



Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

December 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

DATE: December 15, 2022
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Via ZOOM Webinar

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry Halberstadt - *Chair*
(Payson)

Rick Powers
(Globe)

Alexis Rivera
(Miami)

Tara Harman
(Pinal County)

Thomas Goodman
(Gila County)

LaReesa Sanchez
(White Mountain Apache Tribe)

Will Randolph
(ADOT - MPD)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tim Grier
(Star Valley)

Sandra Shade
(Ak-Chin Indian Community)

VACANT
(Hayden)

John Schempf
(Mammoth)

Sharon Jakubowski Wolz
(Kearny)

Sylvia Kerlock
(Winkelman)

Barney Bigman
(San Carlos Apache Tribe)

Lana Clark
(Superior)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Chandra McMillan
(ADOT)

Jeff Minefee
(SE District - ADOT)

Ammon Heier
(FHWA)

Jerry James
(ADOT)

Jennifer Cannon
(ADOT)

CAG Staff:

Travis Ashbaugh
(Transportation Planning Director)

I. Call to Order

Chair Halberstadt called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Halberstadt led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Seven (7) 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 – (November 17, 2022)**

Mr. Powers made the motion to approve the November 17, 2022 minutes as presented. Mr. Rivera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. **Call to the Public**

No one answered the call to the public.

VII. **Standing Reports**

A. **Member Jurisdictions**

Payson

Chair Halberstadt reported on one (1) item:

1. The Town was able to get a final extension for completion to December 15, 2023 with ADOT on the “**Granite Dells Road**” project (**Project # PAY 19-01D**). The process to send out offer letters for Right-of-Way and easement acquisition continues. The goal is to go out to bid in the Spring of 2023 and start construction in the Summer of 2023.

No other agencies present had updates.

B. **Multi-Modal Planning Division, ADOT**

Mr. Randolph reported on seven (7) items:

1. **FY24-28 Planning to Program Cycle:** The P2P list of projects is moving forward with consideration of fiscal constraints and recommending projects for scoping. The projects would then be drafted within the ADOT five-year construction program in the later part of this year into early next year.
2. **HSIP Call for Projects for the FY25-26 Program:** The HSIP Safety Review Committee meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2022 to review proposed projects. Eligibility letters are expected to be sent by the end of the year and provided to ADOT MPD for the ADOT five-year construction plan in January 2023.
3. **FTA Section of 5305(e) NOFO:** The grant opportunity is now open with applications due by December 20, 2022. The competitive application includes 5305e formula funding that was transferred to the consolidated planning program. ADOT anticipates awarding funding to four applicants ranging from \$100,000 - \$250,000 based upon historical awards. The anticipated period of performance for this funding will be January 2023 through June 2025.

Please reach out to Sara Allred from ADOT for technical information regarding the application.

4. **ADOT SMART Program:** Applications are now being accepted for the AZ Smart program through ADOT’s website. Numerous new federal discretionary grant programs were created with the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The AZ SMART Fund was established by the Arizona Legislature in 2022 to assist eligible cities, towns, counties, and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) in competing for federal discretionary surface transportation grants. The fund is administered by ADOT, and all awards must be approved by the State Transportation Board. Federal discretionary grants are highly competitive at the national level. It is the policy of the State Transportation Board to award AZ SMART Funds to well-developed applications that maximize the State’s competitiveness for each federal discretionary grant. It is recommended that applicants develop and/or review cost estimates by both the AZ SMART Fund and a federal agency. Please visit the website at <https://azdot.gov/planning/grant-coordination/az-smart.fund>.

5. **Long Range Transportation Plan:** The ADOT LRTP Public Survey website is live at www.adot2050plan.com and is running until December 21, 2022. The website serves as a platform for the public/stakeholders to get more information on the LRTP and input comments/questions/priorities regarding the LRTP process. In addition, the Public Survey website will serve a repository for complete LRTP working papers and accompanying summary sheets. In-person meetings for the ADOT LRTP will take place in February/March 2023. The meeting locations will be in Tucson, Phoenix, and Flagstaff, with dates, times, and locations to be determined. A Statewide LRTP Virtual meeting option will also be provided.

For questions and/or comments regarding the ADOT LRTP, please reach out to Jason James (jjames6@azdot.gov, 602-712-6166).

6. **Statewide Rest Area Study:** Facilities, TSMO, Jacobs, and ADOT MPD will be holding a working meeting to review the list of improvements and the initial evaluation criteria. The evaluation criteria will be presented to the stakeholders next month for review and comment.
7. **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan:** The EV plan has recently been approved and awaiting the final rule making with regards to EV implementation. ADOT will continue to meet with stakeholders, vendors, and have further public involvement meetings.

For more information visit the EV plan website. <https://adot.gov/planning/transportation-studies/arizona-electric-vehicle-program>

C. Local Public Agency, ADOT

No updates were provided.

D. District, Engineers, ADOT

Mr. Minefee reported on four (4) items:

1. “**US 60 Pavement Life Extension**” project (**TRACTS # F0452**) around milepost 227+/- to 208+/- is currently on winter shutdown.
2. “**US 60 San Tank Wash Bridge**” project (**TRACTS # F0386**) around milepost 208 is undergoing a scour retrofit, overlay, and guardrail upgrades.
3. “**US 60 – Cherry Ave to Radonovich Blvd**” project (**TRACTS # F0352**) continues to prepare for street lighting installation/upgrades under the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).
4. Fence repairs in various locations due to fires continue on US 60, SR-77, SR-177 and US 70.

E. CAG Transportation Planning Update

Mr. Ashbaugh reported on two (2) items:

1. CAG received notice that the funding to conduct the CAG Regional Traffic Counts has been authorized and has sent out the contract for final signatures. The first set of traffic counts are expected to start the second week of January 2023. The consultants should be contacting the local agency that traffic counts are going to be conducted within their jurisdiction. If agencies are not being contacted, then they should contact CAG staff to relay the message to the consultants for future traffic count operations.

2. CAG has submitted a 5305e transit planning fund application on behalf of Pinal County to conduct the “Pinal County Coordinated Mobility Gap Analysis.” The analysis will look to see where the gaps occur within Pinal County to identify where alternative transportation options for the disabled and elderly are lacking.

VIII. Old Business

A. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments(s)

No updated TIP amendments were brought forward. No action was taken.

IX. New Business

A. 2023 CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan

Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan is updated annually and that this update is for FY23. He stated that the plan includes updated information provided by the Census Bureau’s 5-year American Community Survey information within the tables, as well as the updated funding requests of 5310 providers for the upcoming two-year grant cycle. He stated that the 30-day public comment period ended on December 10, 2022 and no comments were received.

Mr. Powers made a motion to recommend approval of the 2023 CAG/SCMPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan. Ms. Harman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. FHWA Emergency Relief Program Presentation

Mr. James presented a PowerPoint presentation that discussed the following items regarding the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Emergency Relief Program and the Local Public Agency Process:

1. Background of the Program that uses the funds to provide repairs to damages caused by natural disasters and/or catastrophic events due to an external cause.
2. Funding Eligibility that must have at least \$700,000 of damage collectively as a state, with a \$5,000 minimum in eligible damage per site.
3. Federal Classification Eligibility being a Rural Major Collector or above.
4. Steps in the LPA ER Process
 - a. Initial Assessment
 - b. Local Public Agency Request
 - c. Intergovernmental Agreement Development
 - d. Federal Authorization Request
 - e. Reimbursement Process
 - f. Final Voucher
5. Method of Repairs
6. Lessons Learned where communication and early involvement is key.
7. Other Emergency Resources

Mr. Ashbaugh asked if the process that as outlined by Mr. James is similar to the process of initiating a project under the STBGP funds for our TIP with some additional steps upfront. Mr. James stated it is very similar. Mr.

Ashbaugh also asked if there are exceptions to the functional classification requirement of “Rural Major Collector or above” in order to be eligible for the funds. He stated that STBG funds allow eligibility for communities under 5,000 in population to be eligible for projects on a “Rural Minor Collector” and was wondering if this program had something similar. Mr. Heier clarified that the FHWA Emergency Relief funds are not connected to STBG and that it is its own funding source. Mr. Heier stated that these funds are in addition to the typical apportionments received. The funds are requested when they are needed and therefore is the reason why one will see more scrutiny during the review of the application process.

C. Round Table

No discussion took place due to time.

D. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Ashbaugh stated he is still trying to get a presentation scheduled with regards to a specific product that he saw at the “Arizona Roads and Streets” conference in November 2022. He has been attempting to reach out to someone from the company but has not received a response. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that he believes that it would bring longevity to roadways when they are rehabilitated.

Mr. Ashbaugh also stated that election of Chair and Vice Chair will be on the agenda as well as the annual Title VI training presentation.

X. Scheduling of Next Meetings

The next tentatively scheduled meeting is for January 12, 2023.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Halberstadt adjourned the meeting at 11:02 AM.