

Cheyenne Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Committee Meeting

March 27, 2019

Mayor's Conference Room, 2101 O'Neil Ave.

3:00pm



Attendance:

Voting Members:

Marian Orr, Chair	City of Cheyenne, Mayor
Amber Ash	Laramie Co. Commissioner
Tim Morton, for T. DeHoff	WYDOT, District

Non-Voting Members:

Wes Bay	City Engineering
Charles Bloom	City Planning & Development
Dave Bumann	County Public Works
Anisa Gerard	City Traffic Engineering
Rena Jording	Cheyenne Transit Program
Juli Monahan	WYDOT Planning
Vicki Nemecek	City Public Works
Walt Satterfield	FHWA

Staff:

Tom Cobb	MPO Senior Engineer/Planner
Tom Mason	MPO Director
Nancy Olson	MPO Planner/Office Manager

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mayor Orr

1. Approval of the December 19, 2018 minutes

Mr. Morton moved to approve and Mayor Orr, seconded. Minutes approved as written.

2. Introductions were made

3. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Mr. Morton moved for Mayor Orr to be the Chair and Commissioner Ash seconded. Mayor Orr moved for Commissioner Ash to be Vice-Chair; Mr. Morton seconded. Both motions passed.

4. Discussion and Approval of an Amendment to the *FY '19 UPWP*

Mr. Mason spoke about the budget amendment that the committee received via email. The top part of the budget is where the salaries and the changes are. The MPO is replacing one position and adjusting another. The contract modification for the Dell Range and U.S. 30 Plan is for one more public meeting, steering committee and the review of other traffic studies to help justify the current recommendations of the plan. Commissioner Ash moved, and Mr. Morton seconded. Motion passed.

5. Approval of Citizens' Advisory Committee Membership

Mr. Mason presented the two new citizens for the Citizen Committee. Commissioner Ash moved to approve Boyd Wiggam and Rachel Meeker to the MPO CAC. Mr. Morton seconded and the two were approved.

6. Approval of Technical Committee Membership

Tom M. said that the County has gone quite a while without their three votes on the Technical Committee. Dave Bumann has recommended that Nancy Trimble and Brad Emmons

from County Planning be nominated for those two empty positions. Tom M. explained that Brad would have to excuse himself when items regarding AVI are up for consideration. Mayor Orr expressed that this sets a poor precedence. Ms. Ash said that Mr. Emmons is the County Planning Director and has faith in his professional and that he can handle those situations appropriately. Mayor Orr has no issue with him as a person, but he is from an outside entity instead of a county employee. Commissioner Ash said this puts the County in a difficult position. Mr. Bumann said his old position of Deputy Public Works Director will soon be filled. Mayor Orr asked to leave the County Voting position open until that County position is filled. Mr. Morton moved to recommend filling the position with Nancy Trimble and the other position will remain open for now. Mayor Orr seconded; the vote passed with Ms. Ash abstaining.

7. Update on Planning Projects

- a. *Whitney Plan* – Mr. Cobb reported that this plan has been worked on for two years. He talked about recommendations first. A key issue are the two petroleum pipelines on either side of Whitney Rd. This involved many conversations with adjacent businesses and property owners. Tom C met with Restway Park numerous times. He has looked into the realignment of their access and Hinesley Road. The Dell Range intersection could work with either a roundabout or standard intersection. The roundabout option could have slip lanes added as capacity warrants. Future traffic volumes were modified. The corridor north of Dell Range will be driven by and rebuilt by the Whitney Ranch Development. They are redoing their Master Plan. After considering seven road alignments, there are two that meet ADA for pedestrians. One alignment has the entire road swinging out to the west of the current ranch house and has a 5% grade and the other alignment has only the sidewalk located west of the ranch house and the road remains where it is but with a 8% grade. The option with the sidewalk and road separated could create a public park with amenities and could have a pedestrian underpass to connect to the subdivision. Mayor Orr asked about the current steepness of the hill. It is 13% and is problematic.

Tom C. talked about short-term recommendations which included larger stop signs, stop bar on pavement, flashing beacon, wide transition pavement marking and more lighting. He pointed out that the eastbound to southbound auxiliary turn lane could be widened to remove the ghosting effect. Long-term recommendations were next, including getting right of way, investigate possible speed reductions, and adding other east/west roads for better access other than the reliance on Dell Range. Commissioner Ash asked about the WYDOT speed study that was done recently for U.S. 30. Mr. Morton clarified that if signals are warranted and they are installed, WYDOT will monitor to see what the 85th % is to determine the correct speed.

Mr. Cobb also spoke about the Woodhouse Road access waiver and variance requested from WYDOT. This proposal would extend Woodhouse to U.S. 30 so that it would provide an easier access for the businesses in the area to the highway.

Commissioner Ash spoke about the perception of problems at one intersection, but it is multiplied by all the additional intersections and traffic. Ms. Ash suggested that additional lanes are needed.

- b. *East Dell Range and U.S. 30 Plan* - Mr. Cobb said that the U.S. 30/Dell Range plan is going on simultaneously and the two teams are coordinating. There will be a Steering Committee meeting on April 4th and another Public meeting on April 16th at Cheyenne Hills Church. He then gave the recommendations for U.S. 30 which evolved from the last public meeting. On the corridor from Christensen east there are three options. One option

is two lanes each direction. Another option has a five-lane section with intermittent medians and then finally a five-lane section with intermittent accesses. The section from College to Christensen has two options; a five-lane and a three-lane section. The Dell Range sections have two options, one with a widened pan for bike lanes and two 11' lanes and a 13' center lane. The other option is shown with an asphalt bike lane.

