

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

Wednesday, August 11, 2004

9:00 a.m.

PPACG Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT

Air Quality Control Commission
City of Fountain
City of Colorado Springs
City of Manitou Springs
El Paso County
El Paso County
Public Transportation Representative
Teller County
Town of Green Mountain Falls

MEMBERS ABSENT

City of Colorado Springs
City of Colorado Springs
City of Cripple Creek
City of Victor
City of Woodland Park
Colorado Transportation Commission
El Paso County
Park County
Town of Calhan
Town of Alma
Town of Fairplay
Town of Monument
Town of Palmer Lake

GUESTS

Mr. D. Norman Beck
Mr. Craig Blewitt
Mr. Fred Burmont
Ms. Corinne Donahue
Mr. Mark Earle
Mr. Andy Garton
Mr. Phil Hoffmann
Mr. Bill Knapp
Mr. Shawn McDowell
Mr. Tim McKinney
Ms. Wendy Pettitt
Mr. Joe Rice

REPRESENTED BY

Administrator Doug Lempke
Councilmember LeNore Ralston, Chairperson
Councilmember Jerry Heimlicher
Mayor Marcy Morrison
Commissioner Chuck Brown
Commissioner Wayne Williams
Dr. James Null
Commissioner Jim Ignatius
Mayor Tyler Stevens

REPRESENTED BY

Councilmember Richard Skorman
Councilmember Larry Small
Unassigned
Mayor Kathy Justice
Mayor Gary Crane
Commissioner Terry Schooler
Commissioner Jim Bensberg
Commissioner Don Staples
Mayor John Cullyford
Mayor Bob Ensign
Mayor Nancy Reed
Mayor Byron Glenn
Mayor Nikki McDonald

Citizen of Pine Glade Neighborhood
City of Colorado Springs Transportation Planning
City of Manitou Springs
City of Colorado Springs Transit Services
City of Colorado Springs Airport
CDOT
Parsons Transportation Group
CH₂MHill
CDOT
City of Colorado Springs Transit Services
CDOT
CDOT

STAFF

Mr. Rob MacDonald, Executive Director
Mr. Craig Casper, Transportation Director
Ms. Mary Frye, Transportation Planner
Ms. Barb Louricas, Executive Secretary
Mr. Ken Prather, Transportation Planner
Ms. Dolores Quinlisk, Area Agency on Aging Director
Ms. Margaret Shelton, Accounting Manager

04-108 INTRODUCTIONS & CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was established for the Board of Directors. Councilmember LeNore Ralston called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Introductions were made.

04-109 AGENDA APPROVAL

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

04-110 PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Norman Beck addressed the Board on the subject of sound walls for the Pine Glade neighborhood, near Powers Boulevard and Old Ranch Road. The Pine Glade neighborhood is located south of Old Ranch Road and west of the future Powers Boulevard alignment. Mr. Beck stated that the 1997 EA resulted in a Finding of No Significant Impact by the Federal Highway Administration and was approved in 1998. Mr. Beck expressed concerns over future traffic noise from the current construction of Powers Boulevard to Old Ranch Road.

Mr. MacDonald said that PPACG staff will review the issue with CDOT staff and report findings to the Board.

Councilmember Ralston presented an award to Ms. Dolores Quinlisk, given by the Florissant Grange No. 420 for continued cooperation in the funding of public service projects to Teller Senior Coalition.

Councilmember Ralston presented a service award to Mr. Robert MacDonald for five years of service to PPACG.

04-111 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM THE JULY 14, 2004 MEETING

Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Ignatius seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

04-112 CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items were acted upon as a whole by the Board:

1. Community Advisory Committee Membership
2. FY-2004 Through FY-2009 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #9

Commissioner Ignatius made a motion to approve the items on the consent calendar. Mayor Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

04-113 2030 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN—RELEASE DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

Mr. Craig Casper reminded the Board that last month the draft project list for the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan was provided. Changes from the last Board meeting included: the cost of the Baptist Road Railroad Bridge to \$9 million; a change was made to Baptist Road funding amount to raise it to \$6.5 million. The overall projects on the list have not changed. Mr. Casper requested the Board approve the release of the draft for public review for a 30-day comment period, which will end on September 15, 2004. The plan will be presented for approval at the October 13, 2004 Board meeting.

Mr. Casper indicated that there will be two public meetings on August 31 and September 1, and the public can also comment at the PPACG technical and citizen advisory committees that meet in August. The meetings and their locations will be disclosed on the PPACG website at www.ppacg.org, in press releases, and published in the *Gazette*. The comments from the meetings will be documented and summarized in Appendix C of the 2030 Plan.

