

## Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting Summary

Summary of May 15, 2024, Meeting

The meeting was held virtually for committee members and electronically for the public and can be viewed in its entirety at: <https://youtube.com/live/hgLgyy41h6g>

### Committee Members

**Sam Credio - Chair**  
City of Tucson

**Jose Rodríguez**  
Town of Oro Valley

**Maysa Hanna**  
ADOT

**Kathryn Skinner**  
Pima County-DOT

**Natalie Shepp**  
Pima County-DEQ

**Mark Novak**  
University of Arizona

**Galo Galovale** (Virtual)  
Town of Sahuarita

**Heidi Lasham** (Virtual)  
Town of Marana

### Committee Members Cont.

**Jason Bahe** (Virtual)  
Pasqua Yaqui

**Josue Licea** (Virtual)  
City of South Tucson

**Mark Hoffman** (Virtual)  
ADOT – Transportation Planning Div.

**Patricia Pablo** (Virtual)  
Tohono O’odham

**Scott Robidoux** (Virtual)  
Tucson Airport Authority

PAG Staff Lead  
**Jeanette DeRenne**

Ex-Officio  
Dan Gabiou, FHWA  
Jamie Brown, PAG/RTA

### 1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Sam Credio called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and introductions were made.

### 2. In-kind Reporting

Staff informed the participants of the in-kind form, and committee members were asked to confirm their estimated in-kind time for the meeting.

### 3. Approval of the April 17, 2024, Meeting Summary

[Video Timestamp: 3:27](#)

Natalie Shepp, PDEQ, requested her comments be added to the April 17, 2024, Meeting Summary:

“Projects do not align with CRP guidance. Those projects do not reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation system. The funding does not align with the guidance and consultation coordination with underserved communities and jurisdictions did not happen before going to the Regional Council.”

Kathryn Skinner, Pima County, requested a typo of her name in item four be corrected. Ms. Skinner questioned how the action of that item was corrected and noted that at the committee level, the TPC would not be able to fully program RTA projects and that those would be at other levels.

**Action:** A motion to approve the April 17, 2024, meeting summary with additional above notations was made by Jose Rodriguez, Town of Oro Valley, seconded by Natalie Shepp, PDEQ, and passed unanimously.

### 4. Briefing and discussion on the Dial-a-Ride and Microtransit Service Area

[Video Timestamp: 8:48](#)

PAG Transportation Mobility Coordinator Preston McLaughlin presented the benefits and use of the Dial-a-Ride and Microtransit Service Area Analysis. Members were informed of project tasks and given a project timeline. Mr. McLaughlin indicated that dial-a-ride and microtransit services were key to reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality. Members were informed PAG had been awarded a statewide transit planning grant from ADOT that would be utilized for a comprehensive Transit Planning Study for the Picture Rocks and Vail areas.

Sam Credio, City of Tucson, inquired what the cost of the total contract was. Members were informed that the total contract was \$900,000, with \$250,000 of those funds from a separate ADOT grant to be used for the Vail and Picture Rocks Transit and Feasibility Study, which is part of the project. Mr. Credio questioned why the contract amount was so high. Mike Iswalt, Kimley-Horn, explained to members that the scope had a variety of tasks included in the contract. Members were informed of specific assessments, analysis and the

resources that would be utilized, such as: demographic data, model data, and other data services to determine where microtransit would be most beneficial. Other cost components would include outreach to underserved communities, public outreach to inform the community of the benefits of microtransit and solicit feedback, specific assessments of existing services and modeling to understand what the capital and operating costs would be for the areas of service.

Natalie Shepp, PDEQ, inquired if dial-A-ride was utilized for each individual trip. Members were informed the main purpose was to consolidate trips to get multiple riders to the same location to reduce single occupancy trips. Though it could not be guaranteed to happen each time, the goal would be to coordinate trips for multiple riders.

Paul Casertano, Pima County, asked if there would be anticipated targets for trip reduction impacts. Members were informed if new services were implemented it would impact and decrease trips.

Ms. Shepp shared she found it hard to believe it would reduce VMT and inquired if there would be air quality analysis done to see how much carbon would be reduced if the service was implemented. Members were informed it would part the scope of work and performance metrics.

