

# Meeting Minutes

Central Oregon Area Commission on Transportation  
COACT  
January 10, 2019

Redmond Public Works Training Room  
243 E. Antler Ave., Redmond, OR

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## **Members:**

Robert Townsend (ODOT), Jerry Brummer (Crook County), Jeff Monson (Commute Options), Dave Thomson (BPAC), Gary Judd (Aviation), Tony DeBone (Deschutes County), Barb Campbell (City of Bend), Mike Folkestad (Jefferson County Stakeholder Rep.), Matt Wiederholt (Rail Rep), Michelle Rhoads (COIC/CET), Gus Burrell (City of Madras), Andrea Breault (CET), Theresa Conley (ODOT), Patrick Hanenkrat (City of Metolius), Teresa Rodriguez (City of Prineville), Bill Duerden (City of Redmond).

## **Guests:**

Scott Smith (City of Prineville), Chris Doty (Deschutes County), David Amiton (ODOT), Tyler Deke (Bend MPO), Matt Powlison (Jefferson County), Bob O'Neal (Crook County), Theresa Conley (ODOT), Devin Hearing (ODOT), Paul Bertagna (City of Sisters), Cheri Helt (House District 54).

**Staff:** Scott Aycock (COIC), Hailey Barth (COIC)

### **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Meeting called to order by COACT Chair Jerry Brummer at 3:04pm. Introductions were made.

### **2. Public Comments**

A) General Comments  
Commissioner Jerry Brummer, Chair

There were no public comments.

### **3. COACT Business**

A) November 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes (**ACTION**)

*Gary Judd motioned to approve the November 8, 2018 meeting minutes. Mike Folkestad seconded. Minutes were approved by consensus.*

B) COACT Officer discussion

Scott Aycock noted that COACT Appointments run February 1 – January 31, and said new candidates are still filtering in and he has not heard from everyone yet. Scott pointed out that a representative for Deschutes County is next in line for the COACT Chair position, and officer elections will be conducted at the March 2019 COACT meeting.

Scott Aycock said the only change so far is Michelle Rhoads, the Transportation Manager at COIC, will be taking over as a primary board member for Karen Friend.

C) Approve COACT 2019 Meeting Schedule (**ACTION**)

Scott Aycock explained that the proposed 2019 meeting schedule for COACT will be the same as previous years; the second Thursday of every odd month from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm in the Redmond Public Works Training Room.

*Barb Campbell motioned to approve the 2019 COACT Meeting Schedule. Gary Judd seconded. The meeting schedule was approved by consensus.*

Scott Aycock mentioned to the group that the May 9, 2019 COACT meeting will be held at Redmond City Hall.

D) Outcomes of COAR Aviation Grant Review

Scott Aycock reminded the group of the Critical Oregon Airport Relief (COAR) Grant Program that was discussed at the November COACT meeting. He noted that the full COACT group delegated the review of the project applications to the COACT Executive Committee, and he provided the group with the outcomes of that process.

Scott Aycock shared that:

- Airports around the region submitted their project applications
- The program is funded by the jet fuel tax
- Each airport ranked and reviewed each other's project applications
- Each project had to meet specific criteria set forth by COAR

Scott Aycock informed the group that the following airports projects met all of the standards set forth by COAR:

- Prineville Airport
- Madras Municipal Airport
- Redmond Municipal Airport

Scott Aycock explained that Sisters Eagle Airport's projects somewhat met the standards set forth by COAR. He then added that the findings of each project application were then uploaded to the Department of Aviation Grant Program's website to be reviewed electronically.

Gary Judd noted that this information was just a report to the full COACT group for transparency purposes.

**4. ODOT Updates**

A) ODOT Transparency/Accountability requirements

Bob Townsend, ODOT

Bob Townsend shared a handout with the group titled "HB 2017 TAP Project Local Condition Reporting Form". He explained the document is a status report from January 3, 2019 and that highlighted:

- 1,900 email notifications have been sent
- 314 hard copy letters have been sent

- 165 inquiries have been responded to
- 27 agencies have accessed the online form
- 109 agencies have completed the online reporting

Bob Townsend noted that the next steps for this process will continue through February 1, 2019 and include:

- Continuing to receive reports and responding to inquiries
- Conducting additional outreach leading up to the deadline

Bob Townsend said most COACT members have successfully completed the ODOT Accountability requirements, and he will follow up with those who have not.

#### 5. **ODOT Freight Plan Update**

- A) Informational updates  
Devin Hearing, ODOT

Devin Hearing, ODOT Region 4's Project Manager, shared a PowerPoint presentation titled, "US 97 Corridor Freight Plan". Devin explained that the focus of the plan is to look holistically at the entire corridor to not recreate projects and ensure nothing was missed.

Devin highlighted the following within his presentation:

- Project Overview
  - Phase 1 study (existing conditions) completed 2017
  - Phase 2 study kicked off in 2018
    - Stakeholder outreach
    - Mobility and safety analysis
    - Identification of freight projects
    - Investment strategy
  - There are few comparable freight corridor plans in the US

Devin shared a detailed map with the group that depicted the Study Corridor throughout Oregon, and a smaller map that just affected the corridor through Central Oregon.

