

**TPO Technical Committee Minutes**  
**March 14, 2017**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**Small Assembly Room**  
**City County Building**  
**400 Main Street**  
**Knoxville, TN**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on March 14, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Chair Kathryn Baldwin presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum. Committee members were asked to introduce themselves.

*Kathryn Baldwin	City of Oak Ridge
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Don Brown	ETDD, <i>for Terry Bobrowski</i>
*Beth Collins	City of Lenoir City
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway Area MPO
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC Transit
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville
*Jerome Joiner	TDOT Region 1
*Chico Messer	Blount County
*Janice Osborne	Knoxville Commuter Pool, <i>for Deanna Flinchum</i>
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County
*Jack Qualls	City of Loudon and Loudon County
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metro Knoxville Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
<b>*voting members</b>	

Kathryn Baldwin introduced Jordan Clark who is now with the City of Oak Ridge.

**1. Motion to Approve February 14, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes**

**Item Summary:** Approval of the February 14, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

**A Motion was made by Blake Sartin and seconded by Jack Qualls to approve the February 14, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Presentation on the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Policies**

**Item Summary:** The largest MPOs in Tennessee (Nashville, Memphis, and Chattanooga) all utilize policies or business rules to manage the TIP. On February 14, 2017, the Technical Committee discussed policy options and possible application to projects within Knoxville TPO planning area.

The draft policies are outlined in Attachment #2. The purpose of the policies is to promote transparent and efficient administration of the TIP as well as to support timely project delivery.

**Discussion:** Elizabeth Watkins reviewed in detail 3 draft policies targeted to address delayed projects, cost overruns and new projects, focus areas identified in the February workshop with the Technical Committee. These policies are not a significant departure in current business practice but formalize existing practice. Jeff Welch noted staff anticipate receiving quarterly reports on the status of a project from project sponsors which will be shared with the Technical Committee and Executive Board. Ms. Watkins clarified that only projects funded by L-STBG and TPO managed TAP funds would be affected by these policies. Jeff Welch noted staff hope to bring the draft policies before the Technical Committee for approval next month along with the amended FY 2017-2020 TIP, further noting that staff also plan to bring the Long Range Mobility Plan 2040 Update for approval in keeping with staff's intent to seek approval simultaneously. The complete presentation is available online and located here: [http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/mar17/TIP\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/mar17/TIP_Policies.pdf)

### 3. Presentation on Summary of TIP Adjustments

**Item Summary:** Since the Federal Highway Administration approved the FY 2017- FY 2020 TIP on January 6, there have been nine projects that have been administratively adjusted. Staff will review these adjustments and answer any questions.

**Discussion:** Elizabeth Watkins, reviewed the administrative adjustments that staff have made to the current TIP since its adoption January 6, 2017 noting they will be listed on the TPO website at [www.knoxtrans.org](http://www.knoxtrans.org). Administrative adjustments will continue to be made available to the Technical Committee and Executive Board.

### 4. Preview of Upcoming Happy Healthy Smart Film Festival

**Item Summary:** Two short video clips will be shown to preview the upcoming film festival on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Discussion:** Jeff Welch introduced the videos and noted that during the film festival there will be a 30 to 40 minute break out session following each block of videos intended to generate dialogue. He highlighted the local connection of Local Motors, a leader in the international movement of autonomous vehicles, to the Knoxville area with presence on both Market Square and just off the Pellissippi Parkway on the way to Oak Ridge. Jeff Welch noted the videos being shown at the festival are/will be available online. East Tennessee Quality Growth plans to video tape the sessions for later access.

### 5. Presentation on Recently Awarded CMAQ Grants for our Region

**Item Summary:** TDOT will present an overview of statewide CMAQ projects and Knoxville-area CMAQ projects.

**Discussion:** Brianna Benson and Tom Doherty, TDOT Long Range Planning Division presented on the CMAQ and PM 2.5 funds recently awarded across 33 projects statewide. Ms. Benson and Mr. Doherty reviewed the 7 projects that were awarded funding in the Knoxville area in detail. Mr. Doherty noted all ITS projects are 100% funded through CMAQ with no local match required. An instructional webinar for grantees will be posted on TDOT's website soon. The complete presentation is available online and located here: [http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/mar17/CMAQ\\_Grants.pdf](http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/mar17/CMAQ_Grants.pdf)

## 6. Legislative Update

**Item Summary:** Staff will provide a brief summary of Tennessee Legislative bills that have been introduced that may impact transportation and general planning.

**Discussion:** Jeff Welch noted the Governor's IMPROVE Act was passed by the Senate Transportation Committee yesterday with a few minor changes, which he listed. The bill still includes the list of transportation projects to receive funding. He touched on potential city and county reductions in funding. The House Committees are scheduled to meet tomorrow and they have a somewhat different version [with their proposed revisions] of the Act. Kathryn Baldwin also touched on several other bills that could negatively impact transportation, zoning and other planning.

## 7. Other Business

- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
  - TDOT Commissioner John Schroer will be attending and will be presenting on the transportation section of Governor Haslam's proposed IMPROVE Act.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- Ellen Dunham-Jones, AIA, a professor of architecture and urban design at the Georgia Institute of Technology, will be in Knoxville April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. An award-winning architect and a board member of the Congress for the New Urbanism, she shows audiences how design of where we live impacts some of the most pressing issues of our times. Ms. Dunham-Jones is widely recognized as a leader in finding solutions for aging suburbs.

## 8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

## 9. Adjournment

**A Motion was made by Don Brown and seconded by Darryl Smith to adjourn the meeting. The Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.**