

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

*Local Governments and Citizens Working Together*

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, May 13, 2021, 9:00 AM**

**YMPO Office  
230 West Morrison Street  
Yuma, Arizona 85364**

**IN PERSON AT THE NEW YMPO OFFICE**

**TELECONFERENCE GOTO MEETING**

### **YMPO TAC Meeting**

Thursday, May 13, 2021 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MST)

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### **YMPO TAC MEMBERS**

Chair	Samuel Palacios, Public Works Director, City of Somerton
Vice-Chair	Jeff Kramer, City Engineer, City of Yuma
Member	Fernando Mezquita, Planning Director, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Member	Mark Hoffman, Senior Planner, ADOT
Member	Susan Cowey, CIP Administrator, City of Yuma
Member	Chris Young, County Engineer, Yuma County
Member	Jennifer Albers, Principal Planner, City of Yuma
Member	Joshua Scott, Public Works Director, Yuma County
Member	Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director, City of San Luis
Member	Joseph Grant, Public Works Director, Town of Wellton

### **YMPO TAC EX-OFFICIOS**

YCIPTA	Shelly Kreger
CALTRANS	Jacob Armstrong
FHWA	Romare Truly
FTA	Ted Matley
EPA	Jerry Wamsley

1. **Call to Order and Declaration of Votes**

The meeting will be called to order and the City of Yuma will declare the number and the distribution of their votes.

2. **Title VI of the Civil Rights ACT of 1964**

A brief message will be read out reminding members of our Title VI obligations. YMPO has on the TAC Website area the Sign-In Sheet and Survey Cards for the public to sign-in. Please send these to Charles Gutierrez at [cgutierrez@ympo.org](mailto:cgutierrez@ympo.org).

3. **Call to the Public**

This item is to provide an opportunity for comments by the public. Individuals wishing to address the committee need not request permission in advance and are limited to three (3) minutes.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

The draft minutes of the April 8, 2021 Regular Meetings.

**YMPO Staff will present the minutes to the TAC for approval.**

5. **Bureau of Reclamation Project**

The Bureau of Reclamation is going to be applying for a Federal Lands Transportation Program.

**This item is on the agenda for information and discussion only at this time. Ms. Melanie Stepanovic, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) will present at the TAC. Please refer to the Agenda Summary 5.**

6. **Long-Range Transportation Plan Update**

Kittelton will update the TAC with progress of the Plan.

**This item is on the agenda as an update to the LRTP. Vamshi Yellisetty, Kittelson and the Team will present an update. This agenda item is for information and discussion.**

7. **Rural Regional Priority Project List**

At the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) meetings that YMPO has been attending, there has been talk about recent activity at the Federal and State concerning potential funding opportunities. YMPO will update the TAC as to the possible opportunity and the possible actions for future discussion for this opportunity.

**This item is on the agenda as a follow up to the April 2021 TAC meeting introduction of the Rural Regional Priority Project list. This item is for information, discussion, and/or action. Please refer to the Agenda Summary 7.**

8. **YMPO FY 2022 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**  
Presentation of the FY 2022-2026 TIP to the TAC. It is currently under Public Comment. YMPO is accepting all comments and questions concerning the TIP.

**This item is on the agenda for an update to the FY 2022-2026 TIP. YMPO staff will present the document to the TAC. Charles Gutierrez will present the TIP to the TAC. Please refer to the Agenda Summary 8.**

9. **YMPO Rail/Heavy Freight Alignment Study**  
YMPO is proud to have one more study on the books to rank and score. The region's Rail/Heavy Freight Alignment Study has been submitted by consultants for this project. Today, the results of the TAC's scoring process.

**This item is on the agenda for consideration of approval of a consulting firm for the Rail/Heavy Freight Alignment Study. Paul D. Ward and Charles Gutierrez will present this agenda item. This agenda item is for Information, Discussion and/or Action. Please refer to the Agenda Summary 9.**

10. **YMPO and YCIPTA Short-Range Transit Plan**  
YMPO staff is bringing the Short-Range Transit Plan to the TAC for review and comment.

**This item is on the agenda for review and comment for the Short-Range Transit Plan for the region. This item is on for information, discussion, and/or action. Please refer to the Agenda Summary 10.**

11. **YMPO and ADOT.....Information and Discussion**  
YMPO and ADOT staff will have the opportunity to update any other business that is or was not covered in the previous agenda items. This is a NO-ACTION agenda item.  
A. Regional Coordination Plan for 5310  
B. ADOT Safety Information

**This item is on the agenda for information and discussion.**

12. **In-Kind Match Forms .....Information only**  
This is on the agenda as a reminder that all YMPO business that any member or staff that does work for YMPO in any form (i.e., read, comment, setup meetings), YMPO is able to capture portions or all your time as match for the YMPO match of all Programs.

**This item is on the agenda for information and discussion.**

13. **TAC Status Reports.....Information and Discussion**  
Member agencies will have the opportunity to report the status of their projects (Local or Federal). A list of ongoing projects is shown in the information below.

Town of Wellton:

Yuma County:

Avenue 28E and County 9th Street Off System Bridge Project  
Avenue D/E Corridor through 18th Street – 23rd Street  
Martinez Lake at Red Cloud Mine Road

City of San Luis:

Juan Sanchez Boulevard.

City of Yuma:

Palo Verde & Catalina loop from 32nd Street to 4th Avenue and down to Arizona Avenue  
Second Avenue between 13<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arizona Avenue between 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and Palo Verde

City of Somerton:

Cesar Chavez Project Main Street to Jefferson

ADOT:

Cocopah Indian Tribe:

**14. Future Agenda Items .....Discussion**

Members will have the opportunity to suggest future items for the TAC agenda.

- A. LRTP Update
- B. Rail Study kick-off
- C. U.S. Census Update
- D. Greater Arizona Regional Priority Project List

**This item is on the agenda for information, discussion and/or action from members to add additional items.**

**15. Progress Reports .....Discussion**

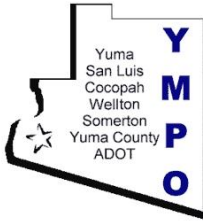
YMPO staff has provided a list of recent activities.

- A. Apr 1 - MS Access Training (CG).
- B. Apr 1 - YMPO LRTP biweekly telemeeting (PW, CG).
- C. Apr 5 - Staff meeting (All).
- D. Apr 5 - COGs/MPOs Director's meeting (PW).
- E. Apr 6 - Meeting with YCIPTA (PW).
- F. Apr 7 - Yuma TOC telemeeting (PW).
- G. Apr 8 - TAC telemeeting (PW, CG, DM, MR).
- H. Apr 9 - COGs/MPOs Planners' meeting (CG).
- I. Apr 12 - ADOT/YMPO Coordination telemeeting (PW, CG).
- J. Apr 12 - Meeting with Yuma County HR Director, (PW, CF).

- K. Apr 13 - YMPO LRTP biweekly telemeeting (PW, CG).
- L. Apr 16 - AZSTB telemeeting (PW).
- M. Apr 19 - Arizona STEP Committee telemeeting (CG).
- N. Apr 19 - RTAC Advisory Committee meeting (PW).
- O. Apr 20 - Presentation to Somerton City Council (PW).
- P. Apr 21 - Presentation to Yuma City Council (PW).
- Q. Apr 22 - Yuma Chamber of Commerce Transportation meeting (PW, CG).
- R. Apr 26 - RTAC Board meeting (PW).
- S. Apr 21 - Presentation to Cocopah Tribal Council (PW).
- T. Apr 27 - YMPO LRTP biweekly telemeeting (PW, CG).
- U. Apr 29 - LPA Training (PW, CG).
- V. Apr 29 - EB meeting (PW, CG, CF).

## **16. Adjournment**

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. For information regarding rights and provisions of the ADA or Section 504, or to request reasonable accommodations for participation in YMPO programs, activities, or services, contact Paul Ward or Charles Gutierrez at 928-783-8911.



## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

*Local Governments and Citizens Working Together*

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, April 8, 2021, 9:00 AM  
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**YMPO Office  
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### **YMPO TAC Meeting**

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### **YMPO TAC MEMBERS**

Chair	Samuel Palacios, Public Works Director, City of Somerton
Vice-Chair	Jeff Kramer, City Engineer, City of Yuma
Member	Fernando Mezquita, Planning Director, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Member	Mark Hoffman, Senior Planner, ADOT
Member	Frank Sanchez for Chris Young, County Engineer, Yuma County
Member	Jennifer Albers, Principal Planner, City of Yuma
Member	Joshua Scott, Public Works Director, Yuma County
Member	Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director, City of San Luis
Member	Joseph Grant, Public Works Director, Town of Wellton

### **YMPO TAC MEMBERS ABSENT**

Member	Susan Cowey, CIP Administrator, City of Yuma
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### **YMPO STAFF PRESENT**

Executive Director	Paul Ward
Senior Planning/Mobility Manager	Charles Gutierrez
Administrative Assistant	Melissa Ramos
Associate Planner	De' Laurien McKenzie

1. **Call to Order and Declaration of Votes**

The YMPO Chair Sam Palacios, called the meeting to order at 9:05am. The City of Yuma declaration of votes: Jennifer Albers 3 votes and Jeff Kramer 2 votes.

2. **Title VI of the Civil Rights ACT of 1964.....Discussion and Information**

A brief message was read out reminding members of our Title VI obligations. YMPO has on the TAC Website area the Sign-In Sheet and Survey Cards for the public to sign-in. Please send these to Charles Gutierrez at [cgutierrez@ympo.org](mailto:cgutierrez@ympo.org).

3. **Call to the Public**

This item is to provide an opportunity for comments by the public. Individuals wishing to address the committee need not request permission in advance and are limited to three (3) minutes.

No comments to present.

4. **Approval of Minutes ..... Discussion and Action**

The draft minutes of the February 11 and March 11, 2021 Regular Meetings were presented for discussion and approval.

Mark Hoffman motioned to approve the draft TAC minutes of February 11, 2021 and March 11, 2021.

Jennifer Albers seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Pavement Management System Study ..... Information, Discussion, and/or Action**

Tim Miller with Kimley-Horn & Associates presented the Final Draft document. Tim Miller mentioned that Joe Grant made comments to the report and those comments are getting corrected. Charles Gutierrez asked for a recommendation to the YMPO Executive Board for approval.

YMPO Chairman Sam Palacios motioned to approve the Pavement Management System Study as presented by Kimley-Horn.

Jeff Kramer seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Long-Range Transportation Plan Update ..... Information and Discussion**

Vamshi Yellisetty with Kittelson briefly updated the TAC with the progress of the Plan. The Existing and Future Conditions Analysis is in the draft stages. The Kittelson team is wrapping up the draft Working Paper 1. Vamshi Yellisetty mentioned that the development of the interface to the Travel Demand Model is complete. The Kittelson team is tweaking with the graphics to the main interface still. By mid-next week, the Public Outreach Phase 1 should kick-off. Examples of activities for the Public Outreach will include a virtual open house, social media outreach and ads in the local newspapers.

7. **ACEC Roads and Streets ..... Information and Discussion**  
Charles Gutierrez informed the YMPO TAC that they are invited to partake in the 2021 ACEC Roads and Streets Conference from October 6-8, 2021 in Tucson, AZ at the El Conquistador Resort. YMPO staff will handle travel accommodations for the TAC.
8. **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) .....Information and Discussion**  
Paul Ward updated the TAC on the YMPO Work Program for FY 2022 & FY 2023. The Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration and ADOT have reviewed the initial efforts of the Work Program last week. YMPO staff will be presenting the FY 2022 & FY 2023 UPWP to the YMPO Executive Board at the end of April 2021 for approval. The studies that YMPO is conducting will be continuing. For FY 22 a Roads of Regional Significance Study and an Origin and Destination Study will be in place.
9. **Rural Regional Priority Project List.....Information and Discussion**  
At the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) meetings that YMPO has been attending, there has been talk about recent activity at the Federal and State concerning potential funding opportunities. YMPO will update the TAC as to the possible opportunity and the possible actions for future discussion for this opportunity.
10. **YMPO and ADOT.....Information and Discussion**  
YMPO and ADOT staff had the opportunity to update on any other business that is or was not covered in the previous agenda items. This is a NO-ACTION agenda item.
  - A. **Rail Study RFP-** The RFP was released on March 30, 2021. The deadline for questions is April 20, 2021. Responses to the questions is April 21, 2021. RFP submittals are due May 4, 2021 by 3pm. RFP submittals will be distributed on May 4, 2021 for the TAC to review.
  - B. **Regional Coordination Plan for 5310-** Charles Gutierrez is working on this RFP.
  - C. **ADOT Safety Information-** More information to come.
  - D. **ADOT-** 2022-2026 5-year Program comments are open. There will be Public Hearings at the State Transportation Board meetings on April 16, 2021 and May 21, 2021. Burse Fenske is the Assistant South-West District Engineer.

During this item, the YMPO staff presented DeLaurien McKenzie with a recognition certificate. April 8, 2021 was DeLaurien McKenzie's last day of work at the YMPO. Staff thanked and congratulated him. DeLaurien McKenzie thanked the TAC for the work opportunities he shared with each TAC member and shared where his new journey is taking him.

11. **In-Kind Match Forms .....Information only**  
Charles Gutierrez reminded the TAC to complete and submit an In-Kind Match sheet when reviewing any YMPO material. Blank In-Kind Match sheets can be found on the YMPO website under the TAC section.
12. **TAC Status Reports.....Information and Discussion**  
Member agencies had the opportunity to report the status of their projects (Local or Federal). A list of ongoing projects is shown in the information below.



### Town of Wellton:

#### Yuma County:

**Avenue 28E and County 9th Street Off System Bridge Project-** Anticipating the stage 3 60% plans by mid-May 2021.

**Avenue D/E Corridor through 18th Street – 23rd Street-** Expecting to have the final EA completed by May 2021.

**Martinez Lake at Red Cloud Mine Road-** The last of the pavement is going in on the week of April 19, 2021. The substantial completion is expected June 2021. The last portion of the Red Cloud Mine Road know as Option Y by Yuma County will be out to bid in late May by FHWA.

#### City of San Luis:

**Juan Sanchez Boulevard-** The City of San Luis is working the Sate Land Department to finalize the ROW acquisition.

#### City of Yuma:

**Palo Verde & Catalina loop from 32nd Street to 4th Avenue and down to Arizona Avenue-** This project is wrapping up, waiting on thermoplastic.

**Second Avenue between 13<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street-** There will be a pre-construction meeting today.

**Arizona Avenue between 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and Palo Verde-** This project was delayed due to a drainage issue. The City of Yuma is updating the design to readvertise. Construction should start until FY 22, lasting four months.

**North Frontage Road Avenue 9E to 10E and Avenue 10E from North Frontage Road to 28th Street-** The project will consist of adding a signal at 9E in the North Frontage Road and make some improvements along the frontage of the schools at 10E and 20th Street. This project should be advertised this month.

The City of Yuma also has some waterline projects coming up. Those waterline projects will be on First Avenue from First Street to Court Street lasting about six weeks and on Arizona Avenue from 10th Street to 15th Street. The City of Yuma will be advertising for a sewer line project on 7E into the Yuma Commerce Center.

#### City of Somerton:

**Cesar Chavez Project Main Street to Jefferson-** The contractor completed the pavement from Spring Street to Jefferson Street. The traffic light installation is pending. Also pending is a portion of pavement from Main Street to Spring Street.

The City of Somerton has a few underground projects coming up that include a water main extension line from Cesar Chavez all the way to Avenue G and a sewer project for the high school.

There will be a local road improvement project on Fulton Street from Somerton Avenue to Council Avenue and Council from Fulton to Canal.

#### ADOT:

The project for US 95 from Avenue 9E up to Rifle Range Road should be advertising soon. This project should be in construction by the middle of the summer.

Cocopah Indian Tribe:

The parking lots at the two funeral homes at the Cocopah Indian Reservation will be removed and replaced.

**13. Future Agenda Items .....Discussion**

Members had the opportunity to suggest future items for the TAC agenda.

- A. LRTP Update
- B. U.S. Census Update
- C. Rural Regional Priority Project List

**14. Progress Reports .....Discussion**

YMPO staff provided a list of recent activities.

- A. Mar 1 - Presentation to Yuma County BOS (PW).
- B. Mar 1 - (Brief) staff meeting in new office (All).
- C. Mar 2 - STSP Lane Departure telemeeting (CG).
- D. Mar 3 - STSP Intersections telemeeting (CG).
- E. Mar 3 - Pat Walker walk-through new office (PW).
- F. Mar 3 - YCIPTA/YMPO SRTP telemeeting (PW).
- G. Mar 4 - YMPO LRTP biweekly telemeeting (PW, CG).
- H. Mar 5 - Yuma County Bicycle Task Force telemeeting (PW).
- I. Mar 8 - San Luis Parks telemeeting (CG).
- J. Mar 8 - RTAC Advisory Committee meeting (PW).
- K. Mar 8 - ADOT/YMPO Coordination telemeeting (PW, CG).
- L. Mar 9 - Internal PMSS status meeting (PW, CG, DM).
- M. Mar 10 - TAC internal preview meeting (PW, CG).
- N. Mar 11 - TAC telemeeting (PW, CG, DM, MR).
- O. Mar 15 - Arizona STEP Committee meeting (PW).
- P. Mar 16 - YMPO LRTP biweekly telemeeting (PW, CG).
- Q. Mar 19 - AZSTB telemeeting (PW).
- R. Mar 22 - RTAC Board meeting (PW).
- S. Mar 23 - Statewide Mobility Manager's telemeeting (CG, MR).
- T. Mar 24 - Yuma County Bicycle Task Force telemeeting (PW, CG).
- U. Mar 25 - EB telemeeting (PW, CG, CF, DM).
- V. Mar 30 - YMPO LRTP biweekly telemeeting (PW, CG).
- W. Mar 31 - Federal, State UPWP review telemeeting (All).

**15. Adjournment**

YMPO TAC Chair Sam Palacios adjourned the TAC Meeting at 10:05am.

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Minutes Prepared By:

Minutes Submitted by:

Minutes approved  
by:

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Melissa Ramos, YMPO  
Administrative Assistant

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Charles Gutierrez, YMPO  
Senior Planning Manager

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Samuel Palacios,  
YMPO Chair

# YMPO AGENDA SUMMARY ITEM 5

## Bureau of Reclamation project

**DATE:** May 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Bureau of Reclamation Project

### **SUMMARY:**

#### **Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)**

The Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP) was established in 23 U.S.C. 203 to improve the transportation infrastructure owned and maintained by the following Federal Lands Management Agencies: National Park Service (NPS), US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), USDA Forest Service (Forest Service), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Bureau of Reclamation and independent Federal agencies with land and natural resource management responsibilities.

The use of FLTP funds does not affect the overall responsibility for construction, maintenance, and operations of the facilities. That responsibility continues to lie with the owner of the facility.

#### **Program Purpose**

The FLTP funds projects that improve access within Federal lands (national forests, national parks, national wildlife refuges, national recreation areas, and other Federal public lands) on transportation facilities in the national Federal Lands transportation inventory and owned and maintained by the Federal government.

#### **Allocation of funding**

The FAST Act reserves the majority of FLTP funding for designated Federal agencies. The specific reserved amounts are detailed in the table above, and include—

- \$268-300 million per fiscal year for the National Park Service;
- \$30 million per fiscal year for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and
- **(New in FAST)** \$15-19 million per fiscal year for the U.S. Forest Service. [FAST Act § 1101(a)(3)(B)]

FHWA will allocate remaining FLTP funds competitively among

- the Bureau of Land Management;
- the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- **(New in FAST) the Bureau of Reclamation; and**
- **(New in FAST)** independent Federal agencies with natural resource and land management responsibilities. [23 U.S.C. 203(b)]

**Federal Share is 100%**

#### **Use of Funds**

In accordance with 23 U.S.C. 201(a) funds made available under the Federal lands transportation program shall be used by the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of the appropriate Federal land management agency to pay the costs of—

- A. program administration, transportation planning, research, preventive maintenance, engineering, rehabilitation, restoration, construction, and reconstruction of Federal lands transportation facilities, and--
  - i. adjacent vehicular parking areas;
  - ii. acquisition of necessary scenic easements and scenic or historic sites;
  - iii. provision for pedestrians and bicycles;
  - iv. environmental mitigation in or adjacent to Federal land open to the public—
- I. to improve public safety and reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity; and
- II. to mitigate the damage to wildlife, aquatic organism passage, habitat, and ecosystem connectivity, including the costs of constructing, maintaining, replacing, or removing culverts and bridges, as appropriate;
  - v. construction and reconstruction of roadside rest areas, including sanitary and water facilities;
  - vi. congestion mitigation; and
  - vii. other appropriate public road facilities, as determined by the Secretary;
- B. capital, operations, and maintenance of transit facilities;
- C. any transportation project eligible for assistance under this title that is on a public road within or adjacent to, or that provides access to, Federal lands open to the public; and
- D. not more \$10,000,000 of the amounts made available per fiscal year to carry out this section for activities eligible under subparagraph (A)(iv).

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

No members of the public have commented on this request, to date.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: Members will be given the opportunity to ask questions to the Bureau of Reclamation

**ACTION NEEDED:**

This item is on the agenda for information and discussion. There is a possibility that this project could be awarded to the local BOR, and if so, the BOR could potentially bring this back to the MPO to have an amendment made for the TIP inclusion then adopted at the State TIP.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Charles Gutierrez, Senior Planning Manager, 928-783-8911

**YMPO AGENDA SUMMARY ITEM 7**  
**GREATER ARIZONA REGIONAL PRIORITY PROJECT LIST**  
**YMPO**

**DATE:** May 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Greater Arizona Regional Priority Project List (YMPO)

**SUMMARY:**

**What Would You Do With 2 Million, 3 Million, Or How About An Extra 4 Million Dollars Regionally Distributed To The Yuma Mpo Partners For Building Projects Adopted From A Greater Az Regional Priority Project List.**

Can this be developed using the LRTP process, of course it can be. This is most likely the first start for development, other than here we are beginning a new possibility for a one-time funding source or many more in the future. It is uncertain whether this will come to fruition, but as our partners such as RTAC learn about these possible sources of funding, they work with the Greater AZ as the name says Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) to help ensure there is a solution to additional funding.

What does this mean for our region. It will be explained in the meeting to a greater detail, but in this summary, it has some information as to where we are all at for this possible additional funding.

**One-Time Funding & Regional Project List:**

The state budget surplus is still estimated at \$2 billion with \$1.6 billion characterized as one-time funding. Indirectly, it has been heard that House and Senate leadership have set a “box” of \$200 million for infrastructure projects. To date, 28 bills have been introduced totaling roughly \$275 million.

Much resistance was given to one of the SR95 repaving bills in the appropriations committee. The project was deemed to have merit but was questioned as far as its priority level and if it warranted moving ahead of other projects. Despite that rationale, many of these earmark bills continue to advance. 6 will be heard in House Transportation Committee and 5 in House Appropriations this afternoon. RTAC will continue to talk with legislators and continue to push directing surplus revenue to HURF so that the funding can be distributed through existing formulas and programmed & prioritized through existing planning processes. That has not been a popular suggestion particularly with republican lawmakers, many of whom would like to see one-time funding go to infrastructure but not by giving broad authority to government agencies to decide how to use it. Many also like the idea of introducing and pushing a bill through for a particular project so that they can go back to their constituents and show what they were able to deliver for them.

This proposal that we have discussed seeks to reach a common ground by providing a bundle of specific projects but ones that have been vetted and prioritized by regional transportation planning agencies across the state. The biggest drawback is the lateness of the proposal. It is a response to how the debate has gone on these earmark bills and we can introduce it as such, but it is still late and will not likely go through the same committee hearing process as the others and will likely catch criticism for that.

Another drawback is more internal. How difficult will it be to reach a strong consensus among all regions on an inclusive list of priority projects and how much time will each region need to reach a consensus on their submittals? Will it be worth going through this process with no guaranteed success if it will cause internal heartburn within the regions?

How quickly we can agree to a list will help determine the viability of putting it forward this session. We could already be past the point of a good probable outcome. If that is the case and developing a list will not cause divisiveness for your regions, then we may still want to go through this exercise and be prepared to start advocating for it well in advance of the start of next 2 session. The budget outlook may not be as strong, but the Arizona economy is still projected to boom the next 2-3 years provided it fully opens back up late in the year. Unlike the recession from last decade, we have fared far better than most of the country. Income tax withholdings have increased during the pandemic in Arizona. There is a strong chance that a sizable surplus will materialize next year as well.

So, the thought is rural AZ partners needs to determine if we want to compile the list of projects and if we want to advocate for this year and/or next? If we do decide to develop the list, we will need to provide some structure such as the number of projects and costs from each region as well as the net totals.

Here is a sample of a project list. The possibility of projects can come from the LRTP, Municipality CIPs, or other developed project lists.

We know of one of our members who has asked the YMPO to support some projects that were sent to Senator Raul Grijalva’s desk.

The spreadsheet below shows the possibility of projects. I know these are already in works and some are not but this shows the ways we can look at a Greater AZ Regional Project Priority List

<b>City of Yuma</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Exp \$\$</b>	<b>Priority Ex. Bd.</b>
16th Street	Maple to 3rd Ave	\$\$\$\$\$\$	
<b>Yuma County</b>			
Ave E Alignment	Ave E to Ave D alignment	\$\$\$\$\$\$	
<b>City of San Luis</b>			
Juan Anchez	US 95 to Ave E	35M	
<b>City of Somerton</b>			
Somerton Bridge Project	Somerton Ave & Co 17th St	\$\$\$\$\$\$	
<b>Town of Wellton</b>			
County 11th St	28E - Co 11th St - 31 E	\$\$\$\$\$\$	
<b>Cocopah Indain Tribe</b>			
East Reaservation	Salt Cedar Rd to Top of	\$\$\$\$\$	
<b>ADOT Facility (Local)</b>			
US 95	9E to Aberdeen	100M	1

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

No members of the public have commented on this request, to date.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL:

**ACTION NEEDED:**

This item is on the agenda for information and discussion. There will be upcoming

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Charles Gutierrez, Senior Planning Manager, 928-783-8911



**YMPO AGENDA SUMMARY ITEM 8**  
**YMPO FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program**

**DATE:** May 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** YMPO FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**SUMMARY:**

Currently the TIP is public comment and unless there are comments by the next meeting, will we consider the changes and then it will come back to the YMPO TAC for recommended approval to the Executive Board and finally submitted to ADOT for inclusion in the State TIP (STIP).

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

The FY 2022-2026 TIP will be available for a 30-day Public Comment Phase.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: N/A at this time until further technical issues are explored, and the process agreed upon by all members.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

No action is required at this time.

**PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

The Board approved the FY 2020-2024 YMPO TIP in June 2019 and was approved by the Governor's designee on November 1, 2019 and by the FHWA for inclusion into the State TIP on March 16, 2020. Since that time, YMPO has amended the TIP four times, in March and September 2020, and in January and March 2021.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Charles Gutierrez, Senior Planning Manager, 928-783-8911

## **YMPO INFORMATION SUMMARY AGENDA ITEM 9**

### **YMPO Rail, Heavy Freight Corridor Alignment Study**

**DATE:** September 30, 2020

**SUBJECT:** YMPO Rail/Heavy Freight Corridor Alignment Study

**SUMMARY:**

In 2013, YMPO carried out the Yuma County Rail Corridor Study. In 2019, YMPO included a possible Rail Study Outline in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to update the original rail study and take it a step further, to define a preferred alignment corridor for planning purposes. Since that time, based on interviews with three different consultant groups and input from member agencies, the intent of the Scope of Work has increased the potential cost of the project from \$120,000 to \$270,000 and the study has been delayed to accommodate this potential cost increase. At their August 13, 2020, meeting, TAC members were asked whether they wanted to set up a subcommittee to assist with refining the Scope of Work. To date, no member agencies have come forward to set up this subcommittee.

