

MINUTES

PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

DECEMBER 5, 2013

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, December 5, 2013, at the Pueblo City-County Health Department, 101 West 9th Street, Third Floor, Conference Room C. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Michael Colucci, Chairman, at 12:18 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Michael Colucci
Sandy Daff
Nick Gradisar
Terry Hart
Ted Lopez
Roger Lowe

Buffie McFadyen
Eva Montoya
Steve Nawrocki
Chris Nicoll
Sal Pace

Those members absent were:

Ed Brown
Chris Kaufman

Ami Nawrocki
Lewis Quigley

Also present were:

Joan Armstrong
Michael Cuppy
Scott Hobson
Dan Kogovsek

Louella Salazar
Greg Severance
Greg Styduhar

CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Joan Armstrong, PACOG Manager, reported there were ten items listed on the agenda under the Consent Items. She summarized the ten Consent Items for PACOG.

Chairman Colucci asked if there were any other additions or amendments to the Consent Items or if any of the members or audience would like any of the items removed or discussed which were on the Consent agenda.

Mr. Hart asked why the resolutions direct the Urban Transportation Planning Division (UTPD) to sign the agreements. He questioned why the PACOG chairman doesn't sign the agreements. Mr. Hobson replied the PACOG chair does sign all of the agreements that are approved. Any amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) the UTPD staff takes care of since they maintain the actual Transportation Improvement Plan, noting these amendments are added to the existing Plan. He reiterated any agreements approved by PACOG are signed by the PACOG chair.

Ms. Daff asked what the \$3.6 million overmatch on Item 6 regarding the Dillon Drive interchange was for. Mr. Hobson replied the \$3,590,000 is a combination of Urban Renewal funds and the commitment the City would make for State pass-through FASTER funds. There is an ordinance before the City Council that would authorize the commitment of the FASTER funds to be added into this project. Chairman Colucci asked will it be enough to get this project going. Mr. Hobson replied yes, noting right now they are looking at a total project cost of \$17,540,000. This TIP amendment is added to the \$8.5 million of Regional Priority Program (RPP) funds, which were previously included in the TIP on August 25, 2011. There was a portion of the federal earmark that was included in the TIP that totaled \$2,436,211, which was added to the TIP, which was done on October 25, 2011. With those funds added to the \$6.6 million, it gets us to the \$17,540,000, which is the estimate to be able to go to construction.

It was moved by Terry Hart, seconded by Buffie McFadyen, and passed unanimously to approve the ten Consent Items listed below:

- Minutes of November 14, 2013 Meeting;
- Treasurer's Report (Receive and file October 2013 Financial Report);
- A Resolution Reappointing Members to the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (Note: Appointed Theodore Lopez, Jr. and Chad Wolgram to terms expiring December 31, 2016);
- A Resolution Retaining the Services of McPherson, Breyfogle, Daveline and Goodrich, PC to Perform Bookkeeping Services for the Pueblo Area Council of Governments for FY 2014;
- A Resolution Retaining the Services of Garren, Ross & DeNardo, Inc. to Prepare The Pueblo Area Council of Governments' 2013 Audit;
- A Resolution Amending the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG) FY 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Allocate Funding for the Dillon Drive Interchange Project in the Amount of \$6,603,789 from Federal and Local Matching Funds, and Directing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to Execute Said Amendment;
- A Resolution Amending the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG) FY 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Allocate Funding for the Pueblo Senior Resource Development Agency (SRDA)-Administration Costs in the Amount of \$17,500 and SRDA Rural Operating Costs in the Amount of \$43,400 from the FY 2014-Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5311 Program, and Directing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to Execute Said Amendment;
- A Resolution Amending the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG) FY 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Allocate Funding for the Pueblo Senior Resource Development Agency (SRDA)-Pueblo West Service Operating Costs in the Amount of \$152,000 from FY 2014-Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 Funds, and Directing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to Execute Said Amendment;
- A Resolution Amending the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG) FY 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Allocate Funding for Pueblo Transit Small Urban Awards in the Amount of \$288,526 from the FY 2014 - Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5339 Program, and Directing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to Execute Said Amendment; and

- A Resolution Approving the 2014 Delegation Agreement between the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG) and the City of Pueblo for Transportation Planning Services, Authorizing the Chair of the Council to Execute Same, and Authorizing and Directing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to Administer the Agreement in Compliance with All Applicable Federal, State, and Local Laws and Regulations.

