



MINUTES

**Ecosystem Connectivity Mitigation
Advisory Committee (EMAC)
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 23, 2018
10:00 AM**

**Yavapai County
Training Room
1120 Commerce Drive
Prescott, AZ 86305**

CYMPO Ecosystem Connectivity Mitigation Advisory Committee

Chair	Kendra Bull, Prescott National Forest
Vice-Chair	Tammy DeWitt, Yavapai County Development Services
Member	Chuck Budinger, ADOT Northwest District
Member	Elizabeth Johnston, Arizona Game and Fish
Member	Ron James, Private Citizen
Member	J. D. Greenberg, Private Citizen
Member	Deb Pastor, Private Citizen

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair DeWitt- absent
Member Johnston- absent
Member Pastor- arrived 10:05 am

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

No announcements or updates were provided.

3. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 12, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION

Member Greenberg motioned to approve the June 12, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Ecosystem Connectivity and Mitigation Advisory Committee. Member James seconded the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

4. UPDATE OF UPCOMING HIGHWAY 69-WIDENING DESIGN PROJECT

Mr. Bridges explained design selection for Highway 69-Widening Design Project has not been completed yet. Once selection is complete, EMAC members will be invited to design meetings.

Member of the public, Jeff Gagnon (Arizona Game and Fish), inquired about who can be considered to participate in selection committee for Hwy 69-widening design project.

5. ACCEPTABLE DATA SOURCES TO BE USED FOR GRANTS AND PROJECT STUDIES

(Scott Sprague, AZ Game & Fish)

Mr. Sprague provided PowerPoint presentation to inform EMAC of acceptable data sources to be used for grants and studies. Introduced cellphone app called “Collector” available to AZ Game & Fish employees. Introduced another program called iNaturalist, which allows citizens to document information and attach photos if possible. Mr. Sprague noted that information recorded in iNaturalist will only be referenced if validated by official biologist. Member Budinger inquired about registering ADOT employees for this program. Mr. Sprague confirmed training can be provided to ADOT employees.

Mr. Bridges inquired if local Public Works personnel could be included, and how EMAC can access data from such programs to for the purpose of applying for grants. Mr. Sprague explained requesting data directly Arizona Game and Fish is currently best option, but may also register CYMPO as partner agency to be able to access data directly. Mr. Sprague noted training session would be needed for each agency interested in using the program. Member Greenburg inquired what outlet the public should use. Mr. Sprague explained iNaturalist is likely best way to contribute collision data, but specified that Arizona Game and Fish does not endorse the public in collecting this information.

Member of public, Sally Davidson, explained issues with Pronghorn crossing. Explained possibilities to raise funding for crossings through partnerships.

6. POTENTIAL GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE

Mr. Bridges explained this will be a reoccurring agenda item to keep committee updated with funding opportunities. Ms. Stotler suggested web searches for grant opportunities and explained Grants.gov is a helpful resource. Member Greenberg inquired about partnering with large organizations to publicize initiative to support wildlife. Ms. Stotler confirmed possibility and encouraged research.

7. ADOT PRESENTATION TO ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS (AGC)

(Chuck Budinger, ADOT)

Member Budinger provided presentation called “Ecologically Regenerative Methods for Land Development in the Rocky Mountain West by Preserving Wildlife and Habitat”. Explained importance of mitigating barriers to wildlife connectivity.

- Member of public, Jeff Gagnon (Arizona Game and Fish), explained that Nevada DOT recently constructed 5 or 6 concrete overpasses costing about \$2 million each.
- Scott Sprague explained there are a few groups in Phoenix, Central Arizona Conservation Alliance (CAZCA) and White Tank Conservancy that are working on countywide connectivity. Such groups are attempting to incorporate such ideas at design level.
- Member of public, Sally Davidson, encouraged committee that public has a desire to see ecosystem sustainability.

8. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

This item is to provide an opportunity for presentation of comments by the public on subjects *not on the agenda*. Individuals wishing to address the Committee need not request permission in advance and are limited to three (3) minutes.

Member of the public, Thomas Slaback, requested to receive meeting Minutes.

Member of the public, Sally Davidson, requested to receive agendas as well as meeting Minutes.

9. CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Presentation from Kim Shawna with Nature Conservancy
- Update of Highway 69-Widening Design Project
- Update of CYMPO 2045 Regional Transportation Plan

10. ADJOURNMENT 12:00 PM

CYMPO endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons in need of foreign language assistance or with disabilities. Please call (928) 442-5730 or e-mail Allison.McCarthy@yavapai.us, 72 hours prior to the meeting to request a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting.