

MINUTES
PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
THURSDAY, July 24, 2025

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, July 24, 2025. The meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by PACOG Vice Chair , Chris DeLuca at 12:05 p.m.

Roll Call: (Wendy Pettit) It was determined a quorum was present.

Members Present were:

Dennis Flores-City Council	Miles Lucero – County Commissioner
Ed Gutierrez-Salt Creek Sanitation	Roger Gomez – City Council
Paula McPheeters -County Commissioner	Karim Ayoub-Colorado City
Chris DeLuca-Dist. 70	Brett Boston -City Council
Mark Aliff- City Council	

Members Absent:

Regina Matri – City Council	Sarah Martinez – City Council
Joe Latino – City Council	William Thiebaut -Dist. 60
Zach Swearingen- County Commissioner	Mike Cafasso-Board of Water Works

Staff and Executive Directors:

Carmen Howard, PACOG Manager	Eva Cosyleon PACOG MPO
Carla Sikes, PACOG Attorney	Hannah Haunert-PACOG MPO
Wendy Pettit, PACOG Recording Secretary	Dylan Goodman PACOG MPO

Also Present Were:

Sarah Skinner -Pueblo County	Heather Graham - Mayor
Don Bruestle PACOG TAC	Chad Wright, CDOT
Patrick Vigil, CDOT	Annie Carlson, Communities That Care
Terry Hart, Transportation Commissioner	

CONSENT ITEMS (Carmen Howard):

1. Minutes June 26, 2025, PACOG Meeting were presented and approved with a motion from Mr. Ayoub and a second from Councilor Flores as presented by PACOG Manager, Carmen Howard. Ms. Howard also spoke on a comment PACOG received on public comments at the meeting. As a result of a round table discussion on this topic, it was decided that the public comment section of the agenda will now be moved up on the agenda with the time

for each speaker and the number of speakers allowed considered on an individual basis subject to the topic at hand.

2. The MPO Consent items were covered by Mrs. Eva Cosyleon the MPO manager. There were three resolutions on the consent agenda. The first resolution had five changes to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the PACOG area, the first through fourth requests were for a reduction in the funding already assigned to the Grand Avenue and 13th Street Roundabout Project, and the Lake Avenue and Jones roundabout project, and Assign Highway Safety Improvement Program funds in the amount of \$840,000 to each location for intersection improvements instead. After a detailed look at the areas, it was determined that a roundabout would not be feasible due to right of way restrictions. The funds were returned to the pool and reassigned to a new project with a different scope of work for the two locations. The last project addressed in the resolution was the Prairie Avenue and Saint Clair intersection improvements which is a new project. This project is also making safety intersection improvements with an allocation of Highway Safety funds in the amount of \$690,000 which will be added to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the PACOG area.

The next resolution was to adopt the Public Participation Plan for the PACOG area to be utilized for the 2050 long range transportation plan development that is underway, as well as the TIP development and programming, and the Unified Planning work Program

The last resolution was to accept the fiscal year 2026 PACOG rural planning grant in the amount of \$12,000 from the Colorado Department of transportation.

All three resolutions were taken as a whole and approved the motion to approve the resolutions was made by Mr. Ayoub and seconded by Councilor Boston.

See July meeting packet for details.

REGULAR ITEMS:

1. Chairperson's Report:
 - o Lunch Appreciation - Thank You to the Pueblo West Metro Dist. for providing Lunch.
2. Transportation Information:
 - o Transportation Commission Update from the July 2025 meeting-Terry Hart gave a report for the topics covered at the June transportation Commission meeting. He also shared that the governor had appointed the new Transportation Commissioners, and that he was reappointed to another term. He stated the CDOT Budget had to be trimmed down from its last draft submission to meet fiscal constraint issues in the General fund which is state of Colorado funding, and the reduction will cut project and maintenance funds transfers to CDOT. He spoke on statewide transit connectivity, he also stated a report out was given to the

commission on the winter activities wrap up, and the safety issues for the department.

- State Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) June 1, 2025
Meeting update – Meeting was canceled for July
- CDOT Project List information – Updates were given by Mr. Patrick Vigil from CDOT. Mr. Chad Wright also spoke to maintenance issues that were asked about pertaining to weed clean up before the beginning of the 2025 State fair.
All transportation information is included in the packet information for further review.

3. Information Items:

MPO Staff Reports:

- Communities that Care - Presentation was given by Annie Carlson of PDPHE. She went over the community programs they are involved, in and focused on transit services geared to the youth in the community as well as the SoCoYoGo Committee that is a platform for the Pueblo area youth and plans activities to increase youth engagements. For more details see the meeting packet.
- **2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)** - Presentation was given on the processes and a handout for public involvement was given out with QR codes and email addresses for participation in transportation planning processes and meetings.
- **Draft Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)*** was included in the packet for review and action to approve the document will be on August agenda by the Board.
- **Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF)** Additional MMO funds are available, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) request(s) the following projects be added into the FY 2025 -2028 Pueblo Area Council of Governments Transportation Improvement Program (PACOG TIP) addition of \$108,392 to the Transit youth free ride program.
For more details see the meeting packet.
- CDOT and MPO roll forwards – See meeting packet for details of projects being affected
- Multimodal reallocation of MMO funds – See meeting packet for details
- CDOT requests for additions to the TIP
 - a: CO 45 and Mirror, addition of \$10,500 of Hazard Elimination funds

b: US 50 B and US 50 C PACOG Corridors assessment, addition of \$5,985 to bring the new project cost to \$264,735

- MPO Orientation- the PACOG website was brought up and a short video on the MPO was given. See the link min the meeting packet for more information.
- Roundabout Campaign A link was included in the meeting packet materials on the MPO and City of Pueblo's roundabout education campaign. See meeting packet materials for more information.

4. Other Business:

- None; No new business was brought up, no public comments were given, and no future agenda items were submitted.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments is scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 2025, at the County's Emergency Operations Center, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room, 12 pm. The meeting will be held in person and virtually via Zoom.