



Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

August 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes

DATE: August 12, 2021

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: CAG Conference Room | 2540 West Apache Trail, Suite 108, Apache Junction, AZ 85120

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry Halberstadt - *Chair*
(Payson)

Curtis Ward
(Gila County)

Jerry Barnes
(Globe)

Sharon Jakubowski Wolz
(Kearny)

Nina Arredondo – via Zoom
(Pinal County)

Lana Clark – via Zoom
(Superior)

Micah Gaudet – via Zoom
(Miami)

Sylvia Kerlock – via Zoom
(Winkelman)

Barney Bigman – via Zoom
(San Carlos Apache Tribe)

Jason James – via Zoom
(ADOT - MPD)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tim Grier
(Star Valley)

Sandra Shade
(Ak-Chin Indian Community)

VACANT
(Hayden)

Tara Chief
(White Mountain Apache Tribe)

John Schempf
(Mammoth)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Todd Pryor – via Zoom
(Superior)

Rick Powers
(Richard Powers Consulting, PLLC)

Jeff Minefee
(ADOT Southeast District)

Jennifer Henderson – via ZOOM
(ADOT LPA)

CAG Staff:

Andrea Robles
(Executive Director)

Travis Ashbaugh
(Transportation Planning Manager)

I. Call to Order

Chair Halberstadt called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Halberstadt led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Ten (10) voting members were present, constituting a quorum as established by the CAG TTAC Bylaws.

IV. Introductions & Title VI Notice

Introductions were made individually on the Webinar. Mr. Ashbaugh, at this time, read a statement of where and how to file a complaint regarding Title VI violations.



V. Approval Of Minutes – (June 17, 2021)

Chair Halberstadt asked if corrections to the draft minutes were in order. There were no corrections mentioned.

Mr. Ward made the motion to approve the June 17, 2021 minutes as presented. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Call to the Public

No one answered the call to the public.

VII. Standing Reports

A request was made and granted by Chair Halberstadt to move the standing reports to the end of the agenda should time permit.

A. Member Jurisdictions

No update was provided.

B. Multi-Modal Planning Division, ADOT

No update was provided.

C. Local Public Agency, ADOT

No update was provided.

D. District, Engineers, ADOT

No update was provided.

E. CAG Transportation Planning Update

No update was provided.

VIII. Old Business

Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Ashbaugh stated that historically, the Committee had always taken a vote on the TIP to remove a project due to completion. However, he recently received clarification that once a local agency has stated that a project within the TIP has been completed, then CAG can administratively remove the project from the TIP. He also asked the Committee if there were any changes that were needed to update the TIP. No changes were noted, and therefore no action was taken on the TIP.

IX. New Business

A. CAG/SCMPO JPA for Mobility Management Services

Mr. Ashbaugh stated the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) for Mobility Management Services with the Sun Corridor MPO is an annual agreement that is renewed pending a successful grant application. He stated the only changes that occurred from the previous year are the dates within to show that the agreement is for the time period of October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

Mr. Ward made the motion to approve the CAG/Sun Corridor MPO Joint Project Agreement for Mobility Management Services as presented. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. RTAC Priority List Presentations Rankings and Recommendations

Mr. Ashbaugh provided an overview of the application and ranking process. Mr. Ashbaugh stated the CAG Transportation Planning Boundary is to be allocated \$2,245,526 through the potential bill should it pass. Mr. Ashbaugh reiterated that although the Committee is going through this process of prioritizing the projects, the funding is not guaranteed unless the proposed bill passes.

The TTAC Committee voted to use the same process that is used for the STBGP funds within the TIP, with slight alterations. He stated one of the differences was the award of bonus points for contributing local dollars, and/or partnering with another agency. One of the primary purposes for bonus points regarding partnerships was to try and unify with each other for a larger, regional project.

Mr. Ashbaugh provided multiple perspectives of looking at the rankings which include: raw scores, high and low scores taken out, high and low scores of each individual category taken out, mode of the score, taking only the top five scores, and taking only the lowest five scores. He stated that by providing different perspectives, it may provide alternate discussion points for the committee, however, it didn't alter the ranking order of the three projects.

Mr. Ashbaugh shared concerns from some of the committee members regarding how the bonus points should be applied. Mr. Pryor stated the bonus point system puts the small communities, such as Superior, at a disadvantage as there are not as many partnering opportunities. Mr. Barnes stated that Globe had other priority projects they could have submitted but focused on a project that was advantageous to the criteria that was agreed to. Ms. Jakubowski Wolz asked for clarification on what the TTAC had agreed to regarding the bonus points. Chairman Halberstadt and Mr. Ashbaugh explained that bonus points were to be awarded for contributing local dollars, and/or partnering with another agency. Ms. Jakubowski Wolz stated that she felt that the Committee should follow the original process agreed upon by the TTAC.

