

Minutes of October 1, 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: Earl Wilkinson, Brenda Broyles, Pepper Whittlef, Alf Randall, Jeff Woeber and Karen Rowe and Irene Merrifield.

CAC Members present: Debbie Rose, Chuck Pelto, Dale King, Rob Leverington, and Bill Davis

Others present: UTPD support/minutes – Rose Marie Ibanez

Ms. Ibanez called the regular joint meeting of the TAC to order on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 8:35 am in the Pueblo City Council Chambers. Mr. Moore was out with the flu and had designated Ms. Ibanez to chair the meeting.

(1) Introductions.

(2) Approval of the minutes of the regular September 3, 2009. Presented by Rose Marie Ibanez, Secretary to the TAC.

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

Ms. Ibanez asked for a motion to approve amending the agenda by deleting Items #5 and #6 listed for presentation by Mr. Moore.

Motion to approve: Mr. Pelto
Second: Mr. Davis
Unanimous

(3) Standing Item) CDOT Region II request(s) for PACOG MPO/TPR TIP amendment(s) FY 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program. Requires TAC and PACOG Board action to approve/disapprove/modify. Details about the amendments are attached in letters and spreadsheets.

Presented by Ms. Whittlef

Project Name: **Pueblo Bicycle Map**
STIP Number: **N/A**
Project Location and Description: **Pueblo Area, print and distribute maps**
TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 9,000

Ms. Whittlef said the Region 2 Transportation Enhancement Program had funded the \$9,000 in FY2010 for printing approximately 40,000 copies of the new updated Pueblo Bicycle Map. The project is being done in cooperation with the Health Department and Pueblo Active Community Environment (PACE) Group that is funding the local match in cash or in-kind services. The bicycle map was first presented at the July 02, 2009 TAC meeting by Mr. Ahlenius but still needed some additional funding for the actual printing contract.

Presented by Ms. Rowe

Project Name: **Pueblo Library Safety Project (from FY 2005)**
STIP Number: **SPB5682**
Project Location and Description: **Adjacent to Rawlings Library**
TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 15,000

This amendment provides \$15,000 from the Region 2 HES pool funds to do the final accounting close-out of a project done in the vicinity of the Robert Rawlings Public Library in the Mesa Junction area of the City of Pueblo. Construction was originally funded and completed in FY 2005, but the accounting records had remained open.

Presented by Ms. Rowe

Project Name: **Veteran's Bridge**

STIP Number: **SR25079.026**

Project Location and Description: **HARP area in downtown Pueblo**

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 600,000

After bids were taken and awarded for the first round of ARRA projects, there were substantial savings in funds, so \$600,000 of the savings are proposed for constructing the Veterans' Bridge project in the HARP area of the City of Pueblo

Ms. Rowe reported these project funds are ARRA Bid savings funds. There was a question as to whether it was a City of Pueblo or a Pueblo County project. Mr. Wilkinson reported that Greg Severance, Pueblo County Public Works Director is involved in the project but that this is a City of Pueblo project because Ms. Whittlef is advertising for RFP.

Presented by Ms. Rowe

Project Name: **Resurfacing - US50/SH96 to SH209 and Baxter Rd to Vineland**

STIP Number: **SR25216.044**

Project Location and Description: **MP 328-336 - resurfacing near the Pueblo Chemical Depot with intersection improvement at US 50C & Baxter Rd, and US 50B & Avondale. Swap ARRA funding for Surface treatment funds.**

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 5,200,000

The 1st part of this project is funded with ARRA money for turn lanes and for surface treatment of 3.8 Miles.

Presented by Ms. Rowe

Project Name: **Resurfacing - US50/SH96 to SH209 and Baxter Rd to Vineland**

STIP Number: **SR25216.044**

Project Location and Description: **MP 328-336 - resurfacing near the Pueblo Chemical Depot with intersection improvement at US 50C & Baxter Rd, and US 50B & Avondale**

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ (2,630,000)

The original resurfacing project in the vicinity of the Pueblo Chemical Depot for US50/SH96 was scheduled for FY 2011 using state surface treatment program funds rolled forward from FY 2010. When the ARRA bid savings funds became available, in FY 2010, the scope of the project expanded to include major intersection improvements at US 50C & Baxter Rd, and US 50B & Avondale in the vicinity of Vineland. The use of the ARRA (100% federal) funds provided approximately \$5.2 million for the expanded project and allowed the originally programmed \$2.63 million in state funds to be returned to the regional pool for other surface treatment projects in the area.

Ms. Rowe reported that safety funds would be used for guardrail and any excess funds would be used to resurface to mile marker post 26. Mr. Davis reported that he had attended the Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission Meeting at the Boone Community Center/fire station on Sept.30, 2009. He distributed the Defense Access Road Overview Map illustrating the project phases presented at that meeting. All project phases illustrated on the map should be completed by 2017.

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

- (4) (Standing Item) CDOT Region II notification of an administrative amendment to the PACOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the MPO/TPR area – no TAC or Board action required. There are no scheduled administrative amendments.**
- (5) Update and discussion of federal rescission of SAFETEA-LU funds on September. Presented by Bill Moore, MPO Administrator as information only. *Postponed due to illness.***
- (6) Report and discussion of RMRA 3rd Peer Review Panel and draft final report. Presented by Bill Moore, MPO Administrator as information only. *Postponed due to illness.***

(7) Open discussion.

Mr. Pelto reported that he has recently become involved with the water quality aspects of PACOG EPAC, and attended the Fountain Creek District Water Shed Authority last Friday. He was very impressed with regard to improving the water between Pueblo, Fountain and Colorado Springs. He said that he has been working with the storm water people, and in August attended a bicycle trip to the confluence park in Denver. That trip gave him the idea of promoting a parkway from the Pueblo confluence Fountain Creek/Arkansas River to Fountain and up to Colorado Springs that would be par with the Secretary of the Interior's vision of a crown jewel in Colorado. The Authority has decided to inform the El Paso County Commissioners of their recommendation against a gravel pit on Fountain Creek that poses an interesting dilemma for the newly created district charged with regulating land-use issues in the flood plain. He petitioned the PACOG TAC to become involved in promoting a parkway project. He said he would like to see what the PACOG TAC could do to push the agenda forward. He said that he is willing to use his time to facilitate the project and is now looking for points of contact.

Mr. Davis gave a visitor accounting on the Weisbrod Aircraft Museum that included visitors from 131 different countries. This year showed the visitor count up 1322 from August last year to August of this year. He related a special Museum story about the visiting Chinese couple Ben Lam and YanPing Liu. YanPing father Ben Liu had trained at the Pueblo air base as part of The Chinese Air Force during WWII. The Chinese government's intent was to bomb Japan, but the War ended. He went back to Canton where he eventually defected to communism during China's Cultural Revolution and a political purge (mid-1960s- mid-'70s) branded him as a spy. In 1968 he was executed when YanPing was 12 years old. YanPing had been trying for years to piece together her father's notable career as a Chinese military pilot and had already planned a trip to America when she learned about the Museum where her father had trained. She later sent a card of thanks to the City of Pueblo and its people for hosting their visit to the Museum.

- (8) Meeting adjourned at 9:00**