



Yuma Metropolitan
Planning Organization

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RTP TAC)
Thursday March 14, 2013
Immediately Following 9:00 AM Regular TAC Meeting

Yuma County – Aldrich Hall
2551 W. 26th St.
Yuma, AZ 85364

YMPO RTP TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman	Joel Olea, Dir. of Field Operations/Public Works, City of Yuma
Vice-Chairman	Joseph Grant, Public Works Director, Town of Wellton
Member	John Starkey, Public Works Director, City of San Luis
Member	Paul Melcher, Planning & Zoning Director, Yuma County
Member	Paul Brooberg, City Engineer, City of Yuma
Member	Jennifer Albers, Principal Planner, City of Yuma
Member	Mark Hoffman, Senior Planner, ADOT
Member	Roger Patterson, Yuma County Engineer
Member	Samuel Palacios, Public Works Director, City of Somerton

YMPO RTP TAC MEMBERS ABSENT:

Member	Omar Heredia, Planner, Cocopah Indian Tribe
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OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

ADOT	Bruce Fenske
ADOT	Patrick Stone
City of Yuma	Kevin Eatherly
City of Yuma	Dan Sanders
Triguna Israel	PEG
Kimley-Horn and Associates	Bryan Patterson
Kimley-Horn and Associates	Dave Perkins

YMPO STAFF PRESENT:

Sr. Transportation Planner	Mark Teuscher
Traffic Data Mgt. Supervisor	Charles Gutierrez

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Joel Olea called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

II. SUMMARIES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2013 MEETING

The summary of the February 14, 2013 RTP TAC meeting was accepted as presented.

III. STUDY PROGRESS TO DATE (POWERPOINT)

Dave Perkins summarized the topics of discussion and the decisions made at the February 14, 2013 RTP TAC meeting. He also summarized study progress since the last TAC meeting which will be presented as part of the March 14 TAC agenda.

Draft travel model documentation

Dave Perkins reported that draft documentation was prepared and distributed to the TAC documenting the calibrated travel demand model that was presented at the February TAC. The document covers 4 topics including:

- Updates of socio-economic data and the model traffic analysis zone structure
- Updates to network links and functional classifications
- Update and relocation of external stations
- Development of a transit trip matrix

A TAC member asked whether the draft document had been distributed to the TAC for review. Mark Teuscher agreed to resend the document to the TAC. TAC comments on the draft document should be submitted to Mark Teuscher on or before March 22, 2013.

Technical Memorandum 2 – Title VI and SAFETEA-LU/MAP-21 Considerations

Dave Perkins reported that draft Technical Memorandum 2 entitled Title VI and SAFETEA-LU/MAP-21 Considerations was prepared and distributed to the TAC for review and comment. This document is prepared for federally funded projects and identifies disproportionate population groups within the region so that public involvement plans can be developed to reach out to these populations. The Title VI analysis found that disproportionate elderly and Hispanic populations exist in the region. The report also includes a summary of MAP-21 program categories which is a resource for information on MAP-21.

TAC comments on the draft document should be submitted to Mark Teuscher on or before March 22, 2013.

RTP Alternatives

Dave Perkins reported that only one response to the TAC Assignment made at the February TAC meeting was received. Bryan Patterson presented an alternative approach to the establishing projects and priorities which considered the following:

- Regional needs based on completed and ongoing transportation studies and the results of data analysis of regional congestion and safety. Transportation studies that are being considered were listed and a working draft of a map showing regional congestion-relief and safety projects was presented. Analysis of congestion data suggests that the (former) state highway 95 warrants widening to 6 lanes from San Luis to I-8. It was agreed that this improvement was not practical due to the cost of the improvement, right-of-way impacts, and funding availability. Other project included widening to 6-lanes, widening to 4-lanes, new 2-lane roads, and safety improvements.
- MAP-21 transportation planning elements which were presented. The initial focus of project development will be roadway and safety improvements but other elements will included in the planning process.
- Performance criteria will be developed by ADOT for use by MPOs in developing regional transportation plans. Until such time as the criteria is developed and distributed by ADOT, the YMPO RTP will follow MAP-21 guidelines for the development of criteria. Categories of criteria that will be used include congestion relief, safety, system preservation, multi-modal enhancement, and economic development.
- Funding availability was discussed in terms of 2013 expenditures in the region for operations and maintenance and for capital improvements. A preliminary estimate of \$600 million in funding revenues for capital improvements for the period 2014-2037 was

discussed. TAC members felt that the estimate was too high given that most funds go to operations and maintenance. It was pointed out that 60% of funds in 2013 were expended on operations and maintenance. TAC input was provided on the presented funding data and it was agreed that further analysis should be considered in developing projected funding availability. Following a discussion of the need for a new source of funding, it was agreed that the RTP should include a discussion of new funding source that should be considered by YMPO and member jurisdictions when economic conditions improve.

It was agreed that the approach to establishing projects and priorities was reasonable. A TAC assignment package will be prepared and distributed to the TAC for review and input. TAC responsiveness to deadlines was stressed to keep the overall study on schedule.

RTP Format

Dave Perkins reported that a style guide for the 2014-2037 RTP document was prepared to demonstrate the “look and feel” of the RTP document. The theme included in the style guide is “working together, moving forward” which relates to the YMPO logo theme of “local governments and citizens working together”. Other supporting themes include the YMPO region as a transportation cross-roads, history, and culture. The style guide was used to prepare the introductory chapter of the RTP including the table of contents which was distributed to the TAC for review.

It was agreed that the style guide was acceptable.

Next Steps

Dave Perkins reported that the next steps included preparing and distributing the TAC assignment for projects and priorities, continued development of transportation elements, and preparing for air quality analysis.

Plans for the second round of public meetings were discussed. In April, it is planned that regional focus area discussions and a public open house will be combined. The focus area discussions would be organized into 30 minute discussion periods in the afternoon followed by a public open house in the early evening. Focus areas being considered include economic development and commerce, safety and the environment, transit and alternate modes of travel, and border and international issues.

It was agreed that this approach was reasonable.

IV. Round Table Discussion

- Challenges associated with obtaining federal funds should be communicated to the state and federal funding personnel.
- The costs of transportation projects should be included in the RTP to help inform the public and elected officials on the costs associated with planning, environmental mitigation, design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction. The cost associated with federal requirements should be included.
- The RTP should include a discussion of strategies for reducing transportation improvement costs such as value assessment.
- A question was asked if “HURF exchange” is being considered. It was stated that HURF exchange is not being considered at this time.
- The importance of the project schedule was discussed. Failure to meet the schedule could result in compliance issues. The possibility of telephone conferences with the TAC was raised.

V. Adjournment

Chairman Olea adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Summary prepared by:



David Perkins
KHA Project Manager

Summary submitted by:

Mark Teuscher
YMPO Senior Transportation Planner

Summary approved by:

Joel Olea, Chairman
YMPO RTP Technical Advisory Committee