

## MINUTES

### PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

FEBRUARY 27, 2014

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, February 27, 2014, at the Pueblo Regional Building Department's Conference Room at 830 North Main Street. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Michael Colucci, Chairman, at 12:15 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Ed Brown  
Michael Colucci  
Sandy Daff  
Nick Gradisar  
Terry Hart  
Chris Kaufman  
Ted Lopez

Roger Lowe  
Buffie McFadyen  
Eva Montoya  
Tony Montoya  
Ami Nawrocki  
Steve Nawrocki  
Sal Pace

Those members absent were:

Chris Nicoll

Lewis Quigley

Also present were:

Joan Armstrong  
Sam Azad  
Dan Kogovsek  
Scott Hobson

Greg Severance  
Louella Salazar  
Greg Styduhar

#### CHANGE TO AGENDA ITEM

Chairman Colucci announced that there are a few minor changes to Item No. 8, noting the title on the resolution was changed to reflect the correct wording, as was the last paragraph in the document reworded. He stated a copy of the new resolution was distributed prior to the meeting.

#### CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Joan Armstrong, PACOG Manager, reported there were four items listed on the agenda under the Consent Items. She summarized the four Consent Items for PACOG.

Chairman Colucci asked if there were any other additions or amendments to the Consent Items or if any of the members or audience would like any of the items removed or discussed that are on the Consent agenda.

It was moved by Steve Nawrocki, seconded by Buffie McFadyen, and passed unanimously to approve the four Consent Items listed below:

- Minutes of December 5, 2013 Meeting;

- Treasurer's Report (Receive and file November and December 2013 Financial Reports);
- A Resolution Designating a Place for the Posting of Notice of Public Meetings of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments for Calendar Year 2014; and
- A Resolution Adopting the Public Involvement Program for the Pueblo Metropolitan Planning Organization and Pueblo Transportation Planning Region Which Includes Public Involvement Procedures for the Long Range Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and Unified Planning Work Program; and Directing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to Implement Those Public Participation Activities.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

(A) Introduction of New School District 70 Member, Tony Montoya

Chairman Colucci introduced and welcomed Tony Montoya, representing Pueblo School District No. 70.

(B) PACOG Nominating Committee for Officers

Mr. Terry Hart reported the PACOG Nominating Committee met on January 15, 2014 and selected the following persons to serve as officers for 2014: Buffie McFadyen (Chair), Roger Lowe (Vice Chair), and Nick Gradisar (Treasurer). He stated there was discussion this morning about having Chris Kaufman serve as the new Chair. He stated the report from the Nominating Committee was based upon their discussion at the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Hart stated a proxy vote was received from Chris Nicoll casting his vote for Mr. Kaufman.

Ms. McFadyen stated seeing that Mr. Kaufman's ambition exceeds her own, she was more than happy to remove her name from consideration. She motioned to nominate Chris Kaufman as Chair and Eva Montoya seconded the motion. Chairman Colucci asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. There being none, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Hart stated there didn't seem to be any debate on the other two positions. He motioned to accept the nominations from the PACOG Nominating Committee regarding Roger Lowe as Vice-Chair and Nick Gradisar as Treasurer. Ms. Daff seconded the motion. There being no further nominations from the floor, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Dan Kogovsek, PACOG attorney, stated under the bylaws PACOG is required to have a secretary. He stated the current secretary needs to be nominated.

It was moved by Eva Montoya, seconded by Chris Kaufman, and passed unanimously to appoint Louella Salazar as Secretary.

(C) New Chair Takes Chair

Chairman Kaufman thanked the PACOG members for their support. He stated he was happy and honored to serve.

(D) Plaque Presentation to Michael Colucci, Outgoing Chairman

Chairman Kaufman presented a plaque of appreciation to Michael Colucci, outgoing Chairman. He thanked Mr. Colucci for doing a great job. Mr. Colucci stated he enjoyed being chairman.

(E) Appointment of PACOG Budget Committee

Chairman Kaufman stated it is the desire of the 2013 PACOG Budget Committee to remain the same in 2014. The Committee began in 2013 the process of undertaking a project regarding PACOG membership dues and structure. The Committee felt the continuity of the group would be vital to accomplish this undertaking.

It was moved by Ami Nawrocki, seconded by Buffie McFadyen, and passed unanimously to reappoint the following persons to the PACOG Budget Committee: Terry Hart, Eva Montoya, Lewis Quigley, and Nick Gradisar.

(F) Lunch Appreciation

Chairman Kaufman thanked the Pueblo City Council for providing lunch for today's meeting.

(G) Future Agenda Items

Chairman Kaufman stated this is the opportunity for PACOG members to request any items they would like to see on future agendas.

Mr. Lopez stated he would like to request a special point of privilege to discuss something with the representatives from the City of Pueblo after the regular PACOG meeting. Chairman Kaufman asked if he was talking about the City Council members. Mr. Lopez replied he would like to talk to the City representatives. Mr. Kogovsek notified Mr. Lopez he could meet with City Council members only two at a time. He noted having more than two would not be appropriate, noting three or more would be considered a meeting under the Open Meetings Law. Chairman Kaufman asked Mr. Lopez if it was something he wanted to address right now or would he be willing to meet with Sandy Daff, the City Council President and possibly the City Manager and City Attorney. He stated Ms. Daff would relay any information he provides to the rest of City Council. Mr. Lopez stated his discussion is something about City policy. Chairman Kaufman recommended that he meet with Ms. Daff and Mr. Azad after the meeting and the information would get legally relayed to City Council.

Chairman Kaufman stated should PACOG members come up with any agenda items they would like on any future meetings to please get in touch with Ms. Salazar.

Ms. McFadyen felt PACOG needs to look at the expansion and invitation to other entities within boundaries to join PACOG. She felt there were other communities like Rye, noting she did not know the history why they were not involved in PACOG. She stated there are several entities and special districts which should be on PACOG. She felt it was appropriate to invite them to the table since PACOG is more active now than it has been in some time. Mr. Gradisar stated this is one of the charges that the PACOG Budget Committee is undertaking in connection with their review and analysis of the

dues. He stated the Committee has asked staff to provide them a list of eligible entities and what PACOG has done to invite them in the past, and what we can do to have them join PACOG now. Ms. McFadyen felt it was very commendable that the Committee is doing this.

Mr. Pace stated he would like a history or background on why Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) exist, and the role they play under Federal transportation. He felt a short tutorial would be appropriate.

Ms. Daff stated she would like there to be discussion on marijuana. She stated there needs to be some uniformity on the verbiage or language on the issue. Mr. Nawrocki asked if she could give some examples. Ms. Daff replied it would be mostly on the definition of "open public area". Mr. Pace stated we are all under one judicial district, noting any criminal acts happening in the community would go to the same district attorney. He didn't know if this is the right forum to work on this issue, but we do have the right people in this room, except for the district attorney. Ms. Nawrocki stated based on what Mr. Pace said, she felt it would be better to discuss this at a joint City-County meeting, noting the district attorney, sheriff, and police chief should be involved. She felt this would be the more appropriate venue. Mr. Lowe stated he represents Colorado City and noted the PACOG meeting is where they get their word heard. He felt it would be good for PACOG to get involved in these kinds of things because it will eventually be in all the towns, etc. which would mean it would involve the whole County. He felt this would be the proper venue for this to be done. Mr. Nawrocki believed that it is appropriate to have some kind of uniformity. The citizens would then know that wherever they are in the County that it is the same rule of law. He felt the school districts would be interested in this issue, as well as the other entities (i.e., Rye, Colorado City, Greenhorn Valley, etc.). He noted there may be grow areas going up in these areas, and they should be involved. He felt PACOG is the appropriate forum, and everyone could have input. Chairman Kaufman felt that this could be an agenda for the next meeting. He felt things are moving fast in this area and it would be wise to stay out ahead of it. Ms. McFadyen stated the County hired special counsel. She asked if the City had done this. Mr. Nawrocki replied no. Mr. Hart stated he loved this conversation, noting this fits in with what the Budget Committee has been looking at as to how PACOG is structured, how it pays dues, and how to get others involved. He felt it was important that PACOG be involved, noting it is helpful to get all of the different perspectives. He stated even though the issue of marijuana might not be able to be resolved at PACOG because it would have to go back to the City Council and County Commissioners for final approval that being able to discuss it at the meeting is great. He stated there may be some other similar issues PACOG might want to tackle through the year. Ms. Daff suggested putting together a wish list of folks to participate in the initial meeting, and get together some initial recommendations which can be brought back to PACOG within the next 30 days.

Chairman Kaufman stated the two main future agenda items would be the MPO and on how it works and the discussion on marijuana.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

### (A) EPAC Minutes/Statement/Report

Ms. Joan Armstrong, PACOG Manager, stated the draft minutes of the February 6, 2014 Environmental Policy Advisory Committee were provided in PACOG's packet. She stated this was an informational item.

This being an informational item, no formal was taken.

## REPORT ON HB1161-SOUTHWEST CHIEF UPDATE

Mr. Sal Pace reported on February 12<sup>th</sup> staff and he traveled to Denver with representatives from Lamar, La Junta, and Trinidad. The meeting was with the Local Government Committee, which was the appropriate committee, because there are four Southeastern Colorado representatives on that committee. The bill was received very well. The bill creates a commission to oversee the maintenance and repairs, partnering with Kansas, New Mexico, Amtrak, and BNSF. It also creates a special fund within the State Treasury. The bill does not say where the funding will come from, but it mentions 5 or 6 potential sources. The bill also says it is contingent upon adding a stop in Pueblo and we explore adding Walsenburg as a stop. The Rio Grande railroad is real excited about the possibility of a tourist stop in Walsenburg all the way to the Narrow Gauge to Antonito. The bill passed 13-0. It was unnecessarily sent to the Appropriations Committee, which slowed down the process. We are getting a new fiscal bill today. This bill will have zero impact on the State. He stated he has a commitment from the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee to get it out next week. It should pass easily on March 7<sup>th</sup> and, hopefully, pass the House on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. It will then go to the Senate. Senator Crowder is excited about having it go to the Senate and is an enthusiast proponent of the bill.

Mr. Pace stated the bill does not talk about where the funding comes from. He stated he will be organizing a Southeastern Colorado delegation trip to the Capitol in two weeks. He stated the folks from Lamar, La Junta, Walsenburg, and Trinidad will be invited. He stated he would try to get an audience with the Governor and some key JBC members in separate meetings. When the budget forecast is received on March 20<sup>th</sup> and if the projections are what they think it is going to be, which should be positive, and there is extra money in the State budget, they would like to see some of the additional supplemental money go towards this project. He stated he would like to see three things happen: (1) fund the Commission and a staff person, (2) research and studies be done on what types of maintenance and repairs need to be done to connect to Pueblo, and 3) ask if the money is available for Colorado's share, which is \$4 million/year for 10 years. He stated if we get out of there with 2 out of the 3 that he would consider that a victory.

Mr. Nawrocki asked what the communication is he has with the proponents for the Southwest Chief in New Mexico if it passes. Mr. Pace replied he felt positive about New Mexico. He stated the bill passed 47-13 in the New Mexico House, which included the appropriation of \$4 million. It got sent over to the Senate where it lingered in a short 30-day session and never came to a vote. The letter from the Transportation Committee Chair said that Kansas and Colorado should not take this as a sign that they are done

with the issue. The bill will be coming back at the next session and they are planning to pass it. New Mexico plans on using Severance Tax dollars. They have a unique way of appropriating those dollars outside of General Legislative Rules that allow them to skirt around the Governor who has said she is not in support of giving \$4 million/year for 10 years. He stated in Kansas the KDOT Director indicated they have the full \$40 million designated within their transportation budget. Once the other two states step up, they already have the money available, noting Kansas is ahead of the other two states. He stated in Colorado we have been telling CDOT all along that we will not be using transportation money.

Mr. Nawrocki asked if New Mexico's session is next year. Mr. Pace replied yes, noting they would have to wait until the 2015 session. He stated they have until the end of 2015 to partner. He stated the commission, which is being proposed, will have the ability to enter into interstate agreements (IGAs) with the neighboring states. Mr. Nawrocki stated since Kansas already has a commitment and it looks like it is going to happen in Colorado that New Mexico still has to happen. Mr. Pace felt if we have had any hiccups the worst thing we could do is to have a hiccup in Colorado and New Mexico comes back in January 2015 and says it's not happening. He felt we need to lean with Kansas.

