

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOARD)**

**Wednesday, April 14, 2004**

**9:00 a.m.**

**PPACG Conference Room**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

City of Colorado Springs  
City of Colorado Springs  
City of Manitou Springs  
City of Woodland Park  
Colorado Transportation Commission  
El Paso County  
El Paso County  
El Paso County  
Public Transportation  
Teller County  
Town of Green Mountain Falls

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Air Quality Control Commission  
City of Colorado Springs  
City of Cripple Creek  
City of Fountain  
City of Victor  
Park County  
Town of Alma  
Town of Calhan  
Town of Fairplay  
Town of Monument  
Town of Palmer Lake

**GUESTS**

Mr. Dick Carlson  
Mr. James Flohr  
Ms. Vicki Kraus  
Mr. John McCarty  
Mr. Dave Poling  
Ms. Sherre Ritenour  
Mr. Dan Stuart  
Mr. Bob Torres  
Mr. Steven Watt  
Mr. Jude Willcher

**REPRESENTED BY**

Councilmember Jerry Heimlicher  
Councilmember Larry Small  
Mayor Marcy Morrison  
Councilmember Gary Crane  
Commissioner Terry Schooler  
Commissioner Jim Bensberg  
Commissioner Chuck Brown  
Commissioner Wayne Williams  
Dr. James Null  
Commissioner Jim Ignatius  
Mayor Dick Bratton

**REPRESENTED BY**

Administrator Doug Lempke  
Councilmember Richard Skorman  
Unassigned  
Councilmember LeNore Ralston, Chairperson  
Mayor Kathy Justice  
Commissioner Don Staples  
Mayor Bob Ensign  
Mayor John Cullyford  
Mayor Nancy Reed  
Mayor Betty Konarski  
Mayor Nikki McDonald

El Paso County  
CDOT  
CDOT  
El Paso County  
CDOT  
City of Colorado Springs  
Pikes Peak Transportation Coalition  
CDOT  
Wilson & Company  
El Paso County

## **PPACG STAFF**

Mr. Robert MacDonald, Executive Director  
Mr. Andy Firestine, Regional Planning Manager  
Ms. Mary Frye, Transportation Planner  
Ms. Barb Louricas, Executive Secretary  
Mr. Rich Muzzy, Environmental Program Manager  
Ms. Margaret Shelton, Accounting Manager

## **04-55 INTRODUCTIONS & CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum was established for the Board of Directors. Commissioner Chuck Brown was Acting Chairman and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Introductions were made.

## **04-56 AGENDA APPROVAL**

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Item No. 6E, Resolution Regarding Modeling of Basic Inspection/Maintenance (I/M) Program. Commissioner Ignatius seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **04-57 PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were no items for public comment.

## **04-58 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 10, 2004 MEETING**

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the Minutes. Councilmember Small seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **04-59 CONSENT ITEMS**

Mayor Bratton made a motion to approve the consent items. Councilmember Crane seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **04-60 I-25 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT**

Mr. MacDonald introduced Mr. Poling from CDOT to discuss the history of the I-25 Environmental Assessment (EA). Mr. MacDonald asked the Board to approve the resolution in support of the I-25 EA after the presentation.

Mr. Poling gave a history about I-25 and the capacity improvements needed because of increased traffic congestion. Mr. Poling said that as a result of the I-25 EA process, the proposed recommendation is to widen I-25 to six lanes from Monument to Briargate Parkway, widen I-25 to eight lanes from Briargate Parkway to U.S. 24-Martin Luther King Bypass, and widen I-25 to six lanes from U.S.-24 Martin Luther King Bypass to Mesa Ridge Parkway. The two possible outcomes of the I-25 EA are 1) Finding Of No

Significant Impacts (FONSI), and 2) Significant Impacts whereby the next step would be to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Mr. Poling stated that CDOT and FHWA approved the I-25 EA document for public release on March 29, 2004, for a 45-day public review. A request has been made for a 30-day extension to the 45-day review. CDOT will review and evaluate the reasons for the request. Mr. Poling said that an EA is usually released for a 30-day comment period and the additional 15 days was added to the comment period to accommodate historical resource issues at Monument Valley Park and the Air Force Academy. There will be an open forum on April 22, 2004, at the LeBaron Hotel, 314 W. Bijou, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. After the decision document is approved by FHWA, CDOT will be able to begin the improvements to the I-25 corridor.

