

**Minutes of the
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
April 14, 2016
8:30 a.m.**

Community Room of the Municipal Justice Center, 200 South Main Street

Agenda Items Marked with * indicate additional materials included in packet

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman: Scott Hobson

Time of Call: 8:34 a.m.

MPO Members Present: Scott Hobson, Reyna Quintana, Hannah Haunert

TAC Members Present: Alf Randall, Dan Centa, Don Bruestle, Michael Snow, Pepper Whittlef

CAC Members Present: Kristin Castor, Salvatore Piscitelli

Others Present: Monique Mullis

2. Introductions and Public Comments (non-agenda items only).

Introductions were held for both Hannah Haunert and Monique Mullis.

3. Approval of Minutes of the regular meeting held on February 11, 2016

A typo was found on Alan Nelms name in the introduction section of the minutes. The last name "Neff" was unintentionally used. The name shall be corrected in the minutes.

Motion to Approve: Salvatore Piscitelli (after name change)

Second: Kristin Castor

Unanimous

4. CDOT Region II TIP/STIP Regular Agenda Item(s)

There were no Policy Notifications for April.

5. CDOT Region II TIP/STIP Administrative Notification

There were no Administrative Notifications for April.

6. Federal Land Access Projects

- *Lake Pueblo* - Monique Mullis, park ranger at Lake Pueblo, discussed that the current project with Lake Pueblo is using the Federal Lands Access Grant money. She explained that there are 11.6 miles of paved trails and 4.1 miles of road. In this project, the trail that is currently asphalt will be replaced with a width of 8 foot concrete and will be 6" thick (shown on provided map). Juniper Road runs throughout the Park and is the road that will be replaced. She stated that about a year ago they used GOCO money to replace a portion of Juniper Road but in 2015 they received federal grant money in the amount of \$8.2 million which they chose to use in combination with the GOCO money to repair the remainder of Juniper Road. They are going to widen Juniper Road from a width of 24' to a width of 28' to have a "share the road" option for bicycles.*

Pepper Whittlef inquired who the project manager was. Monique replied that Federal Highways is acting as the project manager with 2 staff on the project at all times. With that reply, Pepper noted that the traffic control through that area is very poor and was surprised that Federal Highways is the project manager because the traffic control is lacking. Monique did not disagree with Pepper's comment about traffic control lacking. Monique will talk about the problem with Work Zone (traffic control subcontractor to Kirkland).

There are 2 pedestrian bridges that are going to be repaired. One is located by the stream, and it has access for emergency vehicles. The project is on schedule and will be completed in June 2016.

Scott stated that the Federal Lands Access Program was an outcome of the MAP-21 Legislation. Lake Pueblo was in the first call for the projects. He noted that the application deadline is on May 21, 2016 for the second round.

Pueblo West – Dan Centa is going to apply for a Federal Lands Access Project (FLAP) Grant for the extension of Juniper Road to Nichols Road and McCulloch Blvd. This will give a seamless access from Lake Pueblo into Pueblo West. He passed out a "Proposed Projection Application" packet that included a map of their proposed project and a draft of the Pueblo West application date. He has been working with Lake Pueblo to make this happen.

After reviewing the map, Pepper Whittlef asked what improvements will be done to Nichols Road. Dan Centa stated that last year they did a chip and seal due to the condition of the road but now they want to reconstruct the entire road from Juniper Road (Lake Pueblo) to McCulloch Blvd and put in turn lanes on McCulloch Blvd. He does not know how extensive they can get with their application for the FLAP grant.

Scott Hobson suggested to Dan Centa that he could get a copy of the Lake Pueblo application and use that format to aid in their application. Dan mentioned that more people are going to be applying because they are in the second round of applications and fears that it will be scrutinized further. He did ask Monique Mullis if she had a copy of the application and she stated that she would have to look and see and get back to him.

Salvatore Piscitelli was concerned about the width of the road on Nichols Road. It was mentioned that Juniper Road will be widened from 24' to 28' but it then it will go back down to 24' on Nichols Road in Pueblo West. Dan Centa is wanting to reconstruct the road from 24' to 40' to allow more lanes and a wider shoulder. However, they would need to merge the bike lane into the traffic lane over the bridge. Monique Mullis informed Dan that this would be something to discuss on how to achieve.

Pepper Whittlef did have a concern about the trail (map provided) running on the right (east) side of the road on Nichols Rd up until McCulloch Blvd and then runs on the left (west) side of the road. She said that it does not make sense and just to have the trail along the left (west) side of the road the entire length. Dan Centa agrees with Pepper and informed her that this is just a preliminary idea and nothing is set in stone. There are less driveway accesses on the right (east) side. However, it can be moved and makes more sense to be a continuous trail.

