

**CENTRAL YAVAPAI
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

December 7, 2006
9:30 a.m.

Prescott Council Chambers
City Hall

201 S. Cortez Street
Prescott, AZ 86303

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Town of Chino Valley	Karen Fann, Chairperson
City of Prescott	Bob Bell, Vice-Chairperson
Yavapai County	Carol Springer, Secretary-Treasurer
Town of Prescott Valley	Mike Flannery, Member
AZ State Transportation Board	William (Bill) Feldmeier, Member

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

ADOT – Prescott District	Dallas Hammit
City of Prescott	Craig McConnell, Bob Luzuis
Town of Chino Valley	Ron Grittman
Yavapai County	Thomas Thurman, Mike Willett, Phil Bourdon, Chris Bridges,

STAFF PRESENT:

CYMPO Administrator	Jodi Rooney
CYMPO Admin. Assistant	Joanne Scardina Barr

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Citizen	Ken Janecek, N. Conte Nance, Sandy Willett
League of Women Voters	June Ruth
NHILC-Prescott Valley	Michelle Alexander
Prescott Alternative Transportation	Lisa Barnes
DVCA	Walt Matthew
Territorial Transit	Lindsay Bell

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Fann called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Fann led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

The Board Members and CYMPO staff introduced themselves.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS and CYMPO UPDATES

Norm Davis reported that the Regional Transit Study being performed by Nelson\Nygaard is proceeding on schedule. On October 19, 2006, the Executive Board was presented with three (3) transit service alternatives developed by the consultant, each providing a different level of service and associated cost estimate. In November 2006 the alternatives were subsequently presented for information and comments at three public meetings in the Towns of Chino Valley and Prescott Valley,

and the City of Prescott. Public input resulting from these meetings will be incorporated into the final document scheduled for completion in February 2007. Additionally, in January, the consultant will provide a “technical memo” specifically outlining available grant funding.

- In addition, an ADOT Transit Division meeting focusing on public transportation coordination and the AZ Rides Program is scheduled on Monday, December 11, 2006, from 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm. This is part of a state-wide information/funding program and complements our current Transit Study.
 - Jodi Rooney reported that ADOT’s Safe Routes to School Program is now accepting project applications. All ADOT, Safe Routes to School Program information is available on their website. The current call for applications is for the educational phase of this Program followed by another application submission request for capital/construction funding. ADOT has a list of all regional contacts and K- 8 Schools throughout the state have received the Program information. Six (6) application copies for Phase 1 of this Program should be forwarded to CYMPO no later than January 19, 2007. Lisa Barnes, Prescott Alternative Transportation, has been working with two schools to submit a project application.
 - Dallas Hammit commented that on December 6, 2006, ADOT celebrated 15 years of partnering with their project contractors and other stakeholders. Initially, it began as a communication tool in working with contractors but it soon incorporated stakeholders as well involving those affected by a project. Statewide partnering awards were presented at this event.
 - Finally, Jodi Rooney mentioned On Tuesday, December 5, 2006 CYMPO hosted a Transportation Growth & Interconnectivity Summit in Phoenix at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix. The meeting focused on the Prescott Urbanized Area and how it interconnects with the rest of the state. Approximately 130 persons attended this informative event, many from different disciplines, affording an opportunity to familiarize those outside our area with information on growth and the infrastructure challenges we face. All who attended this Summit from our area were thanked with a special mention by Chairperson Fann to Jodi Rooney and Joanne Scardina-Barr for all their efforts on this tremendous undertaking.
4. **CALL TO PUBLIC: This item is to provide an opportunity for presentation of comments by the public on subjects not on the agenda. Individuals wishing to address the Board need not request permission in advance. All remarks shall be addressed to the Board as a whole and not to any member thereof, and are limited to three (3) minutes unless additional time is granted by the Chairperson. At the conclusion of the speaker's comments, members of the Executive Board may respond to the items addressed at the discretion of the Chairperson, refer the matter to staff for review, or ask that it be placed on a future agenda.**
- Lisa Barnes, Prescott Alternative Transportation, stated she represents an unrecognized population which uses transportation modes other than the private

automobile. Ms. Barnes attended the CYMPO Transportation Summit and found it impressive, but viewed the information provided as unbalanced since none of the featured speakers included alternative modes of transportation in their presentations. She felt the Summit should have been more of a comprehensive learning experience for the attendees and descriptive of not only the need for roads but other modes including walking and transit; and growth planning must include discussions of options and alternatives; even those not viable at this time but incorporating forward thinking so our region continues to be a location where people want to come.

Chairperson Fann reiterated that the purpose of the Summit was to attempt to engage everyone to join together in working towards successful transportation growth planning. This first step was to become part of the larger picture with future steps involving other forms of transportation.

- Carol Oldershaw was pleased that the Board was looking at the larger picture. From her perspective, she feels we are facing, as a culture, the perfect storm including climate change, economic difficulties, employment layoffs, bankruptcies, and future high fuel costs. She supports public transportation and asks that all the new roads be seriously rethought since in the future fewer people will be able to afford to use them.

5. **ADOPTION OF THE LONG RANGE PLAN (2030 Travel Demand Model)**

Mike Willett, Yavapai County

Mike Willett reported that the required 30-day public review period for this document was completed on November 17, 2006. Two comments were received, pertaining primarily to unincorporated areas of Yavapai County. Responses to those comments have been prepared. The TAC has recommended adoption of the plan to the Executive Board.

Public concern was expressed regarding the perceived inability to make changes to this long range document. However, the Federal government requires the development of a 20 year Plan with mandated updates every 5 years. Any changes in water availability, population growth, and traffic patterns will be reflected in the Plan at each revision. This Plan is a snapshot of current and projected future transportation facilities and needs which will change over time.

