

**TPO Technical Committee Minutes**  
**September 8, 2015**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**Small Assembly Room**  
**City/County Building**  
**Knoxville, TN**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on September 8, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building in Knoxville, TN. 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.

*Kathryn Baldwin	City of Oak Ridge
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Don Brown	ETDD, <i>for Terry Bobrowski</i>
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway Area MPO
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC Transit
*Deanna Flinchum	Knoxville Commuter Poole
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville
*John Lamb	Blount County
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County
*Jack Qualls	TDOT, Region 1
*Melissa Roberson	KAT
*Blake Sartin	Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority
**Scott Allen	Federal Highway Administration – Tennessee Division
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	
**non-voting member	

**1. Motion to Approve August 11, 2015 Minutes**

**Item Summary:** Approval of August 11, 2015 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

**A Motion was made by Don Brown and seconded by Jim Hagerman to approve the August 11, 2015 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Motion to Recommend Adoption of the Air Quality Conformity Determination for an Amendment to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program.**

**Item Summary:** An updated air quality conformity determination was required for the proposed amendment to add funding to the Alcoa Hwy project to be heard in Item #3. An overview of the analysis performed to demonstrate conformity will be provided by TPO staff. Staff recommends approval.

**Discussion:** Mike Conger noted a new emissions analysis was required for one of the proposed amendments to the 2014 - 2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that adds funds to the Alcoa Highway widening project. As this project is considered an air quality nonexempt project an air quality conformity analysis needed to be done. Typically, since it is in both the TIP and the Long Range

Mobility Plan, air quality conformity can be demonstrated with a short conformity report when just adding funds.

Mr. Conger stated that was not sufficient in this case due to our region recently being re-designated in attainment for Ozone and the subsequent new motor vehicle emission budgets pursuant to the new maintenance plan. A new emissions analysis was subsequently required for the Ozone standard only [the standard for PM2.5 remained in effect and an analysis did not need to be redone]. This report has been through the Interagency Consultation review process and the 14 day Public Comment Period officially begins today. No public comment was made at the meeting today.

**A Motion was made by Jack Qualls and seconded by Kathryn Baldwin to recommend adoption of the Air Quality Conformity Determination for an Amendment to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program. The Motion carried unanimously.**

### **3. Motion to Recommend Approval of Amendments to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program**

**Item Summary:** Staff recommends approval.

**Discussion:** Ellen Zavisca briefly reviewed the 4 proposed Amendments. The first adds funds to an existing project for the widening of Alcoa Highway between Maloney Road to Woodson Drive. The second amendment is in response to the need to use Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Funds that would have expired in FY 2016 and amends an existing project in the City of Knoxville by adding these TAP funds to the construction phase of the Second Creek Greenway. The third and fourth Amendments are for 2 new projects to be added to the TIP in response to the TPO's Call-for-Projects for additional TAP funds and are for the addition of sidewalks and bicycle facilities along Liberty and Division Streets in the City of Knoxville and pedestrian safety improvements at 2 intersections along the Oak Ridge Turnpike in the City of Oak Ridge.

**Jim Hagerman moved to Amend the project identified in Amendment #3B - 2014-011 by changing the termini to reflect "from North Broadway to South Gay Street along Jackson Avenue".**

**A Motion was made by Jim Hagerman and seconded by Kathryn Baldwin to recommend approval of Amendments to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program which reflect the Amended project termini of Amendment 2014-011 to now be "from North Broadway to South Gay Street along Jackson Avenue". The Motion carried unanimously.**

### **4. Open Streets Knoxville**

**Item Summary:** Open Streets Knoxville will take place on Sunday, October 25th between 1 and 4 p.m., Open Streets Knoxville. Central St between the Old City and Happy Holler will be filled with people of all ages and abilities. The event provides them with a chance to walk, ride bicycles, hula hoop, and zumba in the streets - all in a setting that is fun and safe. The event will be hosted by Bike Walk Knoxville, with significant support from the City of Knoxville and the TPO. Nearly 900 people have already RSVP'd on [Facebook](#). Our website is <http://openstreetsknoxville.com/> We expect to have 3,000 - 5,000 people from all over the region walking along Central St.

**Discussion:** Ellen Zavisca briefly discussed the upcoming event noting there are now approximately 1500 people who have RSVP'd on [Facebook](#). 3000 to 5000 people are expected to attend and event organizers are still looking for local sponsors. Melissa Roberson noted KAT now has service on Central St. on Sundays (Route 20) and noted that although somewhat detoured the day of the event, there will be stops at either end of the event as well as along the length of it and they can be found on the KAT website. She encouraged attendees to use the bus to and from the event noting all of their busses are bike rack equipped.

## 5. Smart Growth America

**Presenter:** Jeff Welch, Amy Brooks, TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Staff will provide the Technical Committee with an update on the Smart Growth America (SGA) workshop that took place in Alcoa, TN September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Discussion:** Amy Brooks noted the workshop was the result of a grant opportunity from the Environmental Protection Agency, one of 14 awarded and administered through Smart Growth America. There was a public workshop focused on smart growth development standards and centered on creating town centers, attended by about 60 people from Alcoa as well as the surrounding communities and counties. The following day there was a smaller working session taking a more detailed look at what is happening in Alcoa, what creating a town center might look like and what challenges they could face. Their preliminary report is available on the TPO's website: [www.knoxtrans.org](http://www.knoxtrans.org).

## 6. Long Range Mobility Plan 2040 Update

**Presenter:** Amy Brooks, TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Staff will provide the Technical Committee with information regarding the Mobility Plan update, due for completion in 2017.

**Discussion:** Amy Brooks noted staff continue to work towards the 2017 deadline for the update. They are also exploring the creation and use of a formal survey specifically focused on transportation issues in our region. While continuing to collect data staff are also working to develop a name and tagline for the Plan, making it more user friendly. The first Community Advisory Committee meeting has been scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup> and will take place at Ijams Nature Center.

## 7. Other Business

- Jeff Welch noted that the Federal Highway Administration will be conducting a Certification Review of the TPO planning process, done every 4 years, and dates are being confirmed for this December or early January 2016.
- Melissa Roberson noted that KAT just completed their tri-annual review by the Federal Transit Administration. KAT has received an approval letter stating that no deficiencies were found by the FTA in any of the 17 areas of compliance that were reviewed!
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.

## 8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

## 9. Adjournment

There was no further business.

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