

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE Of the

Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

April 4, 2012

Attendees: Ms. Lora Baulsir, Mr. Rick Bernhardt, Mr. Tom Brashear, Mr. Kevin Comstock, Mr. Marc Corrigan, Mr. Billy Davis, Mr. Corbin Davis, Mr. Doug Demosi, Mr. Gelband, Mr. Rick Gregory, Mr. Will Hager, Mr. Joe Horne, Mr. George James, Mr. Donn Lovvorn, Mr. Jim McAteer, Mr. Addam McCormick, Ms. Lisa Milligan, Mr. John Pewitt, Mr. Rob Raney, Mr. Jim Svoboda, Ms. Diane Thorne, Mr. Bob Weithofer

Approve March 7, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Tom Brashear, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Bob Weithofer moved to approve the March 7, 2012 meeting minutes with Mr. John Pewitt seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

TCC Chair's Report

- a) May 23rd Save the Date: 4th Annual Convening the Region Summit (CRT/MPO) – *Capitalizing on Regional Collaboration for Economic Development*
Mr. Brashear suggested that the members attend the Summit. He said that it is always worthwhile

- b) Farewell Bob Weithofer
Mr. Brashear said that he has appreciated Bob's input over the years. Mr. Weithofer said that he has enjoyed working with the TCC members. He appreciates the way this group works together to meet the local and regional needs as best as possible. He and his wife will do some traveling.

Mr. Billy Davis said that Bob has always been a multi-modal enthusiast. He said that the Metro Public Works Department will miss him.

Mr. Félix Castrodad, MPO staff, presented Mr. Weithofer with a plaque of appreciation. He received a round of applause.

c) Other comments

Mr. George James noted that today is his 70th birthday.

Roundtable Discussion: Local Planning Initiatives

Mr. Tom Brashear said that Wilson County is updating its land use plan. They are looking at adjusting and clarifying the borders and boundaries of the cities within the county from 2001.

Mr. Rick Bernhardt said that Nashville is starting to update the 1992 General Plan. They will be making sure that the many area plans along with other studies (such as the Sustainability Plan, the Open Space Plan, the Collector Street Plan) will be integrated. He said that the next 18 months will be an extensive public comment period. The steps will be 1) a community-wide survey to identify key issues, 2) white papers on these issues, 3) goals will be set, 4) policies will be decided, and 5) the plan will be written. He noted that they will be reaching out to the surrounding counties to coordinate regionally as well as to MTA and the airport authority.

Mr. Jim McAteer said that the MTA is moving forward with the East-West Connector. He said that this project is the only one in Region 4 (10 states) in the Small Starts pipeline which has \$50M to spend. He also said that there is new bus service to Madison and Old Hickory thanks to CMAQ funding. MTA will have a new Master Plan by the end of this year.

Ms. Lora Baulsir said that RTA will be doubling the service along the SE corridor within six to eight months and is looking into having service between Rutherford and Williamson Counties. The service along the route to Gallatin and Hendersonville will also be doubling. Robertson and Montgomery Counties are now RTA members and will be receiving service in June.

Mr. Butch Gelband said that the Airport Authority is updating its 20-year master plan and should be done by January 2013. They are holding public hearings now. He said that more information can be found at www.flynashville.com.

Mr. Brashear said that at the last MPO Executive Board meeting Commissioner John Schroer discussed the restructuring at TDOT and funding changes. He said that in the past the MPO spends a lot of time on the prioritizing of projects and then funding as many as possible will be changed with a left over list of regional projects as a wish list. He said that it seems from the Commissioner's comments, that TDOT funds will now be joined with MPO funds to do projects that are best for the region. This may cause us

having to renegotiate how projects are prioritized. Ms. Angie Midgett said that TDOT wants to work closely with the MPOs and wants to have one list of priorities and that each project will need a commitment from the locals before they are done.

Commissioner Schroer said that TDOT has \$8.6B in their 3-year project list - \$850M for this year with \$289M in STP dollars (for \$4B worth of projects for STP projects). Mr. Brashear said that TDOT may not completely fund a project in the future. Ms. Midgett said that more meetings and discussions with the MPOs will take place before the process is finalized.

Tennessee Department of Transportation Report

Ms. Midgett said that the spending on ARRA projects has been accelerated. She said that all remaining funds need to be spent by September 30, 2013. For further information, she said to contact Andy Barlow in the Local Programs Office at 741-7015. Mr. Davis said that most contracts already have an ending date of August 2012.

Mr. Brashear said that Commissioner Schroer mentioned that TDOT is going to implement new software that will allow agencies to track their project more accurately. Ms. Midgett said that when she gets information about this, she will share it.

MPO Director's Report

d) Reminder: Call-for-Studies FY 13 UPWP

Mr. Castrodad said that if anyone has an idea for studies for the next fiscal year to please get them to Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, soon.

e) Deadline for Cycle C TIP Amendments

Mr. Castrodad said that the deadline for this TIP cycle is April 20th. Adoption will be in June. Mr. Brashear asked if a grant is awarded outside the regular TIP cycle can the project be amended into the TIP when it is awarded. Mr. Castrodad said yes it is possible but that the local jurisdiction will have to pay for advertising.

f) Other comments

Mr. Nick Lindeman said that with the new census there are new boundaries and urban areas with new rules. He said that Murfreesboro and Nashville's UZAs have changed. Mr. Castrodad said that the staff will be analyzing the results and will give an update at a future meeting. Mr. McAteer asked if Murfreesboro is still its own UZA and Mr. Castrodad said yes. Mr. Rick Gregory asked if how they are defined had changed. Mr. Lindeman said yes.

Mr. Brashear said that it would be very helpful if a new map showing the percentage of commutes between counties is done. Mr. Castrodad said that the staff will look into this.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Date: _____

Tom Brashear, Chair
Technical Coordinating Committee

Michael Skipper, MPO Director
Secretary, Technical Coordinating Committee