



FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT

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Approved Minutes **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING** **8:00 a.m. –10:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 22, 2008**

Flagstaff City Hall, Staff Conference Room, 211 W. Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Overton called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

On roll call, the following were present:

Scott Overton, Chair
Matt Ryan, Vice Chair
Mayor Sara Presler
Coral Evans
Bob Montoya
Deb Hill (excused absent)

The following FMPO staff was present:

David Wessel, FMPO Manager
Meg Roederer, Administrative Specialist

Others Present:

Curt Dunham
Bill Towler
Jim Cronk
John Harper
Larry Dannenfeldt

II. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Wessel requested an agenda change for item III.2 New Business to be discussed before Old Business item II.1 and Chair Overton adjusted the agenda.

C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve the September 24, 2008 Retreat Minutes and August 27, 2008 Minutes and Ms. Evans seconded, which passed unanimously.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Strategic Initiative Development

Mr. Wessel introduced Mr. Curt Dunham of PSA, Inc. and sub-consultant to the Regional Transportation Plan process as the facilitator for the Strategic Initiative Development discussion. Below are the discussion comments from the Board (*provided by Mr. Dunham.*)

Expectations

- Ensure we steer, not row.
- Role of FMPO: working to get things done or planners?
- Determine how we are moving transportation forward in the region – play a more advocacy role.
- Provide a vision for the entire region and not be project specific.
- Improve communication in the community, be the “host” for community conversations, coordinating with stakeholders like ADOT.
- Educate the public better on FMPO’s role and what we do.
- Do the goals we have still match what we should be doing?
- Balance and matching of needs identified in other plans.
- There is a lack of understanding in the public about all of the acronyms.

Comments on the Draft Foundation Statement

Draft Foundation Statement: *The Flagstaff region will continue to invest in a sustainable transportation system that provides equitable travel choices (drive, bus, walk, bike) that enhance community livability and personal mobility. Transportation investments will preserve existing neighborhood character, support new mixed use development in strategic locations, and protect environmental quality and access. Transportation projects and strategy priorities will, in order of importance:*

a) maximize travel choices

b) shorten trip duration and distances through land use planning

c) optimize the efficiency of existing infrastructure

d) create new travel corridors and connections.

The region will match appropriate transportation investments to land use and urban design objectives.

- It captures what we do
- Does not seem to match with the goals
- What is our region – confused
- Does not identify the stakeholders
- How can we measure or ensure that options are “equitable?” Suggest “variety” instead.
- Investments in neighborhood character limiting
- How do we control “mixed use development?”
- Don’t like the “order of importance” concept
- Can we really do “b?”
- Words are too “legaleze.” Every word doesn’t have to be measured. Need to say what we do. Needs to be more practical.
- Needs to promote alternative choices.
- There are inherently conflicting issues: New corridors vs. neighborhood character preservation.
- Do we really set development patterns?
- What about rail and air?
- Needs to say clearly “what do we do?”
- Need to balance/address/explain how to deal with inherent conflicts

- Need to explain regional connections
- Acknowledge regional stakeholders
- Address affordability issues
- Address community economic sustainability

Initiatives

Policy

- Need a big picture financial strategy that takes a realistic look at resource capacity
- Do not be duplicative of other agencies' efforts/work. Leverage and complement.
- Protect I-17 and I-40 so that they remain economic development strengths.
- Address rail issues and impacts – this will eventually become projects.
- Expand multimodal system to promote economic development efforts.
- Provide for more discussion time of issues at our meetings, not just approve things.
- Examine and clarify our relationships with COG, NAIPTA, etc.
- Take a look at our boundary – does it still make sense. Are we limiting ourselves not including a larger area?
- Examine our name – does it imply what we do. Need to brand ourselves.

Organizational

- Expand partnerships to maximize resources.
- Make sure we are linking our plans and connecting with other organizations.
- Need to develop a policy level communications plan.
- Need to summarize our accomplishments and publicize them. Do it when happens.
- Make organizational capacity part of the discussion when we are looking at new initiatives.
- Need to develop a comprehensive list of stakeholders and determine how to interact with them.

Projects

- Maintenance and preservation of system.
- Lone Tree Corridor
- North-South Corridor
- Improved communication and community information. Develop an annual report outlining accomplishments and issues being addressed.
- Provide more visual planning tools about transportation options and projects.

Mr. Wessel summarized the Board comments.

- Reformulate Statement
- Extract Guiding Principles
- Organize Initiative under principles
- Add Initiatives that may drive or achieve them
- Bring the revised update back to the Board for further discussion

2. Calendar

Staff will work on confirming the December meeting date.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

3. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update

Chair Overton made a motion to table the approval of the RTP schedule based on the discussion of the Draft Policy Foundation Statement and RTP activity schedule. Mayor Presler seconded, which was unanimous.

V. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

D. REPORTS

- 1) Technical Advisory Committee:
Provided and no discussion
- 2) Management Committee Report:
No Discussion
- 3) Staff Reports:

Mr. Wessel stated the City of Flagstaff with the MPO was awarded \$855,000 to help the Lake Mary Road Widening Project. A press release will be done. He also stated a negotiation is in progress that may or may not offset it-depends on the bids. Chair Overton asked if there is an option for an expanded scope. Mr. Wessel stated it is possible, perhaps enhancements.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Wessel distributed fliers to the Board to announce Community Workshops on the Northern Arizona Regional Framework Study. The MPO is helping ADOT get the word out to increase public participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Overton adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.