



Meeting Minutes

Executive Board Meeting

1:00 – 3:00 PM
MARCH 5, 2026

Teams Virtual Meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device.

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Meeting ID: 288 229 047 687 7

Passcode: aj6UU7V9

In-Person Location

Downtown Connection Center
216 W Phoenix 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 planning@metroplanflg.org. The MetroPlan complies with [Title VI of the Civil Rights Act](#) 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 planning@metroplanflg.org 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).

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

- Miranda Sweet, Vice Mayor of Flagstaff, Chair
- Judy Begay, Chair Coconino County Board of Supervisors, Vice-Chair
- Austin Aslan, Flagstaff City Council
- Tony Williams, Mountain Line Board of Directors
- Becky Daggett, Mayor of Flagstaff
- Jamescita Peshlakai, Arizona State Transportation Board Member
- Jeronimo Vasquez, Coconino County Board of Supervisors
- Patrice Horstman, Coconino County Board of Supervisors (*alternate for Coconino County*)
- Anthony Garcia, Flagstaff City Council (*alternate for City of Flagstaff*)

METROPLAN STAFF

- Kate Morley, Executive Director
- David Wessel, Planning Manager
- Tami Suchowiejko, Business Manager
- Mandia Gonzales, Transportation Planner
- Kim Austin, Transportation Demand Management Planner
- Melanie Nagel, Montoya Fellow
- Hailey Bishop, Transportation Education AmeriCorps Member

Also in attendance: Jeff McKay, Vice President of Capital Planning and Campus Operations, Northern Arizona University; Paul Mood, City Engineer, City of Flagstaff; Mare Schumacher, Member of the Public; Andres “Dapper Dre” Adatao, Member of the Public

A. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sweet called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

See page above.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were received.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Executive Board Regular Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2026

Motion: Member Williams made a motion to approve the Executive Board Meeting minutes of February 4, 2026. Member Daggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items on the Consent Agenda.

C. ACTION ITEMS

1. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING METROPLAN'S ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING TO PROGRAMMING (P2P) PRIORITY PROJECTS

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley, Executive Director

Recommendation: Staff recommend the Board Adopt MetroPlan's Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Planning to Programming (P2P) Priority Projects: US180 Corridor Improvements, Milton and Route 66 Intersection Improvements, and West Route 66 Corridor Improvements.

Executive Director Morley presented information about ADOT's Planning to Project process and the recommended changes to the previously identified priorities.

Board Discussion:

Member Williams agrees with refining our approach to create a sound argument for investing resources. He expressed appreciation for the time and effort that went into identifying the original priorities. He asked if the other projects will still be on our list of long-term goals. Executive Director Morley confirmed that we are not giving up on the other projects and will look for other ways to accomplish them.

Member Daggett agreed that this is a good direction and clarifies our top priorities.

Chair Sweet asked if these projects will come back during our next strategic planning

process. Executive Director Morley confirmed that we will review them again during our next strategic planning process.

Vice Chair Begay asked if the turnoff to Sacred Peaks is included in the priorities list. She expressed concerns about safety. Executive Director Morley explained that the turnoff is under City jurisdiction and would not be a part of ADOT's P2P process. Executive Director Morley will follow up with Member Begay.

Public Comment:

There were no comments from the public.

Motion: Vice Chair Begay made a motion to adopt MetroPlan's Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Planning to Programming (P2P) Priority Projects: US180 Corridor Improvements, Milton and Route 66 Intersection Improvements, and West Route 66 Corridor Improvements. Member Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING STRATEGIC GRANTS PLAN UPDATE

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley, Executive Director

Recommendation: Staff recommend the Board adopt the Strategic Grants Plan 2026-2029 Update.

Executive Director Morley gave a presentation on the updated Strategic Grants Plan for 2026 through 2029.

Board Discussion: There was no discussion by the Board on this topic.

Public Comment:

Jeff McKay asked how these grant opportunities are selected. Executive Director Morley explained that most competitive grants are direct from the Department of Transportation, with a handful that are passed through to ADOT. There is formal application process, requiring technical and benefit cost analyses. The grant process is transparent; the rules and federal requirements associated with the grant are clear.

Motion: Member Williams made a motion to adopt the Strategic Grants Plan 2026-2029 Update. Member Daggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF THE 2026 METROPLAN-MOUNTAIN LINE COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

MetroPlan Staff: Kim Austin, Transportation Demand Management Planner

Recommendation: Staff recommend the Board adopt the 2026 MetroPlan-Mountain Line Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan.

Transportation Demand Management Planner Kim Austin presented the changes in the 2026 MetroPlan-Mountain Line Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan.

Board Discussion: There was no discussion by the Board about this item.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public on this item.

Motion: Member Daggett made a motion to adopt the 2026 MetroPlan-Mountain Line Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan. Member Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ARIZONA STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

MetroPlan Staff: Tami Suchowiejko, Business Manager

Recommendation: Staff recommend the Board approve MetroPlan’s membership in the Arizona State Cooperative Purchasing Program and delegate authority to Executive Director Morley to sign the membership agreement.

Business Manager Suchowiejko presented on the benefits of joining the state cooperative purchasing program.

Board Discussion:

Chair Sweet asked if MetroPlan had been a member of the coop before. Business Manager Suchowiejko commented that MetroPlan has not been a member of the coop, and that other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Councils of Government (COGs) are members.

