



FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT

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Action Summary **Executive Board**

8:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 27, 2011

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

Vice Chair Harper called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Roll Call.

Present: Vice Chair John Harper (designated alternate), Arizona Department of Transportation; Carl Taylor, Supervisor Coconino County; Mandy Metzger (designated alternate), Supervisor Coconino County; Coral Evans, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Art Babbott, Councilmember City of Flagstaff

Excused Absent:

Chair Scott Overton, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Vice Chair Hank Rogers, Arizona Department of Transportation; Matt Ryan, Supervisor Coconino County

Others Present:

David Wessel, FMPO Manager; Martin Ince, FMPO Multimodal Planner; Meg Roederer, FMPO Administrative Specialist; Kevin Adam, RTAC; Chris Fetzer, NACOG; Audra Merrick, ADOT

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Wessel requested an adjustment of the agenda to skip Old Business: Legislative and Regulatory Update and Review in order to wait for Mr. Adams to arrive and start with New Business Item 1: FMPO FY 2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Vice Chair Harper and the Board agreed.

C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 23, 2011 and Vice Chair Harper abstained because he did not attend the March meeting. Ms. Evans seconded, which passed.

II. NEW BUSINESS (Continued, postponed, and tabled items.)

1. FMPO FY 2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Amendment

Mr. Ince introduced the topic to the Board to amend the TIP to include the County Guard Rail project, drop the County rumble strip project and sign replacement project, and add the Milton ADA ramp project. The amendment will also program the delivery of FY10 and 11 design projects. The Board made comments and discussion.

Ms. Evans made a motion to approve the TIP Amendment and Ms. Metzger seconded, which passed unanimously.

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

1. Legislative and Regulatory Update and Review

Mr. Wessel gave a brief update of the topic and introduced Mr. Adam to provide an in-depth report. The Board supported sending a letter to the delegation, administration and committee chairs on a reauthorization position paper and indexing of a gas tax. There was discussion only.

IV. NEW BUSINESS (Continued, postponed, and tabled items.)

2. I-40 Design Concept Report Comment Submittal

Mr. Wessel reviewed the I-40 DCR with the Board. There was discussion and a suggestion to have comment process as a retreat topic. The Board commented on the importance of private development participation. Mr. Taylor suggested presenting the I-40 DCR to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Wessel will contact Mr. Bertelsen. Mr. Taylor made a motion to endorse and support the FMPO staff findings and comments of the I-40 DCR to ADOT and Ms. Evans seconded, which passed unanimously.

3. ADOT 5-Year Construction Program

Mr. Wessel stated the State Transportation Board will hold a public hearing on the 5-Year Construction Program at Flagstaff City Council Chambers on May 20, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Wessel mentioned projects in the region include the JWP/89a intersection in 2013 and a pavement preservation of US 180. Mr. Harper stated they are trying to accelerate it because US 180 is coming apart significantly. Mr. Wessel stated there is possible action for the Board to consider recommending the Chair to send a letter commenting on the program. Mr. Wessel brought to the attention projects around the region mentioning there are a number of pavement preservation projects on I-40 and 89 as well as considerable improvements at Cameron and pavement preservation on I-17. Mr. Wessel stated in the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 they do not have pavement preservation jobs and there may be future jobs in the County and it is undetermined at this point. Ms. Metzger commented if Tonalea should be on the list. Ms. Merrick stated it is a district minor job and not on the list. Mr. Wessel stated the program is beneficial to the region and given the fiscal constraints we are doing fairly well. Mr. Harper stated that Mohave County received significant dollars (\$150 million) to repair seven bridges on I-15 to keep the program going five-six years. There was discussion only.

4. Annual State Transportation Board Dinner

Mr. Wessel stated the State Board dinner is about 70 people and requested Board advice on the topic for this year's ten minute presentation during dinner. Mr. Wessel stated potential topics include: System Preservation; an I-40 Coalition; Economic Development; general celebration of regional, collaborative projects. Mr. Taylor suggested gas tax indexing and toll roads as topics of discussion because of the need for revenue generation. Mr. Wessel stated sources of information are the ADOT surveys with their permission. Mr. Wessel suggested the topics on the I-40 Coalition and Economic Development. Ms. Evans commented on quality of life issues and it does not focus only on economic development. Mr. Adam suggested the Long Range Plan, local district issues with concerns on maintenance, or a presentation geared toward new member, Hank Rogers. Ms. Metzger suggested combining the area to provide a visually interesting presentation. Mr. Wessel stated he may ask Mr. Fetzer to participate in the presentation. There was discussion only.

5. FMPO FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Wessel briefly stated that the old projects are moving forward and the new projects are the Trip Diary Survey and the Transit Plan Update. There was no discussion.

6. FMPO FY 2012-16 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Wessel stated the Highway Safety Program is set and things have not really changed other than the legitimate question of \$1 million in year 2016 to support the Lone Tree Traffic Interchange. Mr. Wessel mentioned it is time to have a frank discussion as to how to move forward with the T-I. Mr. Wessel stated one opportunity is pursuing a Tiger Grant but admits it is not a particularly good fit but we can try and use with some local resources; thus creating an opportunity for such projects mentioned by Ms. Evans (Fourth Street) and Mr. Taylor (Hwy 180 Cultural Center.) Mr. Babbott suggested having City Community Development staff present an update on private development and the off-site discussions that have occurred and the opportunity to add value to potential interchange spatial data. Mr. Wessel agreed and spoke to his point about prioritization and coordination. Ms. Evans inquired about funding off-site impacts for example on Beaver and San Francisco do an economic development study to see the ramifications of the interchange. Mr. Wessel clarified the interchange or overpass. Ms. Evans stated the overpass. Mr. Wessel stated the north end of the overpass will have a much larger impact. Ms. Evans stated is there a way to connect the two because in order for the interchange to work you need both pieces but maybe that is just a myth. Mr. Wessel stated the two pieces operate independently and serve fairly distinct purposes at the north and south end and together they provide service for longer trips. Mr. Wessel mentioned the north end piece provides a bypass and allows Beaver and San Francisco to operate as a destination location as opposed to through traffic, which similarly the traffic interchange provides access for CCC and NAU and together they provide a long distance corridor from I-17 and I-40 north of downtown. Ms. Evans stated it would be helpful for discussion to separate the two. There was discussion only.

7. FMPO Calendar

Mr. Wessel clarified with Mr. Babbott the meeting day/time. Mr. Babbott stated this meeting time works and there was just a conflict last month. Mr. Wessel stated the schedule may be discussed again to verify if it works for new Board member, Mr. Hank Rogers. Ms. Evans stated she will not be able to attend the May 16, 2011 meeting.

V. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

D. REPORTS

There was no discussion.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Wessel thanked Mr. Ince and the groups he works with and stated Flagstaff received recognition as a Walkable Community.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Harper adjourned the meeting 9:50 a.m.