



City of Bisbee
Comprehensive Transportation Plan



Meeting Notes

Meeting Date/Time: 2011-01-06 Thursday / 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Project: City of Bisbee Comprehensive Transportation Plan
ADOT Task Assignment MPD 34-10

Attendees: Mark Hoffman, ADOT MPD Tom Klimek, City of Bisbee
Karen Lamberton, Cochise County Luke Droeger, SEAGO
Tom Engel, ADOT Safford District Melissa Reuter, ADOT Environmental
C.T. Revere, ADOT CCP Paco Rico, ADOT CCP
Kathy Boyle, ADOT Intergovernmental Affairs Manager
Dale Miller, WSA

Location: Cochise County Complex, Building F, 1415 Melody Lane, Bisbee, AZ 85603
Human Resources Training Room

Subject: **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**
Review & Discuss Working Paper #1 – Current Conditions

1. Introductions & Opening Remarks

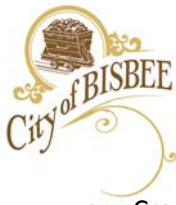
- a. The meeting was opened by Mark Hoffman, ADOT MPD. Mark welcomed those in attendance and gave some brief opening remarks regarding the plan and the meeting's agenda.
- b. Each person attending the meeting did a self introduction.
- c. Tom Klimek gave some brief opening remarks from the local perspective.
- d. Karen Lamberton provided a paper entitled "Census 2010/Cochise County Counts, Final Participation Rates, State Level Population Counts", dated December 2010. She provided the attendees with a briefing on the preliminary 2010 census data for Cochise County and the State and the possible implications of the initial data.
- e. Mark Hoffman then turned the meeting over to Dale Miller to provide an overview of Working Paper #1, Current Conditions.

2. Study Area, Purpose and Need

- a. Dale Miller used a PowerPoint presentation to provide an overview of the first working paper. Printed handout copies of the slides were provided to all attendees. The handouts had space for notes.
- b. Dale Miller reviewed the study area that includes the City of Bisbee and its environs and he restated the study's purpose and needs statements.

3. Current Conditions

- a. Dale Miller provided an overview of the current conditions of the transportation infrastructure for the City of Bisbee. The following paragraphs identify the topics that were reviewed with the members of the TAC.
- b. Current functional classifications of streets, roads and highways within the study area.



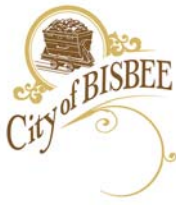
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- c. Crash location and severity based on a review of crash data provided by ADOT for the years 2003 through 2009 inclusive.
- d. The results of the traffic counts conducted for this study in October 2010 and those provided by ADOT from their counter stations were presented. The corresponding 2010 traffic flowband was shown. The flowband is a visual representation of the counts on the various road segments. It was asked if the flowband could be colorized to further detail the traffic magnitude. Dale Miller stated that he would investigate this and make this change to the flowband exhibit if the software used to generate the flowband exhibit would permit this.
- e. The current levels of service on the major street network modeled were shown based on the current traffic count data.
- f. Dale Miller also briefly discussed various other transportation modes and topics including bicycle facilities, sidewalks, staircases, the Bisbee Bus Transit Circulator, the discontinued intercity bus service, freight traffic, the Naco international Port of Entry, and the municipal airport.
- g. Environmental aspects were reviewed and discussed. A planning study typically will consider environmental factors from a high level scan and report on any potential major issues that might impact identified projects. The environmental topics reviewed and discussed included drainage and floodplains; recreational facilities; public lands access; wildlife preservation; hazardous materials; historical places; and air and noise aspects.
 - i. Karen Lamberton provided to the study team a number of photos of wildlife taken in the mountains near Bisbee. These photos included those of a bear and a mountain lion taken during a recent wildlife inventory program. Karen also provided a listing of bird species inventoried during observations made from 2008 to the present time in the Madrean Oak woodland to the west of Bisbee bellow the divide, and a common name list of the protected, listed, sensitive or corridor-focal animal species known to be in the Bisbee area. The common name species listing included information on wildlife Linkage Fracture Zones in the Bisbee area along with general recommendations for riparian habitat and linkage zones. It was discussed that informational material pertinent to the current conditions paper would be included in the final version of the paper to bolster the environmental section.