Commissioner Brown advised that meetings with community groups would be beneficial to obtain their input on planned transportation projects in the 2030 Plan.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the release the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan for public comment. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

04-114 CDOT REGIONAL PRIORITIES PROGRAM FUNDING AGREEMENT

Mr. MacDonald stated that the Regional Priorities Projects (RPP) funding category is used for state highway projects in the region, such as US 24, SH 85, and SH 67. This specific funding was programmed at \$31.1 million in the six-year FY-2005 Through FY-2010 TIP. When Mr. Torres met with the five planning partners of Region 2, the resource allocation of the RPP funding category for the Pikes Peak Region was incorrect. As a compromise, the planning partners agreed to allow the \$31.1 million funding for the Pikes Peak Region. In return the Pikes Peak Region would not request any additional RPP funds in FY-2005 and FY-2006, should funds become available. Mr. MacDonald indicated that currently no additional RPP funding is anticipated.

Mr. MacDonald said that the agreement has been included in the proposed FY-2005 through FY-2010 TIP scheduled for release to the public as a subsequent agenda item for the Board.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the proposed funding agreement for the Regional Priorities Program between PPACG and CDOT regarding the allocation of Federal and State transportation funds for the FY-2005 through FY-2010 TIP subject to the condition that CDOT and the five planning regions in

CDOT Region 2 all agree to the proposed funding agreement. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

04-115 FY-2005 THROUGH FY-2010 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Ken Prather explained that the TIP is the implementation of the first six years of the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan. The projects in the TIP must come from the 2030 Transportation Plan and the projects must meet the same requirements of public involvement, fiscal constraint, and air quality conformity.

Mr. Prather said that the expected revenues are identified on pages 8-11 of the TIP document as well as the associated projects. Mr. Prather indicated that the projects are identified on pages 14-27 of the TIP document, which were presented at last month's Board meeting.

Mr. Prather said that the Transportation Advisory Committee recommended a policy statement to be included in the TIP stating that if additional Metro funds become available during the period of FY-2005 Through FY-2010, first consideration for using the funds be given to major transportation corridor studies. PPACG staff agrees with the policy statement but does not feel it should be included in the TIP.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the release of the FY-2005 Through FY-2010 Transportation Improvement Program for public review and comment. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Prather explained that the policy statement has been requested by the TAC to address the one concern of construction projects requiring planning and environmental studies prior to being programmed to receive construction funds.

Mayor Morrison said that planning funds in smaller communities are limited and projects cannot go forward because of the lack of construction funds. Mayor Morrison said that if planning efforts will be funded, fiscal responsibility should be exercised and criteria should be developed to prioritize funding of all projects.

Commissioner Williams believes planning funds are important and at the same time does not want to commit funds only to planning if another project can be completed with the funds. Commissioner Williams recommends deleting the word "first".

Mr. MacDonald clarified that the discussion at the TAC was about not having an ability to advance projects for construction. Mr. MacDonald said that typically at the end of the fiscal year CDOT will have unallocated funds of several hundred thousand dollars to several million dollars that must be used quickly.

Mr. Craig Blewitt provided clarification of the TAC discussion by stating that the reason the recommendation was made is that typically the money that becomes available needs to be acted upon quickly and plans are one example of a project that can spend funds quickly.

Councilmember Ralston recommended that the policy statement be returned to the TAC to further develop the policy and bring it back to the next meeting for consideration.

Mayor Stevens expressed concern about sending it back for further work and would recommend to drop the word “first” to make it a broader policy statement so that the TAC has flexibility.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to table the Board action for Item No. 6C, Recommendation #2 to adopt a policy statement to be included in the TIP. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

04-116 PPACG TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM DRAFT FY-2005 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Ms. Mary Frye requested approval of the FY-2005 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which was first presented to the Board in July. Ms. Frye is requesting approval of the UPWP document and to authorize the PPACG Chairperson and Executive Director to sign contracts pertaining to receipt of funds and certification on behalf of the Board.

Ms. Frye reminded the Board that there was a UPWP forum at the Board meeting in May. The purpose of the forum was to describe the issues that needed to be addressed, prioritize these issues and provide direction to staff and to the TAC. The key highlights of the priorities that were identified were key items that support development of the long-range plan and TIP, completion of the MOU with CDOT, and completion of the Regional Travel-demand Model. PPACG staff met with FHWA on June 24 to ensure Federal and State requirements were met. The TAC reviewed the document on July 2 and recommend its approval.