REGULAR ITEMS:

PACOG BUDGET HEARING

Chairman Colucci opened the PACOG budget hearing. He stated the budget proposal is set forth in the resolutions listed below and on the PACOG agenda as Item Nos. 1-13. A notice of the public hearing and the availability of the proposed budget were published in the Pueblo Chieftain on November 9, 2013.

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A BUDGET FOR THE PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (PACOG) FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014

Mr. Nick Gradisar, PACOG Treasurer, reported the PACOG Budget Committee met with staff on November 6, 2013 to discuss the 2013 PACOG Budget. This resolution approves the overall PACOG budget. This is the information with respect to income and expenses of PACOG.

It was moved by Nick Gradisar and seconded by Buffie McFadyen to approve "A Resolution Approving a Budget for the Pueblo Area Council of Governments (PACOG) for Calendar Year 2014".

Discussion occurred. Ms. Daff asked about the 2014 matching funds and why there is a difference in the reconciliation share. Mr. Gradisar replied this is reallocation of the City's and County's share. Mr. Hobson added staff went back and researched how the percentage breakdown was established. The breakdown was established from the 2000 Census. Staff went back and used the population within the City versus the County per the 2010 Census, and made the adjustment that there is a greater percentage of population outside the City than there were in the 2000 Census.

After discussion, the motion to approve the above resolution was passed unanimously.

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PUEBLO COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE FY 2014 WORK PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR SAID WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Gradisar reported this resolution directs the Pueblo County Department of Planning and Development to implement the FY 2014 work program and it appropriates the funds for said work program. It provides for reimbursement to Pueblo County for staff time spent on PACOG matters.

It was moved by Nick Gradisar, seconded by Buffie McFadyen, and passed unanimously to approve "A Resolution Directing the Pueblo County Planning and Development

Department to Implement the FY 2014 Work Program and Appropriating Funds for Said Work Program”.

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS' (PACOG) FY 2014 MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES

Mr. Gradisar reported the resolution shows what each member entity will pay towards the budget. The PACOG budget committee decided to maintain the contribution schedule for 2014 budget, but for the budget committee to look at it in the next couple of months. Staff is in the process of investigating how the expenses and contributions were allocated at other councils of governments around the State. He stated there could be arguments that it needs to be modified and changed, noting there is no rhyme or reason to the current contribution amounts. Staff is looking at putting together a formula that would make some rational sense in terms of the contributions the organizations make. PACOG can anticipate in the next 3-4 months getting a report from the budget committee with respect to changing that allocation formula for future use.

It was moved by Nick Gradisar, seconded by Buffie McFadyen, and passed unanimously to approve “A Resolution Approving the Pueblo Area Council of Governments' (PACOG) FY 2014 Membership Contribution Schedule for Administration and Insurance Activities”.

Chairman Colucci closed the hearing. There was no opposition to the budget.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

(A) Certificate of Appreciation to Michael Connolly, Outgoing School District No. 70 Representative

Chairman Colucci presented a plaque to Mr. Michael Connolly, outgoing School District No. 70 representative. Mr. Connolly stated it was a pleasure working with everyone.

Chairman Colucci asked if a successor had been assigned by School District 70. Ms. Salazar replied she has been in contact with School District 70 and is awaiting a reply.

(B) Lunch Appreciation

Chairman Colucci thanked the Pueblo County Board of Commissioners for providing lunch for today's meeting.

