

**NARTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024, AT 10:30 AM; APPROVED OCTOBER 17, 2024**

ENTITY	MEMBER	PRESENT	PROXY
AVOCA	ROBERT WHITEHORN		
BELLA VISTA	DOUG TAPP TAYLOR ROBERTSON CHRIS BRACKETT	X X	
BENTON COUNTY	JUDGE BARRY MOEHRING JOSH BEAM JAY FRASIER	X	
BENTONVILLE	DENNIS BIRGE DAN WEESE	X X	
CAVE SPRINGS	MAYOR RANDALL NOBLETT		
CENTERTON	MAYOR BILL EDWARDS LORENE BURNS		
DECATUR	MAYOR BOB THARP		
ELKINS	MAYOR TROY REED		
ELM SPRINGS	MATT CASEY	X	
FARMINGTON	MELISSA McCARVILLE	X	
FAYETTEVILLE	JONATHAN CURTH CHRIS BROWN PAUL LIBERTINI	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		
PEA RIDGE	MAYOR NATHAN SEE		
PINEVILLE	MAYOR GREG SWEETEN		
PRAIRIE GROVE	MAYOR DAVID FAULK		
ROGERS	JOHN MCCURDY QUINTON HARRIS LANCE JOBE	X	
SILOAM SPRINGS	BEN RHOADS (VICE CHAIR) KEVIN MOORE	X	
SPRINGDALE	PATSY CHRISTIE (CHAIR) RYAN CARR	X	X Tristan Hill
TONTITOWN	MAYOR ANGELA RUSSELL	X	Brad Spurlock
WASHINGTON CO.	BRIAN LESTER SAM ATA JEFF CROWDER	X	Bridget Russell
WEST FORK	MAYOR HEITH CAUDLE		
WINSLOW	ANN MALKIE		
NWARPC	TIM CONKLIN	X	
BEAVER H2O DISTRICT	CODY HUDSON		
OZARK REG. TRANSIT	JOEL GARDNER		
RAZORBACK TRANSIT	ADAM WADDELL (GARY K. SMITH)	X	
U OF A	SCOTT TURLEY (JAY HUNEYCUTT)	X	
McDONALD COUNTY	COMM. BRYAN HALL		
MoDOT	FRANK MILLER (MARVIN MORRIS)	X	
NWA NATIONAL AIRPORT	AARON BURKES	X	
ARDOT PLANNING AND DISTRICT 9	ANTHONY HUNTER SUNNY FARMAHAN ROBERT MOORE	X X	

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NWARPC STAFF: Tim Conklin; Nicole Gibbs; Tim Reavis; Cristina Scarlat, Luke Aitken

OTHERS: Tyler Overstreet (Bentonville); Dane Eifling (Fayetteville); Minghua Miller, Yingling Yan, and Marcus Rainwater (ARDOT); Frank Miller (MoDOT); Bobby Cottam (Burns & McDonnell); Anna Stamps, Anna Negrete, and Mark Moore (CEI); Brian Culpepper (UA CAST); Sean Johnson (Replica); Kenneth Lovett (Public)

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.

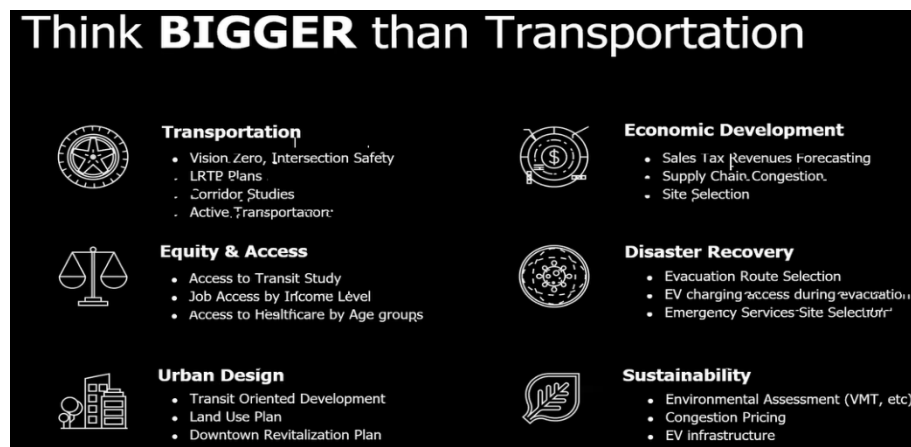
(3) APPROVAL OF AUGUST 15, 2024 MEETING MINUTES – Deferred for October approval

Chair Patsy Christie said the approval of TAC meeting minutes from August 15, 2024 will be deferred until the October TAC meeting.

