

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017 at 10:30 AM; APPROVED 7/20/17**

ENTITY	MEMBER	ATTENDING	PROXY
AVOCA	DIANE BOWEN		
BELLA VISTA	CHRIS SUNESON	X	CELIA SCOTT-SILKWOOD
BENTON COUNTY	JUDGE BARRY MOEHRING JOHN SUDDUTH JOSH BEAM DEAN KLINGMON	X X	
BENTONVILLE	BRIAN BAHR BEAU THOMPSON DENNIS BIRGE	X X	
BETHEL HEIGHTS	MAYOR CYNTHIA BLACK	X	
CAVE SPRINGS	MAYOR TRAVIS LEE		
CENTERTON	MAYOR BILL EDWARDS	X	
ELKINS	MAYOR BRUCE LEDFORD		
ELM SPRINGS	MAYOR HAROLD DOUTHIT		
FARMINGTON	MELISSA McCARVILLE	X	CELIA SCOTT-SILKWOOD
FAYETTEVILLE	PAUL LIBERTINI CHRIS BROWN	X	
GENTRY	MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSTON		
GREENLAND	MAYOR BILL GROOM	X	
HIGHFILL	CASSIE ELLIOT	X	CYNTHIA BLACK
JOHNSON	JERRY MORROW	X	
LINCOLN	MAYOR ROB HULSE		
LITTLE FLOCK	MAYOR BUDDY BLUE		
LOWELL	MAYOR ELDON LONG		
PEA RIDGE	MAYOR JACKIE CRABTREE NATHAN SEE	X	
PRAIRIE GROVE	MAYOR SONNY HUDSON		
ROGERS	NATHAN BECKNELL LANCE JOBE	X	
SILAM SPRINGS	BEN RHOADS	X	
SPRINGDALE	PATSY CHRISTIE	X	
TONTITOWN	MAYOR PAUL COLVIN, JR		
WASHINGTON CO.	NATHAN CROUCH CHARLES WARD/BRAD PHILLIPS ADM. ASSIT. CARL GALE	X X	
WEST FORK	MAYOR HEITH CAUDLE		
NWARPC	JEFF HAWKINS	X	
BEAVER H2O DISTRICT	RAY AVERY	X	
OZARK REG. TRANSIT	JOEL GARDNER	X	
RAZORBACK TRANSIT	GARY K. SMITH ADAM WADDELL	X X	ADAM WADDELL
U OF A	MIKE JOHNSON	X	
MoDOT	FRANK MILLER	X	
McDONALD COUNTY			
PINEVILLE			
AHTD PLANNING	PAUL SIMMS EMMILY TIAMPATI	X	
AHTD TRANSIT			
AHTD DISTRICT 9	MITCHELL ARCHER	X	JARROD BRIGHTWELL
FHWA	AMY HEFLIN		
AR HWY COMMISSIONER	DICK TRAMMEL		

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

OTHERS: Juliana Mendora and Sita Nauthavong, Washington County; Morgan Farmer, Senator Tom Cotton's office; Kathryn Gough, Senator John Boozman's office; Brad Baldwin, Springdale; Travis Rapp, Burns & McDonnell; Ron Petrie, Garver; Sara Snodderly and Dave Roling, Emery Sapp & Sons

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patsy Christie called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

2. APPROVE TAC MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 20, 2017

MOTION

Chair Patsy Christie asked for a motion to approve the April 20, 2017 TAC Minutes. Bill Groom made the motion. Nathan Becknell provided the second. Motion passes.

