

NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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)	X	
BENTONVILLE	DENNIS BIRGE DAN WEESE	X	
CAVE SPRINGS	MAYOR RANDALL NOBLETT	X	
CENTERTON	MAYOR BILL EDWARDS LORENE BURNS	X X	
ELKINS	MAYOR BRUCE LEDFORD		
ELM SPRINGS	MAYOR HAROLD DOUTHIT		
FARMINGTON	MELISSA McCARVILLE		
FAYETTEVILLE	JONATHAN CURTH PAUL LIBERTINI CHRIS BROWN	X X X	
GENTRY	MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSTON	X	
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 Richard Stone
PEA RIDGE	MAYOR JACKIE CRABTREE		
PINEVILLE	MAYOR GREG SWEETEN		
PRAIRIE GROVE	MAYOR SONNY HUDSON		
ROGERS	LANCE JOBE SHAWN GRINDSTAFF JOHN MCCURDY	X	
SILOAM SPRINGS	BEN RHOADS (VICE CHAIR) JUSTIN BLAND		
SPRINGDALE	PATSY CHRISTIE (CHAIR) RYAN CARR	X X	
TONTITOWN	MAYOR ANGELA RUSSELL		X Mark Latham
WASHINGTON CO.	BRIAN LESTER SAM ATA JEFF CROWDER		
WEST FORK	MAYOR HEITH CAUDLE		
WINSLOW	ANN MALKIE		
NWARPC	JEFF HAWKINS	X	
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		
ARDOT PLANNING AND DISTRICT 9	CHRIS DILLAHA (SUNNY FARMAHAN) STACEY BURGE	X	X Will Ward

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NWARPC STAFF: Jeff Hawkins; Tim Conklin; Elizabeth Bowen; Cristina Scarlat; Nicole Gibbs; Tim Reavis

OTHERS: Amy Heflin (FHWA); Mike Peters (Springdale); Karen Davis (Lowell); Kevin Moore (Siloam Springs); Matt Mihalevich (Fayetteville); David Keck (Cave Springs); Adam Waddell (Razorback Transit); Britni O'Connor (MoDOT); Dawn Warrick (Freese and Nichols); Aaron Boehmler (Burns McDonnell); Landon Miller (Michael Baker); 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 10:33 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 THE AUGUST 18, 2022 TAC MEETING MINUTES

Chair Christie asked the Committee whether there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes and hearing none, requested a motion to approve the August 18, 2022 TAC Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Richard Stone made a motion to approve the August 18, 2022 TAC Meeting Minutes. Mayor Bill Edwards provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

(4) NWARPC FY 2022/2023 CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) – Proposed Project Presentations by Applicants

Chair Christie introduced the item and Elizabeth Bowen explained that we are estimating \$2.2 million in FY 2022/2023 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding coming to the region. Bowen summarized various federal requirements for the CRP and the NWARPC CRP focus areas approved by the RPC/Policy Committee on May 25, 2022. She gave a summary of the anticipated project selection timeline as follows:

- Approval of Application/Matrix – August 24, 2022
- Call for Projects – August 28, 2022
- Project Application Deadline – October 17, 2022, at 4:00pm
- Project Sponsor Presentation to TAC Committee – October 20, 2022
- Selection Committee Site Visit, Scoring, Recommendation – TBD
- Project Selection Committee Recommendation to TAC – November 17, 2022
- Project Selection Recommendation to RPC/Policy – December 7, 2022

Bowen showed the following list of project applications and funding totals:

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Year	County	Job No.	Jurisdiction	Project	Phase	CRP
2022	Benton		Cave Springs	W Wallis Rd & Sands Rd Sidewalk Extension	Construction	\$358,784
2022	Benton		Centerton	McKissic Trail Phase 2	Construction	\$500,000
2022	Washington		Fayetteville (1)	LED Lighting and Video Detection of Major Intersections	Construction	\$400,000
2022	Washington		Fayetteville (2)	Trail Tunnel under MLK Jr Blvd with the I49/Hwy 62 Interchange	Construction	\$500,000
2022	Washington		Johnson	Razorback Greenway Lighting	Construction	\$339,300
2022	Benton		Lowell	Traffic Signal Improvements	Construction	\$131,764
2022	Benton		Siloam Springs	Progress Ave Sidepath	Construction	\$184,000
2022	Washington		Springdale	Trail Plan and Design	Plan/Design	\$100,000
Total						\$2,513,848
Available 2022						\$1,049,581
Available 2023						\$1,122,000
Difference						-\$342,267

Bowen said the funding amounts are subject to Congressional action, and are federally funded at 80%, with a requirement for 20% local match. She said projects selected will be required to follow ARDOT’s Local Public Agency (LPA) federal-aid process for reimbursement and must be obligated by September 2023. Tim Conklin said he wanted to remind everyone that they will be entering into an Agreement of Understanding with ARDOT, and that ARDOT will be reviewing and approving all your documents, similar to the STBGP-A and TAP process. Bowen asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Applicant sponsors gave brief presentations of their projects and answered any questions from the TAC.

