

MINUTES
AMARILLO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Policy Committee for the Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization met at 1:30 p.m., January 17, 2013, in Room 306 of City Hall, 509 South East 7th Avenue, Amarillo, Texas.

Voting members present were: Paul Harpole, Brian Eades, Jarrett Atkinson, H.R. Kelly, Ernie Houdashell, Mark Benton, Kyle Ingham, Dick Davis, Ron Johnston, and Stan Swiatek.

Voting members not present were: Arthur Ware.

Staff coordinators were: Gary Holwick and Travis Muno.

Item 1. New Member Introductions: Ron Johnston, TxDOT District Engineer
Mark Benton, Randall County Commissioner.

Paul Harpole, Mayor, City of Amarillo, called the meeting to order and introduced two new MPO Policy Committee members: Ron Johnston, who started as the TxDOT Amarillo District Engineer in November 2012 and Mark Benton, the Randall County Commissioner replacing Robert Karrh, who retired at the end of 2012.

Item 2. Consider approval of the October 18, 2012 meeting minutes.

Mr. Harpole advised the minutes of the previous meeting on October 18, 2012 were ready for consideration. Mr. Harpole asked if there were any corrections to the minutes; there were none.

Ernie Houdashell, Randall County Judge, made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Kyle Ingham, Local Government Services Director from PRPC, seconded the motion. A vote of 10:0 carried the motion.

Item 3. Receive Information Update: IH-40 / Loop 335 Corridor Projects.

Mr. Muno, MPO Senior Planner, spoke briefly about the IH-40/Loop 335 (Soncy Rd) Corridor Projects approved by the Policy Committee during fiscal year 2012. He told the committee that last April a modeling study was initiated for the Soncy Road Corridor projects. He said that this agenda item is to update the Committee on the project's status. He said findings of the study, done by the Texas Tech University College of Engineering, would be presented by Blair Johnson, with TxDOT Amarillo District Design Office.

Mr. Johnson showed a PowerPoint presentation illustrating traffic modeling and analysis of the area under consideration. The findings of the study gave the MPO Technical Advisory Committee a positive benefit-cost analysis for evaluation in regards to each segment of the project. After review, the MPO Technical Advisory Committee found Phase One of the project to be in support of the MPO Policy Committee's April 2012 decision approving the project. That project includes: 1) improve traffic signal timing along the Soncy Rd/Loop 335 corridor; 2) add a northbound right turn lane at Westgate Parkway; 3) add northbound & southbound lanes on Loop 335 from IH-40 to BI-40D; and 4) improve entrance/exit ramps along IH-40 between Coulter St. and Helium Rd.

Item 4. Consider recommendation for a Long-Range Loop 335 Master Plan.

Mr. Holwick, MPO Director, spoke to the committee about planning for the future of Loop 335. He said the MPO Technical Committee had discussed the merits of a long-range planning document for the preservation and future improvement of Loop 335. He said the Technical Committee felt such a plan would be very beneficial. Mr. Holwick suggested the plan's creation process involve issues related to access management, rights of way, land use, and operational elements. He said the process should include community meetings to gather public input. He asked the MPO Policy Committee's approval for the Technical Committee to begin the development and creation of a Long-Range Master Plan for Loop 335.

Brian Eades, City Commissioner, made a motion to approve the Technical Committee's creation of a Long-Range Master Plan for the preservation and future improvement of Loop 335. This motion was seconded by H. R. Kelly, Potter County Commissioner, and carried 10:0. Mr. Holwick stated he would update the Policy Committee as the Master Plan developed.

Item 5. Receive Information Update: Urban Area Boundary & Functional Classification.

Travis Muno presented information about the Urban Area Boundary and the Functional Classification of Roadways pertinent to the 2010 US Census and Amarillo MPO. He explained the significance of the Urban Area Boundary (UAB) and that adjustments to the boundary are allowed by the Federal Highway and Federal Transit Administrations. He told the Committee that TxDOT and TTI held a workshop for the West Texas Region MPOs and TxDOT District Offices in December. He said that since work on the UABs and roadway classification was just getting underway, this topic would be visited in the future for Policy Committee review.

Item 6. Open Forum, time reserved for anyone to speak on any transportation related item; however, no action can be taken on items not on the agenda.

No comments were received from Committee members or citizens attending the meeting.

Item 7. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned with no further business to discuss.



Gary Holwick
Director, Amarillo MPO

Date: January 17, 2013
Time: 1:30 P.M.

Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee Meeting Attendance Record

Place: Room 306, City Hall
509 SE 7th Ave, Amarillo, TX

Name	Organization Represented	Phone Number	E-mail Address
1 GARY HAUNICK	AMARILLO MPO	806-378-6273	gryhaunick@amarillo.gov
2 Terry Nix	TxDOT	800-356-3273	Terry.Nix@txdot.gov
3 Ron Johnston	TxDOT	(806)356-3291	Ron.Johnston@txdot.gov
4 Kit Black	TxDOT	356-3383	kit.black@txdot.gov
5 Dick Davis	Chamber of Commerce	373-8341	
6 Jareem Atkinson			
7 Paul Angpole	COA		
8 Dean Downey	Traffic Commission	286-5787	hdridder994@hotmail.com
9 Kelley Shaw	COA		
10 Jerry Bird	COA	378-4218	jerold.bird@amarillo.gov
11 Mark Reed	COA	378-2127	mark.reed@amarillo.gov
12 Brian Edler	City of Amarillo	378-3000	

Date: January 17, 2013
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Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee Meeting Attendance Record

Place: Room 306, City Hall
509 SE 7th Ave, Amarillo, TX

13 Gary Denton	COA Utilities	378-9307	gary.denton@amarillo.gov
14 Brian Shinall	Atheburg/Rockrose	676-0410	bshinall@atheburg.com
15 Michael Rice	COA Public Works		
16 MATT GIFFITH	ROCKROSE	680-6288	MATT.ROCKROSE@AMARILLO.COM
17 Vicki Carey	COA		
18 KYLE INGHAM	PRPC		
19 JAMIE ALLEN	PRPC		
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Date: January 17, 2013
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509 SE 7th Ave, Amarillo, TX

25 Blair Johnson	TxDOT	806-356-3247	blair.johnson@txdot.gov
26 STAN SWIATEK	TxDOT	806-356-3240	STAN.SWIATEK@TXDOT.GOV
27 Travis Muno	Amarillo MPO	806-378-4219	Travis.Muno@Amarillo.gov
28 Doree Schooley	Kimco	214-720-0359	dschooley@kimcorealty.com
29 Jan Sanders	COA	378-6290	jan.sanders@amarillo.gov
30 AK Patel	Holiday Express Soney + AMA Blvd. Comfort Suites + Callyan View	584-2284	ALKESH@ChatworthLtd.com
31 Vic PANGHA		420-0286	VIMAL-PANGHA@yaho.com
32 Vann Chikara	Holiday Inn Express Amarillo	681-7754	Vc@ChatworthLtd.com
33 Mark Shaffer	Country Inn / Comfort Inn	676-0176	Mark.Shaffer@rohhotels.com
34 MARCO BENTON	RANDALL CO	654-6901	mbenton@wlbamarillo.com
35 H.R. KELLY	Butler Co. Comm.	674-3511	SGT.HR.KELLY@MIL.COM
36 Ernie Landshuer	Randall Co.	468-5500	ELH@Randallcounty.org
Sanja Gross	COA	3549	Sanja.grosse@amarillo.gov