(C) Selection of PACOG Nominating Committee for Officers

Chairman Colucci asked for volunteers to serve on the PACOG Nominating Committee for Officers. The following persons volunteered to serve: Messrs. Terry Hart, Michael Colucci, Nick Gradisar and Roger Lowe. Ms. Salazar stated she would arrange the meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

(A) 2014 PACOG Meeting Date Schedule

Ms. Joan Armstrong, PACOG Manager, referred PACOG to a memorandum in their packets providing the 2014 PACOG meeting dates. This being an information item, no formal action was taken.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF EXTENDING THE DESIGNATION OF THE CESAR CHAVEZ MEMORIAL HIGHWAY WITHIN PUEBLO COUNTY

Mr. Scott Hobson, MPO Administrator, reported at the request of Mr. Sal Pace, the UTPD staff prepared a resolution that would support the extension of the designation of Cesar Chavez Memorial Highway along Colorado State Highway 47 (S.H. 47) within Pueblo County. The route goes from U.S. 50 from the west Pueblo County line to I-25 and S.H. 47, which is the current beginning point for the designation of the memorial highway, and then continues along S.H. 47 to S.H. 96 (East 4th Street and Belleplaine interchange towards the airport) and back to S.H. 96 to U.S. 50 to the eastern boundary of the County. It would be extended approximately 52 miles within Pueblo County. This resolution would be provided to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) with respect to extending the length of the memorial highway. Currently, the designation is along the corridor of S.H. 47 and is 6.7 miles in length.

Mr. Nawrocki asked if this includes University Boulevard. Mr. Hobson replied yes, noting currently the memorial highway designation follows the entire route of S.H. 47. University Boulevard extends within the City limits within a portion of the 6.7 miles, but not the entire length. The highway extends both within the City and County. Mr. Pace stated this wouldn't change any street names; this would be a memorial designation over the street names. Mr. Nawrocki stated it would be still be University Boulevard. Mr. Pace replied that is an issue before City Council. He stated that is the official name of the road; this is the memorial name. This doesn't change the name; this is a resolution supporting the extension the memorial highway. Chairman Colucci questioned if the designation is still S.H. 47 for legal purposes. Mr. Hobson asked if he was talking about the memorial highway. Chairman Colucci stated for University Boulevard, noting he didn't believe there were any addresses on it. Mr. Hobson stated it is his understanding that the designation of University Boulevard is for the segment that is within the City. Chairman Colucci stated that is not actually a street name. Mr. Pace stated this is like the designation of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Highway on I-25. On Google maps, it would say "I-25". The memorial designation is an overlay on top of that. Ms. McFadyen added she didn't believe the Legislature would need to act.

It was moved by Eva Montoya and seconded by Nick Gradisar to approve "A Resolution in Support of Extending the Designation of the Cesar Chavez Memorial Highway within Pueblo County".

Discussion ensued. Ms. Daff asked if there would be any designation off of I-25 on how to get to Cesar Chavez Boulevard or if there would be any signage changes along I-25. Mr. Hobson responded he thought there were some limitations on the original legislation

for the designation, which Ms. McFadyen was talking about. He stated he did not know if it would allow for directional signs from I-25. Ms. McFadyen stated under the rules of CDOT, memorial designations are allowed to have two signs indicating the memorial resolution overlay. She stated she didn't think it provides or allows for any other directional signage. Mr. Pace questioned if we wanted more than two signs if that would take an act of the Legislature. Ms. McFadyen replied she didn't know if it would take an act of the Legislature. It would probably take an act of rule change or it may take an act of the Legislature. She stated she didn't know any other place in the State that has a memorial highway overlay. Mr. Pace stated this is basically out of our control, noting that would be something we would have to log to the State. Ms. McFadyen replied not just the State, noting you have federal regulations regulating signage on the interstate. A directional sign on the interstate there would also be a federal highway issue. She stated in 2004 her first piece of legislation was to amend the blue signs that direct the public off the interstate. Small urban cities couldn't be on it. It took legislation to an interstate to allow us to have directional signs pointing us to destinations.

Mr. Pace asked if we want a sign on the east end of the County and one on the west end of the County. Under current rules, we couldn't have signs in the City. He stated ideally it would be nice to have signs on the west and east ends of the County and keep the ones in the City, but in order to do that you would either need a rule change at CDOT or a change at the Legislature. Ms. McFadyen replied that is her understanding.

After discussion, the motion to approve the above resolution was passed unanimously.

