

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT*

ENTITY	MEMBER	PRESENT	PROXY
AVOCA	ROBERT WHITEHORN		
BELLA VISTA	DOUG TAPP	X	
BENTON COUNTY	JUDGE BARRY MOEHRING JOSH BEAM JAY FRASIER (TRACY BACKS)		
BENTONVILLE	DENNIS BIRGE DAN WEESE	X X	
CAVE SPRINGS	MAYOR RANDALL NOBLETT		
CENTERTON	MAYOR BILL EDWARDS LORENE BURNS	X X	
ELKINS	MAYOR BRUCE LEDFORD		
ELM SPRINGS	MAYOR HAROLD DOUTHIT		
FARMINGTON	MELISSA McCARVILLE	X	
FAYETTEVILLE	JONATHAN CURTH PAUL LIBERTINI CHRIS BROWN	X X X	
GENTRY	MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSTON		
GRAVETTE	KURT MADDOX		
GREENLAND	MAYOR BILL GROOM		
HIGHFILL	MAYOR MICHELLE RIEFF		
JOHNSON	MAYOR CHRIS KEENEY		
LITTLE FLOCK	MAYOR JEFF VAN SICKLER	X	
LOWELL	MAYOR CHRIS MOORE	X	
PEA RIDGE	MAYOR JACKIE CRABTREE	X	
PINEVILLE	MAYOR GREG SWEETEN		
PRAIRIE GROVE	MAYOR SONNY HUDSON	X	
ROGERS	LANCE JOBE SHAWN GRINDSTAFF JOHN MCCURDY	X X	
SILOAM SPRINGS	BEN RHOADS (VICE CHAIR) JUSTIN BLAND	X	
SPRINGDALE	PATSY CHRISTIE (CHAIR) RYAN CARR	X X	
TONTITOWN	MAYOR ANGELA RUSSELL	X	
WASHINGTON CO.	BRIAN LESTER SAM ATA JEFF CROWDER	X	
WEST FORK	MAYOR HEITH CAUDLE		
WINSLOW	ANN MALKIE		
NWARPC	JEFF HAWKINS		
BEAVER H2O DISTRICT	CODY HUDSON		
OZARK REG. TRANSIT	JOEL GARDNER		
RAZORBACK TRANSIT	GARY K. SMITH (ADAM WADDELL)	X	
U OF A	SCOTT TURLEY (JAY HUNNEYCUTT)	X	
McDONALD COUNTY	BILL LANT		
MoDOT	FRANK MILLER MARVIN MORRIS	X	
NWA NATIONAL AIRPORT	AARON BURKES	X	
ARDOT PLANNING AND DISTRICT 9	CHRIS DILLAHA (SUNNY FARMAHAN) STACEY BURGE	X	X Jason James

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT*

NWARPC STAFF: Tim Conklin; Elizabeth Bowen; Cristina Scarlet; Nicole Gibbs

OTHERS: Amy Heflin and Valera McDaniel (FHWA); Tim Reavis (Cave Springs); Emily Guffin (Bella Vista); Ben Peters (Springdale); Rick Stone (Lowell); Britni O'Connor (MoDOT); Dawn Warrick (Freese and Nichols); Andy Brewer (Olsson); Steven Beam (Burns McDonnell); Anna Keogh and Anna Negrete (CEI); and Ron Wood (NWADG).

NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The in-person and virtual NWARPC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting was called to order by Chair Patsy Christie at 10:31 a.m.

(2) ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

In-person attendees named themselves with Tim Conklin naming the virtual attendees. Nicole Gibbs recorded member names and tallied votes. A quorum was reached.

(3) APPROVAL OF JULY 21, 2022 TAC MEETING MINUTES

Chair Christie asked the Committee whether there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes. Nicole Gibbs explained that suggestions to revise the draft minutes were received as follows: in section 9A to clarify a statement regarding projects not being ready to obligate; section 9F to state that we anticipate a total of a combined \$2 million for FY 2022 and FY 2023; and in section 10A to revise the title of the plan to add "Northwest" to "Arkansas Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan". Chair Christie requested a motion to approve the July 21, 2022 TAC Meeting Minutes as amended.