Ms. Frye reported that since the last Board meeting the budget was revised to reflect increased carryover funds and separately identified to the Board in-kind services, which are no longer included in the budget totals. The language regarding the public opinion survey was revised to indicate that the survey would not be conducted in FY-2005 and should be tied with next long-range plan development. The Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ) reconfiguration task would be completed in February 2005 rather than September 2005. Appendix B has been completed with input from local planning jurisdictions.

Mayor Morrison made a motion to approve the FY-2005 Unified Planning Work Program and authorize the PPACG Chairperson and Executive Director to sign contracts and certification on behalf of the PPACG Board. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

A break was taken from 10:15 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

04-117 COLORADO SPRINGS AIRPORT PRESENTATION

Mr. Mark Earle, City of Colorado Springs Aviation Director, discussed the current facility which was built in 1992. The Airport is a regional transportation facility which serves central and southern Colorado. Mr. Earle highlighted several enhancements that are being done at the Airport.

Mr. Earle said that because the Airport was built before September 11, there are some security issues that will be addressed. The central core of the building will be expanded so that the area in the screening check

point can be expanded as well as the passenger pick-up area. Improvements will be made to the restaurant, gift shop, and coffee shop areas.

Mr. Earle reported that improvements will be made to the concourse by putting in a bar and restaurant. Remodeling will be completed to make a food court with various vendors and a gift shop will be added. The ticketing lobby will have machines installed for security enhancements and to improve efficiency.

Mr. Earle reported that changes will be made to signage for color, graphics, and to create a new look for the Airport. The rental car lot will be moved as well as the short-term parking lot. A canopy will be installed for protection from inclement weather and kiosks will be installed for the rental car companies. The long-term parking patrons will also benefit by the completion of a roadway that stops near the canopy.

Mr. Earle said that expansion will be done to Aviation Way which houses corporate and private aviation. Two investors are looking at building complexes for new aviation businesses on the northwest side of the Airport. Taxiways are also being redesigned.

A new facility is being built for use by the military installations on the east side of the Airport and will improve the mobility of military troops into and out of the Airport.

04-118 CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS RAPID TRANSIT PLAN

Ms. Frye introduced Mr. Tim McKinney of the City of Colorado Springs Transit Services Division. Ms. Frye indicated that this topic is a part of the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan.

Mr. McKinney reported that Transit Services retained Parsons Transportation Group to develop a rapid transit master plan and feasibility study for the City of Colorado Springs. The study is concluded and was presented to Colorado Springs City Council and was subsequently approved. Mr. Phil Hoffmann of Parsons Transportation Group was introduced.

Mr. Hoffmann reported the four purposes for developing the plan are: 1) determine the feasibility of rapid transit in Colorado Springs over the next 25 years; 2) identify the three to four most feasible rapid transit corridors for inclusion in the long-range plan; 3) conduct initial technology assessment to consider the available options; and 4) meet requirements for future Federal funding.

Mr. Hoffmann analyzed the existing plans and evaluated land use and population and employment growth as well as future travel demand patterns. A technical review team was involved that consisted of staff from PPACG, City of Colorado Springs, and El Paso County. Mr. Hoffmann said that Parsons Transportation developed an initial list identifying 22 possible corridors for rapid transit. The list was narrowed down to several rapid transit corridors and the following are recommended: Academy Boulevard, Powers Boulevard, Garden of the Gods Road, and Martin Luther King Bypass (Highway 24).

Mr. Hoffmann reported that bus rapid transit is considered the most feasible compared to light rail or commuter rail service.

Mayor Morrison requested that bus rapid transit routes be planned where ridership occurs. Mayor Morrison believes that Manitou Springs has a large ridership population that could benefit from the rapid transit system.

04-119 COMMUNICATION

The City of Colorado Springs Transit Services Division staff handed out information on the Rural Transportation Authority Proposed 10% Transit Element.

Mr. Lempke reported that the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission will hold its regularly scheduled meeting at PPACG on August 19. An item on the agenda is the public hearing regarding the PPACG conformity determination.

04-120 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There were no questions.

04-121 COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

There were no questions.

04-122 MEMBER ENTITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Morrison announced that Mr. Fred Burmont, City Manager of Manitou Springs, will be retiring from the City of Manitou Springs in the near future. He will be greatly missed and has been active at PPACG committees.

04-123 ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Ralston adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

bl