



Yuma
Metropolitan
Planning Organization

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

**RTP TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(RTP TAC)
Thursday, December 10, 2015
10:00 AM**

**Yuma County – Aldrich Hall
2551 W. 26th Street
Yuma, AZ**

YMPO RTP TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman	Roger Patterson, Yuma County Engineer
Vice-Chairman	John Starkey, Zoning Administrator, City of San Luis
Member	Maggie Castro, Planning Section Manager, Yuma County
Member	Jonathan Fell, Traffic Engineer, City of Yuma
Member	Jennifer Albers, Principal Planner, City of Yuma
Member	Mark Hoffman, Senior Planner, ADOT
Member	Samuel Palacios, Public Works Director, City of Somerton
Member	Joseph Grant, Public Works Director, Town of Wellton

YMPO RTP TAC MEMBERS ABSENT:

Member	Omar Heredia, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Member	Joel Olea, Director of Public Works, City of Yuma

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

ADOT	Michael Jones
ADOT LPA	Jason Hafner
Gene Dalby	Yuma Region Bicycle Coalition
Kimley-Horn	Brent Crowther
City of Yuma	Czarina Gallegos
City of Yuma	XXXXXXXXXXXX
YMPO	Melissa Ramos

YMPO STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director	Charlene FitzGerald
Senior Planning Manager/Mobility Manager	Charles Gutierrez

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Roger Patterson called the meeting to order.

II. STUDY TEAM INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Patterson asked about the need to convene the RTP TAC meeting as a separate meeting. Charles Gutierrez explained that due to open meeting law requirements for quorums and meeting minutes that pertain to the regular TAC, the RTP TAC will convene as a separate meeting. Kimley-Horn (KH) will prepare agendas and summaries for the RTP TAC meetings.

Charlene FitzGerald then introduced Brent Crowther, the Kimley-Horn project manager.

Brent introduced himself and the study team consisting of Wilson and Co. (travel demand modeling), and Gordley Group (public involvement).

TAC members then introduced themselves.

III. RTP STUDY PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Brent introduced the project. He stated that the YMPO RTP 2017-2041 will build upon the success of the previous RTP (2014-2037).

Charlene mentioned that scenario planning may be an important element of this RTP update.

IV. TAC MEMBER ROLES

Brent described the role of the TAC. The TAC will be asked to provide input and feedback, data, information and ideas to the study team, serve as an information conduit to other agency staff and elected officials, identify key stakeholders, participates in TAC meetings and comments and review on documents and deliverables.

V. STUDY TASKS AND SCHEDULE

Project tasks can be separated into the four project phases as described below.

1. Current and future conditions phase:
 - Task 1: Develop Scope of Work
 - Task 2: Update TransCAD Model
 - Task 3: Collect and Review Existing Conditions Data
 - Task 4: Public Involvement Round 1
 - Task 5: Develop Roadway System Alternatives
2. Performance measures, benchmarks, and targets (developed as part of Task 3) phase: Performance measures, benchmarks, and targets will be established consistent with MAP-21 requirements and will continue within FAST Act. ADOT Planning to Programming, HSIP, and other ADOT programs are all becoming performance-based. The YMPO RTP update will incorporate performance-based planning so as to best position projects to compete for statewide funding. The YMPO RTP update performance criteria will build upon the previous RTP criteria. Early in the study, we will determine if any changes are needed to the criteria. Criteria will be reviewed and established prior to project identification so that the criteria can help shape and scope the projects.
3. Improvements strategies/alternatives. Improvement strategies/alternatives phase: This is where projects are identified for consideration within the RTP. Scenario planning could become a part of this phase. Scenarios could include different population projections, or different transportation network alternatives. Charlene said that FHWA is considering selecting the YMPO as a pilot program to demonstrate scenario planning.
 - Task 6: Performance-Based Evaluation of Alternatives
 - Public Involvement Round 2
4. Draft/final plan preparation phase:
 - Task 7: Draft Regional Transportation Plan
 - Task 8: Final Regional Transportation Plan
 - Public Involvement Round 3
 - Task 9: Project Administration

Brent asked that comments on the scope of work (distributed) be submitted by December 18.

