

**TPO Technical Committee
April 13, 2010
9 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City/County Building
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on April 13 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville. Bruce Wuethrich, Co Chair, presided and called the meeting to order.

*Perrin Anderson	Sevier County for Greg Patterson
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Monica Austin Carroll	Anderson County for Kathryn Baldwin
*Mark Donaldson	Knoxville/Knox County MPC
*Karen Estes	Community Action Committee Transit for Barbara Monty
*Leslie Johnson	Lenoir City
*Steve King	City of Knoxville
*John Lamb	Blount County
*Phil Layman	East Tennessee Development District for Terry Bobrowski
*Angie Midgett	Tennessee Department of Transportation
*Ted Newsom	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Pat Phillips	Loudon County
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metro Knoxville Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
*Bruce Wuethrich	Knox County Engineering
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Bryan Berry	Metropolitan Planning Commission Staff
Alisa Ashoui	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Amy Brooks	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Doug Burton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Terry Cunningham	Homeowner/Tazewell Pike
Terry Gilhula	Metropolitan Planning Commission
Katie Habgood	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Kim Henry	Development Corporation of Knox County
John Hunter	City of Knoxville
Brent Johnson	City of Knoxville
Shannon Looney	AECOM
Andy Padgett	Tennessee Department of Transportation Regional Traffic
Kelley Segars	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
John Sexton	Knox County Engineering
Terry Shupp	Knox County Parks and Recreation
Kevin Stoltenberg	City of Maryville
Jamie Rowe	Tazewell Pike neighborhood
Nathan Vatter	Tennessee Department of Transportation Regional Traffic
Anne Wallace	City of Knoxville
Charlotte West	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Bob Whetsel	City of Knoxville
Ellen Zavisca	Transportation Planning Organization Staff

***voting members**

Determination of Quorum

1. Approval of March 9, 2010, Minutes

Presenter: Bruce Wuethrich, Co Chair

Item Summary: Approval of March 9, 2010, TPO Technical Committee minutes.

Attachment #1 - March 9, 2010, minutes.

A motion was made by Blake Sartin and seconded by Perrin Anderson to approve the March 9 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Amendment to the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Requested by TDOT

a. Add TIP Project #2008-154 (Morganton Road Roadway Improvement). Reconstruction of a 2.3 mile section of two lane road from Foothills Mall Drive to William Blount Drive. (SR 335). Attachment #2.

A motion was made by Leslie Johnson and seconded by Andrew Sonner to recommend approval of the TIP amendment to the Executive Board. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion of FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Draft

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The TPO will need to submit a draft 2011 Unified Planning Work Program to TDOT and FHWA by April 30, 2010. At this time TPO staff is requesting ideas for planning studies or Transportation Planning Reports to be included in the UPWP. **Attachment #3.**

Background: The Work Program covers the time frame of October 1, 2010, to September 30, 2011.

Jeff Welch stated that planning activities of participants, programs and a timeline to complete projects will be included in the TPO 2010-2011 work program. A corridor study for I-75/Callahan Road was added as a new project. He discussed Attachment #3b which included two tables showing different ideas on how to finance the ITS Architecture Study. He stated the committee might want to consider this proposal to be included in the work program. A local match is required. He is hoping the money that was rescinded from the government will be given back to the local TPOs. There are leftover ARRA funds, and those obligated funds will come from TDOT. The Technical Committee will approve the work program in July and the Executive Board in August. Jeff asked committee members to consider projects to be added to the work program.

4. Review of Preliminary 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project List

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The TPO staff will review the projects submitted for STP funding. Project phases and time frames will be verified. Staff will rank the projects prior to the May 11 Technical Committee meeting. **Attachment #4.**

Background: A draft of the 2011-2014 TIP will be distributed to TDOT in late May.

Jeff Welch stated that staff will review the projects that have been submitted for STP funding. He told the committee if there are any corrections to the TIP project list to call Bryan Berry. Jeff discussed the projects listed in Attachment #4. TPO staff is considering TIP buckets for sidewalk and greenway projects that should help expedite project implementation. We expect to receive around \$8 million a year. We may know in May what we are getting back in STP funding. A final draft TIP will be presented to the Executive Board in May, and the final will be approved in August.

5. Status of FY 2010 CMAQ Projects

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: This is an opportunity for local governments to update the TPO participants on the status of their FY 2010 CMAQ projects. A project tracking spread sheet has been prepared to assist in monitoring these projects.

Attachment #5.

Background: TDOT is striving to obligate these funds by September 30, 2010.

Jeff Welch stated that the total cost is money TDOT approved. He told the committee to let Bryan Berry know if there are any projects to be added.

Jamie Rowe, 4215 Tazewell Pike, Tazewell Pike/Beverly Station neighborhood organization, discussed the proposed Tazewell Beverly signalization project. There are 55 families who live in this area that is zoned R-1/NC-1 overlay. The light will encourage additional “cut-through” traffic to travel Tazewell Pike and Beverly Road. The project will divert traffic going to Knoxville Center Mall and other businesses from I-640 on to Beverly Road. Beverly Road is a dangerous, substandard, narrow road with a bridge over a creek with concrete abutments on both sides, a railroad crossing with lights but no closable gates and a blind curve. Air quality on Tazewell Pike would be significantly reduced by having stop and go traffic with a red light and cars idling in front of our homes all day long. Steve King had told the neighborhood that the problem at the intersection is not in the morning, but for two hours in the afternoon. A light and turn lanes would also impact turn movements at Briercliff Road, which is used by many to access Central High School. Turn lanes would encroach on some of the property. The neighborhood asks that the TPO reconsider this project and remove it from the amendment list of the TIP. She distributed pictures of Beverly Road at the railroad tracks and bridge. The neighborhood would like to see sidewalks installed on Cedar Lane instead of this project.

Jeff Welch stated there will be no action today. The city would have to go to City Council and then a contract would be drawn up with the state.

6. New U.S. DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation Policy

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood issued a new bicycle and pedestrian accommodation policy earlier in March. Staff will briefly review this policy as well as TDOT’s and the TPO’s policy.

Background: **Attachment #6a:** US DOT Policy, **#6b:** TDOT Policy and **#6c:** TPO Policy

Jeff Welch stated that the Department of Transportation is encouraging agencies to incorporate safe and convenient walking and bicycling facilities into transportation projects and should encourage all modes of transportation.

7. Other Business

The month of May is Smart Trips Month – Alisa Ashouri announced the Smart Trips events that will be starting in May. There will be a contest on How Many Can You Fit in a Fit?; free bike safety checks; bike to work day; Mast General Store bike ride series; First Friday Art Bus; lunchtime greenway walks, etc.

Building Healthy Communities and Preventing Obesity Symposium,

Friday, April 30. Attachment #7. Jeff announced the symposium will be held at the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy. Mark Donaldson and John Lamb will be among the speakers, and Ellen Zavisca will be presenting a talk on walkable communities.

Technical Committee Meeting, May 11 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building

Executive Board Meeting, May 26 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building

TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely will be attending the Executive Board meeting on May 26.

Jeff Welch stated that staff is no longer using the TELUS program, and we are developing our own database.

8. Public Comment

There was no other public comment.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned for a TDOT workshop.

**WORKSHOP: TDOT SAFETY PROGRAM - Nathan Vatter, TDOT Region 1
Traffic Engineer**