



Northwest Oregon Area Commission on Transportation

June 2010 Newsletter

NWACT is an advisory committee to the Oregon Transportation Commission on NW Oregon transportation needs and project priorities

Representing Counties:

Clatsop County Commission
Columbia County Commission
Tillamook County Commission
Washington County Commission

Representing Cities:

City of Astoria
City of Banks
City of Bay City
City of Cannon Beach
City of Columbia City
City of Clatskanie
City of Garibaldi
City of Gaston
City of Gearhart
City of Manzanita
City of Nehalem
City of North Plains
City of Rainier
City of Rockaway Beach
City of Scappoose
City of Seaside
City of St Helens
City of Tillamook
City of Vernonia
City of Warrenton
City of Wheeler

Representing Ports:

Port of Astoria
Port of Garibaldi
Port of Nehalem Bay
Port of St Helens
Port of Tillamook Bay

Representing Transit Districts:

Columbia County Transportation
Sunset Empire Transit
Tillamook County Transportation

Representing ODOT:

ODOT Region 1 -- NW Area
ODOT Region 2 -- NW Area

Representing Others:

NW Oregon Regional Partnership
Transportation Stakeholders
Citizens-At-Large

4336 SW Condor Ave
Portland, OR 97239
503.228.5565

NWOregon.org/NWACT
Email: NWACT@NWOregon.org

Recent News and Recap of NWACT April 8th meeting in Tillamook, Oregon

Primary focus of April's all day meeting was reviewing and making priority recommendations on NW Oregon's 16 Connect Oregon III project applications. Applicants gave presentations, followed by separate deliberations on the projects located in Region 1 and Region 2:

Region 1 (Columbia and Washington Counties): While the Connect Oregon III process did not call for NWACT to rank the 5 applications received, NWACT members felt it was important to communicate the relative importance of the projects to the area. The recommended project order was:

- Teevin Brothers Rail to Barge
- Portland & Western Columbia River Rail Corridor
- Sause Brothers Heavy Lift Equipment
- Port of St Helens New Facility Transportation Infrastructure
- Portland & Western Banks Rail Connection

Region 2 (Clatsop and Tillamook Counties): Eleven applications were reviewed, one of which was a multi-county project. Also, as the Port of Astoria submitted 5 applications, NWACT members deferred to the Port's project priorities. The overall recommended project order for the Region 2 applications was:

- Columbia River Bar Pilot safety enhancements
- Astoria 17th St Dock rehabilitation
- Port of Tillamook Bay Air Freight Terminal/Cargo Apron
- Sunset Empire Transit Facility
- Port of Astoria Airport Lowering of IFR minimums
- Multi-County Rural Transportation Hybrid Buses
- Tongue Point Rail Siding, Spur,

Bridges

- Port of Astoria Pier 3 Barge Docks
- Port of Astoria Pier 1 Crane
- Port of Astoria Standby Tugs
- Astoria Airport Hangar/Shop improvements

SuperAct Recommendations: NWACT's recommendations were forwarded on to the next level of review: The Special Review Committee for Region 1 applications, and the Region 2 SuperAct, comprised of representatives from each of the 5 ACTs. Members of the Connect Oregon III final review committee will convene on June 9/10 to finalize recommendations received by each modal and regional committee to the Oregon Transportation Commission. The OTC is expected to make final selections at its August 24/25 meeting in Hermiston.

Region 1 Special Review Committee Recommended Priorities:

A total of 27 applications were reviewed and 23 ranked for Region 1. The Portland and Western Columbia River Corridor upgrade project, a \$4.8 million request, was ranked #3. The Banks Rail Connection project ranked #10, Teevin Brothers' project ranked #13, Sause Brothers' project ranked #20, and the Port of St Helens project ranked #21.

Region 2 SuperAct Recommended Priorities:

NWACT's highest ranked project, the Columbia River Bar Pilots Safety Enhancements, was ranked 3rd overall. The only other project ranked in the top 10 was the Astoria 17th St Dock improvements.

Hwy 26 Dennis Edwards Tunnel Update:

ODOT's decision to not incorporate the vertical clearance component as part of the tunnel relining work will shorten the time to complete construction. The public meetings were an excellent forum for hearing from affected businesses. ODOT will explore what steps can be taken to encourage the

contractors to get complete work prior to Memorial Day 2011. Latest project information can be found:

<http://www.dennisedwardstunnel.org/>

Contacts for the project are: David Kim, ODOT Region 1 Area Manager: David.Kim@odot.state.or.us or at 503.731.4998 and Larry McKinley, ODOT Region 2 Area Manager: Larry.McKinley@odot.state.or.us or at 503.325.3590.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Grants—2012-2013 Cycle: ODOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is accepting grant applications for pedestrian and/or bicycle projects for Fiscal Years 2012/2013. The total amount available is approximately \$5 million. All materials needed to apply are available online at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/grants1.shtml>.

All project elements must be within a street right-of-way. ODOT District and Region offices are eligible to apply. Non-ODOT applicants that propose work on ODOT Right-of-Way must obtain the District Manager's signature on the application. Final applications must be post marked by July 9th to be considered.

Urban Trail Fund—2010 Grants: A total of \$970,000 is available statewide this year for transportation trail projects that can be ready for contract in 2011. With limited funds, ODOT will be seeking 2 to 4 high-impact projects that demonstrate how trails are an important part of the transportation system in urban areas.

Final applications must be post marked by July 9th to be considered. All materials needed to apply are available online at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/LGS/>

Transportation Enhancement Program 2013—2014 Cycle: ODOT's Transportation Enhancement Program is accepting grant applications for projects that strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental value of Oregon's transportation system. The total amount available is approximately \$17 million. All materials needed to apply are available online at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/LGS/enhancement.shtml>.

The TE application process has two steps:

- 1) Notice of Intent due June 30, 2010
- 2) Applications due September 30, 2010

Workshops to assist prospective applicants will be held on June 14, 2010:

Tillamook: 10:00 am — 12:00 pm, Oregon Department of Forestry, 5005 Third St, Tillamook, OR

Astoria: 2:30 pm — 5:00 pm, Columbia River Maritime Museum, Kearns Room, 1792 Marine Dr, Astoria, OR

2012—2015 STIP Criteria

On May 13, 2010, the Oregon Transportation Commission approved the Project Eligibility Criteria and Prioritization Factors for the 2012-2015 STIP. The following link will provide you with the approved STIP criteria: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/docs/1215stipcmte/CriteriaReview.pdf>

July 8, 2010 NWACT Meeting

Banks Fire Hall
Banks, Oregon
1:00 pm — 3:30 pm

For more information on NWACT, its members, meetings, charter/bylaws, and deliberations, please go to NWOregon.org. NWACT meetings are generally scheduled for the first Thursday of every other month at various locations throughout the four-county area.

NWACT meetings are open to the public and accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities. If a sign language interpreter is needed, please call Mary McArthur at 503.228.5565 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.