

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE Of the

Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

August 7, 2013

Attendees: Ms. Lora Baulsir, Mr. Tom Brashear, Mr. Michael Briggs, Mr. Jonathon Cleghon, Mr. Kevin Comstock, Mr. Paul Corder, Mr. Marc Corrigan, Ms. Kristen Costanzo, Mr. Billy Davis, Mr. Corbin Davis, Mr. Doug Demosi, Mr. John Finke, Ms. Isabelle Ford, Mr. Butch Gelband, Mr. Rick Gregory, Mr. Mike Harris, Mr. Gerald Herman, Mr. Joe Horne, Mr. George James, Mr. Jim McAteer, Mr. Larry McGoogin, Mr. John Pewitt, Mr. Dana Richardson, Mr. Kevin Rigsby, Mr. Fred Rogers, Ms. Diane Thorne

Approve June 5, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Jim McAteer, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:33 a.m. Mr. Gerald Herman moved to approve the June 5th meeting minutes with Mr. Butch Gelband seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

TCC Chair's Report

Mr. McAteer said that the progress of this region in regards to public transit is gaining national attention. He said that the progressive thinking and smart growth of the area is being identified by the American Public Transit Association and the MPO has much to do with this.

Election of Officers for the Technical Coordinating Committee

Mr. Joe Horne, nominating committee chair, nominated Mr. Jim McAteer for Chair and Mr. Doug Demosi for Vice-Chair. Mr. Fred Rogers seconded the nominations. The slate was unanimously accepted.

Endorse FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, provided an overview of the draft *FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program* (UPWP) which describes 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. The draft has been out for the required 7-day public review and comment period. There has been no comments received to-date.

Mr. Skipper highlighted funding that has been provided for a new partnership between the MPO and the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce to begin producing an annual indicator's report which will track the region's progress toward implementing major policy initiatives across the area. The data driven report will be published in a way that is relevant and interesting to the community at large. The report will be titled *The Nashville Region's Vital Signs*. The first report will be released on October 1, 2013. Mr. McAteer asked what the major components will be in the report. Mr. Skipper said it will change from year to year depending on what the important issues are.

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

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

Mr. Demosi moved to endorse the FY 2014 UPWP for adoption by the Board. Mr. Kevin Rigsby seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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 FYs 2011-2015 TIP

Mr. Félix Castrodad, MPO staff, briefly went over the amendments to the *FYs 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program* (TIP) as part of the final amendment cycle (D) for FY 2013. Mr. Dana Richardson said that the amendment the City of Murfreesboro requested (SR-99/New Salem Rd Widening - TIP #2004-056) is to add money to meet their contractual agreement with TDOT.

Mr. Rogers moved to endorse the proposed amendments for public review and comment. Mr. Tom Brashear seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AMENDMENTS:

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

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

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)**

Update on the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan

Mr. Skipper said that the MPO is working on a major update to the computer models used to predict future land use and transportation conditions across Middle Tennessee. The first is the regional land use model that is used to predict where three million people will live and work throughout the 10-county area in the year 2040. The second is the travel demand model that will predict the associated volumes and daily patterns of passenger automobiles, freight and commercial vehicles, and transit ridership. He said that the models are showing accelerated growth in the region even beyond what Woods & Poole predict. The major roadway network is also being updated which will help with the functional classification of the roads.

More information about the process to update the regional planning models is available at:

www.nashvillempo.org/plans_programs/rtp/regional_planning_models.aspx

More information about the 2040 Plan is available at NashvilleMPO.org/2040.

Update on the East-West Connector BRT – The AMP

Mr. Ed Cole of the Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee presented an update on The Amp. Mr. Cole showed the project video to the TCC. He also presented an update on the Amp project that included both technical status and public outreach activities including findings from a recent survey conducted by the Rockefeller Foundation to measure the attitudes of area voters towards the BRT.

He said that the seven points in the Executive Summary that have been discussed with the public are:

1. Case for transit
2. Ridership – who will ride
3. Route
4. How will it work (subway on tires)
5. Neighborhood impact
6. Funding – Small Starts, MPO, TDOT, Metro
7. Timeline – 2016 probably

The outreach for the AMP is a multi-headed effort. MTA, the Nashville Mayor, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Board of Education, MPO, and TDOT are all involved.

Mr. Skipper asked how three common design elements are being dealt with in the public including: 1) the perception that vehicle travel lanes are being taken away, 2) the elimination of left hand turns, and 3) the elimination of certain on-street parking. Mr. Cole said there seems to be a mixed success rate on dealing with these. He said the project team is trying to communicate how the proposed improvements will create a better corridor than the ever-changing and worsening status quo. Mr. Billy Davis said that seeing the final design will help these perceptions. He said that the more public education is done the better. Mr. George James asked if there will be park and ride lots. Mr. Cole said that there will be one at each end for sure. There will also be others.

Mr. Brashear mentioned that The Amp video needs better music and a more soothing background speaker.

MPO Director's Report

- Information about TDOT *Safe Routes to School* Grant Opportunity
Ms. Leslie Meehan, MPO staff, said that there is still money from SAFETEA-LU for this grant. The cap of any project is \$250,000. She said that the application time is from October 1, 2013 through January 15, 2014. There is a mandatory training for those who haven't applied before and it will be September 19th in Nolensville. She said that you must register to attend. She said that at this time the total amount to be awarded is not known.
- Information about Annual Bicycle & Pedestrian Count Day
Ms. Meehan said that there will be a bicycle & pedestrian count on September 10th. She said that there are 23 locations but asked that if there

are any issues with the proposed locations or if other locations need to be used, to please let her know. She also said that people are needed for the count. There will be an am and pm count.

- Update on Draft FYs 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program
Mr. Skipper said that the comments from both FHWA/FTA have been received the staff is working through them. He said that endorsement for public review and comment will be in September.
- Update on Consultant Activities
 - Southeast Area Transportation & Land Use Study:
Mr. Skipper said that there was a stakeholder forum held in July for this study.
 - Regional Transportation Plan
Mr. Skipper said that the consultant, Cambridge Systematic, has made schematic maps for transit part of the 2035 RTP.
- Other Comments
 - Mr. Skipper introduced the MPO GIS intern, Nick Koupal.
 - Mr. Larry McGoogin, TDOT, said that the functional classification requests are being processed at this time. He also said that the I-24 Corridor study will have a meeting this Friday.
 - Mr. Tom Brashear reminded the group of the Wilson County Fair from August 16-24th.
 - Mr. Brashear said that the meeting between Wilson County and the NashvilleNext staff on how this Plan will impact Wilson County was very good and he encouraged other jurisdictions to have this type of meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Date: _____

Jim McAteer, Chair
Technical Coordinating Committee

Michael Skipper, AICP
Executive Director and Secretary of the Technical Coordinating Committee