

Cheyenne Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Committee Meeting

December 18, 2024

3:30 PM

Mayor's Conference Room



Attendance:

Voting Members:

Patrick Collins
Linda Heath
Ralph Tarango

City of Cheyenne, Mayor, Chair
Laramie County Commissioner, Vice-Chair
WYDOT District Engineer

Guests:

Renee Smith
Richard Duran
Vicki Nemecek
Brenden Schaefer
Juli Monahan
Pete Laybourn
Charles Bloom
Ben Weaver
Thomas Cobb
Molly Bennett

City of Cheyenne-Grants Manager-Zoom
Statewide Planner FHWA
City Public Works
WYDOT
WDOT Planning
Councilman-City of Wyoming City Council
Planning and Development Director
Stantec Consultant
City Engineer
LCPW

Staff:

Christopher Yaney
Rebecca Bourlier
Jennifer Corso

MPO Director
MPO Office Manager
MPO GIS Coordinator

1. Approval of Minutes from last meeting- Corrections-County Commissioner Linda Heath made motion to approve minutes from August 28, 2024, with correction made for wrong meeting location. Motion passed with all approved. Discussed incorrect meeting location and motion passed to approve.

2. Safe Routes to School- Christopher Yaney discussed. MPO contracted with Stantec for this. Contract budget amount \$282,523.62 was met with remainder left over \$23,412.64.

Ben Weaver with Stantec conducted a presentation for this project update as below presented via power point:

Ongoing project management with final plan completion update October 2024. Public engagement sessions with each project completion goal. Everything also posted on MPO website.

An overview of plan development also discussed identifying process to make sure that students access routes safer overall goal.

Maps available for all schools with information for improvement-recommendations as well as entity controlling the infrastructure also included.

Once the information is reviewed then can be looked at for possible grant information and also then possible roll out to other entities.

Mayor Collins question- Cost is located under each of the recommendations-question asked how much entire process would cost and it was discussed that there wasn't a set dollar amount as each initiative would be tailored to a specific entity.

Discussed that there were schools not included and also then impact of this-also cost-wanted to know what was still needed to put into plan.

Discussed then why private schools were not included. Traffic was one factor on this depending on location of school. Discussed that would like to find out ways to include all schools if possible.

Question on pedestrian count and warrants for sidewalks also. WDOT did discuss that there was engineering work that would need to be implemented for this due to safety concerns.

Question also regarding current information for streets and pedestrians so that there isn't a question when information is rolled out to public and implemented.

Question due to grant funding if there is extra that can be negotiated for the schools that were left out.

Discussed all charter schools were noted as being listed, unless there were any that were not open at the time that the study was conducted.

Boundary has also changed that could include another additional school-Wiladsen discussed as being included.

Statement regarding engineering disclaimer. It was discussed that this should be made as visible as possible-possibly a few pages within the document-due to public issues questions and concerns.

Discussed why monies could not be spent on public schools with federal aid. Discussed shouldn't be any issues with this as long as this wasn't used for the actual school itself-public safety should not impact this.

Discussed outline of document also so that this flows better for viewing for everyone. Discussed that this could be confusing for general public.

Christopher Yaney discussed that next step that the plan will be sent to city and county planning commissions to review and make comments and then will go to council and commissioners-January planning commission-February council and commissioners.

Discussed recommendation to work on adding schools and verbiage as an addendum after this is rolled out in the coming months.

Group suggested a complete report before this gets submitted to committee as a completed document may look better than adding additions. Discussed that these changes could be made in a few months but no specific timeframe given. Discussed not to have a presentation on all schools, just presentation on schools added when this is done, just document review.

3. West Crow Creek Greenway-Christopher Yaney discussed that this is managed by Jean Anderson-Shrednik in Planning Department. There was setback due to another project that engineering was completing for the path. Contract amount \$134,997.54, remaining \$75,436.13. Project is moving along well. Budget was under and discussed monies remaining. Discussed that this should be on target for this fiscal year.

4. Travel Demand Model Update-Christopher Yaney discussed that received that Kimley Horn received all data from MPO. Have not yet seen billing for project. Estimated to be around 3 months long. Contract amount still outstanding \$41,407.40, Kimley Horn is on project.