Ken Janecek, representing himself, neighbors and the Williams Valley Corridor Committee, authored some of the comments received during the public review period. He expressed apprehension on several issues:

- Population projections and their justifications.
- Water availability for population projections.
- Projected roads based on CYMPO's projections twice as high as the "water review committee".
- Construction of a 4 lane highway to Hootenanny Hollow from 2012-2020 before it may be needed. Chino Valley is well suited to serve that area through Center Street, Second North, etc., yet that is not even listed to be

constructed to 2020-2030, after building a 4 lane highway on Williamson Valley Road.

To date, he has not received a response to his comments and does not know if these issues have been addressed. He is trying to understand the purpose of the public comment period, whether it is to only incorporate the comments within the Plan or “adjust” and act on the comments that may have issues to be addressed prior to adoption of the Long Range Plan.

Addressing Mr. Janecek’s concerns, written responses have been prepared by the City of Prescott and Yavapai County pending distribution upon approval of the Plan. Board member Feldmeier expressed that everyone needs to be diligent to the changes of direction within our community, our population base and economy and their impact on services. In addition, he feels that the Executive Board has met the requirements charged to them and has been diligent in calling for public comment. This is merely an adoption of a “vision” with built in assurances that the document will be adjusted over time.

MOTION

Board Member Feldmeier introduced a motion to approve the adoption of the Long Range Plan. Board Member Springer seconded the motion.

Chairperson Fann, representing Chino Valley, noted that they would like the connector road to between Williamson Valley and Chino Valley to be built “tomorrow” and they will continue to work closely with Yavapai County to move this project forward. Mike Willett remarked that another important planning component is the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). The MTIP is a document that requires 4 years of fully funded projects as per the Federal SAFETEA-LU regulations and must be updated every two years. However, the needs of all municipalities will support annual updates of the MTIP in order to keep current. If a project is not on that document, it will not be built. This is another means of adjusting the Long Range Plan. As an example, if the County experiences explosive growth, corridor and engineering studies are immediately implemented in order for projects to be added to the MTIP. Concurrently, if growth within the County decreases, reverse adjustments would be made.

Jermaine Hannon, Federal Highways Administration, reiterated that the need for the Long Range Plan is to identify those projects needed in the next 20 year period. This is a Federal requirement. The MTIP is to identify funds to be allocated towards projects within a four year timeframe. The caveat to move projects into or out and in of the MTIP is that those projects need to be listed in the Long Range Plan. The Long Range Plan must become SAFETEA-LU compliant by July 1, 2007, to enable project adjustments.

Ken Janecek commented that the County has adopted a policy that “growth pays for growth”. Who will pay for roads if they are constructed prior to the need for them occurs (i.e., before the growth they are to serve)? As an example, those residents

currently living on the Williamson Valley corridor will have paid taxes for this “future” road which they do not need until the projected growth actually occurs.

Board Member Springer stated that this Plan comprises a good effort but recognizes like any document with a long term planning horizon it has some limitations. One of those limitations is “study boundaries” which only extends north to the Hootenanny Hollow area. Williamson Valley Road is only one or two North/South county roads which serves the region, the other being SR 89. Developers north of the study boundary have active projects which could bring a new population exceeding 100,000. At this time, the only access is Williamson Valley Road, so while much of the regional transportation planning discussion is focused within the CYMPO study area, in reality Yavapai County must look at the larger area, and then integrate transportation planning for both, linking the two. During the next CYMPO regional study update, in order to be more accurate, the boundaries of the study area will have to be expanded.

Chairperson Fann reiterated that this Plan merely identifies what may happen over the next 20 years and at the very least, affords an opportunity to acquire “right-of-way” property now while land prices are relatively reasonable. In any event, the availability of unavailability of funding will determine what is provided for transportation in the future, whether roads or transit.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

The motion passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN (PPP)

Jodi Rooney, CYMPO

Jodi Rooney reviewed the Plan history noting that it was developed prior to February 2006 and had completed the public process review period. Due to the resignation of the former CYMPO Administrator during that timeframe, however, the document was not formally adopted. In order to be meet current Federal regulations, the plan was revised and updated; and is now ready to be recommended to the Executive Board for approval. A few, non-substantive, minor corrections noted during the TAC discussion previously will be incorporated into the final document.

Board Member Springer noted that at the earlier TAC meeting, Jermaine Hannon, Federal Highways Administration, mentioned that the Public Participation Plan was SAFETEA-LU compliant. Mr. Hannon reiterated that the document meets compliance regulations.

MOTION

Board Member Flannery moved to adopt the Public Participation Plan with minor edits which was seconded by Board Member Bell.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

The motion was unanimously approved noting that Board Member Feldmeier was not available at the time of voting.

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jodi Rooney, CYMPO

* State Transportation Board: Friday, December 15, 2006, Tucson @ 9:00 a.m.

* TAC: Thursday, January 4, 2006, 8:00 a.m., Prescott City Hall Chambers

* 9th Annual Rural Transportation Summit: Wednesday, January 17-19, 2007, Casa Grande, AZ

* Executive Board: Wednesday, January 24, 2007, 6:00 pm, Prescott Council Chambers
(Note the location change and different date for this meeting only.)

Prior to adjournment, Chairperson Fann inquired about reservations for the upcoming Rural Transportation Summit noting that the event hotel is sold out at this time. Jodi Rooney requested that those needing information or lodging reservations please contact CYMPO.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

There being no further business, Board Member Feldmeier moved that the meeting be adjourned. Board Member Flannery seconded the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION

The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Karen Fann, Chairperson