



YMPO EXECUTIVE BOARD REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 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

YMPO EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairwoman	Maria Cecilia Cruz, Councilmember, City of San Luis
Vice-Chair	Wynnie Ortega, Councilmember, Cocopah Indian Tribe
Secretary/Treasurer	Luis Galindo, Councilmember, City of Somerton
Member	Cecilia McCollough, Councilmember, Town of Wellton
Member	Martin Porchas, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County
Member	Lynne Pancrazi, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County
Member	Carol Smith, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Member	Karen Watts, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Member	Mark Martinez, Councilmember, City of Yuma
Member	Sam Elters, Arizona State Transportation Board, AZSTB/ADOT

Please join the GoTo meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/675888245>. You can also dial in using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073 Access Code: 675-888-245.

1. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting will be called to order and members will be asked to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call Attendance and Declaration of Votes.

Lourdes (Lulu) Lopez, YMPO Accountant II/Executive Assistant, will call the attendance roll and if any members of the City of Yuma are not in attendance, those members that are in attendance will have the opportunity to declare the number of votes that each member will exercise, including any proxy votes.

3. Title VI Declaration and Call to the Public.

Jesus Aguilar, Jr., YMPO Mobility Manager, will read a brief message, reminding members of our Title VI obligations. In addition, this item provides an opportunity for comments by the public on subjects *not* on the agenda. Individuals wishing to address the YMPO Executive Board (the Board) need not request permission in advance and are limited to three (3) minutes. Any members of the public attending by teleconference are requested to contact YMPO staff with any questions they may have prior to the meeting.

4. Consent Agenda.

- A. Approval of the January 29, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes.
- B. YMPO Income/Expenditure Reports for January 2026.

A copy of the draft minutes of the Regular Board meeting from January 29, 2026, will accompany this agenda. Members will have the opportunity to review, report any changes, and/or approve the minutes. The January 2026 financial reports will accompany this agenda and will be available for comment, and possible approval, at this meeting.

This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and possible action to approve the Consent Agenda. Copies of the draft minutes for January 29, 2026, and the financial report for January 2026 are attached as Items 4A and 4B, respectively.

5. Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program Update

The TA Program set-aside from the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program provides funding for projects that help agencies build a variety of smaller-scale alternative transportation projects that achieve safer, connected, and equitable on-road networks for all users. The call for projects will begin on February 27th, 2026, and is expected to last one month.

This item is on the agenda for information, and comment only. Jeff Heinrichs, YMPO IT Manager/Associate Planner, will present this item, and further details are contained in the attached Information Summary 5.

6. Fortuna Road Railroad Crossing Resolution of Support #161

During the December YMPO Board meeting, Supervisor Simmons expressed his concerns regarding the recurring and prolonged closures of the Fortuna Road Railroad Crossing and requested YMPO to support the County's attempt to urge the railroad to take action to resolve the problem.

During the YMPO Board meeting in January 2026, members directed the YMPO Principal Engineer, Paul Ward, to write a letter to the Union Pacific Railroad, supporting the County's request for the railroad to fix the problems at the crossing, AND to produce a YMPO Resolution of Support. YMPO Resolution #161, has been reviewed by the YMPO TAC and the TAC has recommended it to the Board for review and possible adoption.

This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and Possible Action to approve YMPO Resolution #161, supporting Yuma County's suggested repairs to the railroad crossing at Fortuna Road, Yuma County, Arizona. Mr. Ward will present this item, and further details are attached as Information Summary 6.

7. Election of Executive Board Officers - Calendar Year 2026

YMPO By-Laws provide that elected officers of YMPO shall serve on a rotation basis. Usually, the Vice-Chair assumes the position of Chair, the Secretary/Treasurer assumes the position of Vice-Chair, and the Board elects a new officer to fill the Secretary/Treasurer position.

The current Chair is City of San Luis Councilmember Maria Cruz; the current Vice-Chair is Cocopah Indian Tribe Councilmember, Wynnne Ortega; and the current Secretary/Treasurer is City of Somerton Councilmember, Luis Galindo. It is understood that Councilmember Ortega will take over as Chair and Councilmember Galindo will be Vice-Chair. As a result, the only decision to make is to elect a new Secretary/Treasurer.

In keeping with historical precedence, a representative from Yuma County would most likely be expected to be nominated as the Secretary/Treasurer. This year, the rotation seems to be reasonably well established; however, a change in historical precedence may be considered by the Board, if necessary. Members may contact Chairwoman Cruz and/or the Executive Director to make nominations (including self-nominations), or they may do so during the meeting, when called on by the Chair. To date, Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi has indicated that she is willing to accept a nomination as Secretary/Treasurer.

This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and possible action for members regarding the usual rotation of Board Officers, as indicated in the YMPO By-Laws, and to elect a new Secretary/Treasurer. Ms. Lopez will present this item, and further information is provided in the attached Information Summary 7.

8. Election of YMPO Subcommittee Members and Identification of Officials for Attending AZSTB and RTAC meetings - Calendar Year 2026

YMPO has three possible subcommittees:

- (a) The Audit Subcommittee;
- (b) The By-Laws Subcommittee; and
- (c) The Evaluation Subcommittee.

The Audit and Evaluation Subcommittees are needed every year, but the By-Laws Subcommittee is only needed when changes to the By-Laws (or YMPO Policies and Procedures) are needed. **All three Subcommittees will likely be needed this year.**

In addition, there are two Statewide Boards/Councils for which YMPO normally nominates representatives to attend meetings, when requested. YMPO generally appoints members (and alternates) to attend and represent the region.

- (d) the Arizona State Transportation Board (AZSTB); and
- (e) the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC);

Although Subcommittee members follow a nomination/election process, AZSTB and RTAC representatives may be appointed by the YMPO Chair. Elections are only held if more than one member volunteers their services. If members are interested in taking on any of the responsibilities outlined above, they are encouraged to contact the incoming Board Chair, and/or Executive Director, and/or Principal Engineer and/or you are welcome to have someone nominate you and/or self-nominate.

This item is on the agenda for information and discussion, and possible action to elect and/or appoint members to the three YMPO Subcommittees and/or Statewide Boards/Councils. Mr. Ward will present this item and further information is provided in the attached Information Summary 8.

9. FY2026 General Accounting Services and Auditing Services Request for Proposals (RFPs).

YMPO By-Laws require an annual audit of YMPO's financial accounts. To meet this requirement, YMPO utilizes two separate professional service providers: one to provide General Accounting Services and one to provide Auditing Services. These services are procured under separate contracts to maintain appropriate independence between accounting and auditing functions.

The contracts for Accounting Services and Auditing Services are structured as one-year agreements with up to four possible one-year extensions. The scope of work and time frame for both services are well defined, making the Request for Proposals (RFP) process the most appropriate procurement method.

The most recent procurement for these services was conducted in 2020. As a result, YMPO has initiated a new procurement process and advertised Requests for Proposals for Accounting Services and Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2026. The selection of the preferred companies will likely be one of the first duties of the YMPO Audit Committee.

This item is on the agenda for information and discussion only. Ms. Lopez will present this item, and further information is provided in the attached Information Summary 9.

10. 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 an 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.

This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and for Board members and other staff reports and comments.

11. Possible Future Agenda Items

The following items will likely 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. AZ SMART Fund
- C. Transportation Alternatives Program
- D. FY 2026 and 2027 YMPO Unified Planning Work Programs

12. Progress Reports.

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

- a. Jan 29 – Executive Board Meeting (JR, JH, LL, PW)
- b. Jan 30 – YRBC meeting with Gene Dalbey (PW)
- c. Feb 02 – Tour de Fields (JR)
- d. Feb 02 – YMPO RORS Monthly Check-In (FV, JH, PW)
- e. Feb 02 – Staff Meeting (FV, PW, JR, JH, LL, LZ)
- f. Feb 03 – ESRI Training - ArcGIS Pro Basics (JH)
- g. Feb 03 – Partnering/Precon: SZ01801C Cesar Chavez Boulevard - US 95 to SR 195 (FV)
- h. Feb 04 – Advanced Roofing & Cooling – Roof Replacement Initial Meeting (FV, JR, LL, LZ)
- i. Feb 04 – ArcGIS Pro - Querying Data (JH)
- j. Feb 04 – ArcGIS Pro - Integrating Data (JH)
- k. Feb 04 – Reimagine Roofing Phone Call with Haven Campbell (FV)
- l. Feb 05 – Basics of Geographic Coordinate Systems (JH)
- m. Feb 05 – ADEQ Workshop (FV)

- n. Feb 05 – Save the Date Arizona Regional Mobility Manager's Coordination Meeting (JR)
- o. Feb 09 – ArcGIS Workflow Manager: An Introduction (JH)
- p. Feb 09 – ArcGIS Workflow Manager: Basic Concepts (JH)
- q. Feb 09 – AZ@Work Travel Training Program Meeting (JR)
- r. Feb 09 – Tour de Fields (JR)
- s. Feb 09 – ArcGIS Workflow Manager: Configure and License (JH)
- t. Feb 09 – ArcGIS Workflow Manager: Designing Workflow Diagrams (JH)
- u. Feb 09 – ArcGIS Workflow Manager: Overview Step Types (JH)
- v. Feb 09 – RTAC Advisory Committee (PW)
- w. Feb 10 – Acct/Audit RFP Draft Review Work Session 2 (LL, PW)
- x. Feb 11 – ADOT/YMPO Coordination Meeting (FV, JH, PW)
- y. Feb 11 – ADOT Annual FHWA/FTA Title VI Training (JR)
- z. Feb 12 – YMPO TAC Meeting (PW, JR, JH, FV, LZ)
- aa. Feb 12 – MPO/COG Directors Meeting (FV)
- bb. Feb 13 – COG/MPO Planners Meeting (FV, JH, JR)
- cc. Feb 17 – Sharing Maps and Layers using ArcGIS Pro - PART 1 (JH)
- dd. Feb 17 – Sharing Maps and Layers using ArcGIS Pro - PART 2 (JH)
- ee. Feb 17 – Yuma PM10 SIP Update Meeting (FV)
- ff. Feb 18 – ArcGIS Workflow Manager Fundamentals (JH)
- gg. Feb 18 – YMPO Rise Introduction (JR)
- hh. Feb 18 – CityData.ai Meeting (JR, JH)
- ii. Feb 19 – WACOG-Networking for Community Resources (JR)
- jj. Feb 19 – ADOT TAM Plan Update Workshop Option 1 (FV)
- kk. Feb 19 – ArcGIS: Getting Started with Mapping and Visualization (JH)
- ll. Feb 19 – T0542 Budget Discussion (FV)
- mm. Feb 19 – Governor's Office of Youth, Faith & Family - Older Adult Listening Session (JR)
- nn. Feb 22 - 25 – Grant Writing USA Training (LZ, JR)
- oo. Feb 23 – Automating Workflow Using ArcGIS Pro (Part 1) (JH)
- pp. Feb 23 – TA materials comment resolution w/ YMPO (FV, JH)
- qq. Feb 23 – Automating Workflows Using ArcGIS Pro (Part 2) (JH)
- rr. Feb 23 – RTAC Board Meeting (FV, PW)
- ss. Feb 23 – CTS Meeting (FV)
- tt. Feb 26 – Executive Board Meeting (PW, JR, FV, LL)

13. 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. If you have any questions regarding YMPO programs, activities, or services, please contact Fernando Villegas or Paul Ward at 928-783-8911.

14. Anticipated Future 2026 Meetings and Locations.

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 the last Thursday of each month, and the next two meetings are tentatively scheduled for March 26, 2026, and for April 30, 2026.



YMPO EXECUTIVE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Regular Meeting

Thursday, January 29, 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 Organization (YMPO) Vice-Chair, Cocopah Indian Tribe Councilmember, Wynnie Ortega, called the YMPO Executive Board (the Board) meeting to order at 3:41 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, Lulu Lopez, called the roll as follows:

YMPO Executive Board Members Present:

Vice-Chair	Wynnie Ortega, Councilmember, Cocopah Indian Tribe ^
Member	Cecilia McCollough, Councilmember, Town of Wellton ~
Member	Lynne Pancrazi, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County ^
Member	Carol Smith, Councilmember, City of Yuma ^
Member	Mark Martinez, Councilmember, City of Yuma ^

^ Attended in person.

~ Participated by teleconference.

As four of our seven constituent member agencies were present, the quorum requirement was met.

During roll call, Ms. Smith, representing the City of Yuma, stated that her title had changed from Vice Mayor to Councilmember, and the record was updated accordingly. She also stated that, for this meeting, she would wield four votes for the City of Yuma (hers and those of Councilmember Watts), and that Councilmember Martinez would have one vote.

YMPO Board Members Absent:

Chairwoman	Maria Cecilia Cruz, Councilmember, City of San Luis #
Secretary/Treasurer	Luis Galindo, Councilmember, City of Somerton *
Member	Martin Porchas, Board of Supervisors, Yuma County #
Member	Karen Watts, Councilmember, City of Yuma #
Member	Sam Elters, State Transportation Board, ADOT #

- # 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:

Kevin Adams, Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) ~

YMPO Staff Present:

Jesus Aguilar, Jr	Mobility Manager
Lourdes Lopez	Accountant II/Executive Assistant
Jeffrey Heinrichs	IT Manager/Associate Planner
Paul Ward	Principal Engineer

3. Title VI Declaration and Call to the Public.

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

There were no members of the public present to address the Board.

4. Annual Declaration of Votes for Calendar Year 2026

Ms. Smith asked how many votes she should declare on behalf of the City of Yuma representatives. Ms. Lopez responded that her understanding was that, currently, Ms. Smith had two votes, Ms. Watts had two votes, and the newly appointed representative, Mr. Martinez, had one vote. Ms. Smith agreed with this allocation.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of December 11, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes.
- B. YMPO Income/Expenditure Reports for November and December 2025.

Mr. Ward informed the Chair and Executive Board that there was an issue with the consent agenda, specifically Item B, regarding the Income and Expenditure Reports for November and December. He explained that the November Income and Expenditure Report had not been included in the original meeting packet. He noted that a copy of the November report was available at the dais and stated that it was at the discretion of the Board whether to briefly review the report and include it with the current action item or to defer consideration until the next meeting, at which time it could be presented alongside the January report.

Mr. Ward added that, based on his review, expenditures were approximately 30 percent through the end of November and 35 percent through the end of December, indicating that spending was progressing as expected, for the time of year. He stated that he had no concerns with the reports.

MOTION: Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi moved to approve both Items A and B on the consent agenda, as written. Councilmember Smith seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. RTAC Legislative Update on Possible Priority Projects

Mr. Ward explained that RTAC had identified a list of transportation priority projects under House Bill 2304. He stated that the bill included significant funding requests for rural counties, including approximately \$58 million for Yuma County, but noted that the total statewide request would likely be reduced during the legislative process.

Supervisor Pancrazi asked whether YMPO's projects had been formally prioritized, in the event of funding cuts. Mr. Ward indicated he was unsure of the current prioritization and would confirm following further review and after reviewing the YMPO Technical Advisory Committee actions. He stated that staff would provide updates to the Board and, if necessary, bring back a recommendation to formally prioritize the projects.

At 4:11 p.m., the Board returned to Item 6 to receive an update from RTAC Director, Kevin Adam, who joined the meeting by teleconference, following RTAC's Lunch with Legislators Day at the Capitol.

Mr. Adam reported that the legislative session was underway, and that securing long-term transportation revenue remained challenging, particularly given the requirement for a two-thirds majority vote to increase statewide transportation taxes. He provided an overview of pending legislation, including proposals to establish annual fees for alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles and efforts to dedicate electric vehicle charging station sales tax revenues to the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF). He noted that, while these measures could generate some revenue, the projected amounts would not significantly address the state's overall transportation funding gap.

Mr. Adam stated that RTAC's primary strategy continued to focus on advocating for the use of one-time surplus state revenues to support transportation infrastructure. He reported that the RTAC priority project legislation, which includes projects submitted by YMPO for the region, as well as legislation to provide additional funding to the Arizona Smart Fund, were anticipated to be heard in committee at the State Legislature, on February 18.

Supervisor Pancrazi engaged in discussion regarding potential local transportation revenue options and raised concerns about the regressive nature of sales taxes, particularly in communities with higher poverty levels. She inquired whether legislation could be pursued to allow counties to seek voter approval for a local fuel tax.

Mr. Adam explained that while such authority could be explored, it could also present risks to existing state revenue-sharing structures and would require careful consideration to ensure current HURF distributions to local governments were not reduced. Supervisor Pancrazi expressed interest in continuing such discussions and exploring long-term options to address transportation funding challenges.

Mr. Adam concluded by announcing that he had accepted a new position and would be transitioning from RTAC after 19 years of service. He stated that transition planning was underway to ensure continuity during the remainder of the legislative session.

7. Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program Update

Mr. Heinrichs presented an update on the federally funded Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program, explaining that it supports community-based projects focused on safety, connectivity, and quality of life. He reported that during the previous cycle, two regional projects were advanced.

The first project was Yuma County's East Main Canal multi-use path, which was awarded \$183,885 in FY26 for scoping. The second project was the City of Yuma shared-use pathway along Avenue 6E, connecting 32nd Street to East Mesa Community Park at 36th Street. He stated that the project would receive \$424,350 in FY 2027 for design and \$1.2 million in FY 2029 for construction.

Mr. Heinrichs noted that the next TA cycle was anticipated in late February and that program updates were expected to streamline the application process. He encouraged local agencies to review the ADOT TA website for eligibility and application information.

Supervisor Pancrazi requested clarification on the funding amount for the City of Yuma project, and Mr. Heinrichs confirmed the design and construction funding amounts.

8. Railroad Crossing Elimination Program and Regional Letter of Support

Mr. Ward reported that, during a prior Board meeting, Supervisor Darren Simmons had raised concerns regarding ongoing issues at the Fortuna Road railroad crossing. He explained that electrical malfunctions, reportedly related to drainage issues, had resulted in closures at the crossing. He noted that further concerns existed at this and at two other additional crossings in Wellton and that a broader study was underway. He further reported that the Yuma County Board of Supervisors had approved a resolution on January 5 requesting further corrective action.

Mr. Ward asked whether the Board wished for YMPO to issue a letter of support or adopt a resolution in support of the County's action. Board members discussed

the matter and expressed interest in pursuing both a Letter of Support and a resolution. Staff was directed to prepare and send a Letter of Support and to draft a resolution, for possible consideration and/or approval at a future meeting.

At 4:11 p.m., the Board returned to Item 6 to receive a legislative update from RTAC Representative Kevin Adam, who had joined the meeting virtually following the earlier discussion. This update is included as shown in Item 6.

9. Election of Executive Board Officers - Calendar Year 2026

Mr. Ward reviewed the YMPO Bylaws regarding officer rotation and explained that the three Executive Board officers serve on a rotating basis. He stated that at the next meeting in February, the current Vice Chair would move into the Chair position, the Secretary/Treasurer would move into the Vice Chair position, and the Board would need to elect a new Secretary/Treasurer. He noted that while action could be taken at the current meeting, officer confirmations are typically finalized at the following meeting.

Mr. Ward further explained that historically the rotation had followed representation by jurisdiction and that it was Yuma County's turn to fill that position.

Councilmember Smith tentatively nominated Supervisor Pancrazi for YMPO Secretary/Treasurer and Supervisor Pancrazi accepted the nomination. Brief discussion followed regarding the timing of formal action, and Mr. Ward recommended confirming the appointment at the next meeting, to allow staff to prepare accordingly. No final action was taken at this time.

10. Election of YMPO Subcommittee Members and Identification of Officials for Attending AZSTB and RTAC meetings - Calendar Year 2026

Mr. Ward reviewed the structure of YMPO subcommittees and statewide board representation. He explained that YMPO maintains three subcommittees: the Audit Subcommittee, the Bylaws Subcommittee, and the Evaluation Subcommittee, as well as representation at certain statewide transportation boards.

Regarding the Audit Subcommittee, Mr. Ward stated that the incoming Secretary/Treasurer would traditionally serve as Chair of the Audit Subcommittee and that two additional Board members would need to be identified to serve on that committee.

Mr. Ward explained that the Bylaws Subcommittee is convened only when updates to the Bylaws are necessary. He noted that the Bylaws had not been updated since 2015 but that no legislative changes currently required revisions. Supervisor Pancrazi inquired whether any recent legislative changes required updates to the Bylaws, and Mr. Ward responded that no substantive changes were needed, aside

from a minor correction previously made. He suggested that appointment to the Bylaws Subcommittee could be deferred until revisions were necessary.

Mr. Ward further stated that the Evaluation Subcommittee is traditionally chaired by the incoming Executive Board Chair and is responsible for conducting the annual evaluation of the Executive Director. Supervisor Pancrazi confirmed that the evaluation pertains to the Executive Director.

