



Oregon Travel Information Council

1500 Liberty Street SE, Suite 150
Salem, Oregon 97302

Minutes – Rest Area Committee
OTE Offices, Salem
Thursday, April 6, 2017

Members Participating:

Mike Marsh, Bob Russell, Kathy Watson

Members Excused:

Ryan Snyder, Ed Washington, Kathy Watson

OTE Staff Participating:

Nancy DeSouza, Executive Director; Tim Pickett, Operations Director; Jason Nash, Rest Area Division Administrator

The meeting of the Travel Information Council Rest Area Committee was called to order by Chair Russell at 10:03 a.m.

Business Meeting:

Minutes Approval: Approval of the January 5, 2017 minutes was moved to the next agenda because of lack of quorum.

Manzanita Sewer Update: Pickett said the prior estimated cost of the project was \$60,000, but the engineering requirements have raised the cost estimate considerably. There are two components that add to that cost. Nash is coordinating with Oregon Water Services and an engineer that they sourced to develop DEQ-compliant drawings. Current estimated costs are engineering \$15,000, new tank \$50,000, and installation costs of approximately \$65,000, bringing the total estimate to date to \$130,000. Staff believes this an unavoidable expense to keep the rest area open. Final estimates should arrive from Oregon Water soon. If the project is expected to cost more than \$150,000, it falls under a 279c public improvement project and must meet additional legal sufficiency review.

The project, with these changes, will go back for approval before the Council. ODOT approval for the project can be sought at the same time. Three Rivers School District has stated that they expect the project to begin by the end of spring.

Marsh asked if there would be any benefit to speak directly to DEQ about the project for further information. Pickett said that Oregon Water, our staff, the Three Rivers School District Superintendent, the manager of the lagoon system and the lagoon technician all agree that this new tank would solve every problem resulting from the rest area side. Marsh asked about the timeline, and Pickett said that Three Rivers said they would be satisfied if the project broke ground by summer and he feels that the

project is moving along well enough that that is possible. The committee recommended going forward with his plan.

ADA Mitigation: Nash reported that Rest Area Supervisors have begun the smaller ADA repairs and replacements and that they are looking at the larger items on the list such as curb ramps and making door frames the proper height. Committee members suggested taking significant additional ADA interpretation issues to the Governor's Policy Advisor for possible discussion at the federal level.

Current Available Funding and Commitments: Pickett reported the retained funds for Capital Expenditures are being spent down for necessary repairs, particularly for the growing cost of the Manzanita sewer project. However, cost-saving measures continue to allow ongoing transfers into that account. By June 30, another \$150,000 dollars may be available for capital repairs.

Oak Grove Capacity Expansion: Nash awaits the final drawings from the engineers so we can seek ODOT approval and issue the invitation to bid. Once we get the bids back they will be brought before the committee, if the committee approves the cost of the selected bidder, the project will be brought before Council for final approval. DeSouza said we hope to have things ready to go within three months.

Santiam and Boardman Lot Resurfacing: Nash said bids have been received for both lots and Heather Swanson is getting them ready for legal sufficiency review. Russell asked if there was anything that could be done about the curve on the Santiam southbound ramp. Nash answered that improvements would require engineering beyond the scope of this project. Pickett stated that if expansion is not an issue, funds to round that curve may be available. The timetable is 30-60 days out.

Performance Measures: Nash completed the second round of rest area inspections. He plans to have the next round of inspections conducted by supervisors inspecting rest areas other than their own. The process will be overseen and spot checked by Nash. He has seen overall improvement in the rest areas since the last inspection. DeSouza reported that in July the "Safety" category will have been on our comment cards for a year and we will be able to report on travelers' perceptions of safety in the rest areas. OSP Lt. Duval has completed his training of troopers on the exclusion program. He is willing to develop a rest area safety checklist, and had used Santiam as an example at the Rest Area Supervisors meeting. He hopes to partner with other OSP officers to develop a checklist for each side of every rest area. DeSouza expressed optimism that Travel Oregon will be available to begin discussions of Economic Development measures this summer.

Grove the State Update: DeSouza reported that under Annie von Domitz's leadership, the project is continuing to go exceeding well. The original planned walkway of woodchips is no longer an option, and staff is evaluating other surfaces that would be ADA compliant. Nash said that the two most viable options were crushed gravel with pavers lining the outside or to pave the pathway.

Senate Bill 989: DeSouza said that the Executive Committee will vote tomorrow on the proposed list of nine rest areas to be submitted as amendments to the original bill.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Next meeting: May 4, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at the OTE office in Salem.