(4) REPLICA DEMONSTRATION FOR 1-YEAR REGIONAL LICENSE – Presentation by Sean Johnson, Replica

Chair Patsy Christie introduced the item and Tim Reavis provided background on the Replica software platform. Reavis stated that the platform and its origin and destination data will be purchased by NWARPC for use by staff and by consultant WSP to update the Transportation Demand Model and to inform the Transit Alternatives Study. He said this license will be made available to our member organizations starting mid-October for one year to support transportation and land use planning work in the NWA region.

Sean Johnson provided an in-depth presentation regarding all the forms of data provided by the replica platform. This data spans from transportation mode, frequency, and travel patterns to economic metrics, historic land use data, and demographic data. The platform also allows users to query and analyze large sets of data, and export that data for use in a variety of projects, maps, and analyses. Johnson stated that a majority of the datasets that are available on the platform come from cell phone user data and Census block data. The image below shows the extensive data and insights available on the platform.



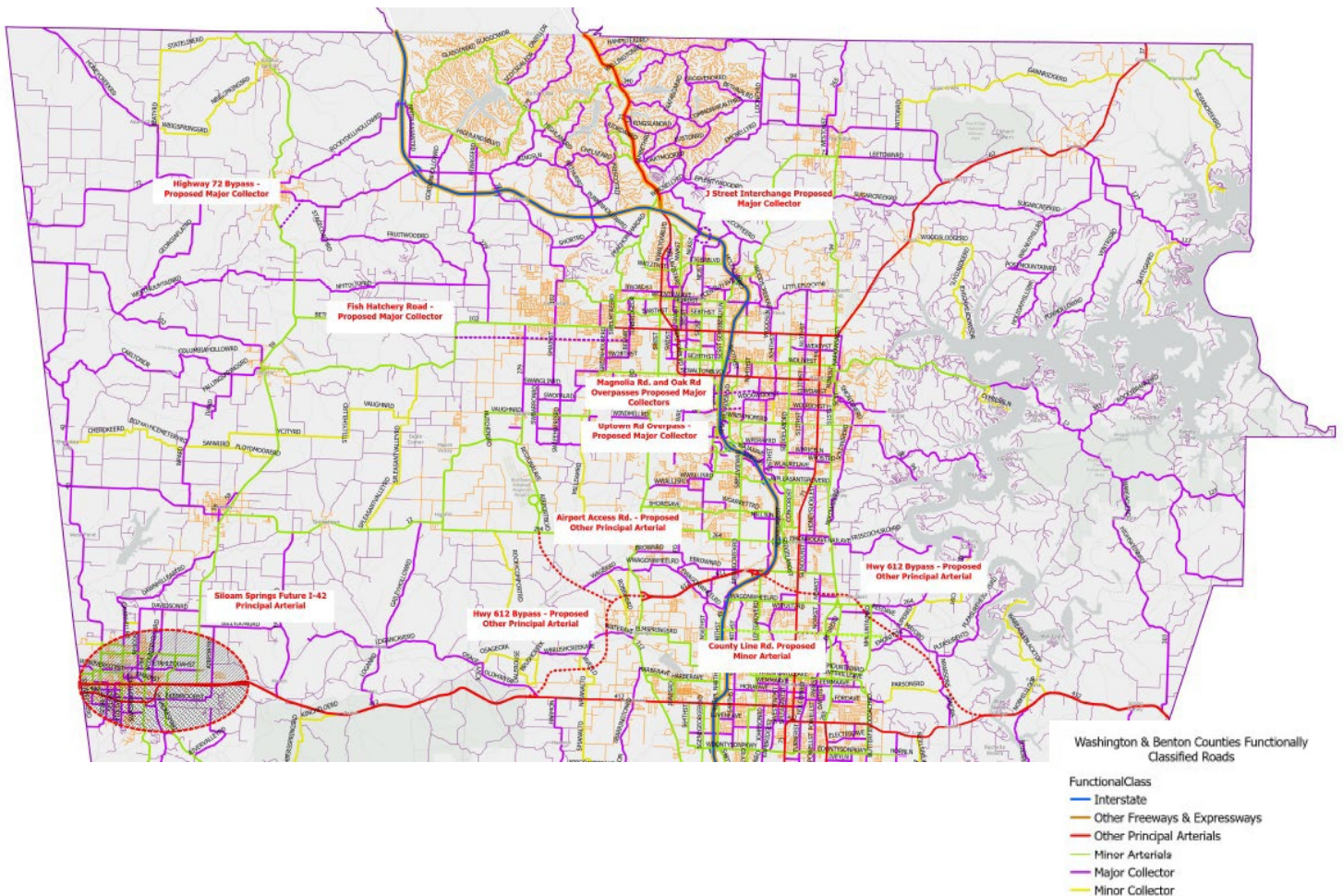
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Chair Patsy Christie thanked Johnson for the informative presentation and asked if there were any questions or comments on the item. Christie asked if there is a timeline for rollout of this license. Tim Reavis stated that October 1, 2024 is the target start date and Sean Johnson confirmed that this is a web-based platform which will not require staff/users to download any program onto their personal computers.