Mr. Credio questioned how recommendations would be implemented and if they would be brought back to the TPC. Members were informed it would look to find targeted areas, improve booking technology and efficiency. Those recommendations would come back to the TPC, and a technical working group would be formed. Mr. Credio shared there was value in better understanding and utilizing microtransit in the region but had concern with the cost of the study.

Jose Rodríguez, Town of Oro Valley, inquired who was fiscally responsible for bringing contracts to the Regional Council. Members were informed that the Regional Council would have that authority.

Presentation can be found here: [Item-4-Dial-a-Ride-Microtransit-Presentation.pdf](#)

This item was for information only.

## **5. Briefing and discussion on the Household Travel Study and Assessment**

[Video Timestamp: 30:16](#)

PAG Transportation Data Science Coordinator Yunemi Jang provided the members with information on the Household Travel Study and Assessment. Members were informed of the benefits and use of the study, and how it would support regional transportation

planning efforts. Ms. Jang indicated the study would collect 4,200 household samples, 800 transit passenger and college student samples, and 24-hour travel diaries. The Air Quality Impact Analysis would assess travel behavior changes since 2009 and changes to VMT, transportation mode shift, telework participation, and trip frequency. Ms. Jang shared that the study and assessment was consistent with the approved FHWA, ADOT and Regional Council planning activities; it would collect the latest and most accurate data for use in refining the transportation planning process; and the data would be utilized in the development of RMAP to establish baseline information to use in meeting carbon reduction planning federal requirements. Members were informed it would be a 14-month project that would begin June 2024 and continue through July 2025, if approved, and PAG would partner with the ETC Institute and WSP.

Natalie Shepp, PDEQ, questioned why it had been 15 years since the last study. PAG Data Science Administrator Hyunsoo Noh explained that it was recommended to be done every 10 years, but it had been delayed due to unavailable funding. Ms. Shepp inquired why the PAG Travel Reduction Program survey could not be used. Members were informed that commute data was only a part of what would be needed, as TRP did not highlight other behaviors needed for the assessment. Ms. Shepp asked what Justice 40 analysis had been done. Dr. Noh indicated there were samples used from 2008-2009 highlighting behavior changes. Ms. Shepp asked if there would be emissions data collected as part of the air quality analysis. Members were informed it would be in the next steps when the model was run. Ms. Shepp stated she does not support the use of CRP funds for this project, though she believes it is important for transportation modeling purposes, it is not the most appropriate use, and she does not believe that FHWA guidance document was followed.

Paul Casertano, Pima County, asked if data to establish a new baseline model would be used for the current model. Dr. Noh shared with members that the information would be included in the model for the next RMAP.

Jose Rodríguez, Town of Oro Valley, inquired how the 4,200 household samples would be chosen. Members were informed that the population projection data, building permit data and census data from jurisdictions would be utilized.

Mr. Rodríguez commented in support of the use of CRP funds for the presented studies to help guide how programs were chosen and provide performance measures. Heidi Lasham, Town of Marana, commented in support of the use of the CRP funds and the efforts in planning.

Dan Gabiou, FHWA, shared with members that all have projects been identified and considered eligible by Federal Highway Administration and ADOT.

Presentation can be found here: [Item-5-HTSA-Presentation.pdf](#)

This item was for information only.

## **6. Regional Pavement Management Update**

[Video Timestamp 1:14:35](#)

PAG Project Implementation Administrator Lance Peterson provided the members with an update on regional pavement management. Members were informed of the data sampling and collection timeline. Members were informed that ADOT provided PAG with samples that they would be collecting regionally, and those were shared with Roadway Asset Services (RAS) so they would be able to remove the segments they need to collect to supplement the data ADOT would provide. Regional data collection and digital imagery would begin in June 2024 and continue through August 2024, and quality assessment and control would follow. Mr. Peterson shared the anticipated delivery date to jurisdictions would be October 2024.

Jose Rodríguez, Town of Oro Valley, inquired if ADOT collected data yearly or every three years. Members were informed that ADOT collected data yearly. However, the contract is to collect data every three years. Mr. Peterson indicated ADOT does a limited sample size.

