



**FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**
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Approved Minutes
Executive Board
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 27, 2013

Coconino County Administration Building – 2nd Floor Conference Room
219 E. Cherry Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

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

Roll Call

Present:

Matt Ryan, Chair, Coconino County Supervisor
Coral Evans, Vice Chair, Councilmember City of Flagstaff
Art Babbott, Coconino County Supervisor (designated alternate for Mandy Metzger)
Audra Merrick, ADOT (designated alternate for Hank Rogers)
Jeff Oravits, Councilmember City of Flagstaff (telephonic)

Others present:

David Wessel, FMPO Manager
Sydney Francis, Administrative Specialist
Kevin Burke, Flagstaff City Manager
Kevin Adam, RTAC Director
Andy Bertelsen, Coconino County Public Works Director

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.

Mr. Babbott moved to approve the minutes from February 27, 2013. Ms. Evans seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

1. Legislative and Regulatory Update and Review

Mr. Wessel reported on the AMPO meeting in Washington D.C., noting funding changes, freight issues, funding constraints to transit programs, and the broader discussions that need to take place in regards to transportation. There was discussion only.

Chair Ryan presented his progress with the Bellemont interchange to secure priority funding. Chair Ryan submitted a letter (see EB copy attached to these minutes) to Senator McCain to request a security analysis of the Bellemont interchange (exit 185, on I-40) at Camp Navajo. Senator McCain's staff will act on Coconino County's behalf to and write a letter to Homeland Security, formally requesting the security analysis. The security analysis will be used to inform long range planning of the I-40 corridor west of the Bellemont Interchange and east of the Winona traffic interchange. Ms. Evans asked if Veteran's affairs was included in this process, as they are building a Veteran's home at Camp Navajo. Mr. Ryan stated that the added volume as a result of the Veteran's home will not affect the interchange, but he will speak with Sandra Mallick. There was discussion only.

Mr. Oravits gave an update on the alignment of I-40 pipeline. Currently the City of Flagstaff needs an easement from ADOT for the pipeline at Red Gap and the Lone Tree TI.

Mr. Adam gave an update on the Arizona State budget and the work RTAC is doing to stop the HURF transfers. Medicaid costs are still delaying the budget. TPT reform is his holding up work on the budget, yet revenues are increasing. RTAC is looking for a joint letter on HURF raids from the Chamber, local governments, and regional governments. Chair Ryan stated that a letter regarding the HURF Funding Transfers was sent off from the last EB meeting. There was discussion only.

2. Draft FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget

Mr. Wessel provided a brief update on the draft UPWP and presented new ideas related to operations and maintenance efficiency and enhanced efforts on the regional transportation plan update. Mr. Wessel suggested two amendments to the UPWP: allocate \$100,000 to FY14 RTP and fund a comprehensive operations and maintenance study. Mr. Wessel stated that to understand long term capital funding, one must understand long term operations and maintenance costs and issues; long range planning and O & M planning use much of the same data. The intent of the study is to spend O & M funds as wisely as possible and in a coordinated way utilizing O & M "best practices". The funding for the O & M study will come from the P3 project. Sparks, NV and Prescott, AZ have saved hundreds of thousands of dollars utilizing a similar O & M study. Streets maintenance, and identifying the funding to conduct critical maintenance, is a timely issue to the City of Flagstaff. City Manager, Kevin Burke, said he was reserving the capacity in the City budget to put towards a pavement preservation program; Erik Solberg, City Public Works Director, is currently working with Prescott Public Works to determine best practices. Mr. Bertelsen added that the County is also looking at O & M solution to with the intent of extending pavement life. The County's road conditions are not where they need to be in regards to industry standards. Mr. Babbott suggested that it was not fiscally supportable to engage in studies that lose their shelf life, but he supported to extend pavement life and utilize best practices. Mr. Wessel added that this kind of O & M study provides data on how to apply limited funds. Ms. Evans suggested that the study focus on maintenance practices and sustainable road practices. She added that she would like a specific paragraph to share with the public to explain why we are engaging in a \$250,000 study. Ms. Merrick asked if equipment was part of the O & M study and if so to be aware of it showing up as a Capital expense. The Executive Board was supportive going forward with amending the UPWP to include the O & M study. There was discussion only.

3. I-11 Feasibility Study Update

Mr. Wessel presented updated information from the I-11 feasibility study and the proposed new interstate facility. Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Phoenix are becoming a market by sheer volume, infrastructure is needed to support the economic triangle between these three cities. I-11 could shift the volume of traffic away from Flagstaff and Williams and re-

route it through Prescott and Kingman. Ms. Evans asked about the economic impact to Flagstaff and Williams. Chair Ryan suggested we seek support from the Rural Polling Institute to gather information on the impacts to Flagstaff and Williams. Ms. Evans also pointed out that it is important to our community to continue to have the funding to maintain I-17; funds for I-11 need to come from metro money and not "rural" pots of money. Another concern of the Executive Board is the long-term impacts of taller, heavier trucks; currently, the highway infrastructure is not constructed to sustain the impacts of these new taller trucks. Mr. Wessel outlined the ways in which I-11 could be paid for, including tolling, fuel tax, user fees, impact fees, occupancy fees, and public/private partnerships. There was discussion only.

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

4. Community Travel Diary Survey Draft Report

Mr. Wessel presented a draft report, including results and potential policy implications, from the Travel Diary Survey conducted in October 2012. The Trip Diary Survey Report is available at: <http://flagstaff.az.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/6402> There was discussion only.

5. Annual Arizona State Transportation Board Dinner Planning

Mr. Wessel presented on the Annual State Board dinner, scheduled for Thursday, May 9 at the High Country Conference Center. Honoring Bob Montoya will be a highlight of the evening. One suggestion for honoring Bob Montoya is to name an FMPO/NAIPTA student fellowship after him. FMPO staff is working with the City and NAIPTA to thank ADOT for two PARA grants and the highlights from the relevant long range plans as well as the recent delivery of six hybrid electric buses. There was discussion only.

6. ADOT 5-Year Construction Program and US 89

Mr. Wessel presented on ADOT's alternative approaches in anticipation of the Arizona State Transportation Board hearing on the 5-year program on May 10, 2013. Mr. Wessel posed the question, regarding the 5-year construction program, to the Executive Board, "do we focus on Capital or Operations and Maintenance?" There was discussion only.

Mr. Adam gave an RTAC transportation update to the Executive Board, including a written update from March 7th, 2013 (attached to minutes). State funding for transportation is currently focused on the interstate system and not the transportation system as a whole. Mr. Adam reported that there is an \$80 million dollar shortfall annually and that the budget picture is much worse than is being portrayed by the State. With \$350 million cuts from the existing 5-Year program, there would be no new construction after FY18. Chair Ryan suggested that we need to start a more coordinated effort to address funding of these roads and public awareness that the roads are in need of repair. There was discussion only.

Ms. Merrick presented on the emergency repair and reconstruction of US 89. There is no fix established yet for highway 89 and cannot assign a dollar value at this time. Emergency funding for US 89 is reimbursable, but has to be paid for first. Mr. Wessel asked if other transportation projects were going to take a back seat to the reconstruction of highway 89. Ms. Merrick responded that ADOT is still in the preliminary stages of discussion. Highway 89 is a larger project and not all of the funds will come from rural Arizona funds. ADOT met with Navajo DOT, City of Page, and the BIA to coordinate efforts on this project. Three transportation efforts need to be coordinated and are happening together, regarding the emergency repair of 89: 1. Maintain site security; 2. Establish access from one side to the other, potentially by paving N-20 to reduce the detour length; 3. Reconstruct 89. Chair Ryan stated that advocacy efforts were needed to gather money, in order to protect the rural communities involved. There was discussion only.

7. FMPO Working Calendar

Mr. Wessel reviewed the FMPO working calendar. At the April Executive Board meeting, the board will review and consider a TIP amendment regarding the changes to the Beulah project and a TIP amendment for the safety program. Final adoption of the TIP will be in June 2013. Chair Ryan added the Bellemont Interchange to the working calendar. There was discussion only.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

A. REPORTS

- 1) [Staff Report](#)

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The April Executive Board meeting will need to be rescheduled do to scheduling conflicts with Chair Ryan and Vice Chair Evans.

Mr. Wessel stated that the Regional Plan will be released for public review and comment on Thursday, March 28th, 2013 at City Hall from noon to 5 pm.

TAC

April 4, 2013

Management Committee

Coconino County Human Resources Bldg

TBD

Coconino County Supervisors Offices

Chair Ryan made a call for public comment. There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ryan adjourned the meeting at 9:52 am.