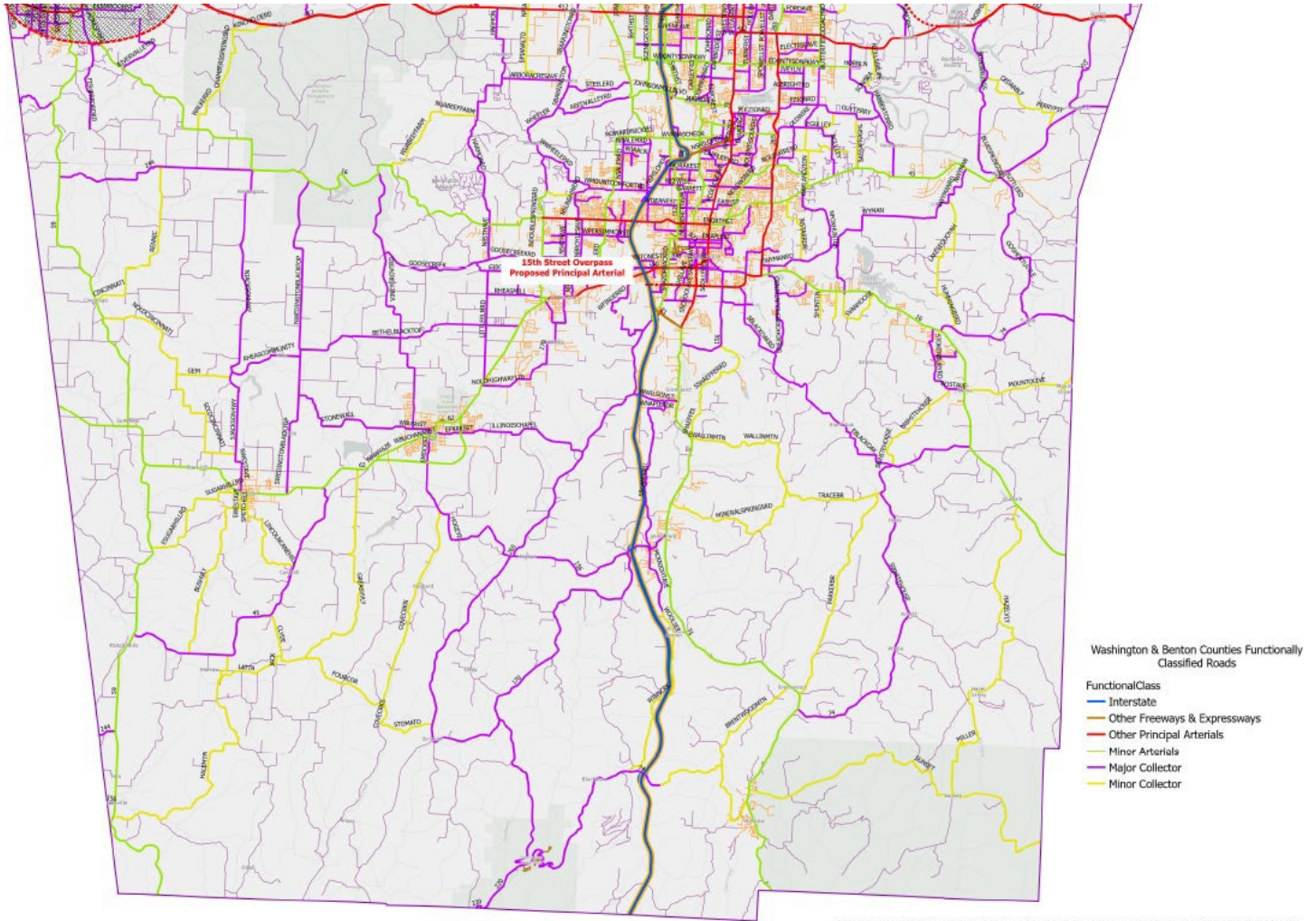
(5) FHWA FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MAP COMPREHENSIVE UPDATE – Discussion

