



MINUTES

**Ecosystem Connectivity Mitigation
Advisory Committee (EMAC)
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2020
10:00 AM**

**Yavapai County Development Services
Training Room
1120 Commerce Drive
Prescott, AZ 86305**

CYMPO Ecosystem Connectivity Mitigation Advisory Committee

Chair	Tammy DeWitt, City of Prescott
Vice-Chair	Elizabeth Johnston, Arizona Game and Fish
Member	Chuck Budinger, ADOT Northwest District
Member	Francisco Anaya, Prescott National Forest
Member	Ron James, Private Citizen
Member	J. D. Greenberg, Private Citizen
Member	Deb Pastor, Private Citizen

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
Vice-Chair Johnston present via telephone.
All other members present.

2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES**

3. **APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2019 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE EMAC**

MOTION

Vice-Chair Johnston motioned to approve the September 23, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes of the EMAC.
Member James seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

4. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EMAC MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2020**

MOTION

Member James motioned to approve the EMAC Meeting Schedule for 2020. Member Anaya seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

5. **UPDATE OF ADOT WILDLIFE VEHICLE CONFLICT STUDY**

Member Budinger noted that the Technical Advisory Committee for the Study is currently working with Arizona Game & Fish to collect collision data to locate high conflict areas.

6. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF WILDLIFE CORRIDORS MAP AND CONSERVATION EASEMENT ARTICLE

(Chuck Budinger, EMAC, ADOT NW District)

Mr. Budinger presented rough draft of map displaying potential wildlife corridors in the CYMPO region. Noted intent for map to be used as a flagging mechanism on the occasion that CYMPO is involved with a construction project in the region.

Member Anaya noted that the Prescott National Forest recently funded a study with the Research Center in Flagstaff using Game & Fish telemetry data for pronghorn in central Arizona. Noted that a model will be developed within the plan to determine the best areas for migration.

Member Budinger suggested that a map displaying wildlife corridors be included in the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.

Member James noted issues in acquiring land specified on the presented map. Madam Chair DeWitt suggested including an item on the March EMAC agenda to further discuss the presented map and potential sources for data.

7. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RECOMMEND PURSUIT OF ARIZONA MIGRATION CORRIDOR PROTECTION

(J.D. Greenberg, EMAC)

Member Greenberg presented Executive Order that was passed in Wyoming, and proposed initiative to elevate such an idea to the state level in Arizona. Also noted the goal of such an initiative would be to increase possibilities for raising funding. Madam Chair DeWitt noted that such an initiative would have to be presented to the CYMPO Executive Board for approval.

Madam Chair DeWitt also noted that the data collected from the ADOT Wildlife Vehicle Collision Study could be a valuable resource behind such an initiative.

Jeff Gagnon, Arizona Game & Fish, provided background on Wyoming's migration initiative. Noted the importance of collecting as much data as possible before presenting a request at the state level.

Madam Chair DeWitt noted challenges should be expected in working with private property owners and mining companies to restrict land use for wildlife corridors.

Member of the public, Brenda Smith, acknowledged shift in public interest in wildlife conservation. Member James noted need for public to be willing to raise funding for such areas of interest. Ms. Smith noted the importance of public education for funding sources such as a Regional Transportation Authority (RTA).

8. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPONSE TO 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

(Christopher Bridges, CYMPO)

MOTION

Member James motioned to table discussion for the March 23, 2020 EMAC meeting. Member Greenberg seconded the motion.

VOTE

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

9. ADJOURNMENT 11:00AM

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