



**FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**
CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT
211 West Aspen Avenue ♦ Flagstaff, Arizona 86001
Phone: (928) 213-2651
www.flagstaffmpo.org ♦ fmपो@flagstaffaz.gov

Approved Minutes
Executive Board
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2014

ADOT, Conference Room
1801 S. Milton, 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.***

Vice Chair Woodson called meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Mark Woodson, Vice Chair, Flagstaff City Council
Matt Ryan, Coconino County Board of Supervisors
Art Babbott, Coconino County Board of Supervisors
Coral Evans, Flagstaff City Council
Michael Kies, ADOT, designated alternate for Audra Merrick

FMPO STAFF

David Wessel, FMPO Manager
Sydney Francis, Administrative Specialist

OTHER ATTENDEES

Dan Folke, Planning Director, City of Flagstaff
Kevin Adam, RTAC Director (telephonic)
Dominique Paukowits, US DOT
Romare Truly, US DOT
Alan Hansen, US DOT
Ed Stillings, US DOT

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Wessel announced the Revised Agenda for the meeting, regarding an action item on a TIP amendment.

C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.

Meeting February 26, 2014

Board Action: Mr. Babbott moved to approve the minutes for the meeting of February 26, 2014. Ms. Evans seconded the minutes. All were in favor of approving the minutes from February 26, 2014.

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

1. Legislative and Regulatory Update and Review

The latest reports from the Regional Transportation Advocacy Council were in the agenda packet. Mr. Adam reported out on the Arizona State Budget and legislative issues regarding transportation. Currently the State budget process is very fluid. The Senate offered a budget package, which received the 16 votes it needed to pass. The budget is in the House of Representatives, who are in a weak position to negotiate. The budget is being revised daily in order to get the votes needed to pass. Regarding transportation funding, the budget is not what RTAC had hoped for. There was momentum to end the HURF transfers this year. 75% of local HURF money has been restored in this proposed budget. The Governor did not request any of the HURF funding to be restored. The Legislature is requesting that money be restored for the locals. There are two areas in the budget that are impacted by restoring funds to the locals: the general appropriations bill, which reduces the amount of the HURF transfers from \$126 million to \$96 million; and another bill directs \$30 million to the locals. It is difficult to predict when a passable budget will be available.

Mr. Wessel asked if the raises for DPS employees are already factored into the budget. Mr. Adam replied that he believed they were already factored in. Mr. Woodson asked if it would be valuable to communicate with the legislators at this time to support the HURF funding restoration. Mr. Adam replied that it would be valuable to communicate with the legislators. The budget and transportation funding could still fall apart. HURF funds are being used as a bargaining chip by various interests.

Mr. Wessel and Mr. Woodson asked Mr. Adam to report on the meeting with Congressman Gosar and Congresswoman Kirkpatrick. Mr. Adam replied that he will email the Board an update. On the Federal level, the most pressing issue is transportation funding and whether or not there is the political will to come up with transportation funding. For the FMPO, there is an issue with the population threshold. RTAC supports keeping the current eligibility criteria for MPOs and keeping existing organizations grandfathered in. Under Map 21, there is a Federal cost share with freight, which does not help Arizona at all due to the high cost of freight in this state. The message conveyed to the Congressman Gosar and Congresswoman Kirkpatrick was that further resources for transportation funding are needed. RTAC suggests that further cost reductions, opportunities for streamlining, and acceleration of delivery time be explored.

Mr. Adam left the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

Mr. Wessel presented resolutions based on information from NAIPTA on federal reauthorization priorities and a similar resolution from the FMPO on a broader set of reauthorization issues. Vice Chair Woodson stated that he would like more information and clarity on the specificity of item #1 on the NAIPTA resolution to assure that bus capital is restored appropriately. Mr. Wessel replied that the Federal funding for transit was shifted within transit from bus to rail funding and that this resolution asked for the bus transit funding to be restored. Mr. Kies asked if the audience is the congressional delegation for these respective resolutions. Mr. Wessel confirmed that the audience is the congressional delegation for these resolutions. Mr. Babbott stated that the congressional delegation has been very supportive of NAIPTA and its progress and achievements over the years.

