



**Technical Subcommittee Meeting • October 3, 2017**

Navajo County Public Works, Holbrook, 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	
Kyle Dabney	Town of Jerome		X	
Tim Dalegowski	Coconino County	X		
Andy Dickey	City of Sedona		X	
Art Durazo	Town of Clarkdale	X		<b>GUEST NAME</b>
Dan Gabiou	ADOT MPD	X		<b>ENTITY</b>
Shane Hemesath	City of Show Low	X		Steven Craver
Michael Lomayaktewa	Hopi Tribe	X		Patricia Lewis
Ron Long	Town of Camp Verde		X	Lisa Robertson
Gus Lundberg	Town of Taylor		X	Caleb Lanting
Roland Maldonado	Kaibab Paiute Tribe		X	Kevin Adam
Roger McCormick	Yavapai County		X	Sarah Simpson
Matthew Patterson	Town of Pinetop-Lakeside	X		
Paul Ramsey	City of St. Johns	X		
Tim Rasmussen	Town of Springerville	X		
Bruce Ray	Town of Eagar	X		
Morgan Scott	City of Cottonwood		X	
Randy Sullivan	City of Holbrook		X	
David Swietanski	Apache County	X		
Matthew Wood	City of Page		X	
Mark Woodson	City of Winslow/Town of Tusayan/City of Williams	X		
	Town of Fredonia		X	

**I. Introductions**

Chairman Shane Hemesath called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. Self-introductions were made. A quorum was present.

**II. Approval of August 2017 Minutes**

Vice Chairman Hemesath asked for any corrections to the August 2, 2017 meeting minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve.

**Mark Woodson moved to approve the August 2, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Paul Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.**

**III. Call to the Audience**

There were no comments from the audience.

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

##### **A. Status of Legislative Activities**

Kevin Adam reported on the status of federal transportation legislative activity.

The federal budget is on a continuing resolution until December 8. There is adequate funding through the Highway Trust Fund to pay for all of the federal highway and transit programs for the next three years. This provides stability for the core programs.

The President's \$1 trillion infrastructure proposal is still evolving. Currently, they are discussing \$200 billion in new direct federal funding, to encourage state and local investments. Last week, the President indicated that he has issues with the P3 financing model, so it may not continue to be the cornerstone of this plan.

At the state level, Arizona did not see a significant increase in public revenues last year. The economy is improving, but there have been a lot of shifts with revenue collections. Tax cuts have offset increases elsewhere. Based on current projections, it appears that public revenues increased by \$20 million. This will make it more challenging to advocate for the elimination of HURF diversions.

The local HURF will be reduced by approximately \$15 million. The legislative intent drafted into budget is of a comparable level next year, and then the local HURF would be held harmless entirely in subsequent years. The state system needs significant revenue increases as well.

The Governor has acknowledged that we are under-investing and something needs to be done, but won't abandon his "no new taxes" pledge. He has expressed that he could be open to other options, such as a VLT fee.

##### **B. USDOT TIGER Grant Call for Projects**

Jason James reported that he has distributed information via email regarding the USDOT's call for projects for the TIGER program. The deadline for applications is October 16.

For the best chance of consideration for TIGER funding, the project design must be complete or nearing completion. You can submit projects at the 15-30% plans phase as a design-build, but project sponsors will have to pay for the majority of the project design with local funds.

##### **C. Status of Possible ADOT Application for INFRA Grant Focusing on I-17 Expansion**

Jason Kelly reported that ADOT has expressed interest in submitting an application for the INFRA competitive grant to do an expansion of I-17. ADOT has been consulting with NACOG, FMPO and CYMPO for input.

Jason James added that Dallas Hammit is supposed to release a white paper providing more information on ADOT's application for funds.

Patricia Lewis added that the project is still conceptual at this time, but ADOT has \$3 million allocated in the 5-year program for project design in FY20.

Dan Gabiou noted that George Delgado is the Grant Manager in charge of submitting ADOT's application. Improving I-17 is a \$300 million effort, with ADOT requesting \$120 million from INFRA. The remaining I-17 Expansion funding will come from the following sources: \$120 million from the

ADOT National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), \$50 million from MAG, and \$10 million from State Non-Federal Funds.

**D. Status of 2016 Arizona Long Range Transportation Plan**

Dan Gabiou reported that he and Charla Glendening will submit recommendations to the State Transportation Board at the Rural Transportation Summit later this month. Additional input has been received from executive management staff at ADOT that they would prefer to not completely wipe out the expansion budget, and program those funds for preservation/safety. They have suggested expansion in the amount of approximately \$20 million and make it a competitive program. The details of this have not yet been worked out.

There will be a public comment period following the STB meeting. The draft document is available on the ADOT website and persons can submit comments to Jason Kelly at NACOG or Dan Gabiou at ADOT.

**E. Overview of ADOT ITS Architecture Study**

Sarah Simpson reported that ADOT is updating ITS architecture. The federal government has mandated that in order to be eligible for federal funding, all ITS projects must be within an architecture that has a similar framework to the national ITS architecture.

