



The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on December 18, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Chair Tom Taylor presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum. Board members were asked to introduce themselves.

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| *Terry Frank               | Mayor, Anderson County                                 |
| *Andrew Sonner             | City of Alcoa for Mayor Clint Abbott                   |
| *Billy Pickel              | Loudon County for Mayor Rollen "Buddy" Bradshaw        |
| *Mark Watson               | City of Oak Ridge for Mayor Warren Gooch               |
| *Jeff Harris               | Mayor, City of Loudon                                  |
| *Glenn Jacobs              | Mayor, Knox County                                     |
| *Jeff Ownby                | Sevier County, for Mayor Larry Waters                  |
| *Melissa Roberson          | Knoxville Area Transit, Public Transportation          |
| *Madeline Rogero           | Mayor, City of Knoxville                               |
| *Troy Ebbert               | State of Tennessee, for Governor Bill Lee              |
| *Finbarr Saunders          | Vice-Mayor, City of Knoxville                          |
| *Ed Shouse                 | Knox County Trustee representing East TN Dev. District |
| *Tom Taylor                | Mayor, City of Maryville                               |
| *Ron Williams              | Mayor, Town of Farragut                                |
| *Don Walker                | Blount County, for Mayor Ed Mitchell                   |
| *Hugh Nystrom              | Knox County Commission                                 |
| Becky Duncan Massey        | State Senator  |
| Pamela Kordenock           | Federal Highway Administration                         |
| Sean Santalla              | Federal Highway Administration                         |
| Clay Bright                | TDOT Commissioner                                      |
| KB Aboagye                 | TDOT Long Range Planning                               |
| TPO Staff                  |  |
| Partner Agency Staff       |  |
| Members of the Public      |  |
| <b>*voting members</b>     |  |
| <b>*non-voting members</b> |  |

## **1 Call to Order**

- a. Determination of a Quorum
- b. Introductions
- c. Amendments to the Agenda

## 2 **Motion to Approve October 23, 2019 TPO Executive Board Minutes**

**Item Summary:** Approval of the October 23, 2019 TPO Executive Board Minutes.

*A Motion was made by Mayor Jeff Harris and seconded by Mayor Ron Williams to approve the October 23, 2019 TPO Executive Board Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.*

## 3 **Motion to Approve Prioritization of TDOT Projects for Consideration in the 2021-2023 TDOT 3 - Year Program**

**Item Summary:** TDOT has provided the TPO with the list of candidate projects for the next 3-Year Program for ranking which is used as one of the inputs for TDOT's project selection process. The TPO staff has compiled the rankings that were submitted by Technical Committee voting members and is being presented for final recommendation to the Executive Board. Additional project needs on State Routes will also be discussed for submittal to TDOT.

### **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL**

**Discussion:** Mike Conger summarized the prioritization of TDOT projects for consideration in the 2021-2023 TDOT 3-Year Program. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

*A Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Hugh Nystrom and seconded by Mayor Madeline Rogero to approve the Prioritization of TDOT Projects for Consideration in the 2021-2023 TDOT 3-Year Program. The Motion carried unanimously.*

*A Motion was made by Mayor Madeline Rogero and seconded by Vice-Mayor Finbarr Saunders to approve the Other Project Needs List. The Motion carried unanimously.*

*A Motion was made by Mayor Madeline Rogero and seconded by Vice-Mayor Finbarr Saunders to approve Public Transit and Multimodal Transportation Needs. The Motion carried unanimously.*

## 4 **Motion to Approve Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Memorandum of Agreement**

**Item Summary:** Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between TDOT and the Knoxville Regional TPO regarding the definition and need for amendments/administrative modifications to the STIP/TIP. The MOA establishes and defines one category of action as a "STIP/TIP Amendment" and a second as a "STIP/TIP Administrative Modification."

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

**Discussion:** Jeff Welch briefly reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between TDOT and the Knoxville Regional TPO highlighting the definition and need for amendments/administrative modifications to the STIP/TIP.

*A Motion was made by Mayor Madeline Rogero and seconded by Mayor Terry Frank to approve the Transportation Improve Program (TIP) Memorandum of Agreement. The Motion carried unanimously.*

### 5 Review of Annual Listing of Obligated Projects for FY2019

**Item Summary:** Each year the TPO is required to make available to the public a listing of all transportation related projects in which federal funds were obligated in the past fiscal year.

**Discussion:** Craig Luebke shared a list of all transportation related projects in which federal funds were obligated in the past fiscal year with the Executive Board. The list of projects will also be made available for the public. The presentation is available online and can be found here:

[Presentation](#)

### 6 Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan Status

**Item Summary:** FHWA is responsible to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in the public right-of-way and on projects using federal surface transportation funds. In accordance with this requirement, TDOT in coordination with the FHWA is tasked with ensuring that sub-recipients have completed their ADA Transition Plans. The deadline for the submission of completed ADA Transition Plans and Self-Evaluation Forms is December 31, 2019. Staff has compiled a summary of the ADA Transition Plan Status for affected local public agencies in the TPO Planning Area.

**Discussion:** Craig Luebke informed the Executive Board that the deadline for the submission of completed ADA Transition Plans and Self-Evaluation Forms is December 31, 2019. Staff has compiled a summary of the ADA Transition Plan Status for affected local public agencies in the TPO Planning Area. TDOT in coordination with the FHWA is tasked with ensuring that sub-recipients have completed their ADA Transition Plans. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

## 7 Comments from TDOT Commissioner Clay Bright

**Item Summary:** Commissioner Bright is the 30<sup>th</sup> commissioner of the department that oversees highways, rail, airports, transit and waterways. Commissioner Bright is visiting all 11 MPO's/TPO's across the state to introduce himself and to encourage active dialogue.

Commissioner Clay Bright introduced himself to the TPO Executive Board and briefly shared his visions on ongoing congestion, projects included in the 3-Year Plan, being open to the shifting of priority projects, and lastly the need for multimodal transit. Commissioner Bright stated that we owe it to the community to work together and help bring resolutions to the table that makes the quality of life so much better!

## 8 Overview of Federal Highway Administration Certification Process of the TPO

**Item Summary:** Every 4 years the TPO planning process is reviewed by our Federal Partners (FHWA, FTA and EPA). Sean will review the certification process and seek comments from Technical Committee members on planning issues, priorities, and TPO activities.

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**Discussion:** Sean Santalla, Federal Highway Administration, gave a brief presentation explaining the Certification Process of the TPO and made himself available for any questions or comments the Board may have. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

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## 9 Other Business

- ETHRA has been awarded grant funding to purchase up to 45 paratransit vans. Funding is from a \$16.2 million statewide award from the FTA applied for by TDOT on the behalf of 10 agencies. Most of the vans will be used in ETHRA's rural service.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building.
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building.

## **10 Public Comment**

Mayor Rogero introduced Anne Wallace, Deputy Director of Redevelopment, was present and explained invited Executive Board members to the ribbon-cutting of the North Central Street Project this morning at 11:00 a.m. at the corner of Baxter Avenue and Central Street. This project used Federal Highway funds through the STBG Program. Mrs. Wallace went on to explain that over \$6,000,000.00 of investments went towards infrastructure, the addition of 43,000 square feet of new linear green space, the addition of 47 benches, 1.1 miles of new bike lanes, on-street parking, new bike racks, and bus shelters all with the support of partners from the Knoxville Area Transit. Mrs. Wallace thanked the Board for their support, partnership and funding of this project!

Mayor Tom Taylor congratulated and thanked both Mayor Rogero and Vice-Mayor Saunders on their service to the City of Knoxville!

## **11 Adjournment.**

There was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 A.M.