

**RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 AT 1:30 PM; APPROVED AUGUST 24, 2022**

ENTITY	MEMBER	ATTENDING	PROXY
AVOCA	ROBERT WHITEHORN		
BELLA VISTA	<b>PETER CHRISTIE (VICE CHAIR)</b>	X	Doug Tapp
BENTON COUNTY	JUDGE BARRY MOEHRING JOSH BEAM JAY FRASIER/DEAN KLINGMON		
BENTONVILLE	MAYOR STEPHANIE ORMAN SHELLI KERR	X X	
CAVE SPRINGS	MAYOR RANDALL NOBLETT		
CENTERTON	MAYOR BILL EDWARDS LORENE BURNS	X	
DECATUR	MAYOR BOB THARP		
ELKINS	MAYOR BRUCE LEDFORD		
ELM SPRINGS	MAYOR HAROLD DOUTHIT		
FARMINGTON	ERNIE PENN	X	Melissa McCarville
FAYETTEVILLE	LIONELD JORDAN CHRIS BROWN JONATHAN CURTH	X	Paul Libertini
GARFIELD	MAYOR GARY L BLACKBURN		
GATEWAY	MAYOR ANDREW TILLMAN		
GENTRY	MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSTON	X	
GOSHEN	MAYOR MAX POYE		
GRAVETTE	MAYOR KURT MADDOX	X	
GREENLAND	MAYOR BILL GROOM		
HIGHFILL	MAYOR MICHELLE RIEFF		
HINDSVILLE	MAYOR X DOTSON		
HUNTSVILLE	MAYOR DARRELL TRAHAN		
JOHNSON	<b>MAYOR CHRIS KEENEY (CHAIR)</b>	X	
LINCOLN	MAYOR DOUG HUTCHENS		
LITTLE FLOCK	MAYOR JEFF VAN SICKLER	X	
LOWELL	MAYOR CHRIS MOORE	X	Rick Stone
PEA RIDGE	<b>MAYOR JACKIE CRABTREE (TREASURER)</b>		
PRAIRIE GROVE	<b>MAYOR SONNY HUDSON (SECRETARY)</b>		
ROGERS	LANCE JOBE JOHN McCURDY BOB CRAFTON	X X	
SILOAM SPRINGS	MAYOR JUDY NATION PHILLIP PATTERSON	X X	
SPRINGDALE	DOUG SPROUSE PATSY CHRISTIE JIM ULMER	X X	
SPRINGTOWN	TERRI GLENN		
SULPHUR SPRINGS	SHANE WEBER		
TONTITOWN	MAYOR ANGELA RUSSELL	X	
WASHINGTON CO.	JUDGE JOSEPH WOOD BRIAN LESTER	X	Sam Ata
WEST FORK	MAYOR HEITH CAUDLE		
WINSLOW	ANN MALKIE		
ARDOT PLANNING + DISTRICTS	BRAD McCALEB CHAD ADAMS (DISTRICT 4)	X	X Sunny Farmahan
BEAVER H2O DISTRICT	LANE CRIDER		
McDONALD COUNTY	BILL LANT		
MoDOT	DAVE TAYLOR (BRITNI O'CONNOR)	X	
NAT. AIRPORT AUTH.	AARON BURKES		
PINEVILLE, MO	MAYOR GREG SWEETEN		
RAZORBACK TRANSIT	GARY K. SMITH (ADAM WADDELL)	X	Michela Cupello
U OF A	SCOTT TURLEY (JAY HUNEYCUTT)	X	Michela Cupello
OZARK REG. TRANSIT	JOEL GARDNER (NON-VOTING)		
ARDOT TRANSIT	GREG NATION (NON-VOTING)		
HWY COMMISSION	PHILLIP TALDO (NON-VOTING)		

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**NWARPC STAFF:** Jeff Hawkins, Tim Conklin; Elizabeth Bowen; Nicole Gibbs

**OTHERS:** Amy Heflin (FHWA), Rob Smith (NWA Council), Ron Wood (NWADG)

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

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

The hybrid, in-person and virtual NWARPC/Policy Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair, Mayor Chris Keeney at 1:33 p.m.

