

MINUTES

PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

July 27, 2023

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, July 27, 2023. The meeting was held in person. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Larry Atencio, PACOG Chairman, at 12:16 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Larry Atencio
Mike Cafasso
Daneya Esgar
Harry Hochstetler
Sarah Martinez
Epimenio Griego

Ed Gutierrez
Zach Swearingen
Heather Graham
Dennis Flores
Vincente Martinez Ortega
Chris DeLuca

Those members absent were:

Barbara Clementi
Regina Maestri

Doug Proal
Lori Winner

Also present were:

Carmen Howard
Sabina Genesisio
Robert Jager
Nick Gradisar
Terry Hart
Aaron Willis
Adam Leith
Hannah Haurert

Eva Cosyleon
Shane Ferguson
Wendy Pettit
Don Bruestle
Jennifer Sparks
Jason Nelson
Joel Johnson

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

The PACOG Board received a request to update the agenda from the PACOG MPO. The agenda was updated to allow for a bridge condition update presentation to happen under agenda item No. F. This item is under the MPO staff report and it was moved up in the agenda. The changes to the agenda were added and then acted upon by a motion by Chris Deluca and a second by Vincente Martinez Ortega.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Carmen Howard, PACOG Manager, summarized the Consent Items for PACOG Board. The minutes from the June 22, 2023, Board meeting were approved and the financial reports from April 2023 were received to be filed.

Chairman Atencio asked if there were any other additions or amendments to the Consent Items or if any of the members or audience would like an item removed or discussed that was on the Consent agenda. There were no other additions or amendments. The motion to accept the consent items was made by Vincente Martinez Ortega and a second by Chris Deluca and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Items listed below as presented:

- Minutes of the June 22, 2023, Meeting
- Treasurer's Report (receive and file 2023 Financial Report).

REGULAR ITEMS:

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT-

- Lunch Appreciation - Thank You to County Commissioners for Providing Lunch
- Larry Atencio informed the Board he needed to leave the meeting at 1:00 pm. and The Vice Chair, Zach Swearingen would then finish the oversight of the meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT (Carmen Howard)

Manager's Report: (Carmen Howard)

Ms. Howard presented her agenda items for the ADA minutes and the EPAC report. Mr. Lopez was not in attendance to give the EPAC report and is scheduled for September to give an update. Both items were informational, and no action was needed.

Contract for Grants Navigator position (Sabina Genesio)

The Contract for the Grant Navigator position was presented for a final vote. The Board unanimously voted to execute the contract. The motion to move the contract forward was made by Vincente Martinez Ortega and a second by Chris Deluca. Ms. Isabel Rollins was introduced to the PACOG Board and guests upon her arrival to the meeting.

Transportation Commissioner or CDOT Region 2 Report (Terry Hart or Shane Ferguson)

Shane Ferguson gave the CDOT Region 2 report. He stated that the region has gone through a lot of change in the last six month and things are finally starting to settle down. He introduced Jennifer Sparks. She is Ajin Hu's replacement for the South Program engineer position which covers the Pueblo County area. Jason Nelson was also in attendance, he is the CDOT region 2 traffic engineer. Together he and Jennifer gave a quick overview of the CDOT region 2 projects under way in Pueblo County.

- US 50 Bridge over US 50 at Chemical Depot access- Repairs to be made 1st week of August,
- US 50 B and US 50 C at 36th lane-Safety improvements project is ready for construction to begin, just waiting on the contracts. Commission Swearigan again asked if the drainage issues were being looked and Mr. Nelson's reply was no. The project just covers pedestrian issues. Chris Deluca from School Dist. 70 also asked about the drainage and asked to see the design plans for the project as the school district has made improvements in that area too to help with the drainage issues. The County public works dept. has submitted a drainage study and design ideas for the area to CDOT. The funding for this

project was discussed and more information will come to the September meeting from CDOT.

- I-25 will see a surface treatment project next year between MP 91 and 102
- The Safe routes project and 4th Street and Monument is underway for crossing improvements. The City and CDOT traffic are doing jointly and should be done before school starts.
- US 50 and Purcell is close to being wrapped up
- I-25 and Drew Dix is under construction
- US 50 interchange at US 50 B - under final design and construction includes Bridge replacements over Fountain Creek and the railroad should begin summer of 2024 through 2026 this is \$140 million dollar project
- I-25 at exit 108 will funded and under design in 2027
- The preventative maintenance project for SH 47 is under design with construction next summer.
- The US 50 McCulloch West pavement project is being delayed due the I-25 MP 91-102 project taking higher priority.
- SH 45 is going to have a feasibility study done to look at all of the new growth happening in the area
- The last CDOT update was on the passing lane grant application that was submitted for a grant under the IIJA grant program, if successful the grant will fund 12 passing lane projects

State Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) July 2023 Meeting Update

Eva Cosyleon gave a quick update on the July STAC meeting. The main topic of the meeting was program distribution, and decision by STAC that the TAP program funding formula is working well and was kept as it is to move forward to the 2050 long rang planning process. The HB 1101 public meeting was on the agenda as well. The evaluation process is in the data collecting phase at this point. Pueblo's meeting is on August 1st, at 6pm. Eva sent out a notice to all members of the PACOG mailing lists. The next STAC meeting is on August 3rd at the DRCOG offices and the main topic of discussion for program distribution will be the Regional Priority funds pool.

MPO Staff Report (Eva Cosyleon, MPO Manager)

A) CDOT Policy Amendment for MMOF Matching funds for SS4A Grant:

2023 - 2027 Transportation Improvement Program*

TIP Amendment #2023.028

Administrative Action:

Project Name: SS4A STIP Number: TBD

Project Location and Description: SS4A Safety Action Planning Grant Match

Fund Source(s): FY24 State Multimodal Mitigation Option Funds

Federal Program Funds:

State Funds: \$ 85,200

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 85,200

Action Required: Approve/Disapprove

The Policy amendment on the agenda for the SS4A grant was for the Pueblo County portion of the matching funds needed to secure the grant. The MPO dedicated \$85,200 in multi-modal options funds to the County portion of the needed match. The city paid their half of the match last month. **The motion for the addition of the match funding was motioned by Vincente Martinez Ortega and a second by Chris Deluca and was approved.**

Presentation from Agenda change:

B) Bridge Condition Report Presentation given by Adam Leith and Joel Johnson from CDOT staff bridge – Bridge inspections, Mr. Johnson is assigned to region 2 bridges

As requested by the PACOG BOD in July, CDOT Staff Bridge representatives came to the meeting to give a presentation on bridge condition evaluations. The CDOT program is a part of a bigger effort. The presentation was a brief overview of the process. It covered:

1. Regulations, Agencies, and Manuals

The following agencies develop the standards and rules about bridges in the United States.

- National Bridge Inspection Standards (Code of Federal Regulations Part 650 Subpart C)
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Specifications for the National Bridge Inventory

2. American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

The regulations, process and thresholds for bridge inspections are developed in a collaborative process with transportation experts at AASHTO

- Manual for Bridge Element Inspection
- Manual for Bridge Evaluation
- Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges
- LRFD Bridge Design Specifications

3. CDOT Bridge Inspection Program

The objective of the inspection program CDOT oversees is to inventory, inspect, and evaluate major bridges and culverts or facilities over 20 feet in length. The program exists to be sure all major bridges are in compliance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS). This process for Colorado is managed by CDOT Staff Bridge. Bridges and culverts less than 20 feet are inspected by the respective municipality.

4. On System / Off System

On system bridges are structure on the National or state highway system. Bridges off the system are owned by cities, towns or counties.

5. Inspection Schedule

Inspection interval is typically every 24 months.

Bridge inspection schedules are assigned a target month.

Bridges that set specific criteria can be on a 48-month inspection frequency.

A bridge may warrant a more frequent inspection based on its condition and can be revisited on a 3-, 6- or 12-month cycle.

6. Inspection Types and Methods

There are several types of inspections performed to ensure a structure is sound for public use. They include:

Routine Inspections, Nonredundant Steel Tension Member Inspections, Underwater Inspections, Special Pin Inspections, Damage Inspections, and In-Depth Inspections

7. Condition Reporting

The Items reported on are the deck, Superstructure, Substructure, Culvert, and Channel. Reports are written with the details of the findings.

Ratings are given from 0 to 9

Good Condition = 7 to 9

Fair Condition = 5 or 6

Poor Condition rating is 4 or below.

8. Pueblo's Inventory Condition

An overview of the bridges on-system and off-system was given. See slides for details.

9. Questions & Answers

Commissioner Griego asked if a website was available to see bridge data for local bridges, Mr. Leith stated CDOT was in the process of creating such a site and the site should be up and running by this winter. He also stated if anyone wanted specific information either CDOT or Stantec would be happy to look up the information and get back to the requestor. The condition for SH 47 at the Fountain was asked for by Commissioner Greigo and Commissioner Esgar asked for the bridge lists for all of Pueblo County. Various Board members asked about SH47 information due to the storm damage that has occurred recently. The staff bridge presenters knew nothing about the storm damage and referred questions Natasha Butler and Glen Crowell at CDOT bridge in Denver. Jennifer Sparks said someone from the maintenance department could attend the Fountain Creek task force meeting. Questions about the Union Avenue bridge were also asked, and the cost involved to repair it we discussed briefly and grants that might be able to help with repairs.

- C) Drive Clean Colorado* – Sonja Meintsma** from Drive Clean Colorado gave a presentation on the clean cities' coalition. They work with communities to aid in cleaner air by aiding communities in making clean transportation choices such as electric vehicles, they help identify alternative fuels, and help with connected mobility. They can help with grants for infrastructure, they bring new technology to the community, such as allow for community members to drive an electric vehicle, they help with grants for employers to install fast charging stations, they do education for the use of electric vehicles, how they work, how to charge them, etc. They help with transition plans for fleet transitions to EVs, and they can help with grants, there are several new opportunities for electrification. Details of the program are available from Sonia at: sonia@driceclean.org

D) Federal Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO)*

<https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/grant_programs.cfm

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dashboard>

E) CDOT Region II Request for PACOG MPO/TPR TIP Amendment, FY 2023-2027

Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Eva Cosyleon, MPO Manager, reported the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) administrative modifications as listed below:

Administrative Actions:

TIP Amend: #2023.023

Project Name: Adams and Jackson Roundabout

STIP Number: SR26644.104

Project Location and Description: Adams Ave & Jackson St intersection new traffic circle

Fund Source(s): FY24 Region 2 Hazard Elimination – Local Projects Pool (HLZ)

Federal Program Funds:	\$ 900,000
State Matching Funds:	\$ 100,000
Local Matching Funds:	\$
Other Project Funds:	\$

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$1,000,000

This administrative action is to add the awarded project into the STIP.

TIP Amend: #2023.024

Project Name: US50C Drainage Improvements

STIP Number: SR26867.059

Project Location and Description: Design/construction of drainage Improvements MP 0.00 – 16.947

Fund Source(s): FY26 Region 2 Regional Priority Program (RPP)

Federal Program Funds:	\$ 248,370
State Matching Funds:	\$ 51,630
Local Matching Funds:	\$
Other Project Funds:	\$

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 300,000

This change in the funding year program aligns the PACOG TIP with the STIP.

TIP Amend: #2023.026

Project Name: US50B and US50C at CO231 Safety Improvements

STIP Number: SR27002.078

Project Location and Description: US50B/C and 36th Lane/CO231

Fund Source(s): FY24 Region 2 FASTER Safety Allocation Pool (FSA)

Federal Program Funds:	\$
State Matching Funds:	\$ 167,806
Local Matching Funds:	\$
Other Project Funds:	\$

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 167,806

This addition of funds is necessary to bring this project to advertisement and award

TIP Amend: #2023.027

Project Name: US50 West

STIP Number: SPB7004.999

Project Location and Description: US50A MP 300.0 – 314.597

Fund Source(s): FY24 Region 2 Permanent Water Quality Program (PWQ)

Federal Program Funds: \$ 545,677

State Matching Funds: \$ 113,433

Local Matching Funds: \$

Other Project Funds: \$

TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 659,110

This administrative action adds funds to complete the Purcell water quality requirements.

F) Complete Streets - July 25, 2023, 9 a.m. – McCulloch Blvd & Spaulding Ave

Participants met at the site along with FHWA reps, Bill Haas and Will Keenan. The participants broke off in two groups and looked at the issues in the intersection, evaluated its safety, look for gaps in ADA requirements and discussed measures that would make the intersection better with the County Deputy director, and engineering staff. The follow up meeting to the walk audits will be on August 28th at the emergency center conference room at 9:30 am. Eva will give a summary of the audits and then there will be a direction set for next steps for a policy framework and how to make improvements to the intersections and corridors as a whole.

G) Bike to Workday – June 28th

This year's bike to workday had 12 stops along the downtown area. The downtown business that participated gave the riders discounts and incentives for riding their bikes to work. There were 16 bike riders that participated in the group ride.

New Business

No New Business

Future Agenda Items

Teen driving and crash data.

ADJOURNMENT (WJP)

The next meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments is to be held on Thursday, August 24, 2023, at the County's Emergency Operations Center, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room. The meeting will be held in-person and virtually via Zoom.

INDIVIDUALS REQUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTIFY PACOG AT (719) 553-2259 AT LEAST TWO (2) WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.