivered yesterday using STIF funding. The agency is experiencing a driver shortage, which has required some reductions in operations, and is actively hiring drivers.
- Burns-Paiute Tribe-Patty Dorroh for Susanne: Tribal members have been evacuating due to wildfires. The focus for the coming week will be on protecting human lives in the Hines area.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m. PT.