

**TPO Technical Committee Minutes
February 10, 2015
9:00 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City/County Building
Knoxville, TN**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on February 10, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building in Knoxville. Chair Cindy Pionke presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum. Committee members were asked to introduce themselves.

*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Don Brown	ETDD, <i>for Terry Bobrowski</i>
*Beth Collins	City of Lenoir City
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway MPO
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC
*Deanna Flinchum	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville, Engineering
*Mike Patterson	ETHRA, <i>for Gary Holiway</i>
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County
*Pat Phillips	City of Loudon and Loudon County
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County, Dept. of Engineering and Public Works
*Jack Qualls	TDOT, Region 1 Community Planning
*Melissa Roberson	KAT
*Blake Sartin	Knoxville Metropolitan Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	

Jeff Welch noted Deanna Flinchum is now representing the Knoxville Commuter Pool.

1. Approval of January 13, 2015 Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of January 13, 2015 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

A Motion was made by Pat Phillips and seconded by Blake Sartin to approve the January 13, 2015 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. 2040 Long Range Mobility Plan Project Amendments and Air Quality Conformity

Item Summary: In response to a request for a TIP amendment that requires a revised regional emissions analysis and air conformity determination, the TPO staff decided to undertake a comprehensive review of both the TIP and Mobility Plan in order to address as many required project amendments as possible under one single action. This review consisted of meeting with each of the TPO member jurisdictions and TDOT to review the roadway project lists in detail. The list of all proposed Plan amendments will be reviewed in advance of their final adoption which is scheduled for the March 10th Technical Committee and Executive Board meetings.

Discussion: Mike Conger noted the attached list of proposed amendments is comprised of nonexempt projects that affect emissions and therefore need to be accounted for in the air quality conformity determination. He reviewed the projects in each of the 4 types of project changes identified; projects moving to a different Analysis year, projects with a change to project scope or termini, projects proposed to be eliminated and projects proposed to be added. He pointed out that one significant change in the Plan is the removal of the James White Parkway Extension project, previously removed from the TIP (October 2013). He then reviewed the TIP amendments necessary to keep the TIP consistent with the Plan in addition to increasing the funding to a few projects that are already included in the Plan. Mr. Conger noted the proposed amendments appear to be within the conformity requirements. Mr. Conger then reviewed the final steps for adoption of the proposed amendments.

3. Transit Funding

Item Summary: The TPO held a call for transit projects to be funded through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Urban Area, 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities, and Section 5339 Bus & Bus Facilities grant programs. The application deadline was Friday, January 30, 2015. A brief update will be given on the number of applications received for each funding program.

Discussion: Doug Burton reviewed the applications received for each of the 3 grant programs. He noted we do not yet have an exact dollar amount that our region will receive however, staff expects to hear from FTA via publication of the Federal Register in the very near future. He then noted staff has yet to fully review each application to ensure the requests are eligible. Mr. Burton also noted there are still match issues with TDOT with regards to operating projects. He clarified that Section 5310 funds, typically divided into 2 types of uses, 45% for operations and 55% for capital items such as the purchase of new vehicles, can be awarded outside of the 45/55 split based on the applications received.

4. Regional Greenway Study Update

Item Summary: The TPO, Great Smoky Mountains Regional Greenway Council and a consulting team are wrapping up the latest regional greenway study, looking at links between existing greenways in West Knox County, West Knoxville and Oak Ridge. Staff will present a summary of the study. The full study will be available on the TPO's web site.

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca reviewed key factors and results of the study in some detail. She noted the study will be on the TPO website by the end of the week. The complete presentation can be found here: http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/feb15/greenway_presentation.pdf She also updated Committee members on the Maryville to Townsend greenway study noting the Great Smoky Mountain Regional Greenway Council determined the next step was to have a feasibility study done to explore the possibility of raising the money necessary [just over \$21 million] to complete the rural phase of the project privately as it is located outside of the TPO urban area and there would be fewer options for state and federal transportation dollars.

5. Other Business

- The MPC will be releasing the ETindex Livability Report 2015 on Friday, March 6, 2015 at the Knoxville Chamber at 10:15 a.m. Committee members are encouraged to attend.
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building. This meeting is CANCELLED.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- **The March 2015 Executive Board meeting will be held immediately following the**

March 10, 2015 Technical Committee meeting in the Small Assembly room of the City/County Building, with an approximate start time of 10:00 am.

- Jeff Welch noted staff has just received notice from TDOT that our Draft Unified Planning Work Program is due to TDOT by March 2, 2015. He noted that in our Draft we will need to include how we will address the federal planning factors and emphasis areas. He asked Committee members to submit any special projects related to these factors and emphasis areas to staff no later than February 24th.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. Adjournment

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