MPO STAFF REPORT

Chairman Colucci read into the record the following comments from Mr. Bill Thiebaut, Region 10 Transportation Commissioner, prior to the MPO staff report:

At its regularly scheduled meeting in November the Transportation Commission resolved to adopt the FY 15 Draft budget for CDOT, including:

- 1) \$755.1 million in asset management programs or capital maintenance programs (this includes the baseline year budget and RAMP funds, portions of which will be spent in Pueblo County).
- 2) An increase from \$10 million to \$50 million in the Regional Priority Program (RPP) for all CDOT regions. The allocation for Region 2 is approximately \$9-\$10 million.
- 3) Additionally, the Transportation Commission acting as the Bridge Enterprise Board of Directors resolved to adopt the 4th Supplement to the FY 2014 Bridge Enterprise budget in the amount of \$47,041,600 to establish a construction phase budget for 8 bridge structures in Pueblo County identified in the handout previously given to PACOG/MPO members which denoted RAMP projects awarded and asset management programs awarded.

Mr. Scott Hobson, MPO Administrator, referred PACOG to a survey which was distributed prior to the meeting. The survey, being administered by CDOT, would obtain information for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The survey has five questions which are being asked within all regions of the State. The remaining five questions (Question Nos. 6-10) are questions that were provided locally to CDOT. The

survey that is online and that is being distributed within Pueblo County has specific questions related to things we would like to get direction on for our LRTP. This survey is on the CDOT website. There have been 30 people who completed the survey earlier in the week. He noted Pueblo County has had a better turnout than other places in the State. The survey will be distributed locally. The survey says it will finish on December 15th. It is his understanding they are going to extend the deadline until December 23rd. Staff can continue sending out this survey locally and as the local transportation planning division they can tabulate those results and use those. It is not something that has to be totally done and completed by the end of December. He stated he has other copies available, which PACOG could distribute to other groups they are members of.

Ms. Daff asked if the survey could be placed on the City and County websites. Mr. Hobson replied he would do this, as well as the PACOG website. Ms. Daff questioned if it would be possible to e-mail this survey to those who completed other citizen surveys online. Mr. Hobson answered he would check with Jenny Eickelman, the Interim Deputy City Manager.

Mr. Pace asked if it is too late to amend the survey. Mr. Hobson replied if it was to be amended then they would have to amend the survey which would be issued locally. He didn't believe we could amend the survey that is currently on the CDOT website. Mr. Pace stated he didn't see anything on the website regarding the Amtrak rail. Mr. Nawrocki replied Question No. 9 speaks to the Amtrak passenger rail service and a stop in Pueblo.

Ms. McFadyen stated she would write big box culverts on her survey, but it would give away the anonymity. She stated Pueblo County has the most big box culverts on the interstate (i.e., 5-6). If anything bad should happen on the north end of the County, there would be no way to divert traffic off of the interstate. In Denver, big box culverts are so unusual and so unknown that they had to educate some of the CDOT staff. She stated this dates back to 1954 and this being the oldest section of highway through the State.

Mr. Hobson reported on the status of the RAMP project funding. CDOT is providing both the City and County with letters of commitment on the I-25 and U.S. 50 RAMP projects. Both the County and the City will have to pass a resolution saying they are still committed and want to participate in the project. Following that there will separate Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) that will be negotiated with CDOT separately between the County and the City. Those will need to be completed by mid-June of 2014. The County Commissioners will be taking action on this next week, and it will be before the City Council on December 23rd. This doesn't allocate or commit all the money; it just says we want to be involved and are committed to what we presented in the RAMP applications, and that we still want to follow through with those commitments. The IGAs in June will have the timing of the dollar commitments and the commitments for devolution of roadways. Mr. Wrona stated he would like to add that this is a project PACOG is strongly behind, and CDOT would work with us to get it into the LRTP and the STIP.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER/CDOT REGION 2 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Tom Wrona, Region 2 CDOT Director, reported Mr. Tim Harris, CDOT's chief engineer, has decided to retire after 33 years of dedicated service. He stated Mr. Harris was the former Region 2 Director for five years.

Mr. Wrona stated at the last Transportation Commission, there was a report on the flash flood response in Northern Colorado. He stated all of our State highways are now open, which were closed due to the flash flooding. They were all open before Thanksgiving. He stated this is just the beginning because there is still permanent work which needs to be done to the roads.

Mr. Wrona stated the Transportation Commission is working on the FY 2015 budget. One of the things being discussed is the distribution of discretionary type funding, which is the funding that is above and beyond what is normally used for CDOT's regular maintenance of its highways. Various models are being looked at as to how those funds are distributed.

Mr. Wrona brought up the importance of getting those resolutions or letters of commitment together before January 6, 2014, which is the due date for the City and County supporting those RAMP projects in the PACOG area.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. McFadyen stated she wanted to apologize to PACOG because it is obvious that more than one person helped former Commissioner Anthony Nuñez write the letter which was published in the Sunday newspaper. She stated it is one thing to try to disparage and discredit her, but she was unhappy that anyone would try to take credit away from PACOG for what it has done this year. PACOG made a decision to go after State highway funding that we really hadn't received because we had not come to an agreement on the I-25 study. What we do know is it was sitting here for 13 years. It was this PACOG that decided to agree for the first time in 13 years to get it done. This allowed us to move ahead and stop stepping on our own toes. For the first time in a long time, we were able to compete for \$8 million more dollars than Colorado Springs received. She stated it is fine to disparage her, but because of their dislike of her it has disparaged PACOG from one of its most amazing, cooperative acts in a decade. She felt it takes away from the work staff and CDOT did.

Mr. Pace stated we have done great work as a COG. He stated he would be singularly focused for the next year on getting the Amtrak work done. He stated Mr. Hart and he attended the Colorado Counties, Inc. meeting, and by a unanimous vote of 40 commissioners in Southern and Southeastern Colorado they voted to support the resolution PACOG passed regarding the Southwest Chief. He stated minor, technical amendments were made, noting everyone was very supportive. It looks like we are moving forward with legislation with bipartisan sponsorship in the next Legislative session. He stated one thing that would be very helpful to getting legislation passed is an economic impact study of having an additional stop in Pueblo and also retaining the Southwest Chief. He has been in discussions with the Colorado State University-Pueblo

economic department regarding the study. While they are capable of doing this and excited to do it, they asked in order to have graduate assistants work on it and get it done quickly of the possibility of getting reimbursements for their costs. He felt it would cost approximately \$2,000-\$5,000. He felt the local Metropolitan Planning Organization might be the appropriate avenue. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) could be amended to include the study. If PACOG is willing to direct staff to come back with a proposed amendment for next month on the \$2,000-\$5,000, then this would help to pass this legislation.

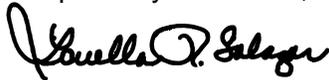
Ms. McFadyen asked if this would be PACOG or Urban Transportation Planning money. Mr. Severance replied it is eligible for both. Ms. McFadyen stated if it is transportation money it would probably have to be put out to bid. Mr. Severance replied for a smaller amount like this perhaps not, but it is highly eligible in the multi-modal planning from the transportation planning perspective, noting rail is part of that. Procedurally, to be able to charge to or perform the work, it should be part of the UPWP. They are going to look at the rules, and if it is a low enough figure that we don't need to go out to bid, this would expedite it. Chairman Colucci stated you would not be charging for the services, but for expense reimbursement. Mr. Lowe stated there are monetary amounts when bidding, and he felt this amount was probably below the limits. Mr. Severance stated it has to be accounted for in the UPWP. Staff can research this and get back to PACOG. Mr. Pace asked if everyone is comfortable with directing staff to work with Colorado State University-Pueblo and making sure everything is in compliance with the rules. PACOG felt it was a great idea.

It was moved by Sal Pace, seconded by Eva Montoya, and passed unanimously to direct staff to research the expenses for an economic study to be done by Colorado State University-Pueblo on the Southwest Chief, and making sure everything is in compliance with the rules.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before PACOG, the meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, January 23, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Louella R. Salazar
PACOG Recording Secretary

LRS