Chair Patsy Christie introduced the item and Tim Conklin said staff is working with ARDOT to update the region’s functional classification map, which outlines roadways in the region and classifies them in accordance with type and level of service provided (local, principal arterial, major collector etc). Conklin stated this comprehensive update is done following the decennial census.

He showed the image below and said major facilities to be added include the J street interchange, Highway 72 Bypass, US 612 Bypass, XNA Access road, Uptown road overpass, and Future interstate-42. Conklin stated that cities master street plans should ideally have consistency with this new map, and that future amendments to MSP’s should take into account the functional classifications shown on the most up to date FHWA map, especially if federal funding is projected to be used for a particular road or corridor. Conklin asked members to review the proposed updates and suggest changes or additions to the map update as soon as possible so that they are able to be incorporated into the map for the next decade.



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Chair Patsy Christie thanked Tim for the update and concurred that cities knowing of large road projects needed in the near future should ensure those projects are shown on this proposed map update.

Chair Patsy Christie asked whether there were any other questions or comments and there were none.

(6) 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) – FORM SUBCOMMITTEE & VISION/GOALS DISCUSSION

Chair Patsy Christie introduced the item and Tim Reavis stated that a visioning and goal setting process typically conducted with a subcommittee at the start of the 5-year update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The vision set by the subcommittee will help to inform goals set for the MTP, which in turn will guide investments in our region’s transportation network to accommodate growth in the region looking forward to 2050. He said the MTP will be informed by population estimates provided by the Arkansas Economic Development Institute (AEDI) as well as local land use plans and zoning codes. He stated staff would be reaching out to members in the near future to request to serve on the MTP Subcommittee.

Chair Patsy Christie stated that NWA is growing and that all cities participation in this MTP update

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process will be crucial in ensuring that our region can responsibly accommodate the influx of population growth forecasted through 2050.

(7) PROJECT AND OTHER UPDATES

A. NWARPC FUNDING PROGRAMS (STBGP-A/TAP/CRP) – Project Development & Obligation Plan

Chair Patsy Christie introduced the item and Nicole Gibbs shared the approved FFY 2024 obligation outcome. Gibbs and Conklin thanked member and ARDOT staff for their help in getting the projects in shape to obligate by the deadline.