3. DRAFT FY 2018 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Tim Conklin presented the Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):

- The UPWP outlines the planning activities of the NWARPC from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
- There are five elements work tasks. The following highlights some of the work tasks in each element.
 - 44.21 Program Support and Administration
 - Record keeping
 - Monthly Progress Reports and UPWP development
 - Civil Rights – Title VI, ADA, etc.
 - Coordinated planning with MoDOT staff and partners
 - 44.22 General Development and Comprehensive Planning
 - Demographic and infrastructure data for the region – using the new computer system installed spring 2016
 - Mapping/GIS – interactive maps, aerial imagery
 - 44.23 Long-range Transportation Planning
 - Travel Demand modeling – with AHTD and local jurisdictions, for corridor planning; also use to assist transit agencies with route optimization and scenario planning
 - Metropolitan Transportation Plan
 - 44.24 Short-range Transportation Planning
 - Performance-based approach to metropolitan transportation planning – FAST Act compliance
 - Transit Development Plan/Transit Oriented Development
 - Assist transit agencies in development of Transit Performance Measures
 - 44.25 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)
 - Update the TIP to correspond with the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP)

Celia Scott-Silkwood noted that Public Notice concerning the Draft FY 2018 UPWP was published in the NWA Democrat-Gazette and La Prensa Libre newspapers on April 13, 2017 and May 11, 2017. The Notice was also posted on the NWARPC web site. A Public Comment period was held from April 21 through May 5, 2017. No public comments were received.

MOTION

Chair Patsy Christie asked for a motion to recommend the Draft FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program go to the RPC/Policy Committee for approval. Jackie Crabtree made the motion. Mike Johnson provided the second. Motion passes unanimously.

4. STBGP-A AND TAP PROJECTS

• **STP-A and TAP PROJECT FUNDING HISTORY 2013-2017:**

TAP-Federal (Trails)	\$ 2,392,498
STBGP-A-Federal (Roadways)	\$29,712,079
FTA 5307,5309, STBG-A-Flex (Transit)	\$14,901,514
TOTAL	\$49,997,058

• **FFY 2016 AND FFY 2017 PROJECT UPDATE:**

Tim Conklin reported

- ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDING – FAST ACT:
(Subject to Apportionment and Obligation Authority)

	<u>FFY 2016</u>	<u>FFY 2017</u>	<u>FFY 2018</u>
Transportation Alternative Program	\$ 490,435	\$ 490,435	\$ 490,435
Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – A	\$7,195,392	\$7,469,650	\$7,469,650

Federal Fiscal Year (Oct. 1st - Sept. 30th)

Note: STBGP-A and TAP programs are reimbursable programs as outlined in the required agreement that is entered into between the local jurisdiction and AHTD.

• **CURRENT STBGP-A AND TAP PROJECTS:**

The following tables summarize the Federal Fiscal Year 2017 STBGP-A (formerly called STP-A) projects and the Federal Fiscal Year 2016 and 2017 TAP projects.

FFY 2017 STP-A	Location	Project Type	STP-A	Match	Total	Project Cost		Rank
						(All Phases, Federal,	Total Points	
Bentonville	US 71B (N. Walton Blvd.) and 12th St. Intersection	Construction (Left-turn lanes on 12th St./Tiger Blvd.)	\$500,000	\$125,000	\$625,000	\$1,390,000	167	1 ⁽¹⁾
Bentonville	SW I St. and Hwy. 102 Intersection	Construction (Right-turn lane southbound on SW I St.)	\$1,000,000	\$250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,375,000	159	2
Fayetteville	Ripple Road (Starry Night View to Mt. Comfort)	Construction (New location)	\$2,488,000	\$622,000	\$3,110,000	\$5,610,000	152	3 ⁽²⁾
Fayetteville	Sain Street Ext. (N. Front St. to Vantage Blvd.)	ROW and Utilities (Extension)	\$160,000	\$40,000	\$200,000	\$2,800,000	149	4
Lowell	S. Dixieland Road Ext. (S. of Hwy. 264 to Apple Blossom)	ROW and Utilities, Const. (Extension)	\$800,000	\$200,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,400,000	144	5
Centerton	Hwy 102B/Seba Rd. Intersection Improvements	ROW, utilities and construction (North and southbound left-turn lane and traffic signal)	\$640,000	\$160,000	\$800,000	\$900,000	140	6
Farmington	Hwy 170 (Hwy. 62 to Clyde Carnes Road)	ROW	\$600,000	\$150,000	\$750,000	\$9,700,000	137	7
Bella Vista	Mercy Way	Design and Env. (Widening to 4 lanes with turn lane)	\$256,000	\$64,000	\$320,000	\$3,499,760	136	8
Razorback Transit and ORT ⁽⁴⁾	Rolling Stock for Public Transit Operations	New Buses (Razorback and ORT)	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$250,000	\$1,410,000	107	9 ⁽³⁾
		Total	\$6,644,000	\$1,661,000	\$8,305,000			

