



Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

January 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 14, 2021
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Zoom Webinar

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Warren - *Chair*
(Gila County)

Rick Powers
(Globe)

Jason James
(ADOT - MPD)

Lana Clark
(Superior)

Tara Harman
(Pinal County)

Larry Halberstadt
(Payson)

John Schempf
(Mammoth)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tim Grier
(Star Valley)

VACANT
(Miami)

Sylvia Kerlock
(Winkelman)

Sandra Shade
(Ak-Chin Indian Community)

Martina Burnam
(Kearny)

Tara Chief
(White Mountain Apache Tribe)

VACANT
(Hayden)

Marvin Mull
(San Carlos Apache Tribe)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mark Henige
(ADOT LPA)

Kurt Harris
(ADOT SE District)

Eduardo Raudales
(Maricopa)

CAG Staff:

Travis Ashbaugh
(Transportation Planning Manager)

I. Call to Order

Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Warren led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Seven (7) voting members were present, constituting a quorum as established by the CAG TTAC Bylaws.

IV. Introductions & Title VI Notice

Introductions were made individually on the Webinar. Mr. Ashbaugh, at this time, read a statement of where and how to file a complaint regarding Title VI violations.

V. Approval Of Minutes – (December 17, 2020)

Ms. Clark made the motion to approve the December 17, 2020 minutes as presented. Mr. James seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



VI. Call to the Public

No one answered to the call to the public.

VII. Standing Reports

A. Member Jurisdictions

Payson

Mr. Halberstadt reported that there are no new updates regarding the “Granite Dells Road” project (**Project # PAY 19-01D**). The Town is still working on 60 percent Design plans and Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisition.

Globe

Mr. Powers reported on two (2) items:

1. The “Pinal Creek Bridge – Cottonwood Street (Structure #9711)” project (**Project # GLB 21-01D**) is moving forward with the IGA. The Design has now begun.
2. The City is looking to advance the “Hill Street (Phase 2)” mill and fill/sidewalk replacement project (**Project # GLB 27-01D/29-01C**) to coincide with the “Upper Pinal Creek Bridge” state funded bridge project as they are interconnected. The City is seeking for advancement with the Arizona State Transportation Board.

Superior

Currently there are no Town projects within the TIP, however, Ms. Clark reported on three (3) projects within the Town:

1. Since the completion of raising the highway, there has been flooding issues along the US 60 within the Town in front of commercial properties. Since the flooding is occurring in ADOT ROW, the Town has been working with ADOT to mitigate the issue by constructing concrete swales. The Town has now completed the swale project and are now working on landscaping issues with dying trees.
2. The Town is working on a land exchange project that should resolve an issue with tow trucks blocking public driveways. Recently a motel has been purchased that will be converted to apartments and need the land exchange to take place due to the expected increase in traffic within the vicinity.
3. The Town is waiting for the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority (PRTA) funds to be available for local road projects.

Gila County

Chair Warren reported on three (3) items:

1. The “Colcord Road” project (**Project # GIL 20-01C / TRACTS # T008701C**) is substantially completed. The project was then requested to be removed from the TIP due to its completion. After such request was made, ADOT notified Gila County was required to transfer over and take ownership of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) activities until the seeding has reached full stabilization.
2. A meeting is schedule for January 20, 2021 with ADOT and Stantec to have a “Re-Kick-Off” meeting for the “Golden Hill Road” sidewalk project (**Project # GIL 22-01C / TRACTS # T009001C**) to revisit target dates.

The project is currently waiting for environmental clearances and therefore the County cannot have discussions with property owners regarding ROW acquisitions. In the meantime, the paperwork for the Temporary Construction Easements (TCEs) is underway.

3. The County received a requirement from the Arizona Game and Fish Department on the “**Tonto Creek Bridge**” project to have a Biological Engineer on site every day (8 hours/day) of construction throughout the duration of the project due to the potential habitation of the Narrow Headed Garter Snake. This is an additional \$200,000 in costs that was not expected.

Pinal County and Mammoth had nothing to report at this time.