Mr. Barnes, City of Globe, presented in partnership with Gila County, their sidewalk improvement project. Mr. Barnes stated that their project is broken down into four phases to allow for the option to share the potential available funding.

Highlights from Mr. Barnes presentation include:

1. Safety concerns are driving this project.
2. Multiple city/county strategic plans include this safety concern.
3. Top priority of the Globe City Council.
4. Multi-modal benefits.
5. Detailed scoping/planning study with associated cost estimate.
6. Connects Downtown to Community Center and College.
7. A high ADT volume count on a "Rural Major Collector" classified road.
8. Enhances economic benefits and growth to both City and County.
9. Has high community benefit.
10. The City of Globe and Gila County has a demonstrated track record of delivering projects on time and within budget.
11. This project will address the safety concerns identified and will benefit multiple public safety agencies.
12. True partnership with Gila County.

Ms. Kerlock, Town of Winkelman, in partnership with the Town of Hayden presented their project. to connect the recreational areas of both communities. She stated that Golf Course Boulevard in Hayden, and Quarelli

Street in Winkelman is one continuous road that changes names at the boundary but connects their communities for recreational activities. She stated that the road leads residents to the Hayden Public Golf Course, the Hayden/Winkelman Little League fields, and Hayden Golf Club, which is used for many public activities. Ms. Kerlock stressed that the existing pavement is visibly in very poor condition with cracking and deterioration of the roadway throughout. She stated that the roadway has varying widths and low pavement markings with minimum signage and no streetlights. She stated that there are extreme safety concerns due to several local crashes that resulted with two fatalities over the years. She stated that the recreational areas are used by many other neighboring Copper Corridor communities such as Kearny, Mammoth, Dudleyville, Oracle, and San Manuel.

Ms. Kerlock stated that in 2015, Winkelman/Hayden applied for a Planning Assistance for Rural Areas Grant and were awarded to have a Pre-Scoping study done on the Golf Course Boulevard/Quarelli Street road segment. The Pre-Scoping study report described the project development process design, the scope of work, and construction elements needed for a construction project. She stated that much of the pre-engineering work has already been completed. She also stated that only the Golf Course Road portion of the Pre-Scoping Study is what is being requested through the RTAC Transportation Priority Project application. The project was scaled back, with the request acting as phase one, to allow for a better chance to receive funding. Ms. Kerlock stated that although Winkelman/Hayden are in partnership with this project, neither community have available local funds that they can contribute to the project. She then thanked the Committee for their consideration.

Ms. Clark, Town of Superior, presented the new bridge on Panther Road over the Queen Creek Wash as their project. Ms. Clark provided background information regarding local studies supporting the need for the project and described the nearby land uses and future development expected to occur. She then described the current physical state of the roadway in that it crosses the Queen Creek Wash and gets flooded during heavy rain, as well as other safety concerns due to lack of sidewalks and striping. Ms. Clark provided several pictures showing the area when it is flooded. She stated the Town would need every available dollar to build the bridge, as the submitted request for funding exceeded the amount that would be available. She expressed the need to be proactive due to the fact that this type of flooding has caused fatalities in other areas of the state.

Ms. Clark stated that although this occurred after the application deadline, she received support letters from the Fire Department, Police Department, and the Superintendent of the High School regarding the safety conditions when flooding occurs. She stated that the Superior Unified School District #15 is offering to help contribute \$10,000 towards the project, and possibly more, should the project be awarded. Ms. Clark then asked for the Committee to view this local partnership for consideration for bonus points. Ms. Clark shared the support letter from the Fire Department, laying out facts of delayed response times and what those delays would mean when dealing with life threatening medical emergencies and fire burning for additional minutes.

Ms. Clark summarized additional financial contributions that may be coming forth from Resolution Copper Mine Company, and the Northern Arizona Restoration Limited Partnership. However, she stated that the letters have not been generated yet, but asked the Committee to view these partnerships for consideration when awarding bonus points.

After all presentations were made, Chair Halberstadt stated that at least two projects have scored at a statistical tie with each other when not considering bonus points. He stated that the Committee will need to determine how to approach the awarding of bonus points. Chair Halberstadt even asked if were possible to



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postpone the decision to September's meeting. Mr. Ashbaugh stated it is possible but would need to move the meeting earlier than schedule to meet the CAG Management Committee schedule. After further discussion, the majority of the Committee present deemed this to be unnecessary and to move forward with a recommendation to ensure that we meet the RTAC deadline of October 1, 2021 as originally announced.

