

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE Of the

Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

September 3, 2014

Attendees: Mr. Dan Allen, Ms. Kim Ark, Mr. Andy Barlow, Mr. Tom Brashear, Mr. Michael Briggs, Mr. Felix Castrodad, Mr. Jonathan Cleghon, Mr. Marc Corrigan, Mr. Billy Davis, Mr. Corbin Davis, Mr. Doug Demosi, Mr. John Finke, Mr. Glenn Harper, Mr. Mike Harris, Ms. Billy Higgins, Mr. Joe Horne, Mr. Jonathan Marston, Mr. Bill McCord, Mr. Larry McGoogin, Mr. Kevin Rigsby, Mr. Tim Roach, Mr. Fred Rogers, Ms. Diane Thorne, Ms. Christine Vitt

Approve August 6, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Doug Demosi, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:35 a.m. Mr. Mike Harris moved to approve the August 6, 2014 meeting minutes. Mr. Jonathan Marston seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

TCC Chair's Report

Mr. Demosi said that the TAPA/TRB meeting last week was a good one. Mr. Tom Brashear said that he appreciated the communication style of the information given. Next year it will be in Chattanooga.

Results of the MPO Federal Certification Review

Mr. Corbin Davis, FHWA, said that a review by the FHWA and FTA is done every 4 years for an urban area of over 200,000 people. He said that the review team did not identify any corrective actions (the second review where no corrective actions were identified). He said that there were 20 recommendations reflect national trends and best practices from across the nation and though but would help this MPO enhance the metropolitan

transportation planning process. The 20 commendations can serve as examples to other States and planning organizations across the country.

The entire Certification Review is on the MPO website http://www.nashvillempo.org/publications_docs/MPO/ Federal Certification Review - Final Report (2014)

Mr. Bill McCord asked if the commendation for producing measures of effectiveness (#10) regarding Level of Service (LOS) filters down to the local jurisdictions. Mr. Davis said that LOS is usually defined community to community. Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, said that right now there is not a regional LOS for any type of roadway and that there haven't yet been any proposed rules by the feds regarding LOS. Mr. McCord asked if identifying collector streets is done locally or is it at a regional level (#4 under recommendations). Mr. Davis said that it is a cooperative effort between the MPO and the local governments based on the 2013 guidelines. TDOT will have first approval then it goes to FHWA. Mr. Skipper said that there will be on-going discrepancies between the classifications used in major thoroughfare plans and the actual federal classification system.

Mr. Tom Brashear asked if there was any public input of note. Mr. Davis said that the public input questions and results are in the full report in Appendix D. He said much of what was talked about at the review was out of the scope of the Review.

Proposed Amendments to the FYs 2014-2017 TIP

Ms. Anna Emerson, MPO staff, gave a quick overview of the proposed amendments that have been out for the required 21-day public review and comment period. She said that no comments have been received to-date. Mr. McCord asked a clarifying question which Mr. Felix Castrodad answered.

Mr. Demosi opened the public hearing. There were no comments. Mr. Demosi closed the public hearing.

Mr. McCord asked a clarifying question. Mr. McCord moved to endorse the proposed amendments for consideration by the Board with Mr. Tim Roach seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Middle Tennessee Transportation & Health Study

Mr. Skipper said that the \$1.2M research study was done in conjunction with TDOT, the Clarksville MPO, and the CDC to integrate transportation, health, and travel behaviors. The study showed the links between the built environment, transportation, and public

health – socio-economics, travel behaviors, area types (rural, suburban, or urban), physical activity, eating behaviors, and personal health outcomes.

The study covered 6,000 households with 600 doing a more detailed travel behavior and health self-assessment. The findings showed drivers per household and type of vehicle used for travel. It also showed commuting habits and health of the participants. The findings also showed that work commuting is not the predominant reason for travel in Middle Tennessee. It also showed that more people walk and bike (and use transit) than previously thought.

The general conclusions were that 1) health is influenced by BMI, 2) BMI is influenced by diet and physical activity, 3) physical activity is influenced by travel behaviors, and 4) travel behaviors are influenced by built environment and household characteristics. The study also found that the resulting travel behaviors largely mirror that of other research and the resulting health measures largely mirror that of other health studies. Using the Integrated Transportation and Health Impact Model (ITHIM) shows how changes in physical activity, road traffic injury risk, and urban air pollution impacts transportation.

Mr. Brashear asked if the statistics are broken down so that local elected officials can use to encourage better activity and to use for local comprehensive plans. Mr. Skipper said yes the data can be looked at by jurisdiction.

MPO Director's Report

- Update on 2040 Regional Transportation Plan Activities & Schedule
Mr. Skipper handed out instructions on how to use the Project Application & Evaluation Database for roadway & intersections project application. He said that the tool is on our website and that there will be a webinar. He said that all projects must be submitted, even old projects that are in the old RTP. He said that in October there will be a meeting in each county to go over the submitted projects and to learn the priorities of each jurisdiction.
- Update on MPO Staffing
Mr. Skipper introduced the new MPO travel demand modeler, Mr. Hary Prawiranata.

Other Business

- Gresham, Smith, & Partners
Ms. Jamie Cochran gave an overview of the services that Gresham, Smith & Partners can provide.
- Ms. Gwen Griffith of Cumberland River Compact discussed the Climate Solutions University. This is a curriculum that will last one year and is on-line. It assesses

the risk and opportunities and supports plans of implementation. The course is free except for your time. The deadline for applying is the end of September and starts in January.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Date: _____

Doug Demosi, Chair
Technical Coordinating Committee

Michael Skipper, MPO Director
Secretary, Technical Coordinating Committee