

Meeting Minutes



BMPO Bend Metropolitan
Planning Organization

BMPO Policy Board

Location: Baney Conference Room, Building M, ODOT Region 4
63055 N. Highway 97, Bend, Oregon

Date: April 19, 2024

Time: 12:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Policy Board Members

Chair Barb Campbell, Bend City Councilor

Vice-Chair Phil Chang, Deschutes County Commissioner

Ariel "Ari" Mendez, Bend City Councilor

Bob Townsend, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Region 4 Area Manager

BMPO Staff and Other Attendees

Tyler Deke, BMPO Manager

Andrea Napoli, BMPO Senior Planner

Kelli Kennedy, BMPO Staff

Ken Shonkwiler, ODOT Region 4

Jacki Smith, Kittelson & Associates

Tory Carr, City of Bend

Kayla Fleskes, DKS Associates

Garrett Sabourin, City of Bend

Susanna Julber, City of Bend

Ben Hemson, City of Bend

John Heylin, member of public

Russell Grayson, City of Bend

Elizabeth Ochel, City of Bend

David Amiton, ODOT Region 4

David Abbas, City of Bend

Ryan Oster, City of Bend

Allison Platt, City of Bend

Cyrus Mooney, City of Bend

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. with a quorum established.

2. Hybrid Meeting Guidelines

Mr. Deke reviewed the meeting guidelines.

3. Public Comment

John Heylin commented on the Greenwood improvements, indicating he had almost been hit on multiple occasions when using the crosswalk. He also suggested considering beautification of the parkway median while adding the Hawthorne Bridge.

4. Meeting Minutes

Materials referenced: March 15, 2024, Policy Board draft meeting minutes (Attachment A) and March 19, 2024, Budget Committee draft meeting minutes (Attachment B)

Motion 1: Ariel Mendez moved to approve the March 15, 2024, Policy Board draft meeting minutes and the March 19, 2024, Budget Committee draft meeting minutes as presented. Phil Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5. Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24) Supplemental Budget

Materials referenced: Issue Summary and Resolution 2024-03 (Attachment C)

Tyler Deke presented the proposed FY24 Supplemental Budget, explaining the purpose of the adjustment and noting a change to the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program and the shift to BMPO's direct receipt of State Highway Fund (SHF) funding. Background information and clarifications were provided by Mr. Deke, Andrea Napoli, and Tory Carr. It was noted that the SHF funds needed to be shown in the current budget and that this adjustment would be a pass-through for awarding funds. Key differences from the previous federal funds, including the total funding amount and spending requirements, were highlighted. Staff would return to the Board in June with a full discussion of the funding transition and steps taken to ensure recipients' projects would be still be funded.

Motion 2: Ariel Mendez moved to approve the FY24 Supplemental Budget by way of Resolution 2024-03. Phil Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

6. 2023-2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Mid-Cycle Amendment Adoption

Materials referenced: A link to the website with the draft UPWP Mid-Cycle Amendment was provided in agenda packet.

Mr. Deke presented the 2023-2025 UPWP Mid-Cycle Amendment, providing background and an overview of significant changes related to the budget and work priorities and clarifying the public messaging grant was currently \$90,000.

Motion 3: Ariel Mendez moved to approve the proposed amendment to the 2023-2025 UPWP as presented by way of Resolution 2024-01. Phil Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

7. Fiscal Year 2024-25 (FY25) Budget Public Hearing & Adoption

Materials referenced: Resolution 2024-02 to adopt the FY25 Budget (Attachment D)

Mr. Deke presented highlights of the proposed FY25 Budget, including key priorities and funding tables for each of the work programs and tasks, as well as the FY25 budget summary and adoption timeline.

Chair Campbell opened the public hearing. Seeing no comment, she closed the public hearing.

Motion 4: Ariel Mendez moved to approve the FY25 Budget by way of Resolution 2024-02. Phil Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

8. Promissory Note for Year-End Loan

Materials referenced: Promissory Note for FY24 year-end loan from the City of Bend (Attachment E)

Mr. Deke explained the purpose of the year-end loan, noting the timing of receipt of grant funds and government accounting standards regarding negative cash balances at the end of the fiscal year. The City would authorize a loan to close out the BMPO budget for the FY24, and the BMPO would repay the loan once grant funds were received from ODOT. It was clarified the overnight loan would not incur interest.

Motion 5: Ariel Mendez moved to authorize the Policy Board Chair to sign the Promissory Note to document the reimbursement practices of the City of Bend and the BMPO, and State law regarding year-to-year municipal budgets. Phil Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

9. Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendment

Materials referenced: Public notice with summary of the proposed amendment (Attachment F)

Ms. Kennedy provided an overview of the MTIP amendment, which consisted of a proposed increase in funding for an Enhanced Mobility Program project. It was noted that the purpose of the increase was to match the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant allocation amount. No public comments were received during the public comment period. Clarification was provided regarding the funding source, match requirements, and the impact of the proposed amendment on the project.

Motion 6: Ariel Mendez moved to approve the proposed amendment to the 2024-2027 MTIP as presented. Phil Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

10. US97 Parkway Plan – Hawthorne Intersection & Hawthorne Bike/Pedestrian Bridge

Materials referenced: Hawthorne bridge location map (Attachment G) and Hawthorne bridge design option (Attachment H)

Mr. Deke provided a brief introduction and background of the BMPO's involvement in US97 Bend Parkway planning efforts over the years.

Garrett Sabourin, Kayla Fleskes, and Jacki Smith presented an update on Hawthorne access, conceptual design elements, challenges, and potential changes within the US97 Bend Parkway Plan. Also reviewed were prior operational and safety evaluations, updated crash information, key findings and conclusions including closure scenarios, and next steps in the process. Clarification was provided on several items, including the traffic and safety evaluations, recommendations in the adopted Parkway Plan versus the new updates, and clearance requirements impacting the bridge height and bicycle stopping distances.

Key discussion topics included political considerations, impacts to alternative transportation modes, and concerns around potential litigation and public response related to Hawthorne closure. The importance of public outreach, especially with regard to sharing the safety impacts of closure and identifying related improvements or mitigation projects, was emphasized.

Following discussion, the question posed was “should the City work with Agency Partners to evaluate modifying Hawthorne Access recommendations in the Bend Parkway Plan?” to which the consensus response of the Board was yes. It was clarified that the findings would be presented to City Council and would not return to the Board. Next steps would include additional traffic and safety analyses, potential mitigation options, updates to the closure scenario maps, and public outreach to share mitigation options and seek feedback.

11. Federal COVID Funding

Materials referenced: COVID funding summary and timeline (Attachment I)

Mr. Deke reviewed the timeline of the federal COVID funding received and awarded to-date, noting the remaining \$291,000 needed to be programmed by September 2024 and spent by 2029. Staff recommended the Board identify a focus area or project type for the remaining funds and noted some possibilities. Board direction on the next steps for distributing the remaining funds was requested.

Board discussion involved consideration of several potential focus areas, including global projects with networkwide benefits, active transportation and transit projects, intercity connectivity projects, funding shortfalls/gaps in existing projects, traffic diverters and mobile filters, equity mapping, identifying problematic corridors, accessibility projects, supporting existing safety grant work, and funding preliminary planning projects to seek future federal grant funding. It was noted the level of funding would not significantly impacted certain projects/work and selecting from past project proposal lists could be an effective approach.

The Board agreed to consider global project submissions from City of Bend, ODOT, County, CET, and Bend Park and Recreation District, but limit each agency to one submission, which would be reviewed and awarded at a future meeting.

12. Other Business

Policy Board member agenda item requests: Chair Campbell announced that a new ODOT Region 4 Director had been hired. She further noted that the COACT Executive Committee had written a letter, which she would share with the Board, to the Oregon Transportation Committee expressing concerns regarding Region 4 representation as compared to the rest of the regions in the State.

Chair Campbell also provided a reminder that members could reach out to her or Mr. Deke with agenda item requests.

The next scheduled meeting of the Policy Board is May 17, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

13. Public Comment

None.

14. Adjournment

Chair Campbell adjourned the meeting at 1:52 p.m.



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc., please contact Kelli Kennedy at kkennedy@bendoregon.gov or 541-693-2122. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.