

MINUTES
PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
JULY 25, 2019

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, July 25, 2019, at the Pueblo County Department of Emergency Management, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Dennis Flores, Chairman, at 12:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Ray Aguilera
Mark Aliff
Ed Brown
Mike Cafasso

Dennis Flores
Judy Leonard
Ted Lopez
Garrison Ortiz

Those members absent were:

Larry Atencio
Crystal Breckenridge
Terry Hart
Terry Kraus
Frank Latino

Chris Nicoll
Ted Ortiviz
Bob Schilling
Chris Wiseman

Also present were:

John Adams
Dan Kogovsek
Cynthia Mitchell

Louella Salazar
Kallene West

CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Louella Salazar, PACOG Recording Secretary, reported there are three items listed on the agenda under the Consent Items. She summarized the Consent Items for PACOG.

Chairman Flores asked if there were any other additions or amendments to the Consent Items or if any of the members or audience would like an item removed or discussed that was on the Consent agenda. There were no other additions or amendments.

Chairman Flores stated there is one correction to the minutes. On Page 5, under Item A of the MPO staff report, Paragraph 2, 2nd Sentence, change Bob Flores to Bob Jagger.

It was moved by Ed Brown, seconded by Mark Aliff, and passed unanimously to approve the three Consent Items listed below, with the correction to the minutes of June 27, 2019 as stated above:

- Minutes of June 27, 2019 Meeting;
- Treasurer's Report (Receive and file June 2019 Financial Report); and

- A Resolution Accepting the Corrections Made on the 2019 Transit Asset Management Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of Transit Performance Measures with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) After Initial Adoption by the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG).

REGULAR ITEMS:

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

(A) Lunch Appreciation

Chairman Flores thanked the Board of County Commissioners for providing lunch for today's meeting.

(B) Recognition

Chairman Flores recognized and thanked Ms. Salazar for all the work she does for PACOG.

MANAGER'S REPORT

(A) EPAC Minutes/Statement Report

Ms. Salazar reported the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 6, 2019 were included in the PACOG members' packets.

This being an information item, no formal action was taken.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER/CDOT REGION 2 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairman Flores reported there were no comments from Mr. Bill Thiebaut, the State Transportation Commissioner for the Pueblo region.

Ms. Karen Rowe, CDOT Region 2 Director, reported Mr. Thiebaut was appointed as the new State Transportation Commission chair and Mr. Rocky Scott was appointed as the co-chair.

Ms. Rowe stated on August 15, 2019 a telephone town hall meeting will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. She stated she would get the information to Ms. Salazar regarding the call-in information so it can be distributed to the PACOG members. All the different 14 transportation regions will conduct these meetings. She stated Mr. Thiebaut and she will be on the panel. Individuals can call in and ask transportation-related questions and obtain an answer. She noted this is part of the planning process outreach. CDOT will also be meeting with every county in Region 2. They will be meeting with Fremont County next week and Pueblo County on August 20th. The City of Pueblo, Pueblo West Metropolitan District, and others are welcome to come to the Pueblo County meeting. CDOT will be listening to the transportation needs, noting they are trying not to overlap PACOG's responsibility, but are trying to capture what the priorities are of the Pueblo area (i.e., safety, congestion, mobility, etc.). CDOT hopes to finish the county meetings and planning process and come up with 10 years of a strategic pipeline of projects, four years which are fiscally constrained. The following six years will be a projection of how much

money of what we might get. A list of projects or corridors will be developed from the results. CDOT will be sending the information to Ms. Salazar to provide to the PACOG members.

Mr. Aliff asked if the northbound off-ramp on the City Center exit will be redone, noting there is a huge bump. Ms. Rowe replied there is a differential in the joint, noting the bridge joint was constructed 3" too low. The contractor will be coming back and reconstructing the bridge joint at their own cost because of their own error. The contractor is trying to get a subcontractor to come back to do it. It will probably be done after the Colorado State Fair.

Chairman Flores stated at the last PACOG meeting a resolution was approved on the westbound widening of U.S. Highway 50A from Pueblo Boulevard in Pueblo County. He asked when will we know that this money is available? Ms. Rowe stated that this ties in with the planning outreach process. CDOT will be taking the information it gets from the different counties and going back out to the Transportation Planning Regions. CDOT will be submitting this on the list of potential projects this fall to get funded through Senate Bill 267 and Senate Bill 1. The Transportation Commission will then vote on which projects to move forward.

