

**TPO Executive Board  
9 a.m., April 25, 2007  
Small Assembly Room  
City/County Building  
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on April 25 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, Knoxville, TN. Mayor Bill Haslam, Chair of the Executive Board, presided.

*Mark Brown	Vice-Mayor, City of Knoxville
*Eddy Ford	Mayor, Town of Farragut
*Mike Hammond	East Tennessee Development District
*Bill Haslam	Mayor, City of Knoxville
*John Lamb	for Blount County Mayor Jerry Cunningham
*Angie Midgett	Tennessee Department of Transportation
*Don Mull	Mayor, City of Alcoa
*Bruce Wuethrich	for Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Doug Burton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Karen Estes	Knox County Community Action Committee
Kelsey Finch	Tennessee Department of Transportation – Civil Rights
Katie Habgood	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Chris Hamby	City of Alcoa
Don Jacobs	Knoxville News Sentinel
Cindy McGinnis	General Manager, Knoxville Area Transit
Kelley Segars	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Shannon Tolliver	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Jim Ullrich	Citizen
Jill Wolverton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Charlotte West	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Ellen Zavisca	Transportation Planning Organization Staff

\*Voting Member

**Determination of Quorum.**

Jeff Welch called the roll and determined there was a quorum for the Executive Board.

**1. Approval of February 28, 2007 Minutes**

**Presenter:** Bill Haslam, Chair

**Item Summary:** Approval of February 28, 2007, TPO Executive Board minutes.

**Background:** Attachment #1 – February 28, 2007, Minutes.

**A motion was made by Mayor Eddy Ford and seconded by Mayor Don Mull to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Amendments to the FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

**Attachment #2a – Resolution. The TPO Technical Committee recommends approval of the resolution to amend the TIP as described below.**

**a. Amend Section 5309 Bus Purchase/Technology (2006-042)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Amend FY 2007 funds to add \$5,600,000 Federal/\$700,000 State/\$700,000 local for purchase of buses. **Attachment #2b.**

**b. Amend KAT Section 5307 Transit Funds (2006-043)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Delete FY 2007 funds. **Attachment #2c.**

**Background:** These funds serve as a place holder for KAT's section 5307 funds. KAT is programming specific projects for 5307 which will replace the deleted funds.

**c. Amend Transit Enhancements (2006-086)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Add \$40,000 Transit/\$5,000 State/\$5,000 Local funds into FY 2007. **Attachment #2d.**

**d. Amend Preventative Maintenance (2006-089)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Add \$2,250,725 Transit/\$281,341 State/\$281,341 Local funds into FY 2007. **Attachment #2e.**

**e. Amend ADA Non-Fixed Route (2006-090)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Add \$376,588 Transit/\$47,073 State/\$47,073 Local funds into FY 2007. **Attachment #2f.**

**f. Amend Transit Planning Activities (2006-097)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Add \$211,200 Transit/\$26,400 State/\$26,400 Local funds into FY 2007. **Attachment #2g.**

**g. Add Transit Planning: TDP (KAT share) (2006-128)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Add \$80,000 Transit/\$10,000 State/\$10,000 Local funds into FY 2007. **Attachment #2h.**

**h. Add Miscellaneous Capital Projects-KAT (2006-127)**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Add \$807,365 Transit/\$100,921 State/\$100,921 Local funds into FY 2007. **Attachment #2i.**

**A motion was made by Mike Hammond and seconded by Mayor Eddy Ford. The motion carried unanimously.**

**3. SAFETEA-LU High Priority Projects.**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** The TPO staff is considering amending the FY 2006-2008 TIP to include the SAFETEA-LU High Priority Projects. All of these projects are included in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and the staff will be requesting that the local jurisdictions indicate whether work will begin on the projects before October 1, 2007. If work will begin on these projects before October 1, then the projects will need to be amended into the TIP at the April or May Technical Committee meeting or April or May Executive Board meeting.

**Background:** The SAFETEA-LU High Priority Projects were amended into the LRTP in 2006 and in order to begin work and receive funding for these projects each project must be included in the TIP. SAFETEA-LU requires that all plans be compliant to the new regulations by July 1, 2007. The existing FY 2006-2008 will not be SAFETEA-LU compliant by July 1, 2007. Therefore, any amendments to the plan must be made sufficiently prior to July 1, 2007. The TPO would like to make any final amendments to the TIP during its April and May Board meetings. **Attachment #3 – Knoxville Urbanized Area SAFETEA-LU Earmarked Demonstration Projects.**

Jeff Welch stated that next month the staff will present these projects to the board for approval and inclusion in the TIP. Today the board will only discuss the projects. Recipients can only expect to get 80-85 percent of the earmarked money. Congress usually rescinds 10-15 percent of the total.

