

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE/
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
10:30 AM, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016
APPROVED MAY 19, 2016**

| ENTITY | MEMBER | ATTENDING | PROXY |
|---------------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| AVOCA | DIANE BOWEN | | |
| BELLA VISTA | CHRIS SUNESON | | |
| BENTON COUNTY | BOB CLINARD | | |
| BENTONVILLE | MIKE CHURCHWELL BEN PETERS BEAU THOMPSON | X X X | |
| BETHEL HEIGHTS | CYNTHIA BLACK | X | |
| CAVE SPRINGS | TRAVIS LEE | | X |
| CENTERTON | BILL EDWARDS | | CHARLIE HOLYFIELD |
| ELKINS | BRUCE LEDFORD | | |
| ELM SPRINGS | HAROLD DOUTHIT | | |
| FARMINGTON | MELISSA McCARVILLE | | |
| FAYETTEVILLE | PAUL LIBERTINI | X | |
| GENTRY | KEVIN JOHNSTON | | |
| GREENLAND | BILL GROOM | X | |
| HIGHFILL | CASSIE ELLIOT | | |
| JOHNSON | GERRY RUSSELL | X | |
| LINCOLN | ROB HULSE | | |
| LITTLE FLOCK | BUDDY BLUE | X | |
| LOWELL | KRIS SULLIVAN | | |
| PEA RIDGE | JACKIE CRABTREE NATHAN SEE | | |
| PRAIRIE GROVE | SONNY HUDSON | | |
| ROGERS | NATHAN BECKNELL | | |
| SILOAM SPRINGS | BEN RHOADS | X | |
| SPRINGDALE | PATSY CHRISTIE | X | TIM CONKLIN |
| TONTITOWN | PAUL COLVIN, JR | | |
| WASHINGTON CO. | CHARLES WARD BRAD PHILLIPS | | |
| WEST FORK | CHARLIE ROSSETTI JAMES SCANLON | | |
| NWARPC | JEFF HAWKINS | | |
| BEAVER H2O DISTRICT | RAY AVERY | X | |
| OZARK REG. TRANSIT | JOEL GARDNER | | |
| RAZORBACK TRANSIT | GARY K. SMITH ADAM WADDELL | X | |
| U OF A | MIKE JOHNSON | X | |
| MoDOT | FRANK MILLER | | |
| McDONALD COUNTY | | | |
| PINEVILLE | | | |
| AHTD PLANNING | PAUL SIMMS | X VIA PHONE | |
| AHTD TRANSIT | | | |
| AHTD DISTRICT 9 | MITCHELL ARCHER | | X |
| FHWA | AMY HEFLIN | X VIA PHONE | JASON JAMES |
| AR HWY COMMISSIONER | DICK TRAMMEL | X | |

M & O COMMITTEE (bold attended): ADAM WADDELL, **BEN PETERS, BEN RHOADS**, BRAD ANDERSON, **BRAD CONLEY, GARY SMITH**, JOEL GARDNER, NATHAN BECKNELL, PATSY CHRISTIE, **PAUL LIBERTINI, PAUL SIMMS**, SAM GOAD, AMY HEFLIN

NWARPC STAFF: Tim Conklin, AICP; Celia Scott-Silkwood, AICP; Cristina Scarlet; Elizabeth Bowen

OTHERS: Mayor Kurt Maddox, Gravette; Brian Ross and Michael Swan, HSTCC; Steven Beam, Burns and McDonnell; Kathryn Gough, Senator Boozman's office

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patsy Christie was unable to attend the meeting. Vice Chair Steve Glass was also unable to attend the meeting. Tim Conklin called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVE TAC MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 17, 2016

MOTION

Tim Conklin asked for a motion to approve the March 17, 2016 TAC Minutes. Bill Groom made the motion. Mike Johnson provided the second. Motion passes.

3. PRESENTATION BY MODOT ON USING TRAFFIC PROBE DATA WITH THE REGIONAL INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION SYSTEM (RITIS)

Tim Conklin explained that several people were calling in via the telephone to listen to the presentation by Jon Nelson, MoDOT (via telephone and visual presentation through the computer displayed on the big screen). Paul Simms, Michael Henry, and Andy Brewer, AHTD and Amy Heflin, FHWA called in from Little Rock.

Jon Nelson, on traffic probe data with RITIS and HERE programs:

- Traffic Probe Data
 - Real-time data – Traditional vs Wireless
 - MoDOT uses a company called HERE which collects statewide data from all kinds of sources, for 12,000 miles in Missouri, and bundles this data into a package that DOTs can purchase.
 - Integrate this data into different services, including traveler's information map and a MoDOT mobile app.
- Benefits
 - Statewide – cost effective
 - Around the clock
 - Flexible
- Needed a way to use the data – Regional Integrated Transportation Information System (RITIS) – analyzes the data that is coming from HERE.
 - Remember – only tracking a sub-set of all the traffic on the road; only getting information from devices that RITIS has permission to access.
 - The data is very confident on highways, but less so on signalized roads.
 - Data is broken into segments, such as on a highway – interchange to interchange.
 - Reports are available –
 - Congestion due to road construction
 - Incident management – how crashes, etc. effect the flow of traffic
 - Trend map
 - Performance charts

- Missouri has 3 Traffic Management Centers (TMC) – Kansas City, Springfield, St. Louis
 - The TMCs have cameras set up all over the grid – the RITIS gives added information on roads that are without cameras.
 - The technicians can receive text or email alerts when something is happening that they can't see – then they can get the message out through message boards, social media, TV, and radio.
- Approximate cost for the program statewide is \$200,000 and MoDOT shares all data free of charge with the MPOs, consultants, highway patrol.
- Began using the program in 2013 and it took until very recently to get specific data and be confident in it.

