



## FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT

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# Approved Minutes EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m., Wednesday, May 28, 2008

Coconino County Administration Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conf. Rm.  
219 E. Cherry Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montoya called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

On roll call, the following were present:

Bob Montoya, Chair  
Joseph Donaldson, Vice Chair  
Karen Cooper  
Scott Overton  
Deb Hill  
Matt Ryan

The following FMPO staff was present:

David Wessel, FMPO Manager  
Meg Roederer, Administrative Specialist

Others Present:

Andy Bertelsen  
Audra Merrick  
Rick Barrett  
Mary Jo Jenkins

### II. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

#### A. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

This item was discussed following New Business Item 2: Regional Transportation Plan.

Chair Montoya recognized the efforts of Mayor Joe Donaldson as vice-chair of the FMPO Executive Board and presented him with a certificate of appreciation, as well as, a print of Mt. Elden. Mayor Donaldson remarked on his experience with the MPO and the community. Chair Montoya also recognized the efforts of Council Member Karen Cooper of the FMPO Executive Board and presented her with a certificate of appreciation and print of Mt. Elden. Ms. Cooper reflected on her service to the City and MPO and rewards she received in return through the experience. The Board thanked them both and wished them well.

**C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.**

Mr. Overton made a motion to approve both sets of Minutes (March 26, 2008/May 5, 2008.) Mr. Ryan seconded, which passed unanimously.

**III. OLD BUSINESS (Continued, postponed, and tabled items.)**

None

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. FY 2009 Work Program and Budget**

Mr. Wessel noted the changes to the Work Program and Budget to the Board. Mr. Wessel explained the primary focus as the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the state's Frameworks Study and Traffic Counts Program. He stated the total budget as \$441,000. In addition, language was added to clarify where transit funds were being spent as requested by federal.

Ms. Hill inquired about the term "commodity." Mr. Wessel stated commodities are things such as office supplies. The term is used in order to follow the City of Flagstaff budget process. The Board asked about a food budget for the RTP and it is reflected in the budget for \$400. Mr. Wessel stated the food would be utilized for events, workshops and meetings. Chair Montoya inquired if there could be any changes such as an unusual event. Mr. Wessel stated if the TIME Coalition effort takes route in July with signatures and if there is a desire by the Board to do an informational campaign for outreach to northern Arizona that might be one thing that could affect the budget. He also mentioned that there is some unprogrammed task time in staff allocation.

Mayor Donaldson made a motion to approve the 2009 Work Program and Budget and Mr. Ryan seconded, which carried unanimously.

**2. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update**

Mr. Wessel informed the Board of the recent developments with the RTP. He stated the first round of public involvement was completed with 40 people total at the public outreach events and the same number at the stakeholder meetings. He said the quality of input was great with good facilitated discussions but numbers were low.

He summarized what they had learned:

- Basic validation of current policies in the regional plan
- Support of alternate modes
- Support for north/south corridor improvements, ie: Lone Tree Corridor, Milton, crossings at railroads and interstates - which Mr. Wessel stated railroads and interstates our impediments as well as our opportunities.
- Support for the concept of character district studies with integration of transportation on a land use level.

Mr. Wessel spoke with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Management Committee. They are interested in additional public input in order to have a solid policy basis. Mr. Wessel is investigating the affordability of a random sample survey and having discussions with consultant, NAU and NAIPTA. He also mentioned a new state program, Planning Assistance for Rural Areas or PARA, to see if a grant may be possible to fund survey. Mr. Wessel continued to state there are 122 subscribers registered on the website, a news release was done and *CityScape* comes out in July. He explained the City of Flagstaff Community Investment will be out this summer on the character district neighborhood planning effort and he will have them pursue further input on the policies. Mr. Wessel expressed the intention is to be well prepared when this is presented to elected bodies with a firm sense of where the public stands on the issues. He mentioned the first night of the workshop

there was a large bicycle contingency present and we want to make sure there is a good balance on the perspective of the policies.

Mr. Wessel stated other areas forth coming are the following:

- End of June, a 2007 traffic model should be running for the base year
- Valuable Character District Data gathered
- Support of master planning in the city and county
  - Land use data projections with long-term scenarios such as water restrictions that may influence growth. In order to be sure political leadership is comfortable with the assumptions in which future plans are being placed on.

