

## Attachment #1

**TPO Executive Board  
9 a.m., February 24, 2010  
Small Assembly Room  
City/County Building  
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on February 24 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, Knoxville, TN. Don Mull, Chair of the Executive Board, presided. It was determined a quorum was present.

*Dale Hurst	for Mayor Matt Brookshire, Lenoir City
*Steve King	for Mayor Bill Haslam, City of Knoxville
*John Lamb	for Mayor Jerry Cunningham, Blount County Mayor
*Ralph McGill	Mayor, Town of Farragut
*Angie Midgett	Tennessee Department of Transportation
*Don Mull	Mayor, City of Alcoa
*Brenda Palmer	City of Knoxville
*Mike Ragsdale	Mayor, Knox County
*Tank Strickland	Knox County Commission Chair
*Tom Taylor	Mayor, City of Maryville
*Larry Waters	Mayor, Sevier County
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Bryan Berry	Metropolitan Planning Commission
Amy Brooks	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Doug Burton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Mike Conger	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Karen Estes	Knox County Community Action Committee
John Mathews	Sevier County EMA
Cindy McGinnis	Knoxville Area Transit
Barbara Monty	Community Action Committee
Greg Patterson	Sevier County
Cindy Pionke	Knox County
Finbarr Saunders	Knox County Commission
Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
Anne Wallace	City of Knoxville
Charlotte West	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Bruce Wuethrich	Knox County
Ellen Zavisca	Transportation Planning Organization Staff

\*Voting Member

## **Determination of Quorum**

### **1. Approval of January 22, 2010, Minutes**

**Presenter:** Don Mull, Chair

**Item Summary:** Approval of January 22, 2010, TPO Technical Committee minutes.

**Attachment #1—January 22, 2010, minutes.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Tank Strickland and seconded by Mayor Larry Waters to approve the January 22 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **2. Approval of a Resolution to Amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

**Technical Committee recommends approval**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Requested by TDOT

**Amend TIP Project #2008-004 SR-115/US-129 (Alcoa Bypass) with a new project description of Hall Road (SR-35)/Alcoa Highway (SR-115) south of Airport Road to Proposed Interchange Serving McGhee Tyson Airport, Construct New 8-Lane.**

**Add TIP Project #2008-152 SR-115/US-129 (Alcoa Bypass) with a project description of Interchange Serving McGhee Tyson Airport to Pellissippi Parkway (SR-162), Construct New 6-Lane w/Auxiliary Lanes.**

**Add New TIP Project #2008-153 Knoxville MPO (Blount, Knox, Loudon, Sevier) Rockfall Mitigation STP funds totaling \$1,400,000 along I-75.**

**Background:** The Alcoa Bypass project from Hall Road to Pellissippi Parkway needs to be split out into two segments in order to match the project descriptions contained in the updated 2009-2034 Long Range Mobility Plan and Air Quality Conformity Determination.

**Attachment #2 - Resolution**

**Attachment #2a - TIP Pages**

**Attachment #2b - Conformity Determination Report**

Jeff Welch discussed each TIP project and explained the Conformity Determination Report.

**A motion was made by John Lamb and seconded by Dale Hurst to approve the resolution amending the 2008-2011 TIP. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **3. Approval of a Resolution to Approve the Revised FY 2010 Work Program Budget and Tasks**

**Technical Committee recommends approval**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Due to less than anticipated federal planning funds for FY 2010, the work program and budget need to be amended. The federal planning funds were reduced by \$116,299. Staff is recommending eliminating the contingency line item reducing \$92,730 in federal funds.

The remaining \$23,569 was eliminated among most other task items. Also, additional funds were moved around to reflect increased work efforts in a few task items.

**Attachment #3a - Memo**

**Attachment #3b – Revised FY 2010 UPWP Tables.**

Jeff Welch stated that this year as a result of the rescission, we lost \$116,299 federal planning funds which required us to adjust the work program. We also had to reduce the federal planning work program \$116,000. TDOT has agreed to fund a Regional Transit Corridors Analysis in the amount of \$300,000. That work effort was added to the work program. Other adjustments were made to reflect expenditures to date..

**A motion was made by Mayor Mike Ragsdale and seconded by Commissioner Tank Strickland to approve the resolution for the revised FY 2010 Work Program. The motion carried unanimously.**

**4. ARRA I Update and Discussion of Possible ARRA II Funds**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** ARRA I fund allocation opportunities have come to a close for the TPO. There is discussion of a new round of economic stimulus funds coming available soon, and we need to be prepared to identify shovel ready projects.