Brent reviewed the project tasks, schedule and deliverables. Key comments are:

1. Task 2: Charlene emphasized that the YMPO will need to coordinate with ADOT and the statewide travel demand model. Brent said that the population and data within the YMPO model and the ADOT model should be consistent. The YMPO model was updated as part of the City TMP, and the updated model should be used. Updates will be made to the YMPO model – updating TAZ and network specifically.
2. Task 3: as part of the current conditions review, we will also review goal areas as outlined in MAP-21. Brent mentioned that ADOT's goal areas are: pavement, bridge, safety, mobility, and freight. YMPO goals can expand on these areas. An example would be economic vitality and other areas that are important to the YMPO region. Charlene stated that the YMPO RTP will reflect and incorporate studies completed or under-way for ADOT routes including the SR 95 Corridor Profile and the I-8 Corridor Profile Study.
3. Task 4: Public involvement includes four main components. 1) Council Briefings. We will ask TAC members to provide input on which councils/commissions should be provided a briefing. 2) On-line Presence. 3) Public Meeting. 4) A mobile open house held at key locations, community events, etc. Previous RTP did the mobile workshops at the air show, county fair, and farmer's market.
4. Task 5: Develop Roadway System Alternatives. This will identify the range of projects to be considered within the RTP.
5. Task 6: Performance-Based Evaluation: will reduce the candidate projects and identify the final list consistent with the selection criteria.
6. Study schedule: Next Meeting is proposed for Thursday, February 11. Project is scheduled for completion by end of 2016.

VI. INFORMATION NEEDS

Brent referred to the Information Request data. Brent requested that the most recent available data be provided to the study team: land use data, general plan data, GIS data, etc. The focus should be on changes in land use, etc. that have occurred since the last RTP. Charlene said that YMPO has already requested updates from the City of Yuma and from Yuma County.

VII. DISCUSSION OF PREVIOUS (2014-2037) RTP

Comments on previous RTP:

- Previous RTP included performance measures.
- If population achieves 200,000, we will need to do the Congestion Management. This RTP may need to include more detail on the Congestion Management Process. Congestion Management Process will be really new to the YMPO region if this becomes a requirement.
- Gene Dalby stated that the previous RTP made big stride forward in recognizing bicycling, safety, etc. Minor tweaks could be made, but the document made great progress.
- Yuma region wants an AASHTO US Bicycle Route.

- More safety funds are anticipated to be available than in the past. Safety section may need to be enhanced. The completion of the STSP will inform the RTP. In 2019, HSIP funds becomes competitive statewide.
- Brent described that the RTP can focus solely on the allocation of Federal funds for transportation, or it can be expanded and enhanced to include a broader view of the region's transportation and economic development goals. Charlene emphasized that the PARA studies, other corridor plans, etc. have been completed and will inform the RTP. The primary purpose of the RTP is to help the local agencies identify how federal funds will be expended.
- Charlene mentioned a potential need to improve freight corridors. YMPO region conducted classification counts. This will help them to identify the top-25 freight corridors. RTP will need to provide further emphasis on freight element within the RTP. By having a freight emphasis in the RTP, will help to identify federal funds for projects.
- Charlene suggested referring to the YMPO Strategic Plan.
- FAST Act includes additional safety funds.
- Roger Patterson said that every community has an ultimate master transportation plan that focuses on build-out. He uses the RTP to help to forecast the 10-year and 25-year horizons.
- RTP coordinates with all transportation modes – aviation, transit, etc.
- The RTP will consolidate all of the identified projects from previously completed transportation master plans, corridor plan, etc. We will apply the performance criteria to all of the candidate projects to filter and reduce the project list.

VIII. CHANGES TO SCOPE OF WORK/ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- The TAC discussed potential changes to the Public Involvement Plan.
 - It was discussed that the mobile workshops were effective in reaching out to different user groups.
 - Past experience with public meetings is that we receive very low attendance. It was suggested that no evening public meetings will be held, and resources will be focused on the mobile workshops. Efforts should be focused on the on-line materials/survey. The Executive Board Meeting will be advertised and considered the final public meeting/hearing at the completion of the study.
 - At the mobile workshops, we should also have paper surveys because the tablet was very slow and people didn't wait around. We need more than just Alice doing the 1 tablet. Paper copies should be available. College students could be asked to help man the booth. Mobile workshops are useful to reach out to Title VI populations.
 - Give-aways were important: pens, key-chains, etc. as an enticement to fill out the survey.
 - Council meetings and board commission presentations will be an opportunity for the public to comment on the RTP.

IX. NEXT STEPS

- Request for past studies. Agencies are asked to provide any updated information. The team already has data provided during the 2014-2037 update.
- Current and Future Conditions
 - Compile and Summarize Relevant Studies and Data
 - Update TransCAD Model in coordination with ADOT
 - RTP Goals and Goal Areas
 - Transportation System Needs
- Next RTP-TAC Meeting – February 11, 2016 at 10:00 am (following the YMPO TAC Meeting). Discussion items will include:
 - Current conditions and needs

- Travel demand modeling
- Goals and objectives

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Patterson adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:30 am

Summary prepared by:

Brent Crowther
Kimley-Horn Project Manager

Summary submitted by:

Charles Gutierrez
Senior Planning Manager/Mobility Manager

Summary approved by:

Roger Patterson, Chairman
YMPO RTP Technical Advisory Committee