Mr. Severance stated PACOG approved a \$10,000 study to utilize Colorado State University-Pueblo students to do an initial impact study, noting the study has been completed. The study does not tell us everything, but it gave us some ammunition to bring PACOG's message to the Legislature and bring in some professionals from the CSU-P to help move it forward. He stated New Mexico did pass \$150,000-\$200,000 of additional study money, which goes to the University of New Mexico (UNM). They are talking about partnering with the UNM, a university in Kansas, and CSU-P to combine "apples to apples" and form a collective study. He stated there are positive things occurring, and it was extremely helpful to allow staff to do this study through the UPWP.

Mr. Pace stated more than 3,000 people signed the petition in support of the bill to the Legislature. Chairman Kaufman added when the City Council went to Washington, D.C. that this was a very important topic which was discussed with the local legislators, noting this shows that the community is in total support of the bill.

A RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO AN AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT SITE LOCATION APPROVAL TO ALLOW A PILOT PROJECT WHICH WILL IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR PHOSPHORUS AND NITROGEN REMOVAL, LOCATED AT THE CITY OF PUEBLO'S JAMES R. DIORIO WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, LOCATED WITHIN A PORTION OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 21 SOUTH, RANGE 64 WEST OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> P.M., CITY OF PUEBLO, COLORADO

Mr. Gene Michael, Director, City Wastewater Department, stated the resolution asks for PACOG's approval of a pilot testing project at the City's water treatment plant. He reported the State Health Department in 2012 adopted nutrient regulations, which are chemical forms of nitrogen and phosphorus which stimulate plant growth. The regulations were implemented in two phases. The first phase is in effect now (Regulation 85) and sets an interim standard of 15 mg/l for total inorganic nitrogen and 1 mg/l for total phosphorus. The second stage (Regulation 31) will take effect in the Year 2022. That regulation will set final standards of 2 mg/l for total inorganic nitrogen and

0.17 mg/l for total phosphorus. It will drop the standards for both constituents by a little more of a factor of 10. Pueblo's existing water reclamation facility cannot meet the 2022 standards for phosphorus, and may have trouble reliably meeting the interim standard for phosphorus. The City will need to do more construction. The City recently completed a major upgrade at the water reclamation facility adding a biological nutrient removal capability. This process uses bacteria to remove nitrogen and phosphorus from wastewater. It can achieve very low levels for either constituent, noting the problem is it can't achieve low levels for both constituents at the same time. They are using different groups of bacteria to remove those nutrients and the bacteria that removes nitrogen compete with the ones that remove phosphorus for the same materials, so you can't get down as low as you need to using strictly biological processes. Their strategy would be to optimize the process for biological nitrogen removal and then use chemical removal. This is the same as what they do at the drinking water treatment plant in order to polish up for phosphorus. Alum would be added to the effluent converting the dissolved phosphorus into particles and then use filtration to remove those particles. The pilot test would help them determine which type of filtration technology works best. There are two different companies which make the filter systems that will be bringing in pilot skids that contain tanks, mixers, chemical feed systems, and different filter media. It will allow them to test the filtration systems and try to optimize the process in terms of alum doses, pH control, colladiation time, filter media type, and backwash procedures. The pilot skids are going to process about 70,000 gallons of effluent per day for the 10-day duration of their operation. This will be done sequentially so we'll use one set of filters for 10 days and then switch out the other set for the next 10 days. All the discharges from the pilot testing are going to be returned to the head works of the plant so it will go completely through the treatment process again. That eliminates any possibility that any incomplete water can be released through the river. They hope to begin the pilot testing in April 2014. He stated the site application was last updated by the State in 2009. The State rules for pilot testing require an engineering review to be conducted by the State and notification of the regional water quality planning agency, which is PACOG.

It was moved by Nick Gradisar and seconded by Eva Montoya to approve "A Resolution Pertaining to an Amendment to an Existing Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Site Location Approval to Allow a Pilot Project Which Will Identify Appropriate Technology for Phosphorus and Nitrogen Removal, Located at the City of Pueblo's James R. Dilorio Water Reclamation Facility, Located Within a Portion of Section 5, Township 21 South, Range 64 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., City of Pueblo, Colorado".

Discussion occurred. Ms. McFadyen asked if this is how it works today—if it goes through the Dilorio plant up to the other treatment plant. Mr. Michael responded no, noting the Dilorio plant is the wastewater plant. The discharge from their facility goes directly to the Arkansas River. They discharge about 3/4s of a mile downstream from Fountain Creek. Ms. McFadyen asked if the construction has been done or if there is a system in place for it. Mr. Michael replied no, noting the pilot skids are basically pelletized units that come in on a flatbed truck. They will pull water out of their treatment process just ahead of the disinfection process. The alum testing is then done. They then go back up to the head works of the same facility. It is basically run around in a big circle. Ms. McFadyen inquired if the circle already exists. Mr. Michael responded yes, and the pilot connection will be made with temporary hoses.

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

### MPO STAFF REPORT

Chairman Kaufman read into the record the following comments from Mr. Bill Thiebaut, Region 10 Transportation Commissioner, prior to the MPO staff report:

This information outlines key action taken by the Transportation Commission related to Pueblo projects, maintenance and surface treatment during its December 2013 and January (no key Pueblo action) and February 2014 meetings as noted below.

#### Projects

In December, the Transportation Commission approved two 7th Supplemental Budget items for FY 2014:

- I-25/Pueblo Ilex. MP 97.69-98.50--\$32 million for the construction phase for the roadway component of work. Construction advertisement scheduled for February, 2014. (On 12/4/13, he wrote to PACOG that the Transportation Commission acting as the Bridge Enterprise Board approved \$47 million for the bridge work.)
- Roundabout at Purcell and Platteville (\$565,000.00)--Total amount budgeted to date = \$965,000.00. Construction advertisement scheduled for March 2014.

At its February meeting, the Transportation Commission approved the following 9th Supplemental Budget item for FY 2014:

- Deferred SH96 project to 2016 in order to allow substantial utility upgrades.

#### Maintenance

At its February meeting, the Transportation Commission approved a contingency fund transfer to Pueblo Maintenance of \$849,364.00 for winter operations.

#### Surface Treatment

A copy of the Region 2 surface treatment plan was attached to his report. Chairman Kaufman stated staff could email the plan to interested parties.

Mr. Scott Hobson, MPO Administrator, reported on the following:

- Update on Eden Dillon Interchange Phase 1

He stated there was a memorandum prior to the meeting, dated February 27, 2014, regarding the update. He stated:

- 1) The Environmental Assessment Re-Evaluation was approved FHWA on February 13, 2014.
- 2) The resolution approving the authorization to proceed with Land Acquisition for the project was approved the Colorado Transportation Commission on February 18, 2014.
- 3) FHWA has concurred with Minor Interchange Modification Request and Round-about Design for the project.

The advertisement date for the Dillon/Eden Interchange Phase 1 Project is scheduled to be released in the late spring to early summer 2014. The construction timeframe is estimated to be 18 months. The projected completion date for the project is spring of 2016. The completion date could possibly be moved up depending on the contractor who is selected for the project. There will be construction going on Ilex and other projects, and there could be a potential of a contractor being named and being able to take on more than one project and speed up the completion of the Dillon/Eden Interchange project if there are multiple projects awarded to them in Pueblo. The Dillon/Eden Interchange is now being called the Dillon/Eden Interchange Phase 1 Project, noting this makes sure that everyone understands it is a split diamond interchange project that has been designed and approved. It has been in their Long Range Transportation plan for a number of years.

Ms. Nawrocki asked how much land is going to have to be acquired and what is the cost. Mr. Hobson responded there is fairly minimal land to be acquired and the land is likely to be donated for the project. Chairman Kaufman stated it was his understanding that the landowner was going to donate that section of land. Ms. Nawrocki asked who the landowner is. Chairman Kaufman replied WL Enterprises.

Ms. McFadyen stated she would like staff to provide more information on the distribution formula for RPP. Mr. Hobson replied they could provide an update on the recommendation that was provided to the STAC and the recommendation they made to the State Transportation Commission and the status of it.

Mr. Severance stated the Regional Planning Priority funding is funding that years ago was set aside to be flexible for the regions. He stated Pueblo is Region 2. Over the years, the money seemed to go away and became more centralized at CDOT. Recently, through the efforts of Commissioner Thiebaut and some of the rural Commissioners, they carved out \$50 million a year to provide to the regions, noting Region 5 used to be Region 6. Pueblo's share of that \$50 million is what our STAC representative, Buffie McFadyen, is working on. Some of the representatives from the large MPOs want to change the formula of distributions that has historically been used. They have some proposals out there, noting those proposals lauded increase the funding to Region 2, even though it has a population formula in it. At the last STAC meeting, Ms. McFadyen asked to table the discussion because the formulas had barely been received and there wasn't time to review them. These discussions will occur at the next STAC meeting. He felt the 101 lesson on the different acronyms would be advantageous to PACOG.

Ms. McFadyen stated at the last STAC meeting there was a very heated discussion on the formula. She stated depending on how the formula is done that Region 2 may not lose funding. She stated the reason it should be so germane to us is our State highway system and I-25 are connected. If the rural areas around Pueblo lose in that formula, it means that our connectivity could be diminished. She felt it behooves us to be a voice for the smaller Transportation Planning Regions (TPRs). Pueblo may not lose, but those around us could. She felt it was important that we step up, and we need to make sure that Colorado Springs doesn't take all of the money out of Region 2. Chairman Kaufman stated Pueblo is Southern Colorado's capital.

Mr. Severance stated in cooperation with CDOT, staff worked together with the Safety Office. They received word Monday that we received another \$1 million of HES safety

dollars to supplement approximately \$3.8 million that it going to replace seven traffic signals and bump outs from Erie to Elizabeth on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. We are submitting a request for two more traffic signals on 4<sup>th</sup> Street in the downtown area, costing an additional \$800,000, to complete the project. He stated on the east side of I-25, we had some fatalities and injury accidents. We were approved for the bump outs on the corners and some new traffic signals. If staff is successful in obtaining the last \$800,000, there will be \$5.1 million of safety improvements going in on 4<sup>th</sup> Street prior to the July 2015 overlay of \$5.9 million from the new bridge all the way to State Highway 47.

Mr. Nawrocki asked if there is any other discussion of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Street in terms of being changed. Mr. Severance replied the one way pair issue is still alive, noting he would defer to Ms. Pepper Whittlef to answer the question. Chairman Kaufman stated he asked Ms. Whittlef the same question and it is a matter of money. He stated he couldn't understand why you couldn't switch stoplights. Mr. Severance stated there is an aesthetic value which will be coming on the east and west sides.

Mr. Nawrocki stated he filled in for Ms. McFadyen at one of the STAC meetings and it is a little bit intimidating. He applauded Ms. McFadyen for her efforts.

- Platteville/Purcell Round-a-bout Project Status

Mr. Greg Severance, Pueblo County's Director of Transportation, reported staff had originally submitted a grant for approximately \$595,000 and the cost escalated to \$965,000. This action was approved at the last State Transportation Commission meeting to take the modifications of our local area agreement and to fully fund that project. This project involves some local contributions as well. There are detour routes on Iliff that will be paved during the process that aren't thrown away in gravel roads now. The construction schedule is awaiting, with the funding transfers that were happening, noting they have to do a modification of our initial local agency agreement and agree with the new cost assessments which were approved. He thanked CDOT-Region 2 who partnered in this, noting by working together they were able to get the funding. In the next couple of weeks, the final agreement should be signed and the project should commence in April to begin the actual round-a-bout. The bids were open for the detour routes yesterday. Part of the paving and activity will begin very shortly.

Mr. Pace asked if he could go through the local shares. Mr. Severance replied the total cost of the project is \$965,000, which required a 10% match that Pueblo County put up which was \$96,000. Pueblo County also put up \$180,000 to do the Iliff detour routes and approximately \$90,000 to design the project. This is approximately \$360,000 out of the SDS Road Mitigation (1041) dollars.

Ms. McFadyen stated this intersection is one of the most deadly intersections in the State. She wanted to laud the cooperative efforts of CDOT, Pueblo West Metropolitan District, Pueblo County, and PACOG. She stated regardless of the opinion of some Pueblo West residents that we will come to utilize that traffic circle appropriately and effectively.

Chairman Kaufman stated this has been a fantastic win, noting it is still but a fraction of what we need to fix on I-25. He stated the City Council talked to Messrs. Udall, Tipton, and Bennett asking them to put in a good word in for Pueblo. He noted we are only

getting a mile of I-25 fixed, and Highway 50 is going to fail in 5-7 years. We need to keep the pressure on the Federal to CDOT and the local to CDOT.

