

MINUTES
AMARILLO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Policy Committee for the Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization met at 1:30 p.m., October 16, 2014, in Room 306 of City Hall, 509 South East 7th Avenue, Amarillo, Texas.

Voting members present were: Paul Harpole, Jarrett Atkinson, Ernie Houdashell, Mark Benton, H.R. Kelly, Kyle Ingham, Gus Khankarli, and Ron Johnston.

Voting members not present were: Brian Eades, Dick Davis, and Arthur Ware.

Staff coordinators were: Gary Holwick and Travis Muno.

Item 1. Consider approval of the July 17, 2014 meeting minutes.

Paul Harpole, City of Amarillo Mayor, advised the minutes of the previous meeting on July 17, 2014 were ready for consideration. There were no corrections to the minutes.

H.R. Kelly, Potter County Commissioner, made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Judge Ernie Houdashell, Randall County, seconded the motion. A vote of 8:0 carried the motion.

Item 2. Consider 2015-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Mr. Muno gave an overview of the planning documents and programs produced by the Amarillo MPO. He said draft 2015-40 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a blueprint for identifying the development of future transportation improvements for roadways, public transit services, bicycle amenities, and pedestrian facilities for the Amarillo Metropolitan area and must be updated every five years.

Mr. Muno addressed projects contained in the MTP. He made reference to the active list of projects and an illustrative list of projects in the MTP, the latter being projects that are identified as being important but without adequate revenue identified for development or construction.

He spoke about the development of the MTP. Mr. Muno stated that MPO staff had received input from the public, local and regional government, agency providers, and transportation stakeholders throughout the months of preparation. MPO staff conducted public meetings in November 2013 and February & July 2014 to prepare the document and receive public comment. The 2015-40 MTP is shown in Attachment A.

Gus Khankarli, TxDOT Director of Transportation Planning & Development, made a motion to accept the action as presented. Mark Benton, Randall County Commissioner, seconded the motion. A vote of 8:0 carried the motion.

Item 3. Consider 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program revision.

Mr. Travis Muno, MPO Senior Planner, explained the need for a revision of the 2015-18 Transportation Improvement Program. The 2015-18 TIP revision is shown in Attachment B.

H. R. Kelly, made a motion to accept the action as presented. Mark Benton seconded the motion. A vote of 7:0 carried the motion (Jarrett Atkinson was not present at the time of the motion).

Item 4. Receive a presentation: FY 2014 Annual List of Projects – MPO Staff.

Mr. Muno presented the 2014 Annual List of Projects shown in Attachment C. He explained that each year the MPO is required to report on projects for which federal funding was obligated inside the MPO boundary. He stated that the list of projects included various roadway and transit projects. Travis told the committee that these projects were the subject of a public comment period that began on October 1, 2014 and ended October 10, 2014. He said no comments had been received during the comment period. He mentioned today's meeting was another opportunity for the public to comment on the 2014 Annual List of Projects. Mayor Harpole asked if the members of the committee or members of the public attending the meeting had comments about the 2014 Annual Project Listing, but no comments were received. Mr. Muno said no formal action was needed for this agenda item.

Mayor Harpole stated Agenda Item 6 would be heard first.

Item 6. Receive a presentation: SL 335 Corridor Study by TxDOT – Amarillo District Staff.

Terry Nix, TxDOT Amarillo District Planner, offered a PowerPoint presentation regarding a recently completed State Loop 335 Corridor Study. The purpose of this study was to recommend a suggested prioritized list of improvements for development of SL335, as a high-speed freeway to accommodate future growth and development in and around Amarillo. The goals of the study were safety, segment prioritization, mobility & functional improvement, traffic movement, alleviate congestion, consideration of alternate freight and hazardous cargo routes, and improve economic development. The study analyzed three separate alignments on the west side of SL 335: Soncy Rd, Helium Rd, and Hope Rd, revealing Helium Rd. as a preferred alternate route. Mr. Nix explained the study also took into consideration the freight routes, which Interstate 40 through Amarillo is on the primary freight network, and Interstate 27 is on the secondary freight network. SL 335 is a part of the Texas secondary freight network, whereby joining these networks. After data compilation, the study divided the loop into 10 segments, numerically listing priority segments based upon need.

Item 5. Receive a presentation: Status Update of Projects by TxDOT – Amarillo District Staff.

