

# **Meeting Minutes**

# **Technical Advisory Committee**

1:30 – 3:30 PM May 21, 2025

#### Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 237 424 121 882 Passcode: e297uD6E

#### In-Person

Flagstaff City Hall 211 W Aspen Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Regular meetings and work sessions are open to the public. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting MetroPlan via email at <a href="mailto:planning@metroplanflg.org">planning@metroplanflg.org</a>. The MetroPlan complies with <a href="mailto:Title VI of the Civil Rights Act">Title VI of the Civil Rights Act</a> of 1964 to involve and assist underrepresented and underserved populations (age, gender, color, income status, race, national origin, and LEP – Limited English Proficiency.) Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.02, as amended, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the general public that the following Notice of Possible Quorum is given because there may be a quorum of MetroPlan's Technical Advisory Committee present; however, no formal discussion/action will be taken by members in their role as MetroPlan Technical Advisory Committee.

Public Questions and Comments must be emailed to <a href="mailto:planning@metroplanflg.org">planning@metroplanflg.org</a> prior to the meeting or presented during the public call for comment.

#### NOTICE OF OPTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the MetroPlan Executive Board and to the general public that, at this regular meeting, the MetroPlan Executive Board may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice and discussion with the MetroPlan Executive Board's attorneys for legal advice on any item listed on the following agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3).

### **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

	AND HEAD IN SINCE SELECTION OF THE SECOND OF
	Michelle McNulty, City of Flagstaff Planning Director, Chair
$\boxtimes$	Nate Reisner, Coconino County Engineer, Vice-Chair
$\boxtimes$	Anne Dunno, Mountain Line Capital Development Manager – Joined at 2:15pm
$\boxtimes$	Paul Mood, City of Flagstaff Engineer
	Jeff Bauman, City of Flagstaff Transportation Manager
$\boxtimes$	Jess McNeely, Coconino County Community Development Assistant Director
$\boxtimes$	Ruth Garcia, ADOT Regional Planning
$\boxtimes$	Jeremy DeGeyter, ADOT Assistant District Engineer
	Romare Truely, Federal Highway Administration
	Stephanie Santana, City of Flagstaff Senior Transportation Engineer (Alternate for JBauman)
	Jason James, ADOT Regional Planning Manager (Alternate for RGarcia)
	Ryan Wolff, ADOT Transportation Engineer (Alternate for JDeGeyter)
	VACANT, Northern Arizona University
METROPLAN STAFF	
	Kate Morley, Executive Director
$\boxtimes$	David Wessel, Planning Manager
$\boxtimes$	Tami Suchowiejko, Business Manager & Clerk of the Board
$\boxtimes$	Mandia Gonzales, Transportation Planner
$\boxtimes$	Sandra Tavel, Transportation Planner
$\boxtimes$	Kim Austin, Transportation Demand Manager
$\boxtimes$	Corey Cooper, Safe Routes to School Coordinator
$\boxtimes$	Melanie Nagel, Montoya Fellow

# A. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Reisner called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

### 2. ROLL CALL

See above.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, any member of the public may address the Board on any subject within their jurisdiction that is not scheduled before the Board on that day. Due to Open Meeting Laws, the Board cannot discuss or act on items presented during this portion of the agenda. To address the Board on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard.

None provided.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Technical Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2025.

**Motion:** Member Mood made a motion to approve the April 23, 2025, meeting minutes. Member DeGeyter seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

# **B. CONSENT AGENDA**

Items on the consent agenda are routine in nature and/or have already been budgeted or discussed by the Executive Board.

Vice Chair Reisner asked if there were any consent items the Committee would like to remove for discussion.

**Motion:** Member Mood made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Member Garcia seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

- 1) FY2026 Title VI and Civil Rights Plan:
  - Staff recommend the TAC recommend the Board adopt the FY26 Title VI Plan.
- 2) FY26 and FY27 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):
  Staff recommend the TAC recommend the Board adopt the FY2026 and FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

#### C. GENERAL BUSINESS

## 1. CONSIDER FY2026 BUDGET

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley (David Wessel, in place of Morley)

Recommendation: Staff recommend the TAC recommend the Board adopt the FY2026 Budget as drafted.