MOTION: Melissa McCarville made a motion to approve the July 21, 2022 TAC Meeting Minutes as amended. Lance Jobe provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

(4) 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT – CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) FUNDING AND NATIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE (NEVI) PROGRAM FUNDING – Public Hearing and Recommendation for 30-Day Public Comment Period

Chair Christie introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained that the amendment is to ensure that two new federal funding programs are included in the 2045 MTP: the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), and the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program. He said our Public Participation Plan (PPP) requires a Public Hearing and a 30-day public comment period. He said it will not come back to TAC, but will go to RPC/Policy Committee following the public comment period.

He said we have drafted a description of the CRP and estimated federal funding through 2045, assuming those programs will continue. He said as a reminder, our CRP, TAP, and STBGP-A funding are programmed into our TIP and the first four (4) years of the TIP are also considered part of the MTP. He said as discussed last month, the US 412 designation as an Alternative Fuel Corridor (AFC) was approved by FHWA in July. He said this was included in the NEVI description to address what corridors are on the AFC National Plan.

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT***

Chair Christie asked whether there were any comments or questions and hearing none, requested a motion to approve entering into a 30-day public comment period, from August 19, 2022 to September 19, 2022 for the 2045 MTP Amendment #1.

MOTION: Ryan Carr made a motion to approve entering into a 30-day public comment period for the 2045 MTP Amendment #1. Sunny Farmahan provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

(5) NARTS FFY 2021-2024 TIP AMENDMENT #5 – MoDOT – Recommendation to RPC/Policy Committee

Chair Christie introduced the item with Nicole Gibbs summarizing the proposed changes to the NARTS 2021-2024 TIP at the request of MoDOT, including two changes, one removal, and one new project. Frank Miller further explained that MoDOT updates their Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) every year. He said the TIP and STIP are federally required to be consistent, so they request changes each time they update their STIP.

Chair Christie asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, requested a motion to recommend approval of the NARTS FFY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment #5 to the Policy Committee.

MOTION: Sunny Farmahan made a motion to recommend the NARTS FFY 2021-2024 Amendment #5 to the RPC/Policy Committee for approval. Lance Jobe provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

(6) FFY 2023 STBGP-A and TAP PROJECT SELECTION – Recommendation to RPC/Policy Committee

Chair Christie introduced the item and Tim Conklin thanked the twelve (12) members who served on the Review Committee and said they conducted an all-day tour of proposed projects on August 9, 2022.

Conklin reviewed the estimated funding, based on the FFY 2022 apportionments, as follows:

FFY2022 TAP Awarded Aug 2021	\$ 626,000
FFY2022 TAP Actual	<u>\$1,017,487</u>
FFY2022 TAP Remaining	\$ 391,487
FFY2022 TAP Remaining	\$ 391,487
FFY2023 TAP Est. (based on FFY2022)	<u>\$1,017,487</u>
Total Available TAP FFY2022 & 2023	\$1,408,974
STBGP-A FFY Awarded Aug 2021	\$8,034,319
FFY 2022 STBGP-A Actual	<u>\$8,994,211</u>
FFY 2022 STBGP-A Remaining	\$ 959,892
FFY2022 STBGP-A Remaining	\$ 959,892
FFY2023 STBGP-A Est. (based on FFY2022)	<u>\$8,994,211</u>
Total Available STBGP-A FFY 2022 & 2023	\$9,954,103

Conklin summarized the results of the FFY 2023 Call for Projects as follows:

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT***

Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)

- (6) New TAP Projects - **\$3,444,822**

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP-A)

- (14) STBGP-A Projects - **\$15,444,445**
 - (6) Existing STBGP-A projects requesting additional funds - **\$10,966,845**
 - (8) New STBGP-A projects requesting - **\$4,477,600**

