

**Meeting minutes of the  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION (TAC)  
March 14, 2023  
9:00 a.m.**

**Zoom -** <https://pueblo.zoom.us/j/94613129536>  
Meeting ID: 946 1312 9536  
Password: 598875  
Dial by your location  
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)  
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

**Agenda items marked with \* indicate additional materials are included in the packet.  
Agenda items marked with \*\* indicate additional materials will be sent out later.**

**Individuals requiring Special Accommodations should notify the City MPO's Office (719) 553-2242 by Noon on the Friday preceding the meeting.**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

*Chairwoman: Eva Cosyleon*

*Time of Call: 9:00 a.m.*

*MPO Members Present: Eva Cosyleon, Hannah Haunert*

*TAC Members Present: Aaron Willis, Ben Valdez, Greg Pedroza, Lachelle Davis, Rob Frei, Geoff Guthrie, Jennifer Sparks, Ranae Tunison, Shawn Winters, Scott Hobson*

*CAC Members Present: Don Bruestle, Heather Norton, Cheryl Spinuzzi*

*Others Present: Macario Torrez, Luann Martinez, Matt Jagow, David Singer, Bryan Robinson, John Buttram, Andy Karsian*

**2. Self-Introductions and Public Comments (non-agenda items only)**

*Jennifer Sparks is the new CDOT Region 2 South Program Engineer (Ajin's replacement). David Singer is CDOT's Division of Transit and Rail. Bryan Robinson is from WSP.*

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**February 14, 2023 Minutes\***

*Motion to Approve: Cheryl Spinuzzi*

*Second: Don Bruestle*

*Unanimous:*

**4. Front Range Passenger Rail Update – David Singer**

**Requested: Informational**

*David Singer had a presentation for the service development plan. In his presentation, he talked about the vision, purpose, and needs. The purpose is to integrate initial service that attracts early adopter passengers. The focus would be from Pueblo to Fort Collins with expansion. They also looked in alternative analysis with route, service, and investments. Project planning includes travel demand forecasting, operation analysis, station and access, fleet, conceptual engineering, labor, and O&M Cost. They also are looking at environmental aspects such as natural, social, cultural, and physical. Finance and Governance includes financial planning, benefits-cost analysis, governance, and implementation phasing. This is a 2-year plan (2024). There are 4 categories: Business, customer, policy, and benefits. Business goes over ridership, revenues, investments, and operations. Customer goes over trips, and connection. Policy is included in our Regional Planning, it serves unserved/underserved/low-income communities. There will be benefits to the environment, congestion mitigation, employment, and rural communities. Federal Rail Administration Program has a different source of funding. This is a separate funding and only is focused on advanced passenger rail. Don Bruestle asked if there were any discussions going through Wyoming or Albuquerque. David said that future phases would connect. Cheryl Spinuzzi asked if La Junta is still part of it, David said yes, it will connect with a thru car to Southwest Chief. Eva Cosyleon asked about the fees. Andy Karsian said that there is a budget of \$2m, this will be around 4 years. There is another grant for \$500k and another \$2m. These funds will help secure the 180 miles. At the local level, there is a ballot measure (stable/consistent funds). Eva asked if they have looked at the Rail Runner (Santa Fe to Albuquerque) and if they learned any lessons, Andy said that they are on his board. New Mexico didn't go with Amtrak, there are pros and cons to both.*

## **5. Union Station Plans\* – Bryan Robinson**

### **Requested: Informational**

*Bryan Robinson said the last time he spoke to us was in 2019/2020, this is when they adopted the site location. About 90% of the people were in favor of the site location. The planning study is to turn this into a destination experience. Phase 1 is to focus on the Amtrak, this would be a class 4 station. Phase 2 is in design with multiple CRISI grants underway, and a new District. Phase 2 is more of the Front Range with views, parking, and expansion. In Bryan's presentation, he had some rendered pictures of option B. There has been a lot of coordination with BNSF. The building design concept is at 10% but will eventually be 30% in the next few months. The concept is "Where the River meets the Rails." The third level would have almost a 360 view with a restaurant, the middle level is community level, and the lower level might have a gallery, and brief services. There will be a parking garage on the eastern side. Cheryl Spinuzzi had a concern about the aesthetic of the building and not being close to the historic feeling. Eva Cosyleon asked about Union bridge having Amtrak going underneath, Bryan said that in design they would not impact the bridge (22 ½ feet). It is far enough from the BNSF switch and from the Union Bridge. Eva also asked about a connection to the new Levee trail, Bryan said that they had those discussions, it is within 50 feet. He said that it will bring up concerns and how to cross that many tracks. Ben Valdez asked about the bus stop, Bryan said it could be for Transit services.*

## **6. Hwy 50B and C @ 36 Ln update - CDOT – Matt Jagow or Jason Nelson**

### **Requested: Informational**

*There was a traffic study and school zone study done in the areas. The traffic study only*

approved one warrant of am and pm hours, and a few minor sight issues. Hwy 50B will have porkchops and Intersection Warning System. This system will be for EB and NB traffic. CDOT is about 30% in design. 50C speed limit has already been reduced to 40 mph. There will be a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) on the western side of the intersection along with a painted crosswalk. Matt Jagow said CDOT will not be moving forward with traffic signals at either location. Early to mid-June for advertisement and constructed by the end of the year. Cheryl Spinuzzi asked what it is there now, Matt said there is a stop signs for NB traffic but the sight distance is bad. He said the people EB turning south (right turn) blocks the other vehicles. Geoff Guthrie asked about lowering the speed limit on 50B, Matt said that it was not lowered but can be reassessed. If it is reassessed then the speed limit will probably go up according to the State Law (speed management). A traffic signal at 50B will only help operational and not safety. Eva Cosyleon asked about a flashing slow down sign, Matt said those are only effective for 6 months. 50B frontage road is going to be a problem for the deacceleration lane, there is not enough width to move it more south closer to the frontage road. CDOT is still looking on a solution for this area. There will be a pump house close to the intersection so if the frontage road is used then it will need some sort of barrier. There is a drainage issue at 50C but Pueblo County is looking to get it fix but will not coincide with CDOT's timeline (at a later date). The porkchop islands will have curb and gutter. CDOT is looking at the southeast corner for pedestrian safety. The parents are using 50C as a drop off on both sides of the highway by Pueblo County High School.

**7. Complete Street Workshop - next meeting is March 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at Pueblo County Emergency Service 101 W 10<sup>th</sup> St 81003**

**Action Requested: Reminder**

*We prefer you come in person.*

**8. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Meeting April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 a.m.**

**Action Requested: Informational**

*This will be held at the Planning Department.*

**9. CDOT Region 2 request(s) for PACOG MPO/TPR TIP amendment(s)\***

FY 2023 - 2027 Transportation Improvement Program

Administrative Action:

Project Name: Pueblo County Blvd Extension Trail

STIP Number: SR27017.001

Project Location and Description: Design/construction of new pathway along new Pueblo County Medal of Honor Blvd

Fund Source(s): FY24 Carbon Reduction Program

Federal Program Funds: \$ 8,022

State Matching Funds: \$

Local Matching Funds: \$

Other Project Funds: \$

**TOTAL PROJECT FUND AMENDMENT: \$ 8,022**

Adding additional funds:

\$8,022 in Federal CRP funds project savings were moved from FY23 to FY24 to supplement construction.

**Requested: Informational**

*This is just to move the funds to fiscal year 2024.*

## 10. Other Local Agencies Updates

### Action Requested: Discussion

*Ben Valdez said that the Vanpool will not be fully functioning until January 2024.*

*Greg Pedroza said that Southern Airways still have a lot of hiccups with canceling flights, but they are taking them via a van.*

*Shawn Winters said with the warmer weather TAP 3 will be finished. There are still issues with Purcell and Industrial with pedestrian improvements. The FLAP (Federal Land Access Program) project (McCulloch & Nichols) will include a new pedestrian bridge.*

## 11. CDOT Updates

*Jennifer Sparks is the new Region 2 South Program Engineer. Rob Frei said the Planning Manager position closed on Sunday and the Planner 3 might be demoted to a 1 or 2. This position has been opened since December with only one application.*

*Matt Jagow said that the project Hwy 96 and Monument will be listed as it's own project. Matt said that the contractors are super busy. There will be a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon on the westside of the intersection with a pedestrian refuge.*

*Aaron Willis said that they are going to interview for another Planner Liaison and no news on the DTD Director.*

*Jennifer Sparks said that Hwy 50B from Troy to the pedestrian bridge resurfacing will finish in 3-4 weeks. Hwy 50 & Purcell is almost complete. Dillon and Drew Dix will be started soon which includes the northbound roundabout, southbound roundabout, and the continuation of the eastside frontage road. There is an open house March 15<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm. Construction will begin end of this month and finish late summer 2024. Access and I-25 will not be impacted. The sculpture on the west roundabout at Dillon and I-25 will be installed too. I-25 and Hwy 50B project is still working on acquiring ROW and clearances. Advertisement will be end of this year. The design is overbudget and CDOT is looking at the scope.*

*Lachelle Davis said that draft applications for the TAP is due March 24<sup>th</sup>.*

- **Vanpool MMOF update**

*Geoff Guthrie said that the award letter was received by Ben Valdez. Internal project and budget will be the end of March, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> week of April – intergovernmental agreement will be hopefully finished, contract (execution) will take 6-8 weeks, with 2 City Council meetings by mid-May. Don Bruestle asked about the location, Ben said Airport Industrial and Southern Industrial. The amount of time it will take to build the RFP, advertise the RFP, and back to Council will be earliest in November. Ben said that this is a subscription service, Luann Martinez said that Transit will subsidize through the Employer/Company.*

*Geoff said that the grant the Mayor was asking about is Charge Ahead Grant. Luann said this is to purchase the 3 transformers and why doesn't Blackhills purchase these.*

- **National Highway Freight (\$2.5m)**

- **Requested: Informational**

*CDOT HQ knows about the Travel Plaza, if this does not get built then we have an option B. If it does get built then we can look at other places to improve the Highway Freight System. Geoff Guthrie suggested looking at Stem Beach onramp. Don Bruestle asked about Beacon Hill (Exit 108 & I-25), Matt said the earliest to start would be July 2024. Jennifer Sparks said that they are close to 10% design.*

**12. Federal Highway and Federal Transit Updates (If needed)**

**Action Requested: Informational**

*There were no updates.*

**13. Next TAC – April 11, 2023 - Planning Conf Room 211 E D St 81003**

**Action Requested: Informational**

**14. Items from TAC Members or scheduling of future Agenda Items**

**Roundtable Discussion**

- Hwy 50 & Purcell update
- Dillon and Drew Dix/I-25 update

**15. Adjourn at or before 11:00 am**

*Eva Cosyleon adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.*