- c. *Parsley Plan* -Mr. Cobb gave a short report on this plan. The consultants are in process and talking with the landowners south of College for different alignment options. There will be a steering committee meeting near the end of April. We anticipate work finishing in May.
- d. *Municipal Complex Pedestrian Plan* - Mr. Mason reported on this plan. The area we are planning for is the open space between the Senior Center/Burke Highrise, the Cox Parking Structure, the City Municipal Building, the Civic Center, as well as the north parking lot. A Public meeting in October had low turnout so the MPO is sending out notification of the on-line survey to City Employees, Patrons of the Civic Center and the Senior Center/ Burke Highrise to gather more public comments. Summer is our planned completion. A concept was shown for the parking lot and the public space.
- e. *Archer Trails Connector* – Ms. Olson reported that last steering committee was held on March 19th. She showed the maps of the different areas of concern. The Greenway will be designed with ADA accessible 5% grade or less from its current ending at HR Ranch Rd. and Campstool to the Archer Complex. A soft surface companion trail will also be designed that will not necessarily follow the same alignment as it will not have to be ADA accessible. On the north side of I-80, facilities will be designed that will provide on-street lanes for road bikers. It will head north from the I-80 interchange on Campstool to Venture Drive and turn east to the I-80 Service Road and then down Archer Road to the Archer Complex. Finally, a map was shown of the larger Southeast Cheyenne area where an equestrian/soft surface trail could be planned from the LCCC/Sweetgrass area to the Archer Complex. This concept will be shown during PlanCheyenne to see if there is an interest.
- f. *PlanCheyenne Master Transportation Plan* – Mr. Mason said the PlanCheyenne consultant interviews are next week. Four firms prepared proposals and all four will be interviewed. Once a firm has been selected the contract will be negotiated and come through the governing body approval process.

8. Update on current and upcoming projects

- a. *City of Cheyenne* – Mr. Bay reported that construction is finishing up on the Civic Commons and the City is going through the punch list. The Christensen Road contractor has been selected and under contract. A preconstruction meeting is scheduled for April 10th. Evers Blvd. was awarded and will go to Finance on April 1st. Pavement Management will be starting with Airport Parkway mill and overlay; to be done by the end of summer. Crack sealing and patching will happen all over the city. Miller Lane and Sunset Dr. is in design phase; W. Allison and Cribbon safety enhancements is in the design phase. Prairie Ave. and Frontier Mall Dr. RAB; installing 4-way stop in preparation for the construction in August, done by October. Engineering is working on the 26th St. storm sewer extension project RFP for next summer. Reed Rail Corridor Design is in consultant selection process. Ms. Ash asked if the shoulder area will stay the same on the Airport Parkway. Ms. Nemecek said Public Works is keeping up with potholes the best they can.

- b. *Laramie County* – Mr. Bumann reported the northeast part of the county has been flooding so they are working on culverts and other drainage improvements. Met with oil and gas companies about the county roads being beaten up by their trucks. Pavement prioritization projects are coming up and the County is asking for cost share to do those.
- c. *WYDOT* – Mr. Morton said the Horse Creek Road will receive a chip seal this summer. The 2019 bridge rehab over I-80 (Central and Warren, as well as, four other structures in the urban area) will be pushed into 2020. Contract patching Lincolnway by Holliday Park. College Drive with 2 miles from Avenue C to Crow Creek. Chip seal around town includes; US 85, state line to Terry Ranch Rd., I-80 service road near TA truck stop east for 6 miles; District 1 slab repair on I-80 near I-25.
- d. *Others* – Mayor Orr brought up the process for selecting applications for the TAP grant. She felt that there was not a complete committee to select the project from all possible projects that the City or County might wish to bring forward such as the Archer Trail or the underpass of College Dr. to Sweetgrass. She suggested having all grant requests come to the Policy Committee first to figure which should be applied for. Other projects she felt worthy of consideration included the intersection of 19th and Missile Dr. and the needed improvements including Greenway with the Crow Creek Revival project are more pressing than adding sidewalk to the Lions Park area

She also talked about the Policy Committee first discussing and prioritizing projects that the MPO is sending RFP and RFQs out for proposals. Furthermore, she asked that one person from the Policy Committee be on the selection committees for those projects. Mayor Orr suggested the committee look at the previous PlanCheyenne with an eye to see what has been accomplished and celebrate those accomplishments and look forward to where we are going. MPO should be forward thinking. Mayor Orr formally requested information on previous grants and proposals we have sent out, who responded and who was rewarded the project over the past five years. Mayor Orr will bring to the June meeting any MPO RFP, RFQ or Grant request needs to be approved by the Policy Committee first before going forward. Since there is almost always a match these need to fall into the City or County's CIP and Budgets. Ms. Ash stated she wanted to discuss with Commission Thompson and get his thoughts about the past selection process.

Mr. Satterfield requested to add the Federal Highway perspective. Forward thinking is the intention of the Long-Range Plan. He asked to not slow down the PlanCheyenne process because of the 5-year time limit for updating. That is how the MPO Projects are selected for the TIP, they need to be derived from the LRTP. FHWA is encouraging both MPO's to build up their modeling capacity and mentioned the upcoming TDM workshop in Casper and that the Cheyenne MPO is sending a couple of staff. In-house modelling is important for MPOs, so they may track the progress of the Plans.

9. **Other Business**

- a. Next meeting Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at the Commissioner's Conference Room

Respectfully Submitted:
by Nancy Olson