

GREAT FALLS URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Chris Gaub called the Great Falls Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at approximately 9:31 AM in the Planning and Community Development Conference Room in the Civic Center, #2 Park Drive South.

ROLL CALL OF TAC MEMBERS & ATTENDANCE

TAC Members Present/Represented:

Ryck Cayer	Deputy Base Civil Engineer, Malmstrom AFB
Andrew Finch	Sr. Transportation Planner, City of Great Falls
Chris Gaub	Director, City of Great Falls Public Works Department
Nadine Hanning	Manager, Great Falls Transit District
Mark Juras for Jesse Patton	City Engineer, City of GF Engineering Division
Jay Manuel	Operations Engineer, Great Falls District – MDT
Katie Potts (non-voting)	Statewide & Urban Planner, Federal Highways - Via Zoom
Rick Schutz	Superintendent, Cascade County Road & Bridge Division
Austin Shultz	Traffic Supervisor, City of Great Falls
Geoff Streeter	Planner, Statewide & Urban Planning – MDT via Zoom

TAC Members Absent/Not Represented:

Eric Boyd	Street Supervisor, City of Great Falls Street Division
John Faulkner	Director, Great Falls International Airport Authority
Rhonda Knudsen	Environmental Health Mgr., City-County Health Department
Raina Levens	Planner, Cascade County Planning Department
Les Payne	Deputy Director, Cascade County Public Works Department
Chris Ward	District Projects Engineer, Great Falls District – MDT
Charity Yonker	Director, Cascade County Planning Department

Recognition of Others Present:

Mitch Buthold	Supervisor MDT Statewide & Urban Planning via Zoom
Kerry Lynch	Robert Peccia and Associates via Zoom
Alaina Mattimiro	Associate Transportation Planner
Jamie Nygard	Sr. Administrative Assistant, City of Great Falls
Scott Randall	Robert Peccia and Associates via Zoom
Kenn Winegar	MDT Statewide & Urban Planning – via Zoom

MINUTES

Prior to the meeting, Committee members were provided with the March 14, 2024 meeting minutes. Mr. Finch moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Hanning. All being in favor, the minutes were approved as submitted.

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Long Range Transportation Plan Consultant Update

Scott Randall, Robert Peccia & Associates, gave a presentation to the Committee on the Great Falls Area Long Range Transportation Plan Update. He stated that they are nearing the finish, so that they can get a draft written to go out for RFP. He stated that it is a very important document for Great Falls, as it is a plan that guides the infrastructure currently and in the future. He explained the process to the Committee. He also presented the Planning Goals.

Mr. Randall shared how the public input is considered and gave an overview of the public involvement:

1. Electronic
 - Interactive Commenting Map - 164 Individual Comments, 104 Replies, 135 likes/dislikes
 - Video/FAQ's
 - Documents/Maps
 - Survey
 - Email List
2. Stakeholder Engagement
 - Council of Councils
 - River's Edge Trail
 - Great Falls Transit District
 - North Central Independent Living
 - Great Falls Development Authority
3. Public Meetings
 - Existing and projected conditions
 - Recommendations

Mr. Gaub asked how many people attended the public meetings. Mr. Randall responded the first one was about 11 people and the second one had about 25 people attend.

Mr. Randall presented the recommendations and what was considered.

1. Traffic – Multimodal accommodations, roadway capacity, and intersection operations
2. Safety – Behavioral and location based trends
3. Infrastructure – Condition and maintenance needs
4. Future development – Population and employment growth.

Mr. Randall presented a map of the committed projects to be completed within the next 5 years.

Mr. Randall presented a map of the non-motorized recommendations to provide convenient connections to meaningful destinations. He also presented the visionary non-motorized network map. Mr. Finch mentioned that 9th Street was being removed from the bike network, due to congestion and high traffic volumes.

Mr. Randall presented a map of the visionary major street network to provide continuous routes across Great Falls.

Mr. Randall shared the prioritization process.

Mr. Gaub asked what the recommendation was for addressing the 1st and 2nd Avenue North lanes being too narrow. Mr. Randall stated that there are no recommendations yet.

Mr. Finch encouraged the Committee Members to go in and look at the transportation plan website.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:08 AM.