B. Multi-Modal Planning Division, ADOT

Mr. James reported on two (2) items:

1. He reminded those present to complete the Arizona Crash and Information System (ACIS) user questionnaire. The deadline is tomorrow, January 15, 2021. The intent is to understand how to make the functionality within the platform more user friendly in the anticipate for the next call for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) projects expected in July 2021.
2. The latest version of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is available for comments. Comment period will be for 90 days by March 1, 2021. ADOT will also be hosting working group meetings for these comments on January 25th, February 8th, 15th, & 22nd, 2021. All comments are to be sent to Hasina Luna at hluna2@azdot.gov.

C. Local Public Agency, ADOT

Mr. Henige reported on four (4) items:

1. The survey that was sent requesting what type of training opportunities for local public agencies is now closed. The ADOT LPA section is now developing a series of modules starting in April 2021. There will be seven (7) modules, one per month, that will be approximately 2-3 hours each. A calendar of the scheduled training opportunities will be sent to the COG/MPOs to be distributed among their local agencies. Some of the topics will include planning, programming, ADOT LPA role in project initiation, introduction to project life cycle, federal authorization, Joint Project Agreements, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Civil Rights, clearances, etc. ADOT will be using Webex as the platform to conduct the trainings.
2. The new ADOT Roadway Design Guidelines 2021 Edition is online and available for use.
3. The Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) Exchange program has been approved within the 5-year construction program.
4. The Call-for-Projects that went out in November 2020 for the “Off-System Bridge” (OSB) program is due February 19, 2021. All applications are to be submitted through CAG.

D. District, Engineers, ADOT

Mr. Harris of the Southeast District had nine (9) items to report:

1. Catching up on pavement preservation and crack sealing throughout the district.
2. Installation of French drain system at US 60 – MP 235, eastbound to mitigate artesian spring condition has been postponed until warmer paving weather is available.

3. Working with Risk Management to repair numerous vehicle fire AC damage locations along US 60 and SR 79. Incidents, primarily with tractor trailers, that have damaged the roadway from Salt River Canyon to Florence has cause much damage. Risk Management is attempting to seek insurance claims through the insurance carriers of those at fault due to limited resources at ADOT. Bush fire and focusing on Guardrail repair throughout district.
4. The fencing and guardrail repairs due to the Bush Fire has been completed. There will still be some hydroseeding for maintenance purposes, but materials are delayed until February 2021.
5. The contractors were hired to make repairs due to the Salt Fire – (SR 188 & SR 288) / Griffin Fire – US 60 MP 268 are experiencing intermittent delays to obtain materials due to COVID quarantine shutdowns.
6. The design team on the **“US 60 Queen Creek Bridge – MP 227.5”** is looking at extending a barrier to try and add a “blinder” to the top of it to prevent distractive driving. This will be a new two-lane bridge with one lane in each direction. The existing bridge will remain in-place and new bridge construction will allow for potential use in the future. Cliff rock cuts will be required for the new roadway alignment, east of the planned bridge. Retaining walls will be required to accommodate the new bridge and roadway alignments near the west end of the structure. The project also includes signing and pavement marking. Phase II is underway with the alignment being set and geotechnical investigations ongoing with pending drilling.
7. The **“US 60/Gila County Line – MP 226-236”** mill and fill and guardrail replacement project is closing out and is in the administrative phase.
8. The **“US 60 Pinto Creek Bridge – MP 237”** bridge replacement project is about 75 percent complete. There were some change orders that occurred due to unknown conditions. A five-day closure to switch traffic is expected to in the summer of 2021.
9. The **“SR 77 Gila River Bridge – MP 134”** reconstruction project is about 75 percent complete as work continues regarding the pier shafts cap work.

E. CAG Transportation Planning Update

Mr. Ashbaugh had four (4) items to report:

1. Charles Russell, the TTAC representative for San Carlos Apache Tribe passed away recently. Memorial service arrangements are not known at this time but will pass along if received.
2. Request was made to submit any TTAC representative changes as there have been several staff changes throughout the region.
3. The Pinal County Transit Governance Study is wrapping up. The final Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting is schedule later in the afternoon to recap the final recommendations. A notice for a final presentation to the City/Town Councils will be sent out later should they request such a presentation to be added to their agendas.
4. The Gila County Transit Governance Study is approximately 40-50 percent complete. Right now the study team is looking at Peer Agencies to seek governing components that may or may not work for Gila County. The next TWG meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2021. Virtual Workshops are being prepared for February/ March 2021 in which all representatives with Town/City Councils/County Supervisors will be invited to participate and provide input.