Mr. Ryan joined the meeting at 8:19 a.m.

Board Action: Mr. Babbott moved to approve the NAIPTA resolution for Federal reauthorization priorities. Ms. Evans seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Board Action: Ms. Evans moved approved the FMPO resolution for Federal reauthorization priorities. Mr. Babbott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Several other members joined the meeting at 8:20 a.m.: Dominique Paukowits, US DOT; Romare Truly, US DOT; Alan Hansen, US DOT; and Ed Stillings, US DOT. The Board took time for introductions.

2. I-11 Feasibility Study Update

Mr. Kies presented a feasibility study update on I-11 project. ADOT is concluding the alternatives analysis. There are recommendations on the website regarding routes from Mexico to the Northern Nevada. ADOT is working on the final business case document. The next steps include an implementation plan, preliminary purpose and need statement, and a corridor report, all of which will be presented in July. There is a final stakeholder meeting scheduled for May 21st at five locations and on the internet.

Ms. Evans asked if the Economic Impact Study conducted by the Arizona Commerce Authority analyzed the impact of I-11 outside of the I-11 corridor. Mr. Kies replied that the Arizona Commerce Authority was not tasked to do that. Ms. Evans and Mr. Wessel agreed that the FMPO is very disappointed by the failure of the Economic Impact Study to look at regions outside of the I-11 corridor. Mr. Wessel added that it was "not good work" for ADOT and the Arizona Commerce Authority not to look at impacts outside of the proposed I-11 corridor. Mr. Kies replied that ADOT is ready to meet with the FMPO manager and provide files regarding the statewide model and traffic flows. Mr. Woodson reiterated that the FMPO and the Executive Board were interested in the economic impact and the negative benefits in regions away from the I-11 corridor. Ms. Evans stated that this request was lost in translation when the task was passed on to the Arizona Commerce Authority. Mr. Babbott stated that it was not lost in translation. Mr. Babbott added that the available data and report will look less impactful. Mr. Babbott suggested the FMPO do some outreach to the Arizona Commerce Authority to determine the negative external impacts to regions like the FMPO. Mr. Woodson added that funding for I-11 will be coming from elsewhere, which will have an impact on other transportation budgets. Ms. Evans stated that she understands that the Arizona Commerce Authority is wrapping up the study, but that a clear message needs to be sent about the FMPO region's disappointment in the failure to look at the negative impacts to regions outside of the corridor. Mr. Woodson suggested that a resolution be drafted, before May 21st, to address this situation. Mr. Wessel offered to draft a letter. Mr. Kies stated that Mr. Gordon at ADOT is ready to work with the FMPO. Mr. Babbott asked that the repeated requests by the Executive Board and the FMPO for the Economic Impact Study to look at the widespread impacts of I-11 be cited in the letter.

There was discussion only.

Mr. Wessel asked that item number III.4 be moved up in the agenda.

4. FY13-FY17 Transportation Improvement Amendment/Ratification

Mr. Wessel presented to the Board the ratification of an administrative amendment to the TIP whereby the Manager, upon ADOT request, added all FTA 5310 transit grant awards in the FMPO region to TIP. 5310 is the program for the elderly and disabled. Grants include awards for operations, vehicle purchases and mobility management to groups such as NAIPTA, Northern Arizona University, and HozHoni. Federal Transit Administration just recently required these to be added to regional TIPs. Mr. Ryan confirmed that the FY13-17 TIP was not changing, but rather additional information regarding the 5310 grant program was being added by the request of ADOT.

Board action: Mr. Ryan moved to approve the ratification to the FY13-17 TIP. Mr. Babbott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

3. FMPO Retreat Review/Vision and Mission work

Mr. Wessel presented information to continue the discussion from last month on new vision and mission direction for the organization based on last fall's retreat. Mr. Wessel directed the Board's attention to the staff summary report on pages 49 to 53, regarding examples for mission, vision and tasks that MPOs are conducting. Mr. Wessel stated that he has been working on getting information from the Association of MPOs about performance measures for MPO's organizational effectiveness.

