



**Missoula Urban Transportation District
Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2023**

DRAFT

MEMBERS PRESENT

Don McArthur, Chair
Sebastian Strauss
Jesse Dodson

Amy Cilimburg
Jason Wiener

MEMBERS ABSENT

Andrea Davis
Josephine Hazelton-Boyle

STAFF

Corey Aldridge, Gen. Mgr.
Mary Hanson, Finance Dir.
Colin Woodrow, Dir. P3
Olga Kreimer, Comms. Spec.
Darlene Craven, Exec. Asst.
Spencer Starke, Assoc. Planner
Vince Caristo, Planning Consultant

Guests

Aaron Wilson, Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization

Call to Order and Roll Call

MacArthur called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. and roll call was taken.

Changes or Additions to the Agenda

None

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

None

Action Items

4.1 Minutes of June 14, 2023

Cilimburg moved to approve, Strauss seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion items

5.1 Strategic Planning Overview – 11:07 a.m.

Woodrow stated the 2018 Long Range Strategic Plan needs to be updated. Wilson, from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), discussed doing a cooperative planning effort with MUTD. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is planned to be released in mid-August, with selection in September and a start date in January 2024. Wilson stressed the importance of public engagement. The planning process is anticipated to begin in January 2024.

MacArthur supported the joint project but raised concerns about the accountability of the selected consultant team. Aldridge emphasized the need for meeting all stakeholder deliverables. Cilimburg questioned the project's presentation as a fait accompli, to which Woodrow clarified it was for informational and recommendation purposes.

Woodrow and Aldridge discussed the benefits of the joint approach, including giving MUTD a stronger voice in MPO's transportation plan. Strauss emphasized the need for proper management tools to meet future goals.

Starke and McArthur discussed the need for public involvement, focusing on specific questions like service range and time. Wilson and Woodrow stressed the importance of goal alignment.

Cilimburg and Aldridge discussed the importance of choosing the right consultant and setting boundaries. Strauss suggested defining criteria for a separate RFP if needed.

McArthur and Wilson discussed the value of coordination over cost savings. Aldridge and Cilimburg emphasized the need for quality documents that serve both transit and broader transportation needs.

Dodson and Wiener stressed the need for MUTD to maintain its autonomy and align its goals with MPO. MacArthur emphasized the need for interactive planning.

Woodrow mentioned that the Long-Range Strategic Plan and an "off-ramp" mechanism would be discussed in the next board meeting. MacArthur encouraged collaboration, and Wilson expressed optimism for elevated community awareness through the joint approach.

Adjournment

MacArthur closed the meeting at 12:51 p.m.

Submitted by Darlene Craven