



MEMBER JURISDICTIONS:

Grandview
Granger
Harrah
Mabton
Moxee
Naches
Selah
Sunnyside
Tieton
Toppenish
Union Gap
Wapato
Yakima
Yakima County
Zillah

**YVCOG EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE:**

James A. Restucci, Chair
Mayor, City of Sunnyside
Mike Leita
Yakima County Commissioner
Micah Cawley
Mayor, City of Yakima
Area 1 — Dan Olson
Union Gap City Council
Area 2 — Loren Belton,
Mayor, City of Toppenish
Area 3 — Mario Martinez
Mayor, City of Mabton
Member At Large-
John Hodkinson, Jr., Vice Chair



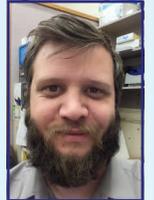
311 North 4th Street, Suite 204
Yakima, WA 98901
509-574-1550
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Website: www.yvcog.org



Tim Sullivan

YVCOG Welcomes the Homeless Housing Program

By Larry Mattson, Executive Director



Avery Zoglman

Months of planning and preparation will conclude on July 1st, when Tim Sullivan and Avery Zoglman join us as part of your YVCOG team. Tim and Avery are the manager and analyst, respectively, of YVCOG's new Homeless Housing Program. We are excited to bring them on board, and together we are looking forward to working with you on an issue that affects many of our cities.

Within the next three months, the YVCOG Executive Committee will appoint members to the new Homeless Housing Program steering committee. The steering committee will represent a variety of sectors directly or indirectly serving the homeless in our Valley. They will conduct open public meetings on a regular basis here at the YVCOG, with their agendas and meeting materials published on our website.

Tim, Avery, and others within the office will provide staff support to the steering committee, whose duties will include:

- Evaluate and prioritize new and existing projects for funding
- Review how projects and programs are awarded funding
- Recommend projects to YVCOG's Executive Committee for their approval
- Recommend changes to the evaluation and award process as appropriate
- Monitor the performance of funded projects and recommend changes to contracts based on project performance to the Executive Committee

YVCOG is assuming management and administration of this program under an 18-month contract with Yakima County. This 18-month period will give us time to identify improvements we can make in the planning, funding, implementation, and monitoring of the programs delivered under the Homeless Housing Program umbrella.



Tim and Avery bring a great blend of advocacy, local knowledge, and technical expertise to your YVCOG team. Please say hello to them when you visit our office or at our next General Membership meeting!

The Homeless Housing Program's [2015 Point in Time Stakeholder Report](#) is available on the YVCOG website.

Local Government Leadership Forum

Featuring Patrick Ibarra, The Mejorando Group

Presented by:



July 15, 2015
Yakima Valley Museum
 2105 Tieton Drive
 Yakima, WA 98902

Training 8:30 a.m. - Noon
 Refreshments provided

Cost \$60
 Scholarships available
 3 CML Credits available

Check with your risk pool for
 more information.

Registration
www.wciapool.org

WCIA, in partnership with AWC, RMSA, and Enduris, is pleased to invite you to another world class training designed for Mayors, Councils, Executive Management, Commissioners and Elected Officials.

"The Role of Local Government as a Community Builder in the 21st Century"

Besides its function as a democratic institution, the role of local government is to serve as the protagonist for a better quality of life for citizens. In that pursuit, government invests tax dollars to deliver services and programs that create a sensory experience. Patrick Ibarra of The Mejorando Group will share six emerging entrepreneurial strategies to generate new revenue, along with a road map on transitioning the discussion from the cost or price of government, toward the value of government.



To register:

- 1) Go to www.wciapool.org and log in first. Note: If this is your first time using the website, please click "New User Login," to create a User Profile, then log in and register for training. Your email address will be your User Name.
- 2) Click "Education & Training."
- 3) Click "Training Calendar." Click on March.
- 4) Select July 15 and click "Register for this Event."

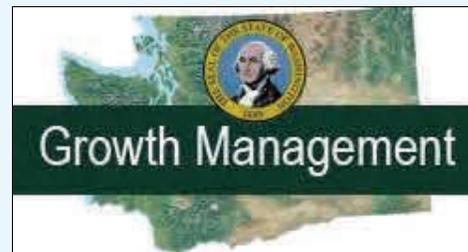
Questions? Contact WCIA Member Services memberservices@wciapool.org (206) 575-6046.

About Patrick Ibarra

Co-founder and Partner in the **Mejorando Group**, Patrick Ibarra is an entrepreneur of ideas and architect of innovation, who seeks to challenge the status quo thinking of the "we've always done it that way" approach. He advises top organizations and high achievers, helping them clarify their direction, focus their efforts and execute to achieve to reach the right results faster by sharing practical strategies to move forward. Patrick's perspective and experience as City Manager and Assistant City Manager in various sizes of cities is enormously helpful as he partners with government leaders in co-creating ambitious and practical approaches to performance improvement.