4. DRAFT FY 2017 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Tim Conklin took the TAC through the Draft 2017 UPWP:

- UPWP Activities will no longer be numbered T-1 through T-5. AHTD, in an effort to standardize UPWPs throughout the state, asked that the Activities numbering system follow FTA Circular C 8100.1C. The Activities are listed as follows:
 - 44.21 (T-5) Program Support and Administration
 - 44.22 (T-1) General Development and Comprehensive Planning
 - 44.23 (T-3) Long-Range Transportation Planning
 - 44.24 (T-2) Short-Range Transportation Planning
 - 44.25 (T-4) Transportation Improvement Program
- In 44.22 – Collection and analysis of data on performance targets and measures in coordination with ORT and Razorback Transit.
- In 44.23 – Continue to monitor Performance Measures and Targets as identified in the MTP.
- In 44.24 – Update the 2011 Transit Development Plan for the region; Establish region-wide transit oriented development (TOD) best practices; Assist in development of transit performance measures and coordinate with transit agencies and AHTD to measure the system's connectivity to essential services.
- Funding:

| 2017 UPWP Multiple Source Financial Summary | Federal | Local Match | Total |
|--|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| PL Funds (Arkansas) | \$630,985 | \$157,746 | \$788,731 |
| STBGP-A Funds | \$200,000 | \$50,000 | \$250,000 |
| FTA 5307 | \$100,000 | \$25,000 | \$125,000 |
| PL Funds (Missouri) | \$5,000 | \$1,250 | \$6,250 |
| | \$935,985 | \$233,996 | \$1,169,981 |

MOTION

Tim Conklin asked for a motion to approve the Draft FY 2017 UPWP advance to a public comment period to be held from Friday, April 22 through Thursday, May 5, 2016. Mike Churchwell made the motion. Mike Johnson provided the second. Motion passes.

5. NWARPC PROJECT UPDATES

Elizabeth Bowen reported:

NWA REGIONAL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

- The state Transportation Alternatives Program grant applications (through AHTD) are due on June 1, 2016. Staff attended a grant workshop at AHTD in Little Rock on March 31, 2016.
- The Arkansas Recreation Trails Program (through AHTD) grant applications are due June 1, 2016.

- The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism’s Outdoor Recreation Grants program workshop was held at NWARPC on April 12, 2016. The Matching Grant, FUN Grant, and Trails for Life Grant Application workshops are conducted by the Outdoor Recreation Grants Program staff, and provide an opportunity to learn the application process, ask questions, or discuss a particular project. The Matching Grant and FUN Grant applications are due August 26, 2016 and the Trails for Life application is due October 28, 2016.
- Wayfinding Sign Project – Staff continues to work on the wayfinding sign project along the RRG.
- After the death of a pedestrian along the RRG in Rogers, a group was formed to advance safety in bicycling and walking – the NWA Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Group. Representatives spoke to the Active Transportation Committee at their March 17, 2016 meeting. NWARPC will be involved in an upcoming bicycle and pedestrian safety campaign with area cities and the Walton Family Foundation.

NWA OPEN SPACE PLAN

- The first committee meeting was held March 11, 2016.
- 5 subcommittees were created – Framework, Education and Outreach, Project Selection, Landowner, Outreach and Funding – these subcommittees have had their first round of meetings.
- The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2016 at Rabbit’s Foot Lodge in Springdale.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

- NWARPC is a sub-grantee of the Northwest Arkansas Council and will be managing the Walton Family Foundation-funded project.
- A contract has been negotiated with Burns and McDonnell.
- Met with water, gas and sewer representatives.
- The consultant will be contacting the cities and counties for infrastructure information.

NWA REGIONAL GIS PROJECT

- NWARPC received a grant from the Walton Family Foundation to implement a regional GIS system.
- The electrical wiring update in the NWARPC office building has been completed and the equipment has been received.
- A contract with AOS has been signed and this project will be up in a month for cities to access.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- Commissioner Dick Trammel said that although there is resistance to a “user fee” to fund highway improvements, Arkansas has one of the lowest gas taxes in the nation, and there is a need to consider the fee to fund highway programs. Additionally, he said that he is concerned about rural highways, since the Legislature took away the \$50M overlay program. He said that this funding will probably not be restored and it will need to be made up somehow. Lastly, he said that the Highway Commission asked MoDOT to jointly submit a “FAST Lane Grant” to FHWA. The funding received from the grant would go toward completion of I-49 in Missouri to tie into the Bella Vista Bypass at the state line. AHTD is offering to partner with MoDOT and let them use the money Arkansas has already spent for the grant match. Currently there is \$50M in the STIP to complete Arkansas’ portion of the highway. The grant was suggested by NWARPC and the application is due April 29, 2016. However, upon further discussion with MoDOT officials, it became apparent that MoDOT was not prepared to do that project this year, but wants to wait until next year.
- Mike Johnson said that Fayetteville, U of A, and AHTD officials met in Little Rock on March 30, 2016 to discuss the missing project in the new TIP – the improvement of Razorback Road (Hwy 112) between Maple Street and Leroy Pond Drive. He said that it was a productive meeting and

everyone has action items to work on and he's hopeful that a solution can be found and get the project back on the TIP and eventually built.

7. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- TAC MEETING – THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016 AT 10:30 AM
- RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2016 AT 1:30 PM

12. ADJOURN

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes.