



**FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**
CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT
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Approved Minutes
Executive Board
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday, April 29, 2013

County Supervisors Offices, 3rd Floor Conference Room
219 E. Cherry Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Regular meetings and work sessions are open to the public. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting the City of Flagstaff City Clerk's Office at 928-779-7607. The FMPO complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to involve and assist underrepresented and underserved populations (age, gender, color, income status, race, national origin and LEP – Limited English Proficiency.) Requests should be made by contacting the FMPO at 928-213-2651 as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation. ***A quorum of the TAC may be present.***

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

Roll Call

Present:

Matt Ryan, Chair, Coconino County Supervisor
Art Babbott, Coconino County Supervisor (designated alternate for Mandy Metzger)
Audra Merrick, ADOT (designated alternate for Hank Rogers)
Mark Woodson, Councilmember City of Flagstaff

Others present:

David Wessel, FMPO Manager
Sydney Francis, FMPO Administrative Specialist

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.

Mr. Babbott moved to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2013 Executive Board Meeting. Mr. Woodson seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

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

1. Legislative and Regulatory Update and Review

Mr. Wessel gave an overview of federal reauthorization issues and the current funding levels for transportation. Mr. Wessel submitted a transportation update from RTAC to the Executive Board, regarding the State Budget impasse and the diversion of HURF funds away from transportation infrastructure. Mr. Wessel stated that he is working with his colleagues to achieve a 10 million dollar HURF raid reduction in order to fund local programs, essentially a HURF exchange program for some local projects.

Regarding Federal funding, there is a message being sent to Washington D.C. through RTAC to, at the minimum, maintain transportation funding levels, if not raise additional revenues for transportation infrastructure. Mr. Wessel submitted the RTAC, April 22nd brief, "Protecting Transportation Funding Levels" to the Executive Board.

The Board had a brief discussion on MAP 21 and the status of other Arizona MPO's and COGs. Mr. Wessel gave an overview of the new Arizona MPO designations and referenced the RTAC document, "Promote Local Discretion Concerning MPO's". As a result of the 2010 Census, three new MPO's are required to be formed in Arizona, including Casa Grande, Lake Havasu, and Sierra Vista. Lake Havasu and Sierra Vista would likely "opt-out" from MPO designation as their local COG is has local planning authority. The reason for an emerging urban area to opt out of MPO designation has to do with the implications and additional costs that come with the use of Federal funds and mandates.

Mr. Wessel presented the RTAC Bill Matrix to the Executive Board, including the current Arizona State Bill's summaries and statuses. There was discussion only.

2. Draft FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program and TIP

Mr. Wessel provided a brief update on the draft program work program and Transportation Improvement Program in preparation for adoption next month. The TAC is taking action on the work program on May 2nd. The work program will be up for adoption to the Executive Board at the May meeting. The City of Flagstaff will take over the Adaptive Signal Control Technology project, leaving \$100,000 of funds available for other projects. Mr. Wessel presented the Board with two options for the use of these funds: Intelligent Transportation System (ITS); and a comprehensive operations and maintenance study.

Mr. Wessel provided a background on the statewide ITS, which includes the architecture for using Federal Funds intelligently based on broad goals and objectives. The state is currently updating its architecture and recently interviewed the FMPO, NAIPTA, the City and the County. Mr. Wessel was uncertain if the statewide ITS update was complete; and he asked the Board if it makes sense to conduct a regional ITS with the intent of being in alignment with the statewide ITS, create operational efficiencies and promote local ITS efforts.

The Executive Board had a discussion about the local need for an Operations and Maintenance (O & M) study, which could utilize \$250,000 of available funds. Mr. Wessel provided background on the City of Flagstaff's and Coconino County's respective interests in an O & M study. Coconino County Public Works expressed interest in looking at the roadway capital in maintenance, collecting and managing data on pavement condition, and how to use their software for planning and programming. Members of the Board were critical of the cost of this study, and expressed a concern with using the \$250,000 for study rather than a construction project or pavement maintenance project. Mr. Babbott stated that the County is starting to implement logical decisions based on data effectively; it is important to the County to see how an O & M study could support the work that Coconino County Public works is currently doing on a data based methodology. Chair Ryan suggested to the Board that we need to coordinate better on a

regional level and that we may need third party validation on our operations and maintenance practices to share with the public, in order to demonstrate the shortfall of funding to conduct necessary streets maintenance. Mr. Wessel stated that this O & M study could support upcoming tax initiatives that are going to be presented to voters.

Part of the money for the O & M study is coming from the Beulah Project, which the City is now funding locally freeing up funds. There are two projects, regarding the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), under consideration to utilize the TIP funds: the Kachina Trail project (FY17) for the County and the Butler/4th Street Intersection project (FY16) for the City. Mr. Wessel gave a brief background on the details of the respective TIP projects. Mr. Babbott asked if the funds would be lost if not used immediately. Mr. Wessel informed the Board about the inability to carry forward funds and the challenge with the loaning forward of funds to ADOT, at this time. Mr. Wessel stated that he has lost confidence in the ability to loan forward funds and be assured of getting it back.

The Executive Board asked the FMPO to prepare more information the final product of an O & M study and facilitate a discussion between the City and the County. There was discussion only.

3. I-11 Feasibility Study Update

Mr. Wessel stated that there was no new, updated information from the feasibility study on this proposed new interstate facility. Mr. Babbott reported that he had a meeting with representatives from Wickenburg and that they are completely opposed to I-11. There was discussion only.

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

4. ADOT 5-Year Construction Program and US 89

Mr. Wessel presented on ADOT's three alternative approaches in anticipation of the Arizona State Transportation Board hearing on the 5-year program on May 10, 2013. ADOT met with rural elected officials on April 25th and will be giving a shortened version of the presentation to the Flagstaff City Council at the April 30th work session; slides summarizing the three alternative ADOT approaches from the presentation were submitted to the Executive Board in the Agenda Packet. Regarding the ADOT 5 year construction plan, ADOT is focusing on pavement preservation, as the state is facing a large decrease in transportation funding. Chair Ryan confirmed that Cameron Bridge project would be unaffected. Ms. Merrick commented that J.W. Powell project will be moved to FY14 from FY13. Mr. Babbott asked if a delay in the J.W. Powell project, due to APS decision making, could jeopardize the project. Ms. Merrick and Mr. Wessel both confirmed that it was unclear whether the project would be jeopardized by delays. FMPO staff is in favor of option C and will prepare comments for the State Transportation Board meeting on May 10th. There was discussion only.

5. FY 13-17 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments

Mr. Wessel reviewed two amendments recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee. First, adding \$45,000 to the Beulah Bike Lanes Safety project for ADOT review fees and environmental clearance fees. The funds for the Beulah bike lane project come from the elimination of one City intersection project. Second, adding design fees and moving construction out one year to the Pine Knoll FUTS trail safe routes to school project, funding provided by ADOT. Mr. Woodson moved to approve to amend the FY 13-17 TIP to add \$45,000 to the design of the Beulah bike lane project and add \$26K to construction to the Pine Knoll/FUTS safety project and moved it out a year. Mr. Babbott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. FMPO Working Calendar

Mr. Wessel gave a review of the FMPO working calendar, including an update on the ASTB dinner, the TAC meeting, scope's of work for a variety of studies. The May Executive Board meeting will focus on the scope for the O & M study. The UPWP will be up for adoption at the May Executive Board meeting.

The 2014-18 TIP will be up for adoption at the June Executive Board meeting. Flagstaff City Council will have a recess from mid-July through Labor Day. The County Board of Supervisors will have a break from the second week of July through the end of July or early August. The County Board of Supervisors collectively have a conflict at the regularly scheduled meeting time on May 22nd. The Board agreed to send out an email inquiry regarding the next Executive Board meeting focused getting a quorum for May 22nd or May 29th. There was discussion only.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

A. REPORTS

- 1) Technical Advisory Committee
- 2) Staff Report

Mr. Wessel gave an update on the staff's efforts on the Arizona State Transportation Board Dinner. The sponsorships for the dinner are worked out, such that the FMPO has enough funding for the dinner. Mr. Wessel thanked Mr. Woodson for his efforts with the Montoya Family in recognizing Bob Montoya at the dinner with the Montoya Fellowship. Two other individuals will be recognized at the dinner: Nate Banks, former ADOT employee; and Rick Ferguson, former City of Flagstaff employee.

Mr. Wessel updated the Board on efforts being done to take the data from the I-40 DCR and formalize it into a tier 1 environmental impact statement or a tier 2 project, in order to use the valuable data gathered in the I-40 DCR to make informed decisions on local transportation projects. Mr. Babbott asked why the massive effort of the I-40 DCR stopped. Ms. Merrick replied that no projects could be programmed due to funding.

Tiger grants are coming up on June 3rd. These projects need to be shovel ready and need to be obligated by July 30 2014 with the intent to start construction as soon as possible. There are very few projects with the City that are ready and could utilize the Tiger grants. Ms. Merrick stated that Bridge 6 was eligible for a Tiger grant. Mr. Wessel summarized other projects that might be good candidates for a Tiger grant, including the 4th Street bridge and the JW Powell road between Lake Mary and the airport.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAC

May 2, 2013

Coconino County Human Resources Bldg

Management Committee

TBD

Coconino County Supervisors Offices

Executive Board

May 22, 2013 (tentative)

Coconino County Supervisors Offices

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ryan adjourned the meeting at 12:24 pm