NOTE: There was a period following the last project presentation by Springdale where the virtual attendees could no longer hear the in-person conversation. The following was discussed in-person prior to the technical issues being discovered:

Patsy Christie asked whether the next step is for the Selection Committee to review the projects and come back to TAC with a recommendation. Bowen said typically the project sponsors serve on the committee and anyone else that would like to volunteer. She said there is an alternative, being that some of the proposed projects have also submitted applications for ARDOT TAP funding. She said ARDOT should announce their awards in November, and we anticipate that if some of these projects are awarded funding through that program, our total requests may go down to cover the difference and the Committee may not need to tour or rank projects.

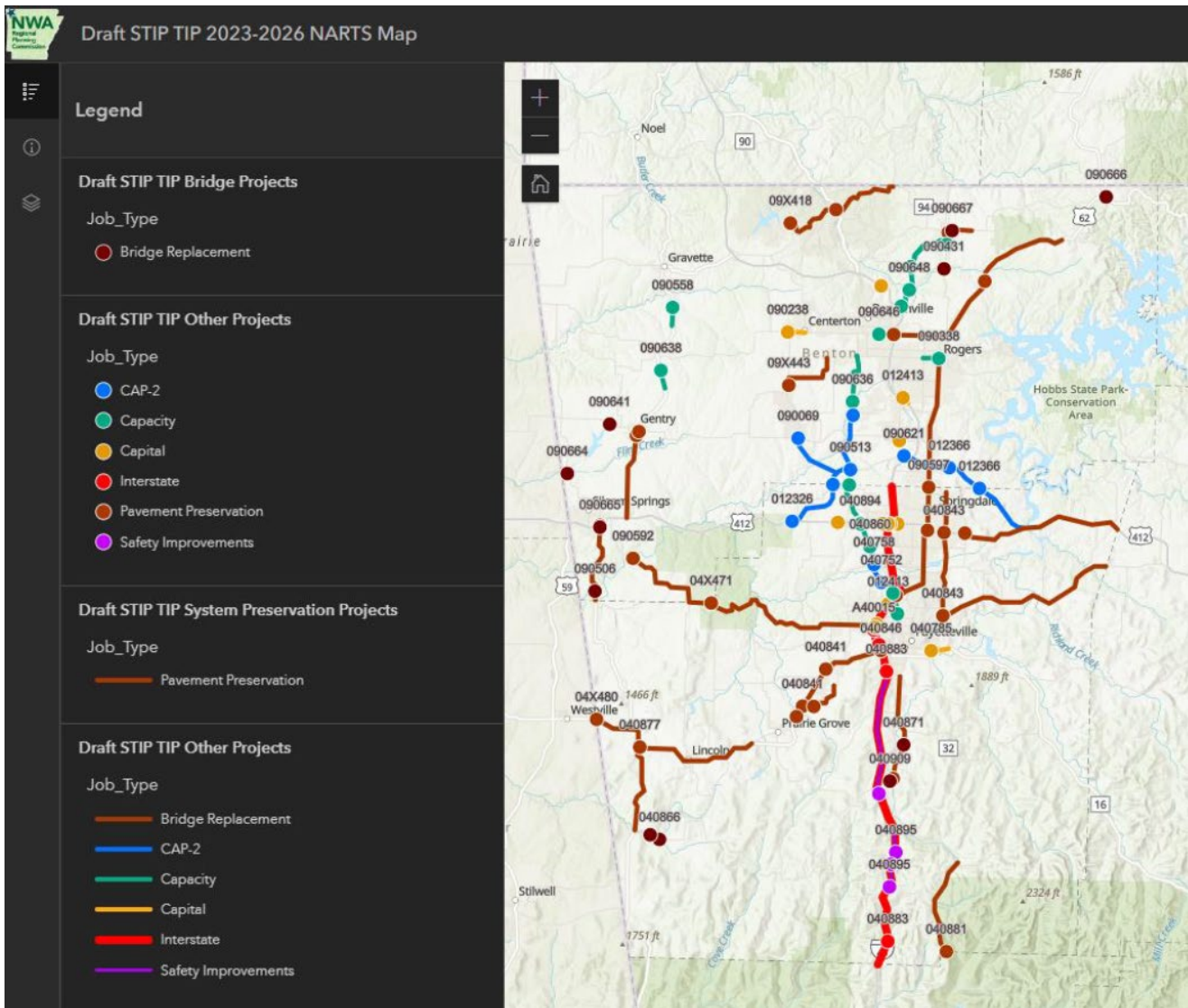
Bowen said she recommends that the Selection Committee meeting be scheduled after the ARDOT TAP awards are announced, which is anticipated on November 2, 2022. She said she will be sending out a poll to determine the best date and time for the Committee to meet.