Mr. Severance stated the message is being told loud and clear by PACOG staff to CDOT.

- Travel Demand Model RFP Update

Mr. Hobson stated there is a second handout dated February 27, 2014 regarding the RFP for consultant services for the PACOG Travel Demand Model. This is the model that projects current transportation volumes and uses on our major roadways and also projects on future growth the anticipated increase in roadways. The model also takes into account the destination of where people live, when they go to work, and where they work. This is critical to peak travel times. With the help of Mr. Severance, we put together a request for proposal for completion of the Travel Demand Model. Staff received proposals from four consulting agencies: Cambridge Systematics, LSA Associates, HDR Engineering, and Resource Systems Group. An evaluation review committee will be meeting next week to review the proposals. The consulting agencies could be asked to do interviews as part of the selection process. The intent is to be able to make a selection and then have a resolution presented to the Pueblo City Council in March and have the project begin in April. Phase 1 will take about 45 days. Phase 2 will look at what that scope of work will be based on and a review of our current Travel Demand product. The Phase 2 work should be done by September so we can complete the Long Range Transportation Plan by the end of this year. He stated the memorandum provides a listing of the scope of work for each phase.

#### TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER/CDOT REGION 2 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please see comments read into the record from State Transportation Commissioner Bill Thiebaut.

#### CDOT STAFF PROJECT UPDATES

- I-25

Ms. Jennifer Billings, Engineer, CDOT, reported on the Ilex to 1<sup>st</sup> Street project. She stated they are advertising it as a design/build project. They have shortlisted down to three different contracting teams. The funding for the project, the Ilex portion, and the six rehabilitation bridges, is Bridge Enterprise. The RAMP funding was obtained for north of Ilex to 1<sup>st</sup> Street, as well as the ramp south of the 1<sup>st</sup> Street bridge. CDOT staff is currently working on one-on-one meetings with the contracting teams. The draft Request for Proposal (RFP) was released in the middle of January. They have also worked on aesthetics, noting they worked with stakeholders, HARP, downtown organizations, the City, etc. on what they want the bridges to look like. The final RFP will be released in the middle of March. They are still waiting on the Record of Decision (ROD), noting it is with FHWA for review. Hopefully, it will be signed in late April. They are still able to move forward with the process and are still working with the contracting teams. They hope to have the contract signed and the contractor picked in August 2014. Construction could start soon after the contract is signed depending on how much design has been done and what type of design and schedule they have. Construction should be completed by the end of 2017.

Ms. McFadyen asked on the joint ventures if they are three separate contractors with three separate design firms. Ms. Billings replied they have paired up in advance. A request for qualifications was sent out early on and they had 8 different teams come to them. Ms. McFadyen stated she just wanted to know if any of the contractors had the same design firm. Ms. Billings replied no, noting they are all separate.

- US 50

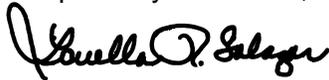
Mr. Dan Dahlke, Resident Engineer, CDOT, reported that work on the Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) through the City and County. They have a deadline of getting the IGAs signed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. They are trying to get the signed IGAs to the City by the beginning of April and to the County by the end of April. This will involve the devolution roads of 227, which the City will be taking over, and 233 for the County. They have already met with the City and County on who is taking over what and the limits boundary.

Mr. Dahlke stated for the US 50 project CDOT just submitted the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to the FHWA for its approval. They are hoping to have the FHWA sign off on the EA and have the ROD done by June. A final plan will be done in April. There is an advertisement date of October, but they are hoping to meet or beat that date. The project they are designing would add a third lane from Purcell eastbound back to Wills. They will also be doing some turn lane modifications at McCulloch and Purcell. He noted this was a separate project which awarded money through the RAMP Operational Project, but they are combining the two projects together. This is an \$11.2 million project. He stated it is estimated that work should be done in a year unless they get more money and it becomes more work.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before PACOG, the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, March 27, 2014 at the Pueblo City-County Health Department, 101 West 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Third Floor, Conference Room C.

Respectfully submitted,



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Louella R. Salazar  
PACOG Recording Secretary

LRS