FFY 2024 Obligations

YEAR	JOB	JURISDICTION	PROJECT	PHASE	STBGP-A	TAP	CRP	TOTAL OBLIGATED 2024
OBLIGATED								
2024	090436	Bella Vista	Mercy Way Bridge and Road Imps - Razorback Greenway Ext.	All Phases	\$ 120,354			OBLIG. 2023
2024	090524	Benton County	Wagon Wheel Rd Bridge Replacement	Constr/ConstEng/Utilities	\$ 640,000			OBLIG. 2023
2024	090631	Rogers	Hudson Rd Sidewalks PH1 (existing ARDOT TAP)	Construction		\$ 300,000		OBLIG. 2023
2024	090564	Rogers	Hwy 94/US71B Sidewalks PH1 (existing ARDOT TAP project)	Construction			\$ 220,948	OBLIG. 2023
2024	040717	Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Ext.	Construction	\$ 3,000,000			OBLIG. 2023
2025	090628	Bentonville-Centertor	Greenhouse Road	ROW/Utilities	\$ 461,928			\$ 461,928
2024	090628	Bentonville-Centertor	Greenhouse Road Improvements	ROW/Utilities	\$ 3,333,396			\$ 3,333,396
2019	090377	Bentonville	SW "I" - Moberly Lane (8th Street Widening)	Construction	\$ 538,757			\$ 538,757
2023	090679	Decatur	Rooster St to Hill Ave Sidewalk Improvements (ARDOT TAP-22)	Construction			\$ 183,000	\$ 183,000
2025	040943	Fayetteville	Millsap, College, N Hemlock	Construction	\$ 1,900,000			\$ 1,900,000
2024	040943	Fayetteville	Millsap, College, N Hemlock	ROW/Utilities	\$ 1,300,000			\$ 1,300,000
2023	040943	Fayetteville	Millsap, College, N Hemlock	Enviro/ROW	\$ 320,000			\$ 320,000
2025	040955	Fayetteville	Drake St. Trail Connections	Construction		\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000
2024	040955	Fayetteville	Drake Street Trail Connection	Construction		\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000
2024	040956	Fayetteville	Safe Routes to School Planning Grant	Planning			\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
2022	040946	Fayetteville	Lighting and Video Detection Impvts.	Construction			\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
2019/2023	040746	Fayetteville	Hwy 112 Truckers Dr. - Howard Nickell Rd. (2021-HIP)	Construction	\$ 280,000	\$ 100,892		\$ 380,892
2023	040917	Farmington	Creekside Park Trail	Construction		\$ 500,000		\$ 500,000
2022	040947	Johnson	Razorback Greenway Lighting	Construction			\$ 339,300	\$ 339,300
2024	090601	Lowell	US-71B/HWY264 Intersection Improvements **	ROW/Utilities/Const	\$ 250,000			\$ 250,000
2023	090601	Lowell	US-71B/HWY264 Intersection Improvements **	Construction	\$ 240,000			\$ 240,000
2022	090601	Lowell	US-71B/HWY264 Intersection Improvements **	All Phases	\$ 730,000			\$ 730,000
2025	090722	Lowell	Hwy. 264 Razorback Greenway Tunnel & Trail Realignment	Construction	\$ 2,481,309			\$ 2,481,309
2024	090722	Lowell	Hwy 264 Razorback Greenway Tunnel	ROW/Utilities	\$ 404,400			\$ 404,400
2025	090680	Lowell	Honeysuckle Street Sidewalk (ARDOT TAP-22)	ROW/Utility/Const			\$ 389,591	\$ 389,591
2024	090719	Pea Ridge	N Davis Street Sidewalk Ext	ROW/Utilities/Const			\$ 332,872	\$ 332,872
2025	090631	Rogers	Hwy. 62 (Hudson Rd) Sidewalk Impvts. (P2)	Construction		\$ 700,000		\$ 700,000
2025	090631	Rogers	Hwy. 62 (Hudson Rd) Sidewalk Impvts. (P2)	Construction			\$ 81,355	\$ 81,355
2025	090675	Rogers	Hwy 265 & W. Pleasant Grove Rd Roundabout	Design & Enviro	\$ 36,984			\$ 36,984
2023	090675	Rogers	Hwy 265 & W. Pleasant Grove Rd Roundabout	Design/Env	\$ 168,000			\$ 168,000
2025	090674	Rogers	Hwy 265 and Hwy 94/New Hope Rd Roundabout	Design & Enviro	\$ 50,536			\$ 50,536
2023	090674	Rogers	Hwy 265 and Hwy 94 New Hope Rd Roundabout	Design/Env	\$ 200,000			\$ 200,000
2025	090564	Rogers	Hwy. 94 Pedestrian Impvts. (P1)	Construction		\$ 109,769		\$ 109,769
2024	090721	Rogers	Hwy62/Hwy 94/Hwy12 (Hudson Rd) Sidewalks Impvts	Design/Enviro			\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000
2022	040948	Springdale	Watkins Ave. - S Pleasant St Trail Feasibility Plan and Design	Plan/Design			\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
2025	040854	Tontitown	US412 and Klenc Road Traffic Signal Installation	Construction	\$ 501,436			\$ 501,436
2024	040957	Tontitown	N Barrington Rd and US 412 Inters Impvts	Design/Enviro	\$ 360,000			\$ 360,000
2025	040958	Washington County	Wheeler Rd. Bridge Replacement-Clabber Creek Str. & Apprs.	Design & Environ	\$ 200,000			\$ 200,000
2024	040958	Washington County	Wheeler Rd. Bridge Replacement-Clabber Creek Str. & Apprs.	Design/Enviro	\$ 200,000			\$ 200,000
					\$ 13,956,745	\$ 2,410,661	\$ 2,186,118	\$ 18,553,525