**(2) ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

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

**(3) APPROVE RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 25, 2022**

Chair Mayor Keeney asked the Committee whether there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes and requested a motion to approve the May 25, 2022 RPC/Policy Committee Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION:** Mayor Jeff Van Sickler made a motion to approve the May 25, 2022 RPC/Policy Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Sunny Farmahan provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

**(4) DIRECTOR'S REPORT/CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW**

Jeff Hawkins gave the director's report saying the Clearinghouse Report was sent out and explained that there were 25 federal aid applications filed totaling about \$6.5 million. He said the federal planning certification review conducted by FHWA and FTA officials was completed in early June and went quite well. He said we have learned that the US Census will be releasing their delineation of Urban Areas in December based on the 2020 Census. He explained that they made substantial changes in the determination of what is considered "urban", and gave the example that they are using housing unit density as opposed to population density. He said funding programs could be impacted and some jurisdictions who were in the Urbanized Area, may not be in the 2020 Urban Area. He also explained that the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), issued by the Office of Management & Budget, is based on the Census Bureau's delineation of urban areas as well as workforce commuting patterns and are not scheduled for release until June 2023. Lastly, he shared that Population Certifications should be possible soon and briefly described benefits and the process. He said they are very simple to do and we are available to help anyone with that.

Chair Mayor Keeney asked whether there were any questions, and there were none.

**(5) UPWP FY 2023 AMENDMENT #1 – Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan - Vision Zero Plan**

Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained that in May, the RPC/Policy Committee passed a resolution moving forward with a Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. He said since that meeting, ARDOT requested that we also amend our FY 2023 UPWP to reflect the \$400,000 that we will be using in federal funds to develop a consultant-led plan. He said we also have applied for and received a local matching grant through the Walton Family Foundation (WFF). He said we completed public notification and did not receive any public comment regarding the amendment, and both ARDOT and MoDOT have reviewed the amendment and did not have any

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comments. He said we have prepared a resolution for your consideration approving the amendment and the matching grant. He thanked the WFF for their continued support of our regional initiatives.

**A. RESOLUTION #2022-10** – Amending the NARTS FY 2023 UPWP to Prepare a Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and Accept a Matching Grant

Chair Mayor Keeney asked whether there were any questions or comments, and hearing none, requested a motion to approve Resolution #2022-10 Amending the NARTS FY 2023 UPWP to Prepare a Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and Accept a Matching Grant.

**MOTION:** Jim Ulmer made a motion to approve Resolution #2022-10 Amending the NARTS FY 2023 UPWP to Prepare a Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and Accept a Matching Grant. Mayor Stephanie Orman provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

**(6) NARTS FFY 2021-2024 TIP AMENDMENT #4 – MoDOT**

Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained that the Missouri Highway and Transportation Committee (MHTC) approved their FY 2023-2027 MoDOT STIP on July 2, 2022. He summarized the proposed changes to the NARTS 2021-2024 TIP. He said a resolution has been prepared to accept these proposed changes based on the adopted STIP.

**A. RESOLUTION #2022-11** – Amending the NARTS FFY 2021-2024 TIP

Chair Mayor Keeney asked if there were any questions and hearing none called for a motion to approve Resolution #2022-11 Amending the NARTS FFY 2021-2024 TIP.

**MOTION:** Mayor Stephanie Orman made a motion to approve Resolution #2022-11 Amending the NARTS FFY 2021-2024 TIP. Mayor Jeff Van Sickler provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

**(7) FFY 2023 STBGP-A & TAP PROPOSED PROJECTS/SCHEDULE** (Informational Item)

Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained that in the Spring we issued a call for projects and those were presented to our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) last week. He said we have scheduled a site visit on August 4, 2022 to tour the proposed projects. He said we will have recommendations coming from TAC on August 18, 2022 and RPC/Policy Committee for vote on August 24, 2022. He summarized the estimated funding for FY 2023 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>
<b>Total Available TAP FFY2022 &amp; 2023</b>	<b>\$1,408,974</b>
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>
<b>Total Available STBGP-A FFY 2022 &amp; 2023</b>	<b>\$9,954,103</b>