4. Stakeholder Identified Needs

- a. Dale Miller summarized the transportation system needs identified by stakeholders. The following paragraphs encompass the needs that were common to multiple stakeholders.
 - i. Tom Klimek recommended that the study team pursue scheduling an interview with the School District to meet with perhaps the District Superintendent and the Bus Route Manager since they were unavailable to meet when the stakeholder interviews were conducted. It was agreed that their input would be beneficial to the study.
- b. Sidewalk, crosswalk & bike lanes needed along SR 80 in the pit area.
 - i. The question was raised if the mining company was still planning on relocating the highway to the west side of the lavender pit mine at some point in time. Dale Miller mentioned that during the stakeholder interview he asked that question of Mike Jaworski from McMoran, and that Mr. Jaworski commented, that while he had heard of that concept, he was not



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aware of any plans to relocate the highway and also mentioned their current plans would enable them to leave the highway in place if they were to restart mining in this area.

- c. SR 92/Naco Hwy intersection access management & safety improvements are needed.
- d. Channelize streets at Court House area to define traffic movements.
- e. Network of multiuse paths is needed for pedestrian and bicyclists.
- f. Signage and wayfinding strategies need to be developed and employed throughout the community.
- g. Control speed & safer crosswalks downtown area with effective traffic calming strategies.
- h. Various drainage improvements are needed in identified flood-prone areas around town.
- i. Additional parking is needed in Old Bisbee for visitors and residents.
- j. Safety improvements & access control for SR 92
- k. Funding source(s) need to be identified and earmarked for upkeep of public stairs.
- l. Sidewalks needed for good pedestrian circulation throughout the community.
- m. Poor & rough street surfaces need improvement throughout the study area.
- n. Handrail and safety rails that are code compliant are needed for structures & stairs.
- o. Repair & reopen Old Divide Road for public safety reasons.

5. Roadway and Structure Condition Analysis

- a. Dale Miller presented a table that summarized the typical condition of the City's street segments into excellent, good, fair, poor or failed condition categories. He pointed out the most telling statistic is that 55% of the street segments in the community were rated either poor or failed which is indicative of the serious nature of the state of the transportation infrastructure in Bisbee. He then showed a series of maps that visually showed the rating of the street segments throughout the study area.
- b. Dale Miller then provided an overview of the retaining walls, staircases and bridges that were of concern for various reasons. He referred the TAC to the tables contained in the working paper for specifics on all the structures. The location and need of the retaining walls, staircases, and bridges that had an issue or concern over and above routine maintenance are as follows:
 - i. OK Street Wall at Brewery Avenue is failing & leaning – *needs to be replaced immediately.*
 - ii. Many walls could use facing to protect integrity – see Working Paper #1 for locations.
 - iii. Many stairs need rehabilitation work to protect the integrity of stair treads & handrails – see Working Paper #1 for locations.
 - iv. Brick walkway needs to be replaced at OK Street & Brewery Avenue.
 - v. Top of wall at 103 OK Street needs to be rebuilt.
 - vi. Staircase at 105 OK Street needs to be closed & replaced.
 - vii. Staircase at 115 OK Street needs to be rehabilitated and drainage needs to be controlled.



