

TRI-CITIES METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY ANNUAL REPORT

Includes RTPO Program
September 2014

INTRODUCTION:

The Benton-Franklin Council of Governments (BFCG) is a voluntary association of local governments within Benton and Franklin Counties. Its governing board consists of thirteen elected officials from cities, counties, transit, public port districts and a public utility district within the two-county area. Twelve of the elected officials represent the Tri-Cities urbanized area, which makes up the Tri-Cities Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (Tri-MATS). Eight of the urban representatives also have jurisdiction in the rural counties. The BFCG Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) was successfully created in 1990, with Walla Walla County jurisdictions joining in January of 1991. In 2003 the urban boundary expansion brought a portion of Walla Walla County into the MPO.

The BFCG was designated by the Governor of the State of Washington in 1973 as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Tri-Cities area. By this designation, the BFCG is responsible for ensuring that transportation planning activities, and their resulting implementation, are a result of U.S.C. Section 134, as well as Title 49 U.S.C. of Federal Code. Fulfilling these requirements permitted local governments to utilize Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation through the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, TEA 21 of 1998, 2005 SAFETEA-LU and Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21).

In March 2012, the US Census Bureau released population numbers for Urbanized Areas confirming that the Kennewick-Pasco-Richland metropolitan area had achieved status as a Transportation Management Area (TMA) by exceeding the required 200,000 population threshold. The TMA designation became official with the release of the July 18, 2012 *Federal Register* showing the Urbanized Area to have a 2010 population of 210,975. The transition to a TMA will continue in 2015 under guidance from FHWA and WSDOT.

Also, in March 2012, the US Census Bureau released listings of Urbanized Areas (over 50k population) that included the Walla Walla/College Place/Milton-Freewater area with a 2010 population of 55,805. Under federal law, Urbanized Areas are required to be represented by an MPO within twelve months of Urbanized Area designation. The Walla Walla Valley MPO became a bi-state MPO for the Walla Walla, WA and Milton-Freewater, OR UZA when designated by the Governors of Washington and Oregon on March 27, 2013 and April 4, 2013, respectively. MPOs are created through agreement among the local elected officials and the Governor(s).

The BFCG has been certified as meeting the requirements of Title 23 and Title 49, as well as being an MPO. The certification by the Washington State Department of Transportation is valid through December of 2013.

This annual report identifies work activities that were contained within the 2014 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and describes the progress and accomplishments that occurred during the twelve month period from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. A UPWP guides the transportation planning activities of the MPO/RTPO for a one or two year period. During that time, program tasks that will benefit member agencies, the region, and the State are undertaken to improve the efficiency of the overall system. Identification of these tasks includes the development of objectives, scope of work, responsibility for completion of the work, and funding the anticipated product. Occasionally, during the course of a fiscal year, new work tasks are identified or current activities reprioritized. When changes to the work programs are proposed, those changes are reviewed by the MPO/RTPO Tri-MATS Advisory Committees, BFCG Board, WSDOT, and the applicable federal agency before being accepted and incorporated into the study program.

This year's Annual Report reflects the work program for State fiscal year 2014, special studies, and includes the RTPO program.

Fiscal Year 2014 Accomplishments:

1. Conducted TAC and PAC meetings with associated Agendas and Minutes.
2. Completed Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY 2014.
3. Prepared and amended the 2014-2019 MPO/RTPO TIP.
4. Prepared FY 2013 Annual progress report.
5. Attended MPO/RTPO, Good Roads, WSDOT modal planning efforts, GIS, GMA, transit, FHWA Regional Workshop, other assorted meetings and workshops that related to transportation.
6. Continued public dissemination of state and federal transportation policies and programs.
7. Continued Transportation Demand Management coordination for the Tri-Cities.
8. Continued Park and Ride Lot counts.
9. Assisted BFT with data needs and mapping
10. Continued to monitor Commute Trip Reduction in the Tri-Cities Urban Area.
11. Continued Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) counts in Tri-Cities Urban Area.
12. Continued the GIS computer program mapping activities for MPO & RTPO.
13. Maintained BFCG website.
14. Prepared RTPO Annual Traffic Report and added to website.
15. Continued tracking of STP Urban and Rural allocations and obligations.
16. Coordinate/administer 2014-2017 competitive STP process and selection methods.
17. Completed revision of the 2008 BFCG *STP General Overview and Rules*.
18. Published monthly newsletter.
19. Obligated 356% of the STP target goal identified by Washington State's Local Agency Task Force.
20. Continued a series of meetings/phone conferences with FHWA and WSDOT for TMA Coordination.
21. Continue education of MAP-21 on TMA issues.

