

## MINUTES

### TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE Of the

#### Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

June 6, 2012

**Attendees:** Ms. Lora Baulsir, Mr. Kirk Bednar, Mr. Michael Briggs, Mr. Jonathan Cleghon, Mr. Marc Corrigan, Mr. Billy Davis, Mr. Corbin Davis, Mr. Doug Demosi, Mr. Butch Gelband, Ms. Tanisha Hall, Mr. Joe Horne, Mr. Jonathan Langley, Mr. Jim McAteer, Mr. Addam McCormick, Mr. John Pewitt, Mr. Rob Raney, Mr. Dana Richardson, Mr. Kevin Rigsby, Mr. Fred Rogers, Mr. Jim Svoboda, Ms. Diane Thorne

#### **Approve May 2, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Jim McAteer, Vice-Chair, opened the meeting at 10:35 a.m. Mr. John Pewitt moved to approve the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting minutes with Butch Gelband seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **TCC Chair's Report**

- a) Recap of May 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convening the Region Summit (CRT/MPO) – *Capitalizing on Regional Collaboration for Economic Development*  
Mr. McAteer said that the Summit was excellent. Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, thanked Dr. Bridget Jones and her staff at Cumberland Region Tomorrow for another successful event.

#### **Proposed Amendments to the FYs 2011-2015 TIP**

Mr. Félix Castrodad, MPO staff, said that the following amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Amendment Cycle FY12-C are currently completing a 21-day public review and comment period. To date, no comments have been received.

More information about the TIP, including proposed amendments, is available on the MPO's website at: [http://www.nashvillempo.org/plans\\_programs/tip/](http://www.nashvillempo.org/plans_programs/tip/)

<b>TIP #</b>	<b>RTP #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Action</b>
2006-014	1052-176	New Shackle Island Rd (SR-258) Phase 1	Hendersonville	Shift funds; program CONST
2011-79-162	Consistent	Hartmann Dr Lighting	Lebanon	Shift funds; Add Local funds
2010-79-005	1072-284	Lebanon 3R Improvements Grouping	Lebanon	Add funds; combine funds
2011-85-147	1085-504	Job Access and Reverse Commute Grouping	MPO	Add funds
2008-85-093	1085-505	New Freedom Funds Grouping	MPO	Add funds
2006-304	1046-295	Jefferson Springs Greenway Extension	Smyrna	Delete funds
2012-56-190	Consistent	Smyrna Greenway Phase 1	Smyrna	Add to TIP
2012-59-191	Consistent	Civil War Historic Preservation Project	Sumner County	Add to TIP
2009-84-033	1014-238	I-40	TDOT	Add funds
2012-87-192	Consistent	I-24E Smartway Expansion	TDOT	Add to TIP
2012-87-193	Consistent	I-65 ITS	TDOT	Add to TIP
2012-42-194	1042-168	SR-266 Widening	TDOT	Add to TIP
2006-416	1053-240	I-65/ SR-109/ SR-41	TDOT	Add funds
2012-56-195	1085-501	Hwy 31W/ SR-41 Bike/ Pedestrian Project	White House	Add to TIP
2011-54-156	1054-255	Tyree Springs (SR-258)/ S. Palmers Chapel Int. Improvements	White House	Shift funds; shift FY
2004-022	1036-274	SR-76 Sidewalks	White House	Add funds; shift FY
2011-16-092	1016-190; 1086-602	Harding Place Sidewalk Enhancement	Metro Nashville	Add funds; adjust funding
2012-15-196	1085-501	Ticket Vending Machines & Smartcard Programming	MTA	Add project to TIP
2012-15-197	1085-501	Real Time Arrival Mobile App Development	MTA	Add project to TIP
2012-35-198	1085-501	Springfield Park-n-Ride Directional and Identification Signage	MTA	Add project to TIP
2012-55-199	1085-501	Greensboro North Park-n-Ride in Gallatin	RTA	Add project to TIP
2012-85-200	1085-501	Intelligent Real-time Ad Hoc Ridesharing	Williamson Co./ TMA Group	Add project to TIP
2006-013	1085-325	Bus Seat Guarantee	RTA	Add funds
2008-85-091	1085-320	Commuter Rail Capitalization & Preventative Maintenance	RTA	Shift funds
2011-15-137	1015-309	Local Bus Service Preventative Maintenance and Capitalization	MTA	Add funds
2008-15-048	1015-311	Service and Support Vehicles Equipment	MTA	Add funds
2008-17-021	1015-312	Computer Aided Dispatch, Automatic Vehicle Location & Intelligent Transportation System	MTA	Add funds

Mr. McAteer opened the public hearing. There was no public comment. Mr. McAteer closed the public hearing.

Mr. Fred Rogers moved to endorse the TIP amendments for consideration by the Executive Board. Ms. Lora Baulsir seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The schedule for adoption is:

- *5/2 – TCC endorsement*
- *5/16 – XB endorsement*
- **5/21-6/18 – Public review and comment period**
- **6/6 - First public hearing (TCC)**
- 6/20 - Second public hearing / adoption (XB)

### **Presentation: Regional Vanpool and Ridesharing Program Development**

Ms. Diane Thorne from The TMA Group presented information about the recent rebranding and enhancement of the regional vanpool program and a preview of upcoming expansion and modernization of the regional ridesharing program.

She said that The TMA Group's TDM programs include regional transportation demand management strategies and vanpool vehicle acquisition and start-up. The Group is also administers the Clean Air Partnership of Middle Tennessee and the Franklin Transit Authority.

She said that vanpooling is a "bottom-up" approach to transit in that the customers drive the process, determine the routes/times/pick-up/drop-off points, and cover 100% of the operational expenses. The benefits of vanpooling are that it is the least costly to implement, most flexible, designed for longer distance commute trips servicing the entire region, and fastest to implement of any transit choice.

She said that market research shows that vanpools are a good fit for Middle Tennessee. The research first identified the market audience and then a new brand and message was developed. The TMA has also developed, in partnership with Avego, a web-based state-of-the-art vanpool matching and distribution system for Middle Tennessee. This site's address is [www.vanstar.com](http://www.vanstar.com)

The TMA Group is also trying to reach the 98% of residents who don't vanpool. They are doing this with pilot projects 1) by communicating alternative transportation options at employer worksites using strategic message boards and 2) setting up intelligent real-time, ad hoc ridesharing using smart phone technology. She said that the larger employers will be the first to receive these. She said that the timeline for message boards will be between 6-9 months after the notice to proceed.

Mr. Rogers asked if the customer pays for maintenance. Ms. Thorne said that the fleet management system sends out notices when it is time for maintenance. She said that the cost is broken down to the nth degree including insurance, fuel, replacement, and maintenance. She said that the drivers are trained.

Mr. Skipper and the TCC thanked Ms. Thorne and The TMA Group staff for their time and efforts.

More information about The TMA Group is available at:

<http://www.tmagroup.org/>

### **Presentation: *Moving Tennessee Forward* Publication**

Mr. Ron Yearwood and Gary Gaston from the Nashville Civic Design Center (NCDC) presented highlights from the recently published book entitled, “Moving Tennessee Forward.” The publication was developed through a partnership among the NCDC, Nashville Area MPO, and TDOT and funded by public and private funds. The book represents significant elements of the MPO’s *2035 Regional Transportation Plan* from the perspective of an urban designer. Each TCC member received a copy of the book.

Mr. Gaston gave a quick overview of what the NCDC is and does. It is an independent nonprofit organization that has worked since 2000 to improve the quality of life for Nashvillians through creative thinking, partnerships that encourage high quality design and encouraging public dialogue on key issues that impact how we live, work, and play.

He said that NCDC provides leadership in the areas of 1) education on urban design, 2) research on topics/case studies, 3) facilitation of public meetings, 4) consultation with city and developers, 5) visualization of concepts and big ideas, and 6) promotion of the *Plan of Nashville’s “Ten Principles”*.

Mr. Yearwood provided an overview of the *Moving Tennessee Forward* book. He said that the TDOT/MPO grant-funded publication spanned the following topics 1) downtown Nashville circulator and neighborhood connectors, 2) transit oriented development (TOD) along the Music City Star / Northeast corridor, 3) “healing the historic pikes” in Nashville, and 4) envisioning new design considerations for TDOT bridges. Each of these is explored in a separate chapter in the book *Moving Tennessee Forward*.

Mr. Gaston said that the NCDC has started work on its newest initiative, *Shaping Healthy Communities: Nashville*. The products from this effort will include 1) an action plan, 2) designing action international competition, 3) living the Plan of Nashville 2012, annual luncheon featuring keynote speaker Dr. Richard Jackson, 4) faces of Nashville, exhibition at the downtown library, 5) corresponding lectures and events, 6) Nashville HEALS, Healthy Eating Active Living summit 2013, topic health and the built environment, 7) *Shaping Healthy Cities: Nashville*, a narrative book published by Vanderbilt University Press in 2013, 8) video shorts, 8) information for the Nashville General Plan, and 9) information for the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan.

Mr. Gaston said he looked forward to continued partnership with the MPO.

Mr. Skipper and the TCC thanked Mr. Gaston and Mr. Yearwood for their time and efforts.

More information about NCDL is available at: <http://www.civicdesigncenter.org/>

### **Election of Technical Coordinating Committee Officers for 2012/2013**

The nominating committee appointed by Mr. Tom Brashear and comprised of Mr. Joe Horne, Mr. Dana Richardson, and Mr. Fred Rogers presented the slate to serve as chair and vice-chair of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) for the period beginning July 2012 through June 2013. The slate is Mr. Jim McAteer as Chair and Mr. Doug Demosi as Vice-Chair. Mr. Rogers moved to accept the slate as presented with Mr. Joe Horne seconding. The slate was unanimously accepted.

### **Tennessee Department of Transportation Report**

Ms. Tanisha Hall, director of the TDOT Long Range Planning Division, said that Mr. Scott Black is now the COO for TDOT. Lindsey Botts is the chief of staff. Paul Degges is now deputy commissioner.

She said that TDOT is in the process of converting the management of local projects to the local jurisdictions unless the locals aren't able to do it. Mr. McAteer said that TDOT needs to engage with the locals during this process.

### **MPO Director's Report**

- a) Welcome to MPO Intern Sonia Sequeira from Washington University in St. Louis: Ms. Leslie Meehan, MPO staff, introduced the new intern. She will be assisting in a school siting project. She is interested in learning how the built environment impacts health and sustainability.
- b) Update on Federal Transportation Legislation: Mr. Skipper said that the transportation legislation is in conference committee working with the MAP-21 language. It is not sure if a long-term solution will be passed before the election. There are two issues, the keystone pipeline and environmental streamlining of regulation around coal ash, that are sticking points and once these are worked out, it might not take long to pass the bill.

- c) Recent Transportation & Health Initiatives: Ms. Meehan gave an overview of the Weight of the Nation conference sponsored by the Center for Disease Control. She was on a steering committee for transportation. She spoke on the pre-evaluation of health related transportation issues. There is an HBO 4-part series on the Weight of the Nation. It is free and can be found on their website [www.HBO.com](http://www.HBO.com). Hopefully, there will be several screenings in Nashville in the next four months. She said that Nashville and Mayor Karl Dean were highlighted in this series.

Ms. Meehan said that there is a report from the Institute of Medicine on obesity. This was co-chaired by former Mayor Bill Purcell. They looked at strategies and how they impacted obesity. They came up with recommendations on how obesity can be reduced. The first is to be more physically active.

She said that the Tennessee Obesity Taskforce held a meeting last week which looked at better engaging the private sector in the fight. Transportation for America was the sponsor. Video footage will be on website soon.

She said that she also participated in and presented to the FTA workshop in Washington, D.C. on health and transportation a few weeks ago.

She handed out a card "Same Roads, Same Rules" which gives the rules for both drivers and bicyclists.

d) Recent Staff Presentations/ Upcoming Conferences

- Ms. Mary Beth Ikard, MPO staff, presented a paper at the TRB conference on performance measures for TIP processes and procedures. She presented on public involvement strategies and getting public buy-in for policy changes in the adoption of the RTP.
- Mr. Max Baker, MPO staff, said that he, Mr. Skipper, and Mr. Chin-Cheng Chen will present a paper at the TRB conference for medium and small MPOs on the applicability of showing different ways of showing density and how it can be translated to a small community using GIS.

Mr. McAteer reminded the members that the July TCC will be one week later than usual, June 10<sup>th</sup>, since the first Wednesday is July 4<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Tom Brashear, Chair  
Technical Coordinating Committee

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Michael Skipper, AICP, Executive Director  
Secretary, Technical Coordinating Committee