Chairman Flores asked if the parcel of land off Ilex (west of I-25 and east of Santa Fe Avenue) will be available for purchase anytime soon. Ms. Rowe replied CDOT sometimes vacates land once they are done with a project. The land is first offered to public agencies (i.e., city and county) for purchase. If the city and county do not want to purchase, then it will go out to the public for purchase. Chairman Flores stated it is still being used at this time but wondered how long it would take. Ms. Rowe figured it would probably be sometime in October before everything is done, and the CDOT staff will need to advertise, etc., so it will probably be ready for purchase sometime next spring.

STATE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC) UPDATE

Mr. John Adams, MPO Manager, reported the last STAC meeting was held on June 21st, noting there has been no STAC meeting since the last PACOG meeting. The next STAC meeting is tomorrow.

STATUS ON SOUTHWEST CHIEF PASSENGER RAIL

Mr. Adams reported the next Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission meeting will be held in Pueblo on August 9, 2019, from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., at the Union Depot. One of the Commission's directors will go over the consultant's goals. The consultant will be doing a study on how much it will cost to implement rail service up to Cheyenne, Wyoming. He stated Cheyenne has expressed interest in joining the Commission. He stated he would be sending out information to the PACOG members on the meeting.

MPO STAFF REPORT

A) CDOT Region II request(s) for PACOG MPO/TPR TIP/STIP Administration Modifications to the FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Adams reported there are two projects for North Creek Road--one is the North Bridge Emergency Repair and the other is the South Bridge Emergency Repair. Both include bridge repairs due to the flood in 2015. The cost for the North Bridge is \$789,237 and for the South Bridge it is \$621,082. The bids for both projects came in higher than the engineering estimate and these funds are being added to allow Pueblo County to award the projects so that the construction can be completed on these two structures.

B) City of Pueblo requests for PACOG MPO/TPR TIP Administrative Amendment to the FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Adams reported the next project is a request to roll-forward alternative and bridge off-system pool projects to FY 2020 in the FY 2019-2022 TIP to be used for the Arkansas River Trail Upgrade - Phase 4. This project will entail completing Phase 4 of the Arkansas River Trail Upgrade and Safety Improvement Project which includes the construction of a trailhead parking area along the west side of the 4th Street Bridge, a vehicle access road to the river, and handicap parking and drop off to the Whitewater Park. Construction costs have increased since the original estimates in 2016. The increase in funds is solely local funds as overmatch for additional work for burying power lines. The money will be coming out of the franchise agreement with Black Hills Energy to bury those lines. The cost of the project is \$838,910.

C) Pueblo West Metropolitan District request for PACOG MPO/TPR TIP Administrative Amendment

Mr. Adams reported this project involves turn lanes on Platteville Boulevard, noting it was a safety project. It includes adding right turn lanes on Platteville Boulevard at McCulloch Boulevard. The cost of the project came in \$30,000 higher than originally anticipated. Pueblo West has been able to negotiate with CDOT Region 2 to increase the construction cost. This changes the construction costs of \$263,700 (budgeted) to \$303,275.

D) CDOT Region II request(s) for PACOG MPO/TPR TIP/STIP Administration Modifications to the FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Adams reported there are two additional administrative amendments. A document from CDOT was distributed prior to the meeting. The two projects both pertain to Overton Road Bridge Emergency Repairs. Both bridge repairs are due to the flood damage done in 2015. He stated the repairs are in the northern part of our MPO and south of the El Paso County line. The engineering estimate is \$1,746,575.

Chairman Flores stated he received a complaint about Overton Road. He asked if anything is planned on repairing/repaving Overton Road south of the County line (or the City portion). Mr. Adams replied when the City annexed that subdivision, which is north into the City, it was under the understanding that the developers were going to make the improvements on that road. The developers have not followed through on doing this. Staff will follow up on this.

E) Other Transportation Matters:

August 15th - CDOT Town Hall Meeting on the Region's Transportation Needs - This item was reported on during the CDOT Region 2 Director's report.

Other - Chairman Flores questioned the State project on 4th Street and Abriendo Avenue. He stated there is a lot of flooding, as well as deep holes with the rainstorms. Mr. Adams responded there are also rail tracks in the area, which were found, that are close to the surface and there is a lot more work than was originally anticipated. Additionally, there is utility work which needs to be done.

PLAN OF ACTION FOR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

There was no report.

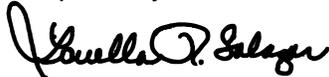
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future items for the next PACOG meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further regular business before PACOG, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 12:15 p.m., at the Pueblo County Emergency Operations Center, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,



Louella R. Salazar
PACOG Recording Secretary

LRS