

GREAT FALLS URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Rearden called the Great Falls Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at approximately 9:31 a.m. in the Rainbow Room of the Civic Center, #2 Park Drive South.

ROLL CALL OF TAC MEMBERS & ATTENDANCE

TAC Members Present/Represented:

Alex Dachs	Cascade County Planning Division
Dave Dobbs	City of Great Falls Engineer
Jim Ekberg	Deputy Director, Cascade County Public Works Department
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
Bill McLaughlin	Deputy Base Civil Engineer, Malmstrom Air Force Base
Courtney Lyerly	Civil Engineer, Special Projects, City of Great Falls
Jerry McKinley	Traffic Supervisor, City of Great Falls
Cas Manderle (for Christie McOmber)	District Project Engineer, GF District MDT
Craig Raymond	Director, City of Great Falls Planning & Community Dev
Jim Rearden	Director, City of Great Falls Public Works Department
Rick Schutz	Superintendent, Cascade County Road & Bridge Division

TAC Members Absent/Not Represented:

Brian Clifton	Director, Cascade County Public Works Department
John Faulkner	Director, Great Falls International Airport Authority
Carol Strizich	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

Recognition of Others Present:

Shyla Patera	North Central Independent Living Services
Anna Weber	Planner, Cascade County Planning Division

MINUTES

Prior to the meeting, Committee members were provided a copy of the January 11, 2018, meeting minutes. Mr. Helgeson moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Dobbs. All being in favor, the minutes were approved as submitted.

BUSINESS ITEMS

5.A. – Safety Performance Measures and Targets

Mr. Finch introduced the agenda item, stating that TAC was informed at the last TAC meeting that Performance Measures were to be added to the LRTP to bring the plan into compliance with federal planning regulations. Mr. Finch noted that the measures had various “roll out” dates, by which date they were to be adopted by States and MPOs – the first of which are safety performance measures. He noted staff has recommended, instead of adopting and tracking local performance measures, the MPO adopt and agree to support the State’s measures and targets. By supporting the State’s measures, Mr. Finch stated, we would be meeting any similar local measures that may be adopted and set.

Mr. Rearden asked about the measures, and Mr. Finch verified they were statewide averages. Mr. Lyerly asked what the statistic was, and Mr. Finch indicated it was usually “per million miles travelled”.

Mr. Helgeson asked how we would go about supporting the targets. Mr. Finch stated that, locally, we would move forward projects that would support meeting the targets. For example, each year there are some projects that are specifically “Safety Fund” funded projects. We would show how projects move forward with the intent of improving safety.

In response to a question from Mr. McKinley, Mr. Finch stated that the MPO did not need to meet the adopted target, but would, rather, document efforts to support the State meeting the target. Mr. Finch noted the intent is that the TIP would be modified a bit with narrative for each performance measure and identify which projects would support what measure.

There was additional discussion on how the performance measure targets would be tracked.

MOTION: That TAC recommend to PCC, that the Great Falls MPO adopt and support the Montana Department of Transportation’s Safety Performance Measures and the adopted targets related to same.

Made by: Mr. Helgeson

Second: Mr. Lyerly

All being in favor, the motion passed.

5.B. – Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Finch provided a brief overview of the Update effort underway, mentioning the February 7, 2018 Public Open House and reminding TAC members of the LRTP Minor Update website for information and he encouraged TAC members or others to comment.

Mr. Rearden asked about the timeline for the Plan. Mr. Finch stated a final draft was desired by the end of March.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Patera stated she attended the open house, and commented upon past efforts to look at levels of service, and asked if they were being updated. Mr. Finch said new data review was part of the plan update process.

Mr. Dobbs noted that, for the new BARSA money, the City Commission recently approved the expenditure of this year’s funds. Mr. Finch noted that expenditures upon “on-system” roads may need to be added to the TIP.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Raymond moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dobbs. All being in favor, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.