

Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee Minutes
City Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine
July 16, 2019,
At 1:30 PM

Members present: Jordan Hess, Dave Strohmaier, Michael Houlihan, Debbie Johnston, Don MacArthur, John Engen, Josh Slotnick

Members absent: Bob Vosen

Others present: Michael Harpool, Tara Osendorf, Aaron Wilson, Lee Bridges, Ed Bridges, Staci Shepard,

1. Roll Call and Introduction of Audience

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by John Engen, seconded by Don MacArthur, to approve the June 18, 2019 minutes.

AYES: John Engen, Don MacArthur, Jordan Hess, Dave Strohmaier, Michael Houlihan

ABSENT: Josh Slotnick, Bob Vosen

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. New Business

4.1 Review of draft FFY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (Aaron Wilson)-- [History](#)

Aaron Wilson, Transportation Planning Manager, presented on the draft federal fiscal year 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP outlines how the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is going to spend transportation planning (PL) funds for the next fiscal year. The goal is to have the plans adopted, reviewed, and approved by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) by the end of September.

The PL fund allocation increased by 4% which leaves the MPO approximately 1.6 million dollars for fiscal year 2020. A possible upcoming rescission, however, may affect the allocation of these funds. Changes in 2020 to the UPWP include adding hours and consultant fees for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The UPWP also has several carryover projects from fiscal year 2019

including the East Missoula Corridor Study and the Separate Travel Demand Model Update. The board was asked for their feedback on the Mullan and Broadway Area Master Plan and the Reserve Street study as possible projects to fund for federal fiscal year 2020.

Josh Slotnick arrived at 1:38 PM.

The board reviewed the federal fiscal year 2020's budget and was informed of the MPO's August 20, 2019 adoption goal from TPCC. A discussion was opened regarding the BUILD grant and the board voiced their approval of the level of collaboration the MPO has obtained so far with the city and the county.

4.2 Review of draft FFY 2020 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program [History](#) (Michael Harpool & Aaron Wilson)--

Michael Harpool, Metropolitan Planning Organization, presented on the federal fiscal year 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program update. The board was informed of the additions that have been made, performance management requirements, and the project selection process.

Aaron Wilson, Transportation Planning Manager, informed the board that the MPO has an opportunity to access up to 4 million dollars with Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) funds.

The board discussed CMAQ funds being used for paving roads on the outer edge of Missoula. They spoke about the option of starting a sub-committee to start a conversation around what projects are a priority and how they get us to our long-term goals. The board went on to discuss a recommendation of who and how the committee might be formed.

The board heard about the changes being made to projects related to specific funding sources. Comments from the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC), the Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee (TPCC), and the public are encouraged until the planned adoption on August 20, 2019.

Lee Bridges, a member of the East Missoula Sewer Board, requested the board's assistance in applying for CMAQ funding in order to pave East Missoula alley ways. The East Missoula Sewer Board currently has approximately \$175,000 allocated for this project. She hopes that the board would help this project get the full funding it needs and consider East Missoula alley ways when allocating TIP funds for 2020-2024.

4.3 Presentation and review of Transportation Market Research Survey (Tara Osendorf & Aaron Wilson)-- [History](#)

Tara Osendorf, Metropolitan Planning Organization, presented on the Transportation Market Research Survey being released in conjunction with the Long Range Transportation Plan. The board reviewed specific questions, discussed potential edits, and was encouraged to offer feedback

throughout the presentation. BBER, the consultants selected to conduct the transportation Market Research Survey in 2015, were chosen again because of their knowledge of the process. This statistically valid survey will stay consistent with the previous survey for comparison's sake, however, there are a few edits that have already been received including questions about rideshare, autonomous vehicles, and safe routes to school.

The board reviewed the survey questions and offered feedback pertaining to broad community values, the option of adding open ended question, taxes and fees, and non-binary options. Approval for the final survey will be August 20, 2019 with mailings going out in September.

4.4 Presentation of East Missoula Corridor Study draft scope of work (Tara Osendorf)— [History](#)

Tara Osendorf, Metropolitan Planning Organization, gave an update on the process for the East Missoula Highway 200 Corridor Plan. The project will be split into three sections starting at Van Buren and ending at Tamarack Road. The winning proposal, submitted by WGM, was chosen because they are located within the corridor, have an understanding of the history as well as previous projects, have a good design background, and placed an emphasis on funding and implementation. The board was informed of the full scope of services that will be provided, the cost summary, and the draft schedule. Adoption is planned for December 2020.

The board shared their approval of the plan and discussed the schedule in further detail.

Lee Bridges asked the board about the adjustments made to the corridor study that she was unaware of. She asked the board how she can remain active in the decision making process and urged the board to keep their focus on the East Missoula area where a lot of growth and development is happening.

5. Old Business

6. Announcements and Closing Comments

The board voiced their approval of the paperless agendas.

7. Adjournment