(5) NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TIP DEVELOPMENT – Review and Recommendation to send Draft to Public Forum and Comment Period

Chair Christie introduced the item with Tim Conklin explaining that we discussed this item with TAC in

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August. He said MoDOT completed their STIP this past summer, ARDOT has released their draft STIP for public comment, and we have incorporated projects from MoDOT and ARDOT into our draft TIP. He summarized the contents of the TIP and highlighted some of the significant projects in the current STIP/TIP, including the various Hwy 612 projects, XNA Access Road, and the various Hwy 112 projects. He said there is an interactive map available and noted that pavement preservation projects are included, not just construction projects: <https://www.nwarpc.org/transportation/transportation-improvement-program/>



Conklin summarized and showed the proposed NARTS TIP development schedule as follows:

- **Public Forum:** Thursday, October 20, from 11:30am until 1:30pm (immediately following TAC)
- **Public Comment Period:** Thursday, October 20, 2022 through Friday, November 4, 2022 at 4:00PM
- **TAC Recommendation:** Thursday, November 17, 2022
- **RPC/Policy Committee Consideration:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Chair Christie asked whether there were any comments or questions and hearing none, requested a

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motion to approve sending the Draft NARTS FFY 2023-2026 TIP to public forum and comment period.

MOTION: Mayor Randall Noblett made a motion to send the draft NARTS 2023-2026 TIP to Public Forum and Public Comment Period. Mark Latham provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

- (6) 2023 ARDOT & MoDOT SAFETY TARGETS AND RAZORBACK TRANSIT ADOPTED 2022 TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT (TAM) PLAN PERFORMANCE TARGETS – Recommendation to RPC/Policy Committee**
Chair Christie introduced the item with Tim Conklin explaining that we have received the ARDOT and MoDOT Safety Targets and the Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan performance Targets for Razorback Transit. He said each year we take the option to support the targets for our transit agencies and state DOTs. He summarized the safety targets adopted by the state DOTs as follows:

EXHIBIT A														
NWARPC SUPPORTED ARDOT AND MoDOT TARGETS Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission - September 26, 2018 - Res. No. 2018-13 Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission - 2020 Safety Targets - January 22, 2020 - Res. No. 2020-01 Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission - 2021 Safety Targets And Mid-Performance Report Target Adjustments - December 2, 2020 - Res. No. 2020-07 Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission - 2022 Safety Targets - October 27, 2021 Res. No. 2021-12 Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission - 2023 Safety Targets - October 26, 2022 Res. No. 2022-XX														
SAFETY	MoDOT							ARDOT						
	Baseline	CY 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022	CY 2023	2013-2017 Baseline	CY 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022	CY 2023
Number of Fatalities	910.0	857.7	872.3	859.3	871.6	877	948.2	514.4	555	543	541.2	536.3	631.5	704.9
Fatality Rate per 100 Million VMT	1.213	1.163	1.160	1.130	1.119	1.126	1.212	1.474	1.662	1.615	1.595	1.560	1.808	1.895
Number of Serious Injuries	4,681.2	4,559.3	4,433.8	4,505.4	4,463.9	4,299.0	4,848.7	2,991.2	3,470.0	3,637.0	3,201.4	3,103.8	2,996.9	2,790.1
Serious Injury Rate per 100 Million VMT	6.241	6.191	6.168	5.953	5.829	5.520	6.205	8.584	10.419	10.824	9.441	9.043	8.608	7.815
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	462.2	431.9	445.4	437.4	462.2	485	499.2	149	149	170	300.3	220.3	229.2	274.4

Conklin noted that a significant increase in the total number of fatalities and serious injuries was caused by discrepancies in how jurisdictions were previously reporting, or not reporting, their incidents.