The remainder of this annual report identifies individual work categories and what was accomplished during the course of the fiscal year. Each category noted identifies its purpose, accomplishments, and work remaining to be done.

**STATE FISCAL YEAR 2014
 RTPO ANNUAL REPORT
 JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014**

PROGRAM ELEMENTS:

CATEGORY 220 - RTPO PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Attended regularly scheduled RTPO meetings. Continued to administer RTPO Program that is relevant to the Benton/Franklin rural areas. Attended various workshops on transportation. Continued public outreach/education. Monitored/Administrated rural counties Surface Transportation Program (STP). Published monthly newsletter.

PROBLEMS: None

NEXT YEAR: Administration is an ongoing process for the Benton - Franklin RTPO. Monitor/Administer rural counties STP. Continue participation in the I-82/Red Mountain Area Study. Continue to monitor/administer Rural STP and Transportation Alternatives funding programs. Continue support of freight strategies.

EXPENDITURES

Amount Budgeted	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	Percent Expended	Percent of Work Complete
\$36,660	\$45,784	- \$9,124	124%	100%

CATEGORY 221 - RTPO REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRODUCTS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Submitted Annual Report to WSDOT. Compiled RTPO TIP. Completed UPWP. Maintained BFCG website. Prepared map requests Began work on the Human Services Transportation Plan.

PROBLEMS: None

NEXT YEAR: Continue GIS mapping efforts. Prepare progress reports for federal, state, and regional purposes. Compile for approval and maintain the 2015-2018 TIP. Prepare required documents i.e., UPWP etc. Continue work and complete the Human Services Transportation Plan. Begin an update to the 2010 Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan.

EXPENDITURES

Amount Budgeted	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	Percent Expended	Percent of Work Complete
\$30,195	\$44,325	- \$14,130	146%	100%

CATEGORY 222 - RTP0 DATA MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PROGRAMS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Compiled RTP0 Annual Traffic Report. Added rural data to support model update. Completed rural area traffic counts.

PROBLEMS: None.

NEXT YEAR: Continue collection and distribution of traffic count data. Continue data collection for highway and transit system to support on-going efforts for system management and benchmarks.

EXPENDITURES

Amount Budgeted	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	Percent Expended	Percent of Work Complete
\$7,793	\$3,391	\$4,402	23%	75%

CATEGORY 223 – LONG RANGE AND WTP PLANNING

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Monitored the Commute Trip Reduction Program for the Tri-Cities area. Worked with WSDOT Planning staff and WSTC on WTP, and State Freight Plan. Also worked with WSDOT on State Freight Rail Plan, Public Transit Plan and was a member of the FMSIB Freight Advisory Committee.

PROBLEMS: None

NEXT YEAR: Work with WSDOT/WSTC on all modal plans. Update the funding status and prioritization of all-weather roads in the RTP0.

EXPENDITURES

Amount Budgeted	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	Percent Expended	Percent of Work Complete
\$62,875	\$27,890	\$39,985	44%	50%

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2014 FHWA (PL)/FTA ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014

WORK ELEMENT 220 - PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Provided the administrative support needed to manage and coordinate the Tri-MATS Transportation Planning Program. The activities included in the task are: supervision of staff, preparation of meeting agendas and minutes, record keeping, preparation of reports, grant management, coordination of activities between Tri-MATS and other agencies, public information, data gathering/dissemination, and attendance at meetings. Certified MPO compliance with federal regulations. Attended quarterly MPO meetings. Managed and tracked urban STP program. Monitored and administered regional STP selection process. Achieved 356% of STP obligation target. Provided education on MAP-21. Published monthly newsletter. Completed update to Title VI document.

