

Minutes of November 6, 2008 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.

TAC Members present: Bill Moore, Todd Ahlenius, Jerry Pacheco, Alf Randall, Jeff Woeber, Mike Tedesco, Brenda Broyles; and CDOT– Wendy Pettit, Irene Merrifield and Marissa Robinson.

CAC Members present: Bill Davis, Chuck Pelto and Shirley Ozzello.

Others present: Kristin Castor, John Madrid, CDOT– Tammy Lang R2C2; and Rose Marie Ibanez–UTPD support/minutes.

Mr. Moore called the regular joint meeting of the TAC to order on Thursday, November 6, 2008 at 8:37am in the Pueblo City Council Chambers.

(1) Approval of the minutes of the regular October 2, 2008 meeting. Draft minutes are attached presented by Rose Marie Ibanez, Secretary to the TAC.

Motion to approve: Mr. Davis
Second: Ms. Ozzello
Unanimous

(2) [Standing Agenda Item] CDOT Region 2 notifications of administrative amendments to the PACOG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and/or the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the MPO/TPR area. When required, details about the amendments will be attached in letters and spreadsheets.

Ms. Pettit presented a Standing Agenda Item from CDOT Region 2 for notifications of an Administrative Amendment to roll forward funds on the Defense Access Road project (SPB6296) to the TIP/STIP. The total roll forward is \$220,000 that are leftover funds that are unencumbered that are being rolled forward onto the next phase. Mr. Randall said this project was broken into four phases due to the construction market several years ago and a supplement application provided that any left over funds from one phase can be used in the next phase if extra funds are needed in the next phase. The letter and spreadsheet details the \$220,000 to be rolled forward into fiscal year 2009.

Action Requested: Information Only
Presented by: Wendy Pettit, Region 2 Planner

(3) Presentation) – I-25 Corridor Freight Rail Relocation (R2C2) Study. Presented by Tammy Lang, CDOT DTD as information only.

Ms. Lang said the R2C2 Phase I Study was completed on May05 that identified and in some cases quantified potential public benefits and costs. She outlined the objectives in Phase II that evaluates preliminary rail bypass alignment in eastern Colorado and identifies potential sources for funding the project. In the eastern corridor the Public Involvement process addresses some of the public issues and concerns of how landowners are impacted, who can now have a voice in making recommendations to a Citizens Board. The R2C2 Study and RMRA Feasibility Study are being coordinated. Any questions or comments can be e-mailed to her at the website.

(4) Update on the Rocky Mountain Rail Authority feasibility study and the Transportation Finance and Implementation Commission. Presented by Bill Moore as information only.

Mr. Moore reported that the *all day workshop* was held November 1st that evaluated I-25, I-70 and Denver Metro area corridors for developing the passenger rail alternatives. One of the key issues is that I-25 North corridor maybe a commuter rail route, and 1-70 West corridor is more of a recreational route. The consultants have come up with a trips and population equivalence in the relationship for seasonal and non-season tourism that solves the equation backwards for towns such as Cripple Creek and Blackhawk. These towns normally have a population of 600 but really generate several million annual trips, and numbers are also up the for ski resorts.

(5) Discussion of evaluating the timing and creation of a Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) in the Pueblo region. Presented by Bill Moore as information only.

Parts of the Denver Metro area are considering an RTA but will hold off to 2009 for a ballot initiative. Pueblo is at the top 10 of the larger urban areas that could tax themselves but would have a problem due to the economic timing. Ms. Castor said that the Pueblo tax initiatives probably failed because they did not present them in a *short ballot context* showing how these tax dollars would benefit the people. She also said a RTA half cent sales is more palatable compared to 15 mill levy on homeowners who are trying to survive in this economy. Mr. Madrid asked that the graphic out in Pueblo County be further evaluated taking into consideration that there are a lot of people without transportation.

(6) Adjourned at 10:04am since there were no items from committee members presented for open discussion and or scheduling of future agenda items.