



# FLAGSTAFF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF ♦ COCONINO COUNTY ♦ ARIZONA DOT

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## Approved Minutes FMPO Executive Board 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, October 20, 2016

Coconino County Administrative Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
219 E. Cherry Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona 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 Babbott called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Art Babbott, Chair, Coconino County Board of Supervisors Present  
Jeff Meilbeck, Vice-Chair, NAIPTA CEO & General Manager Present  
Jerry Nabours, Flagstaff Mayor Present  
Coral Evans, Chair, Flagstaff City Council Present  
Audra Merrick, ADOT Flagstaff District Engineer (for Arlando Teller) Present  
Arlando Teller, Arizona State Transportation Board Member Absent  
Matt Ryan, Coconino County Board of Supervisors Present  
Jeff Oravits, Flagstaff City Council Present (Telephonically)

### FMPO STAFF

David Wessel, FMPO Manager Present  
Dusty Rhoton, Administrative Specialist Present

### I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

#### A. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

#### C. APPROVAL of MINUTES.

Minutes of August 24, 2016

(Pages 4-7)

Minutes of September 23, 2016

(Pages 8-12)

**Motion:** Mr. Ryan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ms. Evans seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

### **1. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update**

**(Pages 13-14)**

FMPO Staff:

David Wessel, Manager

REQUESTED ACTION:

Discussion and Possible Action

Staff will provide a brief update on RTP production status and key questions to answer to prior to release for public comment and ultimate adoption. It is anticipated that part of the retreat in November will be dedicated to finalizing these discussions.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Discussion and direction**

Mr. Wessel overviewed the RTP status and notified the Board that the Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) is still in production and inquired if perhaps only the top 30 projects could have the BCA completed. He added that the other major decision point was Milton Road and/or Milton Road Improvements (ie: *Phoenix to south of Plaza Way and Milton widening*). He continued that transit only lanes exhibits bad congestion and overviewed the options with this suggestion. Mr. Wessel inquired about looking at the ultimate program and the scenario if foregoing one or two projects in order to complete bike and pedestrian projects (ie: *mode shift – looking at behavioral changes?*) Mr. Nabours asked if there would be priorities to which Mr. Wessel responded affirmatively and added it would be dependent upon public comment received, safety and ranking criteria for congestion. He added that the second priority will be what the group sees for the 20 years into the future.

Mr. Oravits asked about the widening of Milton and the need for ROW involvement for turn lanes. Mr. Wessel noted it would be coordinated and provided the example of the turn lane in front of Target. Mr. Meilbeck expressed his concern with the major decision points, noted on page 13, and whether it was "to plan" or "to do" and added he felt a need for tangible items as much as possible. Mr. Wessel responded that he would do his best to work with ADOT, COF staff, and hopefully NAU. Mr. Ryan noted both issues are very important and the focus was "how to make it work and how to evaluate it." Ms. Evans noted that in conversations with NAU, another street consideration would be Beaver, which may be a possibility for use during construction. Mr. Wessel responded the analysis to date shows a 4<sup>th</sup> leg and extra traffic would be detrimental to the wide corridor but he would take a look. Mr. Babbott stated the BCA has to be reasonable (ie: *30 out of 90 completed*), and inquired about the SWCA costs, which Mr. Wessel explained the specifics of the GIS consulting work which included maps. Mr. Merrick agreed with Mr. Wessel and Mr. Babbott that identifying the top 30 would be prudent, but added that 30 may exceed fiscal restraints. Mr. Meilbeck noted that the Steering Committee said the solution to Milton is to build an alternative road or to have the students' ride the bus that he did not see in the plan. Mr. Wessel responded that variations on the balanced recommendations from the steering committee, coupled with public input, resulted in looking at some trade-offs especially since public input exhibited favorability to the FUTS trails, pedestrian and bike. He added that the COF was worried about calling out partnerships ahead of time who then fail to perform in the end. Mr. Babbott established that the Board would like the plan to go back to the TAC and then see a draft plan prior to the FMPO Retreat.

Mr. Wessel inquired about the 30-day public comment period and Ms. Evans suggesting extending it beyond 30 days due to the upcoming holidays. Mr. Meilbeck agreed that it

would be better to take more time to complete before sending out for public comment. Ms. Evans added that a more detailed explanation on what the public comment is for and further clarify what is being done based on the public commentary. Mr. Wessel noted he will prepare and meet with Mr. Babbott after the next TAC meeting.

Mr. Wessel continued that the long term mode shift raised the possibility of increasing the BRT which received favorable feedback, especially since most opportunities for new roads have been exhausted and with due diligence being done on technological advances which really leaves mass transit as a solution for the future and setting the stage for such is valuable.

He continued that the optimum schedule would be to have a complete document in time for the November 4<sup>th</sup> TAC meeting and then a subsequent overview at the FMPO Retreat slated for November 16, 2016. Discussion ensued.

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

#### **1. Legislative Update:**

**(No handout)**

FMPO Staff:

David Wessel, Manager

REQUESTED ACTION:

Discussion and Possible Action

Staff will provide an update on the Senator's Surface Transportation Funding Task Force and seek on next steps.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Discussion and direction**

Mr. Wessel provided an update on the STFTF and noted that the Blue Ribbon Committee were approaching their 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> meeting (*mostly fact finding*), and added that other organizations are presenting similar resolutions. He noted the reception was favorable and added the interest in finding a dedicated DPS funding source. He added people around the state are talking about the HURF exchange program. He concluded that they are continuing to meet every other Wednesday and a final report is anticipated by year-end. Discussion ensued.

#### **2. Fall Retreat Preparation**

**(Pages 15-18)**

FMPO Staff:

David Wessel, Manager

REQUESTED ACTION:

Discussion only

The retreat is scheduled for November 16, 2016 at 12:00 in the NAIPTA training room. Lunch will be served. Staff will present a draft agenda, key outcomes and potential preparatory materials and seek input from the Board.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Discussion and direction**

Mr. Wessel proved a report and noted the objectives of the upcoming FMPO Retreat are tied to the RTP and the performance of the FMPO Manager and how the FMPO is actively using the board and engaging them. He also provided an overview of the recent FMPO Management Committee Meeting which occurred on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Mr. Meilbeck expressed his favor of a note on Page 15 – *"how to make the FMPO thrive"* and added that knowing what our transportation looks like is a huge part of that. Mr. Meilbeck continued that in order to know what "thriving" looks like, you need to know where to go and how to get things done, but asked how to accomplish that. Ms. Merrick suggested performance measures. Mr. Wessel added that the MPO's work in conjunction with partners to make sure components are happening which are hard to define and measure. Mr. Meilbeck noted that NAU should be included as a key partner. Mr. Meilbeck continued that the discussion should be less technical and more about relationships and

leadership. Discussion ensued. Mr. Wessel added that they had submitted an RFP for a facilitator for the retreat.

#### **IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

##### **A. REPORTS**

- 1) TAC Action Summary July 26, 2016 & August 4, 2016
- 2) Staff Report

**(Pages 19-22)**

##### **B. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(Informal Announcements, Future Agenda Items, and Next Meeting Date)*

Items of interest from Executive Board members

TAC November 3, 2016 / County H.R.

Management Committee November 11, 2016 / City Hall (Veterans Day)

Executive Board November 15, 2016 Retreat / NAIPTA

**ADJOURNMENT** Chair Babbott adjourned the meeting at 2:27 pm

*The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority final program of projects for section 5307 and 5339 funding under the Federal Transit Administration, unless amended. Public notice for the TIP also satisfies FTA public notice requirements for the final program of projects.*

#### **CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at 1:00 pm in accordance with the statement filed by the Recording Secretary with the City Clerk.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2016.

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