

**MINUTES
OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, August 20, 2026, 1:30 p.m.
Zoom/2nd Floor Circle of Friends Community Room
Rapid City, South Dakota**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Larson – Mayor of Box Elder, Richard Liggett – Meade County Commission, Jafar Karim – South Dakota Transportation Commission, Vicki Fisher via proxy for Jason Salamon – Mayor of Rapid City, Brittany Hand via proxy for Ron Wiefenbach and Ron Rossknecht – Pennington County Commission

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Stephen Tamang and Callie Meyer – Rapid City Council, Talbot Wieczorek – Meade County Commission, Patrick Dame – Rapid City Regional Airport and Michael Knight – Box Elder City Council

STAFF PRESENT: Kip Harrington, Kelly Brennan and Melissa Bloomberg – Rapid City Department of Community Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Stacy Bartlett and Mike Carlson – South Dakota Department of Transportation

Chairman Larson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Meeting quorum was met.

General Public Comment

Harrington relayed the public comment from the Technical and Citizens Committee meeting regarding comments on coordination of bicycle, pedestrian and e-transport routes and lack of public transportation access from North Rapid to voting locations.

Business

Rossknecht moved, Karim seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the August 20, 2026 Executive Policy Committee agenda.

Rossknecht moved, Karim seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2026 Executive Policy Committee.

26TP025 – Approve the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program – Final Report. Each year the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is required to develop the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This is a four-year priority list and financial plan for highway, transit and intermodal projects. The TIP is intended to serve as a fiscal management tool to assist state and local agencies in matching transportation needs with resources. The TIP development, review, and approval process includes participation from affected public agencies, citizens' groups, private transportation providers and representatives from various transportation entities. Harrington reviewed this report.

Liggett moved, Karim seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program – Final Report.

Fisher entered the meeting.

26TP026 – Approve the 2027 Rapid City Area MPO Meeting Dates and Location. Harrington reviewed the 2026 rapid City Area MPO Meeting Dates and Locations.

Hand moved, Liggett seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2027 Rapid City Area MPO Meeting Dates and Location.

26TP027 – Approve the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program – Draft Report. Brennan reviewed the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program. This document includes the annual activities, planning studies, and products to be developed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization for 2027. The Unified Planning Work Program also identifies funding and staffing for conducting these tasks. Discussion ensued regarding the competition date of the Micro Transit Feasibility Study. Additional comments regarding the ongoing discussion about the allowance of bicycle racks downtown in right-of-way.

Fisher moved, Liggett seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program – Draft Report.

26TP028 – Approve the Railyard Relocation and Railway Configuration Study – Final Report. In 2022, The Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization conducted the Cambell Street Structure Study, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, the South Dakota Department of Transportation, the Rapid City, Pierre and Eastern Railroad, and the City of Rapid City. Based on the recommendations from that study, the Railyard Relocation and Railway Configuration Study is currently in progress. The objective of this study is to investigate the effectiveness and feasibility of relocating the current Rapid City, Pierre & Eastern (RCP&E) railyard to an alternate location. A significant focus is also placed on identifying a more efficient rail network configuration for the region. This analysis is being undertaken with the goal of finding an alternative that addresses community concerns, alleviates the need to replace the Cambell Street structure, considers efficient, effective rail operations, and supports the orderly growth of the region.

Fisher moved, Karim seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve continue this item until the September 17, 2026 MPO meeting to allow SDDOT time to give additonal comments on this study.

Update on STIP revision policy

Bartlett gave information on the updated State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) revision policy. The new policy only requires a revision if projects are added or deleted and if an increased cost of 20% and \$6 million occurs.

Update on Construction Projects

Harrington and Layman provided information on current Rapid City construction projects. Carlson provided information on the current construction projects within the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization area.

Update on Planning Projects

Harrington provided information on the current planning projects within the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization area.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.