



BMPO
Bend Metropolitan
Planning Organization

Meeting Summary

BMPO Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Location: Council Chambers (City Hall)
710 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon
Date: April 01, 2025
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Prepared by: ABC Transcription Services, LLC.

In Attendance

Voting Members

1. Quinn Kever, Bend Park and Recreation District (BPRD)
2. Greg Bryant, Community member
3. James Dorofi, Community member
4. Susanna Julber, City of Bend
5. Brian Potwin, Commute Options
6. Tarik Rawlings, Deschutes County

Voting Member Alternates

1. Bob Townsend, Cascades East Transit (CET)
2. David Green, Deschutes County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
3. David Amiton, ODOT Region 4

Non-Voting Members

1. Angie Brewer, Department of Land Conservation & Development (DLCD)
2. Tyler Deke, BMPO Manager

BMPO Staff and Other Attendees

1. Andrea Napoli, BMPO Senior Planner
2. Kelli Kennedy, BMPO Program Coordinator

Notes

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Manager Deke called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. with a quorum established.

2. Hybrid Meeting Guidelines

Manager Deke reviewed the meeting guidelines.

3. Public Comment

Manager Deke called for public comment. There was none.

4. Meeting Summary

Materials referenced: March 4, 2025, BMPO TAC draft meeting minutes (Attachment A in the agenda packet).

Motion 1: Quinn Keever moved approval of the March 4, 2025, TAC draft meeting summary as presented. Brian Potwin seconded the motion which passed 8 to 0. (Ayes: Keever (City of Bend), Bryant (Community member), Dorofi (Community member), Potwin (Commute Options), Rawlings (Deschutes County), Townsend (CET), Green (BPAC), Amiton (ODOT). Nays: None. Abstain: None.)

5. Commute Options Program Updates

Materials referenced: The agenda packet had a link to the **Commute Options website**.

Brian Potwin presented an update detailing Commute Options' efforts to deliver the Safe Routes To School program and describing its partnership with CET to create a van pool program and the Get There rewards program expansion to incentivize walking, biking, and public transit for commuters.

Committee member's questions were addressed about Commute Options maps showing walking and bus routes for every local school; Commute Options' new hire; the vulnerability of relying heavily on federal funding; employers taking advantage of the van pool program; potentially expanding the van pool to a five passenger minimum; the City of Bend and Oregon State University Cascades offering additional employee incentives through the Get There rewards program; and potentially creating scholarship funds as incentives.

David Amiton agreed to return with more information about ODOT's statewide van pool subsidy.

6. Overview of Bend Park and Recreation District (BPRD) Current Projects

Materials referenced: The agenda packet had a link to the **BPRD Current Projects webpage**.

Quinn Keever described the improvements occurring at Miller's Landing Park, Manzanita Ridge Park, Riverfront Street and Deschutes River Trail, Hollinshead Park, the Art Station at Larkspur Park, Sawyer Park, Sylvan Park, Discovery Park West, North Unit Canal Trail, and Pine Nursery Park.

Committee member's questions were addressed about the Riverfront St and Deschutes River Trail project costs and replacing sewer pipes along Riverfront St; development standards and the lifespans of park equipment and trail surfaces; individually negotiating the easements along the North Unit Canal with private property owners; the Miller's Landing project completion in late 2025; adding more ADA parking spaces near the new ADA water access at Miller's Landing; Bend's 84 parks and 11 undeveloped sites; the lack of plans for the large BPRD-owned parcel southeast of Bend; and current projects to maintain and preserve assets, not increase the Maintenance Budget.

7. Cascades East Transit (CET) Updates

Materials referenced: The agenda packet had a link to the [CET website](#).

Bob Townsend updated on CET activities, including proposals for a new mission statement and logo; CET service expansion plans, rollout of the transit pass system in June 2025, and the upcoming fare rate structure being implemented in October 2025. He described the complexity of CET's funding situation and confirmed a rider survey would be completed in the fall.

Mr. Townsend addressed Committee members questions about four possible new Route 8 routes for public review; readjust routes after moving to the Mobility Hub system; Bend City Council prioritizing increased bus frequency over route expansion; the upcoming RFP for a payment vendor; the use of bus riders' personal information; the goal to reach the 25 to 30 percent national average for fare recovery rates; possibly reevaluating the rate structure and City subsidy level in one year, the mobile transit payment application; potentially using reverse ATMs for making transit payments; tracking the number of riders and routes rather than trips; free bus fares artificially inflating the estimated 500,000 bus riders per year.

Manager Deke noted CET was one of the biggest transit operators in the country without a permanent tax base to fund operations. He confirmed the BMPO would like to partner with CET and ODOT on the rider survey to capture usable transportation data.

8. State Highway Funds (SHF) Distribution Update

Senior Planner Napoli updated on the current and pending distribution of fiscal years 2028 – 2030 SHFs, noting the Policy Board had approved the allocations for the BMPO's project application process, staffing, and reserves. Changes had been proposed to reduce the amounts allocated to Bend's Street Preservation Program and the project application process due to new information from the Finance Department indicating higher staffing and reserve needs. The Policy Board would allocate the remaining funds at the April 18th meeting.

9. Member & Guest Roundtable

Deschutes County BPAC: David Green encouraged all to attend the Tri-County Bicycle and Pedestrian Summit next week, noting the event was being sponsored by the BMPO, Commute Options, and Envision Bend. Bob Townsend, Tarik Rawlings, and David Amiton would serve as panelists for the event.

10. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

11. Next TAC Meeting

The next meeting of the BMPO TAC is scheduled for May 6, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

12. Adjourn

Manager Deke adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.



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