



Colorado Springs

El Paso County

Manitou Springs

Green Mountain Falls

**CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 3, 2007 - 1:30 p.m.
PPACG Lower Level Conference Room
15 S. 7th Street, Colorado Springs**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Citizen-At-Large

Mr. Vic Andrews

Mr. Tom Harold, Chair

Ms. Jan Doran, 1st Vice Chair

Ms. Bev Johnson

Citizen-At-Large Alternates

Mr. Al Brody

Mr. Justin McDonald, 2nd Vice Chair

Colorado Springs CTAB

Mr. Brian Risley

Mr. Joe Vaccaro

El Paso County HAC

Mr. David Sealander

Mr. Brian Wess

Green Mountain Falls

Ms. Beth Kosley

Manitou Springs

Mr. Ray Ferguson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Citizen-At-Large

Mr. Jack Blackwell

Colorado Springs CTAB

Ms. Jane Dillon

El Paso County HAC

Mr. Tom Rogers

Green Mountain Falls

1 Vacancy

Manitou Springs

Mr. Chris Verlo

OTHERS PRESENT

Citizens

Staff of Member Governments

PIKES PEAK RTA STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Barb Louricas, Recording Secretary

Ms. Beverly Majewski, Financial Manager

Mr. Rick Sonnenburg, Program/Contracts Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Tom Harold established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Harold read the objective of the committee.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Harold requested that Agenda Item No. 6, *Draft Revisions to First Amendment to Comprehensive IGA with City of Manitou Springs*, and Agenda Item No. 9A, *Maintenance of Effort Presentations*, be removed from the agenda.

Mr. Sealander made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Brian Risley introduced himself and indicated that he is representing the City of Colorado Springs CTAB. Mr. Ray Ferguson introduced himself and indicated that he is representing the City of Manitou Springs.

3. SELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Rick Sonnenburg, Pikes Peak RTA Program/Contracts Manager, requested nominations for the position of Chair of the Pikes Peak RTA Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC).

Mr. Al Brody made a motion to nominate Mr. Tom Harold as Chair of the Pikes Peak RTA CAC and close the nominations. Ms. Johnson seconded the motions. The motions passed by unanimous vote.

Ms. Johnson made a motion to nominate Ms. Jan Doran as 1st Vice Chair and close the nominations. Mr. Joe Vaccaro seconded the motions. The motions passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Brian Wess and Ms. Beth Kosley arrived at 1:42 p.m.

Mr. Sealander made a motion to nominate Mr. Justin McDonald and close the nominations. Mr. Vaccaro seconded the motions. The motions passed by unanimous vote.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Harold requested that Ms. Mary Scott, City of Colorado Springs Public Communications, make a presentation regarding the Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

Ms. Mary Scott handed out a memorandum requesting clarification on public outreach activities for some of the larger Pikes Peak RTA capital projects. Ms. Scott said that the outreach activities for the COSMIX projects are performed by Praco.

Ms. Scott requested that each participating government be permitted to spend up to .25% in each capital project for outreach activities and requested direction on the type of event/celebration that may be planned—construction kick-off, mid-event party, and construction completion event.

Mr. Cam McNair, City of Colorado Springs City Engineer, said that there are funds in the contracts for the contractor to have small events, i.e., flyers, door hangers, monthly reports, public relations requirements of the contractor.

Ms. Beth Kosley said that during the SCIP Program, numerous celebratory events were held when projects were completed and inquired what the intent was of the original Pikes Peak RTA committee. Mr. Vaccaro indicated that media coverage and signage are important public relation functions but cautions to take a conservative approach to funding events.

Mr. Harold said that the Ad Hoc subcommittee should discuss the issue and make a recommendation to the Board. Mr. Vic Andrews said that public outreach is important and signage can be left up after a project is completed. Mr. Andrews said that fiscal responsibility should be exercised.

Ms. Jan Doran said that neighborhoods should be a part of the public relations effort.

Mr. Sonnenburg said: 1) the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board indicated that there should be no food or drink at the public relations events paid by the Pikes Peak RTA; 2) the Board will probably consider that .25% is too high for a public relations budget; and 3) when invoices are presented for payment, will the Pikes Peak RTA staff be expected to question the expenses.

Mr. Harold said that this is a good issue for the Ad Hoc subcommittee to undertake to define some parameters. The Ad Hoc subcommittee consists of Mr. Wess, Mr. McDonald, Ms. Scott, and Mr. Ron Cole of El Paso County.

Ms. Doran made a motion to recommend to the Pikes Peak RTA Board to fund the Austin Bluffs/Union Interchange project public relations event to include food, drink, and room rental not to exceed \$1,500. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote with one dissenting vote by Mr. Vaccaro.

Mr. Harold requested that the Ad Hoc subcommittee meet as soon as possible.

There were no other public comments.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 6, 2006 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Mr. Brody made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Sealander seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

6. CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS: BIJOU BRIDGE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR BIJOU/SPRUCE INTERSECTION AND LANDSCAPING

Mr. Cam McNair, City of Colorado Springs City Engineer, explained that improvements will be made to the Bijou Bridge through the COSMIX project. Enhancements have been made to the aesthetics funded through the Pikes Peak RTA, the Downtown Partnership, and the Downtown Parking fund.

Mr. Jerry Banks, City of Colorado Springs City Engineering, described the current landscaping design for the intersection as very basic landscaping. He requested funds from the Pikes Peak RTA so that landscaping can be upgraded for an enhanced gateway into the downtown area.

Ms. Doran inquired if the maintenance funds could be used to maintain the landscaping. Mr. McNair indicated that either capital or maintenance funds could pay for the landscaping and that maintenance funds would be appropriate use of the Pikes Peak RTA funds to maintain the landscaping.

Ms. Beth Kosley recused herself from the vote on the issue because she works for the Downtown Partnership and was on a working committee regarding the landscaping of the intersection. Ms. Kosley said that the Bijou Bridge Intersection is an important gateway into the downtown area and important that it be enhanced.

Mr. Al Brody indicated that the mobility issues of the region need to be a priority before landscaping.

Mr. Sonnenburg noted that using Pikes Peak RTA maintenance funds for the perpetual maintenance of landscaping for every capital project would result in fewer maintenance projects being completed. Mr. Sonnenburg said that if the landscaping maintenance involved writing checks to an entity for their staff time to provide the maintenance, this would be in violation of the IGA. Mr. McNair said that improving transportation systems includes all portions of the projects including landscaping.

Mr. Sealander is concerned that this project has had cost increases and other construction costs are rising and doesn't believe that the Pikes Peak RTA should not fund the costs. Mr. Vaccaro said that the committee has been formed to protect public funds and be fiscally responsible.

Mr. Banks said that after construction there will be a lane misalignment at the western portion of the intersection at the corner of Bijou Street and Spruce Street that creates a six-foot lane offset. The Rockrimmon Constructors and the COSMIX project will not provide funding for the realignment. Mr. Banks requested that the Pikes Peak RTA approve funding so that the existing roadway can be widened to realignment the intersection for \$70,000.

Mr. McNair suggested that the funding for these projects can be taken out of current reserve funds, from 2006 revenue overages, or the 2007 maintenance funds. Mr. McNair said that there is no funding available from the City of Colorado Springs. Mr. McNair indicated that the COSMIX team needs to know of any approved upgraded landscaping by February.

Mr. Vic Andrews made a motion to recommend to the Board that they approve the expenditure of \$70,000 for realignment of the western end of the Bijou Street Bridge Intersection and encourage the City of Colorado Springs to work with Rockrimmon Constructors and CDOT on the necessary intersection improvements. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion.

Mr. Rob MacDonald, Pikes Peak RTA Board Secretary, requested clarification on the \$70,000. Mr. MacDonald said that the additional work to the intersection is not on the Pikes Peak RTA A, B, or C capital project lists. Although I-25 and Bijou Bridge Interchange is listed, the project location is the intersection at Bijou Street and Spruce Street. Mr. MacDonald said that the additional funding is a budget change and would need to follow the budget change process.

The motion passed by majority vote, with a dissenting vote by Mr. Vaccaro and Ms. Kosley recusing herself.

Mr. McDonald requested a revised streetscape improvement plan that would use material appropriate to the Colorado climate with weed proofing materials. Mr. McNair indicated that the landscaping design could be modified, and the design will be brought back in February. Mr. Sealander requested that a plan for landscaping for all of the gateway bridges be developed and brought back in February.

Ms. Doran made a motion to postpone the vote on the landscaping plan. Mr. Sealander seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. 2007 CAPITAL, MAINTENANCE, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND ADMINISTRATION CONTRACTS

City of Colorado Springs

Mr. Ron Mitchell, Colorado Springs Public Works Director, requested approval of six contracts for the City of Colorado Springs.

1. Blue Ridge Construction, Inc., Maintenance (Bridge Repairs, Phase 3), \$358,917
2. Pete Sprouse Construction, Maintenance (Bridge Debris Removal), \$49,200
3. CTL Thompson, Inc., Capital (Austin Bluffs/Union Interchange—Materials Testing Services), \$384,005
4. Dobco, Maintenance (Safety & Traffic Operations), \$200,000
5. TRAX Construction, Inc., Capital & Maintenance (Roadway Safety & Traffic Operations), \$486,180

6. Data Transfer Solutions (Change Order No. 2), Maintenance (Safety & Traffic Operations), \$120,000

Mr. Mitchell gave the details of each of the contracts.

Ms. Johnson made a motion to approve the six (6) contracts for the City of Colorado Springs. Mr. Wess seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote

8. OTHER REPORTS

Financial Reports

There were no questions.

Report of Recent Board Actions

Mr. Sonnenburg indicated that the Board made the following decisions related to Silver Key: 1) Silver Key could keep funding that was paid to Silver Key for 2006 and receive funding for the remainder of the year; 2) fund Silver Key for \$100,000 out of the Transit budget for 2007; and 3) Silver Key will receive an additional \$100,000 for 2007 from the Transit reserves; and 4) additional funding for 2007 will be addressed when the excess revenues for FY-2006 are known in March.

Mr. Sonnenburg indicated that Mr. Kelly Finnegan, Silver Key Chief Financial Officer, would like to receive funding at \$5 per trip. Mr. Harold said he requested data from Silver Key that justifies the funding request.

City of Colorado Springs FREX Fare Increase

Ms. Sherre Ritenour, City of Colorado Springs Transit Services Manager, said that Nelson/Nygaard Consultants will make a presentation at the January 22, 2007 Colorado Springs City Council meeting which will include a recommendation for a fare increase. Ms. Ritenour said that the fare increase will become effective in February.

Ms. Ritenour said that if Senate Bill-01 funding had not been provided to FREX, the operations would have ceased operation as of December 31, 2006.

Ms. Kosley departed the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

City of Colorado Springs Updated Contract Lists for Transit Services and Mountain Metropolitan Transit

Ms. Ritenour distributed an updated contract list for Transit Services.

City of Colorado Springs Update on Cimarron Street Bridge Over Conejos Street

There were no questions.

City of Colorado Springs Monthly Change Order Report

There were no questions.

City of Colorado Springs Right-of-Way and Easements Acquisition Report

There were no questions.

City of Colorado Springs Monthly Public Works Projects Update

There were no questions.

Staff Field Review Report

There were no questions.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no comments

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Harold adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.