5. Connect 2050-Christopher Yaney discussed. Kimley Horn has moved from Finance Committee to City Council for approval in November. Contract is \$199,841.82. Asked for data and completion and they are working on information. Asked for previous information for the plan 2045 to review. Scheduled to have completed December 2025.

6. Passenger Rail Site Selection-Christopher Yaney discussed. Quandel was consultant for presentation to passenger rail coalition group and feedback received. Open house also same date around 40 people were present for this. 150 comments on survey received. Information advertised several places and feedback has been very helpful.

Identified problem areas based on this information. Three site selections were reviewed and top 2 will be reviewed and addressed further. Reed Ave Corridor (west side of tracks, possibly right at steam plant) and Happy Jack Road. Asked to have this reviewed as more than passenger rail site location, possible bussing and transit route and loop.

Rail on Happy Jack discussed as this is being reviewed as possibly 2 or 3 levels-2 or 3 story building, new line adjacent to existing and then crosswalk to get across from building, parking on main level for short term and long term parking.

7. Public Participation Plan-Christopher Yaney discussed. Live document that needs to be updated periodically. Went through Title VI with Cheyenne Transit program when they had audit with the FTA. Discussed then that public participation plan would need to be updated as well. Discussion that this information will be updated in house. Plan to be updated every 3 years to go along with the Title VI audits that coincide.

Public Participation Plan-Approval for this needed-Ralph Tarango moved to approve and Linda Heath County Commissioner 2nd approval. Motion approved.

Linda Heath, County Commissioner, recommended to look at LCSS for possible outreach.

8. Local Construction Project Update-Thomas Cobb discussed-construction. Converse overlay-Dell Range continuing but will be shut down for winter this week-planned mill and overlay next summer.

Pedestrian lighting on I-80 murals and overpass have been installed.

9. Laramie County Projects-Molly Bennett discussed. Some areas within Archer complex that are completed-Road 142 six penny project is also substantially completed. Discussed that upcoming projects will be delayed only because they do not have monies for completion and may need grant funding.

10. WYDOT Update-Ralph Tarango discussed.

US 30 open to traffic and project has been successful.

College Drive to I-25 S Greeley Hwy almost complete.

Yellowstone to Kennedy concrete slab replacement.

I-80 Round top to Central-finished but issues with pavement so will need to come back next year to address those issues.

I-80 over-height detection system is working now, long term fix is to lower interstate under BNSF no guarantee that this will work but this will tie into the long term I-25/80 project.

I-25 SB on ramp at Central-merge completed and this system is working well also.

Upcoming 2025 projects:

Warren Ave overlay

US 30 Christensen to Archer-will be overlaid and in future will expand to 4 lanes with turn lanes-will be deferred to future years.

College Drive-S Greeley-overlay and replacement of concrete at intersection.

College & 12th Ave replacement of concrete intersection.

I-25 Northbound Missile drive onramp replacement-detour routes needed.

Chip seal also will be planned for this year on main streets-College Drive, Four Mile Road, Roundtop Road.

Pedestrian overpass lighting upgrades discussed-I-25 overpass near McCormick JH and I-80 overpass east of Parsley Blvd. Councilman Pete Laybourn question on overpass east of Parsley as to if there was lighting there. Center poll removed and not replaced but now this will all be replaced and working.

Linda Heath County Commissioner question-Issues with I-25 Missile drive onramp and access due to emergency vehicles and which entrances are open at base and can slow response time. Mayor Collins discussed that there will be meeting regarding this so that there isn't any confusion going forward.

Linda Heath County Commissioner question-Overpass on College if BNSF is working with anyone on this. Issues with railroad on another project so they believe that this will be put on list and grant has been received but not sure if agreement is in place. Brenden Schaefer discussed that there is roughly 40 million dollar estimate on this project and that they will probably be further on this by 2030 if the grant comes in and design in place.

Ralph Tarango discussed that they are having monthly meetings to discuss projects.

Richard Duran announced that he is leaving position as Statewide Planner and moving to new position in March. Team lead is taking over as interim while transition is occurring and he will forward contact information for this.

11. Fiscal Year Performance Report-Christopher Yaney discussed. Discussed baseline was taken from 2022 but carryover from this year may not be correct numbers. Once information is corrected and updated then need to send off for final review without appendix listed.

Ralph Tarango motioned to approve review and Linda Heath County Commissioner 2nd. Motion approved and passed and financial report adopted.

Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.