

NW Oregon Area Commission on Transportation

March 10, 2016
Officer's Mess Hall
Port of Tillamook Bay
Tillamook, OR

The meeting was called to order by Henry Heimuller, Chair. The following members and guests attended:

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| Bill Baertlein—Tillamook County Commission | John Mohlis—Oregon Building Trades |
| Mike Borreson—Washington Co Citizen-at-Large | Bob Mushen—Port of Astoria |
| Stevie Burden—City of Wheeler | Lisa Nell—ODOT Region 2 |
| Sonny Chickering- ODOT Region 2 | John O'Leary—City of Garibaldi |
| Susan Conn—City of St Helens | Arla Miller—ODOT Rail & Public Transit |
| Steve Constans—City of Clatskanie | Doug Pilant—Tillamook County Transit |
| Bill Carpenter- Clatsop Co Citizen-at-Large | Tim Potter—ODOT Region 2 |
| Ray DiPasquale—City of Clatskanie | Jae Pudewell—ODOT Oregon RST |
| Debbie Dudley—City of Rainier | Jennifer Purcell—DEQ Oregon RST |
| Mark Ellsworth—Governor's NW Oregon RST | Michael Ray—Columbia County Transit |
| Brett Estes—City of Astoria | Christie Schreckengost—ODOT |
| Karmen Fore—Transportation Vision Panel | Mike Schroeder—ODOT Area 1 |
| Katie Gauthier—Senator Merkley's Office | Dale Shafer—City of Nehalem |
| David Gomberg – Oregon State Rep District 10 | Orion Stand-Gravois—Col-Pac RARE |
| Dan Grassick—City of Cannon Beach | Gary Stockoff—Washington County |
| Sam Haffner –Transportation Vision Panel | Jerry Taylor—City of Manzanita |
| Jeff Hazen—SETD | Bob Terry—Washington County Commission |
| Henry Heimuller—Columbia County Commission | Patrick Trapp—Port of St Helens |
| Michelle Jenck—Jenck Farms | John Walsh—City of St Helens |
| Senator Betsy Johnson—District 16 | Russ Warr—City of Astoria |
| Bill Johnston—ODOT Area 1 | Suzanne Weber—City of Tillamook |
| Gregg Kantor—NW Natural | Liane Welch—Tillamook County Public Works |
| Karen Kent—Col-Pac/CCET | Lonny Welter—Columbia County Road Department |
| Kathy Klezek—Sunset Empire Transit District | Nick Williams—Salem Chamber of Commerce |
| Mark Labhart—Tillamook County Commission | Patrick Wingard—DLCD Oregon RST |
| Don Larson—City of Seaside | Janet Wright—Columbia County Rider |
| Jeanne Lawson—Transportation Vision Panel | Paul Wyntergreen—City of Tillamook |
| Dale McDowell—Seaside Public Works | David Yamamoto—Tillamook Co Citizen-at-Large |
| Tom Messenger—Pacific City resident | Jim Young—Port of Tillamook Bay |

Excused: Representative Boone, Rachael Bornstein,

Variety of funding: Taxes, tolling, congestion fees. Need to get continuous funding mechanism. Everyone needs to come to get to yes. Generating as much demonstrable support as possible is important. Will be debate about low carbon fuel standards. Labor, transit, groups. Will need to stand behind our legislative coalition. Also sync up better with the federal funding programs. Aviation, rail, highway, marine, transit. Senator would like a NW Oregon 4-5 list has agreed on. Joint July 14th joint meeting.

ODOT—Near Knappa will be repaved as soon as finish Wheeler to Garibaldi. Astoria Bridge repaving continuing. Hwy 47 verbort roundable about down followed by Davis Rd roundable. Repaving hwy 47 near FGrove. Manzanita project is going slower than usual to ensure engineering design safety. Closures on old Young's Bay lift span. Have built an interpretative display near Lewis and Clark bridge of bridge components salvaged from the work done on the two bridges. Display will include information from local school kids. Will happen on May 24th. ODOT was encouraged not to have any work done on Saturday and Sunday during the Summer travel months. Also forewarn folks when having road stoppages

Clatsop County—Recently adopted a county TSP. Have a long list of projects. Emergency resilience and preparedness a big portin of plan.

1. Welcome and Introductions—Chair Heimuller opened the meeting. He introduced the Governor's Transportation Vision Panel, Karmen Fore (Facilitator), Gregg Kantor (Co-Chair), Jeanne Lawson and Sam Haffner, (Project Director)

2. Governors Transportation Vision Panel Preliminary Findings presentation and special discussion—Karmen Fore and Jeanne Lawson

Local Input:

A. Bottlenecks

1) Roads

- Massive traffic jam on Hwy 30 when I5 was closed (Lonny Welter)
- Coast-Traffic is bad in the Summer (tourism) and when there is an accident or incident
- Portland bottlenecks are bad. They affect local businesses and local transit schedules.
- Traffic is becoming year round.
- Daily commuters
- So many road repairs
- Roads not wide enough or enough lanes

