



FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT

Office: 100 West Birch Avenue ♦ Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Mail: 211 West Aspen Avenue ♦ Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Phone: (928) 213-2651 ♦ Fax: (928) 779-7976

Approved Minutes Executive Board

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Arizona Department of Transportation – Flagstaff District, Conference Room
1801 S. Milton Road, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Chair Rogers called the meeting to order at 8:11 a.m.

Roll Call.

Present: Chair Hank Rogers, Arizona Department of Transportation (telephonically); Scott Overton, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Coral Evans, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Art Babbott, Councilmember City of Flagstaff; Vice Chair Matt Ryan, Supervisor Coconino County; Mandy Metzger, Supervisor Coconino County

Excused Absent:

Carl Taylor, Supervisor Coconino County (designated alternate)

Others Present:

David Wessel, FMPO Manager; Meg Roederer, FMPO Administrative Specialist; Andy Bertelsen, Coconino County Public Works Director; John Harper, ADOT District Engineer

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 26, 2011 with the condition of amending Mr. Babbott's Snowbowl comments on Item 3: US 180 Winter Traffic Update and Ms. Evans seconded, which passed unanimously.

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

1. Legislative and Regulatory Update and Review

Mr. Wessel presented an update on the status of legislative and regulatory review to the Board. Mr. Wessel stated the FMPO is operating under continuing resolutions and will continue to monitor the situation. Mr. Wessel mentioned the Governor has released the state budget and it uses last year as a baseline including all transportation cuts. The Board noted The Governor's budget anticipates discontinuing the one cent sales tax and pursuit of the one cent sales tax through an initiative process to fund transportation and education. The Board discussed the "We Build Arizona" coalitions. The Board discussed HURF strategies and methods on retaining and resupplying HURF dollars. Mr. Wessel distributed and discussed a National Association of Regional Councils (NARC)

handout on Regional Infrastructure Investment Zone (RIIZ) and AMPO letter on MAP-21. Mr. Wessel mentioned that a RIIZ could support a public, private, partnership program (P3) that offers an incentive for businesses to contribute to an infrastructure project for a one-time tax deduction. Ms. Evans suggested Mr. Wessel contact NARC regarding RIIZ and community facility districts and provide the findings to the Board and appropriate City staff (Steve Saville.) Mr. Ryan stated the County is working on stopping the HURF raids. Mr. Rogers stated that we should not pursue additional money but maintain the HURF and suggested sending letter of support. Mr. Wessel mentioned the FMPO can provide information and impacts to the legislature but can not lobby. Ms. Metzger requested additional contact names for legislatures and representatives of an upcoming event she is attending. There was discussion only.

2. US 180 Winter Traffic Study Update

Mr. Wessel explained the US 180 Winter Traffic Study is in the final stages. Mr. Wessel stated the additional money for the signal timing tests provided more data and value to the project. Mr. Wessel stated the tests were done on holiday weekends in December and January and the next test will be President's weekend in February. Mr. Wessel expressed the tests may be somewhat inconclusive because the lack of snow this season has produced less traffic. Mr. Wessel informed the Board Supervisor Taylor has an intern that is pursuing a formalized process on agency responsibilities in the corridor and there may be an economic component. Mr. Harper commented on the signal timing tests and the importance to keep the City informed because more green time can affect City side streets on 180 and Fort Valley. Mr. Wessel mentioned there has been communication with the businesses affected by the test regarding traffic flow or backups. Mr. Harper noted the positive trade-off because people are off of 180 and Ft. Valley. Mr. Babbott commented on the estimated communication cost of \$100,000 and Mr. Wessel stated it could be much less based on district information and coordination. Mr. Babbott encouraged pursuit of low-cost high effective efforts first. There was discussion only.

2. FY 2013 Unified Planning Work Program Discussion

Mr. Wessel reviewed the FY 2013 Work Program regarding new tasks and reviewed budget history with the Board. Mr. Wessel explained \$60,000 has been allocated to a benefit cost analysis and the coordination role the FMPO will have with an ADOT ITS Regional Architecture effort. Mr. Wessel commented on the status of Camp Navajo and that the EUL (enhanced use lease) has been pulled at the federal level but discussions will continue at the local level with ECONA and the FMPO will support the effort through the Freight Study. Mr. Wessel reviewed budget percentages from a historical perspective with the Board. There was discussion only.

