

**RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023 AT 1:30 PM; *DRAFT***

| ENTITY                     | MEMBER  | ATTENDING  | PROXY                                |
|----------------------------|---|------------|--------------------------------------|
| AVOCA                      | MAYOR ROBERT WHITEHORN  |            |                                      |
| BELLA VISTA                | MAYOR JOHN FLYNN  | X          |                                      |
| BENTON COUNTY              | <b>JUDGE BARRY MOEHRING (CHAIR)</b><br>JOSH BEAM<br>JAY FRASIER/DEAN KLINGMON | X<br>X     |                                      |
| BENTONVILLE                | MAYOR STEPHANIE ORMAN<br>SHELLI KERR  | X<br>X     |                                      |
| CAVE SPRINGS               | MAYOR RANDALL NOBLETT   |            |                                      |
| CENTERTON                  | <b>MAYOR BILL EDWARDS (SECRETARY)</b><br>LORENE BURNS                         | X          |                                      |
| DECATUR                    | MAYOR BOB THARP   |            |                                      |
| ELKINS                     | MAYOR TROY REED   | X          |                                      |
| ELM SPRINGS                | MAYOR HAROLD DOUTHIT  |            | X Matt Casey                         |
| FARMINGTON                 | <b>MAYOR ERNIE PENN (VICE CHAIR)</b>  |            | X Melissa McCarville                 |
| FAYETTEVILLE               | MAYOR LIONELD JORDAN<br>CHRIS BROWN<br>JONATHAN CURTH                         | X<br><br>X | <br><br>X Chris Brown                |
| GARFIELD                   | MAYOR GARY L BLACKBURN  |            |                                      |
| GATEWAY                    | MAYOR CHERYL TILLMAN  |            |                                      |
| GENTRY                     | MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSTON  |            |                                      |
| GOSHEN                     | MAYOR RUSSELL STROUD  |            |                                      |
| GRAVETTE                   | MAYOR KURT MADDOX   |            |                                      |
| GREENLAND                  | MAYOR JIM RENFROW   |            |                                      |
| HIGHFILL                   | CASSIE ELLIOT   | X          |                                      |
| HINDSVILLE                 | MAYOR STEPHANIE CASEY   |            |                                      |
| HUNTSVILLE                 | MAYOR TRAVIS DOTSON   |            |                                      |
| JOHNSON                    | <b>MAYOR CHRIS KEENEY (TREASURER)</b>   | X          |                                      |
| LINCOLN                    | MAYOR DOUG HUTCHENS   |            |                                      |
| LITTLE FLOCK               | MAYOR JEFF VAN SICKLER  | X          |                                      |
| LOWELL                     | MAYOR CHRIS MOORE   | X          |                                      |
| PEA RIDGE                  | MAYOR NATHAN SEE  |            |                                      |
| PRAIRIE GROVE              | MAYOR DAVID FAULK   | X          |                                      |
| ROGERS                     | LANCE JOBE<br>JOHN McCURDY<br>SHAWN GRISNDSTAFF                               | X<br>X     |                                      |
| SILOAM SPRINGS             | MAYOR JUDY NATION<br>ALLAN GILBERT  |            | X Ben Rhoads                         |
| SPRINGDALE                 | MAYOR DOUG SPROUSE<br>PATSY CHRISTIE<br>JIM ULMER                             | X<br>X     | <br>X Tim Conklin                    |
| SPRINGTOWN                 | MAYOR TERRI GLENN   |            |                                      |
| SULPHUR SPRINGS            | MAYOR SHANE WEBER   |            |                                      |
| TONTITOWN                  | MAYOR ANGELA RUSSELL  |            | X Mark Latham                        |
| WASHINGTON CO.             | JUDGE PATRICK DEAKINS<br>BRIAN LESTER<br>SAM ATA                              | X<br><br>X |                                      |
| WEST FORK                  | MAYOR HEITH CAUDLE  |            |                                      |
| WINSLOW                    | ANN MALKIE  |            |                                      |
| ARDOT PLANNING + DISTRICTS | BRAD McCALEB<br>JASON HUGHEY (DISTRICT 4)                                     |            | X Sunny Farmahan<br>X Sunny Farmahan |
| BEAVER H2O DISTRICT        | LANE CRIDER   | X          |                                      |
| MCDONALD COUNTY            | COMMISSIONER BRIAN HALL   |            |                                      |
| MoDOT                      | DAVE TAYLOR<br>(BRITNI O'CONNOR)  |            |                                      |
| NAT. AIRPORT AUTH.         | AARON BURKES  | X          |                                      |
| PINEVILLE, MO              | MAYOR GREG SWEETEN  |            |                                      |
| RAZORBACK TRANSIT          | GARY K. SMITH<br>(ADAM WADDELL)   | X          |                                      |
| U OF A                     | SCOTT TURLEY<br>(JAY HUNEYCUTT)   | X          |                                      |
| OZARK REG. TRANSIT         | JOEL GARDNER (NON-VOTING)   |            |                                      |
| ARDOT TRANSIT              | GREG NATION (NON-VOTING)  |            |                                      |
| HWY COMMISSION             | PHILLIP TALDO (NON-VOTING)  |            |                                      |

**RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023 AT 1:30 PM; *DRAFT***

**NWARPC STAFF:** Elizabeth Bowen; Nicole Gibbs; Tim Reavis; and Cristina Scarlat

**OTHERS:** Dennis Birge (Bentonville); Nicola Hoofard (Centerton); Bridget Russell and Catherine Baker (Washington County); Jackie Crabtree (ARML); and Andy Brewer (Olsson).

***NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY; VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION CONTINUES TO BE OFFERED AS NWARPC REMAINS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.***

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

The hybrid, in-person and virtual NWARPC/Policy Committee meeting was called to order by Treasurer and Acting Chair, Mayor Chris Keeney at 1:30 p.m.

**(2) ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

In-person attendees introduced themselves and Tim Conklin named the virtual attendees. Nicole Gibbs recorded member names and tallied votes. A quorum was reached.

**(3) APPROVAL OF JULY 26, 2023 RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney asked whether there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes and hearing none, requested a motion to approve the July 26, 2023 RPC/Policy Committee Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION: Sunny Farmahan made a motion to approve the July 26, 2023 RPC/Policy Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Mayor Doug Sprouse provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.**

**(4) DIRECTOR'S REPORT/CLEARINGHOUSE REPORT**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin said the Clearinghouse Report was distributed to the Board. He said the Regional Planning Commission is the designated entity to conduct reviews of federal grant applications on a local level. He said we have entities in Benton and Washington Counties applying for grants that are being processed through the state and back through regional planning. He said we do not vote on this item; it is just for informational purposes. He said any time you need additional information, please reach out to us.

Conklin said Tim Reavis was moved into the Multimodal Transportation Planner position and will be working with ORT, Razorback Transit, and the member jurisdictions on multimodal transportation projects, including the \$180,000 FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) grant to improve access to bus stops and improved bus shelters in our region. He said this position was funded in our current budget.

Conklin said NWARPC, with the support from the NWA Council and ARDOT, submitted two Multimodal Project Discretionary Grants (MPDG) Applications: \$160 million application for US 612 from I-49 to Hwy 265 and \$25 million for Highway 112. He thanked the Board's staff, who has been actively working with our staff and ARDOT to obligate approximately \$13 million of previously awarded federal STBGP-A funds, and at the same time, later on the agenda, the Commission will be awarding an additional \$14 million dollars for regionally significant projects.

Conklin said NWARPC will be migrating our email to Microsoft Outlook the first week of September. We have been having significant email issues getting through security firewalls and NWARPC email being undelivered to members using our current approach to send and receive emails. After the

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migration to Outlook, we anticipate that @nwarpc.org will no longer have as many issues for us to communicate with our members and will have additional security features being available to protect NWARPC computers and data along with our members computers and data.

Conklin said as mentioned last month, the NWARPC continues to watch ground level ozone levels for our region. He said we met with ARDOT and Arkansas Energy and Environment this past Monday to discuss where we are as a region, the implications of potential exceeding the established level, and what we can do as a region to better prepare. He said as we discussed at the last meeting, the ozone value exceeded the EPA limit at the Springdale monitoring station for 2023. He said the established level is a three-year rolling average.

**A. RESOLUTION #2023-16 – Authorizing an Engagement Letter with Harris CPAs LLC for the NWARPC Independent Annual Single Audit**

Conklin said at the last Board meeting, we discussed advertising for a three-year engagement for a CPA to do a single audit for the NWARPC. He said we received a CPA engagement letter from Harris CPAs LLC to prepare the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 single audit, July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, and including two additional years. The fee for the FY 2023 audit remains the same as last year with tiered increases for FY 2024 and 2025. He said our grant agreements with ARDOT and MoDOT as well as federal law, require that we do these single audits for the Commission.

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney asked if there were any questions and hearing none called for a motion to approve Resolution #2023-16 Authorizing an Engagement Letter with Harris CPAs LLC for the NWARPC Independent Annual Single Audit.

**MOTION: Mayor John Flynn made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-16 Authorizing an Engagement Letter with Harris CPAs LLC for the NWARPC Independent Annual Single Audit. John McCurdy provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.**

**B. 2024 Membership Fee Request**

Conklin said he did send out a memo, as requested at the last meeting, to each of the jurisdictions that potentially would see a change. He said he received feedback and provided additional information to one member. As discussed last month, NWARPC is trying to position the organization to be able to match the increase in federal funds that we anticipate coming to the region starting next year.

Conklin said we continue to support our member jurisdictions on local planning issues, as we have over the last 50 years, and make sure projects with federal funding continue to meet all requirements for transportation planning programming and implementation. He said the most recent example, the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan that the Board adopted in June, allowed Bentonville, Fayetteville, and Rogers to apply for approximately \$73 million in SS4A Implementation Grants on July 10<sup>th</sup>. He said collectively, we are trying to ensure that cities, counties, and the state can apply for federal grant opportunities. He said when you add it all up, over the last two months the region collectively has applied for approximately \$258 million of federal grant opportunities.

Conklin said he does not anticipate bringing membership dues back for a long time. He said the dues are based on the decennial census, with the next census likely to come out in 2032. He said following the board decision on the proposed fee structure, we will be sending out the official Budget Request Letters to all members at the end of this week, or early next week. He thanked the

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Board for their consideration and said he appreciates all the questions over the last four to six weeks regarding membership dues.

Judge Patrick Deakins said Washington County will be voting against the fee increase, which is not a reflection on the Commission or the staff, but they are looking at it strictly from an accounting perspective and are having a hard time justifying the increase in terms of the benefit they receive.

**MOTION: Mayor Doug Sprouse made a motion to move forward with sending out funding requests for setting membership dues at 85 cents per capita for the 10 jurisdictions currently paying 70 cents per capita. John McCurdy provided the second. Motion passed with Washington County opposed.**

**(5) FFY 2024 STBGP-A/TAP/CRP PROJECT SELECTION**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Elizabeth Bowen summarized available funding anticipated as follows, saying actual funding is contingent upon Congressional action:

**NWARPC FY 2024 Programs:**

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| • Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Attributable (STBGP-A) | approx. \$ 11.5M       |
| • Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)                           | approx. \$ 1.2M        |
| • Carbon Reduction Program (CRP)                                      | <u>approx. \$ 1.3M</u> |
|   | approx. \$ 14M         |

Bowen summarized the FY 2024 funding programs timeline as follows:

- Call for Projects – March 23, 2023
- Application Deadline (Resolution Required) – July 14, 2023, at 4:00pm
- Project Sponsor Presentation to TAC Committee – July 20, 2023 at 10:30am
- Selection Committee Site Visits/Scoring/Rec – August 2 & August 9, 2023
- Selection Committee Recommendation to TAC – August 17, 2023 at 10:30am
- **TAC Recommendation to RPC/Policy – August 23, 2023 at 1:30pm**

Bowen said we received 35 applications from 13 different communities and showed the following table of applications received, and noted that highlighted project request amounts signify funding that was requested in multiple categories; nine (9) projects were submitted for consideration in two or more funding programs:

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| Year | County     | Jurisdiction          | Project   | Phase                           | TAP-FEDERAL | STBGP-A-FEDERAL/HIP | CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM | TOTAL FEDERAL |
|------|------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 2024 | Benton     | Bella Vista           | Mercy Way Corridor Improvements                                   | All Phases                      | \$120,354   |                     |                          | \$ 120,354    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Bella Vista           | Mercy Way Corridor Improvements                                   | All Phases                      |             | \$120,354           |                          | \$ 120,354    |
|      | Benton     | Bella Vista           | Mercy Way Corridor Improvements                                   | All Phases                      |             |                     | \$120,354                | \$ 120,354    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Benton County         | Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement                                 | Construction/Cost Eng/Utilities |             | \$640,000           |                          | \$ 640,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Bentonville           | SW Bentonville Trail from Morning Star Trail to Ventdor Boulevard | Construction                    | \$650,000   |                     |                          | \$ 650,000    |
| 2025 | Benton     | Bentonville           | SW Bentonville Trail from Morning Star Trail to Ventdor Boulevard | Construction                    |             |                     | \$650,000                | \$ 650,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Bentonville/Centerton | Greenhouse Rd   | ROW/Utilities                   |             | \$3,799,532         |                          | \$ 3,799,532  |
| 2024 | Benton     | Centerton             | City Sidewalk Project   | Construction                    |             |                     | \$227,000                | \$ 227,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Centerton             | City Sidewalk Project   | Construction                    | \$227,000   |                     |                          | \$ 227,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Centerton             | Fish Hatchery Rd Widening Project                                 | Design/Environmental            |             | \$200,000           |                          | \$ 200,000    |
| 2024 | Washington | Fayetteville          | Millsap Rd/College Ave Inters Impvts & N Hemlock Ave Impvts       | ROW/Utilities                   |             | \$1,600,000         |                          | \$ 1,600,000  |
| 2024 | Washington | Fayetteville          | Safe Routes to School Planning Grant                              | Planning                        |             |                     | \$100,000                | \$ 100,000    |
| 2024 | Washington | Fayetteville          | Drake Street Trail Connection                                     | Construction                    | \$500,000   |                     |                          | \$ 500,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Gravette              | Hwy 59&72 Intersection Improvements                               | Construction                    |             | \$1,000,000         |                          | \$ 1,000,000  |
| 2024 | Benton     | Lowell                | Hwy 264 Razorback Greenway Tunnel                                 | Design/Environmental            |             | \$404,400           |                          | \$ 404,400    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Lowell                | Hwy 264 Razorback Greenway Tunnel                                 | Design/Environmental            |             |                     | \$404,400                | \$ 404,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Lowell                | Hwy 71B/Hwy Int Imp   | Construction                    |             | \$250,000           |                          | \$ 250,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Lowell                | Hwy 264/Belleview/Spring Creek Int Imp                            | Construction                    |             | \$891,850           |                          | \$ 891,850    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Pea Ridge             | Lee Town Rd Trail   | Construction                    | \$600,000   |                     |                          | \$ 600,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Pea Ridge             | Lee Town Road Multi-Use Trail                                     | Construction                    |             |                     | \$650,000                | \$ 650,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Pea Ridge             | N Davis Street Sidewalk Ext                                       | Construction                    |             |                     | \$332,872                | \$ 332,872    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Pea Ridge             | N Davis Street Sidewalk Ext                                       | Construction                    | \$332,872   |                     |                          | \$ 332,872    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Rogers                | Rogers Ped Improvements (priority 3)                              | Construction                    | \$500,000   |                     |                          | \$ 500,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Rogers                | Hwy 94 Sidewalks Ph I (priority 1)                                | Construction                    | \$220,948   |                     |                          | \$ 220,948    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Rogers                | Hudson Rd Sidewalks Ph 1 (priority 2)                             | Construction                    | \$500,000   |                     |                          | \$ 500,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Rogers                | Rogers Ped Improvements (priority 6 of 6)                         | All Phases                      |             |                     | \$500,000                | \$ 500,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Rogers                | Hwy 94/Hudson/Hwy12 Sidewalks                                     | Design/Environmental            |             |                     | \$260,000                | \$ 260,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Rogers                | Hwy 94 Sidewalks Ph I (priority 1 od 6)                           | Construction                    |             |                     | \$220,948                | \$ 220,948    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Rogers                | Hudson Rd Sidewalks Ph I (priority 2 of 6)                        | Construction                    |             |                     | \$500,000                | \$ 500,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Siloam Springs        | Hwy 412 and Hwy 16 Intersection Improvements                      | Design/Environmental            |             | \$216,000           |                          | \$ 216,000    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Siloam Springs        | East Kenwood  | Design/Environmental            |             | \$295,233           |                          | \$ 295,233    |
| 2024 | Benton     | Springdale            | Don Tyson Parkway Ext   | Construction                    |             | \$5,020,000         |                          | \$ 5,020,000  |
| 2024 | Washington | Tontitown             | N Barrington Rd and US 412 Inters Impvts                          | Design/Environmental            |             | \$360,000           |                          | \$ 360,000    |
| 2024 | Washington | Washington County     | Jackson Highway Bridge Lincoln Lake                               | Design/Environmental            |             | \$200,000           |                          | \$ 200,000    |
| 2024 | Washington | Washington County     | Wheeler Rd Bridge   | Design/Environmental            |             | \$200,000           |                          | \$ 200,000    |
|      |            |                       |   |                                 | \$3,651,174 | \$15,197,369        | \$3,965,174              | \$22,813,717  |

Bowen said excluding duplicate requests across all three funding programs, 25 projects were submitted for consideration, totaling over \$19.1 million in requests.

Bowen said to sustain the funding program over time, we typically need a mixture of existing projects and new projects coming into the pipeline due to the variability of project phases and timelines and the ability to obligate federal funding. She said the funding formula is based on the population for the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO Urban Area (UA) and she illustrated changes to the UA between 2010 and 2020. She said the new 2020 Urban Area population will be used from 2024 to 2034.

Bowen said a memo was distributed to the committee summarizing the review committee’s discussion and recommendation, and she highlighted aspects of the review committee’s discussion, including changes to the Urban Area between 2010 and 2020; requirements in the ARDOT Local Public Agency (LPA) Manual, which must be followed to receive the NWARPC program federal funding; and other discussion points including:

- Resolution
- Eligible projects
- Project readiness
- Min/Max of program(s)
- Functional classification

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- Regional significance
- Up to 20% available to non-regionally significant project(s)
- Has the project reached 80% federal/20% local matching (in cash)?
- Has the project applied for other funding?
- Does the project have partners?
- Following ARDOT Local Public Agency (LPA) Manual federal-aid process (**ARDOT TRAINING SEPT. 12**)
- Who is designing project?
- Scoring/points ranking of projects
- Fund entities not applied before
- Equitable distribution
- Balance of existing/new projects in “pipeline”
- Which program to fund projects?
- Fund at full or reduced amounts?
- Can the project be obligated by Sep 2024?

Bowen said several changes were made to project requests based on the review committee’s discussions prior to making the recommendation, including the following:

- Several projects changed the phase(s) due to timeline/project readiness concerns
- Several project requests were reduced to the max allowed
- Project sponsors discussed the priorities of their communities' projects

Bowen noted that if projects do not receive requested funding recommended, they may apply for the next cycle anticipated to begin in January 2024.

Bowen said other provisions made in the review committee’s recommendation include:

- Existing STBGP-A Projects (8) – the larger cities made provisions to reduce the amount requested for their larger project requests (projects requesting over \$1 million), and all smaller funding requests were recommended except for the lowest ranked project.
- New STBGP-A Projects (7) – the four highest ranked projects (out of 7) are recommended at their full request.
- TAP Projects (9) – the three highest ranked projects were awarded \$500,000, \$400,000, and \$300,000 respectively (note: Bella Vista Mercy Way Project was ranked 3rd, but recommended under STBGP-A).
- CRP Projects – once projects that were recommended under other funding programs were removed from consideration, the next highest ranked projects were recommended in the CRP category.

Bowen presented the following award recommendations by the review committee, noting the yellow highlight signifies a requested change of phase or funding maximum; orange/tan signifies the projects submitted under multiple funding programs; and strikethrough signifies a request to remove the project from a funding category:



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| Federal Fiscal Year 2024 - TAP Projects |         |              |   |                                |                     |       |         |                     |
|---|---------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------|---------|---------------------|
| County                                  | Job No. | Jurisdiction | Project   | Phase                          | Request             | Score | Ranking | Award Rec.          |
| Washington                              |         | Fayetteville | Drake Street Trail Connection                               | Construction                   | \$500,000           | 720   | 1       | \$500,000           |
| Benton                                  |         | Bentonville  | SW Bentonville Trail from Morning Star Trail to Vendor Blvd | Construction                   | \$600,000           | 694   | 2       | \$400,000           |
| Benton                                  | 90436   | Bella Vista  | Mercy Way Corridor Improvements                             | All Phases                     | \$120,354           | 668   | 3       | STBG                |
| Benton                                  | 90631   | Rogers       | Hudson Rd Sidewalks Ph 1                                    | Construction                   | \$500,000           | 658   | 4       | \$300,000           |
| Benton                                  |         | Rogers       | Hwy 94 Sidewalks Ph I                                       | Construction                   | \$220,948           | 634   | 5       | CRP                 |
| Benton                                  |         | Pea Ridge    | Lee Town Rd Trail   | ROW/Utilities                  | \$600,000           | 562   | 6       | CRP                 |
| Benton                                  |         | Pea Ridge    | N Davis Street Sidewalk Ext                                 | ROW/Utilities/<br>Construction | \$332,872           | 546   | 7       | CRP                 |
| Benton                                  |         | Centerton    | City Sidewalk Project                                       | ROW/Utilities/<br>Construction | \$227,000           | 527   | 8       | \$0                 |
| Benton                                  | 90584   | Rogers       | Rogers Ped Improvements                                     | Construction                   | \$500,000           | 523   | 9       | \$0                 |
| <b>Total</b>                            |         |              |   |                                | <b>\$ 3,601,174</b> |       |         | <b>\$ 1,200,000</b> |

| Federal Fiscal Year 2024 - CRP Projects |         |              |   |                                |                     |       |         |                     |
|---|---------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------|---------|---------------------|
| County                                  | Job No. | Jurisdiction | Project   | Phase                          | Request             | Score | Ranking | Award Rec.          |
| Benton                                  | 90564   | Rogers       | Hwy 94 Sidewalks Ph I                                       | Construction                   | \$220,948           | 707   | 1       | \$220,948           |
| Washington                              |         | Fayetteville | Safe Routes to School Planning Grant                        | Planning                       | \$100,000           | 704   | 2       | \$100,000           |
| Benton                                  | 90436   | Bella Vista  | Mercy Way Corridor Improvements                             | All Phases                     | \$120,354           | 662   | 3       | STBG                |
| Benton                                  |         | Bentonville  | SW Bentonville Trail from Morning Star Trail to Vendor Blvd | Construction                   | \$650,000           | 653   | 4       | TAP                 |
| Benton                                  | 90631   | Rogers       | Hudson Rd Sidewalks Ph I                                    | Construction                   | \$500,000           | 648   | 5       | TAP                 |
| Benton                                  |         | Rogers       | Hwy 94/Hudson/Hwy12 Sidewalks                               | Design/Enviro                  | \$260,000           | 631   | 6       | \$260,000           |
| Benton                                  |         | Pea Ridge    | Lee Town Road Multi-Use Trail                               | ROW/Utilities                  | \$650,000           | 612   | 7       | \$386,180           |
| Benton                                  |         | Lowell       | Hwy 264 Razorback Greenway Tunnel                           | ROW/Utilities                  | \$404,400           | 605   | 8       | STBG                |
| Benton                                  |         | Pea Ridge    | N Davis Street Sidewalk Ext                                 | ROW/Utilities/<br>Construction | \$332,872           | 600   | 9       | \$332,872           |
| Benton                                  |         | Centerton    | City Sidewalk Project                                       | ROW/Utilities/<br>Construction | \$227,000           | 551   | 10      | \$0                 |
| Benton                                  | 90584   | Rogers       | Rogers Ped Improvements                                     | All Phases                     | \$500,000           | 500   | 11      | \$0                 |
| <b>Total</b>                            |         |              |   |                                | <b>\$ 3,965,574</b> |       |         | <b>\$ 1,300,000</b> |

| Federal Fiscal Year 2024 - STBGP-A (Existing Projects) |         |                           |   |                                |                     |       |         |                    |
|--|---------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------|---------|--------------------|
| County   | Job No. | Jurisdiction              | Project   | Phase                          | Request             | Score | Ranking | Award Rec.         |
| Benton   | 90524   | Lowell                    | Hwy 264/Belleview/Spring Creek Int Imp                      | Construction                   | \$891,850           | 187   | 1       | \$891,850          |
| Washington   | 40717   | Springdale                | Don Tyson Parkway Ext                                       | Construction                   | \$5,020,000         | 182   | 2       | \$3,000,000        |
| Benton   | 90628   | Bentonville/<br>Centerton | Greenhouse Rd   | ROW/Utilities                  | \$3,799,532         | 182   | 2       | \$3,333,396        |
| Washington   | 40943   | Fayetteville              | Millsap Rd/College Ave Inters Impvts & N Hemlock Ave Impvts | ROW/Utilities                  | \$1,600,000         | 174   | 4       | \$1,300,000        |
| Benton   | 90601   | Lowell                    | Hwy 71B/Hwy Int. Improvements                               | ROW/Utilities/<br>Construction | \$250,000           | 174   | 4       | \$250,000          |
| Benton   | 90524   | Benton County             | Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement                           | Const/Const<br>Engr/Utilities  | \$640,000           | 159   | 6       | \$640,000          |
| Benton   | 90436   | Bella Vista               | Mercy Way Corridor Improvements                             | All Phases                     | \$120,354           | 139   | 7       | \$120,354          |
| Benton   | 90606   | Siloam Springs            | East Kenwood  | Design/Enviro                  | \$295,233           | 121   | 8       | \$0                |
| <b>Subtotal</b>  |         |                           |   |                                | <b>\$12,616,969</b> |       |         | <b>\$9,535,600</b> |

**RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES  
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| Federal Fiscal Year 2024 - STBGP-A (New Projects) |         |                   |  |               |              |       |               |               |
|---|---------|-------------------|--|---------------|--------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| County  | Job No. | Jurisdiction      | Project                                      | Phase         | Request      | Score | Ranking       | Award Rec.    |
| Benton  |         | Gravette          | Hwy 59&72 Intersection Improvements          | Construction  | \$1,000,000  | 182   | 1             | \$1,000,000   |
| Benton  |         | Lowell            | Hwy 264 Razorback Greenway Tunnel            | ROW/Utilities | \$404,400    | 155   | 2             | \$404,400     |
| Washington  |         | Tontitown         | N Barrington Rd and US 412 Inters Impvts     | Design/Enviro | \$360,000    | 145   | 3             | \$360,000     |
| Washington  |         | Washington County | Wheeler Rd Bridge                            | Design/Enviro | \$200,000    | 142   | 4             | \$200,000     |
| Benton  |         | Siloam Springs    | Hwy 412 and Hwy 16 Intersection Improvements | Design/Enviro | \$216,000    | 117   | 5             | \$0           |
| Benton  |         | Centerton         | Fish Hatchery Rd Widening Project            | Design/Enviro | \$200,000    | 115   | 6             | \$0           |
| Washington  |         | Washington County | Jackson Highway Bridge Lincoln Lake          | Design/Enviro | \$200,000    | 105   | 7             | \$0           |
|   |         |                   |  | Subtotal      | \$ 2,580,400 |       |               | \$ 1,964,400  |
|   |         |                   |  |               |              |       | TOTAL STBGP-A | \$ 11,500,000 |

Bowen asked whether there were any questions regarding the funding recommendations and there were none.

Bowen said as previously discussed, we plan to move the FFY 2025 funding program cycle up to better accommodate the obligation process, and summarized the following proposed timeline:

**FFY 2025 Programs Timeline:**

- Call for Projects Jan 2024
- Application Deadline (Resolution Required) Mar 2024
- Project Sponsor Presentation to TAC Committee Mar 2024
- Selection Committee Site Visits/Scoring/Rec Mar/April
- Selection Committee Recommendation to TAC April 2024
- TAC Recommendation to RPC/Policy April 2024

Bowen said representatives for each awarded community will need to attend an ARDOT LPA training on September 12, 2023 at NWARPC from 10:00am – 11:30am. She said award letters are anticipated to go out early next week to recipients and to ARDOT to initiate the LPA process.

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney asked if there were any questions and hearing none called for a motion to approve the FFY 2024 STBGP-A, TAP, and CRP project awards as shown in the funding allocation tables.

**MOTION:** Mayor Bill Edwards made a motion to approve the FFY 2024 STBGP-A, TAP, and CRP project awards as shown in the funding allocation tables. Mayor Stephanie Orman provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

**(6) NARTS FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT #2 – Suballocated FTA Section 5307 FY 2018 Federal Apportionment to ORT**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained that a TIP amendment was requested by ORT, ARDOT and FTA. He said we held a public comment period from August 7, 2023 to August 21, 2023 and we did not receive any comments. He said the additional funding coming to our region will be used to purchase seven (7) Dodge Ram vans to support the on-demand transit being deployed in Bentonville, Rogers, Springdale, and Fayetteville. He said ORT has been successful with their Via On-Demand platform and ridership continues to increase. He said these funds are coming from the Conway Urban Area and were about to lapse. ARDOT reached out to



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transit providers across the state and Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) responded. He said they will be receiving \$936,626 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds to support the purchase of those seven vans. He said this requires an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the funds are proposed to be added to our program as follows:

| 2023-2026 NARTS TIP - AMENDMENT #2 PROPOSED CHANGES              |        |       |  |        |           |   |  |      |       |
|--|--------|-------|--|--------|-----------|---|--|------|-------|
| JOB  | COUNTY | ROUTE | TERMINI                                | LENGTH | TYPE WORK | ESTIMATED COST<br>Funding Breakdown<br>(in thousands) | AGENCY<br>CARRYING<br>OUT THE<br>PROJECT | FFY  | MPO   |
| <b>ADD:</b>  |        |       |  |        |           |   |  |      |       |
| NARTS16  |        |       | Capital - Rolling Stock - Conway Funds | -      | Transit   | 1,102 - TOTAL<br>937 - FTA 5307<br>165 - Local        | Local-ORT                                | 2023 | NARTS |
| Suballocated Conway FTA Sec. 5307 FFY 2018 Federal Appropriation |        |       |  |        |           |   |  |      |       |

Conklin said NWARPC is the FTA designated recipient for FTA urban programs and we would typically be splitting these FTA funds – 45% to Razorback Transit and 55% to ORT. He said he has had a discussion with Razorback Transit and Razorback Transit has had a conversation with ARDOT. He said in the future, when there is money that comes to the region, the process will come through Regional Planning.

**A. RESOLUTION #2023-17** – Amending the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) FFY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney asked if there were any questions and hearing none called for a motion to approve Resolution #2023-17 – Amending the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) FFY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

**MOTION: John McCurdy made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-17 – Amending the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) FFY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mayor John Flynn provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.**

**(7) PROJECTS AND OTHER UPDATES**

**A. FY 2023 STBGP-A/TAP/CRP Project Development**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item and Nicole Gibbs said we are under triparty agreements as of FFY 2023. She thanked those who are sending their quarterly reports to NWARPC and asked LPAs to continue to do so. She said we are helping to track and guide project development through both the federal and state process from now on. She said we experienced significant delays this year in receiving the triparty agreements for projects awarded last year, partly due to the significant restructuring in ARDOT. She said that is mostly settled and the division is staffed up so most agreements are now in place except for two new project agreements and a few supplemental agreements. She said we have verbally been told that supplemental agreements will not hold up project development and we can continue to obligate funding toward those projects prior to receiving the supplemental agreements.

She showed and summarized the FFY 2023 awards and highlighted the projects that we anticipate meeting the obligation deadline. She said we need all projects to continue working towards obligation even if you are not represented in our obligation scenario.

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| COUNTY  | JOB    | JURISDICTION  | PROJECT  | PHASE                | TAP                       | STBGP-A       | CRP                  | Notes        | AoU Rec'd |
|---|--------|---------------|--|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| <b>2023 AWARDED PROJECTS</b>                          |        |               |  |                      |                           |               |                      |              |           |
| Benton  | 090678 | Cave Springs  | W Wallis Rd & Sands Rd Sidewalk Extension                      | Construction         |                           |               | \$ 10,784            |              | 7/17      |
| Benton  | 090706 | Centerton     | McKissic Trail Phase 2   | Construction         |                           |               | \$ 500,000           |              | 4/10      |
| Washington  |        | Fayetteville  | LED Lighting and Video Detection of Major Intersections        | Construction         |                           |               | \$ 400,000           |              | 8/18      |
| Washington  | 040947 | Johnson       | Razorback Greenway Lighting                                    | Construction         |                           |               | \$ 339,300           |              | 4/10      |
| Benton  | 090707 | Lowell        | Traffic Signal Improvements                                    | Construction         |                           |               | \$ 131,764           |              | 6/19      |
| Washington  | 040948 | Springdale    | Watkins Ave. - S Pleasant St Trail Feasibility Plan and Design | Plan/Design          |                           |               | \$ 100,000           |              | revising  |
| Washington  | 040917 | Farmington    | Creekside Park Trail   | Construction         | \$ 500,000                |               |                      |              | 6/21      |
| Benton  | 090504 | Gravette      | Gravette Trail System Phase II                                 | Construction         | \$ 408,974                |               |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 6/1       |
| Benton  | 090630 | Bentonville   | I49 Razorback Greenway Relocation                              | Construction         | \$ 500,000                |               |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 4/10      |
| Washington  | 040717 | Springdale    | Don Tyson Parkway Ext.   | Construction         |                           | \$ 4,500,000  |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 6/5       |
| Benton  | 090436 | Bella Vista   | Mercy Way Bridge and Road Imps - Razorback Greenway Ext.       | All Phases           |                           | \$ 326,845    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 7/6       |
| Benton  | 090524 | Benton County | Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement                              | Utilities/Eng/Constr |                           | \$ 800,000    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 6/5       |
| Washington  | 040887 | Fayetteville  | College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St) **       | Construction         |                           | \$ 1,800,000  |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 5/23      |
| Benton  | 090238 | Centerton     | Hwy 102 Sidepath **  | Construction         |                           | \$ 600,000    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 6/5       |
| Washington  | 040943 | Fayetteville  | Millsap, College, N Hemlock                                    | ROW/Environ          |                           | \$ 320,000    |                      |              | 1/30      |
| Benton  | 090675 | Rogers        | W Pleasant Grove Rd & Hwy 265 Roundabout                       | Design/Env           |                           | \$ 168,000    |                      |              | 3/24      |
| Benton  | 090674 | Rogers        | Hwy 265 and Hwy 94 New Hope Rd Roundabout                      | Design/Env           |                           | \$ 200,000    |                      |              | 3/23      |
| Benton  | 090601 | Lowell        | US-71B/HWY264 Intersection Improvements                        | Construction         |                           | \$ 240,000    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 6/22      |
| Benton  | 090433 | Lowell        | Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Rd Inters. Impvts. **            | Construction         |                           | \$ 560,000    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | 5/22      |
| Benton  | 090709 | Lowell        | Monroe from Oak St to Hwy 265                                  | Utilities/Eng/Constr |                           | \$ 439,258    |                      | missing res. | 3/23      |
| Benton/Washington                                     | 012450 | NWARPC        | Comprehensive Safety Action Plan - Vision Zero                 | Planning             |                           | \$ 400,000    |                      |              | X         |
| Washington  | 040809 | Springdale    | Dean's Trail Phase 3A  | Construction         |                           | \$ 240,653    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | supp.agr. |
| Benton  | 090564 | Rogers        | Hwy 94 Sidewalks (existing ARDOT TAP-18 project)               | Construction         |                           | \$ 290,653    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | supp.agr. |
| Benton  | 090679 | Decatur       | Rooster St to Hill Ave Sidewalk Improvements (ARDOT TAP-22)    | Construction         |                           | \$ 183,000    |                      | Supp.Agr.    | supp.agr. |
| Benton  |        | Centerton     | Fish Hatchery Rd Trail Project                                 | Design               |                           | \$ 25,000     |                      |              | w/in 2wks |
| <b>2023 Projects Awarded by RPC/Policy Committee:</b> |        |               |  |                      |                           |               |                      |              |           |
| STBGP-A and TAP – August 2022                         |        |               |  |                      |                           |               |                      |              |           |
| CRP (1 <sup>st</sup> Call) – December 2022            |        |               |  |                      |                           |               |                      |              |           |
| CRP (2 <sup>nd</sup> Call) – March 2023               |        |               |  |                      |                           |               |                      |              |           |
|   |        |               |  |                      | \$ 1,408,974              | \$ 10,354,103 | \$ 2,221,154         |              |           |
|   |        |               |  |                      | <b>TOTAL AWARDED 2023</b> |               | <b>\$ 13,984,231</b> |              |           |



Gibbs summarized the current obligation plan scenario and said we have been working with Communities and ARDOT to reach the obligation goals. She said the plan includes 2023 awards previously discussed; older projects that are in shape to obligate this fiscal year; and large ongoing projects that are requesting more funding in the 2024 funding cycle that were just awarded by the Board, earlier on the agenda:

| YEAR  | JOB    | JURISDICTION  | PROJECT  | PHASE                | TAP        | STBGP-A      | CRP | Notes     | AoU Rec'd | ANTICIPATED TO OBLIGATE - 2023         |                   |                     | TOTAL ANTIC. OBL. 2023 |                     |                     |
|---|--------|---------------|--|----------------------|------------|--------------|-----|-----------|-----------|--|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|   |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           | TAP                                    | STBGP-A           | CRP                 | HIP                    |                     |                     |
| <b>2023 AWARDED PROJECTS</b>  |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           |  |                   |                     |                        |                     |                     |
| 2023  | 090504 | Gravette      | Gravette Trail System Phase II                               | Construction         | \$ 408,974 |              |     | Supp.Agr. | 6/1       |  |                   |                     |                        | OBLIGATED           |                     |
| 2023  | 090630 | Bentonville   | I49 Razorback Greenway Relocation                            | Construction         | \$ 500,000 |              |     | Supp.Agr. | 4/10      | \$ 500,000                             |                   |                     |                        | \$ 500,000          |                     |
| 2023  | 040717 | Springdale    | Don Tyson Parkway Ext.                                       | Construction         |            | \$ 4,500,000 |     | Supp.Agr. | 6/5       |  |                   |                     |                        | OBLIGATED           |                     |
| 2023  | 090436 | Bella Vista   | Mercy Way Bridge and Road Imps - Razorback Greenway Ext.     | All Phases           |            | \$ 326,845   |     | Supp.Agr. | 7/6       |  |                   |                     |                        | OBLIGATED           |                     |
| 2023  | 090524 | Benton County | Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement                            | Utilities/Eng/Constr |            | \$ 800,000   |     | Supp.Agr. | 6/5       |  |                   |                     |                        | OBLIGATED           |                     |
| 2023  | 040887 | Fayetteville  | College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St) **     | Construction         |            | \$ 1,800,000 |     | Supp.Agr. | 5/23      | \$ 1,800,000                           |                   |                     |                        | \$ 1,800,000        |                     |
| 2023  | 012450 | NWARPC        | Comprehensive Safety Action Plan - Vision Zero               | Planning             |            | \$ 400,000   |     | X         | X         |  |                   |                     |                        | OBLIGATED           |                     |
| 2023  | 040809 | Springdale    | Dean's Trail Phase 3A  | Construction         |            | \$ 240,653   |     | Supp.Agr. | supp.agr. |  |                   | \$ 240,653          |                        | \$ 240,653          |                     |
| 2023  | 090564 | Rogers        | Hwy 94 Sidewalks (existing ARDOT TAP project)                | Construction         |            | \$ 290,653   |     | Supp.Agr. | supp.agr. |  |                   | \$ 290,653          |                        | \$ 290,653          |                     |
|   |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           | \$ 500,000                             | \$ 1,800,000      | \$ 531,306          | \$ -                   | \$ 2,831,306        |                     |
| <b>EXISTING/ONGOING PROJECTS (UNOBLIGATED)</b>                            |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           |  |                   |                     |                        |                     |                     |
| 2019  | 090338 | Rogers        | Walnut Street/US 71B Sidewalks                               | Construction         | \$ 212,047 |              |     |           |           |  | \$ 212,047        |                     |                        | \$ 212,047          |                     |
| 2022  | 040887 | Fayetteville  | College Ave Complete Street (North St to Township St) **     | Construction         |            | \$ 1,500,000 |     |           |           |  | \$ 1,500,000      |                     |                        | \$ 1,500,000        |                     |
| 2022  | 090163 | Bentonville   | SW Regional Airport Blvd. / S. Vaughn Rd. Intersection Impr. | Design and Enviro    |            | \$ 500,000   |     |           |           |  | \$ 500,000        |                     |                        | \$ 500,000          |                     |
|   |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           | \$ -                                   | \$ 2,000,000      | N/A                 | \$ -                   | \$ 2,212,047        |                     |
| <b>EXISTING/ONGOING PROJECTS TO REQUEST FFY 2024 FUNDING* (PROJECTED)</b> |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           |  |                   |                     |                        |                     |                     |
| 2024*   | 040717 | Springdale    | Don Tyson Parkway Ext.                                       |                      |            | \$ 3,000,000 |     |           |           |  | \$ 2,722,932      |                     | \$ 277,068             | \$ 3,000,000        |                     |
| 2024*   | 090436 | Bella Vista   | Mercy Way Bridge and Road Imps - Razorback Greenway Ext.     | All Phases           |            | \$ 120,354   |     |           |           |  |                   |                     | \$ 120,354             | \$ 120,354          |                     |
| 2024*   | 090524 | Benton County | Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement                            | Constr/Eng/Utilities |            | \$ 640,000   |     |           |           |  |                   |                     | \$ 640,000             | \$ 640,000          |                     |
| 2024*   | 090564 | Rogers        | Hwy 94 Sidewalks PH1 (existing ARDOT TAP project)            | Construction         |            | \$ 220,948   |     |           |           |  | \$ 220,948        |                     |                        | \$ 220,948          |                     |
| 2024*   | 090631 | Rogers        | Hudson Rd Sidewalks PH1 (existing ARDOT TAP)                 | Construction         | \$ 300,000 |              |     |           |           |  | \$ 300,000        |                     |                        | \$ 300,000          |                     |
|   |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           | \$ 300,000                             | \$ 2,722,932      | N/A                 | \$ 1,037,422           | \$ 4,281,302        |                     |
|   |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           | <b>NET ANTICIPATED OBLIGATION 2023</b> | <b>\$ 800,000</b> | <b>\$ 6,522,932</b> | <b>\$ 531,306</b>      | <b>\$ 1,037,422</b> | <b>\$ 9,324,655</b> |
|   |        |               |  |                      |            |              |     |           |           | <b>FUNDS ALREADY OBLIGATED 2023</b>    | <b>\$ 408,974</b> | <b>\$ 6,026,845</b> | <b>\$ -</b>            | <b>\$ -</b>         | <b>\$ 6,435,819</b> |

**NOTES:**

- \*2024 amounts are projected; subject to Board approval
- TAP and CRP funds need to be carried over due to delay in receiving LPA Agreements of Understanding
- \$1M carry over limitation per ARDOT policy; in the past, ARDOT partner projects (PP)\*\* did not count toward carry over limitation
- GOAL:** obligate min. of \$9.5M of the \$12.7M remaining FY 2023 obligation limitation

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL AWARDED 2023</b> | <b>\$ 13,934,231</b> |
| STBGP-A AWARDED 2023      | \$ 10,354,103        |
| TAP AWARDED 2023          | \$ 1,408,974         |
| CRP AWARDED 2023          | \$ 2,171,154         |



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Bowen said NWARPC was awarded \$300,000 USDOT SS4A Action Planning Grant in January 2023 to complete the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP). She said since we adopted the plan prior to USDOT getting the agreement of understanding to us, we are waiting to hear back whether we will be allowed to continue the project using the federal funding, including several items included in the original scope of work that we have not yet completed:

- Individual Plans for “up to 6 of the largest cities if needed”
- Systemic Safety Webinars (2)
- Video/Storytelling
- Safety Demonstration Projects
- Community engagement strategies
- Action Plan Communication Materials

**C. Energy and Environment Innovation Plan Update**

Bowen said the state has received a \$3 million planning grant through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) formula grant program and gave background for the project, saying we are partnering with the state, Metroplan, and Ft. Smith. She said we are being suballocated \$440,000 (100% federal funding) to complete a regional Priority Action Plan and Comprehensive Action Plan for the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), including Benton, Washington, and Madison Counties.

She said we have many existing plans in place, which highlight activities and projects potentially eligible for the \$4.6 billion nationwide competitive EPA CPRG Implementation Grants. She said the statewide Priority Action Plan (PAP) is due March 1, 2024 and the Implementation Grant deadline is April 1, 2024. She said projects must be covered by this plan to be eligible to apply for implementation grant funding. She said it is a single year program and they plan to award the entire \$4.6 billion nationwide in one year – not in a five-year cycle like other USDOT programs. She said this program is 100% federally funded, without a local match requirement.

Bowen summarized the deliverables timeline as follows:

| Deliverable   | Due                       |
|---|---------------------------|
| Priority Plan Supplement  | 12/1/2023                 |
| Comprehensive Plan Supplement                                   | 2/28/2025                 |
| Status Report Supplements                                       | 3/1/2027                  |
| Quarterly Region Engagement Meetings                            | Summer 2023 – Summer 2025 |
| Semiannual Region Meetings                                      | Fall 2025 – Fall 2027     |
| Attending E&E Quarterly Intergovernmental Coordination Meetings | Summer 2023 – Fall 2027   |

Bowen said we are negotiating a contract with Olsson to complete our regional work and she summarized other next steps as follows:

- ADEE funding appropriation approved (Aug 22)
- Finalize and sign MOA - August
- Procurement process to hire a consultant – August
- Form Steering Committee -August

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- Website/survey/idea box – August/September
- Review City/County/State plans for action items – August/September
- Community engagement/identify new action items – September/October
- Develop State supplemental data - November
- Develop Regional Action Plans – December-March 2024

Bowen said to ensure you get any specific projects to us that you would like to consider for implementation grant funding so that we can work with you to get them into the regional PAP. Conklin said, for example, projects eligible for the TAP and CRP funding, are also eligible for this funding.

**D. Other Grant Opportunity Updates**

Bowen summarized current grant opportunities as follows:

**USDOT Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs):**

- [FY 2022/2023 Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation \(PROTECT\) Program](#) - deadline August 18, 2023 @ 11:59 PM EDT
- [Thriving Communities Technical Assistance \(TCTA\)](#) program-(rolling applications)
- [Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant \(MPDG\)](#) program (INFRA/MEGA/RURAL) -deadline August 21, 2023 @ 11:59 PM EDT
- [Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods \(RCN\) and Neighborhood Access and Equity \(NAE\)](#) Combined Program–deadline September 28th, 2023 @ 11:59 PM EDT
- **NEW!** [USDOT Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation \(SMART\) Grants Program](#) – deadline Tuesday, October 10, at 5:00 PM ET

**Arkansas State Grant Programs**

- [ARDOT Intersection Improvement Program \(IIP\)](#)
- [ARDOT Local Bridge Program \(LBP\)](#)
- [AR Dept. of Parks, Heritage, & Tourism -Outdoor Recreation Grants Program](#)

**(8) COMMITTEE AND GROUP UPDATES**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney introduced the item.

**A. Active Transportation Committee (ACT)**

Elizabeth Bowen summarized the recent meetings of the Active Transportation Committee (ACT) and the NWA Regional BikePed Master Plan Update Subcommittee as follows:

**ACT Last Met: Aug 17, 2023**

- NWA Equity and Active Transportation Survey - Trailblazers
- Don't Stop at the Street – Fayetteville (from NACTO Conference)
- Razorback Greenway Alliance is in final stages of wayfinding signage (thermals complete, mile markers wrapped),
- SS4A – Vision Zero
- Grant opportunities
- Sub-committee for NWARBPMP June 15, 2023

**Next Meeting**

- ACT – Aug 17, 2023 at 1:30
- Subcommittee NWARBPMP - July 20, 2023 at 2:30
- Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail Ribbon Cutting occurred Aug 5 at the Pea Ridge National Military Park



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**B. NWA Open Space Coalition**

Elizabeth Bowen summarized the following:

**Last Met:** July 17, 2023

**Next Meeting:** September 18, 2023 @ 10:30 am

**C. MS4 Stormwater Compliance Group**

Nicole Gibbs summarized the following:

**Last Met:** August 16, 2023

**Discussion Items:**

- April-June Stormwater Education 2nd Quarter Report
- Pick Up Where You Play 2023 ([www.uaex.uada.edu/environment-nature/water/stormwater/nwastormwater/litter.aspx](http://www.uaex.uada.edu/environment-nature/water/stormwater/nwastormwater/litter.aspx))
- Fall Leaves Outreach Feedback
- Employee Trainings – Topics?

**Next meeting scheduled:** October 18, 2023 @ 10:30 am, virtual (every two months on the third Wed.)

**D. NWA GIS User Group**

Nicole Gibbs summarized the following:

**Last Met:** June 13, 2023 (update given at previous meeting)

**Next meeting scheduled:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 10:30am, virtual

**(9) PUBLIC COMMENT**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney said there were four comments distributed in the meeting packets and asked whether there were any other comments and there were none.

**(10) OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:**

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney announced upcoming meetings as follows:

- **TAC Meeting** – Thursday, September 21, 2023 @ 10:30 AM
- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, September 27, 2023 @ 1:30 PM

**B. ARDOT Public Involvement Meetings Hwys. 59 & 72 Corridor Study (Benton Co.):**

**Meeting #1** – Tuesday, August 29, 2023 @ 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Gravette High School (Commons Area), 325 Lion Drive South, Gravette, AR 72736

**Meeting #2** – Thursday, August 31, 2023 @ 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Gentry Public Library (McKee Community Room), 105 East Main St. Gentry, AR 72737

<http://www.ardot.gov/publicmeetings>

**C. Beaver Watershed Alliance, Smart Growth for Source Water Protection Forum #6, Leading Change** – September 28, 2023 @11:30am, Fayetteville Public Library, Zeigler Room,

<http://www.beaverwatershedalliance.org/events/>

**D. ARDOT Transportation Planning Conference** – September 19-21, 2023, Wyndham Riverfront

Hotel, North Little Rock, AR, <https://www.ardot.gov/divisions/transportation-planning-policy/2023-transportation-planning-conference/>



**RPC/POLICY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023 AT 1:30 PM; *DRAFT***

Sunny Farmahan said ARDOT membership on the Policy Board is hard coded as specific positions in the NWARPC bylaws, as being the Division Head of Planning and Research and the District Engineer from 4 or 9. He said with the restructuring previously mentioned, there is no Division of Planning and Research and there are many other changes. He said ARDOT would like to request an amendment to the bylaws to change the language to “as appointed/recommended by the department”.

Acting Chair Mayor Keeney asked whether there was any other business.

**(11) ADJOURN**

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

**PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2023**

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Judge Barry Moehring, Chair, NWARPC

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_