1. Note: Reduced FFY 2017 amount to \$500K
 2. Note: Reduced FFY 2017 amount by \$1M
 3. Note: Reduced amount to \$200K
 4. Note: Estimated Balance

FFY 2016 TAP	Location	Project Type	TAP	Match	Total	Total Points	Rank
Rogers	Razorback Greenway New Hope Bridge	New bike & pedestrian bridge	\$225,000	\$1,025,000	\$1,250,000	187	1
Springdale	Dean's Trail Phase I	12' Shared Use Trail	\$255,199	\$1,475,855	\$1,731,054	171	2
		Total	\$480,199	\$2,500,855	\$2,981,054		

FFY 2017 TAP	Location	Project Type	TAP	Match	Total	Total Points	Rank
Bella Vista	Riordan Road Trailhead	Trailhead	\$236,682	\$59,171	\$295,853	151	1
Cave Springs	Cave Springs Trail	12' Shared Use Trail	\$243,517	\$488,933	\$732,450	139	2
		Total	\$480,199	\$548,104	\$1,028,303		

- Staff is working with AHTD to identify which jurisdiction(s) will positively be able to obligate.
- **CAVE SPRINGS TRAIL:** Since the Cave Springs City Council decided not to approve the construction of the Cave Springs trail, the funds from this project need to be allocated to a ready-to-go TAP project in the region. There is no fall back plan at the moment so discussions need to happen in the future in general for the fall back projects, and in particular for this amount, so the funding is not returned. Elizabeth Bowen reported that several other projects have been discussed at other meetings, including:
 - War Eagle Bridge – Benton county (\$1,379,458 for construction)
 - Dean’s Trail – Springdale (\$1,731,054 project total)
 - Mud Creek Trail Lighting – Fayetteville
 - Seba Road Intersection and Safe Routes to School Project – Centerton
 - Gravette Trails Capital Improvement – Gravette
 - Kathleen Johnson Memorial Project – Lowell
 - AJ Allen Park Trail – Greenland
- Discussion:
 - It is important to point out that some of these potential projects may not meet the requirements of the TAP application criteria and some may not be able to obligate in time. Bill Green said that due to the increase in the price of concrete, Greenland is not likely to pursue the trail project.
 - Another important point is that this funding is for construction only, and a project must have environmental, design, etc. approval already.
 - Paul Simms, AHTD, mentioned that as of today the War Eagle Bridge project is the only project mentioned that is ready to accept the funds and obligate fully and that it had received a state TAP grant. Tim Conklin said that the project had submitted a STP-A application in 2015.
 - If this is the case, why not simply decide today? Because there are further discussions to take place, such as whether or not the project qualifies under the TAP application process, and enough time needs to be left to discuss what the absolute funding is that will be available to place on another project.
 - Staff and AHTD are working to determine what the project status is on all of the approved projects and the suggested projects.
 - It was suggested that staff develop a spreadsheet for distribution to the TAC before their next meeting.

- **FFY 2018 STBGP-A and TAP REPORT**

Elizabeth Bowen reminded the group the FFY 2018 Project Application for STBGP-A and TAP are available. Estimated funding is \$490K for TAP and \$7.5M for STBGP-A (beginning Oct 2017).