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

1. Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

Mr. Wessel explained NAIPTA has received \$2,688,000 funds from a reallocation of the Central Yavapai MPO funds and \$388,000 from the Small Transit Intensive Cities program. Mr. Wessel stated the TIP Amendment will permit NAIPTA to add section 5307 funds in the amount of \$2,688,000 and \$388,000 for the purchase of buses and operating assistance. Mr. Wessel stated the TAC approved the FY12 TIP Amendment. Mr. Babbott made a motion to approve the FY12 TIP Amendment as presented for \$2,688,000 for hybrid buses and \$388,000 for operating assistance and Mr. Ryan seconded, which passed unanimously.

2. Transportation Improvement Program Process

Mr. Wessel described the TIP process to the Board as presented in the agenda packet. Mr. Wessel stated the sixth year for transportation as a small amount at \$500,000, which is equivalent to about one mile of paving. Mr. Wessel explained they have done "gap" funding in the past that applies the funds to an agency for a larger project. Mr. Wessel stated the funds can also be used for smaller projects such as transit shelters or striping. Mr. Wessel mentioned a federal requirement requires design funds lead to construction or right-of-way purchase within ten years or risk returning the money. Mr. Overton expressed the funds should be used for improvements and not planning,

cautioned applying the funds to transit such as shelters and recommended pavement preservation as a means to keep money flowing. Mr. Wessel commented on a recent community value survey and the importance of achieving balance across all modes. Mr. Wessel stated the HURF exchange is no longer an option but there may be an option of pooling or loaning funds to other MPOs/COGs for a project that is ready and they would reciprocate their funds to FMPO in a future year. The Board discussed the ADOT facility as a potential P3 site. There was discussion only.

3. FMPO Regional Transportation Plan and Picture Canyon Acquisition

Mr. Wessel presented interrelationships between the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), specifically the US 89 Bypass "Conditional Corridor" and Picture Canyon. Mr. Wessel stated there is a balance between open space and congestion that needs to be reached and that a full design concept report is recommended in the RTP. Mr. Wessel stated he met with Jim Cronk, Kevin Burke and City staff in charge of the acquisition (through the Arizona Preserve Initiative) and mentioned if acquisition is delayed funding may not be available next year. Mr. Wessel explained the corridor options to the Board. Mr. Wessel recommended an RTP amendment to clarify and explain the language, options and FMPO intent. Ms. Metzger stated, as the Chair of the Picture Canyon Group, that the City and County have been engaged on the issue. Ms. Metzger mentioned there is an Arizona State Land Department meeting February 14, 2012 at 10 a.m. to reclassify the land as conservation land and there is a high level of sensitivity to any possible disruptions. Ms. Metzger recommended FMPO staff attend the meeting. Ms. Metzger stated Coconino County and the City have passed a Picture Canyon Resolution supporting preserving the area. The Board discussed the FMPO draft a letter to the City and County explaining the FMPO intent. Ms. Metzger made a motion to recommend issuing a letter to the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County explaining the FMPO intent:

- Amend the Regional Transportation Plan to illustrate options including the ability to locate the corridor off of state land
- Amend the text to more clearly explain the need for further study, the range of alternatives, and the range of possible mitigation actions
- Express FMPO support for the acquisition
- Include attachments or reference the Resolution(s)

Ms. Evans seconded, which passed unanimously.

4. Current Topics of Interest

- Mr. Ryan referenced discussions on Camp Navajo, Freight Study and Lone Tree.
- Ms. Evans is interested in the 4th Street Corridor and Lone Tree.
- Mr. Overton stated the *What Moves You Arizona* report has been released and requests feedback from the State. Mr. Overton mentioned the 89 Bypass is listed as a project in the report.
- Chair Rogers recommended including *What Moves You Arizona* on the February agenda and he will discuss it with Mr. Harper as it relates to Coconino County and report back to the Board.
- Mr. Babbott commented that he is working on defining electric bikes in the ARS statutes with Mr. Ince. In addition, Mr. Babbott stated this is the last FMPO meeting as a Board member or Councilmember because he is running for the Coconino County Board of Supervisors Division 1 position.

There was discussion only.

5. FMPO Working Calendar

Mr. Wessel reviewed the working calendar with the Board and mentioned the Arizona State Transportation Board dinner on April 19, 2012 will be co-hosted with NAIPTA and AZTA. Mr. Wessel stated the transportation summit on April 20 will be approximately two hours and the topics include survey results, funding and vision. There was discussion only.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

D. REPORTS

There was no discussion.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Harper announced the Transportation Enhancement Grants are coming up and three projects have been identified for submittal.

- 1) Continuation of sidewalk on west Riordan
- 2) Pathway improvements at NAU on McConnell
- 3) Shoulders from the Peak View store to Hidden Hollow

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rogers adjourned the meeting at 9:47 a.m.