Sam Credio, City of Tucson, inquired about the contract amount. Members were informed that the contract was budgeted at \$450,000. Mr. Credio asked what happens to funding during the off years of the collection. PAG Director of Strategic Planning, Programming and Policy Jamie Brown shared those funds would be worked into the next OWP.

Kathryn Skinner, Pima County, asked if local agencies were able to piggyback on the contract if they wanted additional services. Mr. Peterson informed members that it was added into the contract language for that, and the consultant provided a table of costs that local agencies could select from. Ms. Skinner questioned if the data provided would be raw data or processed. Mr. Peterson indicated that the raw data could be directly input into the jurisdiction's platforms.

Mr. Credio inquired if the contract had a time component. Members were informed that the contract was for a total of five years, and during that time additional data would be available for use.

This item was for information only.

## **7. Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan (RMAP) Update**

[Video Timestamp: 1:29:56](#)

PAG Planning Coordinator Hannah Oden provided members with an update of the RMAP Working Group and the development of the 2055 RMAP. Ms. Oden noted that the next meeting of the RMAP Working Group would be on May 21, 2024. Members were informed the Working Group discussion had focused on evaluating performance measures and providing guidance on the 2055 targets. Ms. Oden indicated that group members have provided feedback regarding funding amounts and adding and removing projects. Members were informed the next steps would be to continue aligning the project list with the current estimated fiscal constraint of \$16.4 billion. Members were informed an RMAP survey was anticipated to be conducted in June 2024 for feedback on transportation priorities and need to inform the RMAP.

PAG Data Science Administrator Hyunsoo Noh provided an update of the land use model and the data collected for known projects and general plans. Members were informed the land use model and activity-based model would be used together. Dr. Noh shared air quality and J40 measure were next steps.

Natalie Shepp, Pima County, asked what equity models were being used. Dr. Noh indicated they were the performance measures that used a post processing tool. Ms. Shepp shared there had been no analysis of equity prior to choosing programs and asked members how they considered equity and greenhouse gas emissions when selecting programs. Sam Credio, City of Tucson, shared the City performed an equity analysis and had an equity office that was performing analytics on transportation equity.

Jose Rodríguez, Town of Oro Valley, asked what their definition of equity was. Mr. Credio shared the City was looking at single vehicle and zero vehicle households, people experiencing poverty and no income, and using those datasets when discussing investments in the community. Ms. Shepp shared the City of Tucson and Pima County have both adopted use of the prosperity initiative.

Mr. Rodríguez inquired when RMAP approval was expected. Members were informed that it was expected in spring 2025.

Mr. Credio questioned if the performance metrics were being met in the RMAP. Ms. Oden indicated some have met metrics. However, the metric for safety had been trending in the opposite direction, and there had been discussion of extending targets to 2025.

Kathryn Skinner, Pima County, inquired if RTA Next projects were to change. PAG Transportation Planning Director Jeanette DeRenne informed members should those funds not be approved, the whole project list would have to be redone. Mr. Credio asked what the requirement for the region was to update RMAP. Members were informed it was to be updated every four years and we're currently working with FHWA to monitor what is happening with the RTA Next process.

This item was for information only.

## **8. Update on the Regional Transportation Alternatives Grants (RTAG) competitive selection**

[Video Time Stamp 1:53:28](#)

PAG Director of Strategic Planning, Programming and Policy Jamie Brown Transportation provided the members with an update on the Regional Transportation Alternatives Grants (RTAG) competitive selection. Members were informed that through the RTAG Call for Projects, federal funding was made available through Transportation Alternatives Program Set-Aside (TAP) funds and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. Mr. Brown indicated funding was awarded to projects of the City of Tucson, Pima County and the Town of Sahuarita.

Kathryn Skinner, Pima County, inquired if there was a map of the where the various projects are. Members were informed that maps were included in the applications and staff could follow up and provide the maps.

Jose Rodríguez, Town of Oro Valley, asked if the HURF exchange was back. Members were informed that it was.

Presentation can be found here: [Item-8-RTAG-Competitive-Selection-Update.pdf](#)

This item was for information only.

## **9. Future agenda items**

Members suggested the following topics:

- Discussion on programming CRP funds
- Discussion on performance-based planning and programming
- Discussion on how amendments can be made to the current RMAP
- Analyzing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in project selection
- Review of the Transportation Planning Committee bylaws

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.