

<h1 style="margin: 0;">MINUTES</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS</h2>
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A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, September 26, 2024. The meeting was held in person. The meeting was called to order by PACOG Chairman, Mark Aliff at 12:15 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Members Present were:

Sarah Martinez -City Council	Zach Swearingen -County Commissioner
Mike Cafasso-Board of Water Works	Mark Aliff- City Council
William Thiebaut -Dist. 60	Harry Hostetler-Colorado City
Chris DeLuca-Dist. 70	Ed Gutierrez-Salt Creek Sanitation

Members Absent:

Doug Proal -Pueblo West	Brett Boston -City Council
Regina Matri – City Council	Dennis Flores-City Council
Roger Gomez -City Council	Eppie Greigo- County Commissioner
Joseph Latino -City Council	Heather Graham – Mayor City of Pueblo
Danya Esgar -Pueblo County	

.Also Present Were:

Sarah Skinner -Pueblo County	Eva Cosyleon PACOG MPO
Geoff Guthrie-CDOT	Shane Ferguson-CDOT
Rob Frei-CDOT	Antonio Huerta-Sen Hickenlooper’s office
Don Bruestle Planning Commission	Bryan Wallace-PMB
Sabina Geniso, Pueblo County	Jason Nelson-CDOT
Dylan Goodman PACOG MPO	Carla Sikes-PACOG attorney
Maureen Paz de Araujo, - Wilson and Co.	Jennifer Sparks - CDOT
Laura Leyba, ADA committee	Carmen Howard-Pueblo County
Hanah Haurert-PACOG MPO	

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

PACOG Chair, Mark Aliff called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm

Roll call was taken, and it was determined there was not a quorum present at the beginning of the meeting.

First items of the agenda:

Due to the lack of a quorum, the consent agenda was moved to the end of the meeting agenda to allow for a couple of late members the opportunity to login for the approval of these items. The Chair moved on to the next agenda item.

**Regular Items:**

- 1 Chairperson's Report:
  - A) Lunch Appreciation: Mr. Aliff thanked Board of Water Works for the catered lunch.
  
- 2 Manager's Report: Ms. Carmen Howard was to cover the consent items on the agenda, and they were delayed to the end of the agenda.
  
- 3 CDOT Transportation Information
  - A) Mr. Shane Ferguson gave a brief talk on the federal Regional Priority Program. He covered the changes that have been made to the program, and how the changes might benefit/affect the Pueblo Area. Starting in FY2029 there will be changes made to cover emergency situations and maintenance issues. There are also issues that come up in a project that cannot be addressed based on the funding being applied and its restraints in the project itself. So, starting in FY 2029 the region is going to make a pool of funding out of RPP funds for these specific needs by taking 1.5 million dollars off the top of the region 2 allocation. That will short each region in region 2 by a percentage of their piece of the RPP allocation. This will allow for the region to better meet the needs of the region as a whole. This reduction in region wide allocations will take the current 15% allocation of the PACOG RPP allocation from an estimated allocation of \$1.5 million dollars down to \$1.275 million dollars each year over the planning horizon period. Each Transportation planning area in region 2 will be contributing a share of their RPP to make up the \$1.5 million dollars. The funds will be utilized though out the region 2 area. Mr. Ferguson has an ultimate goal of a pool balance of about 3 million dollars for the emergency needs of region 2. CDOT region 2 will give a quarterly report out on how the funds are being spent.
  
  - B) Terry Hart was not in attendance to give a CDOT Transportation Commission update, but Since Mr. Ferguson was in attendance, he gave a brief overview of the Transportation commission actions of the Policy Directive 14 process. The transportation commission had a brief meeting, they then proceeded to tour some of the projects in the I70 corridor, they toured the Floyd hill project, the Isenhower tunnel, and other smaller projects along the way. The main action of the commission was the approval of the Policy Directive 14 that has been on the agendas of the STAC and the commission now since May being developed and discussed to come to a final draft. There were three objectives that were focused upon in the process. They are as follows:  
Asset management, improving safety statewide and multimodal need in our communities statewide. This plan guides the 10-year plan.

