

**TPO Executive Board
9 a.m., February 28, 2007
Small Assembly Room
City/County Building
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on February 28 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, Knoxville, TN. Mayor Eddy Ford, Chair of the Executive Board, presided.

*Mark Brown	Vice-Mayor, City of Knoxville
*Eddy Ford	Mayor, Town of Farragut
*Bill Haslam	Mayor, City of Knoxville
*Dale Hurst	for Lenoir City Mayor Matt Brookshire
*Angie Midgett	Tennessee Department of Transportation
*Don Mull	Mayor, City of Alcoa
*Cindy Pionke	for Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale
*Joe Swann	Mayor, City of Maryville
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Gordon Acuff	East Tennessee Human Resource Agency
Doug Burton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Mike Conger	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Karen Estes	Knox County Community Action Committee
Chris Hamby	City of Alcoa
Steve King	City of Knoxville Engineering
Barbara Monty	Knox County Community Action Committee
Ted Newsom	UT Knoxville Commuter Pool
James Norris	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Kelley Segars	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Jill Wolverton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Charlotte West	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Terry Willett	City of Rockford
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 October 25, 2006, Minutes

Presenter: Eddy Ford, Chair

Item Summary: Approval of October 25, 2006, TPO Executive Board minutes.

Background: Attachment #1 – October 25, 2006, Minutes.

A motion was made by Mayor Haslam and seconded by Mayor Mull to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of a Resolution to Amend the FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Presenter: TPO Staff

The following 11 projects need to be amended in the 2006-2008 TIP.

Attachment #2 - Resolution. The Technical Committee recommends approval of the resolution.

a. Add I-640/North Broadway interchange-Phase 2 (2006-126)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be added into the TIP for \$1,360,000 NHS/\$340,000 state funds for right-of-way. **Attachment #2a - Proposed project sheet.**

b. Amend Western Ave, Texas Ave to Major Ave (2006-024)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be amended to add \$3,920,000 HPP/\$980,000 state funds for right-of-way. Consequently, the funds programmed for right-of-way in FY 2006 will be deleted in order to utilize the HPP funds. **Attachment #2b - Current and proposed project sheets.**

c. Amend SR-73/US-321 in Lenoir City (2006-020)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be amended to add \$320,000 HPP/\$80,000 state funds for preliminary engineering. Additionally, the funds programmed for right-of-way in FY 2007 will be transferred to FY 2009. **Attachment #2c - Current and proposed project sheets.**

d. Amend Knoxville Parkway (2006-013)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be amended to transfer the preliminary engineering from FY 2006 to 2009. **Attachment #2d - Current and proposed project sheets.**

e. Amend Alcoa Hwy north of bridge over Little River to Maloney Rd. (2006-002)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be amended to transfer right-of-way funds from FY 2006 to 2008 and to transfer the construction funds from FY 2008 to 2009. **Attachment #2e - Current and proposed project sheets.**

f. Amend Alcoa Hwy, South of Airport Rd to near Pellissippi Parkway - Alternate Route (2006-001)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be amended to transfer right-of-way funds from FY 2007 to 2009. **Attachment #2f - Current and proposed project sheets.**

g. Amend Pellissippi Parkway, SR 33 to SR 73 (2006-017)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be amended to transfer construction funds from FY 2007 to 2009. **Attachment #2g - Current and proposed project sheets.**

h. Amend James White Parkway, Chapman Hwy to Moody Ave (2006-012)

Background: TDOT has requested that this project be amended to transfer right-of-way funds from FY 2007 to 2009. **Attachment #2h - Current and proposed project sheets.**

i. Amend Tazewell Pike/Beverly Rd. Intersection Improvements (2006-073)

Background: Amend Tazewell Pk/Beverly Rd Intersection Improvements (2006-073) to change local funding source from local to state, transfer \$60,000 CMAQ/\$15,000 state programmed construction funds to preliminary engineering and transfer \$80,000 CMAQ/\$20,000 state programmed construction funds to right-of-way. **Attachment #2i - Current and proposed project sheets.**

j. Amend Project Contingency Overruns (2006-027) to move \$279,000 CMAQ/\$69,750 state from FY 2006 and \$39,400 CMAQ/\$9,850 state from FY 2007 to Concord Rd/Northshore Dr Roundabout (2006-076).

