

MINUTES

PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

APRIL 27, 2017

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at the Pueblo County Department of Emergency Management, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Tony Montoya, Chairman, at 12:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Robert Ferriter
Nick Gradisar
Terry Hart
Terry Kraus
Frank Latino
Judy Leonard

Ted Lopez
Tony Montoya
Steve Nawrocki
Chris Nicoll
Sal Pace
Bob Schilling

Those members absent were:

Ray Aguilera
Larry Atencio
Ed Brown

Garrison Ortiz
Lori Winner

Also present were:

John Adams
Dan Kogovsek

Louella Salazar
Greg Styduhar

CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Louella Salazar, PACOG Recording Secretary, reported there were two items listed on the agenda under the Consent Items. She summarized the Consent Items for PACOG.

Chairman Montoya asked if there were any additions or amendments to the Consent Items or if any of the members or audience would like an item removed or discussed that was on the Consent agenda. There were no additions or amendments.

It was moved by Terry Hart, seconded by Bob Schilling, and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Items listed below:

- Minutes of March 23, 2017 Meeting; and
- Treasurer's Report (Receive and file January, February, and March 2017 Financial Reports).

REGULAR ITEMS:

PACOG BUDGET HEARING

The Pueblo Area Council of Governments held a public hearing regarding the proposed State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018-2021 Pueblo Area Council of Governments' Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Pueblo Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Pueblo Transportation Planning Region (TPR). Chairman Montoya opened the hearing.

COMMENTS ON "DRAFT" TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. John Adams, MPO Program Manager, reported the 30-day period for public comments was published in March and two public comments were received from the original draft Transportation Improvement Program. Both comments were submitted by CDOT. The first comment pertains to the I-25 project through Pueblo. The funding is being shifted, which is funded in FY 2017 to FY 2021. The second is the U.S. 50 drainage project and moving the design funds to 2017 and putting full construction at \$3.5 million for 2021. There were no other comments received on the Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Gradisar stated the Transportation Improvement Program needs to be amended to include the Town of Boone, who is a PACOG member.

Chairman Montoya asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions. He stated the next item is the approval of the Transportation Improvement Program.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE STATE FISCAL YEAR (SFY) 2018-2021 PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS' REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE PUEBLO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AND THE PUEBLO TRANSPORTATION PLANNING REGION (TPR); DIRECTING THE URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION TO SUBMIT THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CDOT); PROGRAM ADOPTED HEREIN; AND PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM BY THE URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

Mr. John Adams, MPO Program Manager, reported the PACOG members received in their packets a resolution adopting the State FY 2018-2021 PAOCG Regional Transportation Improvement Program and authorizing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to submit it to CDOT, which it will include it into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

It was moved by Terry Hart, seconded by Bob Schilling, and passed unanimously to approve "A Resolution Adopting the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018-2021 Pueblo Area Council of Governments' Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Pueblo Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Pueblo Transportation Planning Region (TPR); Directing the Urban Transportation Planning Division to Submit the Transportation Improvement Program to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT); Program Adopted Herein; and Providing for Implementation of the Program by the Urban Transportation Planning Division".

Chairman Montoya closed the hearing.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

(A) Lunch Appreciation

Chairman Montoya thanked Pueblo School District No. 60 for providing lunch for today's meeting.

(B) Orientation

Chairman Montoya thanked staff for providing an orientation to the PACOG members on April 13, 2017, as well as for the lunches which were provided.

MANAGER'S REPORT

(A) EPAC Minutes/Statement/Report

Ms. Louella Salazar, PACOG Recording Secretary, reported the minutes of the April 6, 2017 Environmental Policy Advisory Committee was provided to the PACOG members in their packets.

This being an informational item, no formal action was required.

