



BENTON-FRANKLIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TAC - Meeting Minutes for April 5th, 2018

1. **CONVENE**

Chair, Cary Roe, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. at Ben Franklin Transit in Richland.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Benton County	Matt Rasmussen, Robert Blain
Franklin County	Kathleen Neuman
Ben Franklin Transit	Tony Kalmbach
City of Kennewick	Cary Roe
City of Pasco	Mary Heather Ames
City of Richland	Pete Rogalsky
City of West Richland	Roscoe Slade
Port of Pasco	
Port of Benton	
Port of Kennewick	
WSDOT - South Central	Bill Preston
City of Prosser	
City of Connell	Larry Turner
City of Mesa	
City of Benton City	
City of Kahlotus	
PNNL Battelle	
Mission Support Alliance	

Staff: Tanna Dole, Brian Malley, Emily Weimer, Geoff Wagner,
Jacob Gonzalez, Len Pavelka

Guest: Ranil Dhammapala, Jean-Paul Huys, Kari Johnson and
Brook Beeler, Washington Department of Ecology ; Rob
Rodger, Benton Clean Air Agency; James Coleman,
Benton-Franklin Health District;

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Matt Rasmussen MOVED to approve the March meeting minutes. Larry Turner SECONDED the motion which PASSED UNANAMOUSLY.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- A. April 2018 TIP/STIP Amendments
Roscoe Slade MOVED to approve the *April TIP/STIP Amendments*. Matt Rasmussen SECONDED the motion which PASSED UNANAMOUSLY.
- B. Functional Classification Change Request - Pasco
Larry Turner MOVED to approve the *Functional Classification Change Request - Pasco*. Kathleen Neuman SECONDED the motion which PASSED UNANAMOUSLY

5. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. High Ozone Levels in the Tri-Cities – Washington State Department of Ecology Presentation
[High ozone levels in the Tri-Cities presentation](#)

Question and Answers from Presentation:

1. **Q. Pete Rogalsky (Richland);** *What's a NAAQS?*
 - **Jean-Paul Huys (Ecology Air Quality Planner);** *National Air Ambient Quality Standard*
2. **Q. James Coleman (Benton-Franklin Health District);** *How are categories set? Is it based on the exceedance of pms?*
 - **Jean-Paul Huys (Ecology Air Quality Planner);** *EPA calculates different bins of data and you will "fall in" to one of those categories.*
3. **Q. Brian Malley (BFCG);** *Are the control mandates on the slide for conformity MPO tasks?*
 - **Jean-Paul Huys (Ecology Air Quality Planner);** *Yes, that pretty much correct.*
4. **Q. James Coleman (Benton-Franklin Health District);** *What's included in the BioGenic (Natural) category, fertilizers from cropland?*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *No, BioGenic is mostly for VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) but not for NOx (Oxides of Nitrogen). Fertilizers would be under the Solvents category.*
5. **Q. James Coleman (Benton-Franklin Health District);** *In the slide graphic with NOx is there anything agricultural related included in there? Where would Agricultural cropland fit in?*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *Not as much with NOx, agricultural would be considered in the "Nonroad" vehicle category. More of a contributor to VOC.*
6. **Q. Pete Rogalsky (Richland);** *Is there going to be further study and a local partnership started around behavior change advocacy or education?*
 - **Brook Beeler (Ecology Education/Outreach);** *There's potential for infrastructure change or individual [behavioral] change to help reduce NOx. There is no one single source, it's going to take a look at a combination of factors.*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *The call for more sophisticated modeling analysis is to "nail down" the specifics of "where and how much is enough and at what time".*

Whatever changes we can get out of behavioral changes to lower the NOx and VOC like encouraging people to change patterns like mowing their lawns after sunset and not doing certain things the heat of the day would be an example. There are links on our website of some specific actions people can take and carpooling is one of them. There are things that can be done currently that does not have to wait for the further analysis. We would need to do enough to make EPA see that we are making an effort to keep the level below 70 parts per billion (ppb).

7. **Q. Pete Rogalsky (Richland);** *Is Benton Clean Air or Ecology going to be asking BFCG for a specific amount of money at some point?*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *No, the other way around.*
 - **Brook Beeler (Ecology Education/Outreach);** *I don't believe so, Ecology has about \$80,000 earmarked to find local partners in this community and connect with the people who live here whether it's for planning work, outreach work. You first start an advertising campaign and Benton Clean Air is a small agency so we might need help from people in the room.*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *The projects that can be implemented on the ground should come from your community rather than us.*

8. **Q. Roscoe Slade (West Richland);** *So how far can the NOx and VOCs travel? Is the Ozone just collecting here but produced somewhere else like Spokane or Portland?*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *Good question, on a day where ozone isn't a concern like a day with plenty of active movement of air you could end up with a plume from Spokane. Where the problem is when winds are light and high pressure moves in and not a lot of movement you're not going to get long range transport. One of the findings from the study is we measured at the northern and southern edges of the air shed we didn't see evidence of high NOx or VOC plumes so it's locally generated and not coming from afar.*