Mr. Ward then discussed representation related to the State Transportation Board. He explained that State Transportation Board members are appointed by the Governor, are confirmed by the State Senate, with six-year terms assigned by district. He noted that District 6 includes four counties and operates on a rotational cycle, and that Yuma County would not be eligible for appointment for many years. While YMPO would not be selecting an official State Transportation Board member, he indicated that the Board typically identifies representatives to attend State Transportation Board meetings to monitor discussions and advocate on behalf of regional interests.

Mr. Ward clarified that the item was presented for discussion and possible direction, and no formal appointments were made at this time.

11. FY 2026-30 YMPO TIP Amendment #3

Mr. Ward reported that the FY 2026-2030 YMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved in July 2025, and has already been amended twice since then. It currently requires a third amendment, to incorporate the two recently awarded Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program funded projects from item 7. He explained that three entries would be added to the TIP, occurring in FY 2026, FY 2027, and FY 2029, as outlined in the agenda information summary.

He stated that the FY 2026 addition included Yuma County's East Main Canal multi-use path project for scoping activities, or preliminary design. The project totaled approximately \$183,885 in TA funding, with an estimated \$11,000 local match to be provided by Yuma County. The FY 2027 and FY 2029 additions comprised the design and construction phases of the City of Yuma's shared-use pathway project along Avenue 6E: 32nd Street to East Mesa Community Park at 36th Street.

He noted that because the projects are federally funded, they must be formally incorporated into the TIP and, upon approval, would be forwarded to ADOT for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

MOTION: Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi moved to approve FY 2026-30 YMPO TIP Amendment #3. Councilmember Watts seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

12. In-Kind Match Forms -Annual Reminder for Executive Board Members

Ms. Lopez reminded the Board that any time spent by member agencies or staff conducting work on behalf of YMPO, including reviewing materials, providing comments, or attending meetings, in person or virtually, may be documented as in-kind contributions toward the YMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). She explained that these documented efforts are used as soft match and help reduce the required cash match from member agencies.

Ms. Lopez stated that the in-kind reporting form was included in the agenda information summary and encouraged members to contact her or the Administrative Assistant with any questions regarding completion or submission of the form.

13. Entity Dues from Member Agencies

Ms. Lopez reviewed the policy and procedure for calculating matching funds within the YMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), originally approved by the Executive Board in May 2018. She explained that the UPWP is developed between January and May and is reviewed and approved by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Executive Board, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

She further noted that in February 2023, the Board approved a revision to the local dues calculation methodology to incorporate previously programmed local planning expenditures over a three-year period to help stabilize the general fund and avoid unexpected fluctuations in member assessments.

Ms. Lopez stated that preliminary entity dues assessments were mailed to member agencies in February 2025 for planning purposes. Since that time, final dues were recalculated to reflect the approved FY 2026-2027 UPWP Amendment One and updated official population estimates released by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in December 2025. She reported that the final assessments had been mailed to member agencies and that several payments had already been received.

Ms. Lopez informed the Board that total entity dues decreased by \$5,154 from the preliminary estimate, resulting in a revised total of approximately \$80,000. She reiterated that dues are calculated using the Board-approved methodology, factoring in required in-kind matching funds for newly awarded grants and previously programmed planning expenditures to maintain the general fund over time.

MOTION: Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi moved to approve the FY 2026 Final Entity Dues from Member Agencies. Councilmember Watts seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

14. 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 (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.

15. 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. Election of Executive Board Officers - Calendar Year 2026
- C. Election of Subcommittee Members
- D. AZ SMART Fund
- E. Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program
- F. FY 2026 and 2027 YMPO Unified Planning Work Programs
- G. Accounting and Auditing Services for FY 2026 Request for Proposals (RFP)

Vice-Chair Ortega stated that the Fortuna Railroad Crossing topic should be added to this list. Mr. Ward agreed and stated that it will be added for the next meeting.

Mr. Ward added that the item was intended to provide Board members the opportunity to request future agenda topics or raise questions of interest to their respective agencies or YMPO staff. He encouraged members to identify subjects they would like staff to provide updates on, particularly in light of ongoing statewide discussions related to RTAC activities and the state budget, which could significantly impact member agencies.

He noted that potential future topics could include the status of the YMPO's regional traffic counting program, transit activities, intelligent transportation systems, or other regional planning efforts. He also briefly referenced coordination occurring at the MPO/COG director level, including matters such as census-related planning efforts that could influence future regional designation and funding.

During discussion, Supervisor Pancrazi inquired whether YMPO was involved in coordination efforts related to the 16th Street widening and traffic signal synchronization, particularly at 16th Street and Avenue B, which she noted as a high-accident area within her district. Mr. Heinrichs responded that the City of

Yuma's team was currently involved in the project. Supervisor Pancrazi emphasized the importance of the issue to the region.

15. Progress Reports.

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

- A. Dec 11 - YMPO TAC Meeting (JR, JH, FV, LL, LZ)
- B. Dec 11 - YMPO Holiday Luncheon (JR, JH, FV, LL, LZ)
- C. Dec 11 - YMPO Executive Board Meeting (JR, JH, FV, LL, LZ)
- D. Dec 12 - COG/MPO Planners Meeting (CF, JH, FV)
- E. Dec 15 - Procurement Policy Work (LL)
- F. Dec 15 - Organizational Structure Discussion (CF, LL)
- G. Dec 15 - RTAC Board Meeting (CF, FV)
- H. Dec 16 - Yuma PM10 SIP Update Meeting (CF, FV)
- I. Dec 17 - Yuma Road Safety Action Plan TAC Meeting 2 (FV)
- J. Dec 17 - 2025 Annual Governmental GAAP Update Encore (LL)
- K. Dec 17 - Independent Contractor Discussion (CF)
- L. Dec 18 - WACOG-Networking for Community Resources (JR)
- M. Dec 18 - Arizona Incoming Planner Information Exchange (JH, FV)
- N. Dec 18 - Roof Style/Material Meeting (CF, FV, LL, LZ)
- O. Dec 18 - Tour de Fields (JR)
- P. Dec 18 - 2019 Ford Explorer - Tires Replacement (JR)
- Q. Dec 19 - Arizona State Transportation Board Meeting - Queen Creek (CF)
- R. Dec 22 - Website and BikeReg Update Meeting (JR, JH)
- S. Dec 22 - 5311 2026 Webinar (JR)
- T. Dec 22 - YMPO Holiday Breakfast (CF, JR, JH, FV, LL, LZ)
- U. Dec 22 - Wells Fargo Bank Appointment (CF, FV)
- V. Dec 23 - DSR Roofing - Quote (CF, FV, LZ)
- W. Dec 24 - TAC Member Orientation (CF, FV)
- X. Dec 29 - Yuma Region Bicycle Coalition-Board Meeting (JR)
- Y. Dec 31 - YMPO/ ADOT 5310 Quarter Report OCT - DEC (JR)
- Z. Jan 05 - YMPO RORS Monthly Check-In (CF, JH, FV)
- AA. Jan 06 - Staff Meeting (CF, PW, JR, JH, FV, LL, LZ)
- BB. Jan 06 - TA TAC Voting Members Leadership Election (CF, JH)
- CC. Jan 07 - Auditing and Accounting RFP Schedule (CF, PW, LL)
- DD. Jan 07 - YMPO Ledgers & Financial Statements Training (CF, FV, LL)
- EE. Jan 08 - YMPO TAC Meeting (CF, PW, JR, JH, FV, LZ)
- FF. Jan 08 - PASS Training Site Visit (JR)
- GG. Jan 08 - 5310 meeting w/ Amity Medical Transport (JR)
- HH. Jan 09 - PASS Training (JR)
- II. Jan 12 - Regional Mobility Committee (JR)
- JJ. Jan 12 - ADOT/YMPO Monthly Coordination Meeting (PW, JH, FV)
- KK. Jan 13 - Mobility Management and Community Outreach Webinar (JR)
- LL. Jan 13 - NHI Training: Connection between HPMS and TPM (JH)

- MM. Jan 14 - Auditing and Accounting Services RFP Review (LL)
- NN. Jan 15 - Arizona Incoming Planner Information Exchange (FV)
- OO. Jan 15 - Future I-8 Corridor Study (FV)
- PP. Jan 20 - Yuma PM10 SIP Update (PW, FV)
- QQ. Jan 22 - Yuma SAP: Strategies and Countermeasures (PW, FV)

16. Adjournment.

Having no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Cruz adjourned the meeting at 4:58 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, or Paul Ward, 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 February 26, 2026, and March 26, 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
February 26, 2026

Paul Ward, Principal Engineer
Representing
Crystal Figueroa, Executive Director,
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

Councilmember Wynnne Ortega,
Chairwoman, YMPO Executive Board

Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization Revenue & Expense Budget Performance January 2026

	Jan 26	Jul '25 - Jan 26	YTD Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4000 · ADOT Grant				
4001 · PL	0.00	240,173.55	480,625.00	49.97%
4002 · SPR	0.00	113,198.60	219,045.00	51.68%
4004 · STBG	0.00	61,465.37	69,756.00	88.12%
4005 · 5305d (CPG)	0.00	71,326.88	159,980.00	44.59%
Total 4000 · ADOT Grant	0.00	486,164.40	929,406.00	52.31%
4007 · PL ISATO	0.00	10,240.00	10,240.00	100.0%
4008 · SS4A Grant (USDOT)	0.00	0.00	240,000.00	0.0%
4010 · FTA Grant				
4020 · 5303/5305	0.00	0.00	150,000.00	0.0%
Total 4010 · FTA Grant	0.00	0.00	150,000.00	0.0%
4050 · ADEQ Grant	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.0%
4055 · 5310 Funds				
4056 · RTAP	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
4055 · 5310 Funds - Other	0.00	71,801.79	122,764.00	58.49%
Total 4055 · 5310 Funds	0.00	71,801.79	123,764.00	58.02%
4200 · YMPO UPWP Dues	0.00	75,410.64	80,565.84	93.6%
4400 · Interest Income	3,885.81	21,919.17	29,318.00	74.76%
4600 · Charges for Services				
4904 · Traffic Count Revenue	1,442.40	4,796.80	15,200.00	31.56%
4600 · Charges for Services - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 4700 · Other Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Income	5,328.21	670,332.80	1,588,493.84	42.2%
Gross Profit	5,328.21	670,332.80	1,588,493.84	42.2%
Expense				
5110 · Payroll Expenses				
5111 · Fringe Benefits	2,717.37	19,998.53	36,897.68	54.2%
5112 · Part Time Staff-Salaries				
5133 · Part Time Staff-Salaries- Local	492.99	5,722.13	11,422.32	50.1%
5112 · Part Time Staff-Salaries - Other	2,955.14	25,235.56	64,291.17	39.25%
Total 5112 · Part Time Staff-Salaries	3,448.13	30,957.69	75,713.49	40.89%
5113 · Full Time Staff-Salaries	32,073.00	230,461.23	418,031.00	55.13%
5115 · Health Insurance-ER Portion	6,948.98	48,642.86	83,387.82	58.33%
5116 · ASRS	3,848.76	27,655.33	49,594.23	55.76%
5117 · Workman's Comp Insurance	0.00	1,181.00	1,202.00	98.25%
5118 · FUTA Payroll Expense	204.93	276.35	588.00	47.0%
5120 · Life Insurance	130.00	1,040.00	1,872.00	55.56%
Total 5110 · Payroll Expenses	49,371.17	360,212.99	667,286.22	53.98%
5123 · Consulting Services				

Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

Revenue & Expense Budget Performance

January 2026

5134 · Contractual-Local	4,400.00	5,551.95	78,652.00	7.06%
5123 · Consulting Services - Other	0.00	125,263.59	599,103.00	20.91%
Total 5123 · Consulting Services	4,400.00	130,815.54	677,755.00	19.3%
5124 · Staff Training/Education				
5137 · Staff Training/Edu Reimb-Local	0.00	3,245.60	7,000.00	46.37%
5124 · Staff Training/Education - Other	1,064.88	1,493.88	2,722.00	54.88%
Total 5124 · Staff Training/Education	1,064.88	4,739.48	9,722.00	48.75%
5125 · Audit Services	0.00	17,000.00	25,850.00	65.76%
5126 · Payroll Processing Fees	823.90	2,963.27	5,200.00	56.99%
5128 · Accounting Services	0.00	24,438.15	25,000.00	97.75%
5129 · Public Participation	0.00	456.84	500.00	91.37%
5131 · Data Process, Software, Hardwar	26.01	9,273.94	15,000.00	61.83%
5132 · Furniture and Equipment	4,462.14	9,519.01	10,300.00	92.42%
5138 · Capital Outlay	0.00	0.00	35,000.00	0.0%
5140 · Legal	0.00	0.00	7,000.00	0.0%
5147 · Mobility Management Program	50.00	3,218.05	17,044.00	18.88%
5150 · IT Support	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%
5151 · Building Ins, property tax	0.00	5,040.00	5,500.00	91.64%
5152 · Equipment Maintenance	0.00	300.11	1,300.00	23.09%
5153 · Office Supplies	232.77	1,283.64	2,100.00	61.13%
5154 · Postage	0.00	77.75	150.00	51.83%
5155 · Printing	130.75	421.83	650.00	64.9%
5157 · Publications, Subscriptions	0.00	700.63	1,000.00	70.06%
5158 · Registration Fees	750.00	9,745.00	10,700.00	91.08%
5159 · Special Meetings	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%
5160 · Telecommunications	761.31	5,856.73	12,000.00	48.81%
5162 · Vehicle Insurance	0.00	8,072.00	8,500.00	94.97%
5163 · Vehicle Maint., Repairs, Parts	66.78	1,606.03	2,000.00	80.3%
5164 · YMPO Memberships & Dues	0.00	3,167.14	5,000.00	63.34%
5165 · Finance Charges and Interest	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.0%
5166 · Website Maintenance	0.00	247.87	200.00	123.94%
5167 · Miscellenous Consumables	199.47	2,064.93	3,500.00	59.0%
5168 · Employee Recruitment	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.0%
5169 · Miscellaneous-Expense	0.00	1,511.90	7,000.00	21.6%
5171 · Alarm System	120.00	414.19	700.00	59.17%
5173 · Electric Bill	534.95	5,336.32	9,000.00	59.29%
5174 · Grounds Maintenance	250.00	1,750.00	4,500.00	38.89%
5175 · Janitorial	900.00	5,400.00	9,840.00	54.88%
5179 · Office Building Repairs				
5181 · Pest Control	75.00	405.00	520.00	77.89%
5179 · Office Building Repairs - Other	167.78	526.17	5,000.00	10.52%
Total 5179 · Office Building Repairs	242.78	931.17	5,520.00	16.87%

Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization Revenue & Expense Budget Performance January 2026

5182 · Sewer & Water	137.17	1,127.10	3,500.00	32.2%
5190 · Travel - Local & Outside County	565.54	10,534.59	18,000.00	58.53%
5191 · T530- Traffic Count Fuel	67.16	1,199.27	3,000.00	39.98%
5630 · T530 Traffic Count Equipment				
5631 · T530-Local COY Materials	0.00	0.00	2,533.17	0.0%
5630 · T530 Traffic Count Equipment - Other	230.24	1,448.59	5,500.00	26.34%
Total 5630 · T530 Traffic Count Equipment	230.24	1,448.59	8,033.17	18.03%
Total Expense	65,387.02	630,874.06	1,618,650.39	38.98%
Net Ordinary Income	-60,058.81	39,458.74	-30,156.55	-130.85%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
4900 · In-Kind Match Revenue	0.00	103,072.23	117,334.00	87.85%
Total Other Income	0.00	103,072.23	117,334.00	87.85%
Other Expense				
9200 · In-Kind Match Expenses	0.00	103,072.23	117,334.00	87.85%
Total Other Expense	0.00	103,072.23	117,334.00	87.85%
Net Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Net Income	-60,058.81	39,458.74	-30,156.55	-130.85%

10000 - Wells Fargo - YMPO General Account	\$68,450.48
10009 - Wells Fargo - YMPO Payroll Account	\$64,721.90
10100 - Yuma County Treasurer - YMPO Account	\$115,893.78
	<u>\$249,066.16</u>

YMPO INFORMATION SUMMARY for Agenda Item #5

The Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program

DATE: February 26, 2026

SUBJECT: The Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program

SUMMARY:

The Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program is a federally funded program that supports community-based projects that focus on improving safety, connectivity, and quality of life while reducing reliance on motor vehicles.

The Transportation Alternatives program is being operated as a competitive-grant program that is funded through a set-aside of the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Example projects that are eligible for TA funding are multi-use pathways, Safe Routes to School projects, historic preservation and safety assessments just to name a few.

The upcoming call for projects will begin on February 27, 2026, and should run for around one month, based on historical funding cycles. Local agencies, tribal governments, transit agencies, school districts and non-profit organizations need to pull together project documentation, community support evidence and mini-DCRs for submittal.

For this FY27 cycle there will be \$16.9M available for Greater Arizona with \$5.85M already awarded to projects from the previous TA cycle(s). The remaining \$11.1M for FY27 is available for new project funding across fiscal years FY27/28/29.

Locally two TA projects have advanced from the FY26 funding cycle. One project is a multi-use pathway, located along Yuma County's East Main Canal from County 12th to 14th Streets. This project will create a 10-foot-wide paved pathway, improving residents' quality of life and supporting regional, long-term bikeway plans. This project was awarded \$183,885 in FY26 TA funding for project scoping activities.

The second project is a shared-use pathway for the City of Yuma along Avenue 6E from 32nd to 36th Streets ending at the new East Mesa Community Park. This project will construct a multi-use pathway that includes a High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) beacon improving pedestrian safety. This project has been awarded \$424,350 in TA design funds for FY27 and \$1.2M in FY29 TA funding for construction.

The TA guidebook and application information will be communicated through the Arizona Department of Transportation's (ADOT) Transportation Alternatives website at www.azdot.gov/TA. ADOT is also going to be holding an informational webinar on March 4, 2026.

PUBLIC INPUT: There has been no public input on this subject, to date.

ACTION NEEDED: This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and possible comment only, at this stage.

CONTACT PERSON:

Jeff Heinrichs, IT Manager/Associate Planner.

YMPO INFORMATION SUMMARY for Agenda Item #6

Fortuna Road Crossing Resolution/Letter of Support

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBJECT: Fortuna Road Crossing Resolution/Letter of Support

SUMMARY:

During the December YMPO Executive Board meeting, Supervisor Simmons expressed his concerns regarding the recurring and prolonged closures of the Fortuna Road Railroad Crossing. During their January 6, 2026, meeting, the Yuma County Board of Supervisors approved a Resolution, expressing their concerns about the ongoing disruption and safety risks and urging the railroad to resolve the problem.

The Fortuna Road Railroad crossing is a critical transportation corridor in the YMPO region. Repeated and extended closures of the Fortuna Road railroad crossing have occurred over the past several years, and the closures are frequently caused by electrical wiring failures that shut down the railroad crossing.

These prolonged closures substantially disrupt daily travel, necessitating detours that increase travel time and impeding the movement of emergency responders, agricultural operations, commercial traffic, and operations associated with the Yuma Proving Grounds.

The Yuma County Resolution requests a permanent, durable solution to the electrical and signaling infrastructure at the Fortuna Road crossing to prevent future weather-related failures. The Resolution also requests assistance and engagement from Arizona's congressional delegation, the Federal Railroad Administration, and other appropriate federal agencies to facilitate oversight, accountability, and, if necessary, funding solutions to ensure the repair and maintenance of the Fortuna Road Crossing.

PUBLIC INPUT:

There has been no public input on this subject, to date.

ACTION NEEDED

This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and Possible Action to adopt Resolution #161 regarding the repair of the Fortuna Road Railroad Crossing.

CONTACT PERSON:

Paul Ward, Principal Engineer.

Please see the attached draft Resolution #161.

