

Transportation Planning Committee (TPC)

Minutes of January 6, 2010, Meeting

Committee Members Present

Craig Civalier, Town of Oro Valley, Vice Chair
Ryan Benavides, Town of Marana
John Carlson, CTAC
Todd Emery, ADOT-Tucson
Ben Goff (for Priscilla Cornelio), Pima County DOT
Artemio Hoyos, Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Grant McCormick (for J.T. Fey), University of
Arizona
Farhad Moghimi, Town of Sahuarita
Mark Pugh (for Fred Stevens), Tohono O'odham
Nation
Andrew Singelakis (for Jim Glock), Tucson DOT

Public/Agencies

Curt Lueck, CLA
Michelle Meyer, PSOMAS
Doug Moseke, Stantec
Jim Schoen, Kittelson & Assoc.
Jim Witkowski, Morrison-Maierle

Jurisdiction Representatives

Natalie Clark, ADOT-Tucson
Roy Cuaron, City of Tucson DOT
Danny Granillo, ADOT-Tucson
Chris Kaselemis, City of Tucson
Planning
Albert Letzkus, Pima County DOT
Orville Saling, Town of Marana

Staff:

Cherie Campbell
Pat Kendall
John Liosatos
Tim Thurein

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was convened at 9:32 a.m. in PAG's main 5th floor conference room by Craig Civalier, Vice Chair, and introductions were made.

2. Call to the Audience

No discussion occurred.

3. In-Kind Form

The in-kind form was updated as necessary.

4. Announcements/Comments

Meeting announcements were made available to attendees in a calendar format.

Cherie Campbell announced that the next PAG TPC meeting is scheduled for Wed., March 3, 2009.

Mr. Goff noted that the RTA Transit Working Group meeting has been changed to Tues.,

Jan. 12, 2010.

Mr. Liosatos announced that the TIP Open Houses including the 2040 RTP are scheduled for Mon., March 8, Tues., March 9 and Wed., March 10, 2010.

5. Report on Regional Council Meeting – Next Meeting scheduled for January 28, 2010

Ms. Campbell reported on the Dec. 10 Regional Council meeting, which included the following transportation-related items:

- Update from ADOT staff on bqAZ
- Update on the 2040 RTP
- Adoption of a resolution that would support joint planning between PAG, MAG and CAG in the Sun Corridor in relation to the huge anticipated population growth linked to the bqAZ discussion that mentioned that the boundary between Pima and Pinal counties in 2050 will have the worst congestion statewide.
- Adoption of the 2010 Legislative Policy Positions
- Extension of the Transportation Art by Youth program
- Adoption of Amendment #3 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP

6. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2009

Motion was made by Mr. Moghimi to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2009, meeting, seconded by Mr. Hoyos, and unanimously approved.

7. TIP Subcommittee Report including Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP

Mr. Hoyos, TIP Subcommittee Chair, reported that the TIP Subcommittee met on Dec. 15, 2009 and:

- Approved the Draft FY 2011-2015 TIP project list
- Discussed the TIP Open House dates: Mon., March 8 (Conrad Joyner Green Valley Library), Tues., March 9 (Reid Park Golf Course Clubhouse and Wed., March 10 (Foothills Mall)
- Approved Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP which includes the following non-RTA items (A – C):
 - Item A - ADOT's request to advance design and increase funding for its I-19: Sahuarita Rd. Traffic Interchange project.
 - Item B - ADOT's request to increase design funds for its SR 77: Tangerine to Pinal County line widening project by decreasing funding on its SR 86: Valencia to Kinney widening project.
 - Item C - ADOT's request to take two projects out of reserve: SR 86: MP 120.2 (Fresnal) to MP 124.5 widening project and SR 86: MP 124.5 to MP 128.5 (San Isidro) reconstruct and widening project by decreasing excess funds from bid savings on its SR 86: MP 127.1 to MP 141.1 (San Pedro Road Segment) reconstruct and widening project.
 - Item D - Adds the ADOT sponsored RTA project to construct three wildlife crossings on SR 77: Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line previously approved by the RTA Board and RTA TIP Subcommittee.
 - Item E - Add the regions Round 17 TE projects that have been approved by the Arizona State Transportation Board.

Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 (*All numbers are in thousands)

Project/TIP ID Number	Sponsor/ reason for the amendment	Funding before amend.*	Funding after amend.*	Total change*
Item A				
I-19: Sahuarita Rd. Traffic Interchange (TIP ID #101.08)	Advances design and increases funding for ADOT's I-19: Sahuarita Rd. interchange improvement project	7700	8600	+ 900
Item B				
SR 77: Tangerine to Pinal County Line (TIP ID #11.02)	Increases design funding on ADOT's SR 77: Tangerine to Pinal County Line widening project (to 6 lanes)	32477	33977	+ 1500
SR 86: Valencia to Kinney (TIP ID #2.02)	Decreases funding on ADOT's SR 86: Valencia to Kinney widening project	33875	32375	- 1500
Item C				
SR 86: MP 120.2 (Fresnal) to MP 124.5 (TIP ID #47.06)	Takes ADOT's widening project on SR 86: MP 120.2 (Fresnal) to MP 124.5 out of reserve by moving bid savings from another project	0	1500	+ 1500
SR 86: MP 124.5 to MP 128.5 (San Isidro Rd. Segment) (TIP ID #45.01)	Takes ADOT's reconstruct and widening project on SR 86: MP 124.5 to MP 128.5 (San Isidro Rd.) out of reserve by moving bid savings from another project	0	1600	+ 1600
SR 86: MP 137.1 to MP 141.1 (San Pedro Road Segment) (TIP ID #104.03)	Decreases excess funds from bid savings on ADOT's SR 86: MP 137.1 to MP 141.1 (San Pedro Road Segment) reconstruct and widening project to take two projects out of reserve.	15100	12000	- 3100
Item D				
SR 77: Wildlife Crossing Structures; Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line (TIP ID #86.09)	Adds ADOT sponsored RTA project to construct 3 wildlife crossings on SR 77: Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line to the TIP	0	8231	+ 8231
Item E				
Canada del Oro Shared Use-Path Final Phase (TIP ID #88.09)	Adds Oro Valley sponsored TE Project to construct the final phase of the shared use-path from First Ave. to Steam Pump Village	0	522 873 RTA	+1395
Glenn Street Neighborhood Improvement Project (TIP ID #87.09)	Adds City of Tucson sponsored TE Project to construct a pedestrian path from Columbus to Country Club Rd.	0	500 119 RTA	+ 619
San Xavier Path Mission Gateway-SRTS (TIP ID #91.09)	Adds Tohono O'odham sponsored TE Project to construct a pathway in coordination with the SRTS program	0	518 400 RTA	+ 918
San Xavier Road: Pedestrian Bridge	Adds Tohono O'odham sponsored TE Project to construct a pedestrian bridge at	0	892	+ 892

Project/TIP ID Number	Sponsor/ reason for the amendment	Funding before amend.*	Funding after amend.*	Total change*
Approaches (TIP ID #90.09)	the San Xavier Rd I-19 interchange			
Streetcar and Transit Museum Displays (TIP ID #89.09)	Add City of Tucson sponsored TE Project to construct exhibits within the Southern Arizona Trans. Museum	0	578	+578

The proposed changes will not have a significant effect on the air quality conformity findings or fiscal constraint analysis of the TIP.

Motion was made by Mr. Singelakis to approve Amendment #5, (Items A –E) to the FY 2010-2014 TIP, as presented, seconded by Mr. Moghimi, and unanimously approved.

Mr. Hoyos announced that the TIP Subcommittee approved Pima County’s PDAF application for an ADA Transition Plan Update last week.

Mr. Liosatos explained that Amendment #4 was an administrative amendment handled by PAG’s Executive Director to keep the Pascua Yaqui Tribe’s ARRA project on track and change the funding source on a statewide ADOT TE project. TIP Subcommittee members approved Amendment #4 by e-mail.

8. Draft FY 2011-2015 TIP STP and 12.6% Cash Flow Adjustments

Mr. Liosatos distributed an updated spreadsheet that represents several months of cooperative hard work by the jurisdictions in making STP and 1.26% adjustments that resulted in fiscal constraint. Because of the unusual circumstances in moving funds back and forth, the TIP Subcommittee asks the TPC for its approval to move forward. This spreadsheet will be in draft TIP project list format for approval at the March 3 TPC meeting.

