

**GREAT FALLS METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS
POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) meeting was called to order at 1:59 pm in the Rainbow Room of the City Civic Center by Chair Fred Burow.

ROLL CALL & ATTENDANCE

PCC Members present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title/Representing</u>
Fred Burow	Great Falls City Commissioner
Carl Donovan	Chair Great Falls Transit District
Dave Hand	District Administrator, MDT Great Falls
Nate Weisenburger	Chairman, Great Falls Planning Advisory Board

PCC members not present:

Elliott Merja	Chairman, Cascade County Planning Board
Kevin McLaury	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Jane Weber	Cascade County Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title/Representing</u>
Craig Raymond	COGF, Director Planning & Community Development
Jim Rearden	COGF, Director Public Works
Jim Helgeson	Manager, Great Falls Transit District
Andrew Finch	Sr. Transportation Planner, Great Falls MPO
Galen Steffens	Planner II, City of Great Falls
Sheila Ludlow, via telephone	Montana Department of Transportation
Kenn Winnegar, via telephone	Montana Department of Transportation

MINUTES

Prior to the meeting, Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) members were provided a copy of the minutes of the last PCC meeting held August 26, 2015.

MOTION: That the Policy Coordinating Committee minutes of August 26, 2015 be approved.

Made by: Mr. Donovan
Second: Mr. Weisenburger

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Provided for each item listed under this agenda heading was a written report for PCC consideration. A copy of each is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 5A. Elect Chair for 2016

Chair Burow said that although Ms. Weber was not able attend this meeting, she indicated she would be willing to serve in the capacity of Chair of the Policy Coordinating Committee for the current year.

MOTION: That the Policy Coordinating Committee elect Ms. Weber as the 2016 Chair.

Made by: Mr. Hand
Second: Mr. Donovan

There being no further discussion, Chair Burow called for the vote.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Item 5B. FFY 2014-2018 TIP Amendment #2

Mr. Finch said this is the capital improvements program for projects that are underway or plan to be underway that balances projects with available funding by funding source or phase. This amendment is basically a housekeeping update to help keep projects moving forward as funding levels and needs shift. Both the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Planning Advisory Board (PAB) have approved this amendment. The Fox Farm Road project update for some additional funds has been added since the TAC and the PAB have approved the amendment. Since it was a minor update, Mr. Finch did not see the need for re-approval by those two bodies; however, if the PCC so desires, the amendment can be presented once again to them. The additional funds were for some engineering fees.

Mr. Finch said that TAC and the PAB have recommended that \$95,000 be allocated in air quality improvement funds for the 25th Street North Pedestrian Bridge project. That project is a CTEP project; the CTEP program is going away, and the project came in higher than the budget. The bids were competitive and it appears there are some overhead lines that require more funds to handle than was originally thought.

There was some discussion about the budget and details of this project and the need for the additional funds. Ms. Ludlow noted an error in placement of the CMAQ funding in a table in the staff report. Mr. Finch said this typographical error will be corrected.

MOTION: That the Policy Coordinating Committee approve Amendment #2 to the Federal Fiscal Year 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program, including the addition of \$95,000 in CMAQ funds for the 25th Street North Pedestrian Bridge project.

Made by: Mr. Weisenburger
Second: Mr. Hand

There was no further discussion.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Item 5C. River Drive Corridor Study

Mr. Finch said he wanted PCC to be aware of this project, which is being handled through the Planning section of MDT in Helena. The City of Great Falls and Mr. Finch are participating and the Great Falls district is also interested. There are operational problems with River Drive

through 38th Street, and the State is being proactive to make sure the corridor continues to function.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Finch said the City has a TA grant project which was approved for the 4th Avenue North/Park Drive entrance to Gibson Park. This pedestrian improvement project will improve this site for both vehicles and pedestrians.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Ludlow said MDT is in the process of kicking off the update to their Long Range Transportation Plan as a policy based plan. There will be information shared over the coming year on this.

Acting Chair Burow said the railroad wants to close off and privatize a crossing at the waste water treatment plant. He said he thought the City would like to keep this open to the public. Mr. Raymond said City staff has met with BNSF and Calumet Refining, and that they are working through the details with all parties.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Donovan moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Weisenburger. The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm.