

CWACT Full Commission Meeting
Thursday, June 26, 2025
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

HYBRID MEETING: IN PERSON AT PORT OF NEWPORT

Port of Newport Commission Meeting Room
600 SE Bay Boulevard, Newport, Oregon 97370

VIA TEAMS VIDEO/CALL-IN AVIALABLE

Teams Link by clicking [HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 268 444 336 235 5

Passcode: Pv2jn77y

Mobile One Click Number

[+1 872 242 8088](#)

Phone Conference ID: 136 001 243#

Contact: Matt Lehman; mlehman@ocwcog.org

AGENDA

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---|--|
| 1) | 5:00 | Welcome and Agenda Review
<i>Welcome to Lincoln County!</i> | Commissioner
Pat Malone Chair |
| 2) | 5:05 | Public Comments
<i>This time is reserved for members of the public to comment on issues related to the CWACT's activities.</i> | Chair |
| 3) | 5:08 | Approve Minutes of April 24, 2025, meeting
(Attachment A)

<i>ACTION: Approval of Minutes</i> | Chair |
| 4) | 5:10 | Caucus to Select Executive Committee Members
<i>CWACT members caucus to select a Linn County representative to serve on the Executive Committee for 2025. Councilor Montague Resigned from Albany City Council and was the Linn CWACT Executive Representative.</i>

<i>ACTION: Elect Linn County Member to Serve on Executive Committee</i> | Chair |
| 5) | 5:15 | Newport City Center Revitalization Plan
<i>Updated from the City of Newport Staff on the City Center Revitalization Plan</i> | Guest, Anna
laukea |
| 6) | 5:30 | ODOT Region 2 Update
<i>Update on the ODOT overview.</i>

<i>ACTION: Discussion</i> | ODOT, Savannah
Crawford |

- | | | | |
|-----|------|---|-----------------------|
| 7) | 6:00 | Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Investment Strategy
(Attachment B)
<i>Discussion on the CIP investment strategy</i>

ACTION: CIP comments | ODOT and Staff |
| 8) | 6:30 | Work Plan Discussion
<i>Discussion on the 2025 work plan update.</i>

ACTION: Discussion | Staff, Matt
Lehman |
| 9) | 6:45 | Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 31st Corvallis OTC Meeting Presentation
(Attachment C) • CED Director Transition Letter (Attachment D) • Cancellation of August 28, 2025, Full Commission!
Meeting | Staff, Matt
Lehman |
| 10) | 7:00 | Adjournment
<i>The next CWACT Full Commission Meeting is
scheduled for August 28, 2025 (or may be cancelled if
approved by the Commission)</i> | Chair |

Primary Members:

Last Name	First Name	Representing	Category
Malone	Pat	Benton County	Chair
Bronstein	Sarah	Benton County – Private Sector	Primary
Van Drimmelen	Chris	City of Albany	Primary
Olson	Ava	City of Corvallis	Primary
Short	Kathy	City of Depoe Bay	Primary
Conti	Dominic	City of Lebanon	Primary
Mark	Rick	City of Lincoln City	Primary
Hickam	Mike	City of Millersburg	Primary
Cuthbertson	Jeanni	City of Monroe	Primary
Kaplan	Jan	City of Newport	Primary
Saalsaa	Rich	City of Philomath	Primary
Sanchez	Angelita	City of Sweet Home	Primary
Samaniego	Joe	City of Tangent	Primary
Silvia	Frank	City of Toledo	Primary
Townsend	Jerry	City of Waldport	Primary
Collins	Barry	City of Yachats	Primary
Peterson	Bonnie	Conf. Tribes of Siletz Indians	Primary
Hall	Claire	Lincoln County	Vice Chair
Nyquist	Roger	Linn County	Primary
Steele	Janet	Linn County – Private Sector	Primary
Hildebrant	Christine	ODOT	Primary
Sylvia	Gil	Port of Newport	Primary

QUORUM REQUIREMENT: For the purpose of conducting official business, a quorum shall exist when either:

1. Representatives from fifty-one (51) percent (%) of the voting members are in attendance; or
2. The following representatives are present:
 - Two of three county commissioners
 - Two additional representatives from each county, whether cities, ports, private sector members, or CTSI representatives.