Devin continued his presentation and discussed the key metrics of the plan including:

- Safety
- Mobility
- Economic Competitiveness

Devin then discussed the criteria for scoring each key metric, and shared a detailed map of the needs along the study corridor.

Devin continued the presentation and highlighted the following:

- Existing and future conditions
- Main findings of existing and future conditions
- Overview of a month long online & in person survey
  - Tabling at truck stops
  - 79 total responses

- Problems & suggestions
- Suggested solutions including planned projects

Devin concluded his presentation by sharing how projects are prioritized, and maps depicting where projects will be planned in Central Oregon.

Barp Campbell asked why Sunriver is not included on the list of prioritized projects. Devin explained that if work is already planned, then an area will not be prioritized. He noted that if there is enough of a safety issue, ODOT will take note of it.

## 6. Regional Roundtable

### A) Updates on issues and items around the region COACT Members

Chris Doty said Terrebonne is working on refining Highway 97 through Lower Bridge Way. He questioned if a 5 way intersection is needed, or perhaps some additional lanes. He noted either addition will change the way Terrebonne looks forever. Chris said Deschutes County is working on a transportation safety action plan that is being supported by a grant that came from ODOT Salem. He added that the County has looked at and approved FLAP projects, this time the Federal Lands department does not want the focus to be on chip seal projects.

Michelle Rhoads asked why there will not be any chip seal projects. Chris said they have not received a straight answer, but noted Western Federal Lands is under the impression that chip seal is a routine maintenance activity for counties. Chris pointed out that there are other FLAP grant applications in Deschutes County, but it's only the chip seal projects that are in jeopardy.

Gus Burril said the City of Madras will hopefully have their transportation corridor up and running in 12 months.

Pat Hanenkrat said Metolius received a \$50k grant in 2018 for paving streets, and this year received \$100k for chip sealing other maintenance. He said ODOT's help and assistance is appreciated.

Michelle said there is a lot happening in the transit world; specifically CET embarking on a transit master plan. She said CET is kicking off open houses throughout the region with the first round inviting community input. She said projects will be forwarded through the STIF program, and the Tri-County region plus Warm Springs will receive new funding to implement their plans. Michelle said CET is excited as they are working in support of 4 qualified entities to do administrative functions of the STIF process, and encouraged COACT members to attend the upcoming open houses.

Gary Judd commented that the airport world is busy, with all airports in the region working on their own projects.

Bob O'Neal said Prineville is working on multiple projects, including a rail project and work on an intersection off Highway 26. He added the city is also chip sealing over 100 miles of road throughout town.

Scott Smith said Prineville is working on a "rails to trails" project and added there was a pre-kickoff meeting for the Third Street Corridor project. He said ODOT had \$1.8 million allocated for signal updates throughout the city, and they additionally received \$3 million out of House Bill 2017.

Matt said there are no big projects on the railroad and they are picking away at deferred maintenance items. He said there are 2 rail yards in Crook County and they are looking at strategic growth as maximum capacity has almost been reached.

Jeff Monson shared information on the Safe Routes to School infrastructure project. He said there are two projects in Central Oregon, Terrebonne and Madras, and Commute Options is focusing on education surrounding safer infrastructure for alternative modes of transportation.

Matt Powlison said Jefferson County has been working on a FLAP project since 2016 and it continues to move forward.

Barb said she was upset to hear Bend didn't get SRTS money and noted the city was hoping to spend that money on enhancements to Pilot Butte State Park.

Tyler Deke said the City of Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization is actively working with ODOT on the Bend Parkway Study; this includes an alternatives analysis process and rebuilding interchanges. He added Bend is also working on a safety access plan, and they are getting ready to kick off their safety technology plan.

Dave Thomson said BPAC is excited about the county's piece of the Transportation Safety Action Plan, and added they coordinate a tri-county pedestrian summit that will be hosted in Bend this year.

Tony DeBone said Deschutes County has a plan for investing in transit, and they signed CET as the representative for the tri-county area.

Bob Townsend said ODOT has multiple planning projects including, Tumalo, Terrebonne, and utilizing the INFRA Grant for the Bend North Corridor project. He said ODOT has already provided a required letter that has made it to the Secretary of Transportation's desk, and the ask from the feds is \$70 million. Bob added that ODOT is hoping to get Sisters added to the planning list as they have eastbound transportation issues.

Bill Duerden said Redmond is still working on their South Canal Blvd. Improvements project, only stopping briefly due to weather. He added that asphalt work throughout the city is also being planned for April 2019.

David Amiton congratulated Deschutes County and the City of Madras on receiving SRTS Infrastructure funding.

Cheri Helt said as the representative for District 54, she will champion any cause in Salem that is needed for the Central Oregon region.

Bob Townsend said ODOT just found out about the SRTS projects this week, and they may warrant further discussion or a letter from the full group at a later date.

## **ADJOURN**

*Jerry Brummer adjourned the meeting at 4:40pm.*