

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE BOARD
of the
Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
August 21, 2013

Attendees: Mayor Rogers Anderson, Mr. Paul Ballard (for Vice-Mayor Diane Neighbors), Mayor Ernest Burgess, Mayor John Coombs, Ms. Kristin Costanzo (for Mayor Senna Mosely), Mayor Philip Craighead, Mayor Betsy Crossley, Mr. Corbin Davis, Mayor Karl Dean, Mayor Jo Ann Graves, Mr. Gerald Herman (for Mayor Michael Arnold), Executive Anthony Holt, Mayor Randal Hutto, Mr. Marlin Keel (for Mayor Ed Hagerty), Mr. Victor Lay (for Mayor Rick Graham), Mr. Larry McGoogin (for Gov. Bill Haslam), Mayor Ken Moore, Mr. Dana Richardson (for Mayor Tommy Bragg), Mr. Tim Roach, Mayor Kenneth Wilber

Approve June 19, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mayor Rogers Anderson, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:06 a.m. Mayor Jo Ann Graves moved to approve the June 19th meeting minutes with Mayor Ken Moore seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

MPO Chair's Report

Mayor Anderson said that a presentation on the perspectives on federal transit programs and local implementation has been added to the agenda.

Adopt FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, said that the draft *FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program* (UPWP) has been out for the required 21-day public review and comment period. The UPWP describes the planning studies and research efforts scheduled for the period between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014. The program meets federal planning requirements and serves as the MPO's annual operating budget and regional dues schedule. To-date, no comments have been received.

Mr. Skipper briefly highlighted the new studies in the upcoming year's UPWP including Phase III of a Regional Freight & Goods Movement Study and an update of the Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Study.

He also said that the MPO has partnered with the Nashville Chamber of Commerce to produce the *Vital Signs of Nashville and Region*. He said that this will be released in October.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing. There was no public comment. Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing.

Executive Anthony Holt moved to adopt the FY 2014 UPWP. Mayor Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

More information about the UPWP is available at NashvilleMPO.org/plans_programs/upwp/.

SCHEDULE:

- *April – Draft to MPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Executive Board (XB)*
- *May-June – Interagency Review and Comment Period*
- *7/31-8/21 – Public Review and Comment Period*
- *8/7 – First Public Hearing (TCC)*
- **8/21 – Second Public Hearing / Adoption (XB)**

Endorse Amendments to FY 2011-2015 TIP

Mr. Félix Castrodad, MPO staff, briefly reviewed the TIP amendments which require a 21-day public review and comment period and two public hearings are required prior to adoption by the Board.

Mayor Ernest Burgess moved to endorse the TIP amendments for public review and comment. Executive Holt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

More information is available at NashvilleMPO.org/plans_programs/tip/.

AMENDMENTS:

TIP #	RTP #	Project Name	Sponsor	Action
99-New-14	1044-272	Old Nashville Highway	La Vergne	Add funds
2011-42-031	1042-121	Chaney Boulevard Widening	La Vergne	Shift funds
2012-42-168	1142-008	SR-99 Widening (SW Loop to Cason Ln)	TDOT	Add funds
2004-056	1042-124	SR-99 Widening (Cason Ln to SR-96)	Murfreesboro	Add funds

SCHEDULE:

- *8/7 – TCC Endorsement*
- **8/21 – XB Endorsement**
- *8/23-9/18 – Public Review and Comment Period*
- *9/4 – First Public Hearing (TCC)*
- *9/18 – Second Public Hearing / Adoption (XB)*

Overview of Federal Transit Programs & Local Implementation

Mr. Skipper introduced Transportation for America personnel: John Robert Smith, James Corless, and Nick Donohue and then introduced Sarah Kline, Research Director for Transportation for America. She provided an overview of federal transit funding programs and examples of how local communities across the nation are implementing new transit services and transit-oriented development (TOD) to improve economic conditions and quality of life.

