

Minutes of May 5, 2011 Joint Meeting  
Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)

**Audiotapes of all the meetings of the TAC are maintained and available for inspection and review during normal business hours (M-F, 8am-5pm) at the MPO/TPR Office at 223 N Santa Fe Avenue.**

TAC Members present: Brenda Broyles, Scott Hobson, Irene Merrifield, Rick Morgan, Wendy Pettit, Kevin Stilson, Pepper Whittlef, Earl Wilkinson, and Jeff Woeber.

CAC Members present: Donald Bruestle, Kristen Castor, Laurie Clark, William Davis, Epimenio Griego, and Debbie Rose.

Others present: John Valerio and Mark Sprick.

Mr. Hobson called the regular joint meeting of the TAC to order on Thursday, May 5, 2011 at 8:33 a.m. in the Temporary City Council Chambers, 301 West B Street.

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

Mr. Hobson introduced Kristen Castor who was appointed to the CAC by PACOG at their last meeting. He also congratulated Laurie Clark and Bill Davis for being reappointed to the Committee. For the benefit of Ms. Castor and the audience, the Committee Members were asked to introduce themselves. Mr. Hobson then asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Committee before commencing with the agenda. No public comments were noted.

**(2) Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 7, 2011.**

Motion to approve: Mr. Davis  
Second: Mr. Griego  
Unanimous

**(3) Standing Agenda Item: CDOT Region 2 request(s) for amendment(s) to the PACOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the MPO/TPR area.**

No items were submitted for this meeting.

**(4) Standing Agenda Item: CDOT Region 2 notification of administrative amendments to the PACOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the MPO/TPR area. No Action Required.**

No items were submitted for this meeting.

**(5) Presentation on the R2 Rail Plan – John Valerio and Mark Sprick, CDOT Transit and Rail Division.**

Pepper Whittlef introduced John Valerio and Mark Sprick from the CDOT Transit and Rail Division who gave the Committee an overview of current projects. They explained that the main function of the Transit and Rail Division is to administer Federal Transit Administration grants statewide. Mark Sprick is the Grant Coordinator for Regions 2 and 5. Mr. Valerio explained the different grants available and how they apply to different areas of the region. He also discussed intercity bus routes and Greyhound's move into the Transit Center. An intercity bus map of the routes in Colorado and an arrival/departure board for all intercity bus trips that arrive in Pueblo at the Transit Center were handed out to the Committee. Mr. Valerio also reported that the Chaffee Shuttle began service from Salida to Pueblo in

February and the Prestige Bus Line started a line from Wichita to Pueblo last November. The Division is expecting a grant application from Trinidad for a bus line that would connect Trinidad to Pueblo with a stop in Walsenburg. There also may be a grant application to start an Amtrack Throughway Bus to connect the Pueblo area with Amtrack in La Junta. The bus would pick up passengers from La Junta, come to Pueblo and then head to Denver with a return trip later in the day to provide more connectivity to Amtrack. On the topic of passenger rail, three major rail projects were discussed: 1) The State Rail Plan is being completed as a first step to receive federal funding to implement a rail project. The State Rail Plan Steering Committee is providing an opportunity to give input and say what rail needs are in this area, 2) The Interconnectivity Study is focused mainly on the Denver Metro Area looking at how a front range rail line would connect with the RTD system, and 3) The Alternative Guideway Systems (AGS) is studying technology and routing for a rail system on the I-70 corridor. At the conclusion of their presentation, Mr. Valerio opened the discussion for questions from the Committee. Mr. Davis gave a history of the rail lines along the front range.

**(6) MPO Staff Report**

- a. **Approval by Governor Hickenlooper of the PACOG 2012 – 2017 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).**
  - b. **Approval of the Amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan by PACOG.**
  - c. **Review of Ranking Process for 2011 Transportation Enhancement Grant Applications.**
- a. Mr. Hobson reported that Governor Hickenlooper approved the PACOG 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).
  - b. Mr. Hobson reported that PACOG approved the Amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan at their April 28, 2011 meeting. The amendment will be forwarded to the State to be included in the 2035 Plan. Mr. Hobson thanked staff and the Committee for participating in the amendment process.
  - c. Ms. Whittlef proposed a new ranking process for the 2011 Transportation Enhancement Grant applications. Previously the Committee has ranked proposed projects as high, medium or low. The proposed ranking system would allow each applicant to present its project to the Committee. A scoring sheet would be developed to allow the Committee to give an actual number ranking to each project. The Committee will evaluate each project from a transportation standpoint and decide how it fits within the Long Range Plan. This new system will give clear direction to the final selection committee. The Committee agreed with Ms. Whittlef's suggestion. Ms. Whittlef stated that she would submit a proposed scoring sheet at the next meeting. A brief discussion followed concerning the procedures used to evaluate applications and how the final projects are chosen.

**(7) Items from TAC members or scheduling of future agenda items.**

Mr. Hobson stated that development of the next two year Urban Planning Work Plan (UPWP) has begun. The UPWP is the guiding document for budgeting funds and allocating staff time for specific projects. The UPWP is coordinated with CDOT and approved at the state level. The first meeting with CDOT has provided a general consensus of proposed adjustments to the UPWP. The next two TAC meetings will be focused on this item.

**(8) Adjourned at 9:45 a.m.**

**THE US 50 W PEL TAT WILL MEET AFTER THE TAC ADJOURNS.**