**Total Funds Obligated:
\$18,553,525**



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Unobligated Awards

YEAR	JOB	JURISDICTION	PROJECT	PHASE	STBGP-A	TAP	CRP
EXISTING/ONGOING PROJECTS (UNOBLIGATED)							
2024	090708	Gravette	Hwy 59&72 Intersection Improvements **	Construction	\$ 1,000,000		
2024	090716	Bentonville	SW Bentonville Trail from Morning Star Trail to Vendor Blvd	Construction		\$ 400,000	
2024	090718	Pea Ridge	Lee Town Road Multi-Use Trail	ROW/Utilities			\$ 386,180
2024	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Rd Inters. Impvts. **	Construction	\$ 891,850		
2023	090433	Lowell	Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Rd Inters. Impvts. **	Construction	\$ 560,000		
2023	090238	Centerton	Hwy 102 Sidepath **	Construction	\$ 600,000		
2023	090709	Lowell	Monroe Extension from Oak St to Hwy 265	Utilities/Eng/Constr	\$ 439,258		
2023	090715	Centerton	Fish Hatchery Rd Trail Project	Design			\$ 25,000
2022	090678	Cave Springs	W Wallis Rd & Sands Rd Sidewalk Extension (ARDOT TAP)	Construction			\$ 10,784
2022	090706	Centerton	McKissic Trail Phase 2	Construction			\$ 500,000
2022	090707	Lowell	Traffic Signal Improvements	Construction			\$ 131,764
2021	040852	Springdale	Watkins Ave. Bike-Ped Bridge over I-49	Construction		\$ 125,000	
2019/202	040746	Fayetteville	Hwy 112 Truckers Dr. - Howard Nickell Rd.			\$ 149,108	
					\$ 3,491,108	\$ 674,108	\$ 1,053,728
					TOTAL UNOBLIGATED AWARDS \$ 5,218,944		
2025 AWARDED PROJECTS (EXISTING) *							
2025	090676	Bentonville	I-49/ J Street Interchange - Tiger Blvd to I-49	ROW/Utilities	\$ 2,500,000		
2025	NEW	Centerton	City Wide Sidewalk Infill (2)	Construction			\$ 227,000
2025	NEW	Centerton	City Wide Sidewalk Infill (1)	Construction		\$ 94,955	
2025	NEW	Fayetteville	Stephen Carr Memorial Dr / I-49 Interchange Impvts.	Design & Enviro	\$ 650,000		
2025	NEW	Fayetteville	Ripple Trail Lighting	Construction			\$ 315,193
2025	NEW	Lowell	Hwy. 264 Widening - Goad to Bellview Rd.	Design	\$ 504,000		
2025	NEW	Pea Ridge	Hwy. 94 (Pickens Rd) Sidewalk Connection (Res. not signed)	ROW/Utilities/Const			\$ 164,193
2025	NEW	Rogers	US-71B Pedestrian Impvts. (P3)	Design & Environ			\$ 328,000
2025	NEW	Springdale-Lowell	Apple Blossom Ave Impvts.	Design & Environ	\$ 2,800,000		
					\$ 6,454,000	\$ 94,955	\$ 1,034,386

NOTES: \$1M carry over limitation per ARDOT policy; in the past, ARDOT partner projects (PP)** did not count toward carry over limitation



Gibbs stated that ARDOT is working currently on new project agreements for FFY 2025 project awards approved by the Board in May 2024. She shared the anticipated FFY 2026 funding programs timeline as follows:

FFY 2026 NWARPC Funding Programs *Anticipated* Timeline:

