



YMPO EXECUTIVE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Regular Meeting

Thursday, April 30, 2026,
3:30 P.M.

The Meeting will be held In-Person and/or using
GoToMeeting by Video and/or Teleconference from
the Main Conference Room at the YMPO Offices at
230 West Morrison Street, Yuma, Arizona 85364

1. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Yuma Metropolitan Planning (YMPO) Chairwoman, Cocopah Indian Tribe Councilmember, Wynn timer, called the YMPO Executive Board (the Board) meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and asked the Board to join her in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call Attendance and Declaration of Votes.

YMPO Accountant II/Executive Assistant, Lourdes Lopez, called the roll as follows:

YMPO Executive Board Members Present:

Chairwoman	Wynn timer, Councilmember, Cocopah Indian Tribe ^
Vice-Chair	Lorena Delgadillo, Councilmember, City of Somerton ~
Member	Lynne Pancrazi, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County ^
Member	Cecilia McCollough, Councilmember, Town of Wellton ^
Member	Martin Porchas, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County ^
Member	Maria Cecilia Cruz, Councilmember, City of San Luis ^
Member	Carol Smith, Councilmember, City of Yuma ~
Member	Karen Watts, Councilmember, City of Yuma ^
Member	Sam Elters, State Transportation Board, AZ STB/ADOT ~

^ Attended in person.

~ Participated by teleconference.

As all seven constituent member agencies were present, the quorum requirement was met.

YMPO Board Members Absent:

Vice-Chair	Juan Castillo, Vice Mayor, City of Somerton #
Member	Mark Martinez, Councilmember, City of Yuma #

Not present, but was represented by proxy by another member, or attendee.

* Not present, and not represented by proxy by another member, or attendee.

Other Attendees Present:

Eric Emmert – The Dorn Policy Group

Tom Dorn – The Dorn Policy Group

YMPO Staff Present:

Crystal Figueroa Executive Director

Fernando Villegas Senior Transportation Planner

Jesus Aguilar, Jr Regional Mobility Manager

Jeffrey Heinrichs IT Manager/Associate Planner

Lucia Zamudio Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper

Lourdes Lopez Accountant II/Executive Assistant

Declaration of Votes

Councilmember Carol Smith declared three (3) votes, and Councilmember Karen Watts declared two (2) votes for the City of Yuma.

3. Title VI Declaration and Call to the Public.

The Chairwoman called on the YMPO Regional Mobility Manager, Jesus Aguilar, Jr., who read the YMPO Title VI obligations.

No members of the public were present to address the Board.

Mr. Aguilar stated that voluntary self-identification survey cards were available for members of the public attending the meeting in person and would also be made available online. He explained that the surveys assist with Title VI reporting requirements and expressed appreciation for the public's participation and time.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of March 26, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes.

B. YMPO Income/Expenditure Report for March 2026.

Ms. Lopez noted a correction to the last paragraph of the Consent Agenda. She stated that the agenda referenced draft minutes for February 26, 2026; however, the Board was approving the March 2026 meeting minutes and financial statements.

MOTION: Supervisor Pancrazi moved to approve both Items A and B on the consent agenda for March. Councilmember Watts, seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. Selection of Companies to Provide Accounting & Auditing Services

Ms. Figueroa informed the Board that YMPO released separate RFPs for accounting and independent audit services on March 4, 2026, in accordance with YMPO bylaws and federal requirements, with proposals due on March 30, 2026.

She stated that the Audit Committee met on April 13, 2026, to evaluate proposals based on established criteria in the RFPs. The committee recommended The PUN Group, LLP for accounting services and Heinfeld, Meech & Co., P.C. for independent audit services for FY 2026. She also noted that the contracts would be for one year with options for annual renewals up to four additional years.

Supervisor Pancrazi, on behalf of the Audit Committee, recommended approval of the selected firms and authorization for the Executive Director to execute the agreements.

MOTION: Supervisor Porchas moved to approve the selection of companies to provide Accounting and Auditing Services for FY2026 as recommended by the YMPO Audit Committee. Ms. Watts seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. FY 2026-2030 YMPO TIP Amendment #5

Mr. Villegas presented this amendment and explained to the Board that the amendment would increase HSIP funding and the local match for the City of Somerton County 15th Street and Avenue B project, with the final estimated construction cost set at \$710,000, including \$669,530 in HSIP funds and \$40,170 in local match funds. He noted that the project costs had previously been revised several times, including a reduction approved in December 2025 under Amendment No. 2, and stated that the increase was necessary for the City of Somerton to move forward with the project.

Mr. Villegas also explained that the amendment would decrease federal and local match funding for the YCIPTA Rural Operations Project from \$646,342 to \$133,276, including \$125,679 in federal funding and \$7,597 in local match funds, in order to allow YCIPTA to access the funds through the TIP project. To better understand, federal law requires that federally funded transit projects be programmed through the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) before the funds can be obligated by Federal Transit Administration (FTA). He stated that the Technical Advisory Committee recommended approval of both changes.

Supervisor Pancrazi asked whether the project referenced was the one previously discussed by the Chairman of the Cocopah Tribe, and Supervisor Porchas clarified that it was not and that the project was located farther east.

MOTION: Supervisor Pancrazi moved to approve FY 2026-2030 YMPO TIP Amendment #5. Supervisor Porchas seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

7. RTAC State and Federal Legislative Update

Ms. Figueroa reported that Dorn Policy Group had been contracted by RTAC to support legislative advocacy efforts during the transition period following the departure of the RTAC liaison and during the recruitment process for the RTAC Executive Director. She introduced Mr. Eric Emmert and Mr. Tom Dorn, who provided a legislative update virtually.

Mr. Emmert presented an overview of the 109th day of the Arizona legislative session, including the composition of the Legislature, leadership in both chambers, and current budget negotiations. He explained that the Governor had issued a moratorium on legislation pending receipt of a budget proposal and discussed elements of the proposed Republican budget, including tax conformity measures, reductions to agency budgets, sweeps of transportation-related funds, and the exclusion of Proposition 123.

Supervisor Pancrazi inquired about the rationale for excluding Proposition 123 from the Republican budget. Mr. Emmert and Mr. Dorn explained that some legislators viewed Proposition 123 as a temporary measure and discussed concerns regarding education funding and budget balancing.

Mr. Emmert and Mr. Dorn also discussed transportation-related legislation and funding issues affecting RTAC, including proposed sweeps of the SMART Fund and HURF funding, transportation project delays, and RTAC's advocacy efforts opposing the diversion of transportation revenues. They further reviewed legislation related to gas tax proposals and a proposed moratorium on local taxes, fees, and rates through 2030, which RTAC opposed.

Supervisor Pancrazi asked whether the proposed moratorium would apply to all local taxes, including sales and property taxes, and Mr. Emmert confirmed that it would.

Mr. Emmert also provided an update on federal transportation issues, including reauthorization of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), potential federal funding reductions, and RTAC's ongoing coordination with Arizona's congressional delegation.

Ms. Figueroa added that although House Bills 2304 and 2760 related to the AZ SMART Fund did not advance, RTAC anticipated pursuing another round of one-time transportation funding requests. She noted that staff would return to the Technical Advisory Committee and Executive Board with project recommendations for future legislative consideration.

8. Bridges and Safety Infrastructure for Community Success (BASICS) Act

Ms. Figueroa informed the Board that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was scheduled to expire on September 30, 2026, and explained that the federal transportation reauthorization process would determine future transportation policies and funding allocations. She provided an overview of the proposed Bridges and Safety Infrastructure for Community Success Act, which would increase investment in bridge repair, roadway safety, and regionally prioritized transportation projects, while also promoting greater coordination among federal, state, and local agencies.

Ms. Figueroa stated that the proposed legislation included increased funding for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, expanded support for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), and additional investment in Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and regional transportation planning organizations. She noted that, if enacted, the legislation could provide additional funding opportunities for YMPO and its member agencies to advance projects included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). She added that YMPO, through its membership with the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, would continue monitoring the legislation, which at the time had not yet received a hearing.

9. Arizona Transportation Policy Summit 2026 - Flagstaff

Ms. Zamudio informed the Board that the 2026 Arizona Transportation Policy Summit, formerly known as the Rural Transportation Summit, would be held in Flagstaff from October 14–16, 2026. She explained that the summit is intended to educate state legislators and local elected officials on rural, state, and federal transportation needs, while fostering advocacy and collaboration on transportation funding solutions throughout Arizona. She noted that the 2026 summit would focus on helping local officials and staff effectively communicate transportation priorities with legislators.

Ms. Zamudio stated that registration was not yet available and that staff was coordinating with the Drury Plaza Hotel to reserve rooms once availability opened. She also noted that Councilmember Maria Cruz had confirmed attendance.

Supervisor Pancrazi requested to be registered for the summit.

