

**Meeting minutes of the  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION (TAC)**

**January 14, 2025  
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**\*AMENDED\*-211 E D street, Pueblo, CO 81003**

Zoom - <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1619597770?pwd=6wfeSmhz9V61OcaEzEZ0wGwc2GVz0d.1>

Meeting ID: 161 959 7770

Passcode: 766237

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**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 [\(719\) 553-2259](tel:(719)553-2259) by  
Noon on the Friday preceding the meeting.**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

*Chairwoman: Eva Cosyleon*

*Time of Call: 1:30 p.m.*

*MPO Members Present: Eva Cosyleon, Hannah Haunert, Dylan Goodman*

*TAC Members Present: Macario Torrez, Ben Valdez, Helen Dupree, Greg George, Shawn Winters, Amanda Hobson, Sean Maik, Sarah Skinner*

*CAC Members Present: Don Bruestle, Cheryl Spinuzzi, Richard Arko, Laura Leyba*

*CDOT Members Present: Geoff Guthrie, Lindsey Jaquez, Lachelle Davis, Jennifer Sparks, Scott Skinner, Laurel Jones, Michael Snow*

*FTA/FHWA Members Present:*

*Others Present: Wendy Pettit, Luann Martinez, Saqib Gulzar, Danell Cressey, Abe Armendariz, Mark Dominguez, Dustin Purkey, Kelly Grisham, John Chrisman, Neil Elliot, Chuck Aksamit, John Wark, Kevin McGuire, Storm Wright*

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

*John Chrisman is the Director of Planning and Development at Pueblo Plex. Mark Dominguez and Dustin Purkey are from RockSol Engineer. Niel Elliot is from Colorado City Metro District. Chuck Aksamit will be the new Pueblo Active Community Environments (PACE) representative. John Wark is the alternate for the Pueblo County Planning and Zoning Board. Kevin McGuire and Storm Wright is from the Congruex Company (fiber).*

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**December 10, 2024 Minutes\***

*Motion to Approve: Laura Leyba*

*Second: Cheryl Spinuzzi*

*Unanimous*

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**4. Congruex Presentation\***

**Action Requested: Informational**

Kevin McGuire had a presentation; he had a map that showed which projects are completed within the City (engineer vs construction status). There will be more permits because the data was done a month prior. Don Bruestle asked what a permit means, Storm Wright said this is for excavation permit for potholing. Cheryl Spinuzzi asked what this company does, Storm said they started work in 2022 for Intrepid T-Mobile Fiber. Broadband is high speed internet. Kevin had a slide for how many households are ready to be hooked up. He said there are about 38,000 households that will have access to high-speed internet. Plan is to finish in August 2025. Greg George asked if they have an enterprise agreement with the City or bond, Storm said that they do the bonds just as a company. They have a bond for each permit but not pay for each bond. Every block has a permit. Storm said that in order to close a permit, everything has to be repaired, and the inspectors would inspect them. She said that if the utility gets hit, it needs to be repaired right away. Ben Valdez asked about their schedule, Storm said that they have meetings every Thursday. Kelly Grisham said that BJ is in charge of that. Storm agreed to follow up with Ben on future bus stop shutdowns. Kevin said that there will be 1.6 million feet of fiber installed. Eva Cosyleon asked about the lifetime, Kevin said there is a maintenance contract – which should last 25-30 years. Don asked about a degradation, Kavin said not one that is measurable. Eva asked if the households that will be connected, Kevin said that they will be ready. Luann asked about the census tract, Kevin said he’s not familiar. Luann said that the census tract is underserved (social economically). Don asked about Salt Creek, Eva said this is (work done) within the City, Greg said that is Pueblo County. Greg said they have only been in Pueblo West for their fiber install.

**5. Multimodal Options and Mitigation Funds (MMOF) update**

**Action Requested: Informational**

Eva Cosyleon said it was discussed that the City will need to go through the competitive process. Geoff Guthrie said this grant is state funds set up to specifically fund alternative transportation (bicycle, pedestrians, transit). Eva mentioned that this will be a good opportunity to do more of a policy for MMOF. Don Bruestle agreed that a policy is good to have those parameters and criteria. Michael Snow said that the other MPOs have similar policies, one has a policy called N.O.P.E. (not one penny extra). He said that the applicants do the work and come up with a best estimate they can and discourage any low estimates submissions. Eva said that we will be doing a call for projects next month. She also said that school districts can apply too.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) will be announcing their projects soon. Michael said that MMOF is eligible for all the same things that the SRTS program is.

**6. TAC Membership\***

**Action Requested: Informational**

We will also identify a chair and vice chair next month. This includes all staff members and identifies Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). This will go to the board on January 23<sup>rd</sup> for approval. The members will officially start in February.

**7. City of Pueblo Safe Streets for All (SS4A) (second SS4A grant)\***

TIP Amend 2024.054 Policy Amendment

Project Name: Pueblo Supplemental Planning and Demonstration

STIP Number: N/A

Project Location and Description: SS4A Planning and Demonstration Grant

Fund Source(s): SS4A

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
SS4A (Federal)	0	\$959,559	0	0	0	\$959,559
Local Match	0	\$239,88.75				\$239,88.75

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Total	0	\$1,199,448.75	0	0	0	\$1,199,448.75
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Motion to Approve: Don Bruestle

Second: Laura Leyba, Ben Valdez

Unanimous

Helen Dupree said that the kickoff will develop a safety action plan. This will look at the city and see where more work is needed, looking at safety and community outreach to underserved areas. The next step after this would be an implantation plan. Luann Martinez said that the supplemental grant is to purchase additional tools (lidar, sensors etc...) to collect information. It also includes code revisions (compliant with Complete Streets), and material purchases (reflective borders around traffic signals). This helps decrease the reflection. It does include a safety analysis on Northern Ave at Ventana Way. Don asked about the administrative funds, Luann said she would have to look but think it's between 5%-10%.

**8. City of Pueblo Union Avenue\***

TIP Amend 2024.055 Policy Amendment

Project Name: Pueblo Union Ave Bridge Replacement - BIP Grant

STIP Number: SR27023.005

Project Location and Description: The project will replace the near century old Union Avenue Bridge, a critical link from downtown Pueblo to South Pueblo. The bridge will be reconstructed to include pedestrian and bicycle facilities and to accommodate future intercity passenger rail.

Fund Source(s): FY25 Direct Recipient Funds (DIR)

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
DIR - Federal	0	\$13,713,060	0	0	0	\$13,713,060
DOLA – Local	0	\$1,750,000	0	0	0	\$1,750,000
Local	0	\$811,731	0	0	0	\$811,731
Total	0	\$16,274,791	0	0	0	\$16,274,791

Notes: City of Pueblo was awarded a BIP Grant: <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/investing-america-biden-harris-administration-announces-nearly-635-million-22-bridge>

Motion to Approve: Laura Leyba

Second: Richard Arko

Unanimous

Luann Martinez said that this grant was hard because of the Main Street bridge right next to it. The historical piece helped a bit and the future passenger rail. The cost basis is a study in 2019 said that it would be about \$14m. That amount was pre-covid and the new fund includes a 23% cost increase and to build it higher. It is also matched with \$1.7m Department of Legal Affairs (DOLA), and Local Match (LOMA). RockSol company asked if this will be bid in 2025, Luann said that it will be bid in multiple stages because of the process of demolition and construction. A little bit of community engagement still needs to happen (reroute). CDOT's Revitalizing Main Streets is coming up that might help move this along.

**9. Pueblo Transit- Zero Fare\***

TIP Amend 2024.053 Policy Amendment

Project Name: Youth Fare-Free 2025

STIP Number: N/A

Project Location and Description: Zero-Fare program for Youth from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

Fund Source(s): Zero-Fare Transit Grant

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
ZFT (State)	\$62,213.39	0	0	0	0	\$62,213.39
Total	\$62,213.39	0	0	0	0	0

Motion to Approve: Laura Leyba

Second: Richard Arko

Unanimous

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*Ben Valdez said this is a continuation from better fare for better air. This started October 2024 and will run through September 2025. He wants to keep this program going. Dylan Goodman asked if this is the same policy/scope as the MMOF project, Ben said yes. Don Bruestle said that with the youth, they need an after school transportation. He asked if the Medicaid could help with that, Ben Valdez said it is how they are funded that they can't. Don asked if something else could be done more. Eva Cosyleon said that the Health Department is looking at different modes the youth can take. They have seen an increase in youth driving under the influence. They are looking at a safe ride to help with this and for after school activities. Health Department did expand their survey. Cheryl Spinuzzi said that now the kids need to buy their own equipment, Don said that Pueblo Bull's has free equipment.*

## **10. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Updates**

### **Action Requested: Informational**

*Laura Leyba, had a concern about the new EV charges, Eva Cosyleon said the grant is for \$11m but Andrew Hayes would be the best person to contact as this is a brand-new grant. Laura said the committee would like to be notified of walk audits 10 business days in advanced. Luann Martinez said that the project manager for the EV project (CFI Grant – Colorado Charging and Fueling Infrastructure) is Citizen Energy and that they will make the entire 20% match. The 260 number is for how many ports (level 2). The plazas will have multiple ports. The focus will be multifamily and moderate-income neighborhood and other various businesses. Citizen Energy will own and maintain them and cost must be fair and reasonable.*

*Cheryl Spinuzzi said that they got approved for annexation to build a Jellystone Park (high end camping). They are working with CDOT and talks about Lake Avenue extension.*

## **11. Other Local Agencies Updates**

### **Action Requested: Informational**

*Luann Martinez said that Pueblo County received a grant notice from Senator Hickenlooper's office that the airport will receive a \$1.6m grant to build a sponsored hanger for revenue generation.*