- 2) Maritime
 - Depth (Patrick Trapp)
 - Parking
 - Lack of a Container Terminal
 - ME4 / M5
 - Fishing boats
- 3) Freight (Maritime)
 - Deep Water Docks
 - Lack of Terminal(s)
- 4) Freight (Rail)
 - North County Point – there is a 20 mile gap in rail to Portland
 - Conflicts with Rail/Passenger Trains
- 5) Freight (Roads)
 - Possible freight incentives to move freight at non-peak times
 - Rural roads are too narrow. They were designed for vehicles and farm equipment of years ago
 - Portland traffic
 - Regulatory burdens- “Who’s going to sue us if we do this?”
 - A Special Transportation Fund based on population doesn’t always work
 - Regarding FTA Rules: A better solution for rural areas with limited resources is needed
 - Connect Oregon—Refocus on original purpose. Dollars have shrunk. Economy can’t only or always be the driver. Think of the greater good.
 - Targeting transit services—School buses are funded separately
 - Funding for students, seniors, vets, and disabled has been greatly diminished.
- 6) Bike/Ped
 - Unsafe roads (Hwy 30, St. Johns Bridge). Too narrow.
 - Cars use bike lanes
 - Maintenance is needed on many bike/walking paths
 - Oregon Trails, Salmonberry need to partner with ODOT
 - Sketchy infrastructure/areas. People are *driving* to a safe place to *bike*
 - People shouldn’t have to trade safety for infrastructure maintenance
 - Some of our most scenic areas are on Hwy 101 and aren’t available to bikes/peds
 - Lack of funding is an issue. Smaller communities don’t have the resources to put bike/ped high on the priority list.
 - Ecotourism
 - Healthy people do get out and walk and ride bikes. (Think Europe and other countries)
 - 74% commute outside of the County
- 7) Seismic/Tsunami
 - All current and on-going projects should have seismic requirements
 - “You need the money to do the work”
 - Dollars are needed for implementation, not just analysis
 - The number 1 priority presented to Governor Brown should be to get a Transportation package funded (Mark Labhart)

8) Financing (Long Term)

- Tolling
- Road use tax
- Carbon tax
- Congestion pricing
- Transportation Utility Commission
- Charging stations

9) Financing (Short Term)

- Registration fees
- Gas tax (existing & indexing)
- Lottery
- Statewide Transit fund
- Local transit funding
- Bike/PED funding
- Modify State Hwy fund
- Focus political energy
- Federal Partners—Put pressure on Congress to fund a package
- “It’s do-able.” [She] will focus on projects that put the most people to work and help reduce the bottlenecks in Portland first. (Sen. Johnson)

3. NWACT Minutes/Updates

- Approval of January 14, 2016 Minutes. Unanimously approved with no corrections or amendments. (RW/BC)
- Public Comment: None.

2016 NWACT Election of Officers

- Unanimously approved the January 14, 2016 Officer Nominations: Henry Heimuller, Chair, Mark Labhart, Vice Chair, Russ Warr, Second Vice Chair (DL/SW)
- Public Comment: None.

Letter of Support

- Motion called for a letter of support to secure funding for the active landslide area on the Hwy 131/ Cape Mears Loop (KK/DP)

4. ODOT and Member Updates

- Tim Potter introduced Christie Schreckengost, the new Project Leader in the Astoria office.
- 2018-21 STIP Super Act Meeting (Tim Potter) — Four of the five Area 1 applications have been advanced for scoping. The Sunset Empire project was dropped from list because it lacked a strong safety component. A funding formula was added this year: \$30 million to use now for specific freight projects (I-5 and I-84 in the Portland Metro area). An additional \$5 million for use later, for non-Hwy STIP projects.
- Connect Oregon6 (Bill Johnston)—There are 5 applications to review at the May 12th meeting. Reviewing and ranking will be similar to the ConnectOregon5 process 2 years ago. NWACT members will be asked to recuse themselves from voting on their own projects.

- Member Updates

- Tillamook County Transit (Pilant)—Thank you to NWACT/ODOT for the fast road repairs after the storm damage.
- ODOT—Repaving Hwy 30 from Burnside to Knappa, also Wheeler/Wilson Hwy 101. Taking bids now. Award will be April 7th. ODOT is currently conducting an internal performance audit.

- Seaside (McDowell)—Working on a 1 mile stretch above and below the U St Bridge to improve sidewalks and parking. Should be complete by June, 2016.
- Columbia County Roads (Welter)—FEMA is in full swing.
- Garibaldi (O’Leary)—Thank you for the high score on the STIP application.
- Tillamook City (Wyntergreen) —Downtown Tillamook should start seeing Hwy6/101 project activity very soon. Demolition of the old hotel is this week.
- Washington County (Stockhoff)—The Verboort roundabout is under construction. Also, be sure to watch your speed on Hwy 47.
- Astoria (Estes)—Working on the “street end” (bridge) project between 6th and 11th. Design and budgeting are proving to be difficult. Will eventually be opening Bond St to two-way traffic. Also, expanding the Urban Renewal District.

Recorded: Karen Kent, Staff

Henry Heimuller, Chair