

# Attachment #1

**TPO Technical Committee  
March 9, 2010  
9 a.m.  
Small Assembly Room  
City/County Building  
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on March 9 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville. John Lamb, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order.

*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Rich DesGrosielliers	Lakeway Area TPO
*Mark Donaldson	Knoxville/Knox County MPC
*Chris Jenkins	Town of Farragut for Darryl Smith
*Leslie Johnson	Lenoir City
*Steve King	City of Knoxville
*John Lamb	Blount County
*Phil Layman	East Tennessee Development District for Terry Bobrowski
*Angie Midgett	Tennessee Department of Transportation
*Barbara Monty	Knox County Community Action Committee
*Ted Newsom	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Pat Phillips	Loudon County
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County Engineering for Bruce Wuethrich
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metro Knoxville Airport Authority
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Nathan Benditz	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Bryan Berry	Metropolitan Planning Commission Staff
Amy Brooks	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Tom Clabo	City of Knoxville
Mike Conger	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Karen Estes	Community Action Committee Transit
Dawn Michelle Foster	Wilbur Smith Associates
Kim Henry	Development Corporation of Knox County
John Hunter	City of Knoxville
Brent Johnson	City of Knoxville
Joe Matlock	Tennessee Department of Transportation
John Sexton	Knox County Engineering
Anne Wallace	City of Knoxville
Charlotte West	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Bob Whetsel	City of Knoxville
Ellen Zavisca	Transportation Planning Organization Staff

\*voting members

## Determination of Quorum

### 1. Approval of February 9, 2010, Minutes

**Presenter:** John Lamb, Chair

**Item Summary:** Approval of February 9, 2010, TPO Technical Committee minutes.

**Attachment #1 - February 9, 2010, minutes.**

**A motion was made by Barbara Monty and seconded by Leslie Johnson to approve the February 9 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

### 2. Amendments to the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** In anticipation that a second round of economic stimulus funds may become available, Jobs to Main Street Act (JMSA), local governments are requesting projects to be amended in to the TIP. It is expected that these projects would be funded with 100% federal funds. These projects will not be sent to the TPO Executive Board until after a new jobs bill has been passed by Congress.

- a. **Streetscaping Along College Street from Church Street to Lamar Alexander Parkway - \$400,000 Const., \$130,000 CEI, Surveying and management**
- b. **Relocation and Reconstruction of McCammon Avenue at Bessemer Street (720 ft.) - Const. \$400,000, CEI \$50,000**
- c. **Knoxville TPO Resurfacing Bucket - \$2,000,000 (\$1,122,595 Maryville, \$771,500 Alcoa)**
- d. **Kingston Pike (SR-1) at Everett Rd. - Const. \$1,710,000, CEI \$200,000**
- e. **Reconstruct Wrights Ferry Road from Airbase Road to Topside Road - \$1,000,000**

**Background: Attachment #2a - Letter from City of Maryville, #2b - Letter from Town of Farragut, #2c - Memo from City of Alcoa**

Jeff Welch stated he is unsure whether the Jobs to Main Street bill will be passed by the Senate. The House of Representatives has passed it. He would recommend the committee approve these projects, and the staff will hold them until we find out if the bill passes. The projects will be considered for the TIP for next year.

Steve King asked if it is premature to approve projects without knowing the rules. Jeff stated that he is making an assumption based on what the House has passed. Under that bill, 50 percent of the funds would have to be obligated in 90 days. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) suggested that the MPOs start working on the list of projects in case it passes. Barbara Monty asked if it is too late to submit projects, and Jeff responded that they can be submitted at the April meeting. Steve King would like for the Technical Committee to have the ability to prioritize projects if we have more projects than we have funding.

**A motion was made by Steve King and seconded by Andrew Sonner to approve the TIP amendments with the condition that the Technical Committee has the ability to prioritize projects if there are more than there is funding for. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **3. Discussion of 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** The new TIP covering the years 2011-2014 needs to be submitted to FHWA by mid September. The solicitation of projects has begun. A public notice was published in area newspapers in mid to late February. TPO membership received copies of the TIP application on February 22. Attachment #3 - 2011-2014 TIP Application

Jeff Welch stated that a new TIP has to be developed. Attachment #3 is a Call for Projects asking for applications to be submitted to TPO staff to fund projects over the next 4 years. The Call for Projects includes any project funded with federal funds including but not limited to the National Highway System, High Priority Project, Surface Transportation Program (STP), Interstate Maintenance, etc. This does not include the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program for which a separate process will occur later. Jeff asked that that local governments fill out as much information as possible and identify if the project is in the Long Range Mobility Plan. Local governments need to decide if they can provide a match. A spreadsheet will be developed that can be brought to the April or May Technical Committee meeting. A draft TIP will be sent to TDOT and FHWA for their review. There will also be a public review. The form is online on the TPO website at [www.knoxtrans.org](http://www.knoxtrans.org). Public notices have been published. Funding is available, and there is a \$19 million balance in the STP fund and maybe \$7 million per year for additional years. That will total approximately \$48 million over the next 4 years for STP funds. This money does require an 80/20 percent match and TDOT might provide the match. The deadline is March 19.

### **4. Discussion of FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** The TPO will need to submit a draft 2011 Unified Planning Work Program to TDOT and FHWA by April 30, 2010. At this time TPO staff is requesting ideas for planning studies or Transportation Planning Reports to be included in the UPWP.

**Background:** The work program covers the time frame of October 1, 2010, to September 30, 2011.

Jeff Welch stated that the TPO staff is in the process of developing the FY 2011 work program for October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2011. There are approximately \$650,000 in federal planning dollars, \$120,000 Federal Transit Administration planning dollars and TDOT grants available. Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) dollars are also included for 5307 transit dollars. Projects should be submitted to the TPO staff by the end of March to be sent to TDOT. The work program will be adopted in August and will be submitted to TDOT and FHWA for review. He told the committee to let the staff know if they have any TPR studies to be done. Local studies can be done with a 20 percent local match.

### **5. Status of Federal Funding**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** TPO staff will provide the latest information on the federal transportation budget.

Jeff Welch stated that on March 4 the House of Representatives passed a nine-month extension of federal transportation funding, which would run through December 31, 2010. They moved money to the Highway Trust Fund and restored \$8.7 billion in funding that had been rescinded in previous year. That funding will go back to the state DOTs and to the MPOs. The Senate will debate the bill over the next couple of weeks. If President Obama signs the bill, it will provide funding through December 2010 for the Highway Trust Fund. Local governments need to identify projects as soon as possible. Angie Midgett stated that TDOT will look to the MPOs to obligate what they can by December 31, 2010.

## **6. Other Business**

**Technical Committee Meeting, April 13 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building**

**Executive Board Meeting, April 28 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building (meeting date will be changed)**

Jeff Welch stated that he is working on setting up a meeting with TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely to speak to the Executive Board, so they will probably not meet on April 28. He will let the committee know when the meeting is scheduled.

Jeff announced that Ed Cole, Chief of Environment and Planning for TDOT, is leaving to work in the private sector in middle Tennessee.

Jeff stated that Attachment #3b is a list of SAFETEA-LU earmarked demonstration projects that were designated for our area. TDOT provided this list yesterday. The balance means some funds have not been obligated. He explained the table, which is listed by counties. He suggested the committee members work with TDOT local programming office to begin projects that have not yet started.

Melissa Roberson discussed the KAT handout, which is project information for the KAT 5309 Bus and Facilities Livability Initiative Program. If a second ARRA program is passed by Congress KAT would want this proposal considered for funding.

## **7. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **8. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to continue with the NEPA workshop.

# **WORKSHOP NEPA PROCESS AND TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

**Joe Matlock, Transportation Planner  
TDOT NEPA Documentation Office, Local Programs  
Attachment #4 – Memos on CE and CEI**