#### **4. FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funds application submittals.**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** The TPO received four new CMAQ applications totaling approximately \$3 million and 16 STP applications totaling approximately \$62 million for 4 years. The TPO expects the CMAQ yearly allocation to be approximately \$1.9 million and the STP yearly allocation to be \$7.3 million. CMAQ projects programmed in the current TIP that are not expected to be obligated by August 2007 will be included in the 2008-2011 TIP.

**Background:** In January the TPO submitted a call for projects for STP and CMAQ funding for the FY 2008-2011 TIP.

**Attachment #4a – Proposed 2008 CMAQ Projects**

**Attachment #4b – Proposed 2008-2011 STP Projects.**

Jeff Welch stated that no action will be taken today. He read the list of projects applying for 2008 CMAQ funds. TPO staff will evaluate the projects, available funds and cost overruns to determine funding priorities for next year. Also, Jeff stated that in developing the new TIP, staff is looking at projects to be funded with our available Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. He reviewed the list of projects being considered for 2008-2011 STP funds. As we go to 2010 and 2011, we are currently short \$1.5 million, and costs continue to increase. For example, the Pleasant Ridge project came in 40 percent over budget. More funds may have to be held back for cost overruns instead of being committed to new projects. The STP projects will be selected in July.

#### **5. Transportation Planning Report (TPR) Requests for FY 2008 Work Program**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** TPO staff and membership have identified four study requests to be included in the FY 2008 Work Program. They include:

- a. Hardin Valley Road Interchange with Pellissippi Parkway in Knox County
- b. US 411/SR35 – Washington Avenue to Pellissippi Parkway in Maryville
- c. Intersection of US Highway 11 and US Highway 70 (Dixie Lee Junction) in Loudon County
- d. US 129 Bypass from Hunt Road to West Broadway (Maryville and Alcoa)

**Background:** TDOT has requested that requests for TPRs be included in the UPWP. Inclusion does not necessarily mean TDOT will be able to complete the study.

Jeff Welch stated that the Technical Committee has identified four study requests to be included in the FY 2008 Work Program: Hardin Valley Road Interchange; US 411, Washington Avenue to Pellissippi Parkway in Maryville; the intersection of US 11 and US 70 in Loudon County; and US 129 Bypass in Maryville. These projects will be included in the 2008 Work Program and will come back to the Executive Board to be voted on in 60 days.

#### **6. National and State Updates Regarding Toll Roads**

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

##### **a. Public-Private Transportation Act of 2007**

**Item Summary:** This TN State Senate Bill (SB 347) would authorize private entities to acquire, construct, improve and/or operate transportation facilities in the hopes that construction or improvements would be made in a timelier or less costly fashion.

##### **b. Knoxville Area Toll Studies**

**Item Summary:** Studies have been completed on the feasibility of creating two new Knoxville area roadways as toll ways. The Knoxville Regional Parkway (SR 475) and a corridor connecting I-40 to Gatlinburg were studied, the results of which will be presented by TDOT's Jeanne Stevens during May's Board meeting.

Jeff Welch stated that the Tennessee House of Representatives Transportation Committee has approved an act concerning toll roads. The Senate Transportation Committee is studying it today. The bill allows the state to contract with private entities to build and operate transportation facilities. The House of Representatives limited the application of the bill to two projects. If a toll facility were approved, there will be a master agreement between state and local governments. Some states use toll roads as a way to continue construction and maintenance of the transportation system in response to diminishing funds.

b. Jeff stated TDOT has completed three toll studies in Tennessee, two of which are in East Tennessee. TDOT determined there is not enough data to support further analysis of the proposed I-40 to Gatlinburg corridor. Jeanne Stevens of TDOT will be at the Executive Board meeting in May to discuss the toll studies.

#### **7. Other Business**

**Technical Committee Meeting, May 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.**

**Executive Board Meeting, May 23 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building**

#### **8. Public Comment**

Jim Ullrich, 1003 Luttrell Street, distributed an article by Gilbert Carmichael entitled *Intermodalism, A New Science of Transportation*. He discussed how freight transportation has changed.

#### **9. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.