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- viii. Opera Drive retaining wall needs rehabilitation.
 - ix. Opera Drive Parking Lot area retaining wall needs to be replaced due to poor condition.
 - x. Quality Hill/Key Street wall needs maintenance.
 - xi. Art Avenue wall at Adams St needs rehabilitation.
 - xii. Naco Road stairway needs immediate rehabilitation due to erosion underneath; needs handrail.
 - xiii. Warren Hill stair needs immediate rehabilitation & drainage needs to be controlled.
 - xiv. Warren Avenue stair needs upper portion reconstructed to match the lower portion.
 - xv. Many stairways need handrails brought up to code – see Working Paper #1 for locations.
 - xvi. Wooden bridge at OK Street is in poor condition and needs to be replaced within the next few years.
 - xvii. Structure at OK Street & Youngblood needs water controlled to prevent intrusion on downhill side.
 - xviii. Railing on structure at Black Knob View & Mider Ave needs repair due to vehicle impact.
 - xix. Many utility hangers need to be replaced – need to be field reviewed at all locations.
- c. There were some questions regarding certain structures that were discussed and answered among the TAC members present.
- d. Tom Engel mentioned the ADOT structure for Spring Canyon Road had movement in the headwall that they were monitoring. There are no immediate plans to repair this as it is not causing any distress or concern at this time.
- e. Some discussion was held on future study efforts that will identify specific projects to address and satisfy these needs and possible sources for funding to help the community find supplemental funding to undertake and complete these projects. Karen Lamberton mentioned a funding guideline document for Arizona Counties that would make a good reference document for future working papers in this study.
- f. Melissa Reuter led a discussion with the TAC members on the advisability of scheduling and conduction a briefing meeting for SHPO during the development of the third working paper once specific potential projects have been identified. This will enable SHPO to give input and provide guidance on how to execute projects within the constraints of the historic designation given for much of the infrastructure in the Old Bisbee and Warren neighborhoods. This includes retaining walls, staircases and drainageways.
- i. It was discussed and agreed that this study would develop a guideline or strategy to be followed for projects to be developed as programmed and funded.
 - ii. Tom Klimek informed the TAC members that John Charley with the City of Bisbee had an excellent working relationship with key staff at SHPO and it would be advisable to involve him to help facilitate the meeting with SHPO when timely.

6. Current Condition Findings

- a. Dale Miller reviewed a listing of findings on the current condition of the transportation infrastructure in the study area based on the investigative efforts made, stakeholder interviews conducted, and field inspection and condition assessment. These summary findings are listed in the following paragraphs.



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- b. It is important to preserve the public stairways and retaining walls – they are part of Bisbee’s charm.
- c. Need good circulation & connectivity between the dispersed neighborhoods for all modes of transportation.
- d. Enhance pedestrian and bicyclist circulation with more sidewalks, bike facilities and safe and convenient road crossings.
- e. Provide more parking in Old Bisbee for visitors and residents.
- f. Programming and funding needed for incremental construction of the 55% of streets that are in poor or failed condition.
- g. Need an effective signage and wayfinding program to enhance the visitor’s experience.
- h. SR 92 needs a comprehensive look to maintain capacity and improve safety throughout the corridor.
- i. Safety improvements needed on SR 80 & SR 92 due to fatality crash rates higher than state average.
- j. Continue the operation of the successful Bisbee Bus system.
- k. Develop a business park in the vicinity of the airport and attract new business to Bisbee.
- l. Work with ADOT to preserve a commerce corridor for the Naco Highway to the Port of Entry. This is the only POE in Arizona not currently served by a State highway. The County and the City expressed the desire to review the functional classification of the route with ADOT and enter into a dialogue over whether there is merit that this corridor be part of the State highway system.
- m. Key to the transportation plan will be to develop an implementation and funding strategy to address the travel demands and provide the many needed infrastructure improvements.

7. Schedule, Next Steps, and Meeting Wrap-Up

- a. Dale Miller briefed the TAC members on the schedule and the upcoming study papers, timing and tentative future TAC and public meeting dates.
- b. Mark Hoffman set a deadline for receipt of final comments on Working Paper #1 by end of day Friday, January 14, so the Working Paper can be revised to address the comments as necessary and a final version be produced and posted on the ADOT web site.
- c. Mark Hoffman and Dale Miller reported that the draft of the next paper, Working Paper #2 on Future Conditions, will be submitted to ADOT on or before April 15.
 - i. The TAC meeting to discuss Working Paper #2 is scheduled for April 28.
 - ii. The first public meeting for the study is scheduled for May 19.

Meeting notes prepared by: Dale E. Miller, Wilbur Smith Associates