



Clackamas County Community Road Fund Advisory Committee Meeting #11

6-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 29, 2022
Development Services Building Room 120

MINUTES

Attendance

Committee members: Bill Merchant, Chair; Sue Hein, Warren Holzem, Cedomir Jesic, Nathan McCarty, James Pritchard, April Quin-McGinnis, Marg Stewart, Patricia Tawney
Staff: Dave Queener, Mike Bezner, Karen Buehrig, Ellen Rogalin

Welcome and Minutes

Dave Queener welcomed everyone and asked for any additional agenda items. The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the February 22, 2022, CRFAC meeting.

Community Road Fund Status (Mike Bezner)

- Trailer fee: The Board of Commissioners supported this committee's recommendation to reduce the vehicle registration fee for utility and light trailers to \$5. The county has developed an agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation to make the change, and the lower fee is expected to be effective beginning January 1, 2023. County residents with trailers will start being notified about the lower fee in November. The county publicized the trailer fee reduction when it was approved by the Board of Commissioners, and will share more information with the public this fall.
- VRF revenue: The county receives VRF revenue monthly from the state – 40% is distributed to cities, 10% goes to the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) and the rest goes to the Community Road Fund. The revenue continues to come in at a rate of approximately \$11 million per year, as predicted. Staff will send an updated revenue summary to committee members in October.

Status of Community Road Fund Projects (Mike Bezner)

Mike noted that prices are volatile, but we've been doing ok on costs of projects.

- Canby-Marquam has been delayed because of the right of way process.
- Barlow is 98% complete.
- No decision has been made yet on whether there will be a signal or a roundabout for the Amisigger/Highway 224 project.
- The Stafford project is moving along on schedule.
- No more local road paving projects are planning for a few years because of the amount of money invested in paving this year.
- Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) projects are moving forward with Wilsonville and Oregon City. Gladstone and Milwaukie have declined road transfers. Work is continuing on 362nd and the Duus Road project will kick-off in the next couple of weeks.

Discussion

- I'm concerned about the extra congestion on Molalla Avenue and adjacent roads because of ODOT's work to construct a roundabout at Tolliver and Highway 213. [Staff will check for details on the project.]
- We need to be able to let the public know that the money going into the congestion projects is making a positive difference.

- Is the county putting up signs by the projects to let people know they are funded by the Community Road Fund? [We have done that for some projects and will do more.]
- We really appreciate the county staff who have been coming to our CPO meetings to keep us updated on projects in the area.
- What is the county doing for roads related to emergency preparedness? [Three actions: 1) We've hired a consultant to help with seismic planning for our bridges. 2) We're working with the county's Disaster Management Department on detour routes, keeping in mind that emergency detour routes are established by the Sheriff's Office and fire departments, and 3) We're working with our regional partners on emergency routes for a broader area.]

Transportation System Plan Update (Karen Buehrig)

The county's 20-year transportation system plan (TSP) will be updated over the next couple of years. Staff is working now on the scope of work and hope to have a consultant on board by early 2023. The project will begin with a financial forecast based on revenue expected to be received from the gas tax, grants, the county vehicle registration fee, development, etc.

The timing of the TSP, which should be completed by the end of 2024, should mesh well with this committee's planning for the next round of congestion relief projects to recommend to the Board of Commissioners. The TSP will provide information about project needs and costs.

The plan will include information already gathered through the Transit Development Plan approved last year and the Walk Bike Clackamas plan that is underway now.

Discussion

- How will public transit and buses be considered in the plan? [They will be considered with the information from the Transit Development Plan. Transit funding does not come from the Road Fund but from a regional employee tax.]
- To what extent do you consider neighborhood and school district busing when you plan projects? A lot of newer local roads aren't wide enough for school buses to turn around. [There's a tension between the desire for narrow local streets that encourage slower driving and wider streets that provide easier access for schools buses, fire trucks and other larger vehicles. We do look at how streets operate for all users, but travel lanes should be at least 11 feet wide. Staff will check on the Monroe project and look at involving the school districts earlier in planning processes.]
- Will the TSP financial projections include the VRF revenue? [Yes.]
- Will the county reach out to youth to give input on the TSP? [Yes, we intend to focus on reaching out to youth and many different communities throughout the county.]

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Next Steps

- Dave noted that the committee's annual report to the Board of Commissioners is due this fall. It's likely the report will be in writing rather than at a public meeting. Staff will draft the report soon and send it to CRFAC members for review.

- The next CRFAC meeting will be held on Thursday, March 30, 2023, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Development Services Building. Major topics of discussion will include:
 - Projects update
 - Transportation System Plan update progress report
 - Discussion on process and guidelines for selecting next round of congestion relief projects to recommend to the Board of Commissioners.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.