

Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation meeting summary
Thurston Regional Planning Council
2424 Heritage Court Southwest
Olympia, Washington 98502
Friday, December 12, 2014
11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Council members present: Brian Lagerberg, Lynn Moody, Jenni Jensen, Allan Jones, Jessica Renner, Colleen Kuhn, Hillary Rossi, Steve Gill, Patty McDonald, Marco DiCicco and Paul Meury

WSDOT staff: Ryan Warner, Tom Hanson (via phone) and Jef Lucero

Welcome and introductions

The acting chair for today's meeting is Lynn Moody. Donald Lachman replaces Steve Gill as the representative from WDVA. Ryan presented a certificate to Steve for his work with the council.

Approval of September meeting notes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September meeting.

Workgroup updates

Legislative group

Karen presented on behalf of the legislative committee, which is coordinated through CTANW in order to draw clearer distinction between WSDOT and the other member agencies. The Governor is expected to release his budget proposal in the coming days, and the transportation budget will be released Wednesday, Dec. 17. CTANW is also preparing its legislative agenda, which includes issues related to licensing regulations. Karen will be available during the legislative session in case anyone hears of any potential issues that could arise as the session progresses. Allan reminded the group that state employees are prohibited from representing their agencies at lobbying events.

Mobility management group

Colleen presented on behalf of the legislative committee, which is also coordinated through CTANW. Colleen introduced Ryan Acker, CTANW executive director. They are organizing a statewide mobility management conference in March and peer reviews beginning in February.

Human services transportation planning group

Madelyn Carlson presented on behalf of the HSTP committee. All HSTP presentations will be made before the council by the next meeting in March. Feedback to the plans is very positive, particularly regarding the templates. Once the plans have been presented, the work group will circle back to the planning groups to gather best practices and other data points.

Veterans' transportation group

Steve Gill presented on behalf of the veterans' committee. The group will be performing outreach to the mobility managers at each of the VA facilities across the state to. The VA also recently partnered with WesCare to develop better coordinated transportation for veterans in the areas WesCare serves, which includes parts of Oregon.

Colleen then talked about the CTANW grant through the Human Services Council and how they're making use of their grant funds. Ann Kennedy then spoke about how Paratransit is utilizing its VTCLI grant funds, including support for www.vettransport.org. Lynn also talked about the development for www.vets-go.com, for which Sound Transit has provided matching funds.

HSTP updates

SWRTPO

Matt Buchanan presented on behalf of the [Southwest Washington RTPO](#). Five counties and four transit authorities comprise the RTPO. Fifty partnering agencies are participating in the HSTP process. Each transit agency participated in surveys and/or one-on-one interviews. SWRTPO also conducted an extensive public survey specific to each county, then developed strategies based on the results of the surveys. Their ranking committee is now developing scoring criteria. The RTPO and MPO boards will vote next week on whether to approve the plan.

Skagit/Island RTPO

Mark Hamilton presented on behalf of the [Skagit/Island RTPO](#). The Skagit/Island RTPO began its HSTP process in March and only just finished it this month. The RTPO assembled a special needs transportation committee to develop the plan. Transit agencies from neighboring counties outside the RTPO also lent support to the process. They conducted extensive public outreach to better inform the process. After five monthly meetings, the committee was ready to move its recommendation for adoption of the plan. The RTPO approved the plan earlier this month.

OCOG

Leanne Whitener presented on behalf of the Okanogan Council of Governments. Voters approved a tax measure to create a transit system last year. The county also transitioned away from the NCRTPPO recently in order to best meet the transportation needs of its residents. Despite simultaneous competing interests, OCOG was able to conduct public outreach to better inform its HSTP process. Because they are much newer to this process, they are still in the process of developing their plan.

WVTC

Jeff Wilkens presented on behalf of the Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council. The departure of Okanogan County from the RTPO has been a significant adjustment for WVTC as well, with the focus of the HSTP process shifting primarily to Douglas and Chelan counties. For their process, they opted for the forced-pairs rankings rather than scoring criteria used by other RTPOs. They finished the plan just this morning in fact, submitting it to WSDOT shortly before today's meeting. Future plans include more extensive outreach to the public.

Member and audience comments

Paul: Winding down the first year of the Affordable Healthcare Act.

Jessica: The DDC will be hosting lobbying days every week during the legislative session beginning Jan. 12.

Colleen: CTA-NW's meeting held its safety-and-security training in November.

Steve: Thanks so much for this opportunity! I look forward to seeing what ACCT does moving forward.

Allan: Legislative staff members have called a handful of times to gain a better understanding of student-transportation issues.

Marco: We're moving into conference season, culminating with our state conference in June.

Brian: Keep an eye on the Governor's budget when it's released next week. The Public Transportation Division continues its structural reorganization which, once complete, should strengthen our presence in our regional offices across the state.

Lynn: Brokers continue to analyze the effects of the Affordable Healthcare Act.

Ryan: If you want more information about the PTD reorganization, feel free to contact me. We may have a presentation on the [Washington State Transportation Plan 2035](#) at the next meeting.

Matt Kunic: You can check the [WSDOT planning website](#) for more information on the RTPPO/MPO structure in Washington state.