

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023 AT 10:30 AM; APPROVED NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

ENTITY	MEMBER	PRESENT	PROXY
AVOCA	ROBERT WHITEHORN		
BELLA VISTA	DOUG TAPP	X	
BENTON COUNTY	JUDGE BARRY MOEHRING JOSH BEAM JAY FRASIER (TRACY BACKS)	X	
BENTONVILLE	DENNIS BIRGE DAN WEESE	X	
CAVE SPRINGS	MAYOR RANDALL NOBLETT		
CENTERTON	MAYOR BILL EDWARDS LORENE BURNS	X X	
DECATUR	MAYOR BOB THARP		
ELKINS	MAYOR TROY REED		
ELM SPRINGS	MATT CASEY	X	
FARMINGTON	MELISSA McCARVILLE	X	
FAYETTEVILLE	JONATHAN CURTH PAUL LIBERTINI CHRIS BROWN	X X X	
GENTRY	MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSTON		
GRAVETTE	KURT MADDOX		
GREENLAND	MAYOR JIM RENFROW		
HIGHFILL	JEREMY JOHNSON		
JOHNSON	MAYOR CHRIS KEENEY		
LITTLE FLOCK	MAYOR JEFF VAN SICKLER		X Nicole Gibbs
LOWELL	KAREN DAVIS	X	
PEA RIDGE	MAYOR NATHAN SEE		
PINEVILLE	MAYOR GREG SWEETEN		
PRAIRIE GROVE	MAYOR DAVID FAULK	X	
ROGERS	LANCE JOBE SHAWN GRINDSTAFF JOHN MCCURDY	X	
SILOAM SPRINGS	BEN RHOADS (VICE CHAIR) KEVIN MOORE	X	
SPRINGDALE	PATSY CHRISTIE (CHAIR) RYAN CARR	X	X Ben Peters
TONTITOWN	MAYOR ANGELA RUSSELL		X Mark Latham
WASHINGTON CO.	BRIAN LESTER SAM ATA JEFF CROWDER	X X	X Catherine Baker
WEST FORK	MAYOR HEITH CAUDLE		
WINSLOW	ANN MALKIE		
NWARPC	TIM CONKLIN	X	
BEAVER H2O DISTRICT	CODY HUDSON		
OZARK REG. TRANSIT	JOEL GARDNER		
RAZORBACK TRANSIT	GARY K. SMITH (ADAM WADDELL)	X	
U OF A	SCOTT TURLEY (JAY HUNNEYCUTT)		
McDONALD COUNTY	COMM. BRYAN HALL		
MoDOT	FRANK MILLER (MARVIN MORRIS)	X	
NWA NATIONAL AIRPORT	AARON BURKES		
ARDOT PLANNING AND DISTRICT 9	CHRIS DILLAHA SUNNY FARMAHAN STACEY BURGE	X	X David Bushy

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NWARPC STAFF: Tim Conklin; Nicole Gibbs; Tim Reavis; Cristina Scarlat

OTHERS: Taylor Robertson (Bella Vista); Tom Adler and Luke Aitken (Bentonville); Alan Craighead (Centernton); Dane Eifling (Fayetteville); Kent Laughlin (Rogers); James Clark (Tontitown); Judge Patrick Deakins and Bridget Russell (Washington County); Anthony Hunter (ARDOT); Britni O'Connor (MoDOT); Cecelie Cochran (FHWA); AJ Cook (CEI); Zach Moore (Garver); and Ron Wood (NWADG).

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 in-person and virtual NWARPC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting was called to order by Chair Patsy Christie at 10:30 a.m.

(2) ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

(3) APPROVAL OF THE JULY 20, 2023 TAC MEETING MINUTES

Chair Christie asked the Committee whether there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes and hearing none, requested a motion to approve the July 20, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Doug Tapp made a motion to approve the July 20, 2023 TAC Meeting Minutes. Paul Libertini provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

(4) FY 2024 STBGP-A/TAP/CRP PROJECT SELECTION

Chair Christie 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) approx. \$ 1.3M
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 of 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 highlighted aspects of the review committee’s discussion, including changes to the Urban Area between 2010 and 2020, which is used to calculate the amount of funding coming to our region; 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
- Regional significance
- Has the project reached 80% federal/20% local matching (in cash)
- Has the project applied for other funding
- Does the project have partners
- Up to 20% available to non-regionally significant project(s)
- Following ARDOT Local Public Agency (LPA) Manual federal-aid process (ARDOT TRAINING IN SEPT)
- Who is designing project

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- 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
- 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 Jan 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:

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/ 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/ Construction	\$250,000	174	4	\$250,000
Benton	90524	Benton County	Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement	Const/Const 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
				Subtotal	\$12,616,969			\$9,535,600

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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

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/ Construction	\$332,872	546	7	CRP
Benton		Centerton	City Sidewalk Project	ROW/Utilities/ Construction	\$227,000	527	8	\$0
Benton	90584	Rogers	Rogers Ped Improvements	Construction	\$500,000	523	9	\$0
				Total	\$ 3,601,174			\$ 1,200,000

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/ Construction	\$332,872	600	9	\$332,872
Benton		Centerton	City Sidewalk Project	ROW/Utilities/ Construction	\$227,000	551	10	\$0
Benton	90584	Rogers	Rogers Ped Improvements	All Phases	\$500,000	500	11	\$0
				Total	\$ 3,965,574			\$ 1,300,000

Bowen said a memo was distributed to the committee summarizing the review committee's discussion and recommendation.

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Chair Christie said a lot of work has been done and it seems the more money we get to the region, the harder this decision becomes. She asked whether anyone had any comments, questions, or concerns.

Tim Conklin said he wants to express a concern that he shared at the review committee meetings. He said this is the first time we have not funded an existing project already in the pipeline, namely Siloam Springs East Kenwood project. He said the city did not participate on the review committee and they did not score projects. He said when utilizing federal funds, if a city/county is not able to carry out the project to completion, they are required to pay back the federal funds reimbursed to date. He said the expectation is not necessarily that projects would always receive the full 80% federal funding, but that projects would likely be back for more regional funds as it moves forward in the process to completion and would likely continue to be supported at some level by the Commission. He said obviously it is up to the RPC/Policy Committee to decide what gets funded and what does not each year, but he has concerns about this different approach of handling existing projects in the pipeline and he plans to bring it up to the RPC/Policy Committee as well. He said basically, if the community is not ever going to receive additional funding for the project, they will need to know sooner rather than later.

There was discussion of the regional significance of the project, and the circumstances of the selection process last year, being that there was enough funding available to cover all project requests. There was discussion regarding the significance of selecting projects that we do not continue to fund and about giving more review to the project's overall projected cost during the selection process, and not just the current phase being requested.

There was discussion about the ability to reapply during the next funding cycle.

Chair Christie asked the Committee whether there were any other questions or comments and hearing none, requested a motion to recommend the FFY 2024 STBGP-A, TAP, and CRP project awards as shown in the funding allocation tables to the RPC/Policy Committee.

MOTION: Paul Libertini made a motion to recommend to the RPC/Policy Committee the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 Surface Transportation Block Group Program – Attributable (STBGP-A), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) project awards as shown in the funding allocation tables. Josh Beam provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Christie said having done this for many years, when we first started this program, we talked about how tough it would be to work on project selection, and it has proved to be as tough or tougher. She said we get enough funding coming to the region to be dangerous but not enough to do everything that needs to be done. She said in the same token, we want all of the money to stay in the region and we have a good track record because we have not sent anything back – we have been able to use everything that has been allocated to the region since this program began. She thanked everyone for the hard work it takes to get that work done. Conklin added that there has been cooperation among all the communities over the last decade working together to advance these important projects.

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Bowen said as previously discussed, we plan to move the 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

(5) NARTS FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT #2 – Suballocated FTA Section 5307 FY 2018 Federal Apportionment to ORT – Recommendation to RPC/Policy Committee

Chair Patsy Christie introduced the item and Tim Conklin explained that ARDOT notified Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) regarding additional funding available to the state, originally suballocated to the Conway urban area of \$936,626 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds. He said ORT expressed interest in using that funding for seven (7) Dodge Ram vans. He said this requires a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment and this is a race to not have these federal funds lapse. We are proposing this TIP amendment to add these funds to our program as follows:

2023-2026 NARTS TIP - AMENDMENT #2 PROPOSED CHANGES

JOB	COUNTY	ROUTE	TERMINI	LENGTH	TYPE WORK	ESTIMATED COST Funding Breakdown (in thousands)	AGENCY CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT	FFY	MPO
ADD:									
NARTS16			Capital - Rolling Stock - Conway Funds	-	Transit	1,102 - TOTAL 937 - FTA 5307 165 - Local	Local-ORT	2023	NARTS
Suballocated Conway FTA Sec. 5307 FFY 2018 Federal Appropriation									

He said he did have a conversation with Razorback Transit because we typically split the 5307 money – 45% to Razorback Transit and 55% to ORT. He said the University is okay with this one-time infusion of money to ORT. There was discussion regarding NWARPC being the FTA designated recipient, with RPC/Policy Committee being the entity that determines how to split the money in the region. Conklin said he and Razorback Transit had conversations with ARDOT about the process and in the future, the process will come through Regional Planning.

