

TPO Technical Committee Minutes
April 11, 2017
9:00 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City County Building
400 Main Street
Knoxville, TN

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on April 11, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Chair Kathryn Baldwin presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum. Committee members were asked to introduce themselves.

*Kathryn Baldwin	City of Oak Ridge
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Don Brown	ETDD, <i>for Terry Bobrowski</i>
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway Area MTPO
*Dawn Distler	Knoxville Area Transit, <i>for Melissa Roberson</i>
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC Transit
*Deanna Flinchum	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Gerald Green	Metropolitan Planning Commission
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville
*Jerome Joiner	TDOT Region 1
*Chico Messer	Blount County
*Mike Patterson	ETHRA, <i>for Gary Holiway</i>
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County
*Jack Qualls	City of Loudon and Loudon County
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	

Kathryn Baldwin noted there has been a request to change the order of the Agenda, hearing Agenda Items numbered 4 and 5 immediately following Agenda Item #2.

A Motion was made by Gerald Green and seconded by Cindy Pionke to reorder the Agenda as noted above. The Motion carried unanimously.

- 1. Motion to Approve March 14, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes**
Item Summary: Approval of the March 14, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

A Motion was made by Jack Qualls and seconded by Jerome Joiner to approve the March 14, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Motion to Recommend Approval of a Resolution Adopting the Long Range Mobility Plan 2040 - Connecting People and Places and Air Quality Conformity Determination.**

Item Summary: The Mobility Plan 2040 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. Staff recommends approval. The full text of both the Mobility Plan 2040 and Air Quality Conformity Determination can be found here: www.knoxmobility.org/recent/mobility-plan. Hard copies of these documents are available upon request.

Discussion: Amy Brooks noted this is the first of 2 public meetings this month under the 30 day comment period for the Mobility Plan 2040 which runs through April 26th at the Executive Board meeting. She then gave an overview of the 18 month body of work to update the Plan reviewing each topic that she will discuss today: The role of the Mobility Plan, issues and opportunities identified, a summary of community input and how it has informed our vision and priorities, a summary of planned investments and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis prepared for the Plan. She encouraged member jurisdictions to visit the online project map where public input is also detailed for any project receiving a comment(s). It is located here: <http://maps.knoxmpc.org/app/mobility>. Mike Conger then gave an overview of the air quality conformity background and process as well as the results of the determination as it relates to the Mobility Plan update. He noted the EPA reviews their standards approximately every 5 years and they typically become more stringent. Mr. Conger noted the Knoxville Region is now meeting all current EPA Air Quality Standards, seeing vast improvements in both our Ozone and PM2.5 levels. The Mobility Plan 2040 does meet the conformity test. The complete presentation is available online and can be found here: [http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/apr17/mobility plan 2040.pdf](http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/apr17/mobility%20plan%202040.pdf)

There was no public comment on the Mobility Plan or Resolution.

A Motion was made by Gerald Green and seconded by Jim Hagerman to recommend approval of a Resolution adopting the Long Range Mobility Plan 2040 - Connecting People and Places and Air Quality Conformity Determination. The Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion to Recommend Approval of a Resolution Amending the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Item Summary: The purpose of the TIP amendments is to ensure planning consistency with the Mobility Plan 2040 and its air quality conformity determination. This amendment includes 40 changes which include adding new projects, adding funding to current TIP projects, removing projects that are on hold, updating the text of the TIP document, and adding the TIP Programming policies. Staff recommends approval. The full text of the TIP amendment can be found here: www.knoxtrans.org/tip. Hard copies of these documents are available upon request.

Discussion: Elizabeth Watkins noted this multimodal Program reflects \$548.8 million in total investments across 75 projects and with a new strategy going forward with this TIP, across 9 groupings or "buckets" of funding which will provide for administrative flexibility. She noted that there are 31 new projects with additional funding being allocated to 5 existing projects. Ms. Watkins also touched on the updated TIP language and reviewed the 3 new TIP policies incorporated into the TIP with this Amendment addressing delayed projects, cost overruns and new projects. She closed reviewing the timeline for approval for the Mobility Plan and TIP Amendment and subsequent availability of funding for obligation. The complete presentation is available online and can be found here: [http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/apr17/TIP presentation.pdf](http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/apr17/TIP%20presentation.pdf)

A Motion was made by Dawn Distler and seconded by Gerald Green to recommend approval of a Resolution amending the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion to Recommend Approval of the Distribution of FTA Section 5307/5339 - Urbanized Area Formula Program Grant Funds.

