

**CITY OF CHEYENNE
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
November 16, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Palmquist, Chair; Phillip Regeski, Vice Chair; Phillip Griggs, Secretary; and Brian Tyrrell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ted Gertsch, Jeremy Arneson, and James Bowers

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Charles W. Bloom, Planning and Development Director; Tom Cobb, City Engineer; Tom Mason, MPO Director; Connor White, Planner; Mark Christensen, Planner; and Alessandra McCoy Fakelman, Staff Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Mark Rinne, Council President; Barbara Boyd, MPO Citizens Advisory Committee

Greg Palmquist, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

Roll Call was taken by Connor White, Planner. There was a quorum with 4 members present.

ITEM 1: Connect 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan, Resolution: A resolution by the Planning Commission adopting the Connect 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Connect 2045 serves as the Cheyenne region's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which defines the region's strategy for creating a regional transportation system that accommodates the current mobility needs of residents, while also looking to the future. It is a 25-year multimodal plan developed in conjunction with the Cheyenne MPO member jurisdictions, Laramie County, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT). The LRTP addresses all modes of transportation, including automobile, bicycle, pedestrian, transit, truck, air, and rail movements. The LRTP is updated once every five years, enabling the plan to evolve as the region continues to grow and develop. This LRTP was prepared in accordance with all federal requirements.

Kimley Horn – Consultants – Allison Fluitt and Chris Joannes
Tom Mason – Office Representative

Mr. Mason started by saying the number one job of an MPO is to produce a Master Transportation Plan for the urban area. He introduced the consultants from Kimley Horn who have been working on the project for over a year. He said the Plan is of great importance to the Cheyenne area and needs to be complete by end of the calendar year because the Interim Master Transportation Plan expires on December 31, 2020. This Plan must be adopted so that Federally funded projects can receive funding. The County Planning Commission recommended approval to the Board of County Commissions last week. Today, this Commission will hold the public hearing to approve the adopting resolution, and then the City Governing Body will certify the resolution.

Ms. Fluitt began the presentation. The agenda begins with project progress and a "tour" of the long-range plan document. Next, Mr. Joannes will describe the implementation plan and then lastly go over the supplemental tools.

Ms. Fluitt stated that the public comment period has been open from Oct. 11th and will end on Nov. 18. She showed the MPO website page, where anyone could make a comment or give feedback, and the two web maps. The document has eleven chapters and she briefly touched on what was in each one. The

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Introduction gave background information, the planning process, guiding principles, goals and an overview of each chapter. Chapter Two outlined the public involvement opportunities in each phase, including the public's transportation preferences and trade-offs. Chapter Three gave current and future demographics, land use and commuting trends. Chapter Four focused on regional roadways including functional classification, traffic volumes and congestion, as well as safety. Chapter Five gave an overview of the Transit program, system performance and recommendations. Chapter Six outlined bike and pedestrian networks, gaps and recommendations. Chapter Seven gave recommendations for air and freight. Chapter Eight focused on livability principles, travel and tourism recommendations and ordinance modifications to strengthen economic growth. Chapter Nine outlined the project prioritization process on capital projects for roads, bike network and transit. There were maps shown for road prioritization results and revenue forecasts. Chapter Ten outlined the financially constrained plan and roadway capital projects, transit projects, pedestrian and bike projects, and policy recommendations, as well as recommended future studies. Chapter Eleven focused on the federal performance requirements reports.

Mr. Joannes spoke about the Implementation Plan which consists of five different areas. The Roadway Capital Projects are broken down into four tiers: Tier 1 extends to 2025, and Tier 2 to 2030. Tier 3 goes to 2035, and Tier 4 has a ten-year period, to 2045. Some projects will be constructed by developers, and some will be projects of opportunity that will identify other sources of funding. He showed maps with the projects for each tier and charts with expenditures versus revenues, making sure to stay on the positive side of balances. The Master Transportation Plan map with current and future roads, shows where and how roads will be built with future development. Transit System recommendations were presented. The bicycle and pedestrian priorities are organized in short, mid and long-term timeframes. Policies to implement or modify were identified. The recommended future studies include the Transit Development Plan, the Bike and Pedestrian Plan update, Freight-oriented corridor and intersection studies, Truck Parking study, Transloading study, and a Curbside Management Plan.

Mr. Joannes went over some tools that were developed with this project, including the Regional Travel Demand Model, an easy-to-use project prioritization tool that was developed as a spreadsheet, and a future land use and transportation map. Final adoption will be next month for City and County as well as the MPO Policy Committee.

Mr. Griggs asked a question regarding funding. Mr. Joannes said they based the funding forecast on the past TIPs. They also evaluated what funding might be based on COVID. They kept funding flat for now. Ms. Fluitt interjected that the ordering of the projects is more value than knowing the funding, which we don't have a way of knowing right now.

Mr. Regeski asked what and how will the Planning Commission vote be conducted. There will be a recommendation of approval of the resolution and vote. The resolution will move on to the Governing Body for certification. Mr. Regeski pointed out that the study doesn't address the years 2021- 2023. Mr. Mason answered that the projects in those years have already been programmed and were in the TIP. They are shown in black on the map so between now and the end of 2023 those projects are planned and in the works. Mr. Regeski asked where the money came from to do this plan. Mr. Mason answered that 90.49% of the MPO budget is federally funded and the other 9.51% is equally split between the City and County.

Mr. Tyrrell said he likes the plan. He has a concern with the I-80 and I-25 interchange and asked for Mr. Mason's opinion on how we are going to get that fixed. Mr. Mason answered that the estimate to rebuild the two interstates interchange and the Lincolnway exit/entrance is \$310 million. WYDOT is actively

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positioning itself to go after Federal Grants to fund it. They have completed the Environmental Impact Assessment and it has been approved by the Feds. WYDOT is acquiring rights-of-way to be in good shape to apply for any upcoming BUILD grants. Mr. Tyrrell thought they already had a design for it. Mr. Mason said the previous design was only preliminary. Jacobs is the firm that is working on the final design.

Mr. Palmquist opened the floor to public comment. No comments were received.

Mr. Mason showed a new map of the future land use of the MPO area. It was updated by Kimley Horn and is more general than the 2013 MPO land use map. The motion tonight is not only for the Connect 2045 Plan, but this new MPO Future Land Use Map as well.

Mr. Palmquist complemented the work that has been done and asked for a motion.

Mr. Christensen asked to go over the changes for the Planning Commission that were made in concert with the City Long-Range Planning department, the MPO and the consultant to the future Land Use Map. There were targeted changes, edits and clean-ups that needed to be made as the map moved away from a parcel based one. Second, the Cheyenne Housing parcels were changed to residential instead of public. They also edited the future land use map to include the Sweetgrass and Whitney Ranch and other large subdivision developments. Lastly, they integrated churches and the houses of worship into residential zones and included other rezones and redevelopment.

Mr. Tyrrell made the motion to pass the resolution and advance to the Governing Body. Mr. Griggs seconded.

Roll call: motion was approved with a vote of 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Bloom congratulated everyone on getting the plan wrapped up on time. He announced that there are several Planning Commission members whose terms that are expiring. If you are interested in reapplying, get the application filed out and submitted. Mr. Palmquist thanked the members for their participation.

Mr. Bloom said there will not be a mid-month meeting in November.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:11 PM.


Prepared by Nancy Olson


for - Greg Palmquist, Chair