Mr. Moghimi complimented PAG staff and all TIP Subcommittee members for their continuing efforts in meeting the fiscal constraint goals that had been set.

Motion was made by Mr. Moghimi to recommend approval of the STP and 12.6% adjustments needed for fiscal constraint of the FY 2011-2015 TIP to Regional Council, seconded by Mr. Singelakis, and unanimously approved.

9. ADOT 5-year Program Recommendations

Mr. Liosatos reported that ADOT annually programs out their fifth year. This year the FY 2015 estimate is \$60.1 million. ADOT works cooperatively with the jurisdictions and TIP Subcommittee to program these funds.

The TIP Subcommittee has reviewed and recommends approval of ADOT’s 5-year Program:

- I-10: Ina to Marana Frontage Roads \$20 million
- I-10: Ruthrauff to Ina DCR 10.1 million
- I-19: San Xavier to Ajo Way 20 million

- SR 77: Tangerine to Pinal County line 2.5 million
- SR 86: Valencia to Kinney 7.5 million

which will allow these projects to move forward.

Mr. Civalier complimented ADOT staff on the I-10 widening to three lanes. Mr. Emery mentioned that ADOT will go out to bid soon on an I-10 Picacho project and an I-8 to SR 87 (Valle Vista) project just west of the I-8/I-10 interchange. The Picacho project involves straightening the curve and allowing for five lanes.

Motion was made by Mr. Hoyos to recommend approval of the ADOT 5-year Program, seconded by Mr. Goff, and unanimously approved.

10. 2010 Legislative Policy Positions & Legislative Update

Mr. Liosatos reported that the legislative session starts on Mon., Jan. 11, 2010, and, to date, 67 bills have been dropped. Recently made special session budget adjustments have decreased the deficit to \$1.3 billion, however, economic numbers look bad, and the Legislature actually needs to solve a \$3.5 billion to \$4 billion deficit. The 67 bills have been reviewed, but none of them are of great interest to the region; a majority of the bills are striker bills.

11. ADA Bus Stop Accessibility Study Report

Presenter Tom Fisher of the City's Transit Services Division was unable to attend and the item will be moved to a subsequent TPC agenda.

12. Transportation Finance Subcommittee Report

Mr. Goff reported that vehicle license taxes are down approximately 5 percent from last year and have declined for the past three years. When this year's normal revenue stream runs into the audit adjustment received last year, there will be a significant increase in the percent shortfall. Gasoline sales in Pima County are up over last year and our region's percentage of state activity (7 percent) is well above the five-year average, which results in a bigger slice of a smaller pie. ASU and UA business schools are forecasting 2012 as the recovery year for Arizona. Next year's revenues will be discussed by the subcommittee later this spring.

13. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Ms. Natalie Clark, ADOT's ARRA Contact Manager, distributed a spreadsheet of local government ARRA project status and a Tucson district quarterly status report (Jan. – Mar. 2010). Ms. Clark thanked PAG staff and all jurisdictional staff for their hard work on the ARRA program to spend \$34.1 million in local government recovery funds allocated to the PAG region.

Several local government projects are either ready for federal authorization for construction or have already received it and are moving on with the construction phase activity. Each jurisdiction and tribal nation has its own pavement preservation project on the ARRA list along with Pima County's Sabino Canyon bridge deck repair project and an additional City of Tucson project.

Three additional Transportation Enhancement ARRA projects located in Pima County (1) and the City of Tucson (2) have received notices to proceed and are in the construction phase.

In response to a question relating to having projects design ready in anticipation of any remaining fund balances, Mr. Liosatos responded that discussion continues on the issue awaiting appropriate agency determination, but that is the region's recommendation in anticipation of ARRA II. Unused ARRA I funds may be traded back to ADOT, but the time limit to spend the funds is unknown. The bigger concern is ARRA II coming as early as February 2010 with a possible ninety day deadline to get a project under contract, which severely shortens the time frame. Unless the region has projects ready to go by April, funds may be lost because the rules put in place can't be followed. ADOT has done such a great job building projects, it's unclear whether the region will have any shovel-ready state projects.

Mr. Liosatos also mentioned that discussions have taken place with ADOT upper management regarding delays with environmental clearances, and ADOT is trying to streamline that process.