YUMA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

230 West Morrison Street
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Phone: (928) 783-8911

www.ympo.org



YUMA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION RESOLUTION NO. 161

A RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE YUMA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, SUPPORTING YUMA COUNTY'S SUGGESTED REPAIRS TO THE RAILROAD CROSSING AT FORTUNA ROAD, YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA

WHEREAS: The Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) is a multiagency transportation planning agency formed in 1983, governed by an Executive Board, for the purpose of preparing a regionwide transportation plan that provides for mobility and safe travel for citizens, economic growth, and environmental enhancements; and

WHEREAS: The Union Pacific Railroad Owns and operates a railroad line in the Yuma County area that crosses Fortuna Road between Interstate 8 and US Route 95, and the crossing of Fortuna Road is controlled by on-demand crossing arms controlled and maintained by the Union Pacific Railroad;

WHEREAS: Fortuna Road is a critical transportation corridor in Yuma County, providing essential access for residents, emergency responders, agricultural operations, commercial traffic, and personnel and operations associated with the Yuma Proving Ground; and

WHEREAS: Repeated and extended closures of the Fortuna Road railroad crossing have occurred over the past several years, including but not limited to closures on August 19, 2023; January 24, 2024; and multiple multi-day closures in 2025, including periods of two to five consecutive days; and

WHEREAS: Yuma County Public Works and officials associated with the Yuma Proving Ground have advised that the closures are frequently caused by electrical wiring failures that short out during rain events, resulting in the crossing being shut down for extended periods until repairs are made; and

WHEREAS: These prolonged closures substantially disrupt daily travel, create detours that significantly increase travel time, impede the movement of goods and agricultural products, negatively affect workforce access, and raise serious public safety concerns related to emergency response times; and

WHEREAS: The County has been informed that while temporary measures may be undertaken, the underlying wiring and infrastructure issues persist and require a permanent, capital-level fix to prevent continued failures; and

WHEREAS: Railroad crossings are subject to federal regulation and oversight, and meaningful corrective action may require coordination among the railroad operator, the Federal Railroad Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation, and congressional offices; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization:

1. Formally expresses its concern regarding the recurring and prolonged closures of the Fortuna Road railroad crossing and the ongoing disruption and safety risks these closures impose on Yuma County residents, businesses, and agencies;
2. Urges the responsible railroad operator to promptly implement a permanent and durable repair to the electrical and signaling infrastructure at the Fortuna Road crossing to prevent future weather-related failures;
3. Offers assistance and requests engagement from Arizona's congressional delegation, the Federal Railroad Administration, and other appropriate federal agencies and State agencies to help facilitate oversight, accountability, and, if necessary, funding solutions to ensure the crossing is repaired and maintained to reliable operating standards;
4. Directs YMPO staff to transmit this Resolution to Arizona's congressional offices, relevant federal agencies, and other stakeholders, as appropriate, and to continue coordinating with the Yuma Proving Ground and other affected partners; and
5. Affirms YMPO's commitment to pursuing all reasonable advocacy avenues to protect public safety, mobility, and economic activity in Yuma County.

ADOPTED AND SIGNED this 29th day of February 2026.

Wynn timer Ortega, Chairwoman, Executive Board
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization
Councilmember, Cocopah Indian Tribe

ATTEST:

Crystal Figueroa, Executive Director
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

YMPO INFORMATION SUMMARY for Agenda Item 07

Election of YMPO Officers for 2026

DATE: February 18, 2026

SUBJECT: Election of YMPO Officers for 2026

SUMMARY:

The YMPO By-Laws for the YMPO Executive Board require that members of YMPO shall elect the following officers: Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary-Treasurer. In the absence of the Chair, or upon their inability to act or serve, the Vice Chair shall have the powers of the Chair. The three Officers will serve without compensation and shall serve for a period of one year.

The By-Laws also require that elected officers of the YMPO shall serve on a rotation basis; when the Chair or Vice Chair's position is vacated, the Vice Chair assumes the position of Chair, and the Secretary-Treasurer assumes the position of Vice Chair. The Executive Board must then elect another Executive Board member to the vacant office of Secretary-Treasurer, and these Officers are elected during the first meeting in February.

Under current circumstances, Vice Chair (and Cocopah Tribe Councilmember) Wynnie Ortega will assume the position of Chair, Secretary-Treasurer (and City of Somerton Councilmember) Luis Galindo assumes the position of Vice Chair and the Board needs to elect a new Secretary/Treasurer. Based on historical precedence, a representative from Yuma County, would be expected to be nominated as the soon-to-be-vacant Secretary/Treasurer.

Members may contact Chair Maria Cruz and/or the Executive Director to make nominations (including self-nominations) or they may do so during the meeting, when called on by the Chair. Although there is no requirement to rotate the Secretary/Treasurer position amongst member agencies, the attached Table One shows the agencies from which YMPO officers have come from during the past several years, and shows that it is customary for each agency to have an opportunity to supply YMPO Executive Board Officers. To date, it appears that it is Yuma County's turn to nominate an Officer, and Supervisor Pancrazi has indicated that she is willing to accept a nomination as Secretary/Treasurer.

PUBLIC INPUT: No public comments have been received on this subject to date.

TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL: YMPO staff usually try to meet with all new members of the YMPO Executive Board to help them get oriented to the YMPO mission and what it is that YMPO does. Furthermore, YMPO staff offer similar meetings to Officers to assist in the understanding of their increased duties.

POLICY: YMPO By-Laws specify most of the "how" Officers are chosen and "when".

ACTION NEEDED:

This item is on the agenda for information, discussion, and possible action to elect Councilmember Wynnie Ortega to the position of YMPO Chair; to elect Councilmember Luis Galindo to the position of YMPO Vice Chair; and then to accept nominations and elect a new YMPO Secretary/Treasurer.

CONTACT PERSON:

Lourdes Lopez, Accountant II, 928-783-8911

Table One - Agencies Represented as YMPO Officers - 2010 to Date			
Year	Chair	Vice Chair	Secretary/Treasurer
2010	Yuma County	City of Somerton	City of Yuma
2011	City of Somerton	City of Yuma	Yuma County
2012	City of Yuma	Yuma County	Cocopah Indian Tribe
2013	Yuma County	Cocopah Indian Tribe	City of Yuma
2014	Cocopah Indian Tribe	San Luis	City of Yuma
2015	San Luis	City of Yuma	Yuma County
2016	Yuma County	City of Yuma	Town of Wellton
2017	City of Yuma	Town of Wellton	City of Somerton
2018	Town of Wellton	City of Somerton	Cocopah Indian Tribe
2019	Cocopah Indian Tribe	City of Somerton	City of San Luis
2020	City of Somerton	City of San Luis	Yuma County
2021	City of San Luis	Yuma County	City of Yuma
2022	Yuma County	City of Yuma	Town of Wellton
2023	City of Yuma	Town of Wellton	City of San Luis
2024	Town of Wellton	City of San Luis	Cocopah Indian Tribe
2025	City of San Luis	Cocopah Indian Tribe	City of Somerton
2026	Cocopah Indian Tribe	City of Somerton	Yuma County

YMPO INFORMATION SUMMARY for Agenda Item 8

YMPO Subcommittee Members and Other Representatives for 2026

DATE: February 18, 2026

SUBJECT: YMPO Subcommittee Members and Other Representatives for CY 2025.

SUMMARY:

YMPO has three subcommittees, one to oversee the annual Audit process, a second to oversee any changes to YMPO By-Laws, and a third to evaluate the Executive Director.

The Audit Subcommittee is required under YMPO By-Laws, consists of three members of the Executive Board, and is chaired by the elected YMPO Secretary/Treasurer. There are no restrictions on which agencies the members need to come from, and there are no stated term limits for members. The key role for the Audit Committee is to review the Annual Audit (also required under YMPO By-Laws) and report to the Executive Board. As stated, the Secretary/Treasurer is the Chair of the Committee, so only two additional members need to be identified.