Dan Centa asked for help with a few items in completing his grant application. The first item is funding. He stated that he is applying for a TAP grant but wasn't sure if he could use that money as match money. Michael Snow stated that he can't because it was already Federal funds. Scott Hobson state he could apply for a GOCO Grant or State Trails Fund money to use in combination with the FLAP and TAP grant money already received. Pepper Whittlef asked if there were DOLA funds available to apply for the design usage. Scott said that it was a possibility, but Dan asked if you can do that without already having an awarded project with FLAP money. Scott said that you can do that because the City is already doing that for the levee construction.

The second item Dan Centa requested help on was located on page 8 – Economic Development. He did not know how to approach this portion of the grant, how it should be written, and how to "sell" the project. Scott Hobson stated that he should find out the projection of visitor traffic increase at that gate and the impact the improvements will have in creating more traffic to the area. This will benefit the economic businesses in that area. Visitors will make more stops at the convenience stores, gas stations, and retail stores. Thus, will create an increase in sales tax. Monique Mullis stated that they did an economic impact study about 10 years ago within a 50 miles radius of Lake Pueblo that Dan can use. Kristin Castor said including that and improvements for ADA accessibility would also greatly help their cause.

The last item Dan Centa mentioned for the grant was to increase bike traffic on Nichols Road. Scott Hobson mentioned that Dan should make it more bike friendly for safety purposes. Dan said that he could make the shoulders wider instead of a dedicated bike lane. Scott said that Dan could take Nichols Road and connect it with Lake Pueblo trail system. Dan stated that he will submit the project with a designated bike lane and wider shoulders on Nichols Road, this will help sell the project. Dan did ask if the TAC members would look through the draft application and to let him know if they had any suggestions.

7. CDOT Updates

Michael Snow informed the TAC about the presentation for the State Patrol Incident Management from the STAC meeting that will help with minimizing congestion on the

highways. He informed us that they want to coordinate and invest with others to help minimize congestion. The presentation was to show what transportation incident management is, congestion issues, and to help control delay times. He also wants to call out to the whole state to help with this program. Scott Hobson and Pepper Whittlef stated that Pueblo and the region already have an incident management implementation plan. Scott stated that the presentation was very good and that the state patrol offered to hold the presentation at the TAC and/or PACOG meeting. Pepper thought this was a good idea but TAC doesn't have the power to help in that situation. She stated that Fire and Police are the people that really need to buy in. She said that the presentation would help both departments with the new hires since they have not been exposed to the incident management. Scott mentioned that he may go ahead and set up a presentation for the PACOG meeting board just so that they can see what is going on and get other entities already involved to come and see how this can affect the system and plan here in Pueblo and the region. Michael did inform the TAC that for every delay, it increases the cause for another accident down the road.

8. Staff Reports:

- 2017-2020 TIP*
Scott Hobson stated that the 2017-2020 TIP will be going to PACOG the last Thursday of the month for adoption. After looking at the included TIP, Don Bruestle asked if there will be a bike lane over the bridge on Highway 50 West. Scott replied that there will be a bike trail and pedestrian access on the south-side of Highway 50 West that connects to the YMCA and Pueblo West.
- HSIP & Safety Performance Measures Final Rules Overview*
Scott Hobson stated that the Federal Highway had their final rule making, He said that CDOT will need to come up with specific rules by July 1, 2016. The MPO has 180 days, after the July 1 deadline, to either create new performance measures or decided to utilize CDOT's performance measures. The resolution may need to be amended to comply with the 5 performance areas that need to be covered. They are listed in the attached paper work for the Federal Highway final rules.
- West Pueblo Connector Update
Scott Hobson informed TAC that the consultant (Matrix) is working on several alternatives for the bridge over the railyard. They will have a meeting with TAC for their input in September 2016.
- Pueblo Area Wide Transit Feasibility Study*
Reyna Quintana stated that the proposals for the Transit Feasibility Study were submitted and obtained on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. She stated that the meeting has been set up with the review committee for Tuesday, April 19, 2016 to review and select a consultant for the study. Four firms submitted proposals for review.

It was discussed that bus stops have ADA accessibility to navigate safely and that a bench or shelter be added to new or existing stops. Kristin did explain that the existing stops are already grandfathered in for not having ADA accessibility but that the new stops have criteria for that. Kristin wants another study for the bus stops and that the last study was in 2010. The current study should be completed by September of 2016.

- *Safe Routes to Schools – Grant Application Update*
Scott Hobson said that the Transportation Committee will review the applications and decide on recipients at the next TAC Meeting in May.
- *Job Recruitment Update*
The Transportation Program Manager position has been accepted by John Adams as a conditional offer. Scott is hoping he will be hired on in mid-May at the latest. Don Bruestle stated that it is sometimes good to have someone from the outside come into a position like this.
- *FY 2016 Mid-Year Review with FHWA & CDOT – May 12, 2016*
Scott Hobson stated that the PACOG/TAC committee was invited to the Mid-Year Review with FHWA & CDOT. He said anyone is invited to attend and an invitation for the meeting will be sent out to TAC members.

9. Items from TAC members or scheduling of future agenda items.

None

10. Adjournment

Chairman Scott Hobson adjourned the meeting at 10:17 a.m.