PROBLEMS: None.

NEXT YEAR. The Program Management Work Element is a function of the overall Tri-MATS program, and consequently remains similar each year. Monitor progress of MPO TIP toward implementation of the Metropolitan/Regional Transportation Plan. Complete & monitor STP projects and processes. Continue education on MAP-21 and TMA issues. Review agreements and governance structure. Update the Public Participation Plan. Update of Standard Operating Procedures.

EXPENDITURES

Amount Budgeted	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	Percent Expended	Percent of Work Complete
\$309,654	\$265,642	\$44,012	86%	100%

WORK ELEMENT 221 - MPO REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRODUCTS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Submitted Annual Report, UPWP, and TIP. Maintain a BFCG website providing access to all important documents, meeting notices, agendas, etc. Began the Human Services Transportation Plan. Monitored rule making for MAP-21 performance measures.

PROBLEMS: None.

NEXT YEAR: Continue education updates on MAP-21. Maintain currency of website. Complete required Progress reports. Complete FTA/FHWA requirements. Other tasks as shown in UPWP. Continue to work with BFT and begin work to incorporate a transit element in the update of the travel demand model. Continue to address issues regarding new TMA designation. Continue Federal Functional Classification change requests. Begin an update the 2010 Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan. Continue to monitor rule making for MAP-21 performance measures and participate in discussions with MPO directors and WSDOT. Assist BFT with On Board survey. Complete an update to the Major Employers Report.

EXPENDITURES

Amount Budgeted	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	Percent Expended	Percent of Work Complete
\$193,073	\$276,537	\$ - 83,464	143%	80%

WORK ELEMENT 222 - MPO DATA MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PROGRAMS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Prepared Annual Traffic Report. Continued to inventory traffic data. Continued urban mapping projects. Attended modeling and GIS classes with software updates.

PROBLEMS: None.

NEXT YEAR: Continue GIS/CAD mapping. Continue traffic counts. Continue data collection for highway and transit system to support on-going efforts for system management and benchmarks. Begin the update of the M/RTP 2017 Travel Model. Congestion Management advisory committee continues to meet and discuss/review travel time data and investigate other measures of congestion performance.

EXPENDITURES

Amount Budgeted	Expenditures	Remaining Balance	Percent Expended	Percent of Work Complete
\$106,352	\$16,411	\$74,483	16%	20%

SUMMARY SHEET FOR TRI-MATS ANNUAL REPORT (State FY '14)			
	FHWA		
ITEM			TOTAL
Salaries			\$212,584
Miscellaneous			\$18,954
	Total Direct Costs		\$16,720
	Total Indirect Costs		\$312,904
TOTAL COSTS			\$566,925
Local Match			(\$76,534)
FHWA Planning GRANT (includes FTA and STP)			\$490,390
	RTPO		
ITEM			TOTAL
Salaries			\$50,780
Miscellaneous			\$30
	Total Direct Costs		\$880
	Total Indirect Costs		\$69,699
TOTAL COSTS			\$121,390
Local Match			(\$442)
RTPO GRANT			\$120,948