The By-Laws Subcommittee is not actually called-out in YMPO By-Laws, but such a Subcommittee has been utilized in the past to review proposed changes to the By-Laws and Personnel Policies and Procedures. This has occurred, on an as-needed basis, and a report is provided back to the Executive Board, with recommendations. Due to the limited need for such a Subcommittee, the composition of the By-Laws Committee is decided on a case-by-case, as needed, basis. Regardless, the Board may decide to wait before deciding on candidates.

The Executive Director Evaluation Subcommittee is also not called out in YMPO By-Laws but is referred to as part of the YMPO Policies and Procedures Manual. In particular, Chapter II - Employment Structure and Compensation; Subchapter A - YMPO Staff; Section ii - Performance Reviews, calls for a Subcommittee of three Board Members, from different agencies, one of whom will be the current Chair. This Subcommittee meets with the Executive Director, discusses the Director's performance, and presents a report to the full Executive Board on possible action, including a recommendation for a raise, if appropriate.

In addition to the above Subcommittees, there are two Statewide Boards and/or Councils, the Arizona State Transportation Board (AZSTB) and the Rural Transportation Advisory Council (RTAC). YMPO customarily appoints members (and alternates) to attend these meetings, to represent the region. This agenda item is an advance notice that these appointments will most likely occur during the Executive Board meeting on February 26, 2026, in conjunction with the previous agenda item, and no action is anticipated at this meeting. Although subcommittee members are usually nominated and then elected,

AZSTB and RTAC representatives may also be appointed by the YMPO Chair, although elections may be held, if more than one member is nominated.

The Arizona State Transportation Board (AZSTB): The AZSTB is comprised of appointed officials from six districts around the state. These officials serve six-year terms, are appointed by the Governor, and are confirmed by the State Senate. The AZSTB holds approximately 12-15 meetings annually throughout the State, including two or three study sessions. District 6 comprises La Paz, Mohave, Yavapai, and Yuma Counties, and the current AZSTB District 6 member is Mohave County Manager Sam Elters.

As indicated, the **official** position for District 6 represents four Counties, so YMPO MAY choose to identify a representative, and an alternate, who have expressed an interest in attending some of the AZSTB meetings to specifically lobby the AZSTB on behalf of the Yuma region's needs, **in addition to** Mr. Elters.

The Rural Transportation Advisory Council (RTAC): In the mid-90s, when the Casa Grande Resolves were being developed and implemented (benefitting mainly the substantially urban Maricopa and Pima Counties) a group of predominantly rural Arizona Counties decided to form a separate group to focus on the transportation interests of the rural areas, which covers the majority of the area of the State. That agency is the RTAC.

A Legislative Liaison person was appointed, whose main role is to track mainly transportation legislation, at both the Federal and State levels. This position is administered through the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) and is funded by all the rural Councils of Government and the smaller Metropolitan Planning Organizations, excluding the Maricopa and Pima Association of Governments (MAG and PAG). Funding is split on a population basis, and YMPO currently pays just over \$21,000, each year, to fund this effort. The current Liaison person is Kevin Adam. YMPO is a full-voting member of the RTAC and usually appoints an official representative, plus an alternate. These members sit as voting members of the RTAC Board.

PUBLIC INPUT: No public comments have been made on this subject, to date.

TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL: Representatives of the RTAC and the STB are usually selected from volunteers, but may be appointed by the Chair.

The appointed member of the AZSTB for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) District Six (which covers four Counties, including Yuma County) from 2018 to 2024 was Gary Knight, from the City of Yuma. The current official member for ADOT District Six is Sam Elters, from Mohave County. As such, it is appropriate to identify

members of the YMPO Board to attend AZSTB meetings, in support of AZSTB Member Sam Elters, specifically to represent/lobby for the Yuma region's best interests.

POLICY: Under the current By-Laws, the newly elected Secretary-Treasurer becomes the Chair of the Audit Subcommittee.

ACTION NEEDED:

Possible action to elect and/or appoint members to the three Subcommittees, and YMPO representatives to the AZSTB and the RTAC.

PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

RTAC Oversight: During CY 2025, the primary member was Chairwoman Maria Cruz, and Councilmember Cecilia McCollough was the alternate.

AZSTB Oversight: During CY 2025, the primary member was Deputy Mayor Carol Smith, and Councilmember Karen Watts was the alternate.

The Audit Subcommittee: For CY 2025, Secretary/Treasurer Luis Galindo was Chair, and Councilmember Wynnie Ortega and Deputy Mayor Smith served as members.

By-Laws Subcommittee: For CY 2025, Chairwoman Cruz, Councilmember Wynnie Ortega and Supervisor Simmons served as members.

Director Evaluation Subcommittee: For CY 2025, Chairwoman Cruz, Councilmember Galindo and Deputy Mayor Smith were members.

CONTACT PERSON: Paul Ward, Principal Engineer, 928-783-8911.

YMPO INFORMATION SUMMARY AGENDA ITEM 09 **FY 2026 General Accounting and Auditing Services Request for** **Proposals (RFPs)**

DATE: February 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Request for Proposals (RFPs) for FY 2026 General Accounting Services and Auditing Services.

SUMMARY:

YMPO By-Laws require an annual audit of YMPO financial accounts. To fulfill this requirement, YMPO utilizes the services of two companies: one to provide General Accounting Services and another to provide Auditing Services. The accounting services firm assists YMPO staff in preparing an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and the auditing services firm performs the independent audit of these financial statements.

The contracts for both General Accounting Services and Auditing Services are structured as one-year agreements with up to four possible one-year extensions. Because the scope of work and expected timeframe for both services are clearly defined, a YMPO is utilizing a Request for Proposals (RFP) process to procure these services.

The most recent procurement for these services occurred in June 2015. As a result, YMPO will advertise RFPs for General Accounting Services and Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2026 between February 23 and March 5, 2026.

While firms may be qualified to provide both accounting and auditing services, YMPO staff typically select two separate firms to perform these functions in order to maintain auditor independence and appropriate internal controls.

PUBLIC INPUT:

No input has been provided by members of the public on this subject.

TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL: Even though the five-yearly time frame for contracts has expired, the Executive Director has the authority to continue the existing contracts for accounting and auditing services. However, as YMPO has used this process in the past, it was felt that going through a similar process would “keep the current recipients honest” and might show staff whether there were opportunities to change.

POLICY: YMPO By-Laws require that an Audit be carried out on YMPO financial activities and funds and establishes an Audit Committee to be Chaired by the Secretary/Treasurer. How the audit occurs is decided by the Executive Director and staff, but YMPO staff are

guided by YMPO Administrative Guidelines developed over several years and report to the Audit Committee.

ACTION NEEDED:

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

PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

The Audit Committee comprises:

Chairman - Secretary/Treasurer Luis Galindo, Councilmember, City of Somerton.

Member – WynnTimer Ortega, Councilmember, Cocopah Indian Tribe Councilmember.

Member – Carol Smirth, Councilmember, City of Yuma.

CONTACT PERSON:

Lourdes Lopez, Accountant II and Executive Assistant, 928-783-8911.