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSAL FROM URBAN3, A NORTH CAROLINA COMPANY FOR PRESENTATIONS AND TRAINING IN THE USE OF ECONOMIC 3D MODELING MEASURING THE ECONOMIC EFFECT OF LAND USES, AND AUTHORIZING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,672 FROM 2017 PACOG REGIONAL PLANNING FUNDS TO BE EXPENDED FOR SAID PRESENTATIONS AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Mr. Bill Zwick, City Planning Department, reported at last month's meeting, the proposal was submitted to PACOG to hire Urban3 to make presentations and provide training in the use of Economic 3D Modeling Measuring the Economic Effect of Land Uses. Urban3 made a similar presentation in September 2016 with Downtown Colorado, Inc. at a three-day conference in Pueblo. It was well received, but they only presented it to the people at the conference. This is an opportunity for them to present more of what was presented in September, and make it relate to governmental entities and the business community. In the proposal, there are up to six presentations in a two-day period on June 19-20, 2017. Chairman Montoya asked if there were other organizations that were brought into this discussion. Mr. Zwick replied at the time this was done, the Downtown Board of Realtors was the stakeholder, and received funding from the National Realtors Association, as well as a Colorado Department of Local Affairs' grant. He stated the Downtown Association supports this request, as well as the Board of Realtors. He stated Councilman Schilling attended the conference as far as the City and as a realtor. It was well received by the community and outside the community. Urban3 not only has the ability to manipulate existing data into a presentable form which makes sense, but they have the experience in land use and planning to make some policy changes that helps cities better utilize their revenue and to gain more revenue from new development.

Mr. Gradisar asked if the data would be only for the City of Pueblo or will it include Pueblo County and Pueblo West. Mr. Zwick responded it is City and County. Urban3 came out and did a study on the City of Pueblo downtown and the City of Pueblo in the City limits. In the County, they studied Pueblo West. Additional data will be given to them so they can analyze and present both property tax and sales tax so the City and County can have information they can utilize. Part of this is a two-day training workshop for City and County staff to be able to utilize their information and know how to present this and manipulate it. Staff can then be able to update this annually and do the projections and presentation. Mr. Gradisar asked if the marijuana tax will be considered? Mr. Zwick answered that this was something DOLA was excited about. He stated staff would like Urban3 to identify those and the grow sites in the County, and some of the other retail and medical taxes.

Mr. Nicoll asked if GIS would be used for the modeling. Mr. Zwick replied yes. The consultant has been provided GIS material and they were able to manipulate it. They take it to a different level comparing a Walmart and a big box, which uses a lot of land, to someone in the downtown or Pueblo West that uses a smaller lot per acre and can generate the same or more revenue from a small piece of lot versus the big acreage which is being promoted from a big box.

Mr. Styduhar inquired if the deliverables were going to the City or to PACOG. Mr. Zwick answered this started out as a proposal from the City Manager's office. This particular proposal would be to the City, County, and PACOG. He stated there are six different presentations and staff would like to see half of that to go to the business community, and half to government or some combination. He stated staff would be talking to PACOG to see what type of presentations they would like with respect to it being City, County, PACOG, etc. He stated people would be encouraged to attend the business presentations to get input from the business community.

After discussion, it was moved by Nick Gradisar, seconded by Chris Nicoll, and passed unanimously to approve "A Resolution Approving the Proposal from Urban3, A North Carolina Company for Presentations and Training in the Use of Economic 3D Modeling Measuring the Economic Effect of Land Uses, and Authorizing Funds in the Amount of \$16,672 from 2017 PACOG Regional Planning Funds to be Expended for Said Presentations and Training Activities".

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND RESOURCE RECYCLING SYSTEMS FOR SOLID WASTE AUDIT SERVICES AND FEASIBILITY STUDY AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT TO EXECUTE SAME

Mr. Chris Markuson, Director, County GIS and Economic Development Department, reported there was a team that reviewed all the RFPs, which were received from various consultants across the country. It was a unanimous decision to recommend Resource Recycling Systems to do the study. He stated this project will allow the community to make effective decisions about our landfill and the potential for developing recycling activities and to do waste diversion activities or basically keeping things out of the landfill which will have another potential use (e.g., plastics as a recyclable material or something else which could have a commercial aspect to it). Data is needed to figure out what is entering our solid waste stream and is going to the landfill. This project basically scoops up a bunch of garbage at the landfill, lays it out on tarps, and

tests/looks at/separates the garbage to see what is what and how much we have. The study is done over a couple of different times in order to get good baseline data. He stated there were two things done in the RFP. They actually doubled up on the consultant's work with another project, which is funded only by the County. A grant was received by the County through the Department of Local Affairs for \$48,000. This will encompass a materials recovery feasibility study. He stated staff is asking PACOG to fund the study of what is going into the landfill. The County/DOLA co-funded project would identify if it is commercially viable for a private business or the City or whomever to create a multi-stream recovery facility. This project is a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and PACOG is the lead on it.

It was moved by Terry Hart, seconded by Chris Nicoll, and passed unanimously to approve "A Resolution Approving an Agreement for Professional Services Between the Pueblo Area Council of Governments and Resource Recycling Systems for Solid Waste Audit Services and Feasibility Study and Authorizing the Chairperson of the Pueblo Area Council of Government to Execute Same".

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND JDS-HYDRO CONSULTANTS, INC., FOR CONSULTING WORK INVOLVING WATER QUALITY PLANNING, AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO EXECUTE SAME

Mr. Jeff Woeber, Planner II, Pueblo County Planning and Development, reported a copy of the professional services agreement and the contract were provided in the members' packets. In January, staff presented an RFP to PACOG, which was then sent out to several different firms. Three proposals were received, which were reviewed by the panel. After the review and a telephone call to the three consultants, the review team unanimously agreed that JDS-Hydro Consultants was the best fit for PACOG, having experience in drafting and working with water quality management plans (i.e., 208 plans). Staff is looking to finish up with the new consultant the last element of this water quality management plan, which is the wastewater utility plans. He stated this all needs to be completed by September 30th. At that time, it is anticipated additional grant money will be available. Staff will work with interested parties and agencies to determine what kinds of studies would be beneficial for water quality in the future. The agreement before PACOG is essentially the same as the previous one with the last consultant.

It was moved by Bob Schilling, seconded by Nick Gradisar, and passed unanimously to approve "A Resolution Approving an Agreement for Professional Services Between the Pueblo Area Council of Governments and JDS-Hydro Consultants, Inc., for Consulting Work Involving Water Quality Planning, and Authorizing the Chairperson of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments to Execute Same".

PACOG BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT ON MATRIX CONSULTING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Nick Gradisar, PACOG Treasurer, reported the budget committee met on April 13th. At this meeting, discussion occurred on the water quality subcommittee and its makeup. It was concluded that all the members of PACOG would probably, with the exception of the school districts, be members of this subcommittee because all the other members have interest on this particular issue. It was discussed that each member would have one vote. Discussion occurred on what it would take to move an item from the water

quality subcommittee to PACOG. Once it is approved by the subcommittee, it would take a super-majority of PACOG to overturn an action of the subcommittee. The budget committee's view is that most of the members of PACOG would be members of the subcommittee. It is unknown what it will cost to be a member of the subcommittee. Most of the activities concerning water quality for PACOG are funded by grants. The people who have interest in the issue should probably contribute money, as well as those who would sit on the transportation subcommittee.

Mr. Gradisar stated the budget committee's next charge is to get things in writing. It is expected to be drafted in a form which can be reviewed and discussed by PACOG.

Mr. Gradisar stated discussion also occurred on the dues structure. With the current dues, there is no rationale for how those dues were arrived at. The budget committee talked about possibly the County paying 30%, City 30%, Pueblo West 20%, and the other 20% is made up of the other entities. It would be difficult to use a formula because PACOG has diverse member entities, noting some are taxing entities and some are not. Everyone has a public budget, so possibly this could be the benchmark of how the dues are set. Another kind of budget could be based on assessed value. In the final analysis, it was decided that the current budget isn't bad to use, if you use the percentages derived above.

Mr. Gradisar stated another meeting will be scheduled before the next PACOG meeting, where they should be looking at a draft of some language, which would make for changes in the bylaws. He stated the draft language could be studied by the members with their individual organizations.

Mr. Hart stated the budget committee felt some draft language could be presented to PACOG. He stated the key issues which might occur are the voting authority at different levels and the dues and its equity. It was decided to start the dues side from what are the expenses of the various functions performed by PACOG (i.e., transportation, water quality, and PACOG's general operation).

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER/CDOT REGION 2 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There were comments received from Mr. Bill Thiebaut, the State Transportation Commissioner from the Pueblo region (see below). Ms. Rowe, CDOT Region 2 Director, went over the issues listed below.

At its April meeting, the Transportation Commission dealt with several important issues:

- The Transportation Commission is poised to finalize the FY16-17 National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) projects list. On that list is the New Pueblo Freeway improvements to the north of City Center Drive including complete reconstruction and widening of I-25 between 29th Street and City Center Drive. NHFP will supplement other funding sources and support preconstruction activities for possible future advancement as an urban FASTLANE grant. (In March, he commented that this improvement project is on a separate preconstruction priorities list which allocated about \$20 million for the entire list, a portion of which will be used for these improvements.)
- (The Colorado Senate Finance Committee killed HB 17-1242, the Transportation Funding Referendum. Other bills or referred measures may pass the legislature which has about two weeks until adjournment *sine die*. Some have speculated that a

special session may be called by the Governor to address transportation funding. Several citizens have filed titles for initiatives to be placed on the November 2017 ballot each seeking a way to fund transportation.)

- The Transportation Commission approved a distribution formula for 2018 federal transit dollars. Under the new methodology, SRDA is expected to receive a slight increase in funding with the potential of nearly doubling its funding award by 2024.
- The Transportation Commission is considering a "Bustang Outrider" connection between Lamar and Pueblo; Alamosa and Pueblo; and Trinidad to Pueblo (expansion of Bustang to Pueblo also is being considered).

Ms. Rowe summarized the Transportation Commission is poised to finalize the FY 2016-2017 National Highway Freight Program projects list. Each state gets \$15 million yearly for freight funding at their discretion. There is a FASTLANE grant which is bigger. I-25 between 29th Street and City Center Drive will get \$1 million just to get ready. There is a consultant onboard and they are looking at a more detailed analysis at that segment of the corridor so it will be ready to go to construction if funding should be received.

Ms. Rowe stated the Colorado Senate Finance Committee killed House Bill 17-1242, which was going to be used to get additional transportation funding for capital improvement projects, as well as some transit in cities and counties. She noted it was killed by the Committee, but that doesn't mean that it can't come back. There is always the chance before the Legislature closes on May 10th that it could come back in some shape or form. If it closes on May 10th, there is always some remote possibility that the Governor will have a special session to address it or there are several citizens that have filed title initiatives to be placed on the ballot. There is always a chance to get signatures to get on the November ballot. CDOT is still working on a ballot list of projects in the range of \$3.5 billion in case it comes back again and are able to get the funding. If the funding comes through, what is being proposed for Pueblo is City Center Drive to 13th Street at \$130 million, and \$20 million could finish Pueblo West.

Ms. Rowe stated the Transportation Commission approved the distribution formula for 2018 federal transit dollars. SRDA is expected to receive a slight increase in funding with the potential of nearly doubling its funding award by 2024. This is a transitional shift in transit funding.

Ms. Rowe stated the Transportation Commission is considering a Bustang Outrider. These will be mini-buses or mini-vans for the transit system, which will be funded with FASTER transit dollars, to connect between Lamar and Pueblo, Alamosa and Pueblo, and Trinidad to Pueblo. The Commission is still looking at a study for the expansion of Bustang to Pueblo.

Mr. Nicoll asked about the status of the Pinon Rest Area north of Pueblo, which is closed. Ms. Rowe replied the Pinon Rest Area is closed for major cleaning. The septic system has always had its challenges for various reasons. It was starting to build up to the point where it was starting to become a health hazard. CDOT went out to bid on the cleaning. A company was awarded the bid, but they said it would take a few months to get it cleaned. She stated it will be closed for at least another five months. She stated she tried to get it where it wouldn't impact the summer season, but it will open back up again. Mr. Nicoll wondered if there is an interim solution such as temporary bathrooms. Ms. Rowe replied not at this time. The volume for any kind of port-a-potty would be too much. She stated it is only 10 more minutes to Love's Truck Stop. She stated a rest area is only required on the interstate system if you have more than an hour distance.

CDOT is working on permanent solutions, but it is closed for a period of time to get it cleaned.

Mr. Nawrocki expanded on Ms. Rowe's comments on the funding for SRDA. He stated SRDA has a couple of different types of transportation programs. The ones funded primarily by CDOT are outside the City limits. It is called Rural Transportation and is for any age. In other words, from a baby to 100 years old. There are no restrictions on where you can go; you can go anywhere in the County. There is no charge, but it is a donation-based program. In Colorado City and Rye, there is a 12-passenger van with handicap access. This van is there full-time and does inter-valley transportation three days a week. It can take people to Pueblo from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Avondale and Boone have the same type of transportation, as well as the Blende area. In Pueblo West, they don't have this because it is not considered rural, but what they have is transportation for the disabled of all ages. They can go anywhere, and it is a donation-based program. These programs are funded through the State, primarily through CDOT. The Older Americans and Older Coloradans money funds ridership of people 60 years of age or older. It is limited and is used primarily for medical transportation and grocery shopping. This is throughout the entire City of Pueblo and Pueblo County. All of this transportation is door-to-door and you don't go to a bus stop. You get picked up at your door whether you live in Rye, Avondale, or Boone, and get taken to your destination and taken back. They are really the only form of public transportation outside of the City of Pueblo. In any given day, SRDA has 15-16 vehicles running all over the County. There is a sophisticated software program and there is a huge screen in the SRDA transportation offices. Every single vehicle can be monitored. The program does all of the routing. There are up to 40,000 trips done per year.

Mr. Hart asked if there were any problems with the northbound Pinon Rest Area. Ms. Rowe replied no. She stated the septic system going southbound constantly doesn't work. She stated a rest area study was done. They are looking at what they want to do with rest areas around the State and the funding. They are looking at where they should be located, which ones should be kept open, which ones to close, and if they are kept open what are the standards, level of service, and the cost to keep them open. This policy level decision should be coming in July or August from the Transportation Commission. Mr. Hart felt we have greatly reduced as a State the number of rest stops, noting we have closed quite a few over the years. He stated he didn't like the way they are maintained. He stated he hadn't heard that the federal standard has to be one hour away from a business. Ms. Rowe replied yes, noting there is one on I-70 where it qualifies.

Ms. Rowe stated CDOT had a public meeting last night on State Highway 96. She stated 4th Street will be widened from Abriendo Avenue to Orman Avenue to allow for a turning lane. It is impacting a lot of driveways and sidewalks. It is going to happen next year, noting it is going to be advertised. CDOT is doing an outreach to the citizens who live there to show them the impacts and make sure to mitigate it. The signals will be upgraded at Abriendo and center turns lanes will be added to Orman Avenue. The highway will be widened about 5' and it will be restriped. She stated they hope to get it up on the CDOT website with a map.

Ms. Rowe stated CDOT got two projects advertised and awarded. Pueblo Boulevard will go to construction in June. It will be concrete paved. If all goes well, it should be done this year; if not, it should be done by next spring. She stated the bids for U.S. 50 West from the railroad to past Pueblo Boulevard came in well below the estimate. A new road

will be built on U.S. 50. Most of the construction won't have the traveling public. This should be finished by the end of next calendar year. There were big savings on the bids that CDOT is working on the design to finish the three lanes all the way to Purcell Boulevard.

Ms. Rowe stated 4th Street paving will be done this fall. There will be drainage work done on U.S. 50C, noting this is being done in partnership with Pueblo County.

