

**TPO Technical Committee Minutes
February 13, 2018
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 February 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Chair Jeff Ownby presided and called the meeting to order. It was determined that there was a quorum. Committee members were asked to introduce themselves.

*Wayne Blasius	City of Oak Ridge
*Terry Bobrowski	ETDD
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*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
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metro Knoxville Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	

1. Motion to Approve December 12, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the December 12, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

A Motion was made by Cindy Pionke and seconded by Gerald Green to approve the December 12, 2017 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. Election of Officers

Item Summary: The Bylaws state that the Technical Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from its membership. Such election shall be by a majority vote of that membership. Election of officers shall take place on the first meeting of the calendar year and term of office shall be for one year. An officer is eligible to serve a maximum of 2 consecutive terms. In a special election held in September of 2017 - due to the Chair retiring from a member jurisdiction - Vice Chair Jeff Ownby was elected Chair, and Brian Boone was then elected Vice Chair to fill out the calendar year.

Discussion: There was no discussion.

A Motion was made by Darryl Smith and seconded by Gerald Green to nominate Jeff Ownby for Chair. The Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion was made by Chico Messer and seconded by Darryl Smith to nominate Brian Boone as Vice-Chair. The Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Overview of 2018 Interim TIP Cycle Call for Projects for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Federal Funds**
Item Summary: TPO staff will provide a brief overview of the current TAP/STBG Call for Projects process and timelines. The project application deadline is February 23, 2018.

Discussion: Mike Conger gave an overview of the open Call for Projects as staff have received requests for funding for new projects since the adoption of the Mobility Plan 2040 in April. Staff felt it best to launch a formal Call for Projects allowing them to prioritize and rank the projects. Staff also did not want to wait until the next formal TIP update cycle for Call for Projects which will not occur until spring 2019 and which will not be adopted until the end of 2019. He noted there is approximately \$ 2.3 million of un-programmed STBG funds noting there were some projects removed and some cost overruns in the first FY of the 2017-2020 TIP. Mr. Conger noted staff are also doing a Call for Projects for the Transportation Alternatives Program for the remaining life of the FAST Act, FY 2019 and 2020, as there is approximately \$1.1 million available for these eligible projects (\$340,000 for FY 2019 and \$760,000 for FY 2020). He noted there is one application that covers both the STBG and TAP funds available and encouraged member jurisdictions to reach out to staff with any questions. He noted the scoring criteria are outlined in the application and are based on the goals of the Mobility Plan. On an ideal schedule, staff will make their recommendations at the March Technical Committee meeting in the form of proposed TIP amendments providing there are enough funds to cover all of the proposals submitted. If not, staff will bring their recommendations, based on their scoring, to the Technical Committee for approval in April. Jeff Welch noted anticipated cost overruns are also eligible for funding.

4. **TDOT Multimodal Design Guidelines**

Item Summary: As part of their Multimodal Access Policy, TDOT is developing documents that will guide scoping and design for multimodal projects. Local governments have until **noon on Feb. 20** to share comments with TPO staff who will compile them for TDOT.

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca touched on the purpose and intent of the Policy, which call for safe access and mobility for users of all ages and abilities through the planning, design, construction, and operation of new construction, reconstruction and retrofit transportation facilities that are federally or state funded. It also promotes the inclusion of multimodal accommodations in all transportation planning and project development activities at the local, regional and statewide levels. She then reviewed ped/bike crash data in the Knoxville region as well as the City of Knoxville which reflects the disproportionate number of traffic fatalities for crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists.

She highlighted the 3 documents staff are requesting feedback on including the Multimodal Project Scoping Manual, Design Guidelines and Deviation Request form. Staff is collecting feedback which will be submitted to TDOT. Jeff Welch noted feedback related to transit is also welcomed. The presentation is available online and can be found here:
[https://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/feb18/TDOT Multimodal Guides.pdf](https://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/feb18/TDOT%20Multimodal%20Guides.pdf)

5. Request for Studies in Upcoming FY 2019/20 Transportation Planning Work Program

Item Summary: The transportation planning work program allocates federal transportation planning dollars to studies and planning activities carried by the TPO and its partners. Members are encouraged to submit project ideas prior to Feb. 28, 2018.

Discussion: Jeff Welch requested that member jurisdictions submit any planning studies or activities they would like assistance with funding for to staff by February 28th. These studies could be included in our proposed Work Program that will be developed this spring and summer. Either a 10 or 20% local match will be required. The dollars will be available October 1st of this year. Member jurisdictions were encouraged to contact him with any questions about eligible projects.

6. Alcoa Master Development Plan-Springbrook Farm

Item Summary: An overview of the master plan for Springbrook Farm in Alcoa will be presented.

Discussion: Andrew Sonner and Jeremy Pearson, city of Alcoa, gave an overview of the project which in total will ultimately encompass over 365 acres. Mr. Pearson touched on the history of the area to be developed noting this project was born out of a Smart Growth America initiative in 2014 and is reutilizing an industrialized area no longer being used. Mr. Pearson also stressed in gathering input and feedback during multiple public meetings in the fall of 2017 that they enjoyed an incredible response, overwhelmingly positive and validated both verbally and by written responses submitted. By late November 2017 both the Alcoa Municipal/Regional Planning Commission and Alcoa Board of Commissioners endorsed the Plan by unanimously adopting resolutions in support of the project. Mr. Sonner and Mr. Pearson reviewed the Plan in detail also discussing challenges and concerns that will need to be addressed going forward in its implementation. A question and answer period ensued. The presentation is available online and can be found here:

[https://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/feb18/Alcoa Springbrook Plan.pdf](https://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/feb18/Alcoa%20Springbrook%20Plan.pdf)

7. Other Business

- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building.
- Jeff Welch gave a brief overview of President Trump's newly released infrastructure plan and touched on the 6 principles it outlines. The plan does not identify new money but instead

leverages existing state, local and private investment funds. The administration also released the proposed FY 2019 budget which does shows an 18% cut in the Transportation Highway Fund.

- Sean Santalla, Federal Highway Administration representative for our region, spoke to the Committee and identified himself as a resource to MPO and TDOT staff.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Immediately following adjournment of the Technical Committee meeting there was a workshop to discuss locally managed project delivery process with TDOT staff.