

MPO Citizen's Advisory Committee on Transportation

August 19, 2010
City Municipal Building, Room 307
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Attendees: CAC: Jay Meyer, John Lane, Jeff Fruhwirth, Mike Weiland, and Jack Knudson. Absent: Gene Burchett
Staff: Sreyoshi Chakraborty, James Sims, Tom Mason and Nancy Olson (CAC Secretary)

A. Call Meeting to Order

Jay Meyer called the meeting to order and welcomed new committee member Jack Knudson. The Committee introduced themselves.

B. Approval of May 20, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Jay called for approval of May meeting minutes. John moved for approval and Jeff seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

C. Old Business

1. Fox Farm Corridor Plan – Update

Nancy tells the committee that the previous Fox Farm project had been stopped as the selection Committee could not come to a consensus. The project will be re-bid and will now get started after the S. Greeley Highway Corridor Plan project. Jay asked if the same consultant firms would be re-proposing, Nancy said the original firms could reapply and new firms could try too. Tom offered further explanation that the selection criteria were changed slightly to match the WYDOT procedures since our Federal funds are passed through WYDOT. Any other future projects that receive Federal funding will follow that format, as well.

2. SRTS/Pedestrian Plan Adoption Process – Public Hearing at Planning Commission in Council Chambers on October 4 - 6:00 PM. Alta Planning + Design, the consultants for this project, will be here to present the recommendations from the Plans and receive public comment. There will be another opportunity to view the plan and give comments the following day at noon in the Council Chambers. The full plan hard copies are available at the City Clerk's office, Laramie County Library, County Planning Office, at Archer and the MPO office or at www.walkcheyenne.org or www.PlanCheyenne.org.

D. New Business

1. On Street Bike Plan and Greenway Plan – Update- Sreyoshi reported that this is an On-Street Bike Plan and an update to the Greenway Master Plan. The MPO received quite a few proposals and interviews will be conducted on September 1st. The intent is to form a comprehensive committee = Bicycle Advisory Committee comprised of technical staff e.g. city engineers, MPO staff, county staff as well as, community members who are avid bicyclists and someone from the Greenway Advisory Committee. Sreyoshi asked the Committee for suggestions for participants on this new committee. The Greenway part of the plan will be a complete update of the original Greenway Master Plan. The purpose of combining the two will be seen through cost saving events like Public meetings.

2. S. Greeley Highway Corridor Plan – Update – The project will have the consultants and steering committee come up with a visioning plan for the corridor based on stakeholder and public comments. WYDOT rebuilt the road in the mid 1990's right before they adopted more stringent access standards, so all of the existing accesses were replaced. WYDOT is not anxious to program money anytime soon for S. Greeley Highway, but the guidelines and policies should be in place as development and redevelopment occurs. Considerations will be in the plan for a secondary roadway network one to two blocks off of Greeley Highway and an access plan to control the multiple and sometimes conflicting access points along the Highway. Also considered

will be streetscaping that could tie the corridor together with a theme and gateway features. The Plan will build on complete streets design to accommodate all modes of transportation. It will be a chance for the community to help decide how and where they want to grow on this side of the metro area.

3. **Safety Plan Implementation** –Update – Sreyoshi reported on “Battle of the Belts”. Which High School has the best seat belt usage? All three high schools saw an increase; however Central had the largest at 15%. Central won 2000 dollars and will use it to make safety improvements in the parking area. The amount was matched by the School District. To keep the momentum going the MPO has applied for more grants to do similar projects next year targeting younger drivers and older drivers. FHWA and FTA acknowledged the MPO’s safety planning efforts for the Safety Management Plan and Safety Implementation with an Excellence in Planning Award. Eighty projects were entered and eleven were awarded, Cheyenne was one of the 11.

E. **PlanCheyenne Transportation Plan Update** – Tom reported that the Federal Highway Administration requires small MPOs, like Cheyenne, to do a Master Transportation Plan every five years. PlanCheyenne was completed and adopted in 2006. The process built off of the Chamber of Commerce Vision 2020 project and during the planning process the MPO worked hard with the City Council and County Commissioners to make this a community wide comprehensive plan not just a transportation plan. It includes separate by related Land Use, Transportation and Parks and Recreation Plans. It won several national awards. The document can be found on www.plancheyenne.com. The MPO plans to update the transportation element only and will develop a SOW this fall and put it out for proposal this winter. The Federal Highway Transportation and Transit Bill is pending renewal by Congress and when a new Bill is reauthorized it will most likely include the six planning principals announced this summer by a collaboration of the US DOT, HUD and the EPA. We will write our Scope of Work around those principles so we can be ahead of game with our transportation plan update. The MPO will need your involvement and input as our Citizen’s Committee to give us ideas about what should be included for all modes of transportation in the Transportation Plan update. Handouts for Committee:

- Based on Future Land use the Buildout Plan takes into account the projected 2% population growth, what future roads will be needed in 20 years
- Fiscally constrained plan shows what realistically can be built and the chart shows the projects and what they will cost.

Mike asked when we plan on getting it started. Tom answered it will be our major work program item for next year, FY ‘11. Tom asked the committee to read the Transportation Plan part of PlanCheyenne. Jack suggested that the projects that have been done be highlighted on a map in the new Plan. Tom said yes and one of the purposes was to know what you’ve accomplished and figure out new priorities and funding sources.

Oil exploration could really change our County and will be considered in the Plan update.

F. Items from the Committee

1. Mike Weiland asked about the Unified Development Code and City Planning Commission that was reported in the WTE. Tom answered that there was the special Planning Commission meeting last Monday night. The Commission is getting overwhelmed with the entire process. Based on the recommendations of PlanCheyenne some codes and standards will need to be changed to implement what the community said they wanted in the Plan. Many people spoke in support of the UDC however, some of the folks in town who develop property and build houses like things the way they are. Planning Commission decided that a new committee should be formed to relook at the code and decide which parts the City should move forward with and what parts they should drop. UDC is flexible to provide new options to build subdivisions, lot sizes, setbacks, parks, connectivity to other neighborhoods, detached sidewalk, etc. Developers are concerned about how much it will cost them.
2. Tom showed the latest design plan for the E. Pershing project from Dunn to Converse including the 19th, Pershing and Converse intersection roundabout. He described the changes including the

basic instructions for entering and driving the roundabout. Jack said that a GPS unit gives good directions for driving roundabouts. Mike asked the size of lanes within the circle. Standard 11 – 12 ft. lanes. Large radius of the circle will make it easier to negotiate and there is a truck apron for the back tires of large trucks.

3. The Vandehei interchange design with roundabouts is about done as well. This exchange should have been done 8 years ago, but 10- 12 years ago WYDOT asked the MPO for opinions on their priority list. The interchange at Roundtop Rd. was moved ahead of Vandehei because the WalMart distribution Center was coming to town.
4. High Plains Road Interchange is moving forward for the Swan Ranch Rail Park.
5. Jay Meyer expressed he did not want to be Chair for the next year. Nancy said at the November meeting the Committee would hold elections for Chair and Vice Chair as well as renewing member's terms. Advertisements are still up on websites for members. The Committee should have one more to get back to seven members.

G. Adjourn – Jack moves to adjourn and Jeff seconds.

H. Next meeting November 18, 2010 at 3:00 pm in room 307 of Municipal Building. Election of officers and renewal of terms.