



KNOXVILLE REGIONAL

Draft Minutes

9:00 A.M. | Telemeeting via Zoom

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on April 28, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. by telecommuting via Zoom. Chair Terry Frank presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum.

- *Amber Scott
 - *Megan Brooks
 - *Terry Frank
 - *Glenn Jacobs
 - *Mark Watson
 - *Jeff Harris
 - *Indya Kincannon
 - *Troy Ebbert
 - *Gwen McKenzie
 - *Larsen Jay
 - *Isaac Thorne
 - *Don Walker
 - *Ron Williams
 - *Ed Shouse
 - *Billy Pickel
 - **Sean Santalla
 - **Pamela Kordenbrock
 - TPO Staff
 - Partner Agency Staff
 - Members of the Public
 - *voting members
 - **non-voting member
 - ***interested parties
- City of Lenoir City, *for Mayor Tony Aikens*
 - City of Alcoa, *for Mayor Clint Abbott*
 - Mayor, Anderson County
 - Mayor, Knox County
 - City of Oak Ridge, *for Mayor Warren Gooch*
 - Mayor, City of Loudon
 - Mayor, City of Knoxville
 - State of Tennessee, *for Governor Bill Lee*
 - Vice-Mayor City of Knoxville
 - Knox County Commission
 - Knoxville Area Transit, Public Transportation
 - Blount County, *for Mayor Ed Mitchell*
 - Town of Farragut
 - County Trustee
 - Loudon County, *for Mayor Rollen "Buddy" Bradshaw*
 - Federal Highway Administration
 - TDOT

1 Call to Order

- a. Determination of a Quorum. Roll call was taken.
- b. ***With no objection Chair Mayor Terry Frank moved by acclamation that the Executive Board indicates that conducting this meeting by electronic means is necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare of Tennesseans in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.***
- c. Amendments to the Agenda. There were no amendments.

2 Motion to Approve March 24, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the March 24, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes.

A Motion was made by Amber Scott and seconded by Mayor Ron Williams to approve the March 24, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes. A roll-call vote was taken. The Motion carried unanimously 15-0.

3 **Motion to Approve a Resolution Adopting Mobility Plan 2045 and Air Quality Conformity Report**

Item Summary: The Mobility Plan 2045 sets the overall vision and identifies specific investments for the region’s transportation system over the next 20+ years. An air quality conformity determination was prepared to demonstrate that the implementation of the proposed projects included in the Plan will conform to requirements from the Clean Air Act.

Discussion: Jeff Welch presented the Mobility Plan 2045 and Air Quality Conformity Report to the TPO Executive Board to review and recommend approval. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

A Motion was made by Troy Ebbert and seconded by Mayor Ron Williams to approve a Resolution Adopting Mobility Plan 2045 and Air Quality Conformity Report. A roll-call vote was taken. The Motion carried unanimously 15-0.

4 **Motion to Approve a Resolution Adopting Amendments to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program and Certifying that the Metropolitan Planning Process is Followed**

Item Summary: TDOT and locally requested amendments for three (3) air quality exempt and three (3) air quality non-exempt projects. Five (5) of the proposed amendments are to bring the TIP into alignment with the project descriptions and funded list of projects contained in the Draft Mobility Plan 2045.

Discussion: Craig Luebke reviewed three (3) air quality exempt and three (3) air quality non-exempt proposed amendments to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program with the TPO Executive Board. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

A Motion was made by Mark Watson and seconded by Mayor Jeff Harris to approve a Resolution Adopting Amendments to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program and Certifying that the Metropolitan Planning Process is follow. A roll-call vote was taken. The Motion carried unanimously 15-0.

5 **Motion to Approve a Resolution Adopting Public Transit Asset Management and Safety Performance Measures**

Item Summary: Federal requirements require transit agencies to set and MPOs to adopt performance-based planning targets dealing with Transit Asset Management (TAM) and safety. TAM concerns the management of vehicle fleets, equipment, and facilities. Each transit operator is also required to adopt a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) and set safety targets. Knoxville Area Transit, Knox County CAC Transit, and the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency

each prepared a PTASP and set their individual TAM and safety targets and reported them to the TPO. The TPO is required to approve regional TAM targets and each transit agency's individual safety targets.

Discussion: Doug Burton explained that Federal requirements require transit agencies and MPOs to set and adopt performance-based planning targets dealing with Transit Asset Management (TAM) and safety. Mr. Burton presented the TAM and safety targets associated with the management of vehicle fleets, equipment, and facilities. The TPO is required to approve regional TAM targets and each transit agency's individual safety targets. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

■ TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

A Motion was made by Mayor Indya Kincannon and seconded by Mark Watson to approve a Resolution Adopting Public Transit Asset Management and Safety Performance Measures. A roll-call vote was taken. The Motion carried unanimously 15-0.

6 **Motion to Approve a Resolution Adopting an Amendment to the FY 2020-FY2021 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) to add Transit Planning Funds to Conduct Three Transit Related Studies**

Item Summary: TDOT has announced it selected the Knoxville urban area for a residual Section 5303/5304 transit planning grant. The TPO will hire a consultant to conduct a transit study with three parts: A Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) of KAT, a Transit Coordination Opportunities Study, and a Regional Transit Service Evaluation Project. The COA will examine the KAT system and help formalizing service standards, identify service gaps and additional service needs. The Transit Coordination Opportunities Study will examine ways Knox County CAC Transit, ETHRA and KAT can better coordinate. And, the Regional Transit Service Evaluation Project will be a high-level analysis of the urban area to determine what areas might merit more intense levels of transit service or how transit might better connect the region.

Discussion: Doug Burton shared the recent TIP Administrative Modifications and project cost overrun funding approvals with the Technical Committee. Mr. Burton specifically discussed the request to add Transit Planning Funds to the FY2020-FY2021 Transportation Planning Work Program to conduct three Transit Related Studies. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

■ TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

A Motion was made by Mayor Ron Williams and seconded by Mayor Glenn Jacobs to approve a Resolution Adopting Public Transit Asset Management and Safety Performance Measures. A roll-call vote was taken. The Motion carried unanimously 15-0.

7 **Reports from our FHWA and TDOT Partners**

Item Summary: Reports from our FHWA and TDOT Partners.

Discussion: Pamela Kordenbrock, TDOT, shared that the formally known as the BUILD and TIGER Grant has been renamed to RAISE Program which stands for “Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity.” While the fundamental’s part remains similar, much of the criteria has been updated. If local jurisdictions are interested in applying for the funding opportunity, Ms. Kordenbrock suggested looking closely at all of the criteria. Capital Projects and Planning Studies are eligible for funding in this program. Applications are due through the Grants.gov website by July 12th at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Troy Ebbert, TDOT, shared that the 3-year Construction Plan from TDOT will be released later in the week. There are several transportation plans that are a part of the 3-Year Construction Plan from this specific Region. Also, in one of the upcoming Executive Board meetings, Dexter Justis and Mr. Ebbert will give a presentation to the Executive Board on how projects were ranked and how compare to other proposed project needs in the 3-year plan. TDOT plans to present to all regions but will start here in Knoxville. Lastly, Mr. Ebbert noted that Executive Board Members and local leaders will receive a letter with TDOT’s Paving Plan for our communities over the next three years.

8 Other Business

- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 9 a.m. (Tentative)
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 9 a.m. (Tentative)
- Active Knox & the TPO are hosting two virtual sessions on April 29 titled Right of Way: A Conversation About the Epidemic of Pedestrian Deaths. Our speaker will be Angie Schmitt, whose book **Right of Way** examines the trends in street design & vehicle design that are contributing to this increase, and her ideas for turning things around. Registration is limited, and two attendees will be randomly selected to receive a copy of Angie’s book.
Register for the session at noon on April 29
Register for the session at 6 p.m. on April 29
- **Pellissippi Parkway Extension Design Public Meeting:** TDOT is hosting a Virtual Design public meeting to gather public input on the proposed project in Blount County on SR-162 Ext. (Pellissippi Parkway), from SR-33 to SR-73 (US-321). The virtual meeting is open to the public from **8 a.m. EST on April 15, 2021, through 10 p.m. EST on April 29, 2021**. The website link is: <https://gather.cdmsmith.com/v/v8jkyAVO149>
- Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant summary

9 Public Comment

There was no public comment

10 Adjournment.

There was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M.