Mr. Nicoll asked Ms. Rowe if either she or her staff could come to a City Council meeting, noting it is televised. This would allow people to hear about these projects and their impacts. Ms. Rowe felt this is a good idea. She asked if this would be a City Council meeting or a workshop. Mr. Schilling replied the televised meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. Mr. Kogovsek stated it would be a work session presentation.

Mr. Nicoll stated he had a constituent call about the bump outs on 4th Street downtown. He stated there are damages from the trucks where they have run over the higher curbing on the planters. He asked how this would get repaired. He stated the bump outs on the East side are lower profile and the trucks are able to make it around the corner. Ms. Rowe asked if the bump outs were for projects that have already been done. Mr. Nicoll replied yes. He stated there are some that have gotten run over and look bad. Ms. Rowe stated usually when they are done, it is the City's maintenance responsibility. She stated they work with the City on the design of those. She asked if he knew which ones were damaged. Mr. Nicoll stated he would get back with her. (Note: Since the last meeting, Ms. Rowe sent the following information. "At last week's PACOG meeting, Mr. Nicoll asked about the repair work on the bump outs wall on 4th Street. She spoke with Pepper with the City. She said Public Works has scheduled the repair work. The City is responsible for repair work outside the curb and gutter. The bump outs that CDOT just built east of Fountain Creek do not have the walls.")

STATE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC) UPDATE

Mr. Terry Hart, PACOG STAC representative, reported the STAC meeting was held last month, and he was able to teleconference into it due to the weather and highway being closed. Discussion occurred on the freight project, various bike/pedestrian projects going on Statewide and how much local activity there is, the Safe Routes to School, and transit. Mr. Adams added what was discussed at STAC is what was summed up by Ms. Rowe today.

MPO Staff Report

(A) Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission

Mr. John Adams, MPO Program Manager, reported there has been discussion on the Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission, which has gone through the House of Representatives and the Senate. This bill (SB 17-153) essentially replaces the old Southwest Commission, which was set to expire on July 1st. It retains all those responsibilities and duties, and it adds facilitating the future of Front Range passenger rail from the I-25 corridor up through Fort Collins. He stated once Amtrak is brought into Pueblo, we need to be able to offer some alternative to getting up north other than I-25, which we all know is congested.

Mr. Pace stated the bill will be signed after the session. He stated there is a little problem with timing because PACOG is statutorily required to make an appointment to that Commission by May 15th. They didn't want to send the bill back to the Senate and want to amend it now. PACOG should be thinking about appointing someone. It can be staff like Mr. Adams or a PACOG member. He stated he is going to ask for an appointment from the Governor as an advocate position. Mr. Adams stated the next PACOG meeting isn't until May 25th, which is after the May 15th deadline, and wondered if the appointment should be made now. Mr. Pace answered the reason the appointments were set up staggered is so the Governor would be able to know who applied before making the appointments, and there wouldn't be a chance of appointing the same people. He felt it would be fine for PACOG to appoint someone in the interim and come back at the May meeting and make someone permanent. Mr. Kogovsek stated a motion to make that appointment would be appropriate. Mr. Pace suggested on interim basis that Mr. Adams be appointed and at the next PACOG meeting a permanent appointment be made. Mr. Hart felt that was a good suggestion, noting in the meantime, a PACOG member could figure out if they would like to be a permanent appointment. He stated it wouldn't be a bad idea to have an alternate such as Mr. Adams. Mr. Pace stated there is another commission similar to the Southwest Chief Commission located along the Gulf Coast (i.e., Southern Passenger Rail Commission) and about three weeks ago he did a teleconference call with them, noting they are located in West Virginia. He informed them that the Southwest Commission changed its membership structure to have more involvement from the MPOs and COGs. They said that we should have political people on it.

It was moved by Sal Pace and seconded by Chris Nicoll to appoint Mr. John Adams as the interim PACOG representative to the Southwest Chief and Front Range Passenger Rail Commission, and in the meantime look for another PACOG member to serve as the permanent appointment.

