

## MINUTES

### AMARILLO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Policy Committee for the Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization met at 1:30 p.m., July 21, 2022, in Room 105 of City Hall, 601 South Buchanan, Amarillo, Texas.

Voting members present were:

GINGER NELSON	MAYOR
JARED MILLER	CITY MANAGER OF AMARILLO
FREDA POWELL	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 2
JOE PRICE	CITY MANAGER OF CANYON
CHRISTY DYER	RANDALL COUNTY
NANCY TANNER	POTTER COUNTY
H.R. KELLY	POTTER COUNTY
DUSTIN MEYER	PRPC
KIT BLACK	TXDOT
BLAIR JOHNSON	TXDOT

Voting members not present are as follows:

MARK BENTON	RANDALL COUNTY
-------------	----------------

Staff coordinators were:

TRAVIS MUNO	MPO DIRECTOR
ALLISON NUNEZ	TRANSPORTATION PLANNING TECHNICIAN

#### **Item 1. Public Address (For items on the agenda for Amarillo Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee consideration)**

Mayor Ginger Nelson called meeting to order. There was no public comments.

#### **Item 2. Discuss and consider Minutes from April Meeting**

Judge Christy Dyer moved to approve, Judge Nancy Tanner seconded, item approved unanimously.

#### **Item 3. Discuss and Consider Resolution to approve the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Travis stated that he was showing them the FY 23 UPWP and showing the budget/work program for the next year. Travis stated that they had worked with TxDOT for statewide use, in order to have a more unified product across the state. Travis took time to go over each task, and what all went into those specific tasks. Travis explained that some of the funding and time would be shifted over towards the development of the MTP Program as the document would need to be created this year and would need more funding than had been put towards it in the past few years.

Judge Dyer asked if all the administrative costs for the whole MPO was in that single task. Travis said that it was, and that the UPWP would hold the full budget, that would be close to the amount of money allocated for the Amarillo MPO. Judge Dyer asked to make sure it wasn't the same as

what was previously under the City's administrative allocation. Travis explained that the fiscal agent fee will cover all of that, and that it should only be around \$25,000 – \$30,000.

Travis went into further detail about each task, to give examples of what things might be found in each funding task, and justified the cost listed for each task. Travis went on to explain a few things that would change the budget from the previous years. He explained that staffing and position changes, the fiscal agent fee, and population would all be large factors in the funding going forward.

Travis stated that at the earliest, Amarillo's status for TMA would be in 2024. Blair Johnson asked what the MPO was on track to spend. Travis explained that they would be carrying over \$75,000 in carryover funds. Blair Johnson asked who officially approved the budget. Travis explained that first the Policy Board would approve it, and then it would go on to TxDOT and eventually Federal Highways. Blair Johnson asked how difficult it would be to move funding between tasks. Travis explained it would just need board approval to do so.

HR Kelly motioned, Nancy Tanner Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item 4. Discuss and Consider Category 7 and 9 Selection Process**

Travis explained that the TAC has been looking at this selection process for at least a few months now and wanted to check in with the policy board for direction, and to make sure that the selection process was being developed in the way they felt was best. Travis then went on to explain the process as it was currently, and the requirements for those calls for projects and the projects being awarded. He also showed the Board the way their scoring process would work, and that those projects would go on a priority list, and the policy board would have the final say on those projects.

Judge Dyer asked if this structure needed to be in place before they could start submitting their projects. Travis stated yes, because they would need time to put the matched funding in their capital project budget. Joe Price asked for an example of Category 7 projects. Travis stated that these could be use for transit projects, on or off system, purchasing buses, ADA compliance, quite a few things. The TAC has also been brainstorming some projects to put on the lists for those two categories. Kyle Schniderjan explained that their goal was to make a defined easy process so that even when competing for dollars it was a fair selection process. Judge Dyer asked if she heard correctly that safety would be the tiebreaker. Travis explained that yes, safety would be the tiebreaker. Judge Dyer explained she was asking so many questions, because she had a specific project in mind that she was trying to think how it would address those things.

Blair Johnson stated that he had a suggestion, and that TxDOT had tried to score projects numerous ways and numerous times, and they never fall out the way that it should be. He suggested adding a TAC Committee recommendation section and adding that to the score. Judge Dyer stated that there's a 2% value in their scoring system that adds a human factor judgement to the scoring.

Travis goes on to explain the category 9 selection process.

The board agreed they were not ready to vote on this item

#### **Item 5. Update on Ports to Plains Corridor from Ports to Plains Alliance**

Mayor Nelson publicly thanked John Osborn for all the accomplishments in the past 5 years. John explained the Ports to Plains Corridor from Ports to Plains Alliance. John Osborn listed accomplishments along the corridor. He added that if anyone knew of how they could be of assistance to contact him.

#### **Item 6. Update on Hike and Bike Lanes for Loop 335**

Travis gave an update on the Hike and Bike Lanes for Loop 335. He presented a map showing the 3 projects where Loop 335 stands concerning bike and pedestrian facilities. A brief review Loop 335 from Georgia St to Bell St is already constructed. Loop 335 from Bell St to SW 9th Ave is under Construction now. Loop 335 from SW 9th Ave to N. Coulter St. is scheduled to be let for construct in December of 2022.

#### **Item 7. Update on Steps for a Resiliency Plan**

Travis presented a power point on the steps for a resiliency plan. He reviewed the four requirements, the five-step framework and also the benefits of have a Resiliency Improvement Plan. Kyle Schniderjan elaborated on how FEMA is updating the regional areas.

#### **Item 8. Update on Current Construction Projects**

CeCe Sysombath gave an update on the current construction projects for the presentation.

The SL 335 IH-40 West Interchange Phase 1. Currently the bridge has been poured, on both the west and east side. They are currently working on the box beneath i-40. It should be opened in the next week or two. Upcoming work for this project is the inside lanes and the milestones. They were trying to get the main lanes opened up for I-40.

Loop 335 frontage road project. It was anticipated to be completed by fall of 2022. He stated that it is fully open now, and can go North and South bound from I-40 all the way to 2590.

The Tie in project was still being anticipated to complete in the Spring of 2024. Both bridges have been completed, but right now they are working on tying the steel and putting on the rails.

SL335 I-27 Interchange Phase 1 is still anticipated to be completed in the Fall of 2022. They have been trying to get it opened up to the public, and it should be open within a few weeks. They are hoping for September to be the completion date.

The I-27 operational Improvements Projects. The anticipated completion was Summer of 2025. They are still looking at switching the traffic over in September.

CeCe Sysombath then went on to give an update on other Active Projects.

**Item 9. Update from MPO Director Evaluation Subcommittee**

There were no updates on Item 9.

**Item 10. Executive Session**

Sec. 551.074 – Discuss the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, dismissal of a public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or a charge against an officer or employee; and Sec. 551.071 – Consult with Attorney about pending or contemplated litigation or settlement of the same, and to consult with the attorney on a matter in which the attorney’s duty to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct conflicts with this Chapter.

No executive session was needed.

**Item 11. Consider and Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters**

No executive session was held.

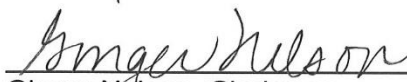
**Item 12. Discuss Future Agenda Items.**

At the September Policy Committee workshop, the presentation of the FY 23 Priority Projects list will be presented to the Policy Board.

**Item 13. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned with no further business to discuss.

This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the MPO.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ginger Nelson, Chairman  
Amarillo MPO