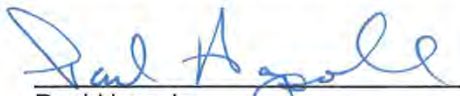
Terry Nix briefed the Committee regarding a variety of projects inside the Amarillo MPO study area. Mr. Nix gave a brief history of six projects with tentative letting dates, project description, and status updates to the following: SL335/BI-40D to Hillside Rd with medians and full signal upgrades, July 2015 letting & estimated \$3 million project cost; IH-40/SL335 to Helium Rd reverse ramps upgrade project, July 2015 letting & estimated \$4 million project cost; IH-40/IH-27 EB to SB direct connect completing the interchange, June 2015 letting & estimated \$4 million project cost; SL335 @ BNSF RR Overpass, continuing the project under construction going East, August 2015 letting & estimated \$16.5 million project cost; SL335/IH-27 to FM 2590, the schematic development is ongoing, projected September 2017 letting & estimated \$57 million project cost; and the SL335 Corridor study from FM2590 to SW 9th Ave, will begin a schematic soon, projected August 2018 letting & estimated \$95 million project cost.

Item 7. 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.

Mayor Harpole expressed his gratitude to the TxDOT staff for the work that has been done on each of these projects. Bruce Lanier, 9701 Helium Rd., voiced his concerns in regards to traffic speeds on FM 2590 since the speed limit had been raised to 75 mph; he asked if someone could take a look at this situation. Ron Johnston, TxDOT Amarillo District Engineer, asked Mr. Lanier to send a letter stating such and the TxDOT office would look into the matter. No further comments were received.

Item 8. Adjournment.

Chairman Harpole adjourned the meeting with no further business to discuss.


Paul Harpole
Chairman, Amarillo MPO

Date: October 16, 2014
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 HOWICK	AMARILLO MPO	806-378-6293	gary.howick@amarillo.gov
2	Jim Fore		806-270-7014	joeb991@yahoo.com
3	LANE FRAVANCE	TxDOT	356-3243	
4	NANCY TRAINER	POTTER COUNTY	256-7693	
5	DALE WINFIELD	R.K. HALL	806-433-6803	DALEWINFIELD@RKHALLCONSTRUCTIV.COM
6	Jan Sanders	COA		jan.sanders@amarillo.gov
7	Paul Brown	TxDOT	806-570-6201	
8	R.M. Garvort	Amarillo Resident	806-8862846	NA
9	Bo Whipple	Grant Hill Suburb CRE	2201411	bo@grahamamarillo.com
10	HOWARD SMITH	HOWARD SMITH CO. REALTORS	758-8881	HOWARD@AMARILLO-HOMES.COM
11	M.R. KERRY	POTTER COUNTY	674/351	SKERRY@POTTER.CO
12	Jim [unclear]	Bushy Creek Prop	372-3412	

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	Name	Organization Represented	Phone Number	E-mail Address
13	Blair Johnson	TxDOT	806-378-4571	blairjohnson@txdot.gov
14	Bruce Lanier	resident	806-355-0750	snblanier@msn.com
15	Michael Rice	Public Works	806-378-9337	
16	EMILY AUSTIN	UTILITIES DIVISION	806-378-4880	emily.austin@amarillo.gov
17	Laura Welch	Amarillo Blue News	806-378-2276	laura.welch@amarillo.gov
18	GUS KHANIKARLI	TxDOT	806-358-3240	GUS.KHANIKARLI@TXDOT.GOV
19	RON JONSTON	TxDOT		
20	Paul Hampole	COA	806 6790911	
21	Janelle [unclear]	COA		
22	Ernie [unclear]	Randall County		
23				
24				

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	Name	Organization Represented	Phone Number	E-mail Address
25	Terry Nix	TxDOT		
26	JOE CLARK	TxDOT-TPP	325-676-6821	joe.clark@txdot.gov
27	Travis Alamo	amarillo Alamo	378-4219	travis.alamo@amarillo.gov
28	TRACY BYARS	ROCKROSE DEVELOPMENT	680-7825	TRACY@ROCKROSEAMARILLO.COM
29	Dustin Jones	REBA JONES	373-8800	
30	Eric Dinsley	Sanford Engineer	374-3774	
31	Calvin R. Bibe	GEBCO Services	581-1913	calvinr@gebcoservices.com
32	MARLE BENTON	RANDALL COUNTY	806-694-6901	mbenton@submarino.com
33	Mark Reed	City of Amarillo - Engineering	806-378-4277	markreed@amarillo.gov
34	Kyle [unclear]	ATK		
35	Janet [unclear]	Blue Prints 7.		
36	D'Ann Sney	Bushy Creek Property	272-3442	