Public Comment:

Jeff McKay asked if the agreement specifies that we must rely on coop pricing. Business Manager Suchowiejko explained that the cooperative agreement does require exclusivity, and that MetroPlan is still able to conduct its own solicitations and contracts for services.

Motion: Member Williams motioned to approve this item as presented. Member Daggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. UPDATE ON NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY MEMBERSHIP

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley, Executive Director

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

Executive Director Morley provided an update on the steps taken to add Northern Arizona University (NAU) as a voting member of the Executive Board. She welcomed Jeff McKay who was selected to represent NAU on the Board. Josh Maher will continue as NAU’s representative on the Management Committee. NAU will also have a representative on the Technical Advisory Committee.

Board Discussion:

Member Williams expressed appreciation to Executive Director Morley for moving this item forward. He stated that having NAU at the table is important and welcomed Jeff McKay.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public on this item.

2. RURAL TRANSPORTATION ADVOCACY COUNCIL UPDATE

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley, Executive Director

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

Executive Director Morley presented an update on the status of Rural Transportation Advocacy Council.

Board Discussion:

Chair Sweet expressed her appreciation for Executive Director Morley's involvement in RTAC.

Member Willaims asked about the size and representation of the RTAC Board. Executive Director Morley explained that RTAC Board membership includes an elected official from each rural Council of Governments (COG) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). There are four rural COGs and seven rural MPOs.

Chair Sweet recognized Member Vasquez for his participation as MetroPlan's representative on the RTAC Board.

Member Vasquez recognized the work that Executive Director Morley has done to assist RTAC with transition planning.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public on this item.

3. UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley, Executive Director

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

Executive Director Morley provided an update on the state and federal legislative items.

Board Discussion:

Chair Sweet asked if MetroPlan is talking with other organizations to strategize about the reauthorization. Executive Director Morley explained that we are members of organizations that part of a larger organization called the Local Officials in Transportation (LOT) Coalition, which includes National League of Cities and National Association of Counties, and we are all working together and weighing in about the reauthorization.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public on this item.

4. SAFE STREETS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

MetroPlan Staff: David Wessel, Planning Manager

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

Planning Manager Wessel provided an update on the Safe Streets Master Plan project.

Board Discussion: There was no discussion by the Board about this item.

Public Comment:

Mare Schumacher made the following comments:

I am here to make a comment, but now that I saw that beautiful color chart, I also have a few questions, but if they are not appropriate to answer here, we can figure something else out. I am an epidemiologist and I am always thinking about public health. I am happy to hear that you mentioned some of the things that you are working on involve pedestrian and bike walkways because we have two huge public health issues related to transportation. One is of course reducing accidents, injuries and deaths from cars, cars and bikes, cars, and people. And then the other is not seen as much, which is getting people to move and go out and about is influenced a lot more by the environment. So, people who say I am going to start working out and they make that resolution on New Year's Eve and then you look two weeks later, and everyone is back on their couch, right? But if you make a walkway so that they can walk to work easily, they will do it and they will do it if they can bike to work and it is just as fast and so on. I am just asking you to try to keep that in mind for every policy. I know that you are bound by your grants. I know they have a lot of restrictions. But anytime you can push back on that or include things, that is very helpful. The second thing then was my comment, and my question was about community engagement. In the planning of the safe streets I saw there were several places like bike advisory group and so on. You also mentioned that you had a had a stakeholder, was it the stakeholder group or the community group that got unwieldy? And so, I was just curious what that was and where there would be opportunities for community input. Thank you.

At the direction of Chair Sweet, Planning Manager Wessel followed up to answer Ms. Schumacher's question. He explained that this master plan will support biking and pedestrian activity. He provided information that the consultant, Kittelson and Associates, is working on a participation plan, including public outreach in a broad array of techniques. He expressed interest in the perspective of the "person on the street." He explained that public working groups can become unwieldy when trying to schedule multiple groups and keep the project on course. He encouraged Ms. Schumacher to follow up with him if she would like more information.

5. DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2025 SINGLE AUDIT

MetroPlan Staff: Tami Suchowiejko, Business Manager

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

Business Manager Suchowiejko presented the results for fiscal year 2025 single audit.

Board Discussion: There was no discussion by the Board about this item.

Public Comment:

Jeff McKay asked about the capital depreciation for the office lease. Executive Director Morley explained that the capital depreciation is for the \$100,000 building improvement payment to Mountain Line.

6. QUARTER 2 FINANCIAL REPORT

MetroPlan Staff: Tami Suchowiejko, Business Manager

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

Business Manager Suchowiejko gave an update on financials as of December 31, 2026.

Board Discussion: There was no discussion by the Board about this item.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public on this item.

6. METROPLAN HAPPENINGS

MetroPlan Staff: Kate Morley, Executive Director

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

Executive Director Morley reported on MetroPlan's recent activities and accomplishments.

Board Discussion: There was no discussion by the Board about this item.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public on this item.

E. CLOSING BUSINESS

1. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Chair Sweet announced that Executive Director Morley's review is coming up. She asked that Board Members send her an email with any feedback they have about the process.

2. NEXT SCHEDULED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

April 2, 2026

Chair Sweet encouraged members of the Board to attend in person.

3. ADJOURN

Chair Sweet adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

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.