VIII. Old Business

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Ashbaugh reiterated that the TIP will always be on the agenda in the event an agency has an amendment or administrative changes that need to occur that he was not notified about. He stated that the approved recommendations from the previous meeting were presented to CAG Management Committee for recommended approval and now will be presented to the CAG Regional Council at the end of the month before sending to ADOT for finalization. No action was taken on this item.

IX. New Business

A. TTAC Bylaws

Mr. Ashbaugh stated that the section regarding electronic voting does violate opening meeting laws and therefore this section will be removed from the bylaws administratively. However, there was discussion from the previous meeting to amend the bylaws in Section VIII A(1) regarding the rotation of the Chair position between agencies within Pinal and Gila Counties. Historically the Chair has alternated between an agency from Pinal and Gila County for any given year. However, since the Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) now are responsible for transportation planning efforts for many of the Pinal County Agencies, there are only four agencies (Pinal County, Superior, Kearny, Mammoth) who are eligible to be Chair. The other concern is that a few of the four agencies are not represented well within the Pinal County agencies. Therefore language was amended to state that the Chair position is “recommended to be rotated between the Committee’s voting members of Gila and Pinal Counties.”

Mr. Halberstadt made the motion to approve the CAG TTAC Bylaw amendments as presented. Chair Warren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Chair & Vice Chair Elections

Nominations were open for Chair. Chair Warren nominated Larry Halberstadt as Chair for 2021. No other nominations were presented. Chair Warren made a motion to close the nominations. Ms. Clark second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Nominations were open for Vice-Chair. Mr. James volunteered to be Vice-Chair. No other nominations were presented. Chair Warren made a motion to close the nominations. Mr. Halberstadt second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Warren made a motion to appoint Larry Halberstadt for Chair and Jason James for Vice-Chair. Mr. Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Annual Title VI Training

Mr. Ashbaugh explained that as a recipient of federal funds, CAG receives federal assistance and is required to have a Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan. As part of the plan, CAG is required to provide staff training at least once a year regarding Title VI requirements. He also stated that he is extending this training to all the CAG committees to ensure compliance is being met. Mr. Ashbaugh explained that the ADOT Civil Rights Office (CRO) has been providing new information on what is expected annually as Title VI requirements are more understood from the ADOT CRO.

D. Every Day Counts Presentation – Planning Level Estimating Part 2

Mr. Ashbaugh stated as he is charged from previous TTAC meetings to provide educational/training opportunities to the Committee. The presentation today is Part 2 of 3 regarding Planning Level Estimates and follows Part 1 that the Committee viewed during the October 8, 2020 TTAC meeting. The recorded presentations were coordinated through ADOT's LPA section and held on December 10, 2020. Due to the sake of time, only the first half was viewed together as a group. Mr. Ashbaugh stated he would send the link of the entire presentation after the meeting. (The entire presentation can be viewed at the following link: <https://vimeo.com/497774290>).

The presentation goals were:

- Describe the ADOT process to develop a planning level Scope of Work and cost estimate for a pavement rehabilitation project.
- Discuss the details needed to develop a Scope of Work and Estimate for programming a local project.
- Encourage and promote more accurate scoping efforts.
- Provide resources for developing project costs.

E. Round Table

Chair Warren elaborated the need for a Biological Engineer that the Arizona Game and Fish are requiring for the Tonto Creek Bridge project. He stated if the Narrow Headed Garter Snake cannot be relocated safely to another location, then all construction must stop until it moves on its own accord.

F. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Ashbaugh asked if there are any topics that the committee wishes to discuss in the future, to send him information to begin looking into adding it to a future agenda.

Mr. Ashbaugh stated there will be a February meeting as the CAG/Sun Corridor MPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan will be up for recommendation. There is also appetite to watch the second portion of Part 2 of today's presentation regarding MetroPlan's process for Planning Level Estimates.

X. Scheduling of Next Meetings

Chair Warren stated the next scheduled meeting is for February 11, 2021 at 10:00 AM and March 18, 2021 @ 10:00 AM. Mr. Ashbaugh stated the next meetings for February and/or March 2021 will most likely remain virtual until further notice.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Warren adjourned the meeting at 10:42 AM.