



Draft Minutes

9:00 A.M. | Small Assembly Room

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on June 23, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building. Acting Chair Larsen Jay presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum.

- *Terry Frank
 - *Megan Brooks
 - *Jeff Harris
 - *Mark Watson
 - *Harold Cannon
 - *Jim Snowden
 - *Isaac Thorne
 - *Don Walker
 - *Jeff Ownby
 - *Ron Williams
 - *Troy Ebbert
 - *Billy Pickel
 - **Matt Meservy
 - **Theresa Claxton
 - TPO Staff
 - Partner Agency Staff
 - Members of the Public
 - *voting members**
 - **non-voting member**
 - ***interested parties**
- Mayor, Anderson County
 - Alcoa, *for Mayor Clint Abbott*
 - Mayor, City of Loudon
 - Oak Ridge, *for Mayor Warren Gooch*
 - City of Knoxville, *for Mayor Indya Kincannon*
 - Knox County Commission, *for Chair Larsen Jay*
 - Knoxville Area Transit, Public Transportation
 - Blount County, *for Mayor Ed Mitchell*
 - Sevier County, *for Mayor Larry Williams*
 - Town of Farragut
 - TDOT, Region 1
 - Loudon County, *for Mayor Rollen "Buddy" Bradshaw*
 - TDOT Director, Long Range Planning Division
 - Federal Highway Administration, TN Division

1 Call to Order

- a. Determination of a Quorum.
- b. Introductions.
- c. Amendments to the Agenda. There were no amendments.
- d. List of Commonly Used Acronyms attached as last page.

2 Motion to Approve June 23, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the June 23, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes.

A Motion was made by Mayor Ron Williams and seconded by Mayor Jeff Harris to approve the June 23, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously 12-0.

3 Motion to Approve a Resolution Adopting the FY 2022-2023 Transportation Planning Work Program

Item Summary: The Transportation Planning Work Program documents the transportation planning activities to be performed in the metropolitan planning area for the next two years. This document was prepared in cooperation with our state and local transportation partners. Major

activities identified in the work program include: preparation of the 2023-2026 TIP, development of a transportation performance metrics dashboard, based on census and other data collection efforts begin update of travel demand model for the planning area.

Discussion: Jeff Welch shared the major activities identified in the work program. The activities include preparation of the 2023-2026 TIP, development of a transportation performance metrics dashboard, begin an update of the Travel Demand Model with new data from the census, and the completion of three Transit 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 Jeff Harris to approve a Resolution Adopting the FY 2022-2023 Transportation Planning Work Program. The Motion carried unanimously 12-0.

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

Item Summary: TDOT requested amendment for one (1) air quality exempt project.

Discussion: Craig Luebke briefly discussed the requested amendment for I-75 at Emory Road (SR-131) Interchange (20-2020-004). The revised project includes reconfiguring the interchange to a Diverting Diamond Interchange to improve capacity, safety and operations. 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 Troy Ebbert to approve a Resolution Adopting an Amendment to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program and Certifying that the Metropolitan Planning Process is being followed. The Motion carried unanimously 12-0.

5 Discussion on Process to Allow the Use of Virtual or Hybrid Meetings for the Executive Board

Item Summary: Additional steps need to be completed to allow the Executive Board to meet virtually will be discussed.

Discussion: Jeff Welch shared that Staff will update the Public Participation Plan to identify the use of virtual meetings as a tool and allow for a 45-day comment period on the plan. Since changes to the Bylaws will be made, TPO Staff is reviewing the entire document and plans to propose all changes to the Technical Committee at once for approval. The approval process will require two

readings at both the Technical Committee and Executive Board Meeting. Lastly, the expected adoption date of the updated Participation Plan and Bylaws will be at the end of October. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

6 Presentation on 2020 Census Data for the TPO Area

Item Summary: The U.S. Census Bureau released 2020 census information earlier this month. Planning staff will present some of the data related to our counties and municipalities in our planning area. Project applications can be viewed at this link: [Project Applications](#)

Discussion: Aubrey Weiland, Planning staff, shared 2020 census information released earlier this month from the U.S. Census Bureau in 2020. Mrs. Weiland presented specific data related to local counties and municipalities in the planning area. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

7 Presentation on New Crash Map

Item Summary: The TPO has launched its new public map all fatal and serious-injury crashes in the region. It's accompanied by a set of infographics illustrating common factors and patterns in these life-altering traffic crashes. Staff will also share information on the joint review of fatal traffic crashes in Knox County.

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca presented the newly launched public map showing all fatal and serious-injury crashes in the region. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

8 Presentation on TDOT iTrip (Interactive Tennessee Road Improvement Program)

Item Summary: New TDOT website showing active and let projects will be demonstrated.

Discussion: Troy Ebbert, TDOT, shared TDOT's iTrip (Interactive Tennessee Road Improvement Program) to the Executive Board. Mr. Ebbert presented the steps for local jurisdictions to view and research TDOT road improvement projects in the surrounding Knoxville area. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

9 Reports from our FHWA and TDOT Partners

Item Summary: Reports from our FHWA and TDOT Partners.

Discussion: Troy Ebbert, TDOT, shared that TDOT is working on the Long-Range Plan Statewide. The Long-Range Plan study will include smaller studies specifically focusing on congestion along with a study of West Knoxville. TDOT anticipates the Long-Range Plan to be completed next year once the Census data has been added. In regards to CMAQ, TDOT is currently working on evaluations and scoring projects. TDOT plans to meet soon to discuss the projects and look at ways to coordinate with other projects to help save money and move these projects forward.

Theresa Claxton, FHWA, stated that while local TPO's are anxiously following the progress of the Federal Infrastructure Bill, FHWA will communicate with the Knoxville TPO once the bill is finalized. Lastly, Ms. Claxton wanted to recognize the excellent work of the Knoxville TPO in the completion of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

10 Other Business

- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room.
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room.

11 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

12 Adjournment.

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