

# CHEYENNE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

City Board of Public Utilities, 2416 Snyder Ave (& virtually on Zoom)  
February 16, 2022, 10:00am



## Attendance in person and via Zoom

<b>Voting Members:</b>	Andrea Allen	WYDOT Engineering
	Tim Barth	Cheyenne Airport Board
	Molly Bennett, Chair	Laramie County Public Works
	Charles Bloom	City Development Director
	Tom Cobb	City Traffic Engineer
	Jeff Daugherty	LCSD #1 Planning and Construction
	Bryce Dorr	Board of Public Utilities
	Larry Gallagher	South Cheyenne Water and Sewer
	Betsey Hale	Cheyenne LEADS
	Craig LaVoy, for Ms. Nemecek	City Public Works
	Keith McQueen	Cheyenne Transit Program
	Julianne Monahan	WYDOT Planning
	Patti Riesland, for Christy Richardson	Mayors Council for People with Disabilities
	Wayne Shenefelt	WYDOT Resident Engineer
	Sally Stainbank	Lowes Distribution Center
Jeanie Vetter	Parks and Greenway Planner	
<b>Non-Voting Members:</b>	Kevin Erickson	WYDOT Resident Engineer
<b>Guests:</b>	Skyler Helffrich	Y2 Consultants
	Adrienne Lemmers	Y2 Consultants
	Erin Gates	Benchmark Engineers
	Scott Larson	Benchmark Engineers
	Lyle DeVries	Felsburg Holt & Ullevig
	Faith Kelley	Felsburg Holt & Ullevig
<b>Staff:</b>	Jen Corso	MPO GIS
	Tom Mason	MPO Director
	Valerie Pickard	MPO Office Manager
	Christopher Yaney	MPO Senior Technician

Molly Bennett, Wayne Shenefelt, Kevin Erickson, Juli Monahan, Charles Bloom, Jean Parlow, Lyle Devries, Todd Eldridge, Tom Cobb, Craig LaVoy, Jeanie Vetter, Adrienne Lemmers – Y2, Erin Gates, Faith Kelley, Jeff Daughtry, Justin Arnold, Kristina Richardson, Larry Gallagher, Mark Christensen, Skyler Helffrich – Y2

### 1. Approval of the October 13, 2021 minutes

Mrs. Bennett called for a motion to approve the October 13<sup>th</sup> minutes. Charles Bloom moved to approve. Tom Cobb seconded. No discussion, Ms. Bennett called for a vote, motion passed.

### 2. Introductions

Mr. Mason asked all in attendance to introduce themselves. Introductions made in-person and online.

### 3. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Mrs. Bennet are there any nominations? Mr. Cobb motions to keep Chair and Vice Chair, Mr. Shenefeld seconds. Mrs. Bennet called for a vote, motion passes.

### 4. Updates on MPO Planning Projects

#### a. *East Pershing Plan*

Mr. Helffrich presents plan to cover existing conditions, traffic analysis, public engagement, proposed corridor treatments and drainage review. There has been a lot of development in the area, Pershing is a 3-lane arterial. New Elementary Schools; Sunrise, Saddle Ridge and another proposed new school. Topics covered included: Very little pedestrian and bicycle paths. Traffic Analysis: Safety Review, Traffic Volumes and Capacity, Intersection of Whitney and Pershing. Public Engagement: Saddle Ridge Elementary Open House #1, social pinpoint website, acknowledgement of speeding issues, pedestrian accommodations, and a roundabout at Whitney. Phase II Saddle Ridge Open House #2 and social pinpoint website. Proposed corridor treatments: Three lanes with shared left turn, curb & gutter, bike lanes, alternating 6' to 8' width detached sidewalks. Short Term treatments are pedestrian accommodations, safety – signage & enforcement, four way stop at Whitney and Pershing, Long Term treatments right of way acquisition, access management and geometry realignment and a roundabout. Drainage Review: Four discharge locations, Dry Creek, Hess property, East Park/Whitney Road South, and Christensen Road South. Considerations are if this should remain as an open ditch vs subsurface infrastructure. Main goal is to redirect flow from Hess property to East Park drainage.

*Mr. Bloom: You mentioned to reach out to property owners for land acquisition.*

*Mr. Helffrich: In reaching out to the landowners; this is for access management and to get a big picture of what they would be open to.*

*Mr. Bloom: Just wanted to clarify.*

*Mr. Cobb: Regarding Public Involvement Participation, were in the area are they from?*

*Mr. Helffrich: Everyone who I spoke with lived in the immediate area.*

*Mr. Cobb: The Hess property, has anyone contacted John or Ken Hess?*

*Mr. Helffrich: No.*

*Mr. Cobb: Was there a discussion on reducing lane widths to 11' along with the buffered bike lanes?*

*Mr. Helffrich: We did propose that option, the steering committee directed us to standard widths as per UDC.*

*Mr. Cobb: What is the diameter of the roundabout?*

*Mr. Helffrich: It is 120' inscribed circle.*

*Mr. Bloom: Mr. Hess was at the first public meeting, there was a conversation, and he is aware of the project. He said that he has no plans to change the use of his land. His primary concern is his horses, and that they are protected.*