Chair Christie asked the Committee whether there were any other questions or comments and hearing none, requested a motion to recommend the NARTS Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2 to the RPC/Policy Committee.

MOTION: Mark Latham made a motion to recommend to the RPC/Policy Committee the Northwest Arkansas Transportation Study (NARTS) Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2. Paul Libertini provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

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(6) PROJECTS AND OTHER UPDATES

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

Chair Christie introduced the item and Nicole Gibbs explained that we are now implementing triparty agreements and to date, we have experienced a delay in receiving those agreements partly due to the significant ARDOT restructuring. She summarized the following FFY 2023 project status table:

COUNTY	JOB	JURISDICTION	PROJECT	PHASE	TAP	STBGP-A	CRP	Notes	AoU Rec'd	
2023 AWARDED PROJECTS										
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		w/in 2wks	
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	Farmingington	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			\$ 240,653	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	
2023 Projects Awarded by RPC/Policy Committee: STBGP-A and TAP – August 2022 CRP (1 st Call) – December 2022 CRP (2 nd Call) – March 2023							\$ 1,408,974	\$ 10,354,103	\$ 2,171,154	
							TOTAL AWARDED 2023	\$ 13,934,231		



Gibbs summarized the obligation plan scenario and said pieces are still moving and we are working with Communities and ARDOT to reach the obligation goals. She said if your project is on this list, it is critical that we continue to work towards obligation before the September deadline:

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		
2023 AWARDED PROJECTS															
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						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			\$ 240,653	Supp.Agr.	supp.agr.			\$ 240,653			\$ 240,653
										\$ 500,000	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 481,306	\$ -	\$ 2,781,306	
EXISTING/ONGOING PROJECTS (UNOBLIGATED)															
2019	090338	Rogers	Walnut Street/US 71B Sidewalks	Construction	\$ 212,047					\$ 212,047					\$ 212,047
2021	040852	Springdale	Watkins Ave. Bike-Ped Bridge over I-49	Construction	\$ 125,000					\$ 125,000					\$ 125,000
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
										\$ 125,000	\$ 2,000,000	N/A	\$ -	\$ 2,337,047	
EXISTING/ONGOING PROJECTS TO REQUEST FFY 2024 FUNDING* (PROJECTED)															
2024*	040717	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Ext.			\$ 5,020,000					\$ 4,742,932		\$ 277,068	\$ 5,020,000	
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	
										\$ -	\$ 4,742,932	N/A	\$ 1,037,422	\$ 5,780,354	
										NET POTENTIAL OBLIGATION 2023	\$ 625,000	\$ 8,542,932	\$ 481,306	\$ 1,037,422	\$ 10,898,707
										FUNDS OBLIGATED 2023	\$ 408,974	\$ 6,026,845	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,435,819
										TOTAL AWARDED 2023					\$ 13,934,231
														STBGP-A-AWARDED 2023 \$ 10,354,103	
														TAP AWARDED 2023 \$ 1,408,974	
														CRP AWARDED 2023 \$ 2,171,154	

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

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023 AT 10:30 AM; APPROVED NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

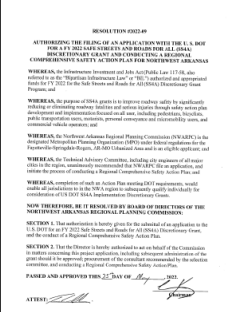
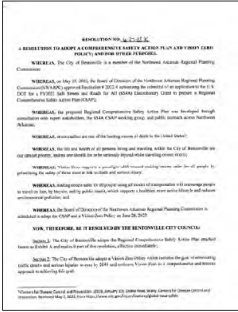


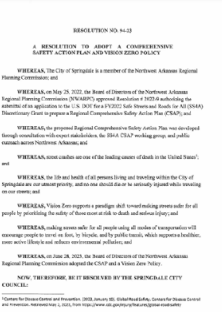
B. Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Grants Update

Elizabeth Bowen explained that the NWA Vision Zero Plan was adopted by the RPC/Policy Committee in June 2023. She said next steps include the following:

- Huntsville Plan Finalized (draft due 8/23)
- Cities/Counties adopt Plan and Vision Zero Goal
- Implement (apply for grants)

Bowen said please continue setting your Vision Zero Goals and send NWARPC the adopting resolutions when you get them done. She said several communities have already adopted Vision Zero Goals, including the following, and Huntsville has recently set their goal for 2038:

VISION ZERO GOALS SET

2038	2040	2030	2040	2038
				

NWARPC
Bentonville
Fayetteville
Rogers
Springdale

Bowen said we had three (3) entities that were able to apply for the Implementation Grants by the July 10th deadline. She said Bentonville applied for their Greenhouse Road project for \$25 million; Fayetteville applied for multiple projects for \$25 million; and Rogers applied for multiple projects for \$20 million. She said we anticipate hearing something towards the end of the year regarding award notifications.

Bowen said, regarding the \$300,000 USDOT SS4A Action Planning Grant that NWARPC was awarded in January 2023 to complete the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), since we adopted the plan prior to USDOT getting the agreement of the funding to us, we are waiting to hear back as to 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

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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 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 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. Bowen said you can apply for between \$2 million and \$500 million for the CRPG 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.

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 summarized the next steps as follows:

- Procurement process to hire a consultant – negotiating fee/tasks
- Sign MOA on Aug 23
- Form Steering Committee
- Survey/website/idea box
- Review City County State plans for action items
- Identify new action items
- Develop Action Plans

Bowen said we are negotiating a contract with Olsson to complete our regional work.

D. Other Grant Opportunity Updates

Bowen said there are two new Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs), and she 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,

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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
- **NEW!** [FTA Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development \(TOD\) Planning](#) - *this year, applications with a substantial focus on affordable housing may receive up to 100% federal support* - deadline Tuesday, October 10, 2023 11:59 PM EDT

Arkansas State Grant Programs

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

Tim Conklin said NWARPC was awarded a \$180,000 grant to implement the Connect NWA and the bus stop improvement program with ORT and Razorback Transit and are working through that process to get the project moving. He said ORT and Razorback Transit will be splitting the local match through their organizations.

Conklin said we applied for a RAISE grant for the *Highway 112: Complete Streets. Connecting Communities.* project. He said there were 1,100 applications received, 347 highly rated, and ultimately 162 awarded. He said Highway 112 was not awarded, however, it received the ‘project of merit’/highly rated designation, and staff attended a USDOT debrief on August 15, 2023 to help us identify how we can improve our application.

Conklin said we submitted the Highway 112 project for a \$25 million Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) a couple days ago, and will be submitting another \$160 million MPDG application for *Highway 612: Connecting a Region.* to extend Highway 612 from I-49 to Highway 265. He said ARDOT will be carrying out both projects and have agreed to match any federal awards received. He said the NWA Council is helping to fund consultant work for the Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) on these projects.

(7) COMMITTEE AND GROUP UPDATES

A. Active Transportation Committee (ACT)

Bowen said ACT will be meeting this afternoon and summarized the following:

ACT Last Met: July 20, 2023

- NWA Equity and Active Transportation Survey - Trailblazers
- Don’t Stop at the Street - Fayetteville
- 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

(8) PUBLIC COMMENT

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Chair Patsy Christie said one public comment was received and distributed to the TAC in their meeting packets. She asked whether there were any other public comments and there were none.

(9) OTHER BUSINESS

A. Future Meeting Dates:

Chair Christie went over the future meetings as follows:

- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, August 23, 2023 @ 1:30 PM
 - **TAC Meeting** – Thursday, September 21, 2023 @ 10:30 AM
- A. Beaver Watershed Alliance, Smart Growth for Source Water Protection Forums #5 What the “Hales a Swale”?** – August 17, 2023 @11:30am, University of Arkansas Extension Services Office, Fayetteville, [more information here](#)
- B. ARDOT Public Involv. Meetings Hwys. 59 & 72 Corridor Study (Benton Co.)** – [more info. here](#)
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
- C. Beaver Watershed Alliance, Smart Growth for Source Water Protection Forum #6, Leading Change** – September 28, 2023 @11:30am, Fayetteville Public Library, Zeigler Room, [more info. here](#)
- D. ARDOT Transportation Planning Conference** – September 19-21, 2023, Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, North Little Rock, AR, [more information here](#)

Chair Christie asked whether there is any other business.

(10) ADJOURN

The meeting was ended at 11:24 am.