

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE Of the

Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

September 4, 2013

Attendees: Ms. Lora Baulsir, Mr. Tom Brashear, Mr. Michael Briggs, Mr. Jonathon Cleghon, Mr. Kevin Comstock, Mr. Paul Corder, Mr. Marc Corrigan, Ms. Kristin 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. Reed Hillen, Mr. Joe Horne, Mr. Larry McGoogin, Mr. Kevin Rigsby, Mr. Fred Rogers

Approve August 7, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Doug Demosi, Vice-Chair, opened the meeting at 10:33 a.m. Mr. Rick Gregory moved to approve the August meeting minutes with Mr. Butch Gelband seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

TCC Chair's Report

Mr. Demosi reminded the members of the fall TAPA meeting in Kingsport, TN on September 25-27. He said that the 2014 fall meeting will be in August 2014 in Nashville and will be held jointly with the MPO and possible TDOT and TRB.

Endorse Amendments to FYs 2011-2015 TIP

Mr. Félix Castrodad, MPO staff, said that the proposed amendments have been out for the required 21-day public review and comment period. There has been no comments received to-date.

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

Mr. Joe Horne moved to endorse the amendments for consideration by the Board. Mr. Fred Rogers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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)

Funding Opportunities for Active Transportation Projects

Ms. Leslie Meehan, MPO staff, said that there are multiple opportunities for funding bicycle/pedestrian projects. These include:

- TDOT
 - Transportation Alternatives (TAP)
 - Awards currently being announced for Spring 2013 infrastructure/education project applications
 - The second call for projects applications are due November 1st
 - Safe Routes to School (infrastructure/education)
 - Last of the SAFETEA-LU 100% funding
 - Mandatory application training for those who haven't done so is in Nolensville on September 19th
 - Applications are accepted October 1st – January 15th
 - Multimodal Access Fund (infrastructure only)
 - \$30M over three years (\$10M/year)
 - Funded with state gas tax
 - Applications TBD in the fall of 2013
- MPO
 - Active Transportation Program and Transportation Alternatives Program – fall of 2013
 - 15% STP investment in Active Transportation & Walkable Communities (sidewalks, bicycle lanes, greenways, transit stops, & education)
 - Awarded \$2.5M in 2015
 - 10 projects submitted with 8 funded (7 infrastructure and 1 education)
 - 3-tiered scoring process
 - Staff Review

- BPAC Review
- Staff Review
- In 2013, combining TAP funding with MPO Active Transportation Program, using the same process. Total funding will be approximately \$12.1 million (80%-20% funding)
- Regional Transportation Plan – 2014-2015

Major Roadway Network & Federal Aid Urban Boundary Revisions

Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, gave an overview of the changes to the urban areas as a result of the 2010 Census.

The key changes are:

- Nashville-Davidson Urbanized Area
 - Merged with the old White House Urban Center
 - Now includes La Vergne and Smyrna that were part of the Murfreesboro UZA
 - Redrawn to exclude the Springfield area
 - Now includes portions of six counties
- Murfreesboro Urbanized Areas
 - Redrawn to exclude the areas around La Vergne and Smyrna
- White House Urban Cluster
 - Merged with the Nashville-Davidson UZA
- Springfield Urban Center
 - Delineated from the Nashville-Davidson UZA
- Spring Hill Urban Cluster
 - Grew substantially to become third largest UA in the MPO area

The implications of changes:

- Urban Areas are basis of Federal Formula Funds
 - FHWA Surface Transportation Program (STP)
 - FTA Urbanized Area Formula Program (5307)
 - FTA JARC (5316) and New Freedom (5317) Programs
 - FHWA & FTA Metropolitan Planning Funds
 - Many others
- Urban Areas over 50,000 required to be part of an MPO to participate in the federal transportation program
- Urban Areas over 200,000 are defined as a Transportation Management Area (TMA)
 - Federally-defined suballocation amounts
 - Additional planning requirements
 - Cannot use federal funds to operate transit services
- Next Steps
 - No appeal process for Census definitions

- Evaluate changes to determine if new areas are required to be a part of an MPO
- Work with TDOT to define the Federal Aid Urban Area boundary for the purposes of defining the federal functional classification system
- Evaluate other factors that affect the MPO planning area and board representation

Mr. Skipper said that the Federal Aid Urban Boundary purposes are:

- Service as adjusted urban areas to account for irregularities resulting from Census designation
- Used to determine urban versus rural for funding considerations
- Applied to federal functional classification for HPMS reporting
- Not to be confused with the MPO planning area – which may include both urban and rural areas?

Mr. Tom Brashear asked if there is any advantage of the 109 agreement and the Tri-County study in putting the segment of 109 between Gallatin and US-70 in the urban area. Mr. Skipper said only designated urban areas are listed but can look at this situation to see if it is possible.

Mr. Larry McGoogin said that the urban boundary can be amended prior to the next Census. Mr. Skipper agreed but said it is discouraged.

Mr. Rick Gregory asked what the difference between interstate and freeway. Mr. Baker said that the interstate in the original Eisenhower interstate system and freeways are like Ellington Parkway, SR-840, and Vietnam Veterans Parkway.

Mr. Max Baker, MPO staff, discussed the changes to the major roadway network. Mr. Skipper said that an email will be sent today covering this information and what is needed from each jurisdiction regarding the designations.

MPO Director's Report

- Update on Annual Bicycle & Pedestrian Count Day
Ms. Meehan said that this year's regional bicycle and pedestrian counts would be on September 10th from 7-9 am and 4-6 pm. She said that there are 34 locations throughout the region. She said that there are 70 volunteers doing the counts this year.
- Update on Draft FYs 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program
Mr. Skipper said that the staff is working through TDOT's comments before sending the draft document to the feds for their comments.
- Appointment of Designated Recipient for FTA Formula Funds

Mr. Skipper said that MTA is designated as the recipient of the FTA formula 5307 funds for the Nashville UZA. He said that project selection for these funds is still led by the MPO.

- Update on Consultant Activities

Mr. Skipper said that three new RFPs are under development: 1) Phase III of the Freight study which will focus on how freight impacts local communities and design a freight network, 2) Update to the Bicycle & Pedestrian plan, and 3) and an Access Management Study for SR-109 in conjunction with TDOT as it relates to the vision on growth and development.

- Other comments

- Mr. Skipper said that the MPO will be posting for the vacant planner position soon.
- Mr. Skipper said that Mary Beth Ikard has been named chair of the Young Professionals of Nashville for the Chamber through 2014.
- Mr. Skipper said that the FTA Administrator, Peter Rogoff will be here Friday, September 6th to congratulate MTA for getting a TIGER grant for signalization, new bus shelters, pedestrian improvements, and intelligent transportation systems devices along Murfreesboro Road.

Other Business

Mr. Larry McGoogin reminded the members of the required Safe Routes to School training on September 19th in Nolensville. He said that TDOT is hosting Regional Transportation Summits in lieu of the bus tours this year for the Mayors. There will be one in Nashville on September 30th and one in Lewisburg on October 1st. He also stated that freight advisory committees have been formed across the state consisting of private & public stakeholders and TDOT.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Date: _____

Jim McAteer, Chair
Technical Coordinating Committee

Michael Skipper, AICP
Executive Director & Secretary