Background: Estimates for construction of roundabout continue to increase. The latest local estimate is approximately \$800,000 and TDOT estimate is \$1 million. Staff is recommending a construction estimate of \$900,000. To accomplish this, funds from the CMAQ overrun bucket will need to be transferred to this project. Staff recommends moving a total of \$348,750 from FY 2006 and \$49,250 from FY 2007 CMAQ cost overruns buckets. Total transfer is \$398,000. Total project cost is now estimated at \$900,000: \$720,000 (CMAQ), \$180,000 (state). **Attachment #2j - Current and proposed project sheets.**

k. Amend Concord Rd/Northshore Dr Roundabout (2006-076) to add \$318,400 CMAQ/\$79,600 state funds transferred from Project Contingency Overrun (2006-027).

Background: Estimates for construction of roundabout continue to increase. The latest local estimate is approximately \$800,000 and TDOT estimate is \$1 million. Staff is recommending a construction estimate of \$900,000. To accomplish this, funds from the CMAQ overrun bucket will need to be transferred to this project.

Staff recommends moving a total of \$348,750 from FY 2006 and \$49,250 from FY 2007 CMAQ cost overruns buckets. Total transfer is \$398,000. Total project cost is now estimated at \$900,000 \$720,000 (CMAQ), \$180,000 (state). **Attachment #2k - Current and proposed project sheets.**

Jeff Welch discussed each item on the current and proposed project sheets.

A motion was made by Mayor Haslam and seconded by Mayor Mull to approve the resolution to amend the TIP (see Attachments #2a-2k). The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Resolution to Endorse Enhancement Grant Applications

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Attachment #3a - Resolution. The Technical Committee recommends approval of the resolution.

Attachment #3b - City of Knoxville South Waterfront Riverwalk 2007 Application.

Attachment #3c - Town of Farragut Kingston Pike Sidewalk 2007 Application.

Background: Two applications for projects in the Knoxville Region have been submitted to TDOT, and endorsement by the TPO is requested.

Jeff Welch stated that TDOT requires that the Technical Committee and Executive Board approve all enhancement grants.

A motion was made by Mayor Swann and seconded by Mayor Mull to approve the resolution for the enhancement grant applications (see Attachments #3a-c). The motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Resolution for the Knoxville Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Regional Architecture Update

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The Knoxville Regional TPO is charged with maintaining the Knoxville ITS Regional Architecture and must make updates every three years. This update includes all ITS measures that have been introduced since the Regional Architecture was developed and given to the TPO. **Attachment #4 Knoxville ITS Regional Architecture Update Resolution. The Technical Committee recommends approval of the resolution.**

Background: The Knoxville ITS Regional Architecture was adopted by the TPO Executive Board on October 26, 2005.

Jeff Welch stated that TDOT and the Federal Highway Administration require the TPO to maintain a software program for the ITS Regional Architecture and update it periodically as ITS components are added or completed. The ITS Regional Architecture is a database that identifies all the partners involved in management of the ITS and the components they are in charge of.

A motion was made by Angie Midgett and seconded by Mayor Haslam to approve the resolution to update the ITS Regional Architecture (see Attachment #4). The motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval of a Resolution Endorsing the Submittal of a Commuter Transportation Assistance Program (CTAP) Application to TDOT.

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The TDOT Office of Public Transportation is taking applications for CTAP funds. CTAP is used to fund Travel Demand Management (TDM) strategies or programs. The TPO is submitting an application to help fund support activities for the Smart Trips program. Endorsement of application by the TPO Technical Committee is required. **Attachment #5a - CTAP Resolution. The Technical Committee recommends approval of the resolution.**

Attachment #5b - CTAP Application.

Background: The TDOT Office of Public Transportation is making CTAP grants available statewide for each MPO area. The amount of funding available for each MPO area is up to \$50,000 a year for 2007 and 2008 for a maximum of \$100,000. CTAP has a very strict list of eligible activities and funds are to be used for TDM strategies or programs to help support local carpool, vanpool, or ridesharing efforts. TPO staff met with staff of KAT, Knox County CAC Transit, UT Commuter Pool/Tennessee Vans, and Smart Trips to brainstorm a list of possible projects to be funded with CTAP. The local CTAP application submitted will fund support activities for the Smart Trips program.

Jeff Welch stated that the TPO staff met with these groups to see which program might be eligible for funding. The Technical Committee approves submittal to TDOT.

A motion was made by Mayor Swann and seconded by Dale Hurst to approve the resolution supporting the CTAP application for the Smart Trips Program (see Attachments #5a-b). The motion carried unanimously.

6. Election of Officers

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The Bylaws state that the Executive Board 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 the term of office shall be for two years. An officer is eligible to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

Background: Attachment #6 – TPO Chairs and Co-Chairs from 1993 to present.