**Attachment #4a - TPO ARRA I Table**

**Attachment #4b - ARRA Memo**

Attachment #4a shows the final list of ARRA TPO funded projects for our area. The TPO released approximately \$640,000 to TDOT for projects in our area.

In December the US House of Representatives passed the ARRA II bill. The TPO may expect to receive up to \$12.6 million, and will have 90 days to obligate the funds. TDOT and FHWA want MPOs to identify projects that could be shovel ready in 90 days. The Senate may pass their version of the Jobs bill to look at infrastructure for transportation improvements. They may extend the transportation bill on the continuing resolution and may continue through September 30, 2010. They may give back the funds that were rescinded last September.

**5. CMAQ Projects Awarded by TDOT**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Background:** On Tuesday, February 02, 2010, TDOT announced the selection of FY 2010 projects to be funded with CMAQ dollars. The projects selected for our area will be discussed and the importance of meeting the schedule will be emphasized.

**Attachments: #5a - Letter from TDOT**

**Attachment #5b - CMAQ Project List**

Jeff Welch stated that the TPO typically receives an allocation from TDOT for funding CMAQ, but that this year TDOT chose projects from across the state instead. The Technical Committee developed a list of projects to submit to the state whose funds could be obligated by September 30, 2010. These were sent to TDOT in January. On February 1, 2010, TDOT

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approved a list of CMAQ projects to be funded in FY 2010. This list, Attachment #5b, included all of the projects the Knoxville TPO submitted. We are encouraging local governments to move these projects forward to completion. TDOT is asking that these funds be obligated by September 30, 2010.

## **6. Memos on CE and CEI**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Background:** In July 2009, representatives from local governments and TPO staff met with TDOT officials to discuss regulatory barriers to getting greenways designed and built in a timely matter.

**Item Summary:** TPO staff has continued to gather information from TDOT about how the Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) and Categorical Exclusion (CE) processes can be streamlined for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

### **Attachment #6—Memos on CE and CEI**

Jeff Welch stated that we are working with TDOT to have smaller projects move quickly through the environmental review process. Local engineers/planners need to read TDOT's Local Government Guidelines for help in managing projects.

## **7. Development of the FY 2011-2014 TIP**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Background:** Staff will discuss a schedule that TDOT is requesting the TPO to follow in the development of the new TIP.

Jeff Welch stated that the TIP, which shows where federal funds will be obligated, is updated every two years. A Call for Projects was sent out and the deadline is March 19 to respond. A draft will be sent to TDOT and FHWA in May or June. We usually receive \$8 million a year, and funding requires a 20 percent match. We have a balance of \$19 million now, and may have \$50 million over the next four years.

## **8. Other Business and Updates**

### **a. Urban Transit Corridor Study**

Jeff Welch stated that TDOT has agreed to fund an Urban Transit Corridor Study, and we hope to have a consultant under contract within the next 30 days.

### **b. MOU Energy Transportation Corridor Project**

Jeff Welch and Mayor Don Mull attended a meeting concerning promoting a transportation energy corridor, from Oak Ridge to McGhee Tyson Airport.

### **c. East Tennessee Quality Growth Initiatives (ETQG)**

John Lamb is on the Board of Directors of the ETQG. He stated the group has been in operation for a year. A toolbox for quality growth for East Tennessee is proposed to be created, and another Plain Talk on Quality Growth conference will be held again this year. ETQG is revising the Cumberland Region Tomorrow quality growth toolbox to make it more user friendly and applicable to our region. We are finding out what smaller counties need and will revise the proposal to TDOT for funding for ETQG.

**d. Technical Committee Meeting, March 9 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building**

**e. Executive Board Meeting, April 28 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building**

Jeff Welch stated the date for the Executive Board may have to change because he is working with TDOT Commissioner Nicely to attend an Executive Board meeting. We may have to have called meetings depending on the ARRA II voting.

The Lenoir City Bridge project across the Tennessee River was submitted but not selected for funding under the TIGER program of ARRA. Jeff has a list of the projects that were funded.

Mike Conger provided an update on the letter the Knoxville TPO, ETDD and Lakeway TPO sent to TDEC requesting expedited action on the part of TDEC in submittal of documentation to EPA seeking redesignation to attainment for ozone. TDEC responded that they will make it a priority and will seek to have the State Air Board approve the submittal of documentation to EPA in July.

**9. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**10. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.