



SPECIAL MEETING MEETING

**Ecosystem Connectivity Mitigation
Advisory Committee
(EMAC)
1:00 PM**

**Monday, October 18, 2021
Training Room
Yavapai County Development Services
1120 Commerce Drive, Prescott**

****This meeting is being held in-person and via Zoom Webinar***

Members of the Public may join the Zoom meeting as an "attendee" by accessing:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hw45icpBQaiAJEiudeQAww,

or may view the live stream of the meeting on the CYMPO YouTube page at:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUXH6D19fFNp9wnPVRNoMjPeW8hVlyqg-> or Google "CYMPO YouTube Page"

CYMPO Ecosystem Connectivity Mitigation Advisory Committee

Chair	Tammy DeWitt, City of Prescott
Vice-Chair	Elizabeth Johnston, Arizona Game and Fish
Member	Chuck Budinger, ADOT Northwest District
Member	Francisco Anaya, Prescott National Forest
Member	J. D. Greenberg, Private Citizen
Member	Deb Pastor, Private Citizen
Member	Private Citizen – VACANT

Mission Statement:

The mission of the EMAC is to study and advocate for the preservation of interconnected eco-systems in the CYMPO Region that will integrate land use and mitigation for natural resource protection, and wildlife habitats into the regional transportation planning and design program.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Member Anaya absent. One private citizen position is vacant. Vice-Chair Johnston and Member Pastor were present via Zoom Webinar, all other members present in-person.

2. TITLE VI POLICY AND MEETING PROCEDURES

*Allison McCarthy, CYMPO Administrative Assistant
(Task #100)*

CYMPO complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related Nondiscrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. Members of the public may review the CYMPO Title VI Plan, and submit a Self-Identification survey by accessing the CYMPO website.

A reminder to those attending the meeting: 1) please keep your line on mute until you wish to speak, 2) voting will take place by rollcall.

This meeting is available for public viewing on the CYMPO YouTube page.

3. **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 Board need not request permission in advance and are limited to three (3) minutes.

Instructions for virtual meeting: Those who wish to participate in the CYMPO Executive Board meeting can access the meeting by using the Zoom Webinar link at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hW45icpBQaiAJEiudeQAwv. Since this is a virtual conference meeting everyone will be muted when they call into the meeting. Attendees may type comments in the “Q&A” feature or use the “Raise My Hand” feature to request to make a verbal comment.

No comments were received.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES**

No updates were provided.

5. **CYMPO UPDATES**

*Vincent Gallegos, CYMPO Executive Director
(Task #100)*

- Open private citizen position

Mr. Gallegos introduced Kimberly Blanco as CYMPO’s new Transit Planner.

Mr. Gallegos also noted that Member James has resigned from the EMAC. Requested that EMAC members assist in collecting nomination forms to fill the vacant private citizen position.

Also noted upcoming meeting with the City of Prescott to discuss a future Sundog Connector public meeting.

6. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL 26, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE EMAC**

*Vincent Gallegos, CYMPO Executive Director
(Task #100)*

MOTION

Vice-Chair Johnston motioned to approve the August 26, 2021 regular meeting minutes of the EMAC. Member Greenberg seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

7. **REVIEW, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE**

*Vincent Gallegos, CYMPO Executive Director
(Task #100)*

Madam Chair DeWitt noted the option to schedule additional meetings as needed throughout the year.

MOTION

Member Budinger motioned to approve the 2022 meeting schedule for the EMAC. Vice-Chair Johnston seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

8. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE SUNDOG CONNECTOR DESIGN CONCEPT REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

*Daniel Harmonick, CYMPO Transportation Planner
(Task #200)*

Mr. Harmonick explained that the Request for Proposals for the Sundog Connector Design Concept Report and Environmental Overview is anticipated to advertise in November, and work to begin in early March 2022.

Member Greenberg inquired if the concerns of the EMAC will be forwarded to the CYMPO Executive Board. Mr. Harmonick explained that any recommendations from the EMAC will be forwarded to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), by the TAC liaison, to be considered for recommendation to the Executive Board.

Dan Cherry, Yavapai County Public Works Director and TAC Liaison for the EMAC, clarified that EMAC members may provide comments to the Executive Board as citizens, outside of the EMAC, during the call to public.

Member of the public, Barbara Jacobsen, inquired about why CYMPO is looking to hold off on a public meeting for the Sundog Connector project. Also expressed concern about EMAC's inclusion in the process.

Madam Chair DeWitt explained that the EMAC is currently reviewing a draft scope of work for a planning study that will begin in early 2022. Mr. Harmonick explained the scope of work being presented today is for a planning study to provide a 15% design plan for the Sundog Connector project, and staff is seeking any recommended changes to the scope from the EMAC.

Mr. Gallegos explained that the public will have several opportunities to provide comments over the course of the design phase of the project, which could take several years.

Mr. Cherry inquired if a wildlife corridor has been identified in the area of the proposed project. Vice-Chair Johnston requested a shape file to be able to research potential existing wildlife corridors.

Member Budinger suggested adding language to evaluate previous studies.

Member of the public, Barbara Jacobsen, suggested including more specific requests.

Mr. Cherry suggested including the collection of additional data as needed. Vice-Chair Johnston noted she will consult with Arizona Game and Fish staff to identify data that has already been collected.

Mr. Litteer, ADOT Northwest District Senior Transportation Engineer and CYMPO TAC member, noted the scope of this project may be useful in identifying a more detailed scope of work for the next phase of design.

Member Budinger summarized the EMAC's recommendation to include language to review and incorporate past studies and evaluate and coordinate new data collection.

9. UPDATE OF STATEWIDE WILDLIFE-VEHICLE MITIGATION PLAN

Chuck Budinger, ADOT Northwest District

Member Budinger provided an update of the Statewide Wildlife Vehicle Mitigation Plan.

10. ADJOURNMENT 2:16PM

*CYMPO endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons in need of foreign language assistance or with disabilities. However, during these trying times, the accommodations we can provide are limited. Please e-mail Allison.McCarthy@yavapai.us, **72 hours** prior to the meeting to request a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting.*