

**Technical Subcommittee Meeting ♦ February 1, 2017**  
 NACOG AAA Offices, Flagstaff, AZ

MEMBER NAME	ENTITY	PRESENT	ABSENT	STAFF NAME	
Margie RS Begay	Navajo Nation		X	Jason Kelly	
Bill Bess	Navajo County	X		Jason James	
Brandon Buchanan	City of Williams		X	Cindy Binkley	
Terry Cooper	Town of Snowflake		X	RJ Erickson	
Andy Dickey	City of Sedona	X		Jennifer O'Connor	
Art Durazo	Town of Clarkdale	X		GUEST NAME      ENTITY	
Dan Gabiou	ADOT MPD	X		Chris Bridges	CYMPO
Shane Hemesath	City of Show Low	X		Kevin Adam	RTAC
Michael Lomayaktewa	Hopi Tribe		X	Stephen Craver	City of Sedona
Ron Long	Town of Camp Verde		X	David Wessel	FMPO
Gus Lundberg	Town of Taylor		X	Tim Dalegowski	Coconino County
Roland Maldonado	Kaibab Paiute Tribe		X	Caleb Lanting	Cities of Holbrook/Page
Roger McCormick	Yavapai County	X		Chris Keller	Town of Clarkdale
Matthew Patterson	Town of Pinetop-Lakeside	X		George Wallace	Stanley Consultants
Paul Ramsey	City of St. Johns	X		Jeremy Peters	Town of Taylor
Tim Rasmussen	Town of Springerville	X		Lisa Robertson	City of Show Low
Bruce Ray	Town of Eagar	X		Jesse Thompson	Navajo County
Morgan Scott	City of Cottonwood		X		
Randy Sullivan	City of Holbrook		X		
David Swietanski	Apache County	X			
Scott Tkach	Coconino County		X		
Matthew Wood	City of Page		X		
Mark Woodson	City of Winslow/Town of Tusayan	X			
	Town of Fredonia				
	Town of Jerome				

**I. Introductions**

Vice Chairman Shane Hemesath called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Self-introductions were made. A quorum was present.

**II. Approval of December 2016 Minutes**

Vice Chairman Hemesath asked for any corrections to the December 7 meeting minutes.

Dan Gabiou noted the following corrections:

- Page 2, Item IV. B, second paragraph: the last use of the word “state” should be “federal”
- Page 3, Item IV. G, second paragraph: “STR funding” should be “SPR funding”

**Mark Woodson moved to approve the December 7, 2016 meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Matthew Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **III. Call to the Audience**

There were no comments from the audience.

### **IV. Federal & State Updates**

#### **A. Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) Exchange Update**

Jason Kelly reported that ADOT has confirmed that the HURF exchange will be reinstated. In early March, ADOT will present the draft policy to COG/MPO staff for comment. The program will commence in 2018, authorized in the amount of \$25 million. Staff will present more details as they become available.

Kevin Adam commented that his communications with ADOT have indicated that the HURF program will likely be as expansive as possible. There are still implementation issues that need to be worked out. COG and MPO Directors will meet with ADOT Director Halikowski next week to discuss the HURF Exchange reinstatement and express commitment to make it a successful program.

#### **B. Arizona Surface Transportation Funding Task Force (STFTF) Update**

Last year, the Senate Transportation Committee Chairman formed revenue task force to identify ways to raise revenues for transportation needs. Task Force members were appointed in September, and were tasked with final report being due 12/31.

Focus areas for the revenue generation recommendations included the following:

- Interstate highways
- HURF
- DPS
- Regional state highways
- Local roadways

The Task Force released their recommendations, which included the following revenue mechanisms:

- Increase/index of gas tax
- Increase of VLT and registration fees
- Fees for auto insurance
- Expanded local tax authority

As far as there being any large-scale revenue increase, the Governor opposes any tax increase. The more likely scenario is a ballot measure. Smaller scale increases could be politically viable. One of the areas that will be investigated during this legislative session is the development of an independent revenue source for DPS operations. It is estimated that \$130 million would be needed annually. If successful, that would alleviate need to transfer HURF funds to DPS.

Mark Woodson asked why there is no committee at state level to evaluate cost efficiencies in the project delivery process so that we can do more with the dollars that we do receive. Kevin Adam responded that while it's not a primary part of the findings of the Task Force, there is language in the recommendations that support cost efficiencies.

#### **C. 2016 Arizona Long Range Transportation Plan**

Dan Gabiou noted that there is no additional update on the LRTP from what was reported at the December meeting. The plan is still anticipated to be submitted to transportation board for in the May timeframe and approved thereafter.

#### **D. Other**

Kevin Adam reported that the Senate just had their deadline, but the House still has time to introduce bills for consideration during the new legislative session.

HB 2143 has been put forth by AGC to expand the requirement for outsourcing roadwork rather than perform it in-house. The current procurement threshold is \$216,000. HB 2143 would lower that threshold to \$25,000. This procurement threshold would also apply to maintenance and equipment purchases. In addition, the bill proposes to lower the population threshold included procurement rule, so that communities in any county with a population of 50,000 or more would be affected. It is imperative that local officials reach out to members of the Legislature to impart the many negative impacts this measure would have on our small, rural communities.

The Navajo County Board of Supervisors has been working to oppose HB 2143. Bill Bess handed out a list of critical services that will be impacted in Navajo County. Chris Bridges added that the CYMPO Board will consider a resolution in opposition of the measure. The TSC members would like to send a letter to the State Legislature expressing opposition to HB 2143.

Chris Bridges reported that the draft plan was presented at yesterday's State Transportation Board meeting. The plan includes \$15 million in FY19 for the widening of I-17 from Anthem to Sunset Point. They did also program construction funding in FYs21-22 of \$128 million. He asked the committee members to participate in the public hearing process for the plan and to support the project.

#### **V. Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Town of Springerville - Coconino Drive: This project is at 100% plans. Town staff is working with ADOT in acquiring the right of way.

City of Page - Elm Street: Caleb Lanting will be representing Page at NACOG. Elm Street is supposed to be out to bid, but city staff has been unable to get a hold of the ADOT PM to confirm. ADOT requested payment for the local matching funds. A check was sent, lost in the mail and re-issued.

Town of Pinetop-Lakeside - Pedestrian Bridge: This project is in the environmental review. There is a small section of the right of way that must be acquired. The town will proceed with that acquisition once the review is completed. Town staff expects funds to be left over after the right of way purchase.

Town of Pinetop-Lakeside – Woodland Road: ADOT has forwarded the environmental review to FHWA. They should have the final back by February 9. Town staff is waiting for approval from ADOT to acquire right of way.

Town of Taylor - Papermill Road: 30% plans for this project have been submitted. The town is waiting for comments from ADOT. After the comments have been received, the town will proceed with the environmental clearance and geotechnical investigations.

City of Winslow – Renaissance on Route 66 Phase VI: City staff is holding out hope for the HURF exchange to be available and for this project to be qualified.

Yavapai County – Paulden Road: There is no update on this project from the December meeting.

City of Sedona/Yavapai County - Dry Creek/Boynton Canyon: This project is going through environmental clearance. The design is between 15% and 30% plans. The project should be completed in September 2017.

City of Sedona – Sanborn Drive: The initial project assessment has been submitted. Scoping packets have been sent out. The project design is scheduled to be completed in late fall/early winter 2017. Construction is scheduled for FY19.

Town of Clarkdale: This project remains in holding pattern pending funding availability.

**A. Review and Possible Action on Fiscal Year 2017-2023 TIP Amendment 2**

The first request for TIP amendment relates to the addition of FMPO to the Regionals Strategic Safety Plan. The request is to amend the TIP, and add the additional \$155,000 provided by FMPO to the project cost.

*Paul Ramsey moved to approve FMPO's request for TIP amendment, seconded by Matthew Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.*

The second request for TIP amendment comes from Coconino County. The county was awarded a central federal lands grant to widen Mormon Lake Road. The request is to use the STP funds programmed for Mormon Lake Road to augment the amount from central federal lands. County staff would like to shift design funds from FY18 to bundle with construction funds in FY21, in coordination with the central federal lands grant.

*Mark Woodson moved to approve Coconino County's request for TIP amendment, seconded by Roger McCormick. Motion passed unanimously.*

**B. Discussion on Modifying Method of Federal-aid Allocations**

In the coming months, staff will circulate a survey to the local governments to learn their preferred methodologies for investments. Staff is looking to learn whether local agencies would prefer to bundle projects for region-wide investments, or keep the status quo of individual projects. Jason encouraged the Technical Subcommittee members to participate in the survey once it is disseminated. Staff will also observe FMPO strategic planning session to learn about their approach.

**VI. Regional Strategic Transportation Safety Plan (RSTSP)**

**A. Consideration and Possible Action to Recommend Amendment to Professional Services Contract with Burgess & Niple, Inc., Pending Review and Approval by ADOT and FHWA**

Jason Kelly reported that we are currently in month two of the safety plan project. The current focus is on data collection.

In the last several weeks, FMPO expressed interest in pursuing the development of a strategic safety plan. In an effort to provide a comprehensive opportunity for northern Arizona, staff would like to expand the current safety plan to include the FMPO geographic area. Staff has participated in discussions with ADOT, CYMPO and FMPO to work out the details. Additional research is still needed to ensure procurement compliance. Pending ADOT and FHWA support, staff encourages the Technical Subcommittee to support the addition of FMPO to the strategic safety planning process.

If today's proposal is approved, it would increase the number of project partners from 24 to 25 and increase the budget to ~\$600,000. FMPO would be responsible for securing the additional funding for expansion of the plan's scope.

David Wessel, FMPO Manager noted that the project consultant feels that expanding the plan in this manner could cause a 2-month delay to the delivery of the final product, to June 2018. ADOT has confirmed that this should not inhibit project eligibility, because draft findings will be acceptable to support project applications.

There was considerable discussion about adding FMPO to the plan, and the potential impacts on the project timeline and subsequent effect of potential delays on HSIP projects from NACOG communities. The Technical Subcommittee members did express support of the addition of FMPO to the project. Chris Bridges of CYMPO also expressed support of adding FMPO to the planning process.

***David Swietanski moved to approve amending the professional services contract with Burgess and Niple to include the FMPO geographic region in the RSTSP process pending approval of ADOT and FHWA, and providing that there is no additional cost to NACOG communities and that it does not delay the submission of HSIP applications from NACOG communities, seconded by Paul Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.***

## **VII. Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)**

### **A. Status of Phase 2 & 3 Regional Sign Replacement Projects**

Regional Sign Replacement Phase 2: Phase 2 includes the communities of Page, Holbrook, Taylor, Springerville, Eagar, St. Johns and Williams. NACOG received the 60% plans back in November. There was an issue in that the cost estimate was \$256,000 over budget. Staff engaged in a discussion with ADOT and the project consultant. The discrepancy is that the original sign inventories looked at just critical signs, and the construction estimate included all signs. The solution is that all regulatory signs will remain in the project, and approximately 80% of the street name signs will be removed from the project. Staff emailed this proposal to the project stakeholders and asked for comments. The comments received, which included no objections, were forwarded to ADOT. Stage V plans are scheduled to be completed by end of February; the project will be bid ready in March, and is scheduled for construction in April.

Regional Sign Replacement Phase 3: Phase 3 includes the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe. Staff is working on the IGA with ADOT. MOUs will go out to the project stakeholders in the next couple of weeks. The GIS formatted sign inventory will also be sent to the stakeholders for review.