Chairman Montoya asked Mr. Adams if this is something he would be able to do. Mr. Adams replied a few meetings ago, an allowance was made in the Unified Planning Work Program to be able to participate in those activities, noting he was able to serve on an interim basis. Mr. Nawrocki stated whoever is interested in pursuing the appointment needs to know that they need to feel comfortable in this environment. Mr. Hart agreed that we need a strong voice in making arguments and a person who is committed to being there.

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

(B) Transit Functionality Study Update

Mr. Adams reported the Pueblo portion, the Route Restructuring and Capital Improvements Plan and those types of activities, is pretty much completed. This will be presented to City Council on May 8th for its final approval for the implementation of route restructuring, as well as a five-year capital improvement program to replace the existing vehicles, which have outlived their useful life. As staff started going through this study, they started looking at a regional transportation system. They talked with Pueblo West who requested staff to look at this area and determine the demand to have transit service. On April 4th, there were two public meetings held to solicit public input on whether or not the citizens in Pueblo West feel transit service should be offered in the area. The meetings were well attended. Currently, there is a survey going on by the community. There have been approximately 198 responses, noting 42% of the Pueblo

West residents feel there should be some type of transit service. Staff is looking at May 26th for a draft, June 6th for the final draft, and present it to the Pueblo West Metropolitan District Board of Directors on either June 13th or June 27th.

Mr. Nicoll stated that City Council and Pueblo West directors met a few months ago, and there was discussion on a route going from the City to Pueblo West, as well as transportation within Pueblo West. He asked if this was specified as to what the community is interested in. Mr. Adams replied within Pueblo West itself, the people who responded and feel there should be transit, that 52 responded there should be transit within Pueblo West; however, 83% out of those responding believe they should have some connection to Pueblo. He stated there are basically five types of transit service (e.g., express service, Park N Ride, etc.) and those types of services were presented to the public at the meetings. Over 70 written comments were received. Social media was also used and there were a few comments, not only from Pueblo West residents but also Pueblo residents.

(C) HB 17-1242 New Transportation Infrastructure Funding Revenue Update

Mr. Adams reported this item was previously discussed.

(D) FY 2017 Mid-Year Review with FHWA and CDOT - May 2, 2017

Mr. Adams reported CDOT does two meetings per year with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration, and the MPOs. The schedule review for the Pueblo MPO is May 2nd at 10:30 a.m. in the City Planning offices. Anyone is invited to attend.

PLAN OF ACTION FOR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mr. Frank Latino reported there are representatives from School District No. 60 who will present a "no bullying" presentation. He stated for as long as he serves on the school board he will be an ambassador. He stated there are a lot of good things going on in the school districts.

Mr. Jason Cellan, School District No. 60's Multi-Tiered Support Specialist, and Ms. Jennifer Farias, the District's Response to Intervention Specialist and also supports counselor's K-12, stated the Office of Student Intervention and Support Systems is a newly formed department. It helps to run counselors in the school district intervening on behalf of students that are struggling academically, behaviorally, or with attendance. Within this department are the Safe and Healthy Schools department and Records department. She stated these departments are dealing with a lot of similar issues regarding issues which impede their students' success at school whether it be coming to school every day or living up to their fullest potential in the arena of academics. One of the commonalities which was discovered is how their students feel about bullying, acceptance, and tolerance. They decided they wanted to pursue a grant through the Colorado Department of Education. This was done in October.

Mr. Cellan stated this started as an agreement with ESPN. An athlete from the X Games came to Pueblo and did some bullying prevention presentations at Risley, East, and Heaton. It worked its way into a partnership with No Bully, which is based out of San Francisco that involved talk and discourse around bullying and bullying prevention and what is going on within our schools. There are many variables which impact student

