

**Minutes of the
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
January 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: 8:35 a.m.

MPO Members Present: Scott Hobson, Reyna Quintana

TAC Members Present: Alf Randall, Dan Centa, Darrin Tangeman, Joan Armstrong, Michael Snow, Pepper Whittlef, Wendy Pettit

CAC Members Present: Kristin Castor, Salvatore Piscitelli

Others Present:

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

Alan Nelms will be the new CAC member who will replace Meagan Murillo's position. He was appointed as a CAC member at the December PACOG meeting. He was unable to attend today's meeting as he had a commitment prior to his appointment to the CAC, but plans to be here for all the monthly meetings starting in February.

3. Approval of Minutes of the regular meeting held on November 5, 2015

Motion to Approve: Salvatore Piscitelli

Second: Alf Randall

Unanimous

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

There were no Policy Notifications for January.

5. CDOT Region II TIP/STIP Administrative Notification

CDOT Region II had notification of three (3) administrative amendments to the PACOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the MPO/TPR area.

Project Name: **2015 Emergency and Permanent Repair Funding**
STIP Number: SR27006.005
Project Location and Description: North Creek - North
Federal Program Funds: **\$ 459,960**
State Matching Funds: **\$**
Local Matching Funds: **\$ 114,990**
Other Project Funds: **\$**
TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 574,950

Project Name: **2015 Emergency and Permanent Repair Funding**
STIP Number: SR27006.006
Project Location and Description: North Creek - South
Federal Program Funds: **\$ 472,680**
State Matching Funds: **\$**
Local Matching Funds: **\$ 118,170**
Other Project Funds: **\$**
TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 590,850

Project Name: **2015 Emergency and Permanent Repair Funding**
STIP Number: SR27006.007
Project Location and Description: Overton Road
Federal Program Funds: **\$ 2,297,060**
State Matching Funds: **\$**
Local Matching Funds: **\$ 574,265**
Other Project Funds: **\$**
TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 2,871,325

All three of these amendments relate to flood recovery and funding for county roads. Alf Randall stated that all the temporary repairs have already been completed and paid for by the County. The plan is to refund the County's money with the funds in these amendments. The permanent repairs require an 80/20 split in costs, so the County will need to fund 20% of the project costs. He stated that they are hoping to use the refunded money from the temporary repairs for the permanent repairs.

6. Prioritization of 2040 L RTP Trail Projects

Scott discussed the importance of getting a list of prioritized trail project put into the 2040 L RTP. He stated that if an individual entity wanted to apply for a grant for a particular project, the list would be able to be cited that it is a part of the 2040 plan, therefore helping obtain grant money for that project. The City of Pueblo created a list, which was included in the packet. What is needed is a list from the County and from Pueblo West. It was, however, mentioned that this list will not guarantee funding for the project and that the list can be very vague and broad as it is not a fiscally constrained list. Pepper Whittlef mentioned that the City of Pueblo list needs to have a few changes. First, the Wildhorse Project should read: "18th St. to Hwy 50" because it currently terminates at 18th St. In addition, Pepper requested we add another project to the priorities list for the City of Pueblo. The additional project is the proposed trail from Highway 47, along Fountain Creek, to the Northern City Limits. The list will be modified to accommodate these requested changes.

Dan Centa asked how we will integrate the priorities lists into the 2040 plan. Scott replied that a list will be created which will become part of the plan, but will be separated into the different entities: City, County, and Pueblo West. Dan Centa then asked what the upper constraint of this list should be and Scott replied that it should be a list of projects that could be conceivable completed in the next 25 years. He said that we want to make sure they are prioritized because if you give a list of 40 projects and you apply for grant money for number 15, but you don't have money for number 1 yet, you would have to explain why through the grant application process. This would make obtaining grant money that much more difficult.

Kristin Castor pointed out that in creating these lists, it is important to look at getting people riding bikes and in wheelchairs from point A to point B as well.