9. **Q. Brian Malley (BFCG);** *Ranil, can you speak to the timeline of designations or what we might anticipate going forward in the next 2-10 years on ow EPA approaches designations?*
 - **Jean-Paul Huys (Ecology Air Quality Planner);** *Right now EPA is really unpredictable. As long as we hover around the standard and not go to 80ppb I think we'll be fine, especially when we implement some of the things Brook talked about like education and things like that. EPA really like educational campaigns.*

10. **Q. Tanna Dole (BFCG);** *After this meeting we are looking to involve more stakeholders including economic development agencies and Walla Walla jurisdictions and agencies. Is that something [Ecology] education/outreach from Spokane can help us with? We are planning a workshop in May or June which would be similar to this meeting but have a larger team of experts and stakeholders from the area. So it would be putting together that kind forum to discuss some of the ideas talked about earlier.*
 - **Brook Beeler (Ecology Outreach/Education);** *We could certainly be a part of that group and come up with some case studies and success stories from across the country. We can help with that. I think some of that \$80,000 pot can probably be used for that. The money is set aside but not sure who's spending it and how it gets spent. Our responsibility is to help get the message out there.*

11. **Q. Cary Roe (Kennewick);** *So, based on other places in the state of Washington or across the country what's your experience in ozone reduction with some of the educational outreach ideas? What do we get out of that effort and can we really affect change?*
 - **Jean-Paul Huys (Ecology Air Quality Planner);** *When I worked in Las Vegas it was 76ppb which is high in relation to the standard. After they implemented some programs for almost five years EPA did not take any action because they were implementing programs and created a report of what program they had implemented with educations being a big portion of it. Something as minor as changing to energy efficient light bulbs are an example.*
 - **Brook Beeler (Ecology Education/Outreach);** *When we look at other programs across the country we can look at the reality check of those programs to see if they did reduce emissions. You wouldn't want to implement something that doesn't get you results.*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *One the easiest way to see if what your implementing is working is to look at what the design value is like. In two years from now is it above or below 70ppb? Are we trending downwards? And the weather has to be on comparable days. So there are ways to do that.*

12. **Q. Cary Roe (Kennewick);** *So the \$80,000 that was referenced earlier, that was for public outreach and education or is that part of the ongoing studies as well?*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *No, the ongoing studies are funded separately. We don't have that funding yet but are anticipating we will.*

13. **Q. Pete Rogalsky (Richland);** *So the study money is federal money or legislative money?*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *We don't know that yet. I've made pitch to my supervisors saying we need this study. It doesn't have to be Ecology we might hire a contractor. Either way, we need to come up with a way to fund it.*

14. **Q. Pete Rogalsky (Richland);** *That threshold of the fourth highest day, how much variation in communities is that? Are we chasing a problem that's only ten days out of the year or 90 days? How does that work in the regulatory structure?*
 - **Ranil Dhammapala (Ecology Scientist);** *For one, it's the fourth highest. If it only happens on four days of the year. There are communities where this is a prevalent problem you'll see it throughout the summer when the weather conditions are right so people have to be protected from it when it reaches an unhealthy level even if it happens on those four days.*

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

None

7. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Roscoe Slade – West Richland

S 38th project's paperwork went in March 22nd to obligate the construction funds. Bombing Range obligation should go out at the end of this month. Once the state STIP is amended the obligation for the PE money on the Bombing Range bridge rehab will go out May/June.

Kathleen Neuman – Franklin County

Finished up the Basin City project. Should have the right-of-way documents for Juniper Dunes today or tomorrow so we can get that secured. Will be working on obligating the construction funding of Taylor Flats Bridge.

Bill Preston – WSDOT – SC

We're working on everything everyone else is working on. Simply, whatever you guys have been doing we're doing.

Geoff Wagner – BFCG

IDAX has started laying hoses for the traffic count program in West Richland and Richland. In the next couple of weeks they will be starting in Kennewick and then heading to Pasco. Most of this month will be counts conducted in Kennewick. Alisha with Kennewick has given me very good information on street projects and schedules for the count team to be aware of.

Matt Rasmussen – Benton County

TAP funds were obligated for the Badger Mountain connector path project.

Pete Rogalsky – Richland

Started Bridge construction and thanks to Benton County for some funding support through their rural county program. Designing the road diet project for the Swift corridor downtown. Have some resurfacing projects starting up soon.

Mary Heather Ames – Franklin County

City of Pasco has a new public works director Steve Worley and he would have been here today but he is in the process of packing up moving over here. I will try and bring him to the next meeting. Oregon Avenue construction begins on Monday. Phase 1 of the Traffic Signal project punch list is just about done so we are almost ready to use the new signals.

Cary Roe - Kennewick

Kennewick has a right-of-way cert. and prospectus updated and will be obligating construction funds for Metaline soon, if not already.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

May 3rd, 2018 – 11:00 a.m. Ben Franklin Transit, Richland

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Cary Roe adjourned the meeting at 12:08 pm
Minutes submitted by Geoff Wagner