

# **POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE MINUTES April 18, 2023**

DRAFT TO APPROVED BY A MOTION

## **NOTICE**

Public comment will be taken only during the Public Comment periods as indicated on the agenda. Comments may be sent to Planning Staff via email before 10:00 AM on the meeting date. All e-mails received prior to this time will be read into the record for the public hearing.

**Member Participants:** Commissioner Mark Morse, Board of County Commissioners; Mayor Bill Cole, City of Billings; Planning Board President Dennis Cook, Yellowstone County Planning Board, Kurtis Schneiber, MDT

**Staff Participants:** Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator, Planning & Community Services Department; Tammy Deines, Planning Clerk; (Virtual); Lora Mattox, Transportation Planner

**Other Participants: Kenn Winegar, MDT Planning;** Mitch Buthod, MDT; Mike Taylor, Acting District Administrator, MDT; Samantha Woods, MDT Planning, Helena; Katie Potts, FWHA (Virtual)

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Morse called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **3. Public Comment/Communication from the Audience**

**A. Comments on items not on the agenda and requests to add items to future agendas.**

**B. Comments on items on the Non-public and Public Agenda Items**

There was no communication from the audience regarding agenda items or future agenda items.

## **4. Minutes of March 21, 2023**

### **Motion**

**A motion was made by Planning Board President President Cook and seconded by Mayor Cole to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.**

**4. Old Business:** There is no Old Business.

## **5. New Business**

**5a. Motion. Transportation Improvement Program, (TIP), Amendment #4. Scott Walker, Transportation Coordinator, Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manager, presenting.**

Scott Walker opened this agenda item and gave a brief introduction and review of the background below. He explained that the TIP tracks spending on projects within the MPO. Amendments are often needed due to project scope

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or projects costs. A detailed summary sheet handout was provided to the members of the Committee in the agenda packet. Staff has presented to the governing bodies prior to this meeting.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Based on individual formal actions of the members (Planning Board, Board of County Commissioners and Billings City Council) of the Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC), Planning Division MPO staff recommends the PCC approve the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

## **BACKGROUND**

Federal regulations require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) review and update their Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) periodically. Given timing and funding adjustments with some transportation and transit projects, the current Billings 2020-24 TIP must be amended to maintain compliance with State and Federal requirements. The TIP is a short-range program of highway and transit projects in the Billings MPO area and is prepared by City-County Planning Division staff in cooperation with state and local agencies. The purpose of the TIP is to provide the mechanism for scheduling federal funds for surface transportation projects, indicate regional priorities, and demonstrate a short range transportation vision for the area. A secondary purpose of the TIP is to provide information about other transportation projects in the urbanized area that are exempt from the TIP approval process, such as projects that do not utilize federal funds. This TIP amendment is being presented to the Billings PCC for final local adoption after individual formal actions by the members of the PCC. Staff has included and attached to this staff report a quick reference sheet indicating what project updates are included in this amendment.

### **Projects Modified Due to Change in Funding/Scope:**

- Billings Bypass -Updated Construction Cost
- Five Mile Road – Project Completed
- Railroad Overpass – Updated Cost (Earthwork, Construction)
- Johnson Lane Interchange – Updated Cost
- I-90 Yellowstone River Bridges - Bridge Cost Updates; Two-Way traffic on the new bridge has been initiated to allow for construction of the subsequent bridge
- Main Street/1st Avenue N. Intersection-Updated Construction Cost
- Underpass Avenue (@ 6th Avenue W.)- Updated Final Cost

**POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
 MINUTES April 18, 2023**

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- Exposition & 1st Avenue N. - Environmental/Storm Drain Updates Zoo Drive- Public Involvement/Update Cost-Overpass to Shiloh Rd
- 56th Street West Roundabouts at King & Central-Punch List
- 62nd Street W. Roundabout at Rimrock-ROW/Update Cost
- Transportation Alternatives - Updated Allocation. \$6.3 Million to begin process for vetting qualifying projects

**Discussion**

Commissioner Morse called for questions and discussion. Per Commissioner Morse’ request Scott Walker clarified the location of the Stage Coach Trail. Mayor Cole commented that the Skyline Trail is looking great.

**STAFF PRESENTATION: Rusty Logan, MET Transit Manager**

**FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5339 COMPETITIVE** The table now includes grant received for purchase of 4 electric buses, charging infrastructure, and a bus driver training simulator (grant required 5% spending on training and training tools).

**FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5310** Table updated with most recently available funding figures as well as recently completed Grant selections for Coordination Group projects to occur in FY23. The Projects table is updated to reflect grant programming to cover previous vehicle price escalations.

**TRANSADE** Updated with actual apportionment figures with estimates for funding moving forward based on recent apportionments.

**2020-2024 TIP AMENDMENT IV REVIEW SCHEDULE**

<b>Reviewing Body</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Notes/Result</b>
Technical Advisory Committee	February 23	Recommendation to Governing Bodies
Planning Board Discussion	March 14	Presentation, Public Hearing
Planning Board Action	March 28	Recommendation to PCC
City Council Work Session -Confirmed	April 3	Presentation
City Council Meeting	April 10	Recommendation to PCC
Commissioner Action	April 4	Presentation/Recommendation to PCC

# **POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE MINUTES April 18, 2023**

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## **Discussion**

Commissioner Morse called for questions and discussion. There were no questions for Rusty Logan regarding the Transit portion of the TIP.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment on this agenda item.

## **Motion**

**Motion by Mayor Cole, seconded by Planning Board President Dennis Cook to approve the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment as presented by staff and based on individual formal actions of the member (Planning Board, Board of County Commissioners, and the Billings City Council.**

## **Discussion**

There was no discussion on the motion. **The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.**

**6. Other Business** There is no Other Business.

## **7. Future Agenda Items: April 18, 2024**

- a. Transportation Alternative Program – Stage Coach Trail; Skyline Trail Projects.
- b. Transportation Plan Update.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 12:15 PM

**DRAFT. To be approved by a motion during the next scheduled meeting**

*Tamara L. Deines, Planning Clerk*