achievement, and a lot of that is a safe and secure environment. He stated bullying is impacting students' performance academically. He stated the grant was pursued through the Colorado Department of Education, which was received in January. It is a \$2.2 million grant over a three-year timeframe. It runs from January 2017 to June 30, 2019. The first year is highly condensed and they are only operating after six months, noting there has been a lot of effort in implementing this. He stated since they partnered with No Bully they assigned No Bully trainers within each of the 26 schools. Within each of these schools they have implementation coaches that work with the No Bully trainers. They work on leadership team development, which identifies five people within the building to work on social visioning to help create peace summits and help reduce the problems within the building. It also identifies what bullying is. There are distinct definitions on what bullying is and what is harassment. He stated they are looking at it through an intervention standpoint, which is the No Bullying piece, but also from a curriculum standpoint and prevention component. There are two curriculums being looked at: (1) Second Step, which is a social and emotional curriculum that has helped prevent and reduce bullying in schools, and (2) Facing History in Ourselves, which is the high school curriculum that is embedded within social studies because it goes around a lot of identification around hatred and what has happened in the past in something called Eugenics. They are trying to get to Restorative Justice components by Year 3. This encompasses how can we help problem solve a situation and how can the bully be a part of that solution focus.

Ms. Farias stated a lot of professional development has been done with the staff, such as what constitutes bullying and how do you intervene on behalf of a student who might be bullying. At the current time, it is very heavy with regard to the adult piece. There have been outreach efforts to engage parents in these Noble-E parent outreach meetings, where parents have the opportunity to help develop that social vision, noting this has been incredibly successful. She stated Sunset Park Elementary wanted to solicit parent involvement and the way they did this was through a movie night with their children. The children were watching a movie and there were over 100 parents who showed up to help develop that social vision. In this first year, they are taking some baseline survey data. This is going out to the students and parents to determine what does our culture look like within the buildings presently, and what is it going to look like when we begin to move with this Noble-E system. Beginning next year, Mr. Cellan mentioned that the social and emotional learning components will be introduced, noting this is the prevention piece. If a good job is done with this, then the intervention piece might not be necessary. They are going to teach the staff how to utilize that in Summer Institute, which is a professional development opportunity for all their teachers and staff to participate in after schools let out. She stated one of the visions through the grant is peace summits. These will be held at the local school level and is where students after developing their social vision get to determine how we display this in a physical representation of what we want this to be. This could be through music, art, or dance. Some of the high schools are doing great PSAs in regard to bullying and its impact, as well as talking about those pro-social skills and tolerance acceptance and diversity and what it means to them. They are hoping to expand this to the broader community of Pueblo and have community-wide peace summits. The community could come together and each school would have the opportunity to display what they have developed. They are excited about the opportunity of promoting peace in Pueblo. There are great things happening in Pueblo and the purpose behind this is to show those great things. Eventually, towards the end of the grant, they will do some more surveys to determine whether they have made progress. The final stage is the Restorative Justice piece, which is what do we do when we see bullying and how do we engage students in the

solution. The children come up with the solution and the adults are the facilitators because the change has to happen with the children.

Mr. Cellan distributed copies of an invitation entitled, "Pueblo Future United to End Bullying", which is a luncheon to be held on May 10, 2017, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at South High School. The luncheon will provide the audience to learn about the bullying prevention efforts in Pueblo City Schools and how your role can help positively impact our community.

Chairman Montoya stated he is volunteering for a program through the District Attorney's office, which is a similar program. He suggested the District Attorney's office be included.

Mr. Latino stated he invited this team to be a part of the Pillars Unity and School Safety Summit on June 10th. Mr. Frank DeAngelis, as well as the chair of the Mom's Demand Action committee, will be presenters. He felt we need to unify and come up with a strategic plan where all these entities are represented and move forward as one. He stated if we could rally around this summit as a community, it would mean a great deal. He stated there are a lot of entities working on these issues, and if we can work together in a spirit of cooperation, understanding, and communication, he believed they could do a great deal and become a focal point in this community for other communities. He stated they need to work with School District No. 70 on the summit. Everyone has to work together to make this an annual summit. He stated any suggestions or ideas would be greatly appreciated.

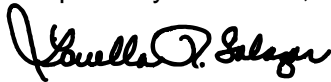
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items provided.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further regular business before PACOG, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, May 25, 2017, at 12:15 p.m., at the Pueblo County Department of Emergency Management, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,



Louella R. Salazar
PACOG Recording Secretary

LRS