Mayor Donaldson commented on the need for water discussions at a state level. Based on information from Curt Gunther, he stated in 100 years there would be no water in Arizona. Mayor Donaldson explained the state is currently working on negotiations with the Mexican Government to bring desalinated water from the Mexican Gulf. Once an agreement is reached they will work on bringing it to Congress to have it ratified. He expressed Verde Valley is finding it the most difficult to get water. Mayor Donaldson stated land use planning will be affected by water restrictions and planning needs to be done long range...without water there will be no need for roads. Ms. Hill stated involvement could be at the levels of SWAG (State Water Advisory Group) or CPAC (Coconino Plateau Advisory Council). There are members that serve on both of them from the MPO. Chair Montoya suggested Mr. Wessel check into the appropriate levels of involvement especially with the rurals. Mr. Wessel replied that there is a proposed executive order that we have been asked to review that has to do with population projections to establish a new process of official state projections. Mr. Wessel commented that the meetings he attends on the future of Arizona the water issue is always discussed and he will bring it up within the context of population projections. Chair Montoya stressed the importance of other resources that will be consumed with the uses and the entire strata of things that need to be considered. Ms. Cooper added that a large challenge is realistically appraising the water capabilities and then doing the planning in response to that. Ms. Hill mentioned an interesting correlation between energy and water, in that energy is used to pump water and the majority of water is used to cool power plants. She stated these are things we do not have control over and concurred with the others we need to look at all the impacts not just water - all the energy use - our resource imprint. Mayor Donaldson expressed the need to guide city and county officials with land use planning in developing water adequacy policies, especially with discussions of a pipeline and if federal funding is involved.

There was no action. Discussion only.

### **3. FMPO FY 2009-2013 TIP**

Mr. Wessel explained the status of the TIP and stated it will be available for approval by the Executive Board as an action item in June. Mr. Wessel stated the requirement from federal is a 4% per year inflation factor to project out to the year of expenditure. In order to accommodate the feds it is reflected in the 2013 dollars. He mentioned the primary use of federal funds is the Milton Road design. He stated the TAC is scheduled to take action next week. In addition, the TIP now reflects the transit tax initiative passing.

Mayor Donaldson stressed keeping the public involved with the design in Milton Road and other projects as well as keeping information flowing. Mr. Wessel commented on the increased difficulty in exciting the public to get involved. He mentioned the Transit Tax did well at the polls but after talking with Mr. Meilbeck (NAIPTA) they did not have people attend the open houses, and it was a direct pocket book issue. Ms. Hill stated people do not go to meetings because they may be working two jobs. She added have the meeting but continue the outreach as the Mayor suggests. She suggested the website and survey programs (ie: Chamber) move to electronic possibilities and tools. Ms. Cooper stated Mr. Meilbeck set a good example by going to existing meetings/groups and

giving the presentation more than 70 times. Chair Montoya expressed that Mr. Wessel needs to go to them such as the chamber, builder groups, business owners and PIOs, especially with Milton and and the potentiality of the character of Flagstaff changing. Mr. Ryan stated *CityScape* is a good tool to keep people informed and agreed with Board comments. Mayor Donaldson mentioned the importance of work session presentations and how widely watched it is. Vice Mayor Overton, mentioned meeting announcements should be used more often on the televised segment. He also stated the ease of online surveys for example the Chamber had 110 returned surveys at 4 pm and it was released at 11 am. He acknowledged surveys are a good tool despite limited input. He also, mentioned the need to get people involved and that the RTP is a "big deal" and the need to participate and people do not always understand it. Mr. Wessel acknowledged the need to reach out to the public.

There was no action. Discussion only.

#### **4. Calendar**

Mr. Wessel commented on the calendar dates and scheduled items. The Board discussed the Manager evaluation scheduled on June 25, 2008 and noted the executive board membership change is effective June 17, 2008. Chair Montoya recommended referring to the FMPO By-Laws for options and designated alternates. Mr. Overton suggested a special meeting before 6/17. The board members are available on 6/16 and Mr. Montoya will attend telephonically. Ms. Roederer will follow-up on the possible options. There was discussion only and no action.

#### **D. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESSREPORTS**

- 1) Technical Advisory Committee:  
Provided and there was no discussion on the action summary from May 1, 2008.
- 2) Management Committee Report:  
No Report
- 3) Staff Reports:  
Provided and there was a brief discussion on the staff reports.

#### **E. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Montoya announced the next meeting dates. Mayor Donaldson announced a transportation summit on May 29, 2008 in Phoenix.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Montoya adjourned the meeting at 8:44 a.m.