



Draft Minutes

9:00 A.M. | Small Assembly Room

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on September 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building. Chair Terry Frank presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum.

- *Terry Frank
 - *Glenn Jacobs
 - *Jeff Harris
 - *Mark Watson
 - *Indya Kincannon
 - *Isaac Thorne
 - *Ron Williams
 - *Ed Shouse
 - *Troy Ebbert
 - *Richie Beeler
 - **Matt Meservy
 - **Theresa Claxton
 - TPO Staff
 - Partner Agency Staff
 - Members of the Public
 - *voting members
 - **non-voting member
 - ***interested parties
- Mayor, Anderson County
 - Mayor, Knox County
 - Mayor, City of Loudon
 - Oak Ridge, *for Mayor Warren Gooch*
 - Mayor, City of Knoxville
 - Knoxville Area Transit, Public Transportation
 - Mayor, Town of Farragut
 - Knox County Trustee
 - TDOT, Region 1
 - Chair, Knox County Commission
 - 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 August 25, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the August 25, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes.

A Motion was made by Mayor Jeff Harris and seconded by Mayor Ron Williams to approve the August 25, 2021 TPO Executive Board Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously 10-0.

3 Motion to Approve a Resolution Adopting Amendments to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program, Air Quality Conformity Report and Certifying that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process is Being Followed

Item Summary: TDOT requested amendments for three (3) air quality non-exempt projects.

Discussion: Craig Luebke and Mike Conger briefly summarized the requested Amendments to the FY2020-2023 Transportation Improve Program. Mr. Luebke further discussed the cost increase to the northern section from Cherokee Trail to Woodson along Alcoa Highway. Mr. Conger shared that the requested amendments require an Air Quality Conformity Determination as Non-exempt Projects. Public comment is accepted through Tuesday, September 21, 2021. 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 Amendments to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program, Air Quality Conformity Report and Certifying that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process is Being Followed. The Motion carried unanimously 10-0.

4 Motion to Approve Section 5310 Special Allocation of Funds

Item Summary: The TPO has been awarded Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding under our Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Program. The 5310 Program aims to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding transportation mobility options. This funding is only available for operations and limited to agencies who have had a previous operating contract with the TPO. Qualified agencies were asked to submit an application for funds. Staff recommends funding all three applications.

Discussion: Doug Burton explained that the TPO has been awarded Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding under our Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Program. Mr. Burton further explained that the funding is only available for operations and limited to agencies who have had a previous operating contract with the TPO. Mr. Burton shared that three local agencies have submitted applications for funds and Staff recommends approval of funding for all three of those applications. 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 Mayor Ron Williams to approve a Section 5310 Special Allocation of Funds. The Motion carried unanimously 10-0.

5 Overview of Update to the Public Participation Plan

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of proposed changes and updates to the TPO's Public Participation Plan. The draft updated plan is out for public comment.

Discussion: Ally Ketron provided proposed updates to the Public Participation Plan. Staff plans to propose all changes to the Public Participation Plan and Bylaws to the Technical Committee at once for approval. The approval process will require two readings at both the Technical Committee and Executive Board Meetings. 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 ADA Transition Plan Local Government Reporting Update

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on upcoming requirements for maintaining local Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan information and a Transition Plan progress report. Project applications can be viewed at this link: [Project Applications](#)

Discussion: Craig Luebke provided a brief update on upcoming requirements for maintaining local American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan information and a Transition Plan progress report. TPO Staff will reach out to all local Municipalities to ensure that their Transition Plans are progressing and up-to-date as requested by the ADA. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

7 TIP Quarterly Report – Administrative Modifications Summary and TPO Federal Funds Update

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on recent TIP Administrative Modifications and project cost overrun funding approvals. The Local-Surface Transportation Block Grant program balance and status of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) funding will also be reviewed.

Discussion: Craig Luebke shared Administrative Modification updates with the Technical Committee on both local and TDOT items that don't necessarily come before the Technical Committee as an Amendment but instead are reviewed administratively by staff. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

8 Reports from our FHWA and TDOT Partners

Item Summary: Reports from our FHWA and TDOT Partners.

Discussion: Theresa Claxton, FHWA, stated that the Federal Approval of the FY 2020-2023 Unified Planning Work Programs will be issued by the end of September. Teresa Claxton wanted to recognize the excellent work of the Knoxville TPO in the completion of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). As Craig Luebke mentioned, Congress is continuing to deliberate on a proposed Federal Infrastructure Bill, the Infrastructure Investment in Jobs Act, an extension of the FAST Act, so a continuing Resolution or a new bill must be in place by the beginning of the fiscal year which starts on October 1st, 2021. FHWA will continue to monitor progress and share any information as it becomes available.

Troy Ebbert, TDOT, shared that TDOT is available to give TPO Executive Board Members project updates at the regularly scheduled TPO meetings or any other MPO meetings. Troy Ebbert stated that if Board Members want information on any particular project or updates, TDOT can put that information together and share it as a presentation at any upcoming meetings similar to that of Alcoa Highway. Troy Ebbert shared that Jason Schultz, District 18 Engineer in Operations, is present at the meeting electronically via Zoom and available for answer any questions or concerns

that the Board may have. Jason Shultz handles all maintenance issues with projects for this district and is more than happy to provide updates to the Executive Board on request.

9 Other Business

- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room.
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room.
- Local governments in our region are eligible to apply to TDOT for Transportation Alternative Program funds for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure projects. Applications are due to TDOT on Oct. 2. [link](#)

10 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11 Adjournment.

There was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 A.M.