These programs:

- Require a 20/80% Match
 - Are reimbursable programs
 - Are for construction-only projects
 - A Resolution is required by City Council
 - The obligation deadline is September 30, 2018
- Deadlines:
- Project Application Deadline (Jun 30, 2017 @ 4:00 pm)
 - Project Applications Distribution to Review Committee (Jul 3-7, 2017)
 - Project Sponsor Presentation to TAC (Jul 20, 2017)
 - Project Site Visits and Scoring (July 24-28, 2017)
 - Project Recommendation to TAC (Aug 17, 2017)
 - Project Recommendation to RPC (Aug 23, 2017)

5. **CURRENT (2017) PROJECTS UPDATE**

Elizabeth Bowen reported:

- Active Transportation Committee – Meets this afternoon.
 - Continues to work on coordinated safety signage for trails.
 - Continues to work on improving customer service to a person in need on a trail. There are multiple dispatch centers and multiple software packages used throughout the two counties. The goal is to understand regionally the complications of assisting a trail user during an emergency and how the region can work together to solve some of the problems.
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan
 - The Avoca Plan is going to the City Council for approval this month.
 - Staff reviewed the information gathered at the March 2017 Pineville public input meeting. A map is being developed.
- Razorback Regional Greenway – Working on 1 year warranty items in Springdale.
- Wayfinding Sign Project #2 Update
 - Kiosk stone base work is being finished.
 - A punch list of items is scheduled for mid-May 2017.
- Planimetric Project – Eight respondents to a Solicitation of Interest; in the process of creating a RFP.
- Section Corners and Photo IDs Survey Points – In the process of creating a RFP; will coordinate with the state AGIS office to take advantage of \$500 per corner restoration funds if possible.
- NWA Open Space Plan
 - Subcommittees continue to meet and develop work products.
 - Funding open space activities – Want to ask the Trust for Public Lands to do feasibility research (feasibility study). This would entail TPL to research and analyze a range of public funding options that may be available to fund parks and land conservation. TPL will recommend a conservation finance strategy for both counties to address the need to create reliable funding for parks and conservation. If either county or both decides to move forward with a ballot measure, TPL will advise on the crafting of the ballot language, using statutory parameters, examples of successful ballot questions, and consultation with bond counsel as necessary.

- In order to pursue a feasibility study, the county quorum courts must request the TPL for technical assistance and to perform the feasibility study. A signed letter from the courts would enable TPL to use Doris Duke Charity Foundation monies to conduct nonpartisan research.
- Will be asking the RPC/Policy Committee for a motion to approve asking the Quorum Courts to write a letter asking for technical assistance.
- Infrastructure Inventory and Assessment – The final report is complete and available to anyone who wants it.
- Grant Opportunities/Awards – The following grant programs are available:
 - NWARPC STBGP-A PENDING APPROVAL by RPC/Policy Committee – May 15 – Jun 30, 2017
 - NWARPC TAP PENDING APPROVAL by RPC/Policy Committee – May 15 – Jun 30, 2017
 - 2017 Protected Bike Lane Pilot Demo Projects – BikeNWA
 - WFF Growing Green Spaces Open – June 30, 2017
 - 2018 Matching Grant – August 25, 2017 by 5:00pm (\$250,000)
 - 2018 Fun Park Grant – August 25, 2017 by 5:00pm (\$45,000) (10 grants available)

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- **AHTD REPORT** – Paul Simms reported:
 - The Arkansas Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan is now available on the AHTD website – http://www.arkansashighways.com/Trans_Plan_Policy/biking/Arkansas%20Bike-Ped%20Plan%20-%20FINAL%20-03312017.pdf . The Planning Division is working with other Department Divisions to develop the implementation processes.
 - The public comment period on the Statewide Long-Range Intermodal Transportation Plan closed on March 31, 2017. All comments are being addressed and the Executive Summary will be presented to the Highway Commission soon.
 - It is anticipated that the State Freight Plan will be completed this summer.
- **MODOT REPORT** – Frank Miller said that MoDOT intends to keep the partial funding for the Bella Vista bypass project in the 4th year of the MoDOT STIP, so the partial funding has moved from FY 2020 to FY 2021 in the recently released draft STIP. The funding will keep rolling to the 4th year of the construction program until MoDOT can fully fund the project.
- **MEETING DATES**
 - RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY, May 24, 2017 AT 1:30 PM
 - TAC MEETING – THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2017, AT 10:30 AM – IF NEEDED
 - RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2017 AT 1:30 PM – IF NEEDED

7. ADJOURN

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