Chair Christie requested a motion to recommend approval of the CY 2023 MoDOT and ARDOT Safety Performance Targets to the Policy Committee.

MOTION: Ryan Carr made a motion to recommend to the RPC/Policy Committee the CY 2023 MoDOT and ARDOT Safety Performance Targets. Lance Jobe provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

Conklin explained that this year we consulted with Alliance Transportation Group (ATG) to update the TAM Plan for Razorback Transit. He said they developed revised State of Good Repair (SGR) Performance Targets with the plan and showed the following summary:

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Table 7: Guiding TAM Targets

Asset Category		Current	2023	2024	2025	2026
Revenue Vehicles Performance and Targets						
Condition Score - % of revenue vehicles within a particular asset class that have exceeded their age ULB	BU - Bus	16%	20%	20%	20%	20%
	CU – Cutaway Bus	83%	40%	40%	40%	40%
Equipment Performance and Targets						
Condition Score - % of service vehicles within a particular asset class that have exceeded their age ULB	Non-Revenue / Service Vehicle	33%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Facilities Performance and Targets						
Condition Score - % of facilities that score below 3.0 on the TERM scale	Administrative	0%	25%	25%	25%	25%
	Maintenance	0%	25%	25%	25%	25%
	Passenger Facility	0%	20%	20%	20%	20%

Adam Waddell with Razorback Transit noted that the high current numbers are in direct relation to the supply chain issues that we are experiencing across the industry. He said they are prepared to replace those vehicles, they just cannot get vehicles, which is also referenced in the plan. He said our maintenance program is what is keeping us able to operate these vehicles past their useful life benchmark (ULB). He said they have five (5) new transit buses that should be on UA property within the next few days, and we expect to have one more paratransit cutaway bus, that was purchased over 24 months ago, possibly arrive by the end of the year.

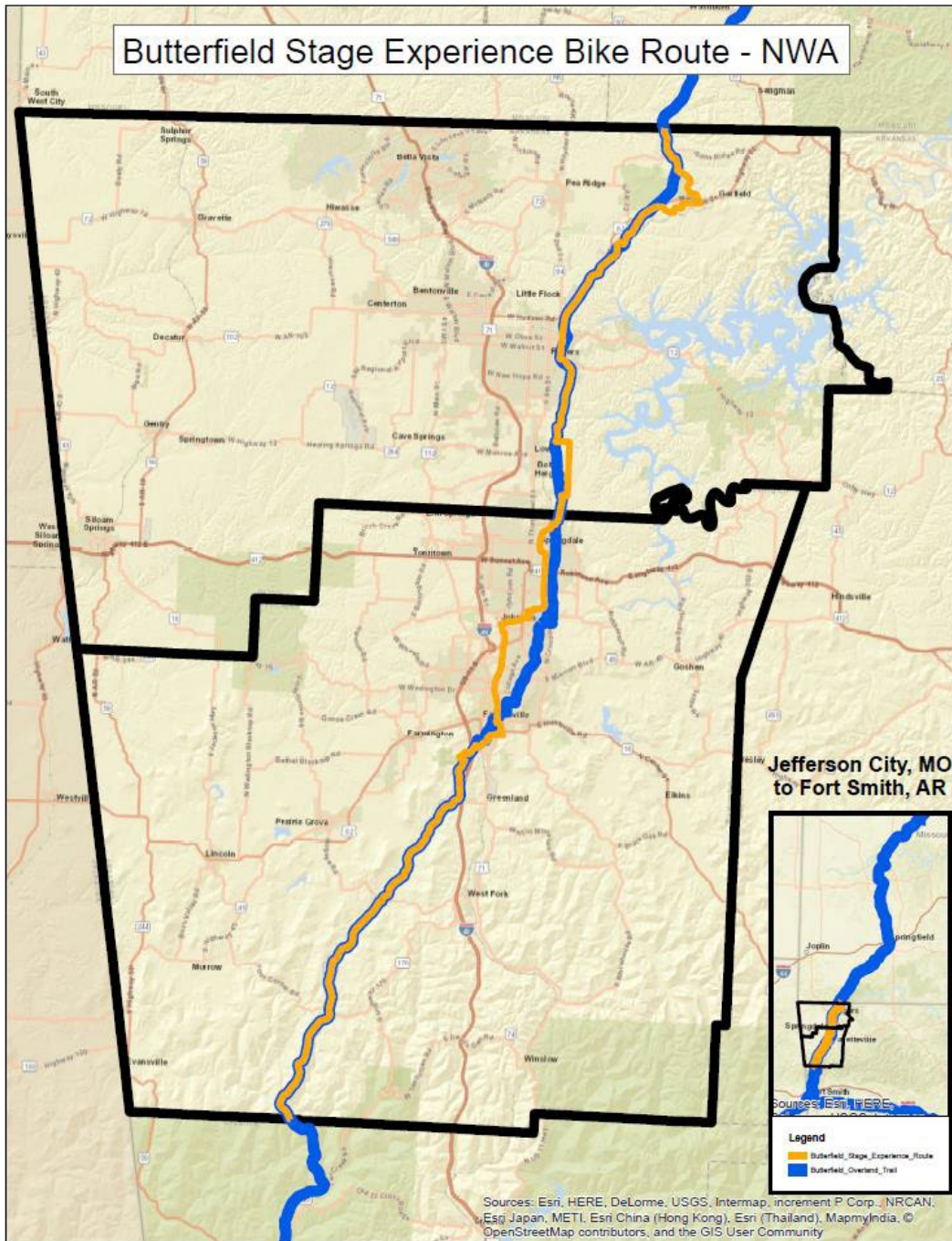
Chair Christie asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, requested a motion to recommend approval of the Razorback Transit 2022-2026 TAM Plan SGR Performance Targets to the Policy Committee.

