

TPO Executive Board Minutes
February 22, 2017
9:00 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City County Building
Knoxville, TN

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board met on February 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Mayor Tom Taylor chaired the meeting and called it to order. It was determined there was a quorum.

*Kathryn Baldwin	City of Oak Ridge, <i>for Mayor Warren Gooch</i>
*Dawn Distler	Public Transportation
*Jeff Headrick	Blount County, <i>for Mayor Ed Mitchell</i>
*Jerome Joiner	State of Tennessee, <i>for Governor Bill Haslam</i>
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County, <i>for Mayor Larry Waters</i>
*Jeremy Pearson	City of Alcoa, <i>for Mayor Don Mull</i>
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County, <i>for Mayor Tim Burchett</i>
*Harold Pitner	Tennessee County Highway Officials Association
*Jack Qualls	City of Loudon, <i>for Mayor Jim Greenway</i>
*Madeline Rogero	Mayor, City of Knoxville
*Finbarr Saunders	Councilman, City of Knoxville
*Amber Scott	City of Lenoir City, <i>for Mayor Tony Aikens</i>
*Ed Shouse	Knox County Trustee representing East TN Development District
*Tom Taylor	Mayor, City of Maryville
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	

1. Motion to Approve January 25, 2017 TPO Executive Board Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the January 25, 2017 TPO Executive Board Minutes.

A Motion was made by Amber Scott and seconded by Councilman Saunders to approve the January 25, 2017 TPO Executive Board Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion to Approve a Resolution to Amend the FY 2016-2017 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP)

Item Summary: Staff is recommending 3 additional transportation related studies/planning efforts as well as increased FTA Section 5303 planning funds to be added to Task C of the FY2017 TPO Transportation Planning Work Program.

Technical Committee recommends approval.

Discussion: Jeff Welch noted additional funding became available through the TPO from FTA Section 5303 Transportation Planning funds which staff made available to member jurisdictions for any additional planning and research studies that could be conducted between now and the end of the calendar year (December 2017) as these funds needed to be allocated by then.

He then noted the [FY 2016-2017] Work Program needs to be amended to add these additional funds. Mr. Welch briefly reviewed the 3 studies included in the proposed Amendment: the first, the Alcoa Downtown Concept Planning Study, a master development plan for guiding redevelopment of the former Alcoa, Inc. West Plant site, updating an earlier study, the second, the Maryville Greenway Connection Study to assess the feasibility of improving pedestrian connections between schools, parks and existing greenways in the City of Maryville and the third, for the KAT/TPO Transit Routing Software as a Service, for an off-the-shelf web-based geospatial mapping tool that streamlines multi-step functions of the operations planning process by providing various instant information and analyses. Including State and Local Matches for \$70,500.00 each and \$564,000.00 of FTA Section 5303 dollars staff is recommending adding a total of \$705,000.00 to the Work Program.

A Motion was made by Mayor Rogero and seconded by Cindy Pionke to approve a Resolution to amend the FY 2016-2017 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). The Motion carried unanimously.

3. Draft Ultimate FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project List

Item Summary: The FY 2017-2020 TIP is being updated in two phases to remain consistent with the Mobility Plan. The first phase update of the TIP known as the Interim 2017-2020 TIP, was approved by FHWA on January 6, 2017. The second phase of the TIP update known as the Ultimate 2017-2020 TIP is based on the projects included in the 2040 Mobility Plan update. The Ultimate 2017-2020 TIP is being drafted now and will be submitted to TDOT in April. A draft list of federally funded, locally managed projects recommended for funding by TPO staff in the Final 2017-2020 TIP will be presented.

Discussion: Elizabeth Watkins noted that the attached project list is an update that has been before the both the Technical Committee and Executive Board previously. She noted the list contains all of the projects that are in the Interim TIP and that will ultimately be in the Ultimate TIP. In the colored coded list, all of the projects in black text are in the current Interim TIP, approved by FHWA on January 6, 2017. She noted the projects that are in green text denote projects/additional funding for current projects that will be available in the Ultimate TIP, on target to be approved in late spring or early summer of this year. Projects in red text are being removed from the TIP because they are on hold or have other significant delays. Ms. Watkins noted in total there are approximately 25 new projects and touched briefly on those which total \$36.4 million in federal funds. Staff expect all of the projects included in the Ultimate TIP to be funded by the