(CWACT Bylaws: Article VI – Organization Procedures Section B)

**CASCADES WEST AREA COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION
FULL COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, April 24, 2024
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

Last Name	First Name	Representing	Attendance
Malone	Pat	Benton County	Yes
Bronstein	Sarah	Benton County – Private Sector	Yes
Montague	Jackie	City of Albany	Yes
Olson	Ava	City of Corvallis	Rory Rowan
Short	Kathy	City of Depoe Bay	No
Conti	Dominic	City of Lebanon	No
Mark	Rick	City of Lincoln City	Yes
Hickam	Mike	City of Millersburg	Yes
Cuthbertson	Jeanni	City of Monroe	No
Kaplan	Jan	City of Newport	No
Sanchez	Angelita	City of Sweet Home	Ken Bronson
Saalsaa	Rich	City of Philomath	Yes
Samaniego	Joe	City of Tangent	Yes
Silvia	Frank	City of Toledo	Yes
Collins	Barry	City of Yachats	Yes
Kennta	Robert	Conf. Tribes of Siletz Indians	No
Hall	Claire	Lincoln County	Yes
Nyquist	Roger	Linn County	No
Steele	Janet	Linn County – Private Sector	Yes
Hildebrant	Christine	ODOT	Yes
Sylvia	Gil	Port of Newport	Yes
Dunn	Greg	City of Waldport	Jerry Townsend

Ex-Officio Members: Corum Ketchum (CAMPO); Billy McGregor (AAMPO)

Guests: James Feldmann (ODOT Alternate), Mark Ruam (Millersburg Alternate), Amanda Pietz (ODOT Presenter), Kayla Hootsman (ODOT Presenter), Rob Emmons (Albany Alternate),

OCWCOG Staff: CED Supervisor Justin Peterson, Planning Manager Matt Lehman, and Executive Assistant Ashlyn Muzechenko

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	DECISION / CONCLUSION
1. Welcome and Agenda	The Chair, Commissioner Pat Malone called the CWACT Full	Meeting called to order at

Review	Commission meeting to order and conducted an agenda review at 5:06pm. There were no changes to the meeting agenda. As there were a few new faces to the CWACT, introductions were conducted. Chair Commissioner Malone provided a welcome to Benton County Overview along with a recap of the Philomath Boulevard tour for the CWACT Members and Guests in attendance.	5:06pm by The Chair, Commissioner Pat Malone
2. Public Comments	There were no public comments presented to the CWACT Full Commission Members.	There were no public comments.
3. Approve Minutes of February 27, 2025 (Attachment A) Action: Approval of minutes	Councilor Jackie Montague moved, to approve the Minutes of the February 27, 2025, CWACT Full Commission Meeting. Councilor Rich Saalsaa seconded. The motion carried successfully.	Councilor Jackie Montague moved, to approve the Minutes of the February 27, 2025, CWACT Full Commission Meeting. Councilor Rich Saalsaa seconded. The motion carried successfully.
4. ODOT Capital Investment Plan Update Action: Informational	Amanda Pietz with ODOT shared a presentation covering the ODOT Capital Investment Plan. The capital investment plan is ODOT's new portfolio of investments covering a 10-year range that will identify projects and strategically transition them prior to STIP programming. Pietz added feedback from the ACT can be presented live here today, or comments can be submitted by the ACT for the Oregon Transportation Commission (OCT) to review at their July Meeting. The CIP ensures investment decisions help advance long term vision and goals; this document essentially creates a mid-range investment plan.	

	Chair Commissioner Malone inquires how the ACT can influence and prioritize projects moving forward. Pietz answered the ACT identified the priorities that will help screen decisions and advance projects for each 10-Year cycle. Councilor Mike Hickam asked how projects get moving once they are on the ODOT list. Pietz answered the statewide list hasn't officially been made yet. The goal is to create a list that is within their financial capacity in order to mitigate the over promise of funding for projects. Sarah Bronstein noted that the request from ODOT is to take the list and elevate key points that are of the most importance. While this can feel irresponsible, many of the items have crossovers. The best way to evaluate would be to choose projects that meet at least, things items from the list but hopefully more. Christine Hildebrant added that the goals and outcomes will be revisited and updated every 3-5 years, which is generally when priority changes can happen. Pietz added the grading criteria created by the OTC will be passed down to the ACT to help grade and score their projects before elevation and submission.	
5. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Presentation Action: Informational	AAMPO Staff Billy McGregor shared the MPO presentation and education briefing with the members and guests in attendance. McGregor noted this presentation provides an overview of the Corvallis Area and Albany Area MPO's as well as highlights some of the recent ongoing projects within the two regions.	
6. Other Business: Future of Transportation Funding (Impacts to	Hildebrant shared ODOT is still looking to move forward with the Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package (TRIP) which will address some of the funding short falls.	

