



BMPO
Bend Metropolitan
Planning Organization

Meeting Summary

BMPO Technical Advisory Committee

Location: Board Room (City Hall)
710 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon
Date: July 1, 2025
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Prepared by: ABC Transcription Services, LLC.

In Attendance

Voting Members

1. Susanna Julber, City of Bend
2. Greg Bryant, Community Member
3. James Dorofi, Community Member
4. Brian Potwin, Commute Options
5. Tarik Rawlings, Deschutes County
6. Ken Shonkwiler, ODOT Region 4

Voting Member Alternates

1. Dave Green, Deschutes County BPAC

Non-Voting Members

1. Tyler Deke, BMPO Manager

BMPO Staff and Other Attendees

1. Kelli Kennedy, BMPO Program Coordinator
2. Jamie Lemon, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Western Federal Lands

Notes

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Manager Deke called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. with a quorum established.

2. Hybrid Meeting Guidelines

Manager Deke reviewed the meeting guidelines.

3. Public Comment

There was none.

4. Meeting Summary

Materials referenced: June 3, 2025, BMPO Technical Advisory Committee draft meeting summary (Attachment A in agenda packet).

Motion 1: Tarik Rawlings moved approval of the June 3, 2025, TAC draft meeting summary as presented. Susanna Julber seconded the motion which passed 7 to 0.

(Ayes: Bryant (Community Member), Dorofi (Community Member), Julber (City of Bend), Potwin (Commute Options), Rawlings (Deschutes County), Dave Green (Deschutes County BCAC), and Shonkwiler (ODOT). Nays: None.)

5. Oregon Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) – Draft Statewide Needs Assessment

Materials referenced: Links were provided to the **Oregon FLAP Statewide Needs Assessment website** and the **Draft Oregon FLAP Needs Assessment document**.

Jamie Lemon provided an overview of the Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFL) and Oregon FLAP program, highlighting the role of the Programming Decision Committee, who made project funding determinations after receiving recommendations from the Technical Advisory Group. The next Oregon FLAP Call for Projects would fund projects occurring in fiscal years 2029 and 2030, with a project submission window opening October 2025 through January 2026 and final funding decisions made in May or June 2026. She presented the draft FLAP Needs Assessment and outlined potential project needs identified within ODOT Region 4.

Questions and comments were addressed about the existing scoring rubric used to prioritize FLAP projects, which may change in the future; the Needs Assessment's primary audience being ODOT, MPOs, and county governments; the recent determination for the trail from South Bend to the Lava Lands Visitor Center to follow the originally planned alignment on the east side of Highway 97; informing the community about local projects completed with FLAP funding to increase public interest and engagement with the program; Cascades East Transit (CET) being partially funded by FLAP; and potential for the FLAP program to be affected by the possible sale of federal lands under the current administration.

6. TAC Bylaws Amendments

Materials referenced: Draft TAC Bylaws (Attachment B in the agenda packet).

Manager Deke reviewed the proposed amendments to the TAC Bylaws and described recent changes to Policy Board Bylaws including adding CET as a voting member of the Board and changing the voting structure.

Kelli Kennedy explained the amendment to the TAC Bylaws regarding the process for community members serving consecutive terms.

Motion 2: Greg Bryant moved to recommend the Policy Board adopt the revised TAC Bylaws. Tarik Rawlings seconded the motion which passed 7 to 0.

(Ayes: Bryant (Citizen Member), Dorofi (Citizen Member), Julber (City of Bend), Potwin (Commute Options), Rawlings (Deschutes County), Dave Green (Deschutes County BPAC), and Shonkwiler (ODOT). Nays: None.)

7. Member & Guest Roundtable

Deschutes County: Tarik Rawlings reported the County's Title 17 text had been amended in accordance with the mandate for clear and objective housing standards and would become effective on July 17, 2025, after the 21-day appeal period. The County would comply with State law by providing a review path with clear and objective terms and standards alongside the existing unchanged discretionary review path. A working group would begin meeting in the summer to move forward with the Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) update process. He confirmed the County had projects planned that were either partially or fully funded by ODOT and noted if the projects were lowered in priority or dropped entirely by ODOT, the County's Transportation System Plan (TSP) would shift accordingly.

Manager Deke provided an update on the recent State Legislative Session, detailing the failure of three separate transportation bills, resulting in no transportation package being adopted, though there was speculation that the governor may call a Special Session regarding transportation funding later in the summer. He did not expect the City to take any action in the next few months if a Special Session was called; otherwise, it was likely the City Council and County Commission would begin discussions in three or four months to identify alternative revenue sources for projects. The new Policy Board Bylaws would likely be in effect at the next meeting, and he would request an update on CET's funding plan for the next two years be provided at the July or August Policy Board meeting.

ODOT: Ken Shonkwiler reported due to the lack of transportation funding, ODOT would lay off up to 800 employees with notices going out by July 7, 2025. He confirmed many positions being eliminated in Region 4 had been vacant, but he still expected layoffs to affect active Staff members. Every element of ODOT would be impacted including planning, project scheduling and delivery, road repair and maintenance, and winter snow plowing. He did not know whether an official statement would be made to the public, but a meeting would be held with local agencies to discuss the anticipated level of service and road maintenance for winter safety operations. The Bend Lava Butte Trail project was through the appeal process, plan designs were being finalized, the Forest Service was doing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) assessment for the project, and construction would begin in 2026 or 2027.

8. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

9. Next TAC Meeting

The next meeting of the BMPO TAC is scheduled for August 5, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

10. Adjourn

Manager Deke adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.



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