After more discussion, it was stated that the ultimate goal is just to come up with a list from each of the entities (City, County, and Pueblo West) and then we will meet as a group and decide on a final version of the list to put into the 2040 L RTP. The results of the final list will be presented at the next TAC meeting on February 11th, 2016. Due to this, Scott asked if we need to delay the board's approval of the 2040 plan so that we can get the list incorporated first. He said that it would move the approval

to the end of February and asked CDOT if this was ok. Michael Snow replied that it was ok because the rule is that the MPO has 5 year from the last approved plan to get a new plan approved. Since the last plan was approved in June of 2011, we have until June of 2016 to get the 2040 LRTP approved and passed by PACOG. This would also extend the comment period and an announcement of that should be put out for the public.

A meeting time for the City, County and Pueblo West to meet and discuss their lists was set for Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at 1:30pm. This list will also be taken to the PACE meeting to be discussed on Monday, February 8, 2016. Reminder to those involved will be sent out.

7. Prioritization of 2040 LRTP Trail Projects

The DRAFT 2040 LRTP is out for review at the City Planning office, the CDOT office and all of the libraries within the MPO except for the library at the YMCA. We will extend the comment period to a week before the February PACOG meeting.

8. PACOG Planning Review Report – Review Recommendations*

Scott provided an additional handout to the packet which highlighted the 24 recommendations within 10 different areas given to PACOG from the Planning Review Report. Scott asked the TAC if this was something that we want to review as a group and get feedback on how to move forward, or if it should be done by the MPO staff and reported back to the TAC as to how the changes are progressing. Dan Centa stated that he felt the staff reporting to the TAC was appropriate, but Michael Snow pointed out that the recommendations in the report are not just items that should be handled by the MPO staff, nor were they the sole responsibility of the City of Pueblo. He stated that the TAC can have an impact and input on the issues. He also mentioned that he feels that there are areas that the TAC should read through to help the MPO staff make the appropriate changes.

Scott came up with the idea that the MPO staff could look at each of the 10 areas and break out the ones that the TAC/CAC could focus on and help the staff to address. All were in favor of this method of approach.

9. Staff Reports

- **West Pueblo Connector** - Scott stated that the project was awarded to Matrix and a kick-off meeting was held on January 6, 2016. At the meeting a map of the project study area was created. This map was an additional handout at the meeting. The project is being done to look at potential alignments of the new road, a proposed budget, and the best location for a bridge over the railroad. The next meeting will held on February 2, 2016 at 10:00am in the planning conference room to discuss ownership, environmental issues, and traffic information that has already been obtained. When the project is further along in the process, the consultants will come in to the TAC meeting discuss constraints.
- **Job Recruitment** – First, the Transportation Project Manager Position deadline was January 3rd, 2016. There have been 10 applications put in, but are currently being screened by civil service. Scott mentioned that they may hold a test, but he is hoping that they will just do time and experience. He hopes to interview for a position in early February and would like to have a representative of Pueblo West and the County to be on the interview panel. Second, the Transportation Technician position went through internal recruitment first, but no applications were submitted. It is now in the external stage until January 24, 2016. There will be a testing process for this position.
- **Demographic Data** – Scott would like to try to get someone to do the demographic data like Don Vest was doing. He isn't sure if we want to look at getting a full time position or try to get a contracted person to do the work. It was mentioned that we may want to reach out to the university to see if we can get someone to sustain this data to the level that Don Vest did.
- **Federal Highway Bill** – Scott stated that the new federal highway bill was passed. He said

that funding for freight is an added emphasis to the bill in order to look at priority freight corridors. He said that currently, Colorado only has I-25 and I-70 as priority freight corridors. Scott also mentioned that safety is a remaining significant funding area in the newly passed bill. In addition, the new Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) is being combined with the Surface Improvements Program.

- **Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG)** – *Scott stated that the CPG contract for the next two years will be going to the PACOG board the month on January 24, 2016.*
- **RTA** – *Scott informed the TAC that the City, County, the two Chambers of Commerce and the United Way are looking at getting a survey out to the public to obtain what the public's priorities are. The survey would also obtain what the public's priorities on funding for public services are. Discussion of this type of a survey was made by the TAC and most seemed to feel that this type of survey would be a waste of time and money. Darrin Tangeman recommended working with an actual scientific survey person out of UCCS, as Pueblo West is also currently working with them. Dan Centa stated that we need a more constrained survey strategy that will discuss what percentage of a passed tax (if passed) would be spent on each category – sidewalks, roadways, pedestrian improvements, etc.*

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

None

11. Adjournment

Chairman Scott Hobson adjourned the meeting at 10:30am