

Minutes of September 1, 2011 Joint Meeting  
Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)

**Digital Recordings of all the meetings of the TAC are maintained and available for inspection and review during normal business hours (M-F, 8am-5pm) at the MPO/TPR Office at 223 N Santa Fe Avenue.**

TAC Members present: Scott Hobson, Wendy Pettit, John R. Batey, Alf Randall, Rick Morgan, Jeff Woeber and Wendy Pettit.

CAC Members present: Don Bruestle, England Porter, Bill Davis, and Laurie Clark.

Others Present: Sato - Shawn Han, Scott Ramming, CDOT – Joe Garcia, and Rose Marie Ibanez –Secretary to the TAC.

Mr. Hobson called the regular joint meeting of the TAC to order on Thursday, September 1, 2011 at 8:39a.m. in the Temporary City Council Chambers, 301 West B Street.

- (1) Introductions and Public Comments (non-agenda items only).
- (2) Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 4, 2011.

Motion to approve: Bill Davis  
Second: Don Bruestle  
Unanimous

- (3) **Standing Agenda Item: CDOT Region 2 request(s) for amendment(s) to the PACOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the MPO/TPR area. Additional details about the amendments appear in attached CDOT letters and spreadsheets. Presented by Wendy Pettit, Region II Planner.**

Requires TAC and PACOG Board action to approve/disapprove/modify

Project Name: **US 50 B median and shoulder improvements**

STIP Number: SR26644.037

Project Location and Description: Install median and shoulder rumble strips on SH50B between MP 318 to 349

Fiscal Year(s) and Fund Source(s): **2012 Hazard Elimination Funds**

Federal Program Funds: **\$ 257,000**

State Matching Funds: **\$ 28,000**

Local Matching Funds: **\$**

Other Project Funds: **\$**

**TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 285,000**

We are increasing the project limits from MP 318 to the Pueblo County line and adding the \$285,000 of HES funding for a project total of \$435,000.

Ms. Pettit reported that this amendment increase came after further review to extend the improvement project into Otero County from MP 318 to 349 in the amount of \$285,000. Last month's amendment was for project improvements at MP 332 to 349 in the amount of \$150,000 bringing the total to \$435,000.

Motion to approve: Laurie Clark  
Second: Don Bruestle  
Unanimous

- (4) **THREE Administrative notifications of Roll Forward Project Funding or TIP/STIP Policy amendment(s) in the MPO and TPR area(s) –no TAC or Board action required.**

CDOT did not have notification(s) item(s) to submit for this meeting.

- (5) **MPO Staff Report – Presented by Scott Hobson and Pepper Whittlef**

1. Prioritization Letter of City of Pueblo projects – 2011 CDOT Enhancement Grant Applications of Grand Ave – Scape and Phase 2 – Northern Ave.
2. Prioritization Letter of the Pueblo West projects – 2011 CDOT Enhancement Grant application of Phase Main McCulloch Pedestrian/Bike Trail projects and McCulloch Pedestrian/Bike Trail 1.
3. Federal and State legislative update.

#### 4. Dillon Flyover-Update on TIGER III Funding priorities from CDOT

Mr. Hobson reviewed the prioritized list and letters to the PACOG Board by the City of Pueblo that designated a higher priority to Grand Avenue Scape project verses Northern Avenue Trail Phase 2, the scores had a difference of less than one point. The Pueblo West Metropolitan District designated a higher priority to the Pueblo West Trail Phase 3 over the McCulloch Main Trail because McCulloch trail Phase 3 was originally approved as part of Phase 2 but not constructed due to funding shortages. The TAC recommended at the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting to defer to the City of Pueblo to allow them to designate a priority between the Northern Avenue and Grand Avenue projects because of their close tally scores. Members of the TAC reported that they were in favor of and not offended by the final prioritization by the PACOG Board and want to keep the same process for the next round of applications next year. Ms. Pettit outlined the process saying that the final prioritization list of the enhancement applications is distributed to CDOT as listed below. The CDOT Enhancement Grant Application Committee for Region II (four TPR's) will review the applications for their final selection by end of September 2011. She said the money is already in the pool and work could start immediately for the projects that have their matched funds available now. Work could start at the beginning of 2012 on those projects that get their matched funds in January 2012. Ms. Pettit stated that she does not vote and that the Pueblo TPR should appoint a representative to attend the selection committee meeting. The Federal Funds reconciliation of FY2011 awarded Region II additional enhancement funding in the amount \$340,000 that could finance several projects.

- 1) Grand Avenue Scape
- 2) McCulloch Phase 3
- 3) Northern Avenue Trail Phase 2
- 4) McCulloch Main Trail 1
- 5) Orman Bike Lane
- 6) CF&I Museum
- 7) Phase 2 – Wayfinding

Mr. Hobson said that CDOT notified us that Pueblo MPO will be receiving an additional \$160,000 due to the federal fund reconciliation. These funds can be used for four anticipated projects such as an RTA, West Pueblo Connector, Pueblo West traffic mitigation, Downtown Pedestrian Traffic Study; and then use carry-over funds to update the LRTP. The funds for the Downtown Pedestrian Traffic Study are outlined in the UPWP that is in line with CDOT rebuilding the signals on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Any excess funds can be rolled over to the next year.

Ms. Whittlef reported that CDOT could only submit three project applications to the \$600 million federally funded TIGER III grant program that was very competitive. The Dillon Flyover project application went thru STAC as the top choice of all the three projects submitted. Endorsement letters are still needed for the next step to move the application forward to the Transportation Commission. It helped that it is in its final design with significant matches from CDOT and Pueblo. Phase 1 of the project is scheduled to start in the spring of 2012. The TIGER III grant award is for \$11.3 million (for Phase 1 & 2) saving Pueblo \$1 million dollars. Mr. Randall expressed concern on how all the application information for the TIGER III Grant process got distributed to all interested local government entities. He said the information void in Pueblo County is probably due to the county's administrative changes. Mr. Hobson said that he would make sure to send federal grant program information as he gets it from CDOT to all of the TAC/CAC members. Ms. Whittlef reported that TIGER III applications can still be submitted and can still receive a CDOT support letter, but it would not go forward as a CDOT project. Ms. Pettit said CDOT will write a letter of support through government relations contact list. The applications are due to CDOT by end of September to be awarded by the end of February 2012. It is unknown if hurricane Irene will change the distribution of federal transportation funding until after the presidential speech next week.

Mr. Hobson reported that Kevin Stilson accepted a position with the state regulatory commission but he left the department in good position by completing necessary projects thru the end of the year. The position will be filled but the full details have not yet been completed.

**(7)** Items from TAC member or scheduling of future agenda items.

1. A presentation (information only) by El Paso County Pikes Peak RTA Region in October or at least by the end of the year to give us pros, cons and ideas on funding and public meetings.
2. Schedule TPR public meetings in Boone, Rye, Colorado City and Beulah concerning transportation travel issues. The unused portion of the \$4,700 that the MPO receives in travel funds for out of town travel can be used to pay for notices and reserving meeting rooms. The four public meetings would be scheduled starting in the fall through the end 2011. These travel funds cannot be rolled over.
3. Presentation update of Downtown Pedestrian & Traffic master Plan after the Public Meeting & Open House that is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday at 5:30 pm – 7:30 at the Pueblo Convention
4. Presentation of Urban Renewal Lake Avenue Phase 1 that is 65% complete and the Lake Avenue Phase 2 that is in design and construction document.

Adjourned at 9:40 am.

**THE US 50 W PEL TAT WILL MEET THIS MONTH AFTER THE TAC ADJOURNS**