



SIERRA VISTA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: JUNE 23, 2020

ACCEPTED

MEETING LOCATION:

Sierra Vista Public Works Bld.
Training Room
401 Giulio Cesare Ave.
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

MEETING DATE AND TIME:

June 23, 2020
10:00 AM



Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Cochise County Bicycle Advocates: Kathleen Buonocore
Hereford/Palominos Citizen Representative: Byron Baker (*pending Sept. Board appointment*)
Regional Bicycle and Running Club: Steve Scheumann (*telephonically*)
ADOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordination: Donna Lewandowski (*telephonically*)

STAFF:

SVMPO Administrator: Karen L. Lamberton, AICP
SVMPO Civil Engineer: Dennis Donovan, P.E.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sara Marrujo, ADOT former Intern (*telephonically*)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. [*Telephone connections failed to connect properly causing a delay in this meeting starting on time*] A quorum was not present – several members had called in stating they would be absent due to conflicts and family emergencies. The Health Dept. representative is understandably overwhelmed at this time due to the active COVID-19 issues ongoing throughout the County. Administrator Lamberton expressed her concern and sympathy for the very recent deaths that had occurred among BPAC member families and the cyclist fatality in the Mule Pass Tunnel the day before.

This was an informational item. No action was taken.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES of January 28, 2020.

The general consensus of BPAC members at the last meeting was that meeting minutes might be summaries, rather than formally adopted for this advisory subcommittee. Member Scheumann was the only member present at both the January and June meeting and he indicated that he had no corrections to the summary minutes. These minutes were then accepted as presented, but not formally adopted.

This was an informational item. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS: PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

3. SVMPO FY20 & FY21 WORK PROGRAM

The adopted FY21 Work Program Element 6: Alternative Transportation Systems Planning was shared briefly with the BPAC members. It was explained that these were the tasks that were planned to be undertaken by the SVMPO in behalf of alternative transportation modes in the next year. A small amount of funds, about \$2,000, has been set aside for activities related specifically to this topic. The full Work Program and Budget is available on the SVMPO website: the Administrator indicated that she would be glad to provide hard copies to anyone that would like one sent to them directly.

This was an informational item. No action was taken.

4. State-Wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Survey Results

Arizona Dept. of Transportation's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, Donna Lewandowski worked with an intern, Sarah Marrujo, to survey state-wide interest and information about bicycling and pedestrian issues with the intent of providing a workshop, associated with the annual Rural Summit on this topic. Unfortunately, the 2021 Rural Summit has been cancelled/postponed until October of 2021. As a result, ADOT has retained a consultant, Kimley-Horn, to produce a "tool-box" to hold smaller, localized workshops throughout rural Arizona. They have one-year (to end of June 2021) to complete this effort.

The potential link of this effort to regional outreach in the SVMPO for our pending Long-Range Transportation Plan was discussed. ADOT indicated their willingness to use the SVMPO region as an early test of the preliminary tool-box in order to coordinate in a timely manner with the long-range transportation outreach here. The BPAC attendees clarified with ADOT that a workshop on these topics would still be held here if the tool-box wasn't ready until later in the year, due to factors that might be out of ADOT's or the Consultant's control.

The Power Point Presentation prepared by Sara Marrujo, in behalf of ADOT, is attached as part of these minutes. (Note that the rankings results for potential workshop topics are based on a 1-7 scale with 1 being the highest ranking).

This was an informational item. No action was taken.

5. SVMPO LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PENDING UPDATE

Administrator Lamberton indicated that that SVMPO's On-Call contracting was almost complete and a Cost Proposal for the Long-Range Transportation Plan would be the first Task Order to go out. Kathy Buonocore has volunteered to represent the BPAC on the selection committee for the Long-Range Transportation Plan effort. The Administrator will coordinate directly with her on possible interview and selection dates.

The group discussed the drafted Scope of Work. It was recommended that the scope clearly separate out outreach for multi-modal transportation options, potentially include the workshop discussed in item 4, and more clearly identify alternative transportation modes as a specific task item. Administrator Lamberton indicated that these are seemed like reasonable changes to make and would modify the Scope of Work with these suggestions

prior to release – planned for next week. The proposed Table of Contents for this Long-Range Transportation Plan was noted (last page of the agenda packet/page 16) and no changes were suggested. Administrator Lamberton advised attendees that even though this is a longer-range transportation activity for the MPO it does result in short-range, prioritized projects, that then flow into the Transportation Improvement Program, which is the funded construction activities of the MPO. A short discussion occurred about the funding sources for the MPO. Administrator Lamberton indicated that all the funding was federally based at this time: from Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and pass-through funds from the State called State Planning Revenues. Member jurisdictions provide local match dollars.

Funding amounts are set by the federal transportation bill: the current one expires in September of this year. There really are no good guesses right now what a revised bill will look like in terms of funding or what the economic downturn will do to projected transportation funds. For the time being we are planning for similar dollar amounts as are currently provided annually, but this could change drastically and significantly impact the level of projects that can be completed.

This was a discussion item. No action was taken.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & MEETING DATE/TIMES

Administrator Lamberton noted that tentative 2020 meeting dates have been set for Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. She asked if the July meeting should be deferred until the September meeting when more substantive work would be underway on the Long-Range Transportation Plan or if there are enough items of interest to hold the July meeting date as planned. The group concurred that it made sense, given the uncertainty of gathering in groups at this time, to defer the July meeting until the next scheduled September 29, 2020 meeting.

Administrator Lamberton indicated she would advise the entire BPAC group of this decision, along with drafted minutes and the presentation for those that were unable to attend today's meeting. Member Buonocore noted that if the SVMPO needed any input from the BPAC between here and the Sept. meeting information could be easily sent out by e-mail and/or a short telephone meeting called together, if needed.

BPAC Meetings Dates for 2020 tentatively will be:

- ❖ Sept 29, 2020
- ❖ Nov 17, 2020

This was a discussion item. Concurrence of the group was to defer the scheduled July 28th BPAC meeting.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES AND GENERAL CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Member Buonocore noted that the Sky Island Tour had been cancelled for this year due to the COVID-19 concerns. Smaller rides appear to be going on informally but in very small groups.

Member Scheumann noted that it might be helpful if the County posted or sent out information about activities that were still available that were safe to engage in during this period of physical/social distancing (birding appears to be an physical activity that residents have begun to do more actively – the Administrator is aware of a backyard quarantine “birding completion” that appears to be going on).

Member Lewandowski stated that ADOT was still in Phase 1 of re-integrating staff into the workplace and her entire department is still working remotely from home. It was also noted that ADOT’s five-year transportation plan was not voted on by the State Transportation Board on June 19th, but was tabled for a few months hoping that revenues might be better than is currently projected. If not, ADOT anticipates having to cut back severely on multiple projects, including maintenance activities throughout the State.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The committee adjourned by general consent at approximately 11:30 a.m.