Mr. Barnes stated that everyone who submitted has put forth a lot of time, money, and effort into their applications and presentations and would also like to move forward with a recommendation today.

Mr. Gaudet asked if the local partnerships that Superior stated within their presentation would be considered.

Ms. Jakubowski Wolz stated that all the applications have been submitted with a set of instructions of how to submit, which included the bonus points, and everyone should have been aware of what the parameters were. She stated that the Committee should decide today and not delay the process. She stated that this support was not submitted with the original application and should not be considered at this time, especially not after the rankings have already been submitted and solidified.

On behalf of the City of Globe, Mr. Barnes stated that the City was willing to accept funding for Phase 1 and 2 of their sidewalk project, and offer the remaining funding to the Town of Superior for their project. This would equate to approximately 50% of the available project dollars.

Ms. Clark stated that the Town of Superior needed and were requesting all available funds. The Town of Superior was not in favor of sharing the funds offered by the City of Globe.

Mr. Barnes stated that since Superior declined their offer he would make the same offer to the Towns of Winkelman and Hayden and apply the remaining funds towards the Winkelman/Hayden roadway project.

Mr. Pryor then stated that based on the information that was sent out with the application process, and should the Committee move forward to fund Phases 1 and 2 of the Globe/Gila County projects and the Winkelman/Hayden project, that it is reflected in the motion that the Superior bridge project would be next in line. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that should the RTAC's efforts be successful for the State Fiscal Year 2023 budget, the RTAC would attempt to run another bill for the next available State Fiscal Year budget cycle that would provide the opportunity to seek funding again, in which Superior's project would be next in line without having to resubmit or be contested. Mr. Ashbaugh also stated that funding levels may differ from year to year through RTAC's efforts and may not be exactly \$2,245,526.

Mr. Barnes made the motion to recommend approval to the Regional Council, CAG's Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) Transportation Priority Project List by awarding five bonus points to Globe/Gila County, two bonus points to Superior and five bonus points to Winkelman/Hayden for their projects. Globe will reduce their project to include Phases I & II and the remaining amount will be allocated to the Winkelman/Hayden project. The Superior bridge project would be priority for FY 24 funding on the CAG RTAC Priority Project List without having to resubmit or be contested. Ms. Jakubowski Woz seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. James – Aye; Mr. Ward – Aye; Mr. Barnes – Aye; Ms. Jakubowski Wolz – Aye; Mr. Halberstadt – Aye; Ms. Arredondo – Aye; Mr. Bigman – Aye; Ms. Kerlock – Aye; Ms. Clark – Nay; Mr. Gaudet – Abstain. The motion passed 8-1.

The approved CAG Region RTAC Priority Project List is shown below.

Priority #1 – Globe/Gila County Sidewalk Improvements – Phases 1 & 2

1. RTAC Bill Effort Request = **\$1,293,882**
2. Local Contributions = **\$106,000**
3. Total Project = **\$1,399,882**

Priority #2 – Winkelman/Hayden Golf Course Road

1. RTAC Bill Effort Request = **\$951,644**
2. Local Contributions = **\$0**
3. Total Project = **\$951,644**

Priority #3 – Superior New Bridge (Panther Drive)

1. RTAC Bill Effort Request = **\$2,245,526**
2. Local Contributions = **\$235,799**
3. Total Project = **\$2,481,325**

Priority #4 – Globe/Gila County Sidewalk Improvements – Phase 3 & 4

1. RTAC Bill Effort Request = **\$898,170**
2. Local Contributions = **\$105,000**
3. Total Project = **\$1,003,170**

C. Eligible Roadways for STBGP Program Funding Per Agency

No update was provided.

D. STBGP Call for Projects

Mr. Ashbaugh stated that based on conversation and feedback from the Town of Superior, he would like to cancel the Call-for-Projects for STBGP funding and reevaluate the application and ranking categories for a future call.

E. Round Table

No round table discussion was held.

F. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Barnes stated that Globe is working with ADOT on an IGA to receive the State Budget Surplus funding that Globe was awarded from the last State Budget Cycle for the Hill Street project that is listed in the TIP. He expects to have the IGA in place by our next meeting and intends to request the Committee to remove the Hill Street project from the TIP.

X. Scheduling of Next Meetings

The next scheduled meeting is for September 16, 2021.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Halberstadt adjourned the meeting at 12:09 PM.