

Technical /Management Committee Meeting
Minutes of May 18, 2005

Andy Gunning, Director of Planning

ATTENDENCE

MEMBERS IN ATTENDENCE

Chuck Huckelberry	Paul Cella	Michael Reuwsaat
Jim Glock	Chet Davis	Jim Schoen
Farhad Moghimi	Jim Stahle	Grace Evans for Barbara Becker
Frank Thomson	Roger Caldwell	Walker Smith for Fernando Castro
Benny Young	George Caria	Chuck Sweet
John Bernal	Nathan Pryor	

PAG RTA STAFF

Gary Hayes	Natalie Clark	Juliee Morrison
Andy Gunning	Cherie Campbell	Tom Fisher
Jeff Hildebrand	Dan Sullivan	Rosie Soto
Sheila Storm	Tim Ahrens	

GUESTS

Rick Myers	Jan Gordley	Lloyd Clucas
Amber Moore	Kurt Weinrich	Bill Reilly
Dewey Brown	Ed Sanaghan	Katie Dusenberry
M.J. Yee	David Finley	Aimee Ramsey
Joanne Homer	Mark Thompson	
Daniel Hochuli	Priscilla Cornelio	
Ben Moore	Levi Jackson	

1. Call to order.

Vice Chairman Jim Glock called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the May 4, 2005, meeting.

Vice Chairman Jim Glock moved to approve the minutes. Chet Davis seconded.

3. Report from the RTA Citizens' Advisory Committee

CAC Chair Rick Myers had nothing to report at this time but does expect a complete report from the next CAC meeting, which is Monday, May 23, 2005.

4. Review and discussion of roadway project cost estimates and jurisdictional cost-sharing, and discussion of project prioritization and readiness

Andy Gunning reviewed handouts provided, including the meeting schedule and updated RTA Proposed Projects. He explained the cost estimate spreadsheet of the 29 individual roadway projects, and how HDR worked out the overall project cost estimate of each individual segment. Jurisdictional contributions were added as a new column. Over the past couple of weeks, information has been collected from individual jurisdictions to find out what is available in terms of cost-sharing. Ten out of 29 projects have been identified as to where some of the funds will come from. Under the Categorical Program, Park & Ride Transit Service has been introduced as a proposed service.

Vice Chair Jim Glock suggested, from the City of Tucson's perspective, working closely with Pima County in order to refine the scope and cost of the projects. Mr. Glock also noted that it should be a goal to have cost estimates clarified for the categorical program and Transit improvements.

CAC Chairman Myers made a request for a small categorical area for neighborhood and business impact mitigation.

Vice Chair Glock mentioned in recent projects, the City of Tucson has had a small business consultant on board which has been very helpful in addressing concerns that businesses have when the roadways and accesses are disrupted during construction. He suggested we could identify that upfront for the community at large that the RTA will be addressing the impacts that projects may have on neighborhoods and businesses.

Chair Chuck Huckelberry commented that we provided descriptions that accompanied each of the categorical programs and on maximum contribution of RTA dollars. He stated purpose was to spread transportation benefits around the community, and not necessarily on one intersection. What we need to do is re-visit that and spell out criteria.

Mike Reuwsaat, Town of Marana, mentioned that on the RTA Proposed Projects List, the jurisdictional contributions for #17 should be moved to #16, and for #27 the other committed funds between impact fees and PAG is \$34.150 million.

Vice Chair Glock said that the City of Tucson will probably be able to secure \$75 million towards the menu of projects. Regionwide, with all the jurisdictions, perhaps we could show a general line item not necessarily attributed to a specific project but a regional contribution through impact fees for the RTA program estimated at about \$200 million.

Benny Young, City of Tucson, suggested forming a sub-committee primarily of city and county staff to manage and resolve the issues regarding costs and contributions, with a recommendation from the committee as to how much will be spent on transit as well. The idea is to come up with an adequate RTA funding amount for each of the categories: Roads, Transit and the Categorical improvement.

5. Transit and alternate modes

George Caria of Sun Tran briefly addressed the committee that the package received includes all project descriptions: identified corridors, miles, hours, capital cost, operating cost and benefits. Aimee Ramsey of Sun Tran explained the breakdown of each category, and the colors defining each service type. She also explained the categories which have service priorities, with 1 being the greatest need than service level 2, 3 or 4. The Committee's job is to determine what the community needs and what the voters want.

George Caria noted that about \$10 million is FTA funded and the overall annual budget is about \$54 million for the transit system.

Tom Fisher of PAG reviewed the spreadsheet with estimated operating cost, capital cost and total cost. Added in was the Farebox Revenue which is the fare charged to SunTran riders. Transit does generate money, the numbers are conservative, but the total is around \$60 million that could be recouped in operating expenses. There have been questions revolving around what these improvements are going to do for the ridership, congestion and the economy. Tom explained on the second page of the handout the benefits for each of the service types and identified the main users of these systems.

At Chairman Huckelberry's direction, Chet Davis, Roger Caldwell, Barbara Becker and the city and county will constitute the sub-committee to pare it down. Any jurisdictions are welcome to participate.

6. Roundtable update, with each committee member providing their perspective on progress to date

A number of comments were shared, including:

The schedule is going to be a challenge, especially with getting public input.

What will final product look like, including maps and other descriptions?

We need to make sure the project costs are accurate and credible.

Definition of the categorical programs, especially multi-modal improvements, will be important in enhancing the region's quality of life.

More technical attention and review are needed.

The committee has done a great job and made tremendous progress, and appreciation was expressed to the committee leaders and RTA/PAG staff.

7. Discussion of next report to the Citizens' Advisory Committee (their next meeting is scheduled for May 23)

No discussion.

8. Agenda and assignments for the next meeting

Two sub-committees were formed. One group will include mostly the City and County for roadway cost estimates and local share contributions, and the other group will refine the transit proposal.

9. Call to the audience

Ed Sanaghan of CROS addressed the committee about Snyder Road bridge.

Lloyd Clucas addressed his support to the Snyder Road bridge.

10. Adjournment

Chairman Chuck Huckelberry adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.