



**BENTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN UPDATE
JOINT TECHNICAL AND STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEES MEETING #3**

Summary

Thursday, February 1st, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Sunset Meeting Room, 4077 SW Research Way, Corvallis, OR 97333

Name	Organization	Present
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Members		
Adam Steele	City of Corvallis	✓
Ron Irish	City of Albany	✓
Pat Hare	City of Adair Village	✓
Chris Workman	City of Philomath	✓
Rick Hohnbaum	City of Monroe	✓
Greg Ridler	Emergency Management	
Lee Lazaro	Benton County Special Transportation	✓
Tarah Campi	Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization	
Ali Bonakdar	Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization	✓
David Helton	Oregon Department of Transportation	✓
James Feldman	Oregon Department of Transportation	✓
Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) Members		
Jennifer Beathe	Starker Forests	✓
Chuck Kratch	Benton County Roads Advisory Committee	✓
Bob Durst	Benton County Bicycle Advisory Committee	
Mac Gillespie	Benton County Health Department	✓
Bret Davis	Republic Services	
Mary Marsh-King	Special Transportation Advisory Committee	✓
Kim Patten	Corvallis School District	
Jim Swinyard	2040 Group Member	✓
Floyd Collins	North Albany	✓
Kelly Weist	Alsea	
Joe Whinnery	Wren/Blodgett/Hoskins/Summit	✓
John Greydanus	South Benton County	✓
Rebecca Houghtaling	Oregon State University	
Benton County and Consultant Staff Support		
Laurel Byer	Benton County (staff)	✓
Kristin Anderson	Benton County (staff)	✓
John Bosket	DKS	✓
Dock Rosenthal	DKS	✓
Jim Owens	Consultant Team	✓

Introductions

Jim Owens, Facilitator, welcomed the group and TAC, SAC and Project Team introduced themselves.

Meeting #2 Recap

Jim Owens reviewed the TAC/SAC Meeting #2 Summary that included the Existing Conditions memo (Memorandum #4) and Goals & Objectives for the plan update.

Project Status and Schedule

John Bosket updated the TAC/SAC members on the status of the project and the schedule.

- The project is currently in the “understand” phase and is transitioning into the “solutions” phase.
- The first open house series will occur in early March. The locations are Monroe, North Albany & Philomath.

Review of Technical Memorandum #5: Future Transportation System Conditions and Deficiencies

Dock Rosenthal, DKS Associates, reviewed the content of Technical Memorandum #5, Future Transportation System Conditions and Deficiencies, and solicited comments from the committee members. TAC/SAC member input will help ensure that analysis and identified issues reflect conditions in the county.

Snapshot of Benton County in 2040

This subsection covered the demographic makeup of Benton County and the relationship with the transportation system. For planning purposes, the transportation choices made by residents are assumed to remain constant in the future despite changes in the demographic makeup such as a higher elderly population. Also, population forecasts do not always reflect all the planned development in a city. Additional growth is expected in Adair Village and Monroe that is not in the Portland State University population estimate.

Committed Projects

This subsection addressed the funded road improvement projects through 2040.

- It was noted that the Van Buren Bridge replacement project is funded and should be added to this list.

Auto Mobility

This subsection covered the future conditions of automotive travel in the county. County and State study intersections were evaluated in the same manner as in the Existing Conditions

memo (Memorandum #4). There are three additional intersections that fail to meet mobility standards/targets by 2040.

- Additional routes that should be acknowledged as having high truck traffic were noted by the committee. These are:
 - Independence Highway
 - Dawson Road
 - Airport Avenue to the industrial park

Transit

This subsection covered the identified future transit needs for Benton County. In general, more frequent service and better coordination between agencies is desired. The following comments were made regarding the memo:

- Regarding the need for increased frequency and expanded evening/weekend service, Philomath has recently added Saturday service. This will be updated in the memo.
- Demand responsive transit use is growing as the population ages.
- Regional connections (e.g., to Monmouth or Eugene) will be of increasing interest in the future. Lee Lazaro discussed the regional significance of Benton County and its position connecting the valley with the coast. This role as a transit hub is expected to continue to develop.

Safety

This subsection covered the funded safety improvements in Benton County. There was interest in the \$20 million in funds for safety improvements along US 20 and specifically how they would be allocated. A comment was made regarding truck traffic and turnovers that occur at US 20 and Springhill and the danger associated with that type of crash. Also, there was a discussion regarding an additional North Albany Willamette River crossing maybe running through Millersburg.

Resilience

This subsection covered the expected future status of resilience in Benton County. While bridge improvements are funded, additional bridges will have deficiencies in the future. Continued funding is important to maintain resilience.

Active Transportation

This subsection covered the future Active Transportation needs for the County. The following comments were made by the committee:

- The OR 99W corridor between Corvallis and Adair Village was noted as important and will be included in the list of future needs.

- The importance of connecting small rural communities with active transportation facilities was emphasized.
- A discussion of electric vehicles was not included, it was suggested to include a list or map of electric vehicle charging stations.
- Additional demographic data is available that may be helpful to include in the memo.
- Races and special events are important activities for communities that host them. These users vary from the types of daily commuters or recreational users we have previously discussed.
- The importance of safe travel for children as a significant reason for active transportation projects was emphasized.

Other Discussion Points

- There was a discussion of the relationship between new development and effective transit. Often new transit service does not accompany new development. Travel demand management solutions that attempt to change travel behavior can help with this problem. These can be discussed in the following memo.
- Additional growth in Corvallis and Philomath may be expected in the future now that a public vote can no longer block annexations.

Open House Schedule

The open house schedule is:

- Thursday, March 8; 5:30-7:30; Monroe Community Library
- Tuesday, March 13; 5:30-7:30; Marys River Grange
- Thursday, March 15; 5:30-7:30; North Albany Middle School

The program for the open house events is still under development. The following suggestions were made from the committee:

- The use of an online comment log can be helpful for generating responses.
- It was recommended to show a functional classification map, or some variation, displaying the county and state roads that are being studied.
- It was suggested to coordinate with Strengthening Rural Families to increase participation.
- It was suggested to display county maps where there are not significant deficiencies, such as the pavement condition map, to show County achievements as well.
- It was suggested to display the projects from the previous TSP and show those that are now complete.