She said that TOD exists in cities of all sizes and benefits business in greater sales as well as saving households money. She gave examples of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Fitchburg, Massachusetts, Cleveland, Ohio, and Eugene, Oregon that have implemented successful TODs.

The keys to successful TODs are 1) alignment choice, 2) quality and frequency of service, 3) market conditions, and 4) proactive planning by city land use departments. She said that there are two federal funding programs: 1) New Starts which provides federal funds for new transit lines and extensions and 2) Small Starts program created in 2005 which is for projects under \$250M that request less than \$75M in federal funds, and is for BRT projects without fully dedicated lanes allowed. She said that new rules were recently issued. These provide a slightly faster process, new focus on number of riders (particularly transit-dependent riders), more focus on existing conditions with less focus on future performance, and a new focus on affordable housing and TOD.

MAP-21 contains the first TOD-focused program and provides \$10M annually to support corridor or station-area planning for New Starts projects. It also sets up a competitive grant program for public agencies. The Federal Transit Administration still needs to announce the availability of funds.

She said that successful projects have 1) an alignment that connects key regional destinations, 2) well-coordinated housing and land use connections to maximize ridership, 3) local leaders who will act as champions, 4) regional consensus and community support, and 5) committed local funding.

More information about *Transportation for America*: www.tramerica.org

More information about *Reconnecting America*: www.reconnectingamerica.org

MPO Director's Report

- Information about TDOT *Safe Routes to School* Grant Opportunity

Ms. Leslie Meehan, MPO staff, said that there will be one last call for project applications which are 100% funded by the feds. There is a September 18th mandatory training on applying for anyone who hasn't done so in the past. The applications will be received from October 31st through January 15th. She said that there is also money for bike/ped infrastructure and education projects.

- Update on Draft FYs 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program
Mr. Skipper said that the staff is reviewing the comments received from TDOT and then the document will go to FHWA and FTA for review and comment.

- Update on Consultant Activities
 - Southeast Area Transportation & Land Use Study
Mr. Skipper said that this study includes Rutherford, Williamson, Wilson and Davidson Counties. He said that growth and planning needs to be coordinated with the local comprehensive planning process. It also begins the understanding of the need to reform transportation plans both at the regional and local level for the land use policies and new transit options.
 - 2040 Regional Transportation Plan
Mr. Skipper said that the consultants for the General Plan are providing assistance in several different areas. Parsons Brinckerhoff is helping develop a model. Cambridge Systematic is developing a new tool to measure competitiveness in transit, help decide where service needs to be, and prioritize large projects. Cambridge Systematics is also helping to produce tube-style maps of the transit lines

- Other Comments
 - Mayor Ken Moore said that the intersection at Carothers Blvd. and McEwen Drive is going to have Franklin Park which is offices and apartments on a couple of the corners. Vanderbilt is building a medical center like 100 Oaks on one corner and the other corner will have a mixed use project, Ovation, which includes a hotel with offices and apartments. One corner will have Crescent Resources with offices and apartments. He said that the infrastructure will be extensive and expensive. He said that the daytime population in that area will be 25,000 people. He said that Franklin Transit Authority has allocated money to study additional transit options for the future.

 - Mayor Burgess said that the TACIR meeting will discuss about urban growth boundaries and how proposed legislation impacts local jurisdictions (counties vs. cities on growth). Mayor Moore asked if there are invited speakers and if anyone can attend. Mayor Burgess said that there are invited speakers and that anyone can attend and listen to the presentation. Executive Holt asked if there is any indication which direction the Legislature is moving. Mayor Burgess said not at this time. Mr. Tim Roach said that Mr. Sam Edwards is speaking.

 - Mayor Hutto reminded the Board of the Wilson County fair. He said that the Music City Star is making trips to and from the fair.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Date: _____

The Honorable Rogers Anderson
Chairman, MPO Executive Board

Michael Skipper, AICP
Executive Director and Secretary of the Board