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

**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 we have more project requests than funding and summarized the following list of applicants:

Year	County	Job No.	Jurisdiction	Project	Phase	TAP-FED	STBGP-A	TOTAL	Existing/New
2023	Benton		Bentonville	I49 Razorback Greenway Relocation	Construction	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	New TAP
2023	Benton		Cave Springs	N Wallis Rd & Sands Rd Sidewalk Ext	Construction	\$ 348,032		\$ 348,032	New TAP
2023	Benton		Centerton	McKissic Station Park Trail Phase II	Construction	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	New TAP
2023	Washington		Farmington	Creekside Park Trail	Construction	\$ 687,790		\$ 687,790	New TAP
2023	Washington		Fayetteville	I-49 and Hwy 62 Interchange Bicycle Accommodations	Construction	\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000	New TAP
2023	Benton		Gravette	Gravette Trail System Phase II	Construction	\$ 725,000		\$ 725,000	New TAP
2023	Benton		Siloam Springs	Progress Ave	Construction	\$ 184,000		\$ 184,000	New TAP
2023	Benton	090436	Bella Vista	Mercy Way Bridge and Road Imps - Razorback Greenway Ext.	All Phases		\$ 326,845	\$ 326,845	Existing
2023	Benton	090524	Benton County	Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement	Utilities/Eng/Constr		\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	Existing
2023	Benton		Bentonville	I49 Razorback Greenway Relocation	Construction		\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	New STBG
2023	Benton	90238	Centerton	Hwy 102 Sidepath	Construction		\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	New STBG
2023	Washington	040887	Fayetteville	College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St)	Construction		\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,800,000	Existing
2023	Washington		Fayetteville	Milsap, College, N Hemlock	ROW/Environ		\$ 320,000	\$ 320,000	New STBG
2023	Washington		Fayetteville	I-49 and Hwy 62 Interchange Bicycle Accommodations	Construction		\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	New STBG
2023	Benton	090601	Lowell	71B & 264 Int Imp	Construction		\$ 240,000	\$ 240,000	Existing
2023	Benton	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264 & Bellview	Construction		\$ 560,000	\$ 560,000	Existing
2023	Benton		Lowell	Monroe from Oak St to Hwy 265	Construction		\$ 1,789,600	\$ 1,789,600	New STBG
2023	Benton		Rogers	W Pleasant Grove Rd & Hwy 265 Roundabout	Design/Env		\$ 168,000	\$ 168,000	New STBG
2023	Benton		Rogers	Hwy 265 and Hwy 94 New Hope Rd Roundabout	Design/Env		\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	New STBG
2023	Washington	040680	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Ext.	Construction		\$ 7,240,000	\$ 7,240,000	Existing
2023	Benton/Washington		NWARPC	Comprehensive Safety Action Plan - Vision Zero	Planning		\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000	New STBG
<b>Total</b>						<b>\$ 3,444,822</b>	<b>\$15,444,445</b>	<b>\$ 18,889,267</b>	

He said as everyone is aware, inflation has hit everyone's projects very hard, so many existing projects are asking for additional funds due to the rising costs of construction to bring their funding amounts up to 80-percent of the total project cost. He said we have set up a review committee and he opened it up to others who may want to participate. He asked whether there were any questions on the process and what to expect over the next four weeks. There was a question to repeat funding totals, and no other questions were raised.

**(8) 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT DISCUSSION – Carbon Reduction (CR) Program Funding and National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program Funding**

Chair Chris Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained briefly that we are going to look at the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and identify what changes we need to make to our 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), including adding the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program funding.

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

Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained that ARDOT released their DRAFT FY 2023-2026 STIP and said ARDOT will be discussing the STIP over the next couple months and we will take these projects and develop our FY 2023-2026 TIP. He summarized the notable projects in the region including the western portions of Hwy 612 (future US 412), Hwy 112 projects, and XNA Access Road going to construction during this STIP period, and the eastern portions of US 612 shown in Project Development during this STIP period. He said we have talked about some of these projects for many, many years and it is exciting seeing these on the draft STIP.

**(10) PROJECTS AND OTHER UPDATES**

**A. FFY 2022 STBGP-A & TAP Obligation Plan**

Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin said we have to obligate \$8.6 million of last year's money and we will be working closely with the cities in the coming weeks to determine whether they are ready to obligate. He said ARDOT requested an obligation plan and he sent them the following:

ARDOT Partnership Projects with LPA's (Does not count towards carry over of \$1M Max)				Phase	2021 CRRSAA HIP	Springdale Repurposed Earmark	HIP	TAP	STBGP-A	Total	ARDOT Partnership Project	Obligated Amount	Anticipated Obligated	FFY 2023 Anticipated Award to be obligated 2022	Carry Over
2021	040746	Fayetteville	Hwy 112 Side path Trail (TAP)	Construction	\$ 230,891					\$ 230,891	Yes				\$ 230,891
2022	090651	Gentry	Hwy 12/59 Signal and Intersection Impvts. (formerly Job# 09X324)	Design and Environmental					\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	Yes	\$ 250,000			\$ -
2021	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Rd Inters. Impvts.	Construction					\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	Yes	\$ 4,000			\$ 746,000
2022	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Rd Inters. Impvts.	Construction					\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	Yes				\$ 150,000
2022	040887	Fayetteville	College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St)	Construction					\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	Yes				\$ 1,500,000
2022	040746	Fayetteville	Hwy 112 - Heritage Springs Trail and Tunnel (Hwy 112)	Construction				\$ 250,000		\$ 250,000	Yes				\$ 250,000
2022	040846	Fayetteville	Hwy 62 Interchange Improvements	Design, Env., Utilities, and ROW					\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	Yes		\$ 1,500,000		\$ -
					\$ 230,891	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 4,150,000	\$ 4,630,891		\$ 254,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ 2,876,891
<b>LPA Projects (With No ARDOT Partnership)</b>															
2022		Siloam Springs	E Kenwood St Improvements (widening, incl. sidepath)	Design and Environmental					\$ 220,000	\$ 220,000			\$ 220,000		\$ -
2021	040854	Tontitown	US 412 and Klenc Rd Signalization	All Phases					\$ 360,000	\$ 360,000		\$ 103,772			\$ 256,228
2022		Bentonville	SW Regional Airport Blvd. / S. Vaughn Rd. Intersection Impr.	Design and Environmental					\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000			\$ 500,000		\$ -
2022	090524	Benton County	Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement	Construction			\$ 500,000			\$ 500,000			\$ 500,000		\$ -
2022	040849	Springdale	Gene George S Ph III	ROW and Utility					\$ 909,050	\$ 909,050			\$ 909,050		\$ -
2022	040680	Springdale	Gene George Blvd (Don Tyson to 1000 ft. South)	Construction		\$ 756,126			\$ 1,663,269	\$ 2,419,395		\$ 1,670,300			\$ -
2021	040848	Springdale	Gene George Blvd. Phase II CRRSAA HIP FUNDING	ROW and Utilities	\$ 1,062,605					\$ 1,062,605			\$ 1,062,605		\$ -
2021	040717	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Ext. (S. 56th St. to Hwy. 112) CRRSAA HIP	ROW and Utilities	\$ 1,228,145					\$ 1,228,145			\$ 1,228,145		\$ -
2022	090601	Lowell	US-718/Hwy264 Intersection Improvements	Env., ROW, Utilities, Construction					\$ 730,000	\$ 730,000					\$ 730,000
2022		Siloam Springs	N Mt Olive Sidepath (between Dawn Hill Rd. and Carl St)	Construction				\$ 376,000		\$ 376,000			\$ 376,000		\$ -
2022	090628	Bentonville-Centerton	Greenhouse Road Improvements - Hwy 12 to Hwy 102	Design			\$ 112,000			\$ 112,000			\$ 112,000		\$ -
					\$ 2,290,750	\$ 756,126	\$ 612,000	\$ 376,000	\$ 4,382,319	\$ 8,417,195		\$ 1,886,072	\$ 4,795,800	\$ -	\$ 986,228

Conklin explained that he is showing most projects being obligated that are not partnership projects with ARDOT, with the exception of project 090601 in Lowell and 040854 in Tontitown. He said there are a lot of moving parts with this, and if there are projects that we thought would obligate, cannot, we may have to do a lot of shuffling at the August RPC/Policy Committee meeting to make this work. He said we need to get our carry over amount down below \$1 million.

**B. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (aka IJA) Updates**

Tim Conklin gave an overview of the recent notices of funding availability within the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) programs and showed the following:

## FUNDING AVAILABLE TO A RANGE OF RECIPIENTS

	Program Examples	State	MPO	Local	Tribe	PA*	Territory	FLMA*	
FFY 2022 Funded	Apportioned programs (formula)	✓							(For NWARPC: STBGP-A, TAP, Carbon Reduction)
Guidance Issued 1-14-22	Bridge Program (formula)	✓			✓				(Watch for: Off-system Bridges)
Guidance Issued 2-10-22	National Electric Vehicle Formula Program	✓		✓					(Approved! For NWA: US 412 Nomination)
May 2022	Safe Streets and Roads for All program		✓	✓	✓				NOFO Issued – Deadline Sept. 15, 2022
	PROTECT Grants (discretionary)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Guidance Issued 2-10-22	Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Congestion Relief Program	✓	✓	✓					
	Bridge Investment Program (discretionary)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			NOFO Issued – Deadline Sept. 8, 2022 Bridge And Large Bridge Aug. 9, 2022
	Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program	✓	✓	✓	✓				NOFO Issued – Deadline Oct. 13, 2022
	Rural Surface Transportation Grants (Rural)	✓		✓	✓				
May 23, 2022	INFRA Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects grants program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) - combined Mega/ INFRA/ Rural
	Nat'l Infra. Project Assistance (Mega)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
April 14, 2022	Local and Regional Project Assistance (RAISE)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		(For NWA: Fayetteville/Maple Street)

Note: This table does not include all BIL programs or eligible entities, and there are additional nuances not represented in this table. Additional programmatic information is provided in later slides. FHWA will administer most, but not all, programs listed.

\* "PA" means a special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function; FLMA means Federal Land Management Agency

Source: FHWA Presentation "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL): Overview of Highway Provisions", 2021

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He also gave information on a new Railroad Crossing Elimination Discretionary Grant Program:

- Fact Sheet: <https://railroads.dot.gov/elibrary/railroad-crossing-elimination-grant-program-fact-sheet>
- NOFO: [www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/07/06/2022-14344/notice-of-funding-opportunity-for-the-railroad-crossing-elimination-program](http://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/07/06/2022-14344/notice-of-funding-opportunity-for-the-railroad-crossing-elimination-program)

### C. National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Update

Tim Conklin said the nomination of US 412 as an AFC Corridor-Pending was approved by USDOT. He said the \$54.1 million that Arkansas gets is limited to interstates and AFC's, which includes I-49 and now US 412 in NWA. He thanked ODOT, ARDOT, and the Governor's Officer for their support of the nomination.

### D. 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, which will be open to regional participation and contribution.

### E. NWA Regional Assessment of Stormwater Management

Elizabeth Bowen said we continue to work with Halff, Corps of Engineers and ANRD on the funding and scope of the project. She said we will continue to wait on the ARPA funds application to become available.

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**F. Carbon Reduction Program and Application Update**

Elizabeth Bowen explained that we anticipate \$1.1 million for FFY 2022 and \$1.1 million for FY 2023. She said we reserved \$50,000 in the UPWP for developing the Carbon Reduction Plan and the purpose of the plan is to reduce transportation emissions.

Bowen said the RPC/Policy Committee has approved focus areas for our CRP. She said we have drafted an application and scoring matrix for TAC review, with an anticipated call for projects late summer or early fall. She said we hope to have their recommendation for you at the August meetings.

**G. Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Update**

Bowen said the RPC/Policy Committee previously agreed to move forward with a Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. She described the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Program (SS4A) and that NWARPC will apply by September 15, 2022 for an Action Plan Grant with the goal of having a plan in place so that cities can apply for funding in 2023. She said this project is moving forward quickly. She summarized the procurement process as follows:

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's due **4:00 TODAY July 21**
- Interviews are **set for 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-July**)
- Apply for Projects (**Jul-Sep 2023**)

Bowen and Conklin thanked ARDOT for their quick reviews throughout this procurement process.

**(11) COMMITTEE AND GROUP UPDATES**

**A. Active Transportation Committee (ACT)**

Elizabeth Bowen said the committee and subcommittee both met on May 19, 2022 and the subcommittee met on June 16, 2022. She said the subcommittee met on updating the NWA Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, including updates to community plans. She said they have developed online, in-person, and intercept surveys as part of the Public Outreach work. She said the public survey was extended to July 31, 2022, which doubled the number of respondents.

**B. NWA Open Space Coalition**

Elizabeth Bowen stated the group met July 26, 2022. They discussed a membership and dues program that they would like to implement. They talked about BIL opportunities, and a letter of support for Lake Francis conservation efforts. She also presented the following updates:



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- NWALT 300 acres purchased as Blackburn Bluffs Preserve
- NWALT 25 acres bird sanctuary in Tontitown,
- Ozark Land Trust – Baldwin area conservation for stream/lakeside birds
- City resolution update  
In pipeline: Rogers, Siloam, Pea Ridge, Greenland, Centerton, Springdale  
New for Pipeline: Lincoln, Cane Hill
- Next meeting scheduled: September 27, 2022 @ 10:00 am.

Bowen also shared the following link for a projection tool called Farms Under Threat by the American Farmland Trust, which shows scenarios for future development  
<http://development2040.farmland.org>.

**C. MS4 Stormwater Compliance Group**

Nicole Gibbs summarized the following:

- **Last Met:** June 15, 2022
- **Topics/Discussions:** Build Right Campaign (sediment control emphasis), the DEQ annual reports, power washing and regulations
- **Next meeting scheduled:** August 17, 2022 @ 10:30 am. (every two months on the third Wednesday)

**D. NWA GIS User Group**

Nicole Gibbs summarized the following:

- **Last Met:** June 14, 2022
- **Topics/Discussions:** 2022 aerial image data distribution, and upcoming ArcGIS Pro Webinars -July 26 and 27
- **Next meeting scheduled:** August 9, 2022 @ 10:30 am

**(12) PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Chris Keeney asked whether any comments had been received prior to the meeting. Tim Conklin said no comments have been received.

**(13) OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:**

Chair Mayor Keeney went over the future meetings as follows:

- **TAC Meeting** – Thursday, August 18, 2022 @ 10:30 AM
- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, August 24, 2022 @ 1:30 PM

Jeff Hawkins and Tim Conklin reminded the group that the August 24, 2022 meeting will be where the RPC/Policy Committee will award millions of dollars in project funding and asked everyone to please attend.

John McCurdy requested that the group consider implementing a regional vision for Hwy 265 similar to what has been implemented for Hwy 112 in order to preserve the high functionality of the eastern corridor, particularly as we see more and more connections onto it. He said he fears if we do not have something in place, we will continue to see pressure to signalize increasing numbers of intersections and it will become another 71B. He said it is a great road right now, but it will not be great for long if we do not manage it. Conklin said we will place a discussion item on next month's



**RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 AT 1:30 PM; APPROVED AUGUST 24, 2022**

TAC agenda. Hawkins said it is a good item for discussion, but we need to have the Cities at the table. He said we had this discussion way back when and we had cooperation from some and others were not interested in access management.

Chair Mayor Keeney asked whether there was any other business.

**16. ADJOURN**

With no other business, Chair, Mayor Chris Keeney adjourned the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 24<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2022:



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MAYOR CHRIS KEENEY, CHAIR, OR  
MAYOR PETER CHRISTIE, VICE CHAIR

ATTEST:

