

Minutes of September 3, 2009 Joint Meeting
Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)

Audiotapes 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 Ave.

TTC Members present: Bill Moore, Todd Ahlenius, Larry Howe-Kerr, Brenda Broyles, Pepper Whittlef, Jeff Woeber, Wendy Pettit and Irene Merrifield.

CAC Members present: Debbie Rose, Chuck Pelto, Dale King, Eppie Griego and Bill Davis

Others present: UTPD support/minutes – Rose Marie Ibanez

Mr. Moore called the regular joint meeting of the TAC to order on Thursday, September 3, 2009 at 8:35 am in the Pueblo City Council Chambers.

- (1) Introductions.**
- (2) Approval of the minutes of the regular August 6, 2009. Presented by Rose Marie Ibanez, Secretary to the TAC.**

Motion to approve: Ms. Rose
Second: Mr. Griego
Unanimous

- (3) Standing Item) CDOT Region 2 notification of an administrative amendment to the PACOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the MPO/TPR area. CDOT Region 2 proposes the following revisions to the FY 2008 to 2013 Transportation Improvement Plan with regard to the US 50 bridges in the Pueblo TPR. Details for TIP amendment requests are attached in letters and spreadsheets.**

There were no scheduled amendments for September 3, 2009 TAC meeting.

- (4) Administrative clarification of the composition of Transportation Technical committee (TTC) voting memberships by agency. Presented by Irene Merrifield, CDOT as information only.**

Mr. Moore clarified that TTC is comprised of members by number from each entity (rather than job title) because they undergo restructuring and job titles changes. He has a signed letter from Jennifer Finch-CDOT that the TTC member organizations are represented satisfactorily as identified in the MOA between CDOT and PACOG.

- (5) Update and discussion of federal rescission of SAFETEA-LU funds on September 30. Presented by Bill Moore, MPO Administrator as information only.**

Mr. Moore reported that the two Colorado Senators have taken leadership in repealing the federal rescission of SAFETEA-Lu funds. Until the House acts on similar language, the rescission has a 50-50 chance to be repealed. Ms. Pettit stated the current highway bill expires on Sept. 30 but we should know by September 25th if the rescission section 10212 has been repealed.

- (6) Report and discussion of RMRA 3rd Peer Review Panel. Presented by Bill Moore, MPO Administrator as information only.**

Mr. Moore reported the RMRA 3rd peer review panel met to consider the High Speed Rail Feasibility Study this week. They have identified whether or not a high-speed rail system on the I-25 and I-70 corridors is capable of meeting the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) criteria for economic and financial feasibility. The corridors are Pueblo to Ft. Collins (I-25), and I-70 West

from DIA to the Eagle Airport. The I-25 corridor was identified primarily as a weekday *business-commute* and I-70 West as a weekend *recreational-commute* that could utilize the trains from the weekday for the weekend. The RMRA study is scheduled for completion at the end of October. The RMRA feasibility study will recommend whether or not engineering studies are warranted to go forward, it also is a springboard for seeking additional funding for more detailed studies such as the PEL and eventually the Environmental Impact Study. He reported that the Pueblo I-25 freeway did a Corridor Study before the PEL process was established and that sequence added at least two years to the process, because the EIS had to go back and look at alternatives as if the corridor study didn't exist.

(7) Open discussion.

Mr. Ahlenius reported that for those interested in requesting funding for a Safe Routes to School (2010 grant) are required to include an educational component in their project. CDOT lists on their website *when* and *where* they will host numerous Colorado Safe Routes to School "application training sessions" across the state in order to provide communities with assistance in completing their application. Application deadline to CDOT is 4 pm on December 4th (Friday). Grants are awarded through a statewide competitive process.

(8) Meeting adjourned at 9:45