

**TPO Executive Board Minutes
October 25, 2017
9:00 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City County Building
Knoxville, TN**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on October 25, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Mayor Tom Taylor chaired the meeting and called it to order. It was determined there was a quorum.

*Wayne Blasius	City of Oak Ridge, <i>for Mayor Warren Gooch</i>
*Dawn Distler	Public Transportation
*Terry Frank	Mayor, Anderson County
*Jerome Joiner	State of Tennessee, <i>for Governor Bill Haslam</i>
*Ralph McGill	Mayor, Town of Farragut
*Don Mull	Mayor, City of Alcoa
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County, <i>for Mayor Larry Waters</i>
*Billy Pickel	Loudon County, <i>for Mayor Buddy Bradshaw</i>
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County, <i>for Mayor Tim Burchett</i>
*Finbarr Saunders	Knoxville City Council
*Ed Shouse	Knox County Trustee representing East TN Development District
*Randy Smith	Chair, Knox County Commission
*Tom Taylor	Mayor, City of Maryville
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	

***voting members**

1. Motion to Approve September 27, 2017 TPO Executive Board Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the September 27, 2017 TPO Executive Board Minutes.

A Motion was made by Councilman Saunders and seconded by Mayor Mull to approve the September 27, 2017 TPO Executive Board Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. Presentation on L-STBG Obligations and FY2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program Status Update

Item Summary: Staff will report on FY2017Q4 Local-Surface Transportation Block Grant (L-STBG) obligations and general status update of projects funded with TPO-awarded grant funds (L-STBG and Transportation Alternatives) in the FY2017-2020 TIP.

Discussion: Discussion: Elizabeth Watkins shared the 4th Quarter update noting the purpose of these updates is to share our obligations progress with Board members as well to provide an ongoing measure of the efficacy of our programming policies. She stated that an obligation is the formal commitment from the federal government to reimburse a member jurisdiction for a project and noted that staff are using the amount of funds obligated as a performance measure. Ms. Watkins also noted the TIP is financially constrained. She then reviewed the FY 2017 L-STBG forecast, noting multiple reasons that obligations progress is important to our region. Ms. Watkins reviewed the progress of

16 projects this quarter, including 2 that were closed out, also noting these projects and other locally funded projects are further outlined in a handout presented to the Board today.

Ms. Watkins also reviewed the FY2017 TAP obligations progress. She closed touching on the 11 TIP adjustments made this quarter. Jeff Welch stressed that in the past STP allocations to MPO's have been protected by federal legislation from rescission, however, a bill has passed in the US House of Representatives that would allow state DOT's to dip into any pot of non-obligated funds, which if passed in the Senate could open us up to future rescissions. It is extremely important to move these projects along as quickly as reasonably possible. The presentation is available online and can be found here:

http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/exec/oct17/FY2017_Q4_TIP_Tracking.pdf

3. Presentation on new NTSB Safety Study: Reducing Speeding-Related Crashes Involving Passenger Vehicles

Item Summary: Staff will present a summary of this new study from the National Transportation Safety Board, available online at: <https://www.nts.gov/safety/safety-studies/Documents/SS1701.pdf>

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca described the purpose and reason for the study which states that the number of speeding-related fatalities is comparable to the number of fatalities from alcohol-impaired driving. She touched on the definition of speeding, the impact of road types and land-use with regards to speeding-related crashes and also noted speeding-related crashes are routinely underreported. The report, which looked at data over a 10 year period, also states that speeding increases the likelihood and severity of a crash. She reviewed several recommendations from the study: rethinking how speed limits are set, automated speed enforcement (ASE) and traffic safety campaigns. The presentation is available online and can be found here:

http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/exec/oct17/NTSB_Speeding_Report.pdf

4. Presentation on Bike/Pedestrian Crashes for the Planning Area

Item Summary: TPO staff has analyzed several years of pedestrian/bicycle crash data in the region, and has prepared reports on crashes for most of the TPO jurisdictions.

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca began reviewing the data sources for the report. She gave an overview of regional crashes over the last 5 years that involved just under 900 crashes. 75% of these crashes involved pedestrians and 90% resulted in either injury or a fatality. In the analysis of these crashes, Ms. Zavisca noted improvement needs to happen in identifying the exact location of a crash as they are often reported at the nearest intersection, not the exact site. She touched on the primary urban and rural crash factors and closed highlighting an interactive map identifying regional crashes that will be live on the TPO website in the next few weeks. The presentation is available online and can be found here:

http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/exec/oct17/Bike_Ped_Crash_Regional_Data.pdf

5. Presentation on the Cumberland Avenue Road Reconstruction Project

Item Summary: The City of Knoxville has substantially completed reconstruction of Cumberland Avenue, formerly Highway 11/70. This presentation will highlight the plan, implementation, public input, decision making, and construction that brought about a new three lane cross section on time and within budget. The new road accomplishes the goal of "a more attractive, economically successful, vibrant and safe Cumberland Avenue."

Discussion: Anne Wallace, City of Knoxville gave an overview of the redevelopment of the Cumberland Avenue corridor, stressing the high degree of collaboration of many public and private agencies as well as a series of public, stakeholder and business/property owner meetings that took place throughout the entire project, for which the initial planning began back in the fall of 2006.

Noting a key element of the Cumberland project was leveraging, she highlighted 5 private investment projects totaling \$190 million leveraged from the \$25 million of public investment, with the potential for leveraging of an additional \$80 million involving 2 more projects. Ms. Wallace entertained questions from Board members. The presentation is available online and can be found here:

<http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/exec/oct17/Cumberland Ave Road Diet.pdf>

6. Recognition of Knoxville Area Transit Receiving the 2017 Outstanding Public Transportation System of the Year Award for Small Transit Systems from the American Public Transportation Association

Discussion: Jeff Welch congratulated Dawn Distler and Knoxville Area Transit on their receipt of this prestigious and well deserved award. Ms. Distler noted they were very proud to have received this award further noting that the award encompasses all of North America. The award denoted excellence in safety and outreach as well as overall ridership. She also noted this award reflects that public transportation is a worthwhile investment. She congratulated Belinda Woodiel-Brill as it was she who developed the application, also noting their application was hailed as the best one ever submitted! The KAT video that was shown is available online and can viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b286g6tce6U>

7. Other Business

- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City/County Building.
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City/County Building.
- The next Open Streets Knoxville will be Sunday, October 29 connecting downtown to South Knoxville along Sevier Ave. It runs from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Check openstreetsknoxville.com for more details.
- Transportation for America and the American Public Health Association are holding a symposium on MPOs and health from noon to 4 p.m. on Nov. 8th in Atlanta. Ellen Zavisca from TPO staff will be attending, and the organizers encourage each participating MPO to also send a Board member. If you're interested in representing our TPO at this symposium, contact Ellen at ellen.zavisca@knoxtrans.org, or 215-4014.

Other Business - Attachment #2

- East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association Conference, November 8th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. "Regional Cooperation and Local Action: Facing East Tennessee's Changing Housing Needs". The conference is being held at the Hilton Downtown Knoxville, 501 W. Church Ave. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/ETHousingConference>

Other Business - Attachment #3

- The 11th annual Tour de Lights will take place on Friday, December 15th starting at 7:00 p.m. on Market Square. More information can be found here: <http://www.ibikeknx.com>
- Anne Wallace noted the 101st UT Homecoming Parade is being moved to Cumberland Avenue this year and encouraged members to attend. It will take place on Friday, November 3rd beginning at 4:00 p.m. and will run from East Volunteer Blvd. to 21st St.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.