Ms. Clark responded to a comment about project cost savings stating that ADOT wants to get the money spent. Bids continue to come in really low, and ADOT has developed a strategy to switch out project cost savings with surface transportation funds in working with the PAG jurisdictions. The state of Arizona does not want to fail; its goal is to spend recovery dollars by obligating as much money as possible knowing that projects may have to be brought in from other areas to spend the money.

Mr. Liosatos added that since these are federal dollars, the Davis-Bacon Act applies as well as more stringent ARRA reporting requirements for the contractors.

Members discussed the need to advertise as soon as ARRA II is announced in order to meet the shortened timeframe. That's not shovel ready, but procurement ready, which means the jurisdiction has already gone through its approval process.

Mr. Liosatos mentioned that funds must be obligated but can't be obligated until they're received. Funds can't be obligated until the bill is signed. The second bill appears to be similar to the first in its amounts and may contain a like amount (@ \$21 million) for transit. A project list can't be finalized until answers are received on questions including whether ARRA I funds can be used for design. A design project may be ruled a standalone project in which case ARRA funds could be obligated after governor's certification (1511), normal STP certification through federal and ADOT and then set aside for design, and once that project is designed it can go on the shelf. The federal rules say that you must build the project within 10 years or pay the money back. However, the environmental clearances will likely have expired over the years and need to be redone.

Ms. Clark reviewed the status of ARRA projects (local, enhancement and state) in the PAG region listed in ADOT Tucson District's quarterly status report.

Mr. Liosatos thanked Ms. Clark on behalf of PAG and its jurisdictions for the excellent job she has done in walking ARRA projects through the process moving Pima County well ahead of other regions in the state. The Committee applauded her efforts as well.

14. 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update

Ms. Campbell distributed materials for review and comment that will be going to Regional Council, then out to the public.

Ann Chaneka, PAG Transportation Planner, reviewed the materials which included two maps: draft roadway projects and draft transit projects, and actual draft project lists for each of the four modes. As drafts, the lists are still open for feedback. The detailed lists are being modeled, but the lists will be simplified when taken out to the public. In developing these lists, the task force started with the 2030 RTP's both in plan and reserve projects which jurisdictions updated (project need, scope of project and cost estimates). Public input from a TIP/RTP Open House last year and stakeholders' sessions was reviewed by the task force whose input also was added for a total of over 1,000 projects. At that point, the task force developed a modal percentage distribution: 57 percent roadway, 28.5 percent transit, 11.5 percent regional program and 3 percent bike/ped to determine the amount of funds available for each mode.

Ms. Chameka indicated that a roadways working group of the RTP task force selected eight major roadway projects for the region with the regional funds and the local jurisdictions identified projects within their areas for the local share.

The transit working group similarly selected six bus rapid transit and four streetcar projects (more high-capacity transit than the 2030 plan).

The regional programs list had been identified and will be incorporated in the long-range plan with only available funding.

The bike/ped list was mainly taken from the Bike Plan that was updated this past year.

The RTP Task Force received these lists on Dec. 1, 2009, and their feedback had been requested by Jan. 8. Feedback also has been received from jurisdictions and interest group representatives. The lists will be taken to the TIP/RTP Open Houses on March 8, 9 and 10. It's anticipated the plan will wrap up in April.

In addition to the projects, implementation strategies for the 2040 RTP are in the development process. The RTP Task Force has identified an overarching vision and goals for the transportation network through the year 2040. The implementation strategies working group is scheduled to meet next week, and the full RTP Task Force will meet some time in February.

Ms. Chaneka indicated that the modal project lists, updated to include jurisdictional feedback, are available to download in Excel from the recently updated RTP Web site. Updated maps are also available.

In response to a comment relating to light rail in Pinal County coming down to Edwin Road, Ms. Chaneka stated that Oracle has been identified as a high priority corridor for high capacity transit shown on the transit map now as bus rapid transit (due to available funding), as a pre-cursor to high-capacity transit. Also, baAZ, which was not fiscally constrained, indicated light rail along this corridor.

15. Future Agenda Items

No discussion occurred.

16. Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on March 3, 2010, at or after 9:15 a.m.

All agenda items were covered and the meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.