

Cheyenne Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Committee Meeting
July 16, 2026
2:30 PM
Mayor Conference Room



Attendance:

Voting Members:

Patrick Collins
Don Hollingshead
Ralph Tarango

City of Cheyenne Mayor, Chairman
Laramie County Commissioner, Vice Chair (Microsoft Teams)
WYDOT District Engineer

Guests:

Amber Ash
Vicki Nemecek
Thomas Cobb
Erin Johnson
Pamela Cypher

City of Cheyenne Chief of Staff
City of Cheyenne Public Works
City of Cheyenne Engineer Director
City of Cheyenne Transit
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) (Microsoft Teams)

Staff:

Christopher Yaney
Athen Mores
Gisele Pacheco

MPO Director
MPO Planner I & Transportation Specialist (Microsoft Teams)
MPO Office Manager

Item 1: CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Collins, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Item 2: INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL

Item 3: UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT

Christopher Yaney, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Director, noted that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) required an amendment to reallocate budgeted funds in support of Fiscal Year projects. (0:03:11)

Mayor Collins inquired whether the proposed amendments included adding the Southeast MPO Future Road Network Study while reducing funding for two other projects. (0:03:30)

Mr. Yaney confirmed that funding for the Greenway Connection Study and the Ames Avenue Corridor Study was removed to accommodate the addition of the Southeast MPO Future Road Network Study and ensure adequate funding for the project. These adjustments required corresponding changes throughout the UPWP budget. He also noted that the Federal Highway Administration issued guidance requiring updates to the UPWP to remove references to executive orders under Title VI that are no longer in effect. The personnel budget was reduced by \$61,016.00, Program Administration was reduced by approximately \$52,727.00, and a review of carryover funding determined that previously estimated carryover funds could be reduced by \$9,956.00. The internal program budget was also reduced by \$6,500.00. For the traffic and traffic modeling programs, the StreetLogic component was removed, and Kimley-Horn support was reduced. A separate contract with Kimley-Horn will be issued for \$15,000.00 to renew support services, with additional contracts to be issued as needed once those funds are exhausted. Mr. Yaney also stated that the Parsley and Wallick project was originally budgeted at \$350,000.00; however, after actual project costs were incorporated, the budget was reduced by \$97,477.00. These savings provided sufficient funding for the Southeast MPO Future Road Network Study, which is currently estimated at \$579,048.00. When the project is advertised for bids, the solicitation will include a not-to-exceed amount of \$579,000.00. (0:03:40)

Mayor Collins inquired whether the schedule for the Southeast MPO Future Roadway Network Study could be accelerated by utilizing additional funding from another source. (0:07:06)

Mr. Yaney noted that a contract has not yet been executed and that the project is not anticipated to proceed until Fiscal Year 2027. He stated that adjustments could potentially be made to accommodate additional funding sources. Mr. Yaney also noted that Mark Wingate was willing to provide additional funding; however, those funds would not be available until Fiscal Year 2027. (0:07:14)

Mayor Collins discussed the possibility of multiple agencies contributing funding to the project to allow the planning process to move forward sooner and expedite completion of the study. (0:07:43)

Mr. Yaney discussed the possibility of utilizing a six- to nine-month program timeline. (0:08:12)

Ralph Tarango, WYDOT District Engineer, noted that Fiscal Year 2027 funds would not be available until October 2026 and discussed the possibility of advancing funds through borrowing. (0:08:24)

Mayor Collins noted that the primary concern was ensuring the city does not lose necessary right-of-way opportunities. (0:08:59)

Mr. Yaney noted that, with the support of WYDOT, additional areas have been incorporated and evaluated, and the Request for Proposals (RFP) outlines the required tasks for the project. (0:09:19)

Mayor Collins noted that the City is tracking a 2.5-gigawatt power plant immediately west of Swan Ranch, the Duck Creek property, and the state section. He stated that there are four state sections in the area and noted that the area is being monitored. (0:09:31)

Mr. Yaney noted that the UPWP Fiscal Year 2026 Project Breakdown numbers require adjustment. (0:10:49)

Ralph Tarango, WYDOT District Engineer, made the motion to adjust and reprioritize the Unified Planning Work Program. Don Hollingshead, Laramie County Commissioner, seconded the motion. (0:11:46)

Mayor Collins asked if there were any further questions or discussion from the committee. Hearing none.

Roll Call: Motion to approve the adjustments and reprioritization of the Unified Planning Work Program passed unanimously. (0:12:13)

Item 4: OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Collins opened the meeting for other business from staff or the Policy Committee.

Christopher Yaney, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Director, stated that the two projects removed from the current project plan, the Greenway Connection Project and the Ames Avenue Project, will be included in the next Fiscal Year project plan. (0:12:30)

Mayor Collins asked if there were any further questions or discussion from the committee. Hearing none.

Item 5: NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: July 28, 2026, at the City of Cheyenne Municipal Building Mayors Conference Room.

Item 6: MEETING ADJOURNED: 2:45 PM