

GREAT FALLS URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Rearden called the Great Falls Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at approximately 9:33 a.m. in the Rainbow Room of the Civic Center, #2 Park Drive South.

ROLL CALL OF TAC MEMBERS & ATTENDANCE

TAC Members Present/Represented:

Dave Dobbs	City of Great Falls Engineer
Andrew Finch	Sr. Transportation Planner, City of Great Falls
Jim Helgeson	Manager, Great Falls Transit District
Ken Jorgensen	Street Supervisor, City of Great Falls Street Division
Jerry McKinley	Traffic Supervisor, City of Great Falls
Tom Micuda (for Craig Raymond)	Director, City of Great Falls Planning & Community Dev
Jim Rearden	Director, City of Great Falls Public Works Department
Carol Strizich (via phone)	Statewide & Urban Planning Section, Helena MDT
Bruce Treis	Environmental Health Specialist, City-County Health Department
Jerilee Weibel	Right-of-Way Supervisor, Great Falls District – MDT

TAC Members Absent/Not Represented:

Brian Clifton	Director, Cascade County Public Works Department
Alex Dachs	Cascade County Planning Division
Jim Ekberg	Deputy Director, Cascade County Public Works Department
John Faulkner	Director, Great Falls International Airport Authority
Courtney Lyerly	Civil Engineer, Special Projects, City of Great Falls
Bill McLaughlin	Deputy Base Civil Engineer, Malmstrom Air Force Base
Christie McOmber	District Project Engineer, GF District MDT
Rick Schutz	Superintendent, Cascade County Road & Bridge Division

Recognition of Others Present:

Shyla Patera	North Central Independent Living Services
Sheila Ludlow (via phone)	Statewide & Urban Planning Section, Helena MDT
Kenn Winnegar (via phone)	Statewide & Urban Planning Section, Helena MDT

MINUTES

Prior to the meeting, Committee members were provided a copy of the February 8, 2018, meeting minutes. Mr. Dobbs moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Micuda. All being in favor, the minutes were approved as submitted.

BUSINESS ITEMS

5.A. – Performance Measures and Targets – Cooperative Agreement with State

Mr. Finch introduced the agenda item, giving an overview and asking for feedback on this requirement in Federal Regulations. He stated a cooperative agreement between the Montana Department of Transportation and the MPO is necessary to outline and commit to the sharing of information and cooperatively work to meet the performance targets.

Mr. Finch asked TAC if a separate agreement for each performance measure, or if a single agreement for all measures, would be appropriate. Mr. Finch indicated MDT had not yet set its targets. Ms. Strizich corrected Mr. Finch, stating that there had recently been action by MDT on the targets, with the exception of CMAQ and offered to provide the information.

Mr. Micuda stated he liked the idea of having one general agreement, as did Mr. Rearden. Mr. Helgeson asked if we could set our own targets if we disagreed, and Mr. Finch answered that TAC always had the option of setting its own targets. Mr. Helgeson said that one agreement made sense.

Mr. Finch offered to bring the agreement and measures to the next TAC meeting, and there was general consensus regarding that approach by TAC.

5.B. – Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Finch provided a brief overview of the Update effort, letting TAC know that the consultant is providing more detail than originally planned, and is taking more time with the final draft. Mr. Finch stated he supported taking a bit more time to get a good product. The anticipated schedule would be to provide a draft product to TAC for review and comment, have a final public meeting, incorporate any public comments into a final document.

Mr. Finch stated this delay would push the Plan into a non-conforming status for air quality for approximately 60 days. There was discussion about the possible impact. Mr. Finch stated this would prevent any new projects moving forward out of the TIP, but he did not foresee this as an issue. Mr. Finch noted that a draft TIP has been prepared, as well, and would follow closely upon the adoption of the LRTP. There was some brief discussion on the TIP among TAC members.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Patera passed out a letter from a citizen that was provided to City of Great Falls Neighborhood Council 2 regarding traffic on 6th St SW, as well as a flyer on a Walkability Event. Ms. Patera asked that they be given to TAC members, which Mr. Finch said he would do. Ms. Patera further explained about the Walkability Event and ADA assessments. Walkability Events, she explained, included encouraging community members to walk their routes to see if there are issues for people with mobility limitations. There was some general discussion on Ms. Patera's efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Helgeson moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Micuda. All being in favor, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.