

Fiscal Year 20212 Unified Planning Work Program Annual Report

IGA # 34912

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization



Submitted on July 29th, 2022 by:

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Introduction

This progress report summarizes the work conducted by Albany Area MPO (AAMPO) between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. This annual report is required through the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), which provides the primary funding for the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as a pass through from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

About Albany Area MPO

The Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization was formed in 2013 to serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Albany Urbanized Area and to facilitate continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning within the urbanized area. AAMPO members include the City of Albany, City of Jefferson, City of Millersburg, City of Tangent, Linn County, Benton County, and ODOT.

AAMPO is staffed by the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG). Staffing for AAMPO includes a full-time Transportation Planner, with assistance from the Community and Economic Development (CED) Executive Administrative Assistant, Transportation Planning Manager, CED Director and/or other planning staff. OCWCOG staff provide fiscal, technological, and administrative support. Consultants may also be brought on to assist, particularly for large tasks.

As part its planning activities, AAMPO produces an annual Unified Planning Work Program outlining planning activities to be performed during the state fiscal year. The UPWP must describe planning activities including deliverables, cost estimates, federal fund allocations, and the lead agency for each work item. To ensure efficient implementation of the UPWP, MPO staff prepares a mid-year progress report outlining activities and accomplishments, as well as an annual report. Accomplishments listed in this report correspond to tasks outlined in the FY22 UPWP. For reference it may be useful to have the FY22 UPWP to read concurrently with this annual report. The FY22 UPWP is available on [AAMPO's website](#).

FY 2022 Overview

FY22 saw both AAMPO staffing vacancies and challenges as well as a transition from a fully virtual environment to a hybrid office environment. COVID has extended timelines, changed how we communicate and collaborate, and made us reassess outreach and engagement methodologies.

Through this time, AAMPO has continued to work on those tasks outlined in its FY22 UPWP. Notable accomplishments in FY22 include finalizing of the MPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, completion of Jefferson's new Transportation Systems Plan, and updates with CAMPO to the Corvallis-Albany-Lebanon Model (CALM) travel demand model in preparation for AAMPO's RTP update in 2023.

Other accomplishments in FY22 include:

- Finalizing Strategic Assessment project in partnership with the Department of Land Conservation and Development and the Oregon Department of Transportation
- Updating of FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as needed
- Completing all required annual reporting
- Chairing of the Linn Benton Loop Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), involved in intercity transit planning and implementation related to the Service Enhancement Plan
- Worked with the City of Tangent to submit a TGM grant to update their TSP
- Served as an ex-officio on Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACTION) TAC

Summary of Tasks

Task 1: MPO Program Management

MPO Program Management involves the coordination of all MPO activities necessary for daily operations and adherence to applicable state, federal and local regulations. This includes program administration, coordination of the MPO Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), public involvement, fiscal management, development of the UPWP, staff travel and training, interagency and inter-jurisdictional coordination, and participation in regional and statewide planning efforts.

Tasks Completed:

Administration

- Implemented FY22 UPWP and prepared required mid-year progress report.
- Prepared and Adopted FY23 UPWP, following public outreach and review by AAMPO TAC and adoption by Policy Board. Assembled and submitted required match documentation.
- Completed FY21 annual list of obligated tasks.
- Facilitated 10 Policy Board meetings and 9 Technical Advisory Committee meetings.
- Completed updates of AAMPO webpage(s) at www.ocwcog.org/transportation/aampo.
- Oversight and coordination including maintenance of website, records management, and responding to public inquiries.
- Facilitated ongoing member communications related to funding opportunities, such as the Community Paths Program and COVID stimulus funds.
- Attended regular OCWCOG meetings, including transportation planning staff meetings, to facilitate regional coordination on transportation planning efforts.

Outreach and Title VI Efforts

- Submitted annual Title VI compliance report in October 2021 to state and federal partners.
- Ongoing implementation of Public Participation Plan, including email announcements to Interested Parties, meeting notifications in local paper(s), and direct outreach to stakeholders.
- Included Title VI / Non-Discrimination notices in applicable documents and on the AAMPO website. No Title VI complaints were received.
- Began public engagement for the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, completing two rounds of public engagement.

Intergovernmental Collaboration

- Participated in Oregon MPO Consortium, MPO and Transit Providers meeting, STIP Coordinators Group, and CWACTION.

Tasks to be Continued into FY23

- Continue to host and refine scope for biannual joint TAC meetings for CAMPO and AAMPO.
- Continue update of Public Participation Plan, with inclusion of virtual engagement and other methodologies employed during COVID.
- Continue public engagement for the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan with round three of public engagement.

Task 2: Short and Long Range Planning

This task includes activities related to the development and maintenance of the Regional Transportation Plan and other long and short-range planning efforts as directed by the Policy Board.

Tasks Completed:**Transportation Planning**

- Worked with the City of Jefferson to successfully adopt their TSP on June 23, 2022.
- Worked with CAMPO and ODOT's TPAU to update the CALM travel demand model used in both CAMPO and AAMPO RTP updates.
- Assisted the City of Tangent in refining their application for a TGM grant for a new TSP.
- With CAMPO, applied for a TGM grant to explore issues and opportunities related to congestion, safety, and mobility along the Highway 20 corridor.
- Continued AAMPO's Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan with project identification, a community survey, policy and program recommendations, plan writing, and project prioritization criteria being finalized.

Strategic Assessment

- The AAMPO TAC is continuing work on a Regional Strategic Assessment in partnership with the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). ODOT and DLCD are using a scenario planning model that will evaluate the effectiveness of potential policy changes to achieve desired Regional outcomes (greenhouse gas emissions, congestion, land use development, etc.).

Tasks to be Continued into FY23

- Continue to monitor statewide best practices and guidance with regard to performance measures, including future RTP updates.
- Continue work on the Bicycle & Pedestrian plan, including; project prioritization, mapping, public review, final plan writing, and adoption.
- Continue with Strategic Assessment planning.

Task 3: Transit Planning

Albany Transit Service is the primary transit provider for the AAMPO area, with designated Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) agencies providing additional services throughout Linn, Benton and Marion Counties. This task includes efforts to assist and coordinate with these and other public transportation providers as they serve the MPO area.

Tasks Completed:

Linn-Benton Loop – Coordination and Planning Support and Regional Transit Coordination

- AAMPO Staff served as the Linn Benton Loop TAC Chair until March 2022, discussing implementation of the expanded Loop service and funding recommendations.
- Attended in person events to promote the expansion of the Linn Benton Loop bus service.
- In coordination with OCWCOG and other Linn Benton Loop partners, applied for and was awarded discretionary STIF funds for planning and design of two transit hubs, one at Oregon State University and one at Linn-Benton Community College.

Albany Transit System

- Developed an IGA between the City of Albany and OCWCOG to facilitate transfer of AAMPO carry forward funds for design and engineering of new Transit Operations Facility.
- Assisting Albany Transit in implementation of a medium-term implementation strategy, to utilize STIF funds to expand service, as identified in their Transit Development Plan.
- Completed work on the Transit Implementation Strategy with successful handoff of program to City of Albany.

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan

- The Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) was approved by Albany City Council in June 2020 and self-certified in July 2020, reviewed in February 2022.

CAMPO Coordination

- Continued bi-monthly meeting between AAMPO staff, CAMPO staff, and Albany Transit System staff to discuss issues of joint importance.
- During the CAMPO RTP process AAMPO and CAMPO worked closely to support the update to the CALM and strategize on key points in the RTP process.

Tasks to be Continued into FY23

- Continue work on Linn Benton Loop transit hubs.
- Bimonthly transit meeting between AAMPO and Albany Transit System.
- Planning and construction of Albany Transit Operations Facility.
- Updating Albany Transit System's PTASP.
- Continue to work with CAMPO to align core documents, and share funding and education opportunities.

Task 4: Transportation Programming

This task includes near-term activities related to the development and maintenance of the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, including prioritization and programming of projects for federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds.

Tasks Completed:**Transportation Improvement Program**

- Worked with ODOT staff on amendments to the 2018-21 and 2021-24 STIP.
- Participated in statewide conversations about development of 2024-27 STIP and Long-Range Financial Projections.
- **COVID Relief Funding.** Continued work with member jurisdictions to identify projects and disperse approximately \$864,000 in additional COVID relief funding made available from FHWA through ODOT.
 - *City of Jefferson: Pedestrian crossing/shared use path to be determined through ongoing TSP update (\$75,000)*
 - *City of Millersburg: Woods Road shared use path design/ROW (\$100,000)*
 - *City of Albany: Queen Avenue resurfacing (\$350,000)*
 - *Linn County + City of Tangent: Old Oak Drive Road improvements around elementary school (\$175,000)*
 - *Benton County: Gibson Hill modernization (\$150,000)*

Tasks to be Continued into FY23

- Continue working on amendments to FY21-24 MTIP/STIP as needed.
- Obligate STBG funds as needed.
- Update Annual Listing of Obligated Projects.

Budget Summary

The Albany Area MPO finished the year spending \$335,601.57 out of \$377,255.00 allocated for the fiscal year, or 89%. The higher than normal amount (AAMPO typically receives about \$200,000 in PL and 5305 funding per fiscal year) is due to the historical carryover of PL, 5303, and COVID Relief funds dating back to 2013 that were reconciled into FY22's budget.

Item	TASK				Total
	I	II	III	IV	
Budgeted Amount	\$73,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$206,688.00	\$22,567.00	\$377,255.00
Amount Expended	\$185,223.00	\$113,760.06	\$29,448.48	\$7,170.03	\$335,601.57
Percent Expended	253.7%	151.7%	14.2%	31.8%	89.0%
Difference	(\$112,223.00)	(\$38,760.06)	\$177,239.52	\$15,396.97	\$41,653.43