Transit funding and other programs) • Legislative updates from members • Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) Updates • Corvallis OTC Meeting in July • Updated 2025 Meeting Schedule • Work Plan update – Upcoming October 2025 • June Coastal Meeting Location	Additionally, last year around this time the Joint committee on transportation did 12 town halls across the state, the information gathered will help draft a transportation funding bill to address those shortcomings. Hildebrant noted she will follow up with staff to provide slides from the last OTC meeting. Chair Commissioner Malone shared that the current proposal is a 20-cent increase in the gas tax over the next 6 years, along with other registration fees. Additionally, Chair Malone shared Oregon was the first state in the country to impose a gas tax which started many years ago. CED Supervisor Justin Peterson provided an update on the OTC Meetings. The next in-person meeting will be in Corvallis, but the location has not been determined yet. This meeting is coming up on July 31st and more information will be provided once it becomes available. Peterson shared that the December 25th meeting had been rescheduled to December 11th due to the Christmas Holiday and OCWCOG Holiday Closure. An updated meeting schedule can be found on the CWACT Website. Peterson did an all call to the coastal partners present to see if any members would be willing and able to host the June 26th CWACT Full Commission meeting. Commissioner Gil Sylvia volunteered to look into the schedule for the Port of Newport to host the June meeting. Councilor Frank Silvia added if the port is unable to for the June CWACT Meeting, the city of Toledo would gladly fill in as back up. Peterson provided an update on the CWACT current work plan. A new	
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	work plan will need to be drafted in June with new goals and approved in October at the CWACT FC Meeting. Peterson shared the updated priority projects list with the CWACT Members and guests in attendance. This list will be sent out to members in the follow up email set to go out before the end of the week.	
7. Adjournment	The next CWACT Full Commission Meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2025, at the Port of Newport.	The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm by the Chair, Commissioner Pat Malone.

Discussion Questions:

- With limited funding, what kinds of goals and considerations should be used in prioritizing ODOT investments? (See list below for examples.)
- What are the top three outcomes you think should be most heavily weighted?
- Are there any special considerations that should be given that are unique to modes, urban or rural areas, or different parts of the state?
- What do you think best defines or makes up a best-value or high return on investment project?

Example Goals and Investment Criteria

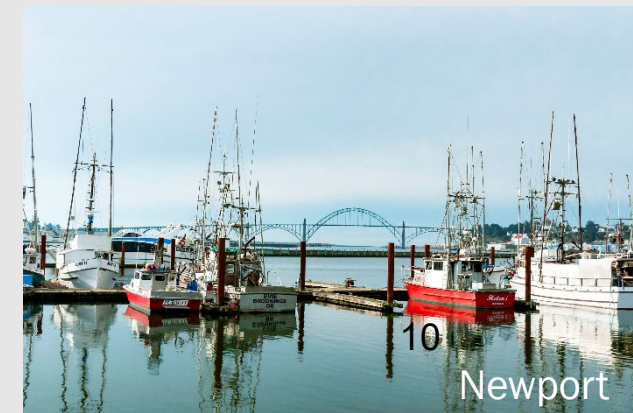
Stewardship of Public Resources	Safety
• Maximizes the lifecycle of an asset • Maintains infrastructure • Improves resiliency (seismic or climate)	• Reduces fatalities and serious injuries • Implements crash reduction strategies
Sustainability and Climate Action	Accessibility
• Transitions to cleaner vehicles and fuels • Reduces vehicle miles traveled • Increases low and no emission modes	• Completes a critical connection • Improves multi-modal access • Supports movement of people of all abilities
Mobility	Equity
• Traffic volumes (AADT) • Highway classification (e.g. Expressway) • Roadway/multi-modal designation (e.g. Freight Route) • Travel time improvements • Improves reliability	• Expands access to essential services • Geographic balance

