

Fiscal Year 2023 Unified Planning Work Program Annual Report

IGA #7937-01

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization



Submitted on August 1st, 2023 by:

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Introduction

This progress report summarizes the work conducted by Albany Area MPO (AAMPO) between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. 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 (AAMPO) 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 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 (UPWP) 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 FY23 UPWP. For reference it may be useful to have the FY23 UPWP to read concurrently with this annual report. The FY23 UPWP is available on [AAMPO's website](#).

FY 2023 Overview

FY23 saw staff working heavily on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in order to make up for lost time due to FY22 staff turnover. Staff continued the hybrid office and work from home program allowing flexibility and avoiding workplace health risks. Through this time, AAMPO has continued to work on those tasks outlined in its FY23 UPWP such as, increasing coordination with sister agency Corvallis Area MPO, participating on the Linn-Benton Loop TAC and Governing Board, and remaining involved with several state modeling groups such as ODOT's TPAU and OMSC. Notable accomplishments in FY23 include the adoption of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, supporting CWACT's regional legislative priorities, and adopting a 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

Other accomplishments in FY23 include:

- Refinement of the Corvallis-Albany-Lebanon Model (CALM) travel demand model for use in the RTP scenario selection process
- Updating of FY21-24 TIP, as needed, and approving STIP amendments
- Completing all required annual reporting
- Chairing of the Linn Benton Loop TAC, involved in intercity transit planning and implementation related to the Service Enhancement Plan
- Assisting Tangent as they work toward inclusion in the Albany Transit System (ATS)
- Working with CAMPO to create revise MTIP Evaluation Criteria for STBG project selection

Summary of Tasks

Task 100: 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 FY23 UPWP and prepared required mid-year progress report.
- Prepared and Adopted FY24 UPWP, following public outreach. Assembled and submitted required match documentation.
- Facilitated 8 Policy Board meetings and 10 Technical Advisory Committee meetings.
- Co-hosted biannual joint TAC and Policy Board meetings between AAMPO and CAMPO.
- Completed updates of AAMPO webpage(s) at www.ocwcog.org/transportation/aampo.
- Facilitated ongoing member communications related to funding opportunities, such as Carbon Reduction Program Grants.
- 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 Accomplishment Report on September 30, 2022 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.
- Community outreach for the AAMPO RTP 2023 update distributed in both English and Spanish.
- Update to the Title VI Accomplishment Report included updated Policy Board and Technical Advisory Committee demographic surveys.

Intergovernmental Collaboration

- Participated in Oregon MPO Consortium, MPO and Transit Providers meeting, STIP Coordinators Group, and CWACT.
- AAMPO staff serves as the CWACT TAC chair, contributing to discussion on regional project priorities.
- Participated in Bend MPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting in coordination with AAMPO/CAMPO/BMPO IGA.

Tasks to be Continued into FY24

- Continue to host and refine scope for biannual joint TAC meetings for CAMPO and AAMPO.
- Update of Public Participation Plan (PPP) scheduled for November, with inclusion of virtual engagement and other methodologies employed during COVID.
- Update of Title VI Plan scheduled for October.
- Overhaul of AAMPO's webpage to reduce redundancies and increase user friendliness in alignment with the PPP update

Task 200: Long Range Transportation 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. This includes providing technical assistance to AAMPO member communities when needed.

Tasks Completed:**Transportation Planning**

- Restarted RTP work after a four-month gap, completing almost eighty percent of the required work.
- Completed RTP Study Corridors choice, Goals and Objectives, and Preferred Scenario decision approved.
- Continued work with CAMPO and ODOT's TPAU to update the CALM travel demand model used in both CAMPO and AAMPO RTP updates.
- AAMPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was approved after several rounds of revision.

Technical Assistance

- Worked with the City of Tangent on applying for micro mobility grants and exploring transit connection options.
- Assisted the City of Tangent with mediating strategy meetings between themselves, Albany Transit System (ATS), and Nelson/Nygaard regarding expanding ATS service to Tangent.
- The AAMPO TAC is continuing work with the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) on CFA implementation.

Tasks to be Continued into FY24

- Completion of the 2023 RTP following a final round of public engagement, project generation, and public review.
- Continue to monitor statewide best practices and guidance with regard to performance measures, including future RTP updates.
- Continue with Strategic Assessment planning.

Task 300: Inter-Regional Transportation 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:**CAMPO Coordination**

- Continued bi-monthly meeting between AAMPO staff, CAMPO staff, and Albany Transit System staff to discuss issues of joint importance.
- AAMPO and CAMPO continue to discuss issues of congestion, safety, and mobility along the Highway 20 corridor with focus on the in-progress Albany to Corvallis bicycle and pedestrian path.

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

- AAMPO Staff continue to participate as a member of the Linn Benton Loop TAC, discussing implementation of the expanded Loop service and funding recommendations.
- In coordination with OCWCOG and other Linn Benton Loop partners, applied for and was awarded discretionary STIF funds and State Grant funding for planning, design, and construction of two transit hubs, one at Oregon State University and one at Linn-Benton Community College.

Albany Transit System

- Assisting ATS in creation of a medium-term implementation strategy, to utilize STIF funds to expand service, as identified in their Transit Development Plan.
- Worked with ATS to formalize fareless transit service that began with the COVID pandemic and has now been approved to be continued.

Tasks to be Continued into FY24

- Assist Linn Benton Loop with transit hubs development.
- Bimonthly transit meeting between AAMPO and Albany Transit System.
- Planning and construction of Albany Transit Facility.
- 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 2021-24 STIP.
- Participated in statewide conversations about development of 2024-2027 STIP and Long-Range Financial Projections.
- Completed AAMPO's 2024-2027 MTIP after a Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding process to determine regional projects to receive funding.

Tasks to be Continued into FY24

- Continue working on amendments to FY21-24 and FY24-27 MTIP/STIP as needed.
- Working with the state on the development of the 2027-2030 MTIP/STIP.
- Obligate STBG funds as needed.
- Annual Listing of Obligated Projects.

Budget Summary

The Albany Area MPO finished the year spending \$236,046 out of an allocated \$490,315. Of this, \$116,883 was used for the preliminary design of the Albany Transit Facility. This still leaves a significant amount in historical 5303 rollover funds.

Task I is overspent, but AAMPO remains underbudget overall, and staff are working to adjust time coding to correct for this in the new fiscal year.

Item	TASK					Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	
Budgeted Amount	\$62,000	\$85,000	\$50,000	\$24,000	\$269,315	\$490,315.00
Amount Expended	\$164,211.15	\$52,285.88	23,364.04	\$27,815.29	\$116,882.61	\$236,045.78
Percent Expended	264%	62%	47%	116%	43%	48%
Difference						\$137,386.61