Mayor Morrison inquired how concerns from the Old North End are being addressed. Mr. Poling said that CDOT and FHWA are looking at the merits of the request to extend the public comment period. Mr. Poling said that based on Federal guidelines, the noise levels in the north end neighborhood do not warrant mitigation efforts.

Commissioner Williams inquired if the 30-day extension request would delay the process. Mr. Poling responded that the current schedule of procurement of the design-build contract is tied closely to the date of the Environmental Decision Document received from FHWA therefore delaying the comment period will delay when the responses can be prepared to the public comments and forwarded to FHWA.

Mayor Bratton asked what the impact would be to extend the review period by thirty days. Mr. Poling confirmed that delaying the comment period would further delay procurement of design contracts and ultimately construction.

Commissioner Brown asked for public comment concerning the resolution of support for the I-25 EA. There was none.

Commissioner Williams stated that any delays to the improvements to I-25 have far-reaching impacts and for the overall good of the citizens it is important to complete in a timely manner.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to urge CDOT to not extend the 45-day comment period. Councilmember Small seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Williams made a separate motion to approve the resolution in support of the I-25 Environmental Assessment. Councilmember Small seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **04-61 2004 THROUGH 2009 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT #6**

Mr. MacDonald presented amendment #6 that converts Federal funds from one category to another to allow: 1) Silver Key to purchase vehicles to provide transportation services; 2) the City of Colorado Springs to combine funds from the Manitou Springs Shuttle and apply to another project, specifically the Front Range Commuter Bus Service from Colorado Springs to Castle Rock to Denver.

Ms. Sherre Ritenour stated that there will be 12-14 round trips per day that start in Colorado Springs and make stops in Monument, Castle Rock, the Denver Tech Center, and downtown Denver. Ms. Ritenour indicated that ten buses will be purchased with the previously approved Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. Discussion ensued about possible park-and-ride locations.

Councilmember Small made a motion to approve Amendment #6 to the 2004 through 2009 TIP. Councilmember Crane seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **04-62 WEIGHTING GOALS FOR THE 2030 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Ms. Mary Frye requested Board approval of the final component of the project prioritization process for the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. Frye asked for approval of the weights assigned at the goal level which were developed to place emphasis on the goals that reflect the community's desires for the transportation system and to help balance the competing needs for funding.

Ms. Frye indicated that over the last several months, the PPACG advisory committees and the citizens of the region have given input on the weights for each of PPACG's adopted goals. The table on page 3 of the Board memorandum lists five rows of recommendations for weighting of the goals. Commissioner Williams recommended that mobility be rated at a 40 point level and reduce the environment, accessibility, and maintenance goals by one point each. Commissioner Williams stated that he believes that the efficiency of the system and the safety of the residents should reflect a higher priority. The motion failed due to a lack of a second to the motion.

Mayor Morrison made a motion to approve the PPACG staff recommended weights for the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan goals as shown on line 5 of the comparison table. Councilmember Small seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote with one dissenting vote by Commissioner Williams.

#### **04-63 DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2005 THROUGH 2010 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Mr. MacDonald said that the 2005 through 2010 TIP will identify prioritized projects from the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan that are to be implemented during the next six years. Mr. MacDonald said the projects will be developed over the next few months through the PPACG committee and public process. An initial list of projects to be included in the 2005 through 2010 TIP will be presented at the July Board meeting.

Mr. MacDonald stated that the CAC, TAC, and PPACG staff recommend the Board approve a consensus approach to selecting projects for the 2005 through 2010 TIP with the stipulation that all projects proposed for the TIP must come from the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. MacDonald stated that the 2005 through 2010 TIP should have as much flexibility as possible to implement projects that are identified as priorities in the 2030 Plan. PPACG staff recommends maintaining the FY-2005 and FY-2006 project commitments to enable high priority projects to be programmed in FY-2007. PPACG staff believes this flexibility is important to enable the PPACG Board to implement high priority projects in FY-2007 compared to FY-2008.

Commissioner Ignatius made a motion to accept the staff recommendation for the development of the 2005 through 2010 TIP. Mayor Morrison seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

A ten minute break was taken.

#### **04-64 RESOLUTION REQUESTING MODELING OF BASIC INSPECTION/MAINTENANCE (I/M) PROGRAM**

Mr. Muzzy updated the Board on the proposed elimination of the Basic Inspection Maintenance (I/M) Program. In September 2003, the Board recommended to the Air quality Control Commission that the I/M Program be eliminated as a Federally mandated program but retained as a State regulated program until further ozone modeling was conducted.

Mr. Muzzy discussed the ozone resolution that was prepared. The resolution states what the PPACG Board agreed at their September 2003 meeting, that the Basic I/M program be maintained under State control and the State should conduct ozone modeling in the Pikes Peak Region to determine what the impacts of the removal of the program would be on high ozone levels. After the results of the ozone modeling are reviewed by the PPACG Board, they will make a recommendation to the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission. Mr. Muzzy said that once approved, the resolution will be sent to the Director of the Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDHPE), Air Pollution Control Division and Doug Lempke, Administrator for the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission.

Mayor Morrison made a motion to approve the resolution in support of future ozone modeling and analysis of the Basic Inspection Maintenance Program. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **04-65 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY STATUS REPORT**

Mr. MacDonald introduced Mr. John McCarty, El Paso County Transportation Director, and Mr. Dan Stuart, Pikes Peak Transportation Coalition.

Mr. McCarty discussed the progress of the proposed Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). El Paso County Commissioners and Colorado Springs City Councilmembers met in January and gave a consensus for staff to proceed with the outline of the RTA as proposed in the December 29 memo developed by City and County staff members. Mr. McCarty will make a presentation at the City of Manitou Springs next Tuesday and has previously visited the remaining cities and towns in El Paso County in late February/early March. Mr. McCarty reported that the two appointed boards, the Citizen Transportation Advisory Board (CTAB), and the County's Highway Advisory Commission would meet and consider the major components of the proposed RTA and develop a consolidated project list. CTAB endorsed the major components of the December 29 document and the Highway Advisory Commission will consider the projects at a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 20. Both committees will make a recommendation to the City/County joint meeting on April 30 as to how the RTA should be structured.

Mr. McCarty said that a project list is included in the PPACG Board packet which was developed by CTAB and Highway Advisory Commission on March 16 and March 30. Mr. McCarty said that the current proposal is for a \$.01 sales tax, with \$.55 of the sales tax to sunset in ten years. Forty-five cents would remain as an ongoing sales tax to fund maintenance projects and continue to fund public transportation services.

Mr. Dan Stuart reported that he is the Chair of the Chamber's Transportation Committee and also the Steering Committee of the Pikes Peak Transportation Coalition. Mr. Stuart indicated that the committees have been charged with obtaining public opinion and enhancing public education. The Coalition meets at 7:30 a.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at Pikes Peak United Way, and all are welcome to attend. Mr. Stuart said that the \$.01 sales tax meets one-half of the identified need over the next ten years. Mr. Stuart distributed a newsletter that is also available on the website at [www.pikespeaktransportation.com](http://www.pikespeaktransportation.com).

Mayor Morrison advised that the proposed project list include some projects that will improve the Westside and other older neighborhoods. Mr. Stuart said that the City and County Boards developed the project lists together. Mr. McCarthy said that he has invited cities and towns to submit projects that will be considered to be placed and ranked on the list. Mr. McCarty stated that he will be attending the next Manitou Springs City Council meeting for information and input.

#### **04-66 DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CDOT FOR TRANSPORTATION FUNDING**

Mr. MacDonald discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CDOT and PPACG on resource allocation for the 2005 through 2010 TIP and 2030 Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Bob Torres and Mr. MacDonald have been meeting to compose various drafts of the MOU.

Commissioner Schooler pointed out that Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Torres should be commended on the effort they have put into developing the MOU.

#### **04-67 STATUS REPORT ON 2004 LEGISLATIVE BILLS**

Mr. MacDonald reported on the legislative bills.

- Area Agency on Aging:  
Bills regarding property tax exemption were postponed indefinitely.
- Regional Planning  
No changes to the status of these bills.
- Environmental  
There are no current bills being monitored. PPACG anticipates a bill to address the ozone modeling to be conducted by the State.
- Transportation  
Proposed language for modifying the RTA bill (HB 04-1392) is being considered.

**04-68 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

There were no questions.

**04-69 COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

There were no questions.

**04-70 MEMBER ENTITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**04-71 ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

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