GMA Updates: Transportation Element Certification

By Joseph Calhoun, Planner



Growth Management

As the designated RTPO (Regional Transportation Planning Organization), YVCOG is responsible for certifying that the local Transportation Elements of comprehensive plans are consistent with the Yakima Valley Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan.

We are currently in the process of creating a checklist that will be used to certify your Transportation Element. Once approved by our Policy Board, we will send copies of the checklist to each jurisdiction so you will know the information required as you are drafting your plans.

Please be cognizant of your update timeline as you prepare to submit your Transportation Element for certification. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- 1) The Transportation Element needs to be certified by the RTPO *prior* to being adopted by your council.
- 2) The minimum timeline for our review and certification is about 3 weeks – and this assumes a plan that meets all standards. Our TAC meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month and our Policy Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month.
- 3) As the MPO/RTPO, we can produce your Transportation Element at no additional charge to your jurisdiction – please let us know ASAP if you would like us to work on your plan.

Bike-To-Work Month Challenge — and the Winners Are...

by Brian Curtin, CTR Program Coordinator



WSDOT Bike-to-Work Day (Selah)

As reported here last month, the month of May has been established as Bike-To-Work Month by the League of American Bicyclists and Washington Bikes.

In support of the two groups, the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments, through the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) program, has been actively promoting the use of bicycles for daily commuting. A month-long promotional campaign called “The Bicycle Commuter Challenge” held through the month of May offered prizes to commuters that chose to commute by the most efficient form of transportation, the bicycle, four or more times during the month of May.

A challenge was issued to all CTR-affected employers in the area to hold special Bike-To-Work Day events at their workplaces. The

official Bike-To-Work day was May 15th and we typically hold a bike commuter appreciation event in front of the Department of Ecology building on Yakima Avenue. This year presented an alternative opportunity as we joined forces with multiple organizations and held an event called “Feet in the Street” near the Farmers’ Market downtown. Many local cyclists dropped by the booth and shared their thoughts and insights into cycling in Yakima. There were many positive comments about the increased number of bike lanes in the city, as well as legitimate concerns about the safety of cycling in the area. Another of our CTR-affected employers, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT-SCR), also informed us that their Selah site had held their own Bike-To-Work day event with excellent results.

If you are an avid bicycle commuter or if you just thought you would just give it a try, it’s too late to participate in the “Bike-To-Work Month Commuter Challenge” contest this year but before you know it the “Wheel Options” contest will be held in October. Wheel Options is a contest for any and all that use an alternative to driving alone including bicycle, walking, transit, carpool, vanpool as well as compressed work weeks and telework. For those of you that participated in the Bike to Work Challenge there is a list of prize winners in this newsletter. Until next time, good luck and keep on cycling!

Bike to Work Challenge!



PRIZE WINNERS!!

- Kathy Silverstein (Yakima Regional)-Mars Commuter Panniers**
- Jewel Rentz (District Court)-Lobo 100oz Poppy Hydration System**
- Paul Gonseth (WSDOT)-Bontrager Back Bike Rack**
- Walt Hoffman (WSDOT)-Speedzone Wireless Bike Computer**
- Daniel Jennings (YCDOC)-Bontrager Bike Pump**
- Greg Barstad (Irwin R & D)-Bontrager Bike Light**
- Angela San Felippo (Ecology)-Crank Brothers Multi Tool**
- Carolyn Ehlis (Yakima County)-Bontrager Seat Pack**

Congratulation to all those that participated in the Annual Bike-To-Work Challenge from May 1st to the 31st. By participating (riding your bike), at least four times during the event, you were eligible to win prizes!! But the greatest reward to you is saving money, the health benefits it provides and reducing air pollution!

For more information contact your Employee Transportation Coordinator or contact Brian Curtin, YVCOG CTR Program Coordinator- Phone 759-7992 or email at : curtinb@yvcog.org.

Kicking the Long-range Transportation Plan into Gear!!

By Deb LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager



Greetings folks! It's construction season and I am enjoying all the orange out there that signifies progress as the jurisdictions and agencies are scrambling to take advantage of the long summer days. YVCOG staff is launching the update to the Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan (M/RTP), also known as the Long-range Transportation Plan (LRTP) this summer as well, even though we have no colorful indicators to communicate that to the public.

The LRTP is updated every four years for our region. The last update was submitted to Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) in accordance with Federal and State transportation planning regulations in March 2012.

In short, the LRTP displays the current condition of our transportation systems, the conditions we predict in our planned-out year (this update goes out to 2040), analyzes what needs we will have in the future, and identifies what we as a region plan to do to take care of those needs.

YVCOG will start reviewing the transportation planning mission, goals, potential projects, funding, and strategies in the months to come. YVCOG is forming a steering committee to evaluate our transportation planning mission and goals. [Are you interested in learning more about the steering committee?](#)

There are eight sections to the LRTP and just as many appendices. [Click here to see our last M/RTP.](#) As each of the sections is updated, staff will bring the results to the YVCOG Technical Advisory Committee and the YVCOG Policy Board, as well as other groups such as Driving Rural Yakima Valley's Economy (DRYVE), Moving Yakima Area's Transportation Forward (TRANS-Action), and the Yakima County Special Needs Transportation Coalition.