Call for Projects (Applications open)	Early January 2025
Application Deadline (<i>Resolution Required</i>)	Early April 2025
Project Sponsor Presentation to TAC Committee	Thursday, April 2025
Selection Committee Site Visits/Scoring/Rec	April/May
Selection Committee Recommendation to TAC	May 2025
TAC Recommendation to RPC/Policy	May 2025

B. Other ongoing project updates

NWA Vision Zero Safety Action Plan, Phase 2 Update (USDOT-SS4A)

Luke Aitken explained the commission is currently working with consultant Toole design to carry out phase 2 of the Safety Action Plan, to include:

- Regional Complete Streets Design Guide
- 5 Individual Community Safety Action Plans
- 2 Systemic Safety Webinars
- 2 Safety Demonstration Projects
- Communications and Outreach Tools

Aitken stated that progress is being made with Toole Design in Phase 2, with the third and final

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Complete Streets Design Guide workshop meeting coming up on October 2, 2024. He said staff are currently reviewing draft portions of the Complete Street Design Guide, focusing on promoting context sensitive street design, which is slated to be complete in December 2024. He stated a safety demonstration project will also be held with Toole design on October 1, 2024 in Bentonville with the Bentonville Fire Department and other regional emergency services staff. Aitken said invites will be sent out for that demonstration event in the coming week. This will be an open event and members were encourage to attend if they are able.

NWA Energy & Environment Innovation (EEI) Plan (EPA-CPRG)

Nicole Gibbs explained that Phase 2 of the planning work is underway with the development of the NWA Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP). She said the consultant, Olsson, is working with NWARPC staff to create a more comprehensive deliverable for the CPRG Planning Grant, building upon the measures outlined in the Priority Action Plan (PAP), by using funding suballocated to NWARPC by Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (ADEE). She said the PAP identifies top priority measures for the region, which the CAP will expand upon, outlining actionable steps, toward regional implementation of the new and existing priority actions. She said the plan will support future planning and funding opportunities for the NWA MSA, related to environmental quality and emissions reduction.

Gibbs stated the deadline for the CAP supplement to ADEE is February 28, 2025 and that staff will be doing extensive public outreach from now through October. The final CAP will be considered for adoption by the RPC/Policy Committee in Spring 2025. She emphasized that both documents will serve as components of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update.

Gibbs said progress is being made by staff and planning partners toward beginning the implementation work, utilizing the \$36.25 million in awarded funds from the EPA CPRG program and explained how much cross-agency collaboration was required to make this grant award possible. She said this grant award is unprecedented for the region and state. Conklin said this funding will help implement a variety of projects in the state of Arkansas and the NWA region, and that the work in NWA will focus on implementing our Open Space Plan and Regional Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan. Conklin outlined the 18 projects funded by the NWA portion of the Implementation Grant and their “NWA Green Network” focus, which strives to identify and preserve the region’s natural open spaces and protect green space corridors in tandem with further developing the regions safe and connected Active Transportation network.

Lastly, Gibbs stated that Metroplan has hired a grant administrator Leesa Freasier who will be working full time to support reporting and administering funds from this grant based in Little Rock.

NWA Mobility - Strategic Communications Plan

Nicole Gibbs introduced the item and stated that NWARPC contracted with the communications firm mhp.si to advance the regional conversation around mobility to respond to the rapid growth of the region. In addition to the 12-month strategic communications plan, deliverables will include a messaging guide and scientific public opinion survey. She said this plan will help build awareness of the planning work being done in the region and support the work of regional municipalities to promote responsible growth by highlighting our focus and expertise around transportation planning.

She mentioned that focus groups have already been conducted, providing the first level of insights from this project and that a scientific public opinion survey has been conducted, with results

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expected to be presented to staff very soon. She stated that NWARPC staff's ongoing work to update the Public Participation Plan will also be informed by the best practices recommended via this communications plan. She also stated that staff is preparing a public outreach plan for the PPP update and that the PPP update is targeted to be completed by February 2025.

Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections (AoPP) Project / Razorback Transit Bus Stop Enhancements.