**Regular Items Cont.:**

- C) Jennifer Sparks and Jason Nelson from CDOT were in attendance to go over the CDOT project summary report. The project lists with the information are included in the packet for the details. Jennifer said the grant for the 4<sup>th</sup> street bridges was received she spoke of last month. Jason Nelson also gave his update on the traffic projects and then went on to say the safety meeting for the update of the safety plan had good turn out, and the study for the plan for the changes on SH 45 is almost at an end, the erosion control measures are moving along on City Center Drive and Commissioner Swearingen asked about an accident on 36<sup>th</sup> land and SH 96. He asked for updates and Mr. Nelson stated the accident CDOT is looking into it and will report back. Mr. Aliff stated that the rapid response CDOT was appreciated on the development issues from last month. Mayor Graham brought the group together and CDOT and the City have made adjustments to the way the process is working with consultants and developers working in the County for new or redevelopment needs.

**4 State Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC)**

Policy Directive 14 was discussed at length, transit planning expansions were discussed, there are differing opinions from STAC members than those of the CDOT transit team, on just how much build out is achievable, CDOT is trying to cover the Green House Gas issues with various techniques and changes to allocations to modes of travel to meet the Green House gas program requirements, and transit is one area seeing a lot of change.

Policy Directive 14 helps investment decisions in the planning process, asset management, and FASTER Safety and HSIP allocations.

- The policy is designed to be a living document. But there were many aspects the STAC as a whole did not support, the STAC asked for further discussion and the DTD planning manager stated that this conversation had been ongoing since May and it needed to be decided to move on with the 2050 LRP process.
- STAC has been commenting on these issues and the commentary has not been incorporated into PD 14. Darius responded that compiled comments were addressed in a table provided in the appendix attached to PD 14. STAC
- Concerns arose regarding the 83% increase of transit revenue service miles and its excessive cost. CDOT emphasized that goals can be modified over time if they are not feasible due to funding.
- Additional concerns arose concerning there is no goal on highway expansion to accommodate expected population growth, and some STAC members would not support the Policy because of this issue. Many feel it is unreasonable to expect a solution through expanded transit only, that many parts of the state cannot be served adequately by transit nor can the state fund such aspirational transit goals.

- Many expressed the need to address the pavement and asset condition rather than transit.
- Concerns were raised on whether the PD will prevent some projects from happening if they do not hit the goals in particular communities.
- A general concern is that the 10 Year Plans will not be based on needs but rather this policy and it will determine that the funding goes to transit rather than pavement and safety projects
- Vince Rogalski STAC Chair, says that TC and STAC do not discuss PD 14 together but separately and it would be useful to discuss this together.
- STAC felt they were not heard, and DTD planning manager stated, that compiled comments were addressed in a table provided in the appendix attached to PD 14. Compiled but is that addressed?
- Action: The STAC approved a motion to **reject** the proposed PD 14 as it was written, with Commissioner O’Doriso of Adams County voting against the decent for reasons stated above.

Review of the revised STAC bylaws

A Motion was unanimously approved to adopt, specifying an additional term limitation of no more than four consecutive terms combined for Chair and Vice Chair, if any one person serves for two terms in each position.

Region 5 gave a presentation on their accomplishments in the 10-year plan for their area.

**MPO Staff Report**  
 (Eva Cosyleon, MPO Manager)

**1. CDOT Region 2 request(s) the following amendment projects into the FY 2025 –2028 Pueblo Area Council of Governments Transportation Improvement Program (PACOG TIP)\***  
**Action Required: Informational**

- a) TIP Amend 2024.001.02 Administrative Amendment  
 Project Name: I-25 through Pueblo  
 STIP Number: SPB3865.999  
 Project Location and Description: Design & reconstruction of existing interchange at I25A & US50B  
 Fund Source(s): 7PX - Strategic Program Pool (Highway)

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
7PX – State (267)	\$0	\$1,993,810	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,993,810

Total	\$0	\$1,993,810	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,993,810
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Notes: Bids opened 8/15/24; adding FY25 7PX funds to award project

b) TIP Amend 2024.001.02 Administrative Amendment

Project Name: I-25 through Pueblo

STIP Number: SPB3865.999

Project Location and Description: Design & reconstruction of existing interchange at I25A & US50B

Fund Source(s): CEF – Cost Escalation Fund

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
CEF – Federal (NHPP)	\$0	\$2,282,290	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,282,290
CEF – State (SHF)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$2,282,290	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,282,290

Notes: Bids opened 8/15/24; adding FY25 CEF funds to award project

c) TIP Amend 2024.001.02 Administrative Amendment

Project Name: I-25 through Pueblo

STIP Number: SPB3865.999

Project Location and Description: Design & reconstruction of existing interchange at I25A & US50B

Fund Source(s): SB1 – Colorado Senate Bill 1

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
SB1 – State (SHF)	\$0	\$1,011,890	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,011,890
Total	\$0	\$1,011,890	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,011,890

Notes: Bids opened 8/15/24; adding FY25 SB1 funds to award project

d) TIP Amend 2024.001.02 Administrative Amendment

Project Name: I-25 through Pueblo

STIP Number: SPB3865.999

Project Location and Description: Design & reconstruction of existing interchange at I25A & US50B

Fund Source(s): SUR – Surface Treatment Program

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total

SUR – Federal (NHPP)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$364,840	\$0	\$364,840
SUR – State (SHF)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,160	\$0	\$35,160
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	\$0	\$400,000

Notes: Bids opened 8/15/24; adding FY27 SUR funds to award project

- e) TIP Amend 2024.006.01 Administrative Amendment  
 Project Name: I25 Pueblo Safety Improvements  
 STIP Number: SR26867.138  
 Project Location and Description: Safety improvements along the I25 corridor  
 Fund Source(s): RPP – Region Priorities Program

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
RPP – Federal (NHPP)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$729,680)	(\$729,680)
RPP – State (SHF)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$70,320)	(\$70,320)
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$800,000)	(\$800,000)

Notes: Moved funds to STIP ID: SPB3865.999 to award I25A & US50B Interchange.

- f) TIP Amend 2024.001.03 Administrative Amendment  
 Project Name: I-25 through Pueblo  
 STIP Number: SPB3865.999  
 Project Location and Description: Design & reconstruction of existing interchange at I25A & US50B  
 Fund Source(s): RPP – Region Priorities Program

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
RPP – Federal (NHPP)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$729,680	\$729,680
RPP – State (SHF)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$70,320	\$70,320
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$800,000	\$800,000

Notes: Bids opened 8/15/24; adding FY28 RPP funds to award project

**2. Other Transportation Matters**  
**Action Requested: Discussion if necessary**

**Action Requested: Discussion if necessary**

\* Denotes additional materials are attached.

\*\* Denotes material to be distributed at PACOG Meeting.

**Regular Items Cont.:**

5. Next New Business was called for with no new items brought forward.
  
6. The Consent items were Last on the agenda today, . Ms. Carmen Howard, presented the following consent items:
  1. Minutes of August 22, 2024, Meeting\*  
**Action Required: Approve/Amend as Mailed**
  
  2. Treasurer's Report  
**Action Required: Receive and File July 2024 Financial Reports\***  
*(If you have any questions, please contact Todd Mihelich, MGPM, PC, at 719-543-0516 prior to the meeting*
  
  3. ADA minutes August 2024\*  
**Action Required: Approve/Amend as Mailed**

Minutes of August 25, 2024, Meeting were presented as were the ADA minutes for edits and approval, and the financial report being asked to be filed.

A motion was made to accept the minutes, file the financial report, and accept the ADA minutes by Michael Cafasso and seconded by Harry Hostetler .

**ADJOURNMENT of the regular meeting was made by Mr. Aliff at 12:23pm (WJP)**

***The next meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments is to be held on Thursday, October 24, 2024, at the PUEBLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 101 WEST 10TH STREET, FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM the meeting will be held in-person and virtually via Zoom.***

**INDIVIDUALS REQUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTIFY PACOG AT (719) 553-2259 AT LEAST TWO (2) WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.**

\* Denotes additional materials are attached.

\*\* Denotes material to be distributed at PACOG Meeting