

**TPO Executive Board  
9 a.m., May 26, 2010  
Small Assembly Room  
City/County Building  
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on May 26 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, Knoxville, TN.

**A motion was made by Mayor Doyle Arp and seconded by Tank Strickland to appoint Mayor Ralph McGill as acting chair. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor McGill, called the meeting to order. It was determined a quorum was present.

*Doyle Arp	Mayor, Loudon County
*Jeff Hatcher	for Mayor Jerry Cunningham, Blount County Mayor
*Mark Johnson	for Mayor Don Mull, City of Alcoa
*Steve King	for Mayor Bill Haslam, City of Knoxville
*Ralph McGill	Mayor, Town of Farragut
*Gerald Nicely	Commissioner Tennessee Department of Transportation
*Brenda Palmer	City of Knoxville
*Greg Patterson	for Mayor Larry Waters, Sevier County
*Cindy Pionke	for Mayor Mike Ragsdale, Knox County
*Tank Strickland	Knox County Commission Chair
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Nathan Benditz	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Bryan Berry	Metropolitan Planning Commission
Steven Borden	Tennessee Department of Transportation – Region 1
Amy Brooks	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Doug Burton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Sherith Colverson	Oak Ridge Energy Corridor
Terry Gilhula	Metropolitan Planning Commission
Katie Habgood	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Ray Henson	Tennessee Department of Transportation – Region 1
Joe Hultquist	East Tennessee Quality Growth
Allison Kropff	WVLT
Austin Lance	Oak Ridge Energy Corridor
Yvette Martinez	Tennessee Department of Transportation
Cindy McGinnis	Knoxville Area Transit
Angie Midgett	Tennessee Department of Transportation
Barbara Monty	Community Action Committee
Danny Norman	Oak Ridge Energy Corridor
Tony Norman	Knox County Commissioner
Greg Patterson	Sevier County
Mike Patterson	East Tennessee Human Resource Agency
Mike Russell	Tennessee Department of Transportation – Region 1
Kelley Segars	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Robert Shaw	Citizens Against the Beltway Orange Alignment (CABOL)
Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
Kevin Smith	WVLT
Amanda Snowden	Tennessee Department of Transportation
Jeanne Stevens	Tennessee Department of Transportation
Jim Ullrich	Citizen

Anne Wallace  
Charlotte West  
Bob Whetsel

City of Knoxville  
Transportation Planning Organization Staff  
City of Knoxville

\*Voting Member

Kelley Segars was asked to report on Smart Trips month.

Kelley stated that May is Smart Trips month. She listed some of the recent events such as “How Many Can You Fit in a Fit” and an organized Bike to Work Day where more than 100 people participated despite the rain. There are 71 new Smart Trips registrants. The Commuter Challenge runs through September 30.

### **1. Approval of February 24, 2010, Minutes**

**Presenter:** Mike Hammond, Vice Chair

**Item Summary:** Approval of February 24, 2010, TPO Executive Board minutes.

**Attachment #1.**

**A motion was made by Tank Strickland and seconded by Steve King to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

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

**Technical Committee recommends approval.**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Requested by TPO Jurisdictions.

**Background: Attachment #2 – Resolution.**

a. Add TIP Project #2008-154 (Morganton Road Roadway Improvement). Reconstruction of a 2.3 mile section of two lane road from Foothills Mall Drive to William Blount Drive (SR 335). (\$750,000 HPP and \$187,500 local). **Attachment #2a.**

b. Amend TIP Project # 2008-074 (FY 2010 Section 5307 funds were distributed to TIP projects #2008-110 to 2008-113, 102, 118, 120, 122 and 155 and are described in items 2c – 2j below.

**Attachment #2b.**

c. Amend TIP Project #2008-110 (Add \$200,000 to FY 2010 for Transit Enhancements).

**Attachment #2b.**

d. Amend TIP Project #2008-111 (Add \$3,798,886 to FY 2010 for Preventative Maintenance and Associated Capital Maintenance Items.) **Attachment #2b.**

e. Amend TIP Project #2008-112 (Add \$536,543 to FY 2010 for ADA Non-Fixed Route Paratransit Service). **Attachment #2b.**

f. Amend TIP Project #2008-113 (Add \$284,000 to FY 2010 for Transit Planning Activities).

**Attachment #2b.**

g. Amend TIP Project #2008-118 (Add \$75,000 to FY 2010 for System Security E911 Radio, Cameras). **Attachment #2b.**

h. Amend TIP Project #2008-120 (Add \$85,000 to FY 2010 for AVL System Start up for Paratransit fleet). **Attachment #2b.**

i. Amend TIP Project #2008-122 (Add \$36,000 to FY 2010 for Replacement Radio for Buses).

**Attachment #2b.**

j. Add TIP Project #2008-155 (Add \$350,000 for Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment for the Knoxville Station Transit Center). **Attachment #2b.**

k. Amend TIP Project #2008-044, Rutledge Pike/Harrison Road/Old Rutledge Pike to increase budget to a total of \$105,000 CMAQ Funds. **Attachment #2c.**

Jeff Welch discussed the list and another TIP amendment was added: Project #2008-146 (Regional ITS Architecture Update) was added back into the TIP with \$200,000 of local ARRA funds. FHWA may agree to allow ARRA funds to be spent on this project.

**A motion was made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Cindy Pionke to approve the resolution to amend the TIP. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **3. Discussion of TDOT 2010/11-2012/13 Draft Multimodal Program of Projects**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** TDOT has submitted to the state legislature the proposed Comprehensive Multimodal Program for Fiscal Years 2011-2013. There are 39 highway projects for the Knoxville urban area totaling over \$275,000,000 over the four-year period. Several of these projects are carried over from the current program of projects. There continues to be a major investment in the other modes of transportation during this time period.

**Background: Attachment #3** – TDOT media release for Region 1, correspondence letter, fund totals for the Knoxville urban area and listing of area highway projects and transit, air, rail, barge and other statewide initiatives.

Jeff Welch briefly discussed the attachments.

TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely stated that the State's three-year program of projects is subject to final approval of the state budget. The Henley Street bridge is an example of a project in the STIP. Work on the project will start this fall, and the bridge will be closed after the first of the year. Other Knoxville-area projects included Emory Road, which is funded in 2011; construction for a new US Highway 321 bridge in Loudon County; ROW for Western Ave. from Texas Avenue to Major Avenue and construction for Western Avenue from Schaad Rd. to I-640. and ROW for segments of Alcoa Highway. Commissioner Nicely thanked the TPO for working with the state to obligate ARRA funds. Congress recently gave rescinded funds back to the states, but these projects have to obligate quickly or the funds are in danger of future rescissions.

Jeff also mentioned some Knoxville-area projects: Western Avenue will be programmed for construction next year. The Pellissippi Parkway Extension has been programmed for ROW for 2011-12. TDOT continues to help fund KAT through matches. A new Federal transportation bill may come out next year.

Steve King complimented TDOT for working with City regarding the Henley Street bridge project. Com. Nicely stated that the detour will be difficult but the road and bridge will be better when it is finished.

### **4. Discussion of TPO 2011-2014 Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** The Technical Committee is reviewing projects submitted by local jurisdictions for TPO sponsored projects. A draft 2011-2014 TIP will be submitted to TDOT in

late May. The preliminary list of projects results in a \$5 million surplus at the end of four years. A balanced TIP will be prepared by the Technical Committee over the next few months.

**Attachment #4.**

**Background:** The Executive Board will be asked to approve the new TIP in September.

Jeff stated the TPO has to develop a new TIP every three years. We've solicited new projects from jurisdictions, and Attachment #4 is a draft list of project. We've received money back into our STP balance that was rescinded. Projects 38-40 add buckets for greenways, sidewalks and safety projects, respectively. Local governments did not get projects under contract and those un-obligated funds were rescinded. This draft TIP has a negative balance, and projects will be moved around.

**5. Discussion of Draft FY 2011-2012 Unified Planning Work Program**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** The TPO has submitted a draft 2011-2012 Unified Planning Work Program to TDOT for review. The document has been forwarded to FHWA and FTA for their review.

**Attachment #5.**

**Background:** This is the first time that we have submitted a multi-year work program. The proposed work program covers both FY 2011 and 2012. TDOT and FHWA are encouraging the development of a two-year work program.

Jeff stated that the TPO has submitted this annual document as a draft to TDOT. This is the first time the TPO has attempted a multi-year work program, based on FHWA's recommendation. He received comments this morning from FHWA, and the Technical Committee will approve then before coming back to the Executive Board.

**6. Tennessee Department of Transportation Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Process**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** TDOT is administering the FY 2010 CMAQ program.

Although we are waiting for project submittal guidance, TPO members should be compiling a list of projects for consideration by the TPO and TDOT.

**Background: Attachment #6.**

Jeff Welch stated that local governments are preparing applications to be submitted to TPO staff for air quality analysis. TPO staff will then submit the applications to TDOT by July 2, 2010.

**7. American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) Project Updates**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Staff is tracking the ARRA funded projects to monitor the progress towards obligation and implementation. Also any ARRA funds not obligated by the TPO will be turned back to TDOT. **Attachment #7.**

**Background:** Not all projects have been let for construction but it appears that we may have a balance of approximately \$480,000 to reprogram to other projects or return to TDOT.

Jeff Welch stated that projects under development need to spend ARRA funds as quickly as possible. There may be more ARRA funds to obligate by August 1, and Jeff will keep the Board abreast of the progress. Ultimately, we want the funds to stay in Tennessee.

## **8. Overview of Energy Transportation Corridor Concept**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** A brief overview of a Blount County to Oak Ridge Energy Corridor Integrated Transportation Project will be provided.

**Background: Attachment #8a -Project Concept Summary and 8b- Energy Transportation Corridor MOU**

Jeff stated that this concept addresses the needs for Department of Energy facilities to become emission free, and it focuses on partnering with other organizations in the region like Oak Ridge National Laboratories and Tennessee Valley Authority. Mayor Mull signed an MOU to work with the organizations.

Danny Norman from the Oak Ridge Energy Corridor presented. He stated that they see this area becoming a national demonstration area for clean air with the ability to demonstrate new technologies and integrate projects, all with the goal to become energy independent.

## **9. Review of Proposed TIGER II Program**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** U.S. DOT announced a TIGER II program on April 26, 2010. Approximately \$600 million is available through a competitive application process. Pre applications are due July 16, and final applications are due August 23, 2010

**Background: Attachment #9 - TIGER II Fact Sheet.**

Amy Brooks discussed the TIGER II Program and reviewed information found in Attachment 9. An informational webinar will be held June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

## **10. Other Business and Updates**

**a. Technical Committee Meeting, June 8 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building**

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

**TDOT Public Hearing on Draft EIS for Pellissippi Parkway-July 20 at Heritage High School**

## **11. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

Commission Nicely stated that the floods on May 1-2 hit west and middle Tennessee hard. But already all routes are open, and bridges are inspected. The floods caused an estimated \$50 million in road damage. Steve Borden's staff helped. State Route US 129 is closed due to a rock slide and won't open until July.

## **12. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.