Tim Reavis shared that there are two active bus stop related projects being carried out by NWARPC. The first is the Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections Project. This project came about when the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded NWARPC \$180,000 for engineering activities to be applied to area bus stop improvements, including shelters, benches, sidewalk gaps, bike parking etc. He provided an update on this grant program and stated that procurement is now complete, and that NWARPC has selected consultant Olsson to carry out the engineering work. He said that the Walton Family Foundation is offering a one-to-one local government match to supplement this work, up to \$200,000. He encouraged interested communities to participate and apply for this funding for transit stops while it is available.

Reavis also provided an update on the Razorback Transit Bus Stop Enhancements Plan, stating that the Selection Committee has met and chosen consultant Toole Design for this work. He said NWARPC has signed a contract with the firm and Toole staff will be working to inventory Razorback stops and carry out this project through February 2025. Reavis stated that this grant seeks to create a comprehensive inventory of existing bus stops, evaluate the feasibility of improvements, and then draft a plan with recommendations to implement chosen stop improvements for the Razorback Transit system.

C. Other Grant Opportunity Updates

Tim Conklin provided information on the ongoing grant opportunities being pushed out by USDOT. He showed the new Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) that have been announced by US Department of Transportation (USDOT) from the Key Notices of Funding Opportunity Webpage (<https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/key-notices-funding-opportunity>).

Conklin provided an update on the grants being pursued for Highway 112, including ARDOT TAP, ATIIP, SS4A, and RAISE programs, to fund the preferred bicycle accommodation of a 12-foot sidewalk along the entirety of the Highway 112 project. Tim Reavis provided an update on the 2024 RAISE Application for Highway 112 funding. The project was not selected this round but was highlighted as a project of merit for the second year in a row, ranking high in all categories. He said this means the project will be a priority application next round.

Conklin congratulated the City of Siloam Springs on their \$11.6 million RAISE Grant award to improve E Main St as a Complete Street, and also congratulated ARDOT on their \$25 million RAISE Grant award from the USDOT, funding an extension of I-49 south from Alma, Arkansas.

He also mentioned the currently open application including for Community Change Grants being offered by the US EPA, and the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program offered by USDOT. Conklin congratulated Ozark Regional Transit on a recent grant of \$14 Million to fund the installation of new Electric Vehicle chargers in the NWA region.

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(8) COMMITTEE AND GROUP UPDATES

A. Active Transportation Committee

Luke Aitken said the ACT Committee will meet this afternoon, September 19, 2024 to discuss new grant opportunities, subcommittee reformation for the NWA regional bike and pedestrian plan update, and recent bike and pedestrian project developments in the region, they last met on July 18, 2024.

B. NWA Open Space Coalition

Aitken said the group's last meeting was held on September 11, 2024 in Bentonville, to visit Osage park and learn about its unique design. The group met with Bentonville parks staff and also learned more about the newly announced 8th Street Gateway Park that will preserve 50+ acres of open space in the heart of Bentonville. He said the next meeting will be held November 13, 2024 at Luther George Park in Downtown Springdale.

(9) PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Patsy Christie asked whether we received any public comments prior to the meeting or if members of the public were present to provide comment. Nicole Gibbs explained we did receive a comment prior to the meeting, and the resident who submitted the comment is present if they wished to comment verbally. She said she would distribute the written comment in the follow up email to TAC after the meeting.

Kenneth Levitt of Washington County, commented on waste disposal practices in the region, stating that the Eco-Vista landfill is causing toxic chemicals being released into the air and that Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality is not paying attention. Levitt stated that the issue of irresponsible solid waste disposal practices is not being brought up enough at the state level and wants the local governments of NWA to address our waste in responsible ways such as gasification or biochar, which can reduce emissions and more efficiently turn waste into fuel.

Christie thanked Levitt for his comments and asked if there were any others; there were none.

(10) OTHER BUSINESS

A. Future Meeting Dates:

Chair Patsy Christie announced the following upcoming meeting dates –

- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – SEPTEMBER MEETING CANCELLED
- **TAC Meeting** – Thursday, October 17, 2024 @ 10:30 AM
- **RPC/Policy Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, October 23, 2024 @ 1:30 PM

B. [American Planning Association \(APA\) Quad State Conference](#) – October 7-9, 2024, Fayetteville, AR

C. [ULI Northwest Arkansas Place Summit 2024](#) – November 20-21, 2024, Bentonville, AR

Chair Patsy Christie asked whether there was any other business and hearing none, adjourned the meeting.

(11) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 AM.