The national ITS architecture was updated in June. It combines the connected vehicle architecture with the national architecture.

ADOT is in the process of collecting input from the COGs and MPOs to find out what inventory is currently in the field.

Jason James told the Technical Subcommittee members that a stakeholder questionnaire was sent out to our members. This questionnaire is related to ADOT's request for input on the ITS architecture study. Many ITS needs were also identified during last month's workgroups. Staff will forward that information to Sarah as well.

Working paper #2 includes a project inventory and will be sent out to stakeholders in the next few weeks. Members are encouraged to review the list and contact ADOT if there is anything to add.

The study will be finalized at the end of February 2018. The architecture is a living document, and subsequent updates will take place every other year or so. Sarah reminded the committee members that projects must be included in the architecture list to be eligible for federal funding.

**V. Transportation Investment Plan (TIP)**

**A. Review High Priority Project Development Schedules**

There was no review of project development schedules.

**B. Update on Regional Fund Balances and Management Strategies**

Jason Kelly reported that there is \$365,000 in the FY17 budget that will carry forward to FY18. This is due to bid savings from various projects.

Proposed changes today are in the amount of approximately \$500,000 of fund balance in FY18. We are at a deficit of roughly \$200,000 in FY19. We will likely loan ourselves the money or if necessary, seek funding from another region to fix the deficit and make the balance whole.

In FY20 and beyond there is a healthy amount of capacity.

There will be some adjustments with today's TIP amendment, which will move funding from FY19 to FY18.

There is approximately \$180,000 in leftover HSIP money that will need to be put into existing projects. Because of the changes to the program, HSIP funds will not carry forward to a future year, creating a use or lose situation. Jason James will present options for using this money, and the Technical Subcommittee will decide where to use those funds.

**C. Review and Possible Action to Approve FY18-23 TIP Amendment 2**

There are 3 TIP amendment items for consideration today. Information on two of the items was included in the meeting packet. The third item came up more recently and is administrative in nature.

The City of St. Johns is requesting a modification of NACOG's FY18-23 TIP to shift STP funds currently programmed for construction in FY19 to FY18. In addition, the City is also asking for an additional \$113,000 in STBG funds to meet the estimated cost of the project. The City will be responsible for all local match amounts and is contributing an additional \$26,000 to make the project whole.

***Mark Woodson moved to approve the City of St. Johns request for an FY18-23 TIP amendment as presented, seconded by David Swietanski. Motion passed unanimously.***

The second item for consideration is ADOT's request to add a line item to the TIP reflecting the addition of FMPO funds in FY18 for their participation in the Regional Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. There are no consequences to the region in the ledger for this modification.

The third item for consideration is ADOT's request to defer the City of Page's Transportation Enhancement project from FY17 to FY18. This change will not affect the fund balance formula. Patricia Lewis added that these funds are unable to roll over to another year and action today would ensure that the funds can be obligated by the end of FY18.

***Mark Woodson moved to approve the remaining items in FY18-23 TIP Amendment 2 as presented, seconded by Paul Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.***

**VI. Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)**

**A. Status of Phase 2 Sign Panel Replacement Project**

Phase 2 of the Sign Panel Replacement involves the communities of Page, Holbrook, Taylor, Springerville, Eagar, St. Johns, and Williams. The contractor selected for this phase is ABBCO Sign Group. The bid that came in plus contingencies and ADOT fees was approximately \$509,000. There was originally \$538,000 programmed for this project. Staff attempted to add some street signs back in to the project and use those additional funds, but was prevented from doing so under current procurement rules. The kickoff meeting for this project will be held October 31 in Payson.

**B. Status of Phase 3 Sign Panel Replacement Project**

Phase 3 of the Sign Panel Replacement involves the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe. The design consultant for this project is Dibble Engineering. This project is in the design phase, working on 30% plans. The project kickoff was held in Window Rock.

**C. Status of Regional Strategic Safety Plan (RSTSP)**

The project consultant is finishing up work on an economic justification tool, which will take the project's crash data and provide recommended options for counter measure and the benefit-cost ratio.

Jason Kelly reported that the survey for local input is still available and online. He asked the committee members to send the survey link to their constituents for input.

**D. Status of ADOT FY19-20 Call for HSIP Projects**

Deadline for this call for projects was yesterday. The Hopi Tribe and the Town of Eagar submitted their applications last week.

For the next round RSTSP will assist in increasing number of applications from the region.

**E. Other**

Jason James reported that staff is exploring options for the \$180,000 in excess HSIP funds mentioned earlier by Jason Kelly.

- There are some signs in the Phase 3 project that will need to be up-sized. Funding could be added to this phase.
- Modification of the RSTSP contract to include application preparation. Funding could be added to the project for this purpose.

Both of these suggestions are in the conceptual phase. Staff will continue to research and will bring solid recommendations and numbers for discussion and action at a future meeting.

**VII. Regional Public Transportation Planning**

**A. Mobility Management Program Update**

Mobility management has been in the NACOG portfolio for the last 6 years. The focus of the program is to coordinate assets and resources among multiple jurisdictions/partners to improve transportation accessibility. RJ Erickson has resigned her position as NACOG's Mobility Management Planner. Her duties are currently being covered by the remainder of the planning staff. NACOG has begun recruitment efforts to fill the position. If any of the committee members know of anyone that would be interested in serving as NACOG's Mobility Management planner, please refer them to Jason Kelly.

Over the last year, staff was successful in bringing in nearly \$1 million for the FTA Section 5310 program last year. The Mobility Management Planner was instrumental to that success, making her replacement a high priority for the agency.

**B. Possible Action to Recommend Regional Council Approval of FY18 NACOG Mobility Management Grant Application**

This item was tabled until a future meeting. Staff had anticipated an ADOT call for projects in December, but that is not going to happen.

**C. Status of Regional Passenger Transportation Study**

In 2015, NACOG solicited for funds to perform a passenger transportation study. An RFP has been issued and is posted on the NACOG website. This study will include Apache, Coconino and Navajo Counties. Yavapai County is not included in this study because CYMPO performed a similar study for the whole of Yavapai County last year.

NACOG received \$100,000 for the project, so the project will take place in phases. The intent of the first phase is to learn what the state of transit in the region is today and where it needs to be in 5-10 years. NACOG will seek additional funding for the next phase of the study.

**D. ADOT Notice of Funding Availability: Section 5305(e) Transit Planning Grant**

ADOT has released a NOFA for transit planning funds. This is a competitive grant program. The total statewide availability is \$1 million. Funding in this program is for rural and small urban and regional transit research. NACOG will apply for funding in the amount of \$100,000 for the second phase of its regional passenger transportation study. There is a 20% match requirement for this initiative. Applications are due on 10/26. Those intending to submit a project for this funding should communicate with NACOG Planning staff immediately.

The City of Winslow has contracted with NAIPTA to perform a transit plan. They have presented options to their City Council. NACOG was invited to review the draft final plan. Final recommendations will be presented to City Council in November. This plan looks at transit connections on the I-40 corridor between Holbrook and Flagstaff. Currently there are lots of local services, but no connectivity for those dependent on travelling to other communities for services.

**VIII. Miscellaneous Reports**

Matt Patterson reported that the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside unanimously approved a ½ cent sales tax increase to provide funding for local road maintenance.

Bill Bess reported that Glenn Kephart, the Navajo County’s former Director of Public Works, has been appointed by the Board of Supervisors as the new Navajo County Manager, replacing James Jayne. The County hopes to finalize a new Public Works Director in the next couple of weeks.

**A. Status of Regional Infrastructure Inventory & Prioritization Initiative**

Jason James reported that NACOG hosted a series of sub-regional work groups in September. The purpose of these meetings was to begin a dialogue to prioritize potential transportation infrastructure projects in the region. Eventually our priorities will be sent to Congressman Tom O’Halloran. Round 1 of the discussion focused on road projects. A Round 2 discussion will take place in early 2018 to expand that list to include transit, bridges, and telecommunications.

Staff is waiting for input from members that were unable to attend the September workgroups. Once the list is finalized, staff will develop a scoring process for review. The final project prioritization will be done by the members of the TSC. Note that the projects in this discussion are theoretical until funding is identified. The creation of this “wish list” will help the region to be more proactive and nimble as new funding opportunities arise.

The second focus of discussion at the September workgroups was the un-programmed funds that are available in the FY20-23 TIP. At the February TSC meeting the remaining two rotation projects will be added to the TIP, from Cottonwood and Taylor. In April, projects from Jerome and Holbrook will be introduced.

Staff is in communication with Lynn Johnson to identify larger projects that impact the greater region.

**B. Rural Transportation Summit, October 18-20, 2017 (Prescott)**

NACOG is hosting the Rural Transportation Summit in Prescott later this month. Jason Kelly presented an overview of the summit agenda.

**C. 2020 Census**

The Census process will kick off in January. Staff recently attended a workshop with the Census Bureau. The Census dictates distribution formulas for services and funding provided by the federal government. Staff highly encourages local participation.

**IX. Important Meeting Dates, Deadlines**

Jason Kelly announced the following dates and deadlines:

- A. October 18-20: Rural Transportation Summit (Prescott)**
- B. October 26: NACOG Regional Council (Flagstaff)**
- C. December 6: NACOG Transportation Technical Subcommittee (Flagstaff)**
- D. December 31: Deadline to Initiate FY18 Federal/HURF Funded Projects**
- E. January 2018: 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Discussions – Infrastructure Inventory & Prioritization Initiative**
- F. February 7, 2018: NACOG Transportation Technical Subcommittee (Flagstaff)**
- G. February 22: NACOG Regional Council (Flagstaff)**

**X. Adjourn**

Chairman Hemesath asked if there were any further items for discussion. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting.

***Chairman Shane Hemesath adjourned the October 3, 2017 meeting of the NACOG Technical Subcommittee at 11:45 A.M.***