



Work Session Summary Minutes

OREGON

Rural Transportation System Plan (RTSP) Transportation Policies

September 25, 2025. 9:30 AM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem

5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Kevin Cameron, and Colm Willis.

Board's Office: Alvin Klausen, Matt Lawyer, Toni Whitler, Heather Inyama and Chris Eppley.

Legal Counsel: Sebastian Tapia.

Public Works: Brian Nicholas, Lani Radtke, Max Hepburn, Ryan Crowther, and Carl Lund.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Discuss RTSP Policies Matrix:

- Comprehensive review of RTSP policies matrix, highlighting proposed modifications and the rationale behind each change.
- Many policies remain unchanged:
 - Several were updated to reflect current practices, funding realities, and operational needs.
- Key changes included:
 - Reordering pavement management priorities for greater efficiency.
 - Removing references to outdated organizations and updating to current tools (e.g., Street Saver).
 - Adjusting resurfacing expectations due to funding constraints:
 - Moving away from a strict 20-year cycle.
 - Clarifying language around resource allocation, maintenance standards, and flexibility in policy application.
 - Merging and updating sections on hazard abatement, roadside maintenance, and modernizing terminology:
 - Replacing "accidents" with "crashes".
 - Deleting or revising policies that no longer reflect current public involvement or funding realities.
 - Updating policies related to accepting roads from other agencies:
 - Ensuring clear standards and flexibility for negotiations.
 - Revising bicycle, pedestrian, and public transportation policies to better align with rural needs and current board priorities:
 - Clarifying county's stance on road diets 9 (loss of lanes) and the development of park-and-ride facilities.
 - Modifying air, rail, water, and pipeline transportation policies:

- Clarifications on airport compatibility, intergovernmental agreements, and references to federal and state regulations.
- Ensuring consistency in terminology and policy intent throughout the document.

Other:

- Historical context of funding for road maintenance:
 - Significant reductions in available resources since the 1990s.
- Impact of inflation, labor costs, and economic changes on transportation funding and policy feasibility.
- Align RTSP policies with engineering standards:
 - Regarding flexibility and clarity for both staff and the public.
- Questions about process for accepting new roads into the county system and the implications of maintaining or revising existing policies.

Next Steps:

- Agreed-upon changes will be incorporated into the RTSP policies document.
- Next phase involves reviewing and prioritizing projects for the fiscally constrained list:
 - Will guide transportation investments over the next 20 years.
- Plan to complete RTSP by the end of the 2025 calendar year:
 - Adoption targeted within the following six months (by mid-2026).
- Review of potential impact of new policies on the development community:
 - Consideration given to possible deferred implementation period to allow for staff and stakeholder education.
- Coordination with the update of engineering standards is planned:
 - Preference for simultaneous adoption to ensure consistency.
- Work session will be scheduled to address outstanding items on the stormwater and pavement chapters of the engineering standards.
- Will discuss speed zones and other related topics in upcoming meetings.
- Ongoing communication and review will continue so RTSP and related standards meet needs of the county and stakeholders.

Adjourned – time: 10:35 a.m.

Minutes by: Mary Vityukova

Reviewed by: Gary L. White