MOTION: Mayor Bill Edwards made a motion to recommend to the RPC/Policy Committee the Razorback Transit 2022-2026 TAM Plan SGR Performance Targets. Ryan Carr provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

(7) BUTTERFIELD STAGE EXPERIENCE ROUTE – Recommendation to RPC/Policy Committee

Elizabeth Bowen explained that we have been working to identify a gravel/bikepacking route using or paralleling the historic Butterfield Stage Route through Missouri and Arkansas. She said we are working with MoDOT, the Frontier MPO and the Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation (MoBikeFed) to adopt a route from Springfield, Missouri to Fort Smith, Arkansas. She said the item today is to consider recommending approval of the route through the Benton and Washington County area. She showed the recommended route, the blue line being the original route and the orange line being the recommended route, and said it has been vetted by the Active Transportation Committee and ridden or driven by various bicycle activists throughout the community:

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Chair Christie asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, requested a motion to recommend approval of the Butterfield Stage Experience Route to the Policy Committee.

MOTION: Lance Jobe made a motion to recommend to the RPC/Policy Committee approval of the Butterfield Stage Experience Route through Benton and Washington Counties as part of the route from Jefferson City, Missouri to Fort Smith, Arkansas. Mark Latham provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

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(8) PROJECTS AND OTHER UPDATES

Chair Patsy Christie said in the time we have remaining, if anyone has any questions on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, TSMO/ITS, Regional Assessment of Stormwater, or the Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan to let us know.

- A. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (aka IJJA) Updates**
- B. Transportation Systems Maintenance and Operations (TSMO)/Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)**
- C. NWA Regional Assessment of Stormwater Management**
- D. Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Update**

(9) COMMITTEE AND GROUP UPDATES

Chair Patsy Christie said the Active Transportation Committee (ACT) meets this afternoon at 1:30pm.

- A. Active Transportation Committee (ACT)**

(10) 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 said we did receive three public comments prior to the meeting that were included in the meeting packets. She asked whether there were any others present or online with comments and there were none.

(11) OTHER BUSINESS

A. CY 2023-2024 Chair and Vice Chair Election in November – Form Nominating Committee

Chair Patsy Christie said we would like to form a nominating committee to choose Chair and Vice Chair for next year and asked whether anyone would like to volunteer. Richard Stone said he thinks those currently in the offices are doing a good job. There was concurrence and discussion.

B. Future Meeting Dates:

Chair Christie went over the future meetings as follows:

- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, October 26, 2022 @ 1:30 PM
- **TAC Meeting** – Thursday, November 17, 2022 @ 10:30 AM
- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, December 7, 2022 @ 1:30 PM (*combined Nov/Dec meeting*)

Chair Patsy Christie noted that the early December Policy Committee date is a combined November/December meeting due to conflicts with the Holidays. She asked if there was any other business; hearing none she thanked everyone for their participation.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting was ended at 11:31 am.