

March 19th, 2026 | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Grant County Regional Airport
720 Airport Rd, John Day, OR
In-Person and virtual/Teams

SEACT Meeting Minutes

Members and Alternates present:

Commissioner John Rowell, Bryan Montague, Judge Bill Hart, Roxane Worley, Rick Paul, Andy Wood, Jim Maret, Dan Cummings, Mike McLaughlin, Brittany White.

Guests present:

Sarah Morris, Andy Lindsey, Commissioner Patty Dorroh, Nick Foster (Presenter - Kittelson & Associates), Justin Delgado (Presenter - Kittelson & Associates), Abigail Gisler, OTC Commissioner Phil Chang, Tammy, Justin Walker (Keller Associates).

ODOT Staff:

Ken Patterson, Sean Maloney, Michelle Owen, Angie Jones, Vicki Moles, Jane Kerr, Teresa Penninger and Sarah Morris.

Opening Meeting:

- Commissioner John Rowell called the meeting to order.
- Roll call of voting members – Quorum present.
- Announcements: N/A.
- September Minutes: Motion made, Rick Paul to approve, Seconded by Mike McLaughlin. Approved.

Presentations:

Full presentations available upon request.

- Regional Transit Strategy for Malheur County – Nick Foster and Justin Delgado, Kittleson & Associates, Inc.
- Capital Investment Plan project recommendations and discussion – Sean Maloney, Area Manager, ODOT
 - Majority of meeting spent discussing CIP projects and reviewing for priority. Michelle is finalizing the list and will send to Marlow Stanton, R5 Traffic Engineer, for review and comments. When ready, will send final list to group.
 - Priority Projects included:
 - Hwy 20 Passing Lanes-Burns to Bend.
 - Hwy 20 Pull-out paving.
 - Hwy 395 Curve improvements.
 - U.S. 95 Safety

Southeast Area Commission on Transportation (SEACT)

- Idaho Ave-Ontario Ped Improvements.
- Hwy 20 Water Drainage Improvements.

Standing Items & Reports:

Region Updates – Ken Patterson, Region 5, ODOT

- Winter has been slow; seasonals have been hired; We have spent a fraction of budget in materials – crews are moving to summer shifts; some locations in the mountains are keeping someone on at night, just in case.

Local Projects – Michelle Owen, ODOT

- Small City Allotment Program:
 - Applications are being accepted through April.
 - Max award is \$250,000.
 - For small cities of under 5,000 people.

Current Construction Projects – Sean Maloney, Area Manager ODOT

- Upcoming projects for 2026 include:
 - [I-84: Farewell Bend - N. Fork Jacobsen Gulch.](#)
 - [U.S. 95 Idaho State Line – Rome Hill Chip Seal.](#)
 - [OR 451/U.S. 20: Vale Sidewalk and Rail Pedestrian Crossing.](#)

Transit Updates – Angie Jones, ODOT

- PTD has moved under the Policy, Data and Analysis Division.
 - Amanda Pietz is the Division Administrator.
 - Andrea Durbin is the Interim PTD Manager.
 - Vanessa Vissar remains manager of the Transit Operations Unit.
- STIF Intercommunity and Discretionary, and 5339 Capital grant cycle has opened.
- 5311 and 5310 formula grants will open soon.
- Federal formula grant execution has moved to Oct. 1 – Sept 30, in-line with Federal fiscal application cycles.
- State grant execution will remain July 1- June 30.
- Providers are aware of the change and are attending training that PTD is having regarding all the grants.
- NW Stage Lines restarted, Boise to Portland with 2 routes daily; began December 2025.
- Grant County Transit plan should be coming soon. Malheur and Umatilla/Baker/Morrow County plans are finishing.

Southeast Area Commission on Transportation (SEACT)

- Regional Travel Trainer – R5 position has been hired and in transition; working on website development for trip planning.

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

Regional Solutions Team – Sean Maloney, ODOT

- Grassy Mountain Gold Mine in Malheur County is final, has been approved.
- Owyhee Lake Boat Ramp project

City updates

- City of Ontario, Dan Cummings – The red-light camera study has concluded, and it was determined that implementing camera-based ticketing is not cost-effective for the city. As a result, the city has decided to increase patrol to support enforcement efforts, with an emphasis on driver education and awareness. Additionally, the city has purchased two new speed feedback signs. These devices display drivers' speeds and collect data to help enforce speed limit.
 - Ontario County Airport, Andy Wood – The new helicopter parking pad is coming along, bid opens April 1. (This item was originally listed under County updates. Moved to City updates per Andy Wood, May 26, 2026.)
- City of Burns, Bill Hart – City received a DOT grant for paving/resealing the municipal airport runway. Debbie Cronin is the new Road Supervisor.

County updates

- Grant County Airport – Hailey Walker is departing GCRA, leaving SEACT Aviation Modal Committee position open – Andy Wood was nominated and accepted position.
- Malheur County, Brittany White – Concerns with public transit fundings. Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) revenues currently support 14 staff positions, voucher programs, and veteran transportation services. These programs and positions would be lost without continued STIF funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 28, 2026, in Ontario.