He said this year we had more funding requests than estimated funding, so not all applications could get funded. He said due to inflation, many existing projects are asking for more money to cover increased project costs. He summarized the STBGP-A project requests, including the Committee's ranking of new projects, as follows:

EXISTING PROJECT REQUESTS

Federal Fiscal Year 2023- Existing Projects						
Year	County	Job No.	Jurisdiction	Project	Phase	STBGP-A
2023	Benton	090436	Bella Vista	Mercy Way Bridge and Road Imps - Razorback Greenway Ext.	All Phases	\$ 326,845
2023	Benton	090524	Benton County	Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement	Utilities/Eng/Constr	\$ 800,000
2023	Washington	040887	Fayetteville	College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St)	Construction	\$ 1,800,000
2023	Benton	090601	Lowell	71B & 264 Int Imp	Construction	\$ 240,000
2023	Benton	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264 & Bellview	Construction	\$ 560,000
2023	Washington	040680	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Ext.	Construction	\$ 7,240,000
Total						\$ 10,966,845

NEW STBGP-A PROJECT REQUESTS AND RANKING

Federal Fiscal Year 2023 - STBGP-A - New Projects Only									
Year	County	Jurisdiction	Project	Phase	STBGP-A-FEDERAL	Required Local Match	TOTAL (Fed + Local Match)	TOTAL POINTS	RANKING
2023	Benton	Centerton	Hwy 102 Sidepath	Construction	\$ 600,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 750,000	229	4/5
2023	Washington	Fayetteville	Milsap, College, N Hemlock	ROW/Environ	\$ 320,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 400,000	265	1/2
2023	Benton	Lowell	Monroe from Oak St to Hwy 265	Construction	\$ 1,789,600	\$ 447,400	\$ 2,237,000	229	4/5
2023	Benton	Rogers	W Pleasant Grove Rd & Hwy 265 Roundabout	Design/Env	\$ 168,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 210,000	256	3
2023	Benton	Rogers	Hwy 265 and Hwy 94 New Hope Rd Roundabout	Design/Env	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	265	1/2
Total					\$ 3,077,600	\$ 769,400	\$ 3,847,000		

Note: Removed the two TAP Projects that also applied for STBGP-A funding -I-49 Razorback Greenway Relocation and I-49/U.S. 62 Interchange

Conklin said following the site visits, the review committee scored and discussed the project rankings. He thanked Mayor Moore from Lowell for pulling back his funding request for the Monroe

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT***

extension, which freed up money for the other projects. He said in the spirit of cooperation, which has been the norm over the past ten years, the cities worked together to get projects funded and moving forward. He summarized the committee’s recommendation as follows:

FFY 2023 STBGP-A Funding Recommendation					
Year	County	Jurisdiction	Project	Phase	STBGP-A
2023	Benton	Bella Vista	Mercy Way Bridge and Road Imps - Razorback Greenway Ext.	All Phases	\$ 326,845
2023	Benton	Benton County	Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement	Utilities Eng/Const.	\$ 800,000
2023	Benton	Centerton	Hwy 102 Sidepath	Construction	\$ 600,000
2023	Washington	Fayetteville	College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St)	Construction	\$ 1,800,000
2023	Washington	Fayetteville	Milsap, College, N Hemlock	ROW/Environ	\$ 320,000
2023	Benton	Lowell	71B & 264 Int Imp	Construction	\$ 240,000
2023	Benton	Lowell	Hwy 264 & Bellview	Construction	\$ 560,000
2023	Benton	Lowell	Monroe from Oak St to Hwy 265	Construction	\$ 439,258
2023	Benton	Rogers	W Pleasant Grove Rd & Hwy 265 Roundabout	Design/Env	\$ 168,000
2023	Benton	Rogers	Hwy 265 and Hwy 94 New Hope Rd Roundabout	Design/Env	\$ 200,000
2023	Washington	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Ext.	Construction	\$ 4,500,000
				Total	\$ 9,954,103

He said Don Tyson Parkway originally asked for \$7.2 million at Conklin’s suggestion because he was unsure how many projects would be submitted and we have some obligation issues, which will be explained following this item. He said their request was reduced to \$4.5 million and the Monroe Extension project received the balance of funding. Elizabeth Bowen further clarified that the Don Tyson Parkway project was reduced to \$4.5 million because the application states that any one project may only receive half of the available funding. Mayor Moore requested that the Monroe Extension project include the phases for Environmental, ROW, and Utilities. There was discussion and agreement.

Conklin summarized the TAP project requests as follows:

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT***

NEW TAP PROJECT REQUESTS AND RANKING

Federal Fiscal Year 2023 - TAP Project Applications									
Year	County	Jurisdiction	Project	Phase	TAP-FEDERAL	Required Local Match	TOTAL (Fed + Local Match)	TOTAL POINTS	RANKING
2023	Benton	Bentonville	I49 Razorback Greenway Relocation	Construction	\$ 500,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 625,000	1,081	1
2023	Benton	Cave Springs	N Wallis Rd & Sands Rd Sidewalk Ext	Construction	\$ 348,032	\$ 87,008	\$ 435,040	965	7
2023	Benton	Centerton	McKissic Station Park Trail Phase II	Construction	\$ 500,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 625,000	999	6
2023	Washington	Farmington	Creekside Park Trail	Construction	\$ 687,790	\$ 171,948	\$ 859,738	1,074	2
2023	Washington	Fayetteville	I-49 and Hwy 62 Interchange Bicycle Accommodations	Construction	\$ 500,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 625,000	1,065	3
2023	Benton	Gravette	Gravette Trail System Phase II	Construction	\$ 725,000	\$ 181,250	\$ 906,250	1,053	4
2023	Benton	Siloam Springs	Progress Ave	Construction	\$ 184,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 230,000	1,011	5
				Total	\$ 3,444,822	\$ 861,206	\$ 4,306,028		

Chair Christie asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, requested a motion to recommend to the RPC/Policy Committee the FFY 2023 STBGP-A and TAP projects as recommended by the Review Committee with the understanding that the Fayetteville Millsap, College, N. Hemlock project funding is subject to ARDOT and FHWA approving a Functional Classification Map Amendment.

MOTION: Doug Tapp made a motion to recommend the FFY 2023 STBGP-A and TAP projects as recommended by the Review Committee with the understanding that the Fayetteville Millsap, College, N. Hemlock project funding is subject to ARDOT and FHWA approving a Functional Classification Map Amendment. Chris Brown provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

Conklin said as of last week, the obligation plan has changed for last year's (FY 2022) project awards. He explained that there is about \$2.8 million in partnership projects that should not count toward the carryover limit, and about \$2 million of projects that are not ready to obligate as of this week and ARDOT limits carryover to \$1 million. He said if RPC awards what was just voted on for the FY 2023 projects, we will request ARDOT to obligate funding on existing projects that are ready to go to reduce carryover. He showed the following breakdown:

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT*

ARDOT Partnership Projects with LPA's (Does not count towards carry over of \$1M Max)					Phase	Carry Over
2021	Washington	040746	Fayetteville	Hwy 112 Side path Trail (TAP)	Construction	\$ 230,891
2021	Benton	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Rd Inters. Impvts.	Construction	\$ 746,000
2022	Benton	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Rd Inters. Impvts.	Construction	\$ 150,000
2022	Washington	040887	Fayetteville	College Ave Complete Street (North St to	Construction	\$1,500,000
2022	Washington	040746	Fayetteville	Hwy 112 - Heritage Springs Trail and Tunnel	Construction	\$ 250,000
						\$2,876,891
LPA Projects (With No ARDOT Partnership)						Carry Over
2022	Benton		Siloam Springs	E Kenwood St Improvements (widening,	Design and Environmental	\$ 220,000
2021	Washington	040854	Tontitown	US 412 and Klenc Rd Signalization	All Phases	\$ 256,228
2022	Benton		Bentonville	SW Regional Airport Blvd. / S. Vaughn Rd.	Design and Environmental	\$ 500,000
2022	Benton	090601	Lowell	US-71B/HWY264 Intersection	Env., ROW, Utilities, Construction	\$ 730,000
2022	Benton		Siloam Springs	N Mt Olive Sidepath (between Dawn Hill Rd.	Construction	\$ 376,000
						\$2,082,228
LPA Projects Applying for FFY 2023 Funding That Can Obligate FFY 2022 by Sept. 30, 2022 (if awarded by NWARPC Policy Committee on August 24, 2022)						
2023	Benton	090436	Bella Vista	Mercy Way	All Phases	\$ 326,845
2023	Washington	040717	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Extension	Construction	\$4,500,000
2023	Benton	090524	Benton County	Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement	Construction	\$ 800,000
2023	Benton	090504	Gravette	Gravette Trails Ph 2	Construction	\$ 408,974
2023	Benton-Washington		NWARPC	Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	Planning	\$ 100,000
						\$6,135,819

Conklin summarized and showed existing project statuses and anticipated schedules to obligate funds. He said Regional Planning is going to put additional charts together to track where everyone is at and will distribute to the committee.

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; DRAFT

Job No.	Jurisdiction	Project	ARDOT Agreement of Understanding	Environmental Complete	ARDOT Approval ROW Complete and/or ROW Certification	Plans, Specifications, and Estimate 100% Approved Final Plans	ARDOT Authority to Advertise	Project Bid and Under Construction	Scheduled Construction Date?
	Bentonville	Hwy 12/SW Regional Airport Blvd. / Hwy 279/ S. Vaughn Rd. Intersection Impr.	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	2025-2026
Consultant has not been selected and contract has not been negotiated									
090628	Bentonville-Centerton	Greenhouse Road Improvements	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	2025-2030
Engineering and Environmental started 2nd Quarter 2022									
040887	Fayetteville	College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St)	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	2023
Public Involvement Aug. 2022									
090601	Lowell	US-71B/HWY264 Intersection Improvements	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	2023
090433	Lowell	Hwy 264/Belview Road Intersection Imps.	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	2024
ARDOT Staff Minutes - Schedule Date 05-2024									
090392	Rogers	28th Place Phase 1 (Pleasant Grove to Greens/Blossom)	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	2023
ROW Certification is being prepared									
	Siloam Springs	E Kenwood St Improvements (widening, incl. sidepath)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	2025
040717	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Ext. (S. 56th St. to Hwy. 112)	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	2023
Springdale will request additional construction funds in 2023									
040680	Springdale	Gene George Blvd Phase II	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	2025 to 2030?
040849	Springdale	Gene George S Ph III							

Conklin said this is becoming serious as more and more money comes to the region. Christie said the whole goal is not to let any money go. She said it is great to get federal money, but it does take a lot of work and cities must stay after it.

(7) CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) – Recommendation to RPC/Policy Committee

Chair Christie introduced the item with Elizabeth Bowen explaining that in spring of this year, we were notified that we were getting a suballocation for Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding. She said that we anticipate \$1 million coming to the region for FY 2022 and estimate the same for FY 2023. She summarized the program and reminded the committee of the focus areas recommended by TAC and approved by RPC/Policy Committee in May, consisting of the following:

Eligible activities focus areas approved by RPC/Policy Committee on May 25, 2022:

- A. a project described in 23 U.S.C. 149(b)(4) to establish or operate a traffic monitoring, management, and control facility or program, including advanced truck stop electrification systems;
- C. a transportation alternatives project as described in 23 U.S.C. 101(a)(29) as in effect prior to the enactment of the FAST Act,³ including the construction, **planning, and design** of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation;
- D. a project described in section 23 U.S.C. 503(c)(4)(E) for advanced transportation and congestion management technologies;

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; DRAFT

- E. a project for the deployment of infrastructure-based intelligent transportation systems capital improvements and the installation of vehicle-to-infrastructure communications equipment, including retrofitting dedicated short-range communications (DSRC) technology deployed as part of an existing pilot program to cellular vehicle-to-everything (C-V2X) technology;
- F. a project to replace street lighting and traffic control devices with energy-efficient alternatives;

Bowen said our approved FY 2023 UPWP reserves \$50,000 of the funds for the creation of a Carbon Reduction Plan/Strategy. She summarized federal requirements for the strategy and suballocation of the program funds.

Bowen presented the proposed NWARPC Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) FY 2022/2023 Application and Scoring Matrix. She asked whether there were any questions about the program, application or scoring matrix. Conklin said ARDOT's Local Project Administration (LPA) process will need to be followed for projects utilizing this funding.

There was discussion regarding the ability to fund planning and design phases for transportation alternative (TAP) projects within the CRP, potential project eligibility under the ITS focus area, and alternative funding sources such as the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) discretionary grant program. The timeline for the FY 2022/2023 program was discussed, including the deadline for applications being October 17, 2022.

MOTION: Chris Brown made a motion to recommend to the RPC/Policy Committee the proposed NWARPC Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Application and Scoring Matrix. Shawn Gindstaff provided the second. Motion passed unanimously. (NOTE: there was a virtual "no" vote that was clarified to be a mistake, with the intent to vote in favor of the motion).

(8) HIGHWAY 265 REGIONAL VISION DISCUSSION

Chair Christie introduced the item with Tim Conklin explaining that at the last RPC/Policy Committee meeting, the City of Rogers requested that a Regional Vision for Highway 265 be discussed, similar to what we have done with Highway 112. Conklin summarized the existing improvements to the corridor and explained that currently, all portions are improved with various cross sections. He explained that there are two (2) roundabouts being proposed on Hwy 265 using FY 2023 STBGP-A funding. He said it has been a regional priority on arterial streets to build sidepaths with barriers rather than bike lanes; to utilize roundabouts where appropriate rather than additional signalization; and to establish access management with center medians and Triparty agreements as applicable. He said the proposal is to establish a policy and joint vision between the cities on how to proceed in the future to ensure the corridor performs at the level of service needed to best serve the region. There was discussion.

Conklin said Regional Planning staff will prepare a draft and set up a zoom meeting with cities on the corridor to discuss, and ultimately bring to TAC for discussion and adoption. There was agreement.

(9) FFY 2023-2026 STIP/TIP DEVELOPMENT (Informational Item)

Tim Conklin said we received a draft FFY 2023-2026 STIP/TIP from ARDOT, and said adjustments are still being made. He highlighted some of the projects programmed over the next four years, including the various Highway 112 projects, Highway 612 projects, and the XNA Access Road. He said we have created a draft TIP map and shared the link: <https://nwarpc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instance/minimalist/index.html?appid=c4b76e1576054e919d3063b0993955a9>.

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT*

Chris Dillaha said he does not believe it is out for public comment yet but there will be an outreach schedule released in the future. Conklin said preliminary comments were sent to ARDOT.

(10) PROJECTS AND OTHER UPDATES

A. FFY 2022 STBGP-A & TAP Obligation Plan

Tim Conklin said this item was discussed earlier in the agenda, with the FY 2023 STPGP-A and TAP item.

B. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (aka IIJA) Updates

Tim Conklin and Elizabeth Bowen said there is not new information on the IIJA programs, but there are new programs coming out next month. Conklin said the City of Conway, Arkansas was awarded a RAISE grant. Bowen said there have been amendments to the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) program and Conklin said he understands that cities are coordinating on a joint application for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Discretionary Grant Program.

C. Transportation Systems Maintenance and Operations (TSMO)/Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

Elizabeth Bowen summarized and presented updates on the Transportation Systems Maintenance and Operations (TSMO)/Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). She said staff and the committee continue to meet with Cambridge Systematics on the projects. She said there is a planned workshop in September or October, which will be open to regional participation and contribution. She said the consultant is running about two-months behind schedule on the TSMO.