*Luann said they are waiting for Stantec to do a cost analysis on the new administration and bus garage for Pueblo Transit. Ben Valdez said they are waiting on the sol-source piece. Geoff Guthrie said that Scott Skinner reached out to Director, Paul, to follow up with this specific issue. Ben said once they have that, they can move in a timely matter for the deadlines. Ben said that there were 752 Veteran's on his fixed route system from the first of the month as of today and he does not have the numbers for paratransit. There are about 145 registered veterans. The vanpool already has 8 signed up and additional 7 or 8. Don Bruestle asked which route the vanpool takes, Ben said that there is no fixed route because it is a subscription-based program. The grant funds \$500 for every vanpool to offset the cost of the company. Don asked about if these are new riders, Ben said it's about 70% new riders and 30% current riders. Cheryl Spinuzzi asked if this extends to spouses, Ben said not at this time.*

*Eva Cosyleon said that Transit and the Health Department are working on 4 transits stops to beautify specific stops. They have submitted a proposal. Ben said that it's for specific parts of town that will reflect the design/art. Don Bruestle asked if these have shelters and benches, Ben said yes. Eva thinks the grant will pay the artist. She said the youth will be part of the selection committee.*

*Shawn Winters said that TAP 4 & 5 Trail (Joe Martinez trail) construction has slowed because of the weather, Purcell Blvd Phase 1 & 2 is 60% design, Civic Center Phase 1 – waiting for option letter to move forward with design.*

*Greg George said that Medal of Honor (road and trail) is moving along, underground work, finish by end of the year, Industrial and Purcell – interim improvements have been delayed (Turn signals). He would like to do a presentation on the alternatives (roundabout). This will require right-of-way acquisition. He has finalized his*

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review for the RAISE Grant, next step an IGA with CDOT. First phase is 90% design. Art Center (charges and electrical improvements) has 60% design, working with Blackhills. Don Bruestle asked where they will be located, Greg said it will be installed in the front.

Amanda Hobson said she should have a better update next month.

Neil Elliot said they are working with Pueblo County on signage along Sabola Drive.

## 12. CDOT R2 and HQ Updates

### Action Requested: Informational

Jennifer Sparks said that they were awarded the US 50 Shift Grant. Otero County was the applicant. This grant is \$40.5m with a total of \$67.5m. This is to install passing lanes from Pueblo to Kansas City line. Don Bruestle asked if this will widen the roadway, Jennifer said yes. Don also asked if the intention is to have 4 lanes the whole way, Jennifer said yes but there is no funding. Paving projects are on winter shutdown, this includes the guardrail updates. Hwy 50B interchange and I-25 had their groundbreaking last month, most of the work will be offline. Eva Cosyleon asked when they start testing the soil, Jennifer said they did some testing and there are some high metals in the water and have a plan in place. The soil settlement is a wait and see.

Geoff Guthrie said that they are meeting number 3 with their rural transportation planning regions regarding developing 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan. Once this is updated (August), CDOT will work with their planning partners on the 10-Year Plan (fiscally constrained list of projects). This will include Fiscal Year 2027-2036. Geoff request advanced coordination on the Federal grant awards that are direct recipient. He also mentioned to keep an eye out for the MMOF call for projects. Don Bruestle asked if they can change the application process to get informed while they are applying for it instead of after, Geoff said that they are in coordination with FHWA.

## 13. FTA & FHWA updates

### Action Requested: Informational

## 14. CDOT request(s) the following amendment projects into the FY 2025 –2028 Pueblo Area Council of Governments Transportation Improvement Program (PACOG TIP)\*

TIP Amend 2024.011.01 Administrative Amendment

Project Name: Mel Harmon Bridge Rehabilitation

STIP Number: SR27023.005

Project Location and Description: Rehabilitation project for the bridge on Mel Harmon to repair and restore the bridge's structure.

Fund Source(s): Bridge Off-System (BRO)

Fund Source	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
BRO	0	\$797,179	0	0	0	\$797,179
Local	0	\$159,435.80	0	0	0	\$159,435.80
Total	0	\$956,614.80	0	0	0	\$956,614.80

### Action Requested: Informational

## 15. Next TAC meeting\* – February 11, 2025 from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Location: To Be Determined Deadline for presentations is February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 p.m.

### Action Requested: Informational

## 16. Items from TAC Members or scheduling of future Agenda Items\*

### Roundtable Discussion

MMOF policies

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*Youth – VIA – Health Department*

*Purcell and Industrial alternatives*

*HSIP is due February 21<sup>st</sup>, RAISE is due January 30<sup>th</sup>, PROTECT is due February 24<sup>th</sup>, BRICK is due April 18<sup>th</sup>, and Flood Mitigation Assistance due April 18<sup>th</sup>, RURAL/Tribal is due April 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

**17. Adjourn at or before 3:30 pm**

*Adjournment was at 3:18 p.m.*