Mr. Woodson stated that MPOs were created by a Federal mandate and that he thought the FMPO's mission and vision be focused on the mandate. Mr. Wessel stated that a list of the MPO's mandated tasks is on page 52 of the agenda packet. Mr. Wessel added that a continuous, comprehensive and collaborative process was not listed as a mandate, but he thought it was important. Mr. Ryan agreed that the FMPO should focus on the mandate, but that does not mean it has to exclude other products that will come from the FMPO.

Mr. Babbott stated he like the third vision statement on page 52, but questioned whether the FMPO was responsible for "delivery".

Mr. Ryan stated that the Executive Board had time to develop the mission and vision properly before the 2014 Fall Executive Board retreat.

Ms. Evans stated that she would not like to see "moving Flagstaff forward", because the FMPO is regional.

Mr. Babbott stated that he has had success with other committees in listing single adjectives and verbs that describe the role and mandate and then crafting a statement around the key messages. Mr. Babbott added that there are some fiscal constraints about what the FMPO can accomplish and that these constraints need to be conveyed in the narrative.

Mr. Babbott asked if it was possible for the FMPO TAC committee to play a role in the developmental review process for the multiple developments in the 10-15 year pipeline. Mr. Woodson responded that the MPO need not participate in the developmental review process if the City and County are communicating with one another effectively. Ms. Evans stated that she would like to see the TAC weigh-in on this process. Mr. Woodson asked if developmental review could be added as a discussion item to the TAC agenda. Mr. Wessel confirmed that the TAC does look at the projects that have impacts on the roads of regional significance and that the TAC can do a developmental review, including consideration of the larger policy objectives. Mr. Folke stated that on behalf of the City planning that he received a lot of comments from the TAC members regarding development, but not necessarily at the TAC meeting. Mr. Folke added that he will find out how the City staff interacts with the County and ADOT. Mr. Wessel stated that a discussion with the TAC is possible, but it is a question of timing, as the developmental review process is time sensitive.

Mr. Wessel summarized what direction he heard from the Board regarding the mission, vision and guiding principles: address the mandate, keep it regional, and do not over-reach.

The Executive Board will keep working on the mission and vision and finalize it at the FMPO Fall Retreat in 2014. There was discussion only.

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

5. FMPO Working Calendar

Mr. Wessel presented on the FMPO working calendar. The agenda on the next meeting will include the work program, transportation improvement program process and legislative update. If possible,

updates on I-11 and freight will be made. Part of the FMPO work program is the Milton Road Study. The FMPO submitted a PARA grant to perform a corridor study of Milton road in order to identify projects. There are a number of safety issues on Milton and the FMPO and the State have safety funds to address these safety issues. The FMPO will be developing a systematic approach to improving Milton. The FY15 UPWP is a carry forward of what we are doing this year. Mr. Wessel added a place holder to the work program regarding working on Milton road if the PARA grant comes through.

There was discussion only.

Mr. Babbott left the meeting at 9:03 a.m. and returned at 9:04 a.m.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

A. REPORTS

- 1) Technical Advisory Committee
- 2) Staff Report

Mr. Wessel gave an update on the staff report, primarily on the LED light program and the Dark Skies conference that the City is underwriting. Vice Chair Woodson gave background to the meeting participants who are unfamiliar with the Dark Skies issue. There will be a conference in August 2014 to look at LED light research. The City would like to change its LPS lighting to LED lighting. The astronomical community brings in \$7 million dollars a year to Flagstaff and Flagstaff is seen as a model City in terms of Dark Skies. Mr. Ryan added that the lighting issue is also a safety issue.

There was discussion only.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair Woodson announced that the City's budget retreat was scheduled in conflict with the April Executive Board meeting. The Board discussed options for moving the date and time of the meeting to combine the April and May meeting. The Board members agreed on moving the monthly meeting time to 8:30 a.m. and ending at 10 a.m.

Vice Chair Woodson announced the Arizona State Transportation Board meeting that is going to be held at City Hall on Friday, May 9th at 9 a.m. Mr. Kies stated that the Board may be staying in Williams and hosting a dinner on May 8th will be difficult.

TAC

Executive Board

April 3, 2014

Coconino County Human Resources Bldg

Cancelled: April 23, 2014

ADOT Conference Room, 1801 S. Milton

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Woodson adjourned the meeting at 9:14 a.m.