Planning Manager Wessel provided information on the FY2026 and 5-Year budgets, including projected revenues and expenses.

**Motion:** Member Mood made a motion to recommend the Board adopt the FY2026 Budget as drafted). Member DeGeyter seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

# 2. W. ROUTE OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT (OA) UPDATE

MetroPlan Staff: Mandia Gonzales

Recommendation: None. This item is for information and discussion only.

Transportation Planner Gonzales provided a presentation and update from the Project Advisory Group (PAG) meeting on May 5, 2025. MetroPlan convened the Project Advisory Group on May 5<sup>th</sup> to consider partnerships and grants and to solidify project recommendations. The PAG recommended the next steps related to engineering and design, elevating the project as regional priority and a review of the 419 fund balance.

# 3. FY2026 GREATER ARIZONA FUNDING INITIATIVES - RURAL TRANSPORTATION ADVOCACY COUNCIL (RTAC) BILL

MetroPlan Staff: Sandra Tavel

Recommendation: Recommend the Board adopt US180 Corridor Improvements and West Route 66 for the FY2026 RTAC Bill projects.

**Motion:** Member DeGeyter made a motion to table this item. Member Mood seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Transportation Planner Tavel provided a presentation about the request from RTAC that each organization provide priority projects for the RTAC Policy Summit in October. Ms. Tavel requested discussion and input for the TAC recommendation.

#### TAC Discussion:

Vice Chair Reisner expressed concern that if US180 and West Route 66 are recommended, the Burris Lane Intersection Project will fall off the RTAC list. He would like the Burris Lane Intersection Project to be considered.

Member Mood commented that the City nominated the Lonetree overpass the current years RTAC. He asked when the decision will be made about the current year's recommendations. Planning Manager Tavel advised that we do not have that information.

Planning Manager Wessel followed up about the projects nominated for the current year – Burris and Lonetree – if they are not funded, how do they rank priority-wise with the two projects proposed for FY26, US 180 and West Route 66?

Member Mood commented that cost increases for the Lonetree overpass are depleting the prop 419 funding. He would like it to be considered. He stated that the Lonetree overpass for FY24 was nominated and not selected, and the outcome for FY25 nominations is not yet known. He asked if nominating the Lonetree overpass again for FY26 would carry weight with RTAC. Planning Manager Tavel responded that what carries weight is follow up with the legislators.

Planning Manager Wessel asked for clarification from Member Mood, if Lonetree is not funded will it remain a priority over US180? Member Mood said that he assumes it will remain a priority. He asked if US180 carries more weight than Lonetree with the State Legislature?

Planning Manager Tavel asked what is more important to the TAC the US180 corridor or Lonetree? Member Mood states that he supports splitting the funding, so that everyone gets some funding.

Vice Chair Reisner added that the Strategic Advance identified US180 as the priority for the region for ADOT's P2P funding. He suggested the TAC should identify a single project overall and put all support behind one project, rather than splitting up the funds for various projects. We need a unified priority and a unified voice for the region and support a singular priority. That is how the 4<sup>th</sup> street bridge was accomplished.

Planning Manager Wessel reviewed the schedule for creating the list for RTAC list of recommendations is due in early October. More discussion is needed about priorities, and there is more information to gather. He proposed that follow up discussion is needed regarding current projects and funding gaps. Member DeGeyter requested that funding options be presented for each of the proposed projects.

Vice Chair Reisner requested that the TAC table this item and have further discussions about projects and discretionary funding so the TAC may present a unified voice from a regional standpoint. Planning Manager Wessel recognized guest speakers Tiffany Antol, Zoning Code Manager, City of Flagstaff and Elizabeth (Bizzy) Collins, Strategic Performance Planner, Mountain Line., and suggested reordering the agenda, and presenting item 5 ahead of item 4. Vice Chair Reisner and TAC Members were in agreement.

# 4. NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY SUBRECIPIENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW

MetroPlan Staff: Dave Wessel

Recommendation: None. This item is for information and discussion only.