CASCADES WEST ACT WORK PLAN DISCUSSION

Patrick Malone, Chair, Benton County Commissioner
Claire Hall, Vice Chair, Lincoln County Commissioner

Savannah Crawford, ODOT Region 2 Manager
Christine Hildebrant, ODOT Area 4 Manager

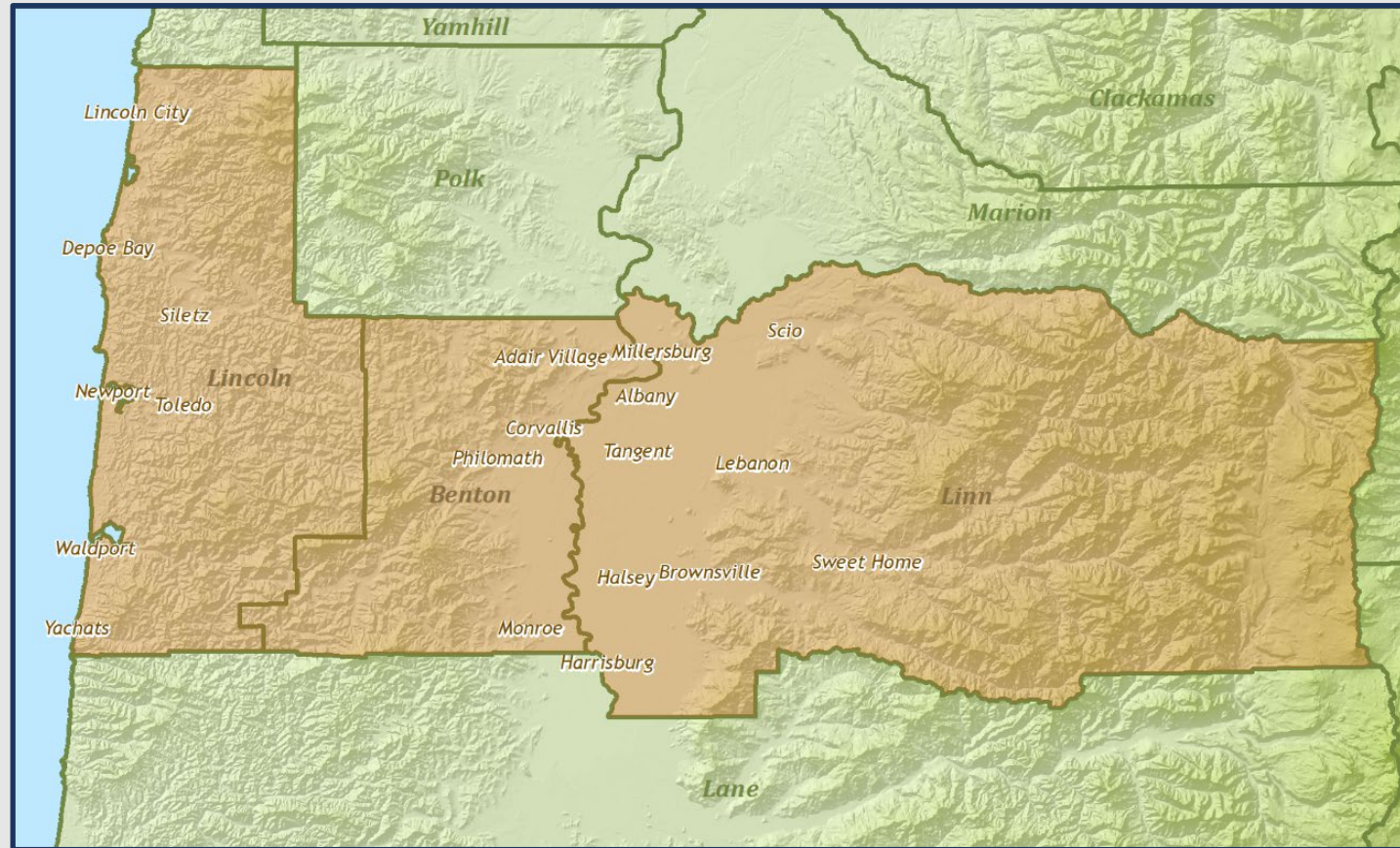
July 31st, 2025: OTC Meeting



CASCADES WEST ACT

Membership and Location

- Incorporated Cities (20+)
- Lincoln, Benton, & Linn County
- Recognized Tribes (Siletz Tribe)
- Port of Newport
- Private Sector Representatives
- ODOT Area 4 Manager



