

POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES –APRIL 25, 2017

APPROVED BY A MOTION MAY 16, 2017

Members Present: (Chairman), Commissioner John Ostlund, Board of County Commissioners; Councilman Chris Friedel, Billings City Council, Ward 3; Stefan Streeter, MDT District Office; Planning Board President Darell Tunnicliff, Yellowstone County Planning Board, Ward IV.

Staff Present: Scott Walker, Transportation Planner, Planning & Community Services Department; Tammy Deines, Planning Clerk

Conference Call Participants: Katie Potts, MDT Planning

1. Call to Order: Commissioner Ostlund called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m., Board of County Commissioners Board Room, Yellowstone County Courthouse and welcomed everyone in attendance.

2. Communication from the Audience: There was none.

3. Minutes of March 28, 2016-The minutes of March 28, 2016 were approved with a unanimous voice vote.

4. Old Business: There is no Old Business.

5. New Business

5a. Motion/Recommendation. 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program, (TIP), Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator, presenting.

Scott Walker gave a brief introduction and followed with a brief PowerPoint presentation which included an overview of the tables.

INTRODUCTION

Federal regulations require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) review and update their Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) periodically. The current 2017-21 TIP falls into this category and must be updated to maintain compliance with State and Federal requirements. This TIP is being presented for review due to cost updates to several projects. The projects listed in the TIP include the North By-Pass, 1st Avenue North, Zimmerman Trail and MET Bus Operating.

Discussion

Stefan Streeter noted the Interstate Rebuild project is included in the project revenue estimate table along with the North By-Pass project. Scott Walker pointed out the change in the cost estimate for the 27th Street project. Katie Potts, MDT, explained the correction is needed as they received a fiscal programming memo for the Right-of-Way phase. Per Commissioner Ostlund's request, Scott Walker gave the scope of the North By-Pass project and said both of the Interstate structures over the Yellowstone River will be replaced. He said the Zimmerman Trail project will be under construction next year; and will include a slight widening of the roadway, improved barrier protection on the

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corner, a small trail component, and a round-a-bout connection to Highway 3. The estimated timeline for completion of this project is late next year or earlier the following year.

Commissioner Ostlund called for a motion and recommendation for this agenda item.

Motion

Darrell Tunnicliff made a motion and it was seconded by Councilman Friedel to approve the 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program as presented by staff. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

6. Other Business

6a. Discussion. Traffic Count Map. Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator, presenting. Scott Walker distributed copies of the Traffic Count Map to the Committee members. This map is a snapshot of the average daily traffic at any given time at the designated points throughout the community. Darrell Tunnicliff asked if a trend line analysis is conducted and Scott noted the counts on Aronson Boulevard and Main Street. Stefan Streeter pointed out the relief provided to Main Street with the Bench Connection project. Commissioner Ostlund commented the Bypass project will fundamentally change traffic flows and the traffic load on Main Street. Councilman Friedel asked if staff can provide this information for the Downtown Study, and he said he intends to meet with City Administrator Tina Volek to discuss combining forces for the study.

Future Agenda Items for May 16, 2017: Billings Trail Master Plan update. Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator; Lora Mattox, Transportation Planner

Adjournment: 12:50 p.m.

Approved by a motion on May 16, 2017

