



Travel Information Council

1500 Liberty Street SE, Suite 150
Salem, Oregon 97302

MINUTES

Rest Area Committee

Telephonic Meeting

February 11, 2021

Members Participating:

Mike Card, Mike Marsh, Valerie Warren; Ed Washington

Excused:

Susan Steward

TIC Staff Participating:

Jim Denno; Daphnee Legarza; Heather Swanson; Jessica Carbone; Diane Welter

The meeting was called to order by Card at 10:03 a.m., at the TIC offices in Salem, OR.

Roll Call: Card, Marsh, Warren, and Washington were present by phone. All other staff were present in the office.

Approval of the Minutes: Marsh proposed correcting “Card approve the June 11, 2021 minutes as corrected.” to “The committee approved the June 11, 2021 minutes as corrected.”. The committee approved the December 10, 2020 minutes as corrected.

Business Meeting:

Rest Area Capital Projects & Other Projects:

- **Current Available Funding & Commitments** – Welter said that as of December 31, there is \$18,000 in unplanned capital funds. There is continuous movement on active capital projects.
- **Opiniator Update-** Swanson said information started being collected on Opiniator in November of 2018. There was a 15% decrease in traveler count. Swanson said this isn't surprising given the restrictions on travel. Opiniator usage went down 28% from the previous year. A more detailed information chart will be provided at the upcoming full Council meeting. All the metric scores are above average, with the highest score being in the safety category. Card asked if there were any known reasons why the use of Opiniator is down. Swanson said that the exact cause is unknown, but it may be due to the current climate of the pandemic and that staff is limited in its ability to interact with the public.
- **French Prairie Pavement Project Update:** Legarza said North Santiam paving began work in January. They have upgraded all 12 of the ADA ramps to current ADA standards. Beginning February 15, work will begin on the northbound front truck parking lot. Work on the southbound front trucking lot is scheduled to begin on March 15. Card asked how the traveling public is notified about potential closures. Legarza said that the restriction notices were coordinated through ODOT's Commerce and Compliance Division. They post the restricted usage of the rest area on TripCheck and notify any permit holders.

- **Priority One ADA Companion Restroom Projects:** Legarza said that work has begun on establishing the design contracts for the I-84 rest areas including; Ontario, Weatherby, Baker Valley, Charles Reynolds, and Deadman Pass. Staff is currently working with a local area firm called CK3 based in Ontario and Hermiston. It is planned to have this process completed and presented at the quarterly Council meeting in March. Legarza said she has received one proposal so far, and while there is still discussion and changes that are needed, the proposed cost of the project does not greatly exceed the budgeted expenses. Marsh asked about the timeline of the project. Legarza said that the designs could take upwards of six months and then go out for bid. The construction won't begin until 2022 at the earliest. Because the project is so big, scheduling the work, may require splitting the project into two groupings. Legarza clarified that the pavement work needed at these rest areas will be completed at the same time. Priority two project designs will begin at the beginning of FY 2022-2023.

Performance Measures:

- **Status of Performance Measures/ Rest Area Inspections:** Legarza said she is planning to begin inspections in March. The goal of these inspections is to verify the rest area staff are performing routine checks, especially those tasks that have longer gaps between checks or are not as easily identifiable. Swanson and the staff are creating a tool to manage these tasks.

Other Business:

- **Oak Grove Auxiliary Restrooms:** Legarza said work is in the process to upgrade the Oak Grove auxiliary restrooms. Their entire interiors will be upgraded. Fixtures will be converted from floor mounted to wall mounted. The floor drains will be repaired, and the flooring and walls upgraded. The roof will be replaced due to eight leaking skylights. The pipe chase will be upgraded, and a water heater installed. Currently, the roof is almost complete. Work is planned to be completed by the end of April. The project is within budget.

Marsh asked if there was any update on the Government Camp rest area. Denno said that Oregon Solutions recently conducted a survey of all of the stakeholders including TIC and will be issuing a report soon.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned: 10:48 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 8, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Telephonic Meeting.