CASCADES WEST ACT

Work Plan Goals

Goal 1: More Influence Over ODOT Project Selection

Goal 2: Develop Regional Priority List

Goal 3: Reinforce OTC Feedback Loop when ACT input Requested

Goal 4: Leverage IIJA & Other Funding to Support Regional Priorities

CASCADES WEST ACT

Work Plan Interest Areas

- Bring funding and attention to area to improve the transportation system
- Emphasize priority corridors to improve safety
- Emphasize regional transit connections to connect major destinations with frequent & reliable service
- Emphasize regional multi-modal network to connect major destinations with safe off-street options
- Address seasonal congestion and evacuation planning in popular coastal destinations
- Improve coordination between ACT and DLCD

CASCADES WEST ACT

Interests and Efforts and Looking Ahead

- Capital Investment Program (CIP), and ACTs Role
- Updates to CWACT Work Plan
 - Charter and operating agreement
 - Prioritizing grant applications
- New Membership Appointments
- Priority Area Projects List Updates

QUESTIONS?



U.S. 101

Beverly Beach
slide area in
Lincoln County



Regional Transit

LINX Brownsville
Connector to
Lebanon



OR 34

Flooding in Linn
County



OR 99W

Multi-modal
travel in South
Corvallis

**VISION**

To promote a thriving region through service, connectivity, and innovation.

MISSION

We are a regional leader and partner providing inclusive services to meet individual and community needs.

**Community and Economic Development
Department
Leadership Transition Memo**

May 5, 2025

To: Members of the Board and OCWCOG Community Partners

It is with a heavy heart that I am announcing my departure as the Community Economic Development (CED) Director for the Oregon Cascade West Council of Government (OCWCOG) effective June 12, 2025. It has been a productive tenure, and I am proud of the work that our team has accomplished on behalf of the region.

As they say, "it takes a village..." And I am proud to highlight the various accomplishments that the CED "village" produced over the last 18 months:

- The Ride Line Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) team stabilized and preserved one of the major funding contracts to continue providing critical transportation services for eligible Oregon Health Plan (OHP) and Medicaid clients in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. Ride Line provided over 159,000 trips in 2024 and fielded over 69,000 calls through its call center to coordinate these trips.
- The planning and grant writing team prepared applications for over \$9M in project funding for various transportation, land use, and infrastructure projects during 2024. For 2025, our grant writer assisted communities in developing projects collectively valued at over \$6.3M in project funding within the first half of the year.
- The Economic Development team is on track to complete and submit the 2025-2030 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), which will allow agencies across a four-county region to have continued eligibility to apply for and receive project funding from the US Economic Development Administration. Staff undertook the challenge of facilitating the first regional Cascade West Economic Development District regional planning meeting in over a decade to ensure meaningful participation in this planning effort!
- The Cascade West Business Lending (CWBL) program provided \$350,000 in funding for small businesses with more loans pending approval for 2025! CWBL continued its efforts to streamline local lending services through its Unity Lending project by partnering with neighboring Councils of Governments and not-for-profit certified development corporation lenders.

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It truly takes a village to raise the bar on quality of service, meaningful public engagement, and broadened visibility for the NEMT, planning, business lending, and economic development programs that we provide for communities across our region. Through this transition, CED will remain in good hands with our capable program managers and operations team. Ride Line will continue to be led by Program Manager Britny Chandler, while our Transportation and Economic Development Planning team will be led by Program Manager Matt Lehman; and our CWBL program and department-wide strategies will be led by our Operations Supervisor, Emma Chavez Sosa. This trio will be further supported by the leadership of the new Agency Director, Paul Egbert.

Despite my upcoming departure, this "village" is comprised of a team of dedicated and intelligent leaders and staff that continue to be here at the service of our member agencies and its residents. I am both grateful and humbled by the teamwork and integrity of OCWCOG staff and the partners with whom we collaborate every day for the common objective of improving the lives and sustainability of the cities and counties in this region.

Thank you for the opportunity to be at your service!

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Disney", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jaclyn Disney
CED Director, Oregon Cascade West Council of Governments