Item Summary: The City of Knoxville is the FTA's Designated Recipient of the Section 5307/5339 Urban Area funding and is charged with determining how the dollars should be distributed. Section 5307 funding can be used for Capital and Operating transit projects. Section 5339 funding can be used for capital projects related to buses and bus facilities. The TPO staff provides assistance in this decision-making by supplying transit data, budgets, and revenue forecasts. The attached memorandum shows the FY 2017 recommended awards for KAT, CAC, and ETHRA. Staff recommends approval.

Discussion: Doug Burton gave a brief overview of the history of the funding. He reviewed the attached memo from Mayor Rogero with the City's recommendation for the distribution of both of these grant programs for FY 2017. He touched on the factors that have made distributing the Section 5307 funds in a timely fashion challenging, resulting in the development of an agreement between the City of Knoxville, CAC and ETHRA to set the distribution percentages for Section 5307 funding for the next 3-5 years. This will allow each grant recipient to project the amount of this funding they will receive much earlier in the fiscal year subsequently allowing them to better plan for service allocation. Pursuant to that agreement, all of the Section 5339 funds for our area will go to KAT for the same period of time with ETHRA and CAC procuring vehicles from other grant programs such as Section 5310 and L-STBG.

A Motion was made by Dawn Distler and seconded by Gerald Green to recommend approval of the Distribution of FTA Section 5307/5339 - Urbanized Area Formula Program Grant Funds. The Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion to Recommend Approval of the Awarding of FTA Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals With Disabilities Grant Funds

Item Summary: The TPO is the designated recipient of the FTA Section 5310 funds. Section 5310 funds can be used for both operating and capital funding. Often non-profits utilized this funding to buy vans to provide transportation for their clients. The TPO held an open and publicly advertised Call-for-Projects process. A sub-committee of the Technical Committee reviewed the applications and developed a slate of draft projects for funding consideration. The attached memorandum and table shows the projects recommended for funding. Staff recommends approval. Project submittals can be viewed at this link: <http://knoxtrans.org/downloads/fta/5310/projects.pdf>

Discussion: Doug Burton reviewed the awards as recommended by the sub-committee noting they reflect 2 years (FY 2016 and FY 2017) of Section 5310 grant funds. A Call-for-Projects, launched in early March and advertised regionally, resulted in the receipt of 2 operating and 7 capital (vehicle purchases) requests. He stated that 55% of the available 5310 funds must be used for capital expenditures with no more than 45% being used for operating expenditures with up to 10% of that for administration. Mr. Burton recognized the sub-committee members as well as several applicants in attendance.

A Motion was made by Jack Qualls and seconded by Gerald Green to recommend approval of the awarding of FTA Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals With Disabilities Grant Funds [as recommended]. The Motion carried unanimously.

6. Legislative Update

Item Summary: Staff will provide a brief summary of Tennessee Legislative bills that have been introduced that may impact transportation and general planning.

Discussion: Jeff Welch gave an overview of the status of Governor Haslam’s IMPROVE Act noting that although there have been hurdles, mostly in the House, it appears the legislation, with compromises having been made, is moving forward. There was a brief discussion on other legislation that could impact transportation. Jeff Welch reiterated that Congress is slated to act by April 28th on allocating the rest of the funding for the federal fiscal year.

7. Presentation on ORNL Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Research

Item Summary: This Agenda Item will be rescheduled at a later date.

8. Other Business

- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- Upcoming Walkability Speaker Series events:
May 9th and 10th - Mixed Land Use
June 6th and 7th - The Atlanta Beltline
More information will be shared as it becomes available. It was noted the 2 recent Speaker Series have been well attended and well received.
- Kelley Segars noted the April 18th “Incorporating On-Road Bicycle Networks Into Resurfacing Projects” workshop is full. FHWA is providing the instructors.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Gerald Green and seconded by Jerome Joiner to adjourn the meeting. The Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.