*Mr. Cobb: Has anyone approached Mr. Hess about his drainage and his preference? I have another drainage issue with him from a subdivision close by. He likes having the*

*water, but I don't know if he wants all of it.*

*Mr. Hellfrich: No, we discovered this after our first public meeting.*

*Mrs. Lemmers: I can have a conversation with John Hess.*

*Mrs. Bennett: I am looking at the GIS, there are parts of this corridor that are in the City and the County. Have there been discussion on annexing Pershing into the City?*

*Mr. Cobb: I am not aware of any discussion on this.*

*Mr. Cobb: There is a reference to 2026 for construction, this is something that I do not even have on my radar.*

*Mr. Hellfrich: Our traffic planner suggests in the near short term a 4-way intersection at Whitney and Pershing.*

*Mr. Cobb: Your recommendation will be to complete this in Phases?*

*Mr. Hellfrich: Yes*

## **b. Walterscheid Corridor Plan**

Benchmark Engineers: Erin Gates, Scott Larson, DeVries, Faith Kelley

The plan is to update to a minor arterial from Deming Dr to College Dr. Conversion to a Complete Street and template for future development. This project will develop 35% design plans: vertical alignments, intersection improvements, stormwater drainage improvements, utility upgrades, greenway and other pedestrian and bicycle movements. This plan now includes the intersection at Fox Farm. We have submitted a preliminary draft of the plan, a public meeting will be held March 22<sup>nd</sup>, gather feedback from Steering Committee. Walterscheid should be a minor arterial and is currently acting as a collector. Part of the project is to bring this to a Complete Street, vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit services. There are a number of physical constraints. 3 bridges, 80' right of way at many locations, greenway underpass south of Jefferson, and utility conflicts (overhead and underground).

Mr. DeVries: Existing Traffic Conditions: traffic counts were collected. The traffic operations are acceptable for all intersections except the intersection of Fox Farm. Travel speeds on the south side of Walterscheid are at posted speeds. At Fox Farm there were 17 crashes. Multimodal Conditions, inconsistent or missing sidewalk, constrained travel space for bicyclist and lack of signage. Reginal Demand Model, there is aggressive growth anticipated, growth includes development along corridor and outside of study area. Suggested Improvements: corridor will not provide adequate capacity for growth. Need for additional turn lanes, traffic control modifications and widening to provide additional through lanes. Roundabouts are being considered at Deming and Fox Farm, signalization of Jefferson intersection. We focused on a three-lane section.

Mrs. Gates: Stormwater drainage: Excluded area north of Fox Farm, the Allison draw has adequate capacity. We have had one public meeting; a number of people were excited about a roundabout at Fox Farm. Moving forward we are planning a 3-lane minor arterial 80' right of way, Intersection Improvements, Greenway and sidewalks and drainage improvements. This plan is based on the UDC standard, 2 lanes under the 1-80 bridge, there will be no parking on the street, type B rollover curb at residences. The intersections:

auxiliary turn lanes, signalization or roundabout at Fox Farm and possibly Deming. Pedestrians and bicyclists: Greenway will be on the west side from Deming to Fox Farm and on the East side from Fox Farm to College. Sidewalk installed from Fox Farm to Rossman, provide pedestrian protection at bridges and on-street bike lanes. Stormwater Drainage: Install approx. 1000lf of 36” pipe, inlets at key locations and replace the culvert near Serenade and Dot Ray and extend to the Allison Channel. The Plan: phased improvements pavement markings, sidewalks, intersection improvements and obtain rights-of-way for the future.

*Mrs. Bennett: Has there been discussions regarding the project being partially in the City and the County.*

*Mrs. Gates: West side is in the City and East side is in the County.*

*Mrs. Bennett: I would prefer that it is consistent all the way across. Charles, in this situation would we be able to get the County side into the City?*

*Mr. Bloom: Yes, we will have some discussions with the City and County Commissioners, it is not unreasonable to see Walterscheid brought into the City limits.*

*Mrs. Bennett: We are already in discussion with City Public Works*

*Mr. Bloom: I think the City cross section if fine there.*

*Mr. Cobb: Erin has there been discussion with Chief Kopper on the Fire station on Fox Farm and navigating the fire trucks through the intersection?*

*Mrs. Gates: We have not yet discussed this with the Fire Department, we are aware that the intersection needs to accommodate them.*

*Mr. Cobb: From the functional standpoint of Walterscheid and Fox Farm, if it was a signal in the peak PM level service D, but I only see that we haven't dedicated the right-hand turn lane, it's a single through and dedicated right, what is driving the LOS 'D'?*

*Mr. DeVries: Intersection 5 – The Prosser intersection has left turns with stop-controlled intersection and has a higher morning volume in the morning. Intersection 4 – The Allison intersection is signalized, we are looking to get to a D or better, we have added turn lanes on all the approaches.*

*Mr. Cobb: I would like to understand the Fox Farm Intersection and why we didn't go exclusive and is that contributing to the D?*

*Mr. DeVries: We always start with turn lanes rather than adding through lanes, to see if that would help.*

*Mr. Cobb: With the dedicated right turn lanes or bypass lanes we are not getting the speed to go down.*

*Mr. DeVries: The bypass lanes would move through without the traffic moving on the interior circle of the roundabout.*

*Mr. Bloom: Did you take into consideration the lane markings and anticipated alignment of lanes on Walterscheid, Division and College. What is the status on the Division project?*

*Mrs. Bennett: We did look at the Division Plan, and we can certainly look again at that project.*

*Mrs. Bennett: We are about 3 years out on that project.*

*Mr. Cobb: Ignore the north side of College and use the current plan.*

*Mr. DeVries: That intersection is shown with a service level F, with heavy volumes. More lanes could be needed in the future.*

**d. Transit Development Plan**

Megan McPhillimy with LSC: We are very early on in our planning process, at our next meeting in May we will have several interim reports. Looking to complete a 5-year TDP for Cheyenne. Impact of Covid-19 on operations, future growth in the area and to coordinate with concurrent planning efforts. The Project Background is to reflect community needs and priorities, funding, efficient use of resources, new concepts for transit delivery and flexibility for implementation. Project goals are to engage the entire community including underrepresented populations, have a renewed vision, improve the speed of service, build on the existing micro-transit service, add long-term recommendations, grow ridership and improve efficiency and cost effectiveness. Existing conditions: we are reviewing Public Outreach: We are focused on equitable engagement; we are using in-person and online methods and reaching out to our Spanish speaking population. Later service hours more direct, improved accessibility. We have a project website, 2 online surveys and a focus group with CTP operators. Riders liked the mobile app to track busses in real time. Limited operating hours, need more direct service routes and transfers between destinations. Destinations for riders are generally in the current service area. Riders would like to see improved accessibility, faster service, improved bus stop amenities and greater collaboration.

*Mr. Bloom: Regarding your responses, have you been able to pick up Spanish residents?*

*Ms. McPhillimy: We have our Spanish surveys out there but have not had any Spanish responses.*

**e. Wyoming/Colorado Transit Feasibility Plan**

Mr. Mason: The new study that originated between the directors of Wyoming and Colorado DOT's is a transit feasibility study to see if there is a demand for developing transportation between us. The funding for the study will be divided four ways between WYDOT, CDOT, Cheyenne MPO and the Front Range MPO. There are 2 contracts, one for Wyoming and one for Colorado.

**f. East Park Greenway**

Mr. Mason: Looking at getting a connection from East Park and getting Greenway across the railroad into the south to Cheyenne LEADS property. Our first public open house has not been scheduled yet but will be in conjunction with the City's Planned Development for East Park.

**g. Connect 2045 Master Plan Amendments**

Mr. Mason: I sent everyone a map, The Planning & Development Dept and MPO are proposing changes to the Future Land Use and Transportation Plan. There are 31 recommended changes and listed in the memo that was sent out. One purposed to the recommended changes is to bring the Master Transportation Map in alignment with the

Functional Classification Map. Any comments or questions?

Mr. Christensen: There are a couple changes to the Future land use plan, like the Logan Triangle area, changed from CB Community Business to MUC Mixed-use Commercial. The fire station on Lincolnway and Cleveland. The area between Ridge, Omaha and Lincolnway is MUC and will be changed to UR Urban Residential. These are the Future Land Use Map amendments to go along with the Functional Classification Amendments.

Mrs. Bennet: Any questions?

Mr. Bloom: Are we looking at upgrading Happy Jack to a minor arterial.

Mr. Mason: No, WYDOT has that classified as a major collector.

Motion to recommend amendments to the Master Transportation Plan and Land Use plan for the City and County Planning Commissions, motion by Mr. Cobb, seconded by Mrs. Richardson. Motion passes.

#### **5. Update on current and upcoming local construction projects**

- a. CITY – TIP projects for FY 2023 5<sup>th</sup> St and Crow Creek bridge replacement; Storey and College Dr signalization and intersection project. The Van Buren Ave storm interceptor project. Pavement maintenance is numerous and long at 9.6-million dollars, with 2 City overlay objects and patch and surface treatments.
- b. BOPU – Mr. Dorr, limited to joint projects with the City.
- c. Laramie County – Mrs. Bennett, Working on developing Master plans, with the help from Chris at the MPO. Crack seal crews are out and about now.
- d. WYDOT – Mr. Shenefelt: bridge rehab that are lingering from last year include Lincolnway. Slab repairs at the concrete intersection. Parsley Blvd bridge reconstruction will begin in the next month, April to December. Mill and overlay and ADA upgrades at US 85 from Terry Ranch to College Dr, drainage at Murray and Country West with a retention pond. Bridge rehab on I-25 north and south bound over the Railroad and Lincolnway.

Mr. Bloom: At the last Technical Committee Meeting there were two questions: 1. Regarding the sword and shield signage, these are part of the National Guard facilities, the second is how mileage is calculated between cities. It is the mileage between the Central Business District?

#### **Other Business:**

No other business

Next meeting is May 18<sup>th</sup>

Meeting concluded at 12:09pm