Jeff Welch stated that the bylaws adopted by the Executive Board in 2005 require an election of officers be held at the first meeting of the calendar year and that the term of office shall be for two years. Past officers are listed in packet.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Brown and seconded by Mayor Mull to nominate Mayor Haslam to serve as Chair of the Executive Board. Motion by Vice Mayor Brown and seconded by Mayor Mull that nominations cease. The motion carried unanimously. The original motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mayor Ford and seconded by Dale Hurst to nominate Mayor Mull as Vice Chair of the Executive Board. Motion by Dale Hurst and seconded by Mayor Haslam that nominations cease. The motion carried unanimously. The original motion carried unanimously.

7. Status of FY 2007 Federal Transportation Funding

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Congress has passed an omnibus continuing resolution for FY 2007. Funds for highways and transit were included in this bill. The bill approves funding at levels authorized by SAFETEA-LU but rescinds funds to a level equivalent to FY 2006 program level for many programs.

Jeff Welch stated that Ed Cole of TDOT spoke at the Legislative Luncheon in January regarding federal funding for FY 08. He noted that three items are causing serious problems for transportation projects: costs are spiraling for highway construction and materials, the federal budget has been operating under a continuing resolution, and there have been rescissions of previously authorized federal funds. At the federal level for the FY 07 budget, Congress has passed a continuing resolution to provide funding for FY 07, which will be in place soon. Funding for 2008 would be under the level that SAFETEA-LU allows, and there will be a rescission that puts us on the 2007 levels. Congress will pass the resolution and then will rescind a considerable amount.

8. Other Business

**Technical Committee Meeting, March 13 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
Executive Board Meeting, April 25 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building**

Quality Growth Summit. **Attachment #7.** Ellen Zavisca of the TPO staff distributed brochures for the March 30 conference. The keynote speaker is Daniel Williams. Congressman John Duncan is the honorary conference chair.

Jeff Welch stated he is tracking the bills in Congress. There is a bill in place to amend the Scenic Highway bill to eliminate buildings no higher than 35' on scenic highways.

Jill Wolverton of Smart Trips announced the upcoming events.

SMART TRIPS COMMUTER CHALLENGE - The Smart Trips Commuter Challenge will be held April 1-September 30, 2007. Smart Trips is challenging commuters to use alternative transportation (carpool, vanpool, transit, bike, walk, telecommute) during those 6 months.

CARPOOL WEEK - Take the Mini to the Max - Market Square, downtown Knoxville, April 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Meet your Match Ice Cream Social** - Market Square, downtown Knoxville, April 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

TRANSIT WEEK - Free Fare Tuesday - All KAT buses and CAC Transit will be free on Tuesday, April 10. **Bring a Buddy on the Bus April 10 Worksite Bus Challenge April 12** - The worksite with the largest percentage of employees commuting by bus will win a pizza party.

BIKE WEEK - Bike Pools to EarthFest, Bike Pools to Blount County Air Fest, Street Skills Class, Used Bike Sale, Bike Shop Discounts, Roadside Bike Repair Class, Beginners Bike Ride

WALK WEEK - Mayors' Cup - Mayor Ragsdale has challenged Mayor Haslam to a rematch of last year's race. Market Square. Date TBD. **Cradle of Country Music Tour with WDVX.** Date TBD

Ellen Zavisca announced that the TPO has been working with the City of Knoxville to make two Safe Routes to School funding applications. This is the first year TDOT has distributed funding for this federal program. TPO has been working with the Knox County Health Department and other partners to encourage children to walk or bike to school. TPO has also advised other local governments seeking Safe Routes funding.

Mike Conger of the TPO staff gave an update on the status of the petition by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) for redesignation of this area to attainment for ozone. In October he did a presentation on the latest air quality data that showed this area was now showing attainment at all monitoring locations and that an option was available for TDEC to pursue redesignation. He stated that TDEC did indeed choose to request redesignation through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He noted that there is a possibility that the area is very borderline in terms of meeting the standard and a bad summer in 2007 could cause us to fall back out of attainment. If this happens subsequent to the redesignation to attainment being approved, then the area will possibly have to implement different contingency measures. TDEC has listed different proposed contingency measures if the air quality monitoring data goes back above the standard. The State Air Board will be acting on the request at its April meeting and then it will be forwarded to EPA for approval. Mike stated that the EPA has been reviewing the draft document and has not thus far raised any significant issues; however the EPA approval process can take a long time because of having to go through various steps and the federal register.

Jeff Welch stated that Fred Frank has taken a job back in his home state of New York. He was involved with the Long Range Transportation Plan and Freight Movement and the staff will miss him.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Vice Mayor Brown thanked Mayor Ford for his leadership as Chair through the years. Mayor Swann also thanked him and stated he appreciated the work he has done.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.