

**TPO Executive Board Minutes  
July 24, 2019  
9:00 a.m.  
Small Assembly Room  
City County Building  
400 Main Street  
Knoxville, TN**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on July 24, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Chair Mayor Tom Taylor presided.

*Perrin Anderson	Sevier County, for <i>Mayor Larry Waters</i>
*Wayne Blasius	City of Oak Ridge, for <i>Mayor Warren Gooch</i>
*Michelle Christian	State of Tennessee, for <i>Governor Lee</i>
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville, for <i>Mayor Madeline Rogero</i>
*Jeff Harris	Mayor, City of Loudon
*Glenn Jacobs	Mayor, Knox County
*Hugh Nystrom	Chair, Knox County Commission
*Billy Pickel	Loudon County, for <i>Mayor Rollen Buddy Bradshaw</i>
*Melissa Roberson	Public Transportation
*Finbarr Saunders	Vice Mayor, City of Knoxville
*Amber Scott	City of Lenoir City, for <i>Mayor Tony Aikens</i>
*Ed Shouse	Knox County Trustee representing East TN Development District
*Tom Taylor	Mayor, City of Maryville
*Ron Williams	Mayor, Town of Farragut
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	

**\*voting members**

**1. Chair Mayor Tom Taylor called the meeting to order.**

It was determined that there was a quorum.

Board members introduced themselves.

An Amended Agenda was presented to the Board.

**A Motion was made by Mayor Ron Williams and seconded by Vice Mayor Finbarr Saunders to approve the Amended Agenda. The Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Motion to Approve May 22, 2019 TPO Executive Board Minutes**

**Item Summary:** Approval of the May 22, 2019 TPO Executive Board Minutes.

**A Motion was made by Mayor Ron Williams and seconded by Vice Mayor Finbarr Saunders to approve the May 22, 2019 TPO Executive Board Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. Motion to Approve an Addendum to the 2040 Mobility Plan and the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Incorporate Performance Measure PM1 (Safety) Target Updates**

**Item Summary:** TDOT established its 2nd annual statewide safety targets for the 5-year period of 2015-2019 effective on 8/31/18. The TPO adopted supporting the state targets on 2/27/19. The FY 2017-2020 TIP and Mobility 2040 Performance Measures Addenda are being revised to reflect the adopted 2015-2019 PM1 (Safety) Targets. Technical Committee recommends approval.

**Technical Committee recommends approval.**

**Discussion:** There was no substantive discussion.

**A Motion was made by Mayor Glenn Jacobs and seconded by Amber Scott to approve an Addendum to the 2040 Mobility Plan and the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Incorporate Performance Measure PM1 (Safety) Target Updates. The Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. Motion to Approve a Resolution to Amend the FY2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and accompanying Short Conformity Report**

**Item Summary:** TDOT and locally requested amendments for nine (9) air quality exempt projects and one (1) air quality non-exempt project.

**Technical Committee recommends approval.**

**Discussion:** Craig Luebke gave an overview of the proposed 10 amendments noting of the 10 projects, one is from TDOT, eight are projects that were awarded funding on the last round of PM2.5 CMAQ Call for Projects and the final amendment is Blount County's Trail Project, done in cooperation with staff in utilizing the last of the Transportation Alternative Program funds. The one non-exempt project is new and involves a modification at Pellissippi Parkway (SR-162) at Oak Ridge Highway (SR -62) interchange to include an additional (new) ramp for westbound to southbound movement. Other new projects include Broadway, Chapman Highway and Kingston Pike DRSC and Enhanced Detection Traffic Signal Improvements, Traffic Signal improvements for the UT area, Lenoir City CMAQ ITS - Phase II, Knox County Advanced Traffic Management System - Phase II and Oak Ridge Signal Timing Optimization Program - Phase II. Two existing projects that are being modified are Town of Farragut Advanced Traffic Management System – Phase I adding funding to cover the full scope of the project and Blount County Greenway Trail – Phase I, revising the project limits and cost estimates. Regarding the Knox County ATMS project, Mr. Leubke noted that staff have received slight revisions since the project went before the Technical Committee and which are reflected in detail on the revised TIP sheet. Mike Conger touched on the air quality short conformity report, precipitated by the non-exempt project as identified above, which reflects that this project demonstrates air quality conformity. He explained that the Knoxville Area is subject to air quality conformity as we are currently designated as a maintenance area for both Ozone and PM2.5 (fine particulate matter). He noted that although we are meeting the current standards for both, after a period of non-attainment, once back in attainment there is a 20-year maintenance period where you are required to continue to monitor these levels. He further explained that conformity is the process which reflects that the federal government does not want to fund projects that would cause us to go back out of attainment or violate air quality standards. Mr. Conger described the review process the TPO undertakes to demonstrate conformity which includes 30-day public comment period. The comment period closed yesterday and Mr. Conger stated no comments were received. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

**A Motion was made by Commissioner Hugh Nystrom and seconded by Vice Mayor Finbarr Saunders to approve a Resolution to amend the FY2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and accompanying Short Conformity Report. The Motion carried unanimously.**

## 5. Presentation on TDOT I-75 Multimodal Corridor Study

**Item Summary:** Starting in September 2018, TDOT retained consultants to complete an 18-month study of the I-55/75/26 corridors, which will identify short-and long-term solutions for improving problem spots along those corridors. TDOT Region 1 OCT staff will provide an overview of the I-75 study and share initial findings. Input from the public and local officials is desired to inform the study and feedback can be given through an online survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QZHRQJ7>. Additional information about the study is available at: <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/government/g/planning-studies/i-55-75-26-multimodal-corridor-study.html>.

**Discussion:** Michelle Christian, TDOT Region 1, Office of Community Transportation (OCT) gave an overview of the study. She began by reviewing the purpose of the corridor study which is a process that is used to comprehensively assess the ability of a transportation corridor to manage travel needs from current development and anticipated long term growth. She touched on the study schedule, process and anticipated outcomes followed by a review of existing conditions. Ms. Christian closed highlighting opportunities for individuals to become involved in the study. She noted that there will be a second public meeting in our area for this study in the future although specifics have not yet been determined. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

Ms. Christian also noted there is a companion corridor study beginning soon addressing I-40 and I-81. She further noted that the I-75/I-40 overlap in west Knox County, which TDOT feels affects I-40 more than I-75, will be covered under the aforementioned I-40/I-81 study. She noted there will be corresponding public meetings.

## 6. Other Business

- Dangerous by Design - Tennessee State Report (Handout). Ellen Zavisca reviewed Smart Growth America's biannual report on pedestrian safety noting the upward trend for pedestrian fatalities statewide, with the number of pedestrian fatalities doubling over the past decade. Statistics show that Tennessee is rated the 12<sup>th</sup> most dangerous state for walking.
- Ellen Zavisca noted there will be a Road Safety Assessments and Engineering Fundamentals workshop for law enforcement professionals and asked Board members to encourage participation from within their jurisdictions. This workshop will take place August 27-28, 2019 in Knoxville. For registration information visit: <https://tntrafficsafety.org/training-courses> or contact Ellen Zavisca at [ellen.zavisca@knoxplanning.org](mailto:ellen.zavisca@knoxplanning.org). Ms. Zavisca entertained multiple safety related questions from Board members.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building. (*May be canceled*)
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building. (*May be canceled*)

## 7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

## 8. Adjournment

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.