10. ADOT Tentative 2027-2031 Transportation Facilities Construction Program

Ms. Figueroa informed the Board that ADOT released the tentative 2027–2031 Five-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program on March 2, 2026, with the public comment period remaining open through May 22, 2026. She explained that the statewide program included approximately \$9.85 billion in transportation investments, including approximately \$4.1 billion for Greater Arizona and rural communities, with funding priorities focused primarily on pavement and bridge preservation, safety improvements, and limited capacity expansion projects. She

noted that while the program continued to support rural Arizona, the Yuma region did not currently have a major capacity expansion project comparable to other areas statewide.

Ms. Figueroa stated that YMPO staff recommend a comment letter supporting the U.S. 95, segment widening project as a regional defense and safety priority corridor. She noted that the FY 2023 RAISE Grant had advanced project design and positioned the project for future funding opportunities.

Mr. Patane provided an update on the U.S. 95 project and stated that the design was currently approximately 60 percent complete for the segment between the Wellton-Mohawk Canal and the Proving Ground. He explained that no construction funding source had yet been identified and that ADOT was evaluating options to reduce project costs, including narrowing the project footprint and reconsidering certain bridge structures at tank crossings. He stated that ADOT would not advance the final design further until a funding source was identified to allow for future project flexibility.

Mr. Patane also stated that ADOT intended to pursue a federal DCIP grant for up to \$20 million. He noted that ADOT was evaluating smaller portions of the project, including wildlife crossing components, that could potentially advance independently. He further reported that construction activities were ongoing for the current U.S. 95 project, including roundabout construction and pavement rehabilitation improvements.

Supervisor Pancrazi asked whether the DCIP grant required matching funds, and Mr. Patane confirmed that it did not. She also expressed concerns regarding roundabouts and tank crossings associated with the project. Mr. Patane responded that ADOT had coordinated with military representatives and designers regarding the sizing and functionality of the roundabouts and crossings.

Mr. Patane also noted that a road safety audit had recently been completed for the roundabout locations, resulting in only minor recommendations and no significant safety concerns. Ms. Figueroa added that prior legislative appropriations and the FY 2023 RAISE Grant had supported advancement of the current project design to the 60 percent level.

MOTION: Supervisor Pancrazi moved to approve to submit a comment letter on the ADOT Tentative 5-Year Construction Program. Councilmember Watts seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

11. Summary of Current Events/Board Member Reports/Executive Director's Report & Comments by Other Participants.

This agenda item is an opportunity for members and staff to update the Board regarding recent occurrences, as shown below. If written information is available, it will be included in the attached information summary.

- A. Staff Reports - Future Meetings.
- B. TAC Minutes.
- C. Conference Updates (AzTA, AZRTS, and Roads and Streets).

- D. MPO/COG Director/Planner Meetings.
- E. Rural Transportation Advocacy Council activities.
- F. Projects - Economic Development and Transportation.
- G. Status Report on AZ Smart Fund.

12. Possible Future Agenda Items

The following items will be heard at a future meeting. Members are encouraged to suggest topics for discussion at a future Board meeting:

- A. YMPO Accounting Manual, Employee Manual, and Procurement Updates.
- B. YMPO IT Policy
- C. AZ SMART Fund
- D. Transportation Alternatives Program
- E. Arizona Sun Cloud

Councilmember Cruz inquired about how the City of San Luis obtained two votes and whether the allocation was based on population.

Ms. Figueroa responded that voting allocations were based on membership structure and population, noting that the City of Yuma had five votes, Yuma County had two votes, and the remaining member agencies each had one vote.

13. Progress Reports.

Members and staff will update the Board on the progress of ongoing projects and other recent events:

- a. Mar 26 – Radio interview of Travel Training program w/Russ Clark (JR)
- b. Mar 26 – YMPO Executive Board Meeting (CF, JR, JH, FV)
- c. Mar 27 – TDF 2026 Wrap up (JR)
- d. Mar 30 – YMPO RORS Project Closeout Meeting (CF, FV, JH)
- e. Mar 30 – Acct + Audit RFPs Meeting (CF, LL)
- f. Mar 30 – YRBC Meeting (JR)
- g. Mar 31 – YMPO/ ADOT 5310 Quarter Report (JR) Apr 01 – YMPO Draft Loan Calculation (CF, FV, LL)
- h. Apr 01 – YMPO Draft Loan Calculation (CF, FV, LL)
- i. Apr 01 – Crane Schools TA Program Project Discussion (CF, JH, FV)
- j. Apr 01 – AzTa Session Reviews - Admin Assist (LL, LZ)
- k. Apr 01 – Lugo's Roofing Initial Meeting (FV, LL, LZ)
- l. Apr 02 – Meeting with Raul (SMILE) (JR)
- m. Apr 02 – Reimagine Roofing - Second Call (FV)
- n. Apr 02 – 48 Solar & Roofing (LL, LZ, FV)
- o. Apr 06 – S Drive - File Retention Initiation Plan (CF, LL, LZ)
- p. Apr 06 – Mobility Managers Meeting (JR)
- q. Apr 06 – 08 – AzTA Conference (JR, JH, FV, LZ)
- r. Apr 07 – RTAC Board Meeting- HURF Letter (CF)
- s. Apr 09 – YMPO TAC Meeting (CF, JR, JH, FV, LZ)
- t. Apr 09 – MPO/COG Directors Meeting (CF)
- u. Apr 09 – AAPD & AFB Title 2 Digital Accessibility Webinar (JR, JH)
- v. Apr 09 – Yuma Road Safety Action Plan TAC Meeting 4 (FV)

- w. Apr 10 – COG/MPO Planners Meeting (CF, JR, JH, FV)
- x. Apr 11 – ArcGIS - Introduction to Spatial Data (JH)
- y. Apr 13 – Staff Meeting (CF, JH, JR, FV, LL, LZ)
- z. Apr 13 – ADOT/YMPO Monthly Coordination Meeting (CF, JH, FV)
- aa. Apr 13 – RTAC Advisory Committee (CF)
- bb. Apr 14 – Title VI On-Site Compliance Questionnaire Review (CF, JR, FV, LL)
- cc. Apr 15 – Contract Management System (LL)
- dd. Apr 15 – I-8 Corridor Profile Study Review (FV)
- ee. Apr 15 – FHWA Planning and Research Grants: Program Administration (LL)
- ff. Apr 16 – ArcGIS - Drone2Map Essentials (JH)
- gg. Apr 16 – WACOG-Networking for Community Resources (JR)
- hh. Apr 16 – Arizona Incoming Planner Information Exchange (JH, FV)
- ii. Apr 16 – LPA DBE System Training (JR)
- jj. Apr 16 – Executive Board New Member Orientation Lunch - Vice Mayor Castillo (CF, LL)
- kk. Apr 17 – PASS Training (JR)
- ll. Apr 20 – RTAC Board Meeting: Phoenix (CF)
- mm. Apr 20 – RTAC Board Meeting (FV)
- nn. Apr 20 – Yuma CoPt Monthly Meeting (JR)
- oo. Apr 20 – CTS Meeting (FV)
- pp. Apr 21 – Evaluation Review w/Executive Director (CF, LL)
- qq. Apr 21 – Yuma PM10 SIP Update Meeting (CF, FV)
- rr. Apr 22 – Zamudio, Lucia - 2026 Performance Evaluation (LL, LZ)
- ss. Apr 22 – A Practical Look at Legally Compliant I&D for HR Leaders Webinar (LL)
- tt. Apr 23 – Quarterly SWAZ WLG Professional Development Seminar (CF)
- uu. Apr 28 – YMPO - Title VI On Site Review (CF, JH, JR, FV, LL, LZ)
- vv. Apr 28 – Yuma Road Safety Action Plan TAC Meeting 5 (CF, FV)
- ww. Apr 30 – Sun Cloud Evaluation Meeting (JH)
- xx. Apr 30 – ADOT Statewide Listening Tour--Active Transportation (CF, JH, FV)
- yy. Apr 30 – YMPO Executive Board Meeting (CF, JR, JH, FV, LL, LZ)

16. Adjournment.

Having no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Ortega adjourned the meeting at 4:19 p.m.

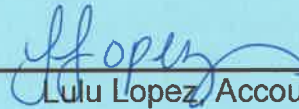
Notice: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, YMPO does not discriminate on the basis of disability, in the admission of, or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, activities, or services. If you have any questions regarding YMPO programs, activities, or services, please contact Crystal Figueroa at 928-783-8911.

Anticipated Future 2026 Meetings

Future meetings will continue at the YMPO office at 230 West Morrison Street, Yuma, Arizona 85364. Members may participate in person, OR they may participate electronically by computer and/or telephone (or both), using the GoToMeeting portal. In general, meetings will be held on the last Thursday of each month, and the next two meetings are scheduled for May 28, 2026 and June 25, 2026.

Preparation and Approval of Minutes:

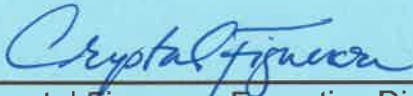
Minutes prepared by:



Lulu Lopez, Accountant II/Executive Assistant

Minutes reviewed to form by:

Minutes approved in regular session on
May 28, 2026



Crystal Figueroa, Executive Director,
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization



Councilmember Wynn Ortega,
Chairwoman, YMPO Executive Board