Public outreach will be included early and often in our update effort. Although we plan to bring the progress to a variety of public events to gather public participation in the update, YVCOG will to bring some of the more polished sections to this year's Central Washington State Fair booths to highlight how the update is progressing. Stay tuned!!

JUNE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

MPO/RTPO TAC — June 11

- Yakima County Emergency Management Plan
- STP projects discussion
- Long-range Transportation Plan update

MPO/RTPO Policy Board — June 15

- Agreement GCB 1777 Amendment #1 approved
- Long-range Transportation Plan update

YVCOG Executive Committee — June 15

- Naches PSA (GMA Updates) approved
- Yakima County PSA (Homeless Housing Program) approved

TITLE VI Notice to the Public: YVCOG fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see http://www.yvcog.org/title_vi.htm or call (509) 574-1550.

JULY

COMMITTEE MEETINGS



MPO/RTPO Technical Advisory Committee
Thursday, July 9 at 10:00 a.m.

**MPO/RTPO Policy Board &
YVCOG Executive Committee**
Monday, July 20 at 1:30 p.m.

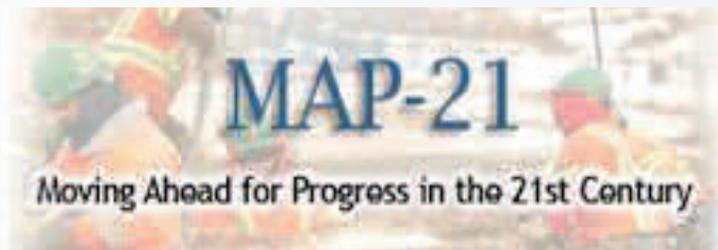
General Membership -
No Meetings June—August
NEXT MEETING IN SEPTEMBER
(September 16 in Union Gap)

LOCATION: 311 North 4th Street, Yakima
* The 300 Building * 2nd Floor *
For more info, call (509) 574-1550.

Your YVCOG Staff:

Larry Mattson, Executive Director
Christina Wickenhagen, Deputy Director
Deborah LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager
Brian Curtin, CTR Coordinator
Tim Sullivan, Homeless Housing Program Manager
Shawn Conrad, Senior Planner
Joseph Calhoun, Planner
John R. Rohrbaugh, GIS Analyst/Systems Administrator
Avery Zogelman, Homeless Housing Program Analyst
Tamara Hayward, Office Specialist





YVCOG Catching Up to MAP-21 Requirements

By Deb LaCombe, MPO/RTPO Manager

It's almost been three years since the introduction of MAP-21 was signed into law. And, with almost continuous education efforts for employees at the levels of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), our state Department of Transportation (WSDOT), and Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (MPOs/RTPOs), the rulemaking is almost final in multiple areas of performance measures.

WSDOT has been working with MPO/RTPOs across the state (including the Yakima Valley MPO/RTPO) to investigate and discuss preliminary thoughts and ideas about performance measures and methods for Safety, Pavement, Bridges, and Asset Management.

Who at YVCOG will develop performance measures?

Since this first batch of performance measures and reporting requirements is at a stage for real review and comment by local jurisdictions and agencies, YVCOG will be asking for some of its members to participate in a performance measures advisory sub-committee.

How do we catch up to the performance measures conversation?

YVCOG has been speaking to the full Technical Advisory Committee at regularly scheduled monthly meetings about the progress WSDOT and the MPO/RTPOs across the state are making in their conversations. I recommend a small focus group to become the organization's topic experts. The advisory sub-committee will meet once in July and once in August so that YVCOG staff can cover the conversations about the four preliminary topics and share materials at an in-depth level. WSDOT has provided wonderful summary factsheets as a start on Safety, Pavement, Bridges, and Asset Management. Once the sub-committee feels comfortable with the background information, staff will assist the sub-committee with data analysis about our regional network.

What will the advisory committee recommend to the full Technical Advisory Committee?

The advisory sub-committee will review performance measure targets set by WSDOT (when they are formalized) and determine whether or not they will: 1) recommend to the full TAC to adopt the WSDOT targets at the MPO/RTPO level, 2) develop separate MPO/RTPO performance targets, or 3) compromise with some combination of WSDOT/MPO/RTPO target as YVCOG's recommended approach. The full TAC will recommend an appropriate adoption action to the Policy Board.

When will action be required by the Policy Board for YVCOG's performance measure targets?

Following the effective date of the final rules, WSDOT will have 12 months to develop performance targets for each of the nationally-established measures. MPOs in Washington will have an additional six months to adopt the WSDOT targets or establish our own targets. Setting these targets will provide guidance to the region's decision-makers about where and how to channel future transportation funding.