D. NWA Regional Assessment of Stormwater Management

Elizabeth Bowen said there is no new information on this project and that we are waiting for the ARPA funds to become available.

E. Carbon Reduction Program and Application Update

Elizabeth Bowen gave a proposed timeline for the NWARPC Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) based on the approval of the application and matrix discussed earlier on the agenda:

- Call for Projects – September 1, 2022
- Project Application Deadline – October 17, 2022, at 4:00pm
- Project Sponsor Presentation to TAC Committee – October 20, 2022
- Project Selection Committee Recommendation to TAC – November 17, 2022
- Project Selection Recommendation to RPC/Policy – December 7, 2022

F. Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Update

Bowen said we continue to work on that program. She said we were awarded \$400,000 STBGP-A funds and a \$100,000 grant from the Walton Family Foundation for the matching funds. She said we are applying for a SS4A Planning Grant by the September 15, 2022 deadline. She said if we receive the SS4A Planning Grant, we can release the STBGP-A funds for something else. She said we are continuing to make progress on the procurement process and summarized the following:

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT*

Procurement Process:

- LOI Noticed (Approved by ARDOT) – **May 19**
- Selection Committee ranked and selected 3 most highly qualified candidates – **June 14**
- RFP/Scope developed (**Approved by ARDOT in 1 day**) – **June 20**
- RFP/Scope sent to candidates – **June 30**
- Q&A answered – **July 12**
- RFP deadline – **July 21**
- Interviews held – **July 27**
- Selection Committee Scoring Meeting – **July 27**
- Reference checks **July/Aug**
- Draft contract/contract negotiations – **Aug (ARDOT Approval)**
- Kick-off meeting, public outreach, develop Plan (**Sep 2022-July 2023**)
- Apply for Projects (**Jul-Sep 2023**)

(11) COMMITTEE AND GROUP UPDATES

A. Active Transportation Committee (ACT)

Elizabeth Bowen said the committee and subcommittee met July 21, 2022 and the subcommittee will be meeting this afternoon. She summarized discussion items including the City Ratings that were released by People for Bikes; the Bicycle Friendly Community applications deadline on September 29, 2022; and progress on the NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (NWARBPMP).

Chair Christie asked whether there were any comments or questions and there were none.

(12) PUBLIC COMMENT – *Any public comment received via email will be provided to TAC members prior to meeting, and will become part of the meeting record.*

Chair Patsy Christie asked if any comments had been received prior to the meeting. Staff said no comments have been received. Christie asked whether there were any others present or online with comments and there were none.

(13) OTHER BUSINESS

A. Future Meeting Dates:

Chair Christie went over the future meetings as follows:

- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – August 24, 2022 @ 1:30 PM
- **TAC Meeting** – September 15, 2022 @ 10:30 AM
- **Drive Electric NWA (NWA Council Event)** – Saturday, September 24, 2022 @ 12 PM – 5PM, Pinnacle Hills Promenade, driveelectricweek.org/event?eventid=3414
- **ARDOT Statewide Public Transit Coordination Plan Update** – accepting comments until August 31, 2022 @ 4:30pm | www.ardot.gov/news/22-174/

Conklin said there will be an e-bike giveaway at the Drive Electric event, which will be a great event to see where technology is today. He said ARDOT held a public outreach meeting for the Statewide Public Transit Coordination Plan on Monday at NWARPC and are accepting comments until August 31. He said there is also transit feedback surveys open. Bowen said there is an Arkansas Bike-Ped Coalition Meeting at 2pm today that conflicts with the Active Transportation Subcommittee

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 AT 10:30 AM; *DRAFT***

meeting. She said we will meet for 30 minutes and then adjourn so we can all attend the State Coalition meeting.

Conklin said the meeting presentation will be distributed and emphasized the need for a quorum at the RPC/Policy Committee meeting next week in order to be able to award project funding.

Chair Patsy Christie asked if there was any other business; hearing none she thanked everyone for their participation.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting was ended at 11:50 am.