

NW Oregon Area Commission on Transportation

September 1, 2011

Rockaway Beach Civic Center

Rockaway Beach, OR

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

Debra Birkby—Clatsop County Commission	Donna Nyberg—Columbia County Resident
Ron Blin—Sunset Empire Transit	Ron Puzey—City of Clatskanie
Mike Borresen—Washington Co Citizen-at-Large	Shawn Reiersgaard—Tillamook Co Citizen-at-Large
Michele Bradley—Port of Tillamook Bay	Kathy Sanders—Clatsop County Resident
Kelly Brooks—ODOT Region 1	Gary Stockoff—Washington Co Transportation
Seth Brumley—ODOT Region 1	Jerry Taylor—City of Manzanita
Brett Estes—City of Astoria	Patrick Trapp—Port of St Helens
Kevin Greenwood—Port of Garibaldi	Dave True—City of Clatskanie Transportation
Jim Hough—City of Banks	Russ Warr—City of Astoria
Bill Johnston—ODOT Region 2	Suzanne Weber—City of Tillamook
Robert Kenny—Tillamook County Transit Dist	Ed Wegner—Clatsop County Public Works
Rosemary Lohrke—Columbia Co Citizen-at-Large	Janet Wright—Columbia County Rider
Eryca McCartin—ODOT Region 2	Paul Wyntergreen—City of Tillamook
Larry McKinley—ODOT Region 2	
David Neys—ODOT Region 2	

Excused: Jack Bland, Henry Heimuller, Betsy Johnson, Mark Labhard, David Kim, Liane Welch

1. NWACT Minutes/Updates

- Approval of May 5, 2011 Minutes—Approved unanimously. (LM, MB).
- Public Comment—None.
- Federal Transportation Update—Kelly Brooks gave a report from Travis describing the reauthorization process. Shirley provided the Scenic Byways handout. Not expecting to get a permanent federal transportation budget until next year, although will likely be a continuing resolution.
- Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) Update—Two new commissioners appointed, one involved in electric cars, and one connected to disabled mobility. Chair Ackerman has had to resign due to severe health problems.
- Region 1 Update—Kelly reported:
 - US 26 Quartz Creek Bridge should need only a couple more days.
 - Military Rd/Salmonberry—Complete by end of October.
 - Swedetown Rd—Complete, and done early
 - Dennis Edwards Tunnel Survey—Feedback was positive, folks were able to find information as needed via the web and email. Only negative was that it was delayed somewhat.
 - Vernonia School Open House—Will be October 6th and will celebrate “topping” (roof completion) of the new campus.
- Region 2 Updates—Larry reported:
 - Megler Bridge—Painting and sectional steel replacement will continue to occur over the next 6 years. Solar lighting of signage is underway.
 - 33rd St to John Day Bridge—Repaving done.
 - Hwy 26 Rapid Bridge Replacements—Two replacements went very well.
 - Hwy 6—Pretty much working on shoring up slide areas in time for winter. The hillside is significantly sliding over time.
 - Projects in Development: Mill Creek bridge replacement in Astoria, preservation project on Hwy 101 north of Manzanita.
 - Bridge near Oswald West State Park—Done in about 1 week.

- Clatsop County Discretionary Grant to rebuild Westport Ferry dock so will allow use of the large ferries across the Columbia.
- Updating City of Astoria Transportation System Plan (TSP) is underway.
- Seaside approved their TSP, and the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) will need to approve the alternative mobility standards.
- Tillamook County—In progress hiring contractor for Loman Bridge replacement
- Washington County—Working on a couple of bridge projects
- Mid-Willamette Area Commission on Transportation—Sam Brentano is the liaison with NWACT. Provided a map of all the projects being worked on. Two that are related to NWACT is the Newberg/Dundee bypass, and a new bridge into Salem. Another bottleneck in the Willamette Valley is the Woodburn interchange.

2. ODOT Redistricting

Effective October 1, the ODOT maintenance boundaries for Columbia and Western Washington counties will be merged with Clatsop and Tillamook counties. Expect combining these counties will improve efficiencies and consistency, improve coastal route coordination, align district boundaries with NWACT, Regional Solutions and Col-Pac, the region's Economic Development District, and resize to match decreasing revenues. North Plains and Forest Grove will stay with Metro. Savings will be in management costs through personnel attrition, not in operations.

Customers will notice few changes: Same crews will continue to serve

Project Delivery: OR 47 Beaver Creek Bridge Replacement and US 30 Old Portland Rd (new projects) will go over to the new region. Generally, future projects will go to Region 2, with the current planning projects remaining with Region 1.

Implementing, David Kim and Larry McKinley will overlap work on projects to transition. Looking for feedback from stakeholders. ODOT will get out the information to NWACT members and stakeholders.

Expect to have funding adjusted as pick up new geographic boundaries. New counties will bring their traditional sources of funding as well.

3. Connect Oregon 4

Legislature allocated \$40 million, down from \$100 million. \$1.5 of that funding will go to Brookings for their marina repair after the last tsunami. Every region is expected to be allocated approximately 10%. Applicants will have October–November to draft their proposals, ACTs will review and rank the projects from January–May, 2012 and the OTC will make the final decisions in August 2012.

