



MEETING MINUTES

**Ecosystem Connectivity Mitigation
Advisory Committee
(EMAC)
10:00 AM**

**Monday, June 27, 2022
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_4Axa_TncSC2hOURiSKuhgw,

Or by calling 1-602-753-0140, Webinar ID: 821 4395 2906, Passcode: 790867

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	John Pratt
CYMPO Staff Liaison	Lindsay Post
TAC Liaison	Dan Cherry

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

Vice-Chair Johnston, Member Anaya, and Member Pratt were absent. Member Pastor attended virtually via Zoom.

A reminder to those attending the meeting, please keep your line on mute until you wish to speak.

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.

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_4Axa_TncSC2hOURiSKuhgw. 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.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES**

Ms. Post announced that staff is preparing to conduct an Active Transportation Plan.

5. **CYMPO UPDATES**

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

Mr. Gallegos announced that, through the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) funding initiative for transportation funding in Greater Arizona, CYMPO is receiving \$3 million for improvements to the SR89 to SR89A On-Ramps. Noted that the estimated total project cost is \$5.5 million, and explained that ADOT may contribute District Minor Funds to fund the additional \$2.5 million needed.

Mr. Gallegos also announced that CYMPO is receiving \$1.5 million to contribute to a roundabout at the intersection of SR69 and SR169. Noted that ADOT is managing the project and contributing over \$3 million to the project.

Mr. Gallegos also announced that Bryn Stotler will be rejoining CYMPO staff as a Planner on June 30th.

6. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL 25, 2022 MEETING MINUTES OF THE EMAC**

MOTION

Member Greenberg motioned to approve the April 25th, 2022 meeting minutes of the EMAC. Member Budinger seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

7. **REVIEW, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #2022-02 FOR PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE ON GLASSFORD HILL**

*Lindsay Post, CYMPO Transportation Planner
(Task #100)*

Ms. Post presented the draft resolution to the EMAC. Member Greenberg requested that the resolution reflect EMAC’s support for the preservation of open space beginning in April. Mr. Cherry suggested adding reference to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Prescott Valley, City of Prescott, and Yavapai County to the resolution.

Member Budinger suggested additional language to be included. Member Greenberg noted that the EMAC’s support of the purchase of open space on Glassford Hill Road is unique in its focus on the preservation of wildlife habitat and connectivity.

MOTION

Member Budinger motioned to recommend approval of Resolution #2022-02. Member Greenberg seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

8. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE SUNDOG CONNECTOR DESIGN CONCEPT REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW PROJECT

*Lindsay Post, CYMPO Transportation Planner
(Task #200)*

Ms. Post presented the Sundog Connector webpage, and reviewed the project timeline. Also reviewed questions posed to those who attended the Stakeholder meeting held in June. Mr. Gallegos requested that EMAC members forward any comments from the public to CYMPO to be considered during the project. Member Greenberg noted that it would be beneficial to educate the public on the process and timeline of road projects.

Member Greenberg also suggested stating on the Sundog Connector webpage that the EMAC will be actively involved in the planning process. Madam Chair DeWitt noted that in order for comments to be properly handled, public comments related to the Sundog Connector Design Concept Report and Environmental Overview (DCR & EO) should be provided during the scheduled Stakeholder Meetings and Public Outreach Meetings rather than at EMAC meetings.

Ms. Post read a comment provided by Joanne Oellers, “I suggest expanding the Facebook page instead of engaging in Nextdoor. Isn’t AECOM doing outreach?”. Ms. Post replied, yes AECOM is developing a Public Involvement Plan for the project. Mr. Cherry noted that the email distribution is a good method for members of the public to receive information regarding the project.

9. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE SR69 URBANIZED CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN

*Vincent Gallegos, CYMPO Executive Director
Lindsay Post, CYMPO Transportation Planner
(Task #200)*

Mr. Gallegos explained that the SR69 Urbanized Corridor Master Plan is the next project in line in CYMPO Transportation Improvement Program, following the Sundog Connector DCR & EO. Also explained that it is the goal of CYMPO to have both the Sundog Connector DCR & EO and SR69 Urbanized Corridor Master Plan completed around the same time in order to provide decision makers with the most information when considering both projects.

Mr. Gallegos noted that the SR69 Master Plan will stretch 15.5 miles from SR89 to the intersection of SR169. Noted that the intent of the study is to identify innovative improvements to safety and capacity, taking into consideration restrictions related to land and funding. Mr. Gallegos provided an example noting that the one mile widening project taking place on SR69 between Prescott Lakes Parkway and Frontier Village has been in the works for 8 years at a cost of \$13 million.

Ms. Post reviewed the project solicitation schedule and scope of work. Noted that a goal for the project is to produce a list of prioritized segments that can be improved throughout the SR69 corridor.

10. REVIEW, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PURSUIT OF FUNDING FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT (IIJA)

Lindsay Post, CYMPO Transportation Planner

(Task #100)

Ms. Post briefly reviewed language from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) regarding initiatives for wildlife crossings and wildlife collisions.

Member Budinger noted that CYMPO would be eligible to receive a grant under a pilot program, and suggested that such funding may be helpful in collecting information related to wildlife migrations in areas of planned CYMPO projects.

Mr. Cherry explained that it is important to establish a historical process, through planning efforts, to be in a good position to pursue for federal funding.

11. ADJOURNMENT 11:40AM

CYMPO endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons in need of language assistance or with disabilities. Please call (928)442-5730 or e-mail Allison.McCarthy@yavapaiaz.gov 72 hours prior to the meeting requesting reasonable accommodations.

CYMPO se esfuerza por hacer que todas las reuniones públicas sean accesibles para las personas que necesitan asistencia con el idioma o con discapacidades. Llame al (928) 442-5730 o envíe un correo electrónico a Allison.McCarthy@yavapaiaz.gov 72 horas antes de la reunión para solicitar adaptaciones razonables.