



# FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT

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## *Approved Minutes* **Special Executive Board** **1:00 p.m., Monday, December 13, 2010**

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Coconino County 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
219 E. Cherry Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Chair Overton called the meeting to order at 1:22 p.m.

### **Roll Call.**

**Present:** Chair Scott Overton, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Carl Taylor, Supervisor Coconino County; Matt Ryan, Supervisor Coconino County; Coral Evans, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Art Babbott, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Jennifer Toth, Arizona Department of Transportation (designated alternate 1:22 pm-1:31 pm telephonically); Vice Chair Bob Montoya, Arizona Department of Transportation (1:31 pm telephonically)

### **Others Present:**

David Wessel, FMPO Manager; Meg Roederer, FMPO Administrative Specialist; Kevin Adam, RTAC; Georgi Ann Jasenovec, FHWA

## **I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **A. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **B. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Wessel stated announcements will be deferred to the end of the meeting.

### **C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.**

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 27, 2010 and Mr. Babbott seconded, which passed unanimously.

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

### **1. FMPO Title VI Plan and Annual Report**

Mr. Wessel explained the Title VI Plan and Report needs action again from the Board because the Plan needed public comment. The Plan has since been released for thirty days to the Title VI stakeholders via email, a notice was placed in the Arizona Daily Sun and posted on the FMPO website. Mr. Wessel received no public comment or input from stakeholders. Mr. Taylor made a motion to adopt the Title VI Plan and Annual Report and Ms. Evans seconded, which passed unanimously.

### **2. Rural Transportation Advocacy Council Appointment**

Mr. Adam explained the RTAC meeting schedule and requested an appointee to serve on the RTAC Board. Mr. Adam stated there are four COGS and three MPOs for a total of a seven member Board. He stated the FMPO is the only agency of the seven that does not have representation. He

mentioned they have experienced quorum challenges and mentioned telephonic participation is acceptable. Mr. Adam stated the RTAC Board meets monthly while the legislature is in session and there is a possibility the meetings will follow the ASTB meetings but that is to be determined. He stated meetings in the past have met every two – three months after the legislature has been adjourned. Mr. Adam stated he has a proposed schedule and the next meeting is the third Friday in January and then it will rotate between Wednesdays and Thursdays. Mr. Adam stated he will provide the next six dates by the end of the meeting. Mr. Taylor nominated Chair Overton to serve as the FMPO representative to the RTAC and Mr. Ryan seconded, which Mr. Overton accepted and it passed unanimously. Mr. Taylor nominated Mr. Ryan to serve as the FMPO designated alternate representative to the RTAC and Ms. Evans seconded, which Mr. Ryan accepted and it passed unanimously.

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

#### **1. FMPO FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Wessel stated this is an amendment to the current Work Program and reviewed the table on page seven of the agenda packet with the Board. Mr. Wessel stated he has received preliminary approval of the amendments from ADOT and FHWA. He explained there is a negative balance of \$10,000 that was an accounting error and is working on fixing it with ADOT. He stated the error was billed with the wrong indirect rate and it should have been higher.

Chair Overton stated the FMPO is the lead on the Winter Congestion Study and if we are pulling from multiple funding partners. Mr. Wessel replied that it is primarily funded by ADOT from State Planning Research, FMPO funds and \$5,000 from County. Chair Overton asked if any private parties contributed. Mr. Wessel stated “no.” Mr. Ryan commented on the issue regarding the Chamber and private sector funding. Chair Overton stated he had conversations with the Wing Mountain vendor and Arizona Snowbowl and they expressed interest in participating to improve the visitor experience. Chair Overton expressed that he was surprised there were no other funding streams. Mr. Taylor stated there has been a poor job with maintaining the momentum of the Study due to lack of snow, tornadoes and floods. Mr. Taylor commented that the County was going to provide leadership and believes we are getting back on track and with regular meetings, real tasks and reporting out to the business community the momentum will return. Mr. Wessel stated in terms of the research it is aimed at providing information regarding a travel time advantage with the alternate routes and to ultimately use the technology to do real time signage on route recommendation.

Mr. Babbott thanked the FMPO for its generous support of the regional planning process and will carry the message to the council.

Mr. Taylor moved to approve the work program amendments to accommodate recent grant approvals, changes in tasks scopes, and the shifting and/or deferral of funds to improve the scope of other projects and Mr. Babbott seconded, which passed unanimously.

#### **2. FMPO FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Wessel reviewed the information in the staff report and received input from the Board on next year’s work program. Mr. Wessel explained in greater detail the Every Day Counts – EDC federal initiative and mentioned he is the Arizona State representative. He stated there are 15 activities the Feds want to institutionalize, which range from planning to safety. Mr. Wessel stated an example of an initiative that is applicable to Flagstaff, is the Adaptive Traffic Signal Control and there is an opportunity for our area to be a test case. He stated it can be applied up to 30 signals for instance on the 66/Milton corridor.

Mr. Taylor mentioned there is a great opportunity for a focus on the idea of a cultural park on Highway 180 at Sechrist and the Museum of Northern Arizona with one or two roundabouts. Mr. Taylor stated it would be a multi-stakeholder activity and there would need to be a project

manager. Mr. Taylor inquired if the FMPO has capacity or funds for project management and facilitation. He stated it could be very advantageous regarding tourism, taxes, branding and revenue. The County is not structured to run the project and the FMPO appears to have the capacity to pull together stakeholders and is proposing this is a future topic. Mr. Wessel stated there are opportunities to pursue such as the following:

1) ADOT project assessment on 180 (Navajo-Hidden Hollow) with a focus to finish the cross section in the right away. Mr. Wessel stated the FMPO staff is going to inquire about parkway and sidewalks. Mr. Wessel stated John Harper is aware of the interest of the cultural park.

2) Enhancement Program

3) Independent Project

Chair Overton mentioned the Cultural Park is not within the CIP but it does have synergy. Mr. Ryan suggested a generic flow chart to help understand the recommendations regarding timing and the TIP.

Mr. Ryan commented on awareness of the Decision Theater and legislative bodies, boards and committees to use the decision theater. Ms. Evans commented on the importance of community activity. Mr. Wessel stated that is the intent and part of the grant is structured to include the funding, as well as, the consultant to organize and advertise the Decision Theater with off-site access. Mr. Wessel stated an example may be the following: a group at ASU, perhaps sites at NAU or ADOT using facilitators in a general broadcast plus an opportunity for feedback. Ms. Evans suggested using the website. Mr. Wessel suggested it could be a live stream video via the web; although, it may not be real time feedback.

### **3. FY 2011-12 Highway Safety Improvement Program Projects**

Mr. Wessel presented results of the Technical Advisory Committee's work to date on project proposals in the context of the state run, federal program. The Board requested clarification on the \$385,000 that was lost last fiscal year for failure to obligate projects. Ms. Evans stressed the importance of looking long term for more effective projects. The Board recommended removing the Woody Mountain Roundabout Reconstruction project from the project list. Mr. Taylor commented on a Highway 180 Cultural Park and the its potential to fix many safety problems and proposed having a placeholder of a design study. Ms. Evans suggested the Fourth street corridor and Lockett as a proposed project.

### **4. Legislative Update & Outreach Opportunity**

RTAC Director, Kevin Adam, reported on the legislative issues taking place at a state and federal level. Mr. Wessel stated he is presenting at the Transportation Research Board in Washington, D.C. in January and should have the opportunity to carry a message to congressional and agency contacts. Mr. Wessel will coordinate with City and County staff on the message, issues and contacts.

### **5. FMPO Calendar**

There was no discussion.

## **IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no discussion.

### **D. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Overton and the Board thanked Mr. Montoya for his service on the FMPO Executive Board and recognized his efforts with a plaque. Mr. Montoya's term on the Arizona State Transportation Board ends on December 31, 2010 and completes his commitment to the FMPO Board.

## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Overton adjourned the meeting at 2:56 p.m.