TRI-MATS RTPO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CALENDAR YEAR 2014 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sharon Brown o	360-786-7614	WA State Senate
Mike Hewitt o	509-527-4111	WA State Senate
Mark Schoesler o	509-659-1909	WA State Senate
Maureen Walsh o	509-200-1232	WA St. House of Representatives
Terry Nealey o	360-786-7828	WA St. House of Representatives
Susan Fagan o	360-786-7942	WA St. House of Representatives
Joe Schmick o	360-786-7844	WA St. House of Representatives
Brad Klippert o	360-308-2231	WA St. House of Representatives
Larry Haler o	360-308-1957	WA St. House of Representatives
Skip Novakovich, Chair	586-7858 (W)	Port of Kennewick, Commissioner
Dave Rose, Vice Chair	946-5116 (W) 627-5266 (H)	Richland, Council Member
Jerome Delvin	736-3080	Benton County, Commissioner
Bob Koch	545-3535 (W)	Ben Franklin Transit (Franklin County Commissioner)
Tony Benegas	851-4228 (W)	West Richland, Council Member
Brad Peck	545-3535 (W)	Franklin County, Commissioner
Bob Olson	539-6150	Kennewick, Council Member
Bob Hoffmann	547-7373 (H)	Pasco, Council Member
Ron Reimann	509-547-3378	Port of Pasco, Commissioner
Don Whitehouse	509-577-1620	WSDOT South Central Region, Administrator
Bob Larson	375-1547 (H)	Port of Benton, Commissioner
Randy Taylor	509-875-4367 (W)	Prosser, Council Member
Bruce Blackwell	509-234-2701	Connell, Council Member
David Ferguson	509-265-4253	Mesa, Mayor
Lloyd Carnahan	509-588-3430	Benton City, Mayor
Patti Hamilton	282-3372	Kahlotus, Mayor
Anne Haley	525-6118 (W)	Washington State Trans. Commission
Mark Kushner Jan-April 2014	943-9185	Transportation Director
Andres Gomez May - current	943-9185	Transportation Programs Manager

o Ex-officio Member

TRI-MATS RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CALENDAR YEAR 2014 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Pete Rogalsky, Chair	942-7558	Richland, Public Works Director	progalsky@ci.richland.wa.us
Ahmad Qayoumi, Vice Chair	545-3446	Pasco, Public Works Director	qayoumia@pasco-wa.gov
Dan Ford	786-5611	Benton County Engineer	Daniel.ford@co.benton.wa.us
Matt Rasmussen	545-3514	Franklin County Engineer	mrasmussen@co.franklin.wa.us
Kathy McMullen	734-5107	BFT, Manager of Transit Development	kmcmullen@bft.org
Roscoe Slade	967-7105	West Richland, Public Works Director	roscoe@westrichland.org
Sam Good	547-3378	Port of Pasco, Director of Properties & Development	sgood@portofpasco.org
Paul Gonseth	577-1630	WSDOT Planning Engineer, Yakima	gonsetp@wsdot.wa.gov
Roger Wright	366-7455	Port of Benton, Engineering Consultant	roger@rgwenterprises.com
Frank Powell	373-6452	Mission Support Alliance, Traffic Engineering	Frank_w_powell@rl.gov
Larry Peterson	586-1188	Port of Kennewick, Director of Planning & Development	lpeterson@portofkennewick.org
Cary Roe	585-4292	Kennewick, Public Works Director	cary.roe@ci.kennewick.wa.us
Mike Moran	375-2344	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	Mike.moran@pnnl.gov
L. J. DaCorsi	786-2332	Prosser, Public Works Director	publicworks@cityofprosser.com
Larry Turner	234-2701	Connell, Public Works Director	connelpw@centurytel.net
Teresa Standridge*	265-4253	Mesa, Clerk	cityclerkmesa@centurytel.net
Alan Rainey	946-1581	Benton City, Engineering Consultant	alan@spinkeng.com
Sharon McCaleb*	282-3372	Kahlotus, City Clerk	cityofkahlotus@hotmail.com
Mark Kushner Andres Gomez	943-9185	BFCG Transportation Director BFCG Transportation Programs Manager	agomez@bfcog.us
**Adele McCormick	360-705-6906	WSDOT Headquarters, Olympia, Planning	mccorma@wsdot.wa.gov
**Linda Howell	509-527-1846	WSDOT Transit Planning (Walla Walla)	Howell@wsdot.wa.gov
** Roger Arms	509-577-1780	WSDOT Yakima, H&LP Engineer	armsr@wsdot.wa.gov

* City Clerk

** Ex-Officio Members

Updated 8/2/13