Planning Manager Wessel provided a presentation about the NAU Subrecipient Performance Review. The agreement with NAU is working well. Mr. Wessel shared the lessons learned from working with the NAU students: scoping task certainty and complexity, scheduling, in terms of both time requirements and time availability, and evaluation criteria. Staff recommend that we continue this subrecipient agreement with NAU, not only with traffic engineering, but we can also work with the planning, economics and communication departments.

### 5. LAND AVAILABILITY AND SITE SUITABILITY STUDY, CODE ANALYSIS PROJECT UPDATE

Guests: Elizabeth (Bizzy) Collins and Michelle McNulty Michelle McNulty

Recommendation: None. This item is for information and discussion only.

Tiffany Antol, Zoning Code Manager, City of Flagstaff, on behalf of Michelle McNulty, provided a presentation on the Land Availability and Site Suitability Study (LASS)and Code Analysis Project. The LASS is complete, and more information is available on the City of Flagstaff website. The project website can be found at <a href="https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/4888/Land-Availability-Suitability-Study">https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/4888/Land-Availability-Suitability-Study</a>. They are in the second phase of the Code Analysis Project, which is the Code Concepts Report, highlighting high level ideas for future code. The Code Analysis Project focuses on climate and housing goals. The next public outreach community session is scheduled for Friday, June 13 at Lowell Observatory.

Bizzy Collins, Strategic Performance Planner, Mountain Line, presented information about the transit concept. Mountain Line is partnering with the City on this project to look at transit barriers. Improving transit access in Flagstaff is central to achieving housing and carbon neutrality goals. The focus of the transit-related codes assessment is on infill development and compact land use patterns, sustainable transportation networks and neighborhoods, and electric mobility, including on-route bus charging locations.

### 6. SAFE STREETS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

MetroPlan Staff: Dave Wessel

Recommendation: None. This item is for information and discussion only.

Planning Manager Wessel presented an update on the SSMP project. The Scoping Team developed a draft and is now in the process of amending. The deliverables document is 70% complete. We are still debating whether we will go with a request for proposals or a request for statement of qualifications. We have 22 interested parties with diverse array of skills represented. We will move the procurement release to early June. It is still possible to complete the review over the summer month. Staff expect to have an award in December.

#### 7. METROPLAN HAPPENINGS

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley (David Wessel, in place of Morley)

Recommendation: None. This item is for information and discussion only.

Planning Manager Wessel provided an overview of recent and future events for MetroPlan.

### **D. CLOSING BUSINESS**

# 1. ITEMS FROM THE TAC

Board members may make general announcements, raise items of concern, or report on current topics of interest to the Technical Advisory Committee. Items are not on the agenda, so discussion is limited, and action not allowed.

Member DeGeyter provided an update from ADOT. They hope to fill the District Administrator vacancy in the north central district in June. In the interim, Member DeGeyter and Steven Craver are splitting the assignments within the district.

Vice Chair Reisner commented that the draft ADOT 5-year Program is drafted. Mr. Reisner stated that the plan includes the widening I-40 between I-17 and Country Club. The I-40 widening project is an example of how P2P works. This project started back in 2017.

Member DeGeyter commented that the ADOT 5-year plan will be reviewed on June 5<sup>th</sup>, with final adoption taking place on June 20<sup>th</sup>. There are number of projects for the north central district. The draft is open for comments until May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Member Dunno commented that the Mountain Line Downtown Connection Center opens on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Dunno also requested a future agenda item to discuss the Lockett roundabout project. She stated that as the City rebuilds or completes major road repairs along Cedar Avenue, there is an opportunity to catch up on bus stop improvements.

### 2. NEXT SCHEDULED TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*September 24, 2025* 

### 3. ADJOURN

Vice Chair Reisner called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Member Mood and seconded by Member DeGeyter. The meeting was adjourned at 3:29pm.

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (NAIPTA) final program of projects for Sections 5307 and 5339 funding under the Federal Transit Administration unless amended. Public notice for the TIP also satisfies FTA public notice requirements for the final program of projects. The MetroPlan Public Participation Plan (PPP) provides public participation notices and processes for NAIPTA as required to meet federal and state requirements for public participation and open meetings.