

TPO Technical Committee Minutes
August 9, 2016
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 August 9, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building in Knoxville, TN. Jeff Welch opened the meeting and noted that both the Chair and Vice Chair were out of town and the Committee needed to elect an acting Chair for today.

A Motion was made by Darryl Smith and seconded by Andrew Sonner to nominate Cindy Pionke as acting Chair for today's meeting. The Motion carried unanimously.

It was determined that there was a quorum. Committee members were asked to introduce themselves.

*Terry Bobrowski	ETDD
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway MPO
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC Transit
*Deanna Flinchum	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Gerald Green	Metropolitan Planning Commission
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville
*Jerome Joiner	TDOT Region 1
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County
*Pat Phillips	City of Loudon and Loudon County, <i>for Jack Qualls</i>
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metropolitan Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	

1. Motion to Approve July 12, 2016 Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of July 12, 2016 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

A Motion was made by Gerald Green and seconded by Jim Hagerman to approve the July 12, 2016 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion to Recommend Approval of Staff Recommendations for Transportation Alternative (TA) Funds.

Item Summary: The Knoxville region receives an allocation of TA funds every year for projects that support access and safety for people walking and bicycling. Staff has recommendations regarding the allocation of those funds for FY 2016-2018 and is requesting approval of those recommendations from the Technical Committee.

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca noted this pool of funds replaced the Transportation Enhancement Program. She then noted staff are recommending allocation of FY 2016 funds as well as estimated FY 2017 and 2018 funds, totally just over \$2 ¼ million. She reviewed the proposed list, which included staff rankings, noting there is alternate funding in the Draft TIP and Draft Mobility Plan for the project receiving only partial funding as well as the 2 projects on the list not being recommended for any TA funding.

A Motion was made by Pat Phillips and seconded by Gerald Green to approve staff recommendations for Transportation Alternative (TA) Funds. The Motion carried unanimously.

3. Overview of the Draft 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Item Summary: The FY 2017-2020 TIP is being updated in two separate phases due to the need for alignment with the schedule for the update of the TPO's Mobility Plan 2040. The first phase of the FY 2017-2020 TIP consists only of a direct carry-over of projects from the previous FY 2014-2017 TIP that have phases of work which have not yet had funding obligated. The second phase will include projects and changes needed to be consistent with the Mobility Plan 2040. TPO staff will review the current schedules for both phases and provide a project selection update following recent meetings with individual jurisdictions.

Discussion: Mike Conger gave an overview of the Draft FY 2017-2020 TIP. He described the 2 phases of the Program, the Interim TIP, on target to be brought before the Committee in early fall to align with the statewide schedule for adoption of the 2017-2020 TIPs, and the Final TIP which will be brought before the Committee in conjunction with the adoption of the Mobility Plan update in the spring of 2017. He noted the Interim TIP is now before the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration for their review having been through TDOT whose comments were incorporated prior to the draft being forwarded to FHWA and FTA. Staff expect federal comments by the end of the month. He then noted that since the July Committee meeting staff have contacted member jurisdictions continuing to review the list and encouraged Committee members to contact staff with any additional feedback and/or questions. Mr. Conger described a proposed regional "Maintenance, Operations & Safety of All Modes" grouping to be included in the TIP. Previously staff have carried over an un-programmed fund balance that could be used for other project requests or cost overruns. Staff are now proposing to place the un-programmed fund balance into a project grouping which would allow certain types of projects to be funded without being individually identified in the TIP. Mr. Conger touched on the allowable work types that staff propose to focus on, noting these funds would be allocated more or less on a first come first served basis. Mr. Conger noted both Memphis and Chattanooga have set up these types of groups and that staff are proposing this to be included as part of the Final TIP (but not the Interim TIP).

4. Presentation on ADA Transition Plans

Item Summary: TPO staff recently attending TDOT training on ADA Transition Plans, and will share an overview of what was presented.

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca noted the recent training centered on starting (or continuing) ADA transition planning for local governments as well as at the state level. Ms. Zavisca noted the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed in 1990, with its enforcement being complaint driven and noting that these complaints can go directly to the Department of Justice. Seven steps to ADA compliance were identified

during the training and these were reviewed by Elizabeth Watkins: designate an ADA coordinator, provide public notice about ADA requirements, establish a grievance procedure, develop internal design standards, specifications and details, develop self-evaluation and transition plan, approve a schedule and budget to implement the Transition Plan and lastly, monitor progress. Ms. Zavisca noted that by December 26, 2016 TDOT is asking local governments to have an ADA coordinator, public notice of ADA requirements and a posted grievance procedure in addition to an established plan for the rest of the requirements.

Mr. Joiner noted TDOT is exploring requiring jurisdictions to have an ADA transition plan in place in order to apply for state funds. He also noted that in addition to design standards and details jurisdictions need to develop policies reflective of the transition plan. He also noted that new construction projects will be closely reviewed for ADA compliance. Pat Carson and Stephanie Cook, ADA coordinators for Knox County and the City of Knoxville, respectively, spoke and stressed the need for greater accessibility across the board. The complete presentation is available online and is located here:

[http://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/aug16/ADA Transition Plan.pdf](http://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/aug16/ADA%20Transition%20Plan.pdf)

5. Other Business

- The Executive Board meeting for August will be cancelled.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- The 2016 joint TAPA/TSITE Fall Conference will take place at the Crowne Plaza in downtown Knoxville, TN on September 21 - 23, 2016. Full conference information including online registration can be found here: <http://www.tnapa.org/> or here: <http://www.tsite.org/>. The preliminary agenda is now available.
- The Foothills Parkway in Walland, TN was recently awarded \$10 million for the completion of the last section of the Parkway in Blount County, commonly referred to as the “missing link”. The funds were made available through the highly competitive 2016 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program and will be matched by an additional \$10 million from the National Park Service and \$15 million from the state of Tennessee.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Pat Phillips and seconded by Blake Sartin to adjourn the meeting. The Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.