

**TPO Technical Committee Minutes
September 14, 2010
9 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City/County Building
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on September 14 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.

*Kathryn Baldwin	Anderson County
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway Area TPO
*Mark Donaldson	Knoxville/Knox County MPC
*Karen Estes	Community Action Committee Transit for Barbara Monty
*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
*Ted Newsom	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Pat Phillips	Loudon County
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County for Dwight Van de Vate
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Bryan Berry	Metropolitan Planning Commission Staff
Amy Brooks	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Doug Burton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Terry Gilhula	Metropolitan Planning Commission
Katie Habgood	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Chris Hamby	City of Alcoa
Brent Johnson	City of Knoxville
Scott Poland	City of Maryville
Anne Wallace	City of Knoxville
Charlotte West	Transportation Planning Organization Staff

***voting members**

Determination of Quorum

1. Approval of July 13, 2010, minutes

Presenter: John Lamb, Chair

Item Summary: Approval of July 13, 2010, TPO Technical Committee minutes.

Attachment #1.

A motion was made by Blake Sartin and seconded by Kathryn Baldwin to approve the July 13 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion to recommend approval of a resolution adopting amendments to the 2009-2034 Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan

Presenter: TPO Staff

a. Item Summary: MPOs shall amend the Long Range Transportation Plan (called the 2009-2034 Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan) as necessary to meet the community's need and respond to changing federal legislation. In development of the FY 2011 – 2014 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) for both the Knoxville Regional TPO and the Lakeway Area Metropolitan TPO it was determined that the overall long range transportation plan would need to be amended to meet the requirement that the projects included in the TIP are a direct subset of the conforming long range transportation plan. The Interagency Consultation Committee consisting of TDOT, FHWA, EPA and others had no formal comments on these amendments. The amendments to the plan are available on the TPO website (www.knoxtrans.org).

Attachment #2a - Resolution amending the 2009- 2034 Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan.

Attachment #2b - September 2010 Amendments to the 2009 – 2034 Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan.

b. Background: The amendments to the plan are scheduled for adoption by the Board on September 22, 2010. The amendments are available for public review and comment until then. A public meeting was held September 9, 2010.

Jeff Welch stated that the TPO staff has been working on the plan to readjust the horizon year. He discussed some of the projects that have been moved to another horizon year. Some projects have been added to the plan. The I-475 beltway was removed from the plan. The plan remains financially constrained. Public meetings were held, also. Staff recommends approval of the plan to the Executive Board.

A motion was made by Pat Phillips and seconded by Steve King to recommend approval of the Mobility Plan to the Executive Board. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion to recommend approval of a resolution adopting the 2011- 2014 Transportation Improvement Program

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Every three years a new Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is prepared by the TPO. The new TIP covers the fiscal years of 2011-2014. Comments from TDOT and FHWA have been addressed in the final draft TIP.

Attachment #3a – Resolution adopting the 2011-2014 TIP. **Attachment #3b** - 2011-2014 TIP background pages. **Attachment #3c** - 2011-2014 TIP project summary pages. The entire TIP can be viewed on the TPO website (www.knoxtrans.org).

Background: The new TIP is scheduled for adoption by the Board on September 22, 2010. The amendments are available for public review and comment until then. A public meeting was held September 9, 2010.

Katie Habgood stated this is a new TIP short-term capital plan, which is on the TPO website. These projects came from the Long Range Transportation Plan. It meets the air quality conformity requirements. There are \$172 million worth of programs included in the plan. This is less money than the previous TIP. Many projects are for roadway improvements. Some of these projects include accommodating pedestrians. TDOT and FHWA have reviewed it. The summary of projects and text is included. Jeff Welch stated there is about \$30 million in STP money available.

A motion was made by Darryl Smith and seconded by Andrew Sonner to recommend approval of the plan to the Executive Board. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion to recommend approval of a resolution finding the 2009-2034 Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan as amended and the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program meet air quality conformity requirements

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The conformity determination addresses the planned transportation improvements included in the 2009-2034 Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan as amended and covers the entire Knoxville Ozone and PM2.5 Nonattainment Areas. In conducting the analysis to determine conformity, the TPO staff used the latest emissions model approved by the EPA and conformity was demonstrated using the required emissions tests. The 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program is a subset of the Regional Mobility Plan and therefore is part of this conformity determination. **Attachment #4a** –Resolution. **Attachment #4b** - Air Quality Conformity Determination Report.

Background: The preparation of the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report was coordinated with stakeholder and regulatory agencies through the Interagency Consultation process. The report is available on the TPO website (www.knoxtrans.org)

Mike Conger has worked with TDOT, FHWA, TDEC and EPA reviewing the plan and performed conformity analysis on both documents. They said it meets all the requirements and is under budget for emissions that contribute to the PM2.5 and Ozone nonattainment status. Once the Executive Board approves the resolution, a letter of acceptance will be sent.

A motion was made by Mark Donaldson and seconded by Andrew Sonner to recommend approval of the resolution to the Executive Board. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion to recommend approval of the certification that the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: This self certification must be done every four years according to 23 CFR 450.334. **Attachment #5** - Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification.

Background: The certification is to be included as part of the Transportation Improvement Program.

Jeff Welch stated that the words “Tennessee Department of Transportation” should be deleted from the motion. The certification will be modified to delete TDOT. He has not heard any objections from the state. This used to be in the Work Program, and now it is included in the Transportation Improvement Program.

A motion was made by Cindy Pionke and seconded by Kathryn Baldwin to recommend approval of the resolution to the Executive Board. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion of the impact that the recent congressionally mandated \$2.2 billion rescission had on TDOT and the TPO

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Tennessee was required to return \$45.9 million of unobligated transportation funds to the US government. The sub-allocated Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds were not subject to this rescission as well as some safety and rail crossing programs. The CMAQ, state and metropolitan planning program funds as well as major construction program funds were subject to this rescission.

Background: TDOT was required to tell FHWA what program areas and the amount that each program area would be impacted by August 24th. At the time of the printing of the agenda no information has been shared with the TPO staff.

Jeff Welch stated that TDOT had to tell Congress where they were going to spend the money. TDOT returned this money to Congress. There were balances in the CMAQ and STP funds. The projects that have been ongoing will be funded by STP. He encouraged local governments to get their contracts signed. STP funds were protected from the rescission.

7. Summary of three applications that local jurisdictions submitted to compete for Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and/or US DOT funding programs

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Three grant applications were submitted by local jurisdictions. Two were for U.S. Housing and Urban Development Community Challenge Grants and one was for a Regional Planning Grant:

- The City of Knoxville submitted a \$500,000 Community Challenge grant request for an I-275 Industrial Corridor Assessment and Planning Study. Funding would be used for planning, zoning changes, and environmental assessments. The City has committed a 20 percent match.
- The City of Oak Ridge submitted a \$750,000 Community Challenge grant request for the development of a multi-phased planning process that will result in a plan that addresses transit, infrastructure, and redevelopment needs and creates a form based code for the City of Oak Ridge. The City and its partners have committed to providing a 28.5 percent match.
- The City of Knoxville and MPC submitted a \$4.3 million grant request for the development of a comprehensive Regional Plan for Sustainable Development for the MSA. Consortium partners have committed to a 57 percent match of in-kind services.

Jeff Welch stated that these were applications that were submitted for HUD from the Community Challenge grants. He discussed each application, but does not know when they will announce who receives the grants. Kathryn Baldwin thanked the TPO staff for their help in submitting this grant.

8. Other business

Executive Board Meeting, September 22 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building

Technical Committee Meeting, October 12 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building

Neighborhood Bike Ride 10th Anniversary Edition - Saturday, October 2 visit TPO website: www.knoxtrans.org

9. Public comment

There was no public comment.

Jeff Welch stated there are three new county mayors on the Executive Board and asked that each committee member encourage their new mayors to come to Executive Board meetings. He asked Angie Midgett to plan a workshop for the Executive Board. She responded that TDOT has a slide show they could use.

Kelley Segars announced that the Chattanooga League of Bicyclists has awarded the City of Knoxville a bronze designation for being a Bicycle Friendly Community.

Jeff Welch stated that there is a group, created by the Federal Highway Administration, who are going to be consultants planning a 3rd Infantry Highway from Savannah to Augusta to Knoxville. Their next meeting will be in Atlanta. At some point there will be an opportunity for public comment.

John Lamb stated that the Technical Committee recognized Jeff for his 25 years of service as Executive Director of the TPO.

Knox County thanked TDOT for the \$500,000 grant they received for Knox County Greenways.

The Tennessee American Planning Association is holding their annual conference in Knoxville on September 29-October 1 at the Crowne Plaza.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.