

**MINUTES**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**of the**  
**Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**August 19, 2015**

Attendees: Mayor Jimmy Alexander, Mr. Dan Allen (for Mayor Rick Graham), Mayor Rogers Anderson, Mr. Andy Barlow (for Mayor Ed Hagerty), Mr. Steve Bland, Mayor Howard Bradley, Ms. Jill Burgin (for Mayor Regina Smithson), Mayor Patti Carroll, Mayor John Coombs, Ms. Kristen Costanzo (for Mayor Dennis Waldron), Mayor Philip Craighead, Mr. Corbin Davis, Mayor Karl Dean, Mr. Harry Gill (for Mayor Mary Ester Reed), Mr. Gerald Herman (for Mayor Michael Arnold), Executive Anthony Holt, Mr. Larry McGoogin (for Gov. Bill Haslam), Mayor Charlie Norman, Mr. Paul Nutting (for Mayor Billy Paul Carneal), Mr. Dana Richardson (for Mayor Shane McFarland), Mr. Tim Roach, Mayor Kenneth Wilber

**Approve the June 17, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Kenneth Wilber, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:03 a.m. Mayor Philip Craighead moved to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Andy Barlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**MPO Chair's Report**

Mayor Wilber thanked the Governor for touring the State bringing transportation needs to the forefront of public discussion. He said that it is time for all of the members to get serious about funding for transportation.

**Proposed Amendments to the FYs 2014-2017 TIP**

Ms. Anna Emerson, MPO staff, said that the proposed amendments to the *Transportation Improvement Program* need to go out for a 21-day public review and comment period. There will be two public hearings prior to the adoption of the Board. She briefly went over each amendment.

Mr. Tim Roach moved to endorse the amendments for public review and comment. Mayor John Coombs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

*More information is available at [NashvilleMPO.org/plans\\_programs/tip/](http://NashvilleMPO.org/plans_programs/tip/).*

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

<b>Amend#</b>	<b>TIP #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Action</b>
2015-039	2015-16-214	Hart Ln Pedestrian Safety Improvements	Metro Nashville	New project
2015-040+	Multiple	FY 2015 CMAQ Awards	Various	New projects

**SCHEDULE:**

- 8/5 – TCC Endorsement
- **8/19 –XB Endorsement**
- 8/21-9/16 – Public Review and Comment Period
- 9/2 – First Public Hearing (TCC)
- 9/16 – Second Public Hearing / Adoption (XB)

**Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, said that the draft *FY2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)* describes the planning studies and research efforts scheduled for the period between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016. He said that the UPWP has been developed to meet federal planning requirements and to serve as the MPO's annual operating budget and regional dues schedule for the upcoming fiscal year. He said that the dues for the coming year will not increase from this year.

Mr. Skipper said that along with the continuation of the on-going studies, there are two new activities for the coming fiscal year. They are 1) Regional ITS study which will inventory all of the assets across the region, evaluate their effectiveness, evaluate best practices and new technologies, and make recommendations for upgrade priorities; and 2) Transit study for the southern corridor (Williamson and Davidson Counties).

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

Executive Anthony Holt moved to adopt the Resolution 2015-003, approving the FY 2016 UPWP with Mr. Roach seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

A complete copy of the proposed UPWP is available at [www.NashvilleMPO.org/plans\\_programs/upwp/](http://www.NashvilleMPO.org/plans_programs/upwp/)

**SCHEDULE:**

- Feb/March – UPWP Development with TCC
- May/June – State and Federal Review
- 6/17 – XB Endorsement
- 7/17-8/19 – Public Review and Comment Period
- 8/5 – First Public Hearing (TCC)
- **8/19 – Second Public Hearing / Adoption (XB)**

### Federal Aid Urban Boundary

Mr. Skipper said that the staff has coordinated with TDOT to adjust the federal aid urban boundary (FAUB) for the planning area. He said that after each Census the FAUB defaults to the Census-designated urbanized areas. He said that federal regulations provide MPOs the discretion to smooth out those boundaries for any irregularities caused by Census methodology. The FAUB serves as 1) a guide for determining roadway design standards, and 2) defines urban and rural categories for aggregating statistics about highway and transit performance.

He said that the FAUB does not directly affect funding formulas out of DC nor is it typically used to determine funding eligibility. The official Census-defined Urban Areas continued to be used for those purposes. Mr. Roach asked if this changes any road classification. Mr. Skipper said that roadway classification is not changed as a result of FAUB modifications, but that the area-type designation (Urban, Rural) will be change if the road is located in an affected area.

Mr. Roach moved to adopt Resolution 2015-004, adjusting the FAUB. Mayor Craighead seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### MPO Director's Report

- Update on the 2040 RTP

Mr. Skipper thanked everyone for their involvement in the county RTP workshops. He said these meetings were to start honing in on the top priorities for all horizon years of the Plan. He said that the staff will be meeting with TDOT today to discuss state-led projects and talk with them about locally-submitted projects on state routes. He said that the staff will seek endorsement of the RTP recommendations at the November 4 annual membership meeting.

- HB1275/SB1326 Update

Mr. Skipper said this legislation was passed through both chambers of the Legislature and is now state law. As passed, it affects MPOs operating wholly in Tennessee that also contain three or more counties (Nashville and Knoxville). It requires that the MPO's governing board include a representative from a county highway department and forbids the use of weighted votes.

He said that our Board allows one seat per jurisdiction instead of by population. He said that the staff will be working with the Executive Board committee to see how to meet the second provision.

Executive Holt sought to clarify who the representative would be, asking if it would be the chair or director of the [statewide] County Highway Officials Association. Mr. Skipper said that the law requires the representative to be a resident of the area, and that the intent seemed to imply that the representative be an actual county highway superintendent from one of the MPO's counties. Mayor Patti Carroll said that if the representative is rotating among the counties then there might not be a problem.

Mr. Andy Barlow asked if the provision on population includes cities under 25,000. Mr. Skipper said that the final version of the legislation that passed would not directly alter the board's composition with respect to community size, however, the second provision of the law prohibits the use of weighted voting. He said that weighted voting is a necessary tool of the MPO to ensure that its board is representative of the population it serves, since its actual composition is not based on population, but on the number of county and municipal governments. MPOs without weighted voting typically have a board that is comprised of a number of representatives from each community based on size. In order to keep the size of boards a manageable number, some larger MPOs then eliminate dedicated seats for smaller communities, opting instead create a voting bloc of those smaller communities which are then represented by a single representative. That is very similar to the way the law provides for a single representative of all county highway departments.

Chairman Wilber said he would entertain a motion to amend the bylaws to add representation for county highway departments, but recommended that executive committee of the MPO convene with staff to study options related to the law's weighted vote provision.

Mayor Rogers Anderson moved to amend the Bylaws to add a representative of county highway departments to the board. Mayor Howard Bradley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Moving Forward**

Mr. Skipper said that this is a new initiative of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce and its business partners to help advance regional transit plans. It will produce an annual report on our progress with recommendations for how to keep efforts on track.

- **DRIVE Act**

Mr. Skipper said that the U.S. Senate passed the DRIVE Act which would authorize a 6-year transportation program with three years of funding identified, but the House didn't take up the issue prior to the August recess.

### **Other Business**

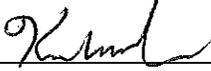
- Mayor Anderson said that it seems like the money allocated for infrastructure related to economic development is drying up. He asked if there is any information showing what good roads and transit means to economic development and the impact on communities and the rural areas. Mr. Skipper said the State's Industrial Access Grant (SIA) program that is paid for with a portion of the State's gas tax and that it is indeed in jeopardy as inflation continues to erode the purchasing power of state transportation revenue. He said that he would ask staff to put some information together for the next board meeting.

Mr. Steve Bland said he would send along related information from the transit community.

- Mr. Larry McGoogin said that the Governor will be in Rutherford County and Shelbyville on Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> on his State-wide transportation tour.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Date: 9/14/2015



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The Honorable Kenneth Wilber  
MPO Chairman



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Michael Skipper, AICP  
Executive Director and Secretary