

---

Meeting Minutes

---

Central Oregon Area Commission on Transportation  
COACT  
May 11, 2006  
COIC Redmond

---

---

**Members:**

Scott Cooper (Crook County), Dennis Luke (Deschutes County), Jeff Monson (Commute Options), Ron Wortman (BLM), Anzie Adams (City of Culver), Alan Unger (City of Redmond), Bill Friedman and Jim Clinton (City of Bend), Peggy Fisher (USFS), Joe Mansfield (City of Redmond), Mike Morgan (City of Madras), Jim Mole (City of Prineville), Lonny Macy (Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs), Gene Moe (Jefferson Stakeholder Representative), and Bob Bryant (ODOT - Region 4).

**Guests:**

Dan Lovelady and Dale Keller (City of Prineville Railway), Tom Blust (Deschutes County), Mike Magee and Nick Arnis (City of Bend), Mike Schmidt and Jeff Nielson (Bend Chamber), Tyler Deke (BEND MPO), Gary Daniele (COIC), Neil McKie (Citizen) and Steve Macnab (DDGAMI).

**Staff:**

Andrew Spreadborough and Kelly Elzner (Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council).

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Judge Scott Cooper called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Dan Lovelady and Mr. Dale Keller from City of Prineville Railway were in attendance and requested an opportunity to give a brief update on the City's ConnectOregon project proposal. Chair Cooper suggested that this fall under the ConnectOregon portion of the agenda.

Judge Cooper closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

**Minutes**

Minutes of the March 9, 2006 were approved by consensus.

**Oregon Transportation Commission Meeting**

Mr. Jeff Nielson from the Bend Chamber provided a brief recap of the Oregon Transportation Commission meeting that was held on April 26, 2006, in Bend. He distributed a summary of the key topics that had been discussed at the meeting, which included Growth, Funding, Affordable Housing, Tourism, and Rail. There was additional comment and feedback from others that had attended the OTC meeting, with general agreement that the meeting was positive and provided a unique opportunity for ODOT staff, local elected officials and local stakeholders to meet in a less-formal setting to discuss transportation issues with the commission.

Chair Cooper mentioned that Mr. Chris Warner, the Governors Transportation Advisor, served as an excellent facilitator at the OTC meeting. Chair Cooper also announced that the Central Oregon Area Commission on Transportation's charter was approved.

## **ConnectOregon**

Chair Cooper explained that Commissioner Bellamy attended the April 24, 2006, Super ACT meeting to discuss and prioritize Region 4 ConnectOregon projects. The Super Act group included the representatives from each of the sub-regions within ODOT's Region 4: Lower John Day region was represented by Gilliam County Judge Laura Pryor; the Central Oregon region was represented by Bill Bellamy; and the South Central Oregon region was represented by Klamath County Commissioner John Elliott.

Mr. Bob Bryant mentioned that a set of draft minutes from that meeting were included in today's meeting packet as he recapped the details from the meetings itself. He requested that COACT consider and hopefully concur with Attachment "B" - the Super Act recommendations (listed below). Chair Cooper explained that the next step will be to bring the approved list to the Statewide Consensus Committee meeting.

### **Projects out of the \$25,000,000 Statewide Funding included:**

Application #18-06, City of Redmond Airport Terminal Expansion

Grant Request \$7,500,000, Match \$27,500,000, Total \$35,000,000

Application #97-06 Chemult Train Station Welcome Center

Grant Request \$125,000, Match \$412,500, Total \$537,500

### **Projects out of the \$15,000,000 Region 4 Funding:**

Priority 1, Application #22-06 Port of Arlington Barge Intermodal Transportation Facility

Grant Request \$1,894,000, Match \$1,513,000, Total \$3,407,000

Priority 1, Application #29-06 Klamath Falls Airport Jet Maintenance Facility

Grant Request \$800,000, Loan Request \$5,500,000, Match \$200,000, Total \$6,500,000

Priority 2, Application #89-06 Shutler Industrial Park Freight Rail Siding Project

Grant Request \$715,760, Match \$7,178,940, Total \$7,894,700

Priority 2, Application #36-06 City of Bend Transit Operations and Maintenance Center

Grant Request \$4,000,000, Match \$1,650,000, total \$5,650,000

Priority 2, Application #28-06 Klamath Falls General Aviation Development Phase 1

Grant Request \$1,900,000, Loan Request \$1,900,000, Match \$700,000, Total \$4,500,000