### **B. FY19-22 HSIP Pre-call for Projects**

Jason Kelly reported that ADOT originally communicated that there would be a 5-year call for HSIP projects for FYs18-22, presumably in the spring of 2018. In further discussions with the ADOT HSIP Program Manager, NACOG staff has learned that ADOT plans to do two calls for projects in 2017. The first will launch on February 6, 2017 and will close on May 1. If there is money left over, ADOT will do a second call for projects in the fall. At the Rural Transportation Summit, staff had a conversation with the HSIP manager, in which she said there would be an annual call for HSIP projects. In light of the mixed communications, Jason suggested that the Technical Subcommittee could draft a letter to ADOT from the TSC Chair requesting that ADOT reconsider its 5-year call for projects to ensure that the 25 northern Arizona communities are not left out of the game.

The Technical Subcommittee members agreed that they do not like the idea of a 5-year call for projects, and directed staff to draft a letter to ADOT.

Dan Gabiou commented that the ADOT Multimodal Planning Division staff would participate in a meeting with Traffic Safety Section on Friday to clarify the call for projects. Dan's understanding is that they plan to do a continuous annual call for projects and that there should be flexibility to move projects in the schedule based on priorities. Dan will verify all of this information on Friday, and communicate with NACOG staff regarding the outcome.

## **VIII. Regional Transit Planning & Mobility Management**

### **A. Review of Final Draft 2017-2020 Northern Arizona Coordinated Mobility Plan**

NACOG staff members RJ Erickson and Jennifer O'Connor presented the draft Coordinated Mobility Plan for review.

The Coordinated Mobility Plan is a requirement of the 5310 grant program for entities that provide transportation. The purpose of the 5310 program is to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities.

The Coordinated Mobility Plan lays the framework for how the funds that come through the 5310 program coordinate with public transit and private transportation providers in the region. The purpose of the plan is to identify transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, seniors and those with low-income. It will include the region's priorities for the next five years.

In drafting the Coordinated Mobility Plan, staff endeavored to assess the needs of the region's communities, and develop strategies to meet those needs. This was achieved through a series of public meetings, as well as an online survey. The audience for this outreach was the public, as well as stakeholders.

In northern Arizona, there are eight public transit providers, as well as numerous human service agency providers. RJ presented a map of the region, illustrating the distribution of these services.

During the months of November and December, staff worked to draft the plan, and release it for public review and comment. A copy was provided for review today.

Priorities identified in the plan include:

- Information and Referral for local transit services
- Vehicle replacement/ADA accessible vehicles
- Establishment of a Regional Mobility Advisory Committee

The final draft of the plan will be advanced to the Regional Council for approval at their February 23 meeting.

### **B. Status of RFP for Northern Arizona Regional Mobility Implementation Plan**

There was no status report.

### **C. Status of 2017 ADOT Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities Grant Program**

There was no status report.

**D. 2017 ADOT Section 5310 Grantee Site Visits**

There was no status report.

**IX. Highway Performance Management System (HPMS)**

**A. Preview of 2017 Schedule and LPA Responsibilities**

The data portal for HPMS is open. Data reporting will be closed on 3/17. Jason James told the Technical Subcommittee that all logins have been re-activated. Anyone experiencing issues should contact Jason James.

**X. Miscellaneous Reports from Partners**

Bill Bess reported that there is no money in the ADOT district for pavement preservation for two years. He encouraged the Technical Subcommittee members to contact the State Transportation Board and advocate for more funding.

Jason Kelly announced that the next meeting would take place on April 5 at the same location 43 South San Francisco Street in Flagstaff.

**XI. Adjourn**

Vice Chairman Hemesath asked if there were any further items for discussion. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

***Mark Woodson moved to adjourn the February 1, 2017 meeting of the NACOG Technical Subcommittee, seconded by Matthew Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.***

***Vice Chairman Shane Hemesath adjourned the meeting at 12:00 P.M.***