TIGER Applications –The Woodburn Interchange and Newberg/Dundee ByPass projects will likely be applications supported by the State because of their State-wide significance.

Flex Funds—Non highway projects. \$21 million. Application process started, with applications due in October 20th. Local projects within small communities. 10.27% match requirement. Locally decided. Bill will keep track of applications and get let NWACT know. If make through the ODOT screening process, NWACT can endorse. Having local partners testify has a positive impact.

Green Transportation—\$3.5 million grant to make a connected transportation system among 5 counties. David Evans has held 5 stakeholder meetings.

State of Oregon is creating a blog for transportation in Oregon. Will have brief synopsis of different projects, that will link to more information. Will push information to whoever signs up. Mary will let folks know.

4. NADO Conference—Mary attended and reported on attending workshops on Sustainable Communities Approaches, How to Compete for TIGER Grants and Other Federal Funding, Innovations in Regional Transportation, Putting Census Information to Work, and the Future of Regional Transportation Planning.

5. Member updates

- Banks: Council Trail is seeing increased visitor traffic now that the trail has opened. Expanded UGB and completed a TSP.
- Tillamook County Transportation District—New schedule is coming out. New transit center is well used.
- Port of St Helens—Cascade Grain now Columbia BioRefinery. Expected to re-start this Fall. Construction of the new plastics recycling company, ORPET is underway. Under full operation, it will be increase truck traffic along Hwy 30.

- Astoria—First meeting of TSP committee doing public involvement and technical analysis. Franklin St bridge completed. Next Irving St. Started Summer paving. First round Flex Funding project—Street Scape project—expecting to purchase new amenities. Extending east end of waterfront trail. Awarded a Connect Oregon 3 project for the Pier project, which has been delayed until next year.
- Port of Garibaldi—Signed IGA with Business Oregon after going through a Strategic Plan. Highest priority is repairing the failing wharf. Want to be able to provide opportunities for Pacific Seafood to expand. Focusing on getting that project going forward. Will be submitting a TIGER 3 application for the project.
- Clatsop County—Westport project and expanding the landing dock to accommodate the larger ferries. Lifeline ferry if there are slides or bridge closure. Large trucks being able to use the ferry will help Wauna, and will be good opportunity to publicize what a small community can do to reduce travel and green house gas. Related are the community improvements connected to the ferry dock expansion. Hinson Rd Phase 2—19th St to 101 Business –first phase of construction. Dolphin/101 interchange—Looking to co-locate county/ODOT maintenance facilities.
- Sunset Empire Transportation – New director, Jay Flint. Think they have identified all the problems and set up a new operating plan. Two new board members that will help contribute to making things work.
- Clatskanie—Compliment ODOT’s work on Suedetown Rd project. Sorry to hear that Ron Kroop resigned. Traffic redesign is working well.
- Port of Tillamook Bay—Still operating the scenic railroad. One of FEMA projects will be constructing road on industrial park. Gone out for bid on the airport runway, design of which was funded in part by Connect Oregon 3 planning projects. Installing some truck scales out at the Port. Pelican Pub is looking to expand out at the Port, working with ODOT on egress/access to Hwy 101 and sewer access.
- City of Tillamook—Appreciate ODOT consolidation, will help with maintenance of Hwy 6. Finishing Stillwell Part 1 reconstruction. Starting the first year of a preventive maintenance program. Getting ready for 3rd St reconstruction starts next year. Anticipating Wilson River loop project, that will tie in to a couple of large development projects that should start at the same time. Finishing up EIS on Hwy 6/101 interchange. That project will tie in with the city’s urban revitalization. Discussions on Holden Creek for environmental cleanup and then potential greenway.
- Manzanita—Joint project with State Parks on bike pathway to downtown Manzanita. Already being well used.
- Tillamook County is looking at putting a Rd Maintenance ballot measure for November
- Columbia County—County is just about done with its new transit center
- Tillamook Creamery—Replacing a couple of internal operations and building new employee use grounds. Will be adding a roundabout in the Cheese Factory driveway. Won’t impact ODOT right of way.

6. Other Business

- May need to adjust Charter to reflect new ODOT boundaries
- Regional Solutions—NW Oregon and Willamette Valley Team will include NWACT in the NW Oregon group. Have set up the advisory committee. Have had one teleconference to begin planning on how to go forward.
- James Roddey—Formerly with DOGAMI, is now Director of Communications for Northwest Red Cross
- 2012 Officers Nominating Committee: Mark Labhart, Russ Warr, Janet Wright, Jim Hough
- Port of Garibaldi TIGER application is for their wharf rehabilitation. In Col-Pac CEDS. Don’t want to conflict with the South Jetty’s rehabilitation efforts, so are looking at non-competing funding. NWACT will write a letter of support. (RW, RL).

Next Meeting—November 3rd—Clatsop Community College—Seaside (since changed to Astoria campus).

Recorded: Mary McArthur, Staff

Shirley Kalkhoven, Chair