Priority 3, Application #104-06 Prineville Airport Terminal Building

Grant Request \$581,360, Match \$145,340, Total \$726,700

***Note:** For any Statewide Funding (from the \$25,000,000) not provided to Application #18-06 Redmond Airport, the balance of Grant Funding requested will come from the Region 4 Share (\$15,000,000) as a #1 Priority. For any Statewide Funding (from the \$25,000,000) not provided to Application #97-06 Chemult Train Station, the balance of Grant Funding requested will come from any remaining Region 4 Share (\$15,000,000) along with the other Priority 3 project identified above.*

### **City of Prineville Railway**

Mr. Dan Lovelady and Mr. Dale Keller from City of Prineville Railway spoke to COACT for the purpose of informing on the importance of the City's ConnectOregon project. They did not ask for COACT to revise the above listed rankings, and acknowledged that they had erred in not attending the COACT Technical Advisory Committee meeting on April 13 in which priority recommendations were discussed and formulated. They did explain that the Rail Advisory committee had ranked their project #1 in the state, though at a reduced scope and cost. They indicated a willingness to break their project into phases, and apply only for the first phase through this round of ConnectOregon. Through this scope reduction, the project cost was reduced to \$3.2M, with a ConnectOregon request of \$2M.

Chair Cooper said that he is the COACT representative to the Consensus Committee. He said it would be awkward if this project was unranked by COACT, yet it was the #1 of the rail committee. He suggested that COACT amend the Super ACT rankings by listing the Prineville project as the #3 recommendation for the statewide funds. He said that it was clear by Mr. Lovelady and Mr. Keller's presentation that the project has statewide implications by removing freight traffic from the highway system between Portland and Central Oregon. Chair Cooper explained that he would need to bring this recommendation before both Commissioner Elliott and Judge Pryor for their approval.

Ms. Anzie Adams moved to add the Prineville Railway project as the statewide projects list priority #3, at the \$2M level without the above mentioned footnote. Mayor Alan Unger seconded. This amendment to the 3-ACT priorities is contingent upon the other ACTs approving.

*M/S/C Adams/Unger/Consensus*

Commissioner Luke moved to accept the entire 3ACT recommendation list, as amended. Ms. Anzie Adams seconded.

*M/S/C Luke/Adams/Consensus*

### **2008-11 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Draft list**

Mr. Bob Bryant gave a brief overview of the 2008-11 Draft STIP. The group reviewed the Draft Modernization STIP and discussed several projects and the lack of STIP funding. Mayor Bill Friedman suggested that the US 20 Purcell to Powell Butte Highway refinement plan project on the Draft STIP be expanded to include the entire Highway 20 route through Bend. It was mentioned that Greenwood may not be the best alignment for Highway 20 in the future. Mr. Bryant suggested that this conversation as well as other concerns can be discussed further at a future COACT meeting.

Chair Cooper asked for clarification on the STIP process. Mr. Bryant explained that this is an early draft created by ODOT. He further explained that COACT will not be asked to make modifications or approve the draft at this point in the process. This is informational for now however, Mr. Bryant did request that the group provide feedback.

### **Regional Planning**

Chair Cooper talked about Mr. Farnsworth's proposal to hire a consultant to do the long range transportation planning work. Chair Cooper asked Mr. Bryant who would pay for the consultant. Mr. Bryant said all of the COACT member organizations would have an opportunity to contribute.

Mr. Mike Schmidt asked how regional transit project fit into the plan. Mr. Andrew Spreadborough was asked to give an update on transportation activities around the region that COIC has been involved in. He discussed briefly the Jefferson and Deschutes County transportation coordination projects.

Mr. Bryant commented that ODOT wants to look at the regional planning from a multi-modal perspective. Mr. Schmidt mentioned transportation work being done by the Bend Chamber and mentioned that based on their discussions with federal agencies on this issue that a transit district funded in part with local investment would be the only way to get this done.

Mayor Friedman said that the best place to start is with a city transit district, and then expand. He did not feel that there would be much chance for a regional transit district. Judge Cooper said that the biggest challenge facing transportation is maintaining what we already have. He said the public won't tolerate potholes if funds are being spent elsewhere. Commissioner Luke said that inter-community shuttle projects won't work if there is not a local network to distribute the population once they get to the other community.

To move the regional planning process forward, Chair Cooper directed the formation of a COACT committee made up of Mr. Farnsworth, Mr. Spreadborough, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Jeff Monson and Mr. Tyler Deke. This committee will draft a consultant scope of work and funding proposal for presentation at the July and September COACT meetings.

Mayor Alan Unger's requested discussion on rail issues at a future COACT meeting. Chair Cooper said COACT should have Mr. Andrew Johnson from BNSF at a future meeting. Also Mr. Chris Warner and Kelly Taylor ODOT rail division – to hear the state's plan in regard to rail.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.