Currently, here is schedule for carrying out the Study is shown in the table below:

Anticipated Time Frame for the YMPO Rail/Heavy Freight Study	Current Update Timeline		
Activity	Anticipated Dates	Step Time	Since Start
Release date of RFP (Advertisement date)	Tuesday, March 30, 2021	0	0
Final deadline for questions for RFP due to YMPO by 3:00 p.m., MST.	Tuesday, April 20, 2021	21	21
Responses to questions posted at YMPO website (Response date)	Wednesday, April 21, 2021	1	22
Possible protest to YMPO Executive Director PRIOR to proposal openings	Thursday, April 22, 2021	1	23
Response by Executive Director on possible protest	Friday, April 23, 2021	1	24
RFP submittals due no later than 3 P.M., MST.	Tuesday, May 4, 2021	11	35
RFP responses distributed to review committee	Tuesday, May 4, 2021	0	35

Possible protest to FHWA prior to submittal opening	Wednesday, May 5, 2021	1	36
Review by TAC and recommend preferred consultant/firm	Thursday, May 13, 2021	8	44
Begin negotiation with preferred Proposer	Thursday, May 13, 2021	0	44
Letters to consultants/firms regarding selection	Thursday, May 13, 2021	0	44
Possible protest to YMPO Executive Director AFTER Announcement of Award	Monday, May 17, 2021	4	48
Response by Executive Director on possible protest	Monday, May 17, 2021	0	48
Possible protest to FHWA after Award	Tuesday, May 18, 2021	1	49
Action by Executive Board to approve contract	Thursday, May 27, 2021	9	58
Estimated Notice to Proceed (same day as Executive Board approval)	Thursday, May 27, 2021	0	58
Estimated YMPO Rail/Heavy Freight Alignment Study final report due.	Thursday, May 5, 2022	343	401

Today the TAC is deciding on which consulting firm will be recommended to the YMPO Executive Board for approval to move forward with negotiations for the firm to represent the Yuma MPO Region in the Rail/Heavy Freight Alignment Study.

We have two firms that submitted successfully to the YMPO for the Rail Study. The firms are as follow:

- Kinley-Horn and Associates
- Don Breazeale and Associates

TAC members have received the Rail proposals and will rank the two projects for recommendation. YMPO staff will record scores.

The TAC at this time will need to decide what the TAC will comprise of for this study. The last time it included a larger TAC comprised of the YMPO TAC, UP, GYPA, and our Mexico Partners.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT:**

There have been no public comments on this process to date.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: TAC members are being given a final opportunity to review, and possibly make changes to the Scope of Work for the project, prior to YMPO starting the procurement process. Although changes to the Scope may occur after this point, the opportunities for doing so are severely limited.

POLICY: There are no known policy implications for YMPO regarding this study.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

This item is on the agenda for Information, Discussion, and/or ACTION.

**PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

The Study is partially included in the current FY 2019-21 UPWP, which was originally approved by the YMPO Executive Board on May 16, 2019, but has been deferred as the Scope of Work has 'evolved' and as the cost has increased.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Paul D. Ward, Executive Director, 928-783-8911

# **YMPO INFORMATION SUMMARY AGENDA ITEM 10**

## **YMPO and YCIPTA Short-Range Transit Plan**

**DATE:** May 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** YMPO and YCIPTA Short-Range Transit Plan

**SUMMARY:**

In March 2020, the kick-off meeting for the short-range transit plan occurred and since then monthly meeting at 1 or 2 times per month a meeting occurred. The plan has gone back and forth during the covid-19 pandemic and continued to have productive meetings. The Transit Plan has come to a conclusion and it is time for approval.

This Short-Range Transit Plan, the YMPO TAC was not the TAC for the Plan. The TAC was the YCIPTA Board, which are the managers, administrators, and other governing bodies agencies.

Currently the review process is at the YCIPTA Board/TAC, YMPO TAC and finally will go to approval to the YMPO Executive Board under a recommendation from the YCIPTA Board/TAC.

What is being asked of the YMPO TAC is to review the document and make any comments to Paul D. Ward, Executive Director YMPO, so any questions or comments can be addressed prior to the YCIPYTA and finally to the YMPO Executive Board.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

There have been no public comments on this process to date.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and/or action. What YMPO needs is a review from the TAC to ensure that the plan is at the best it can be for your region and the Yuma MPO Region.

**PRIOR BOARD/COMMITEE ACTIONS:**

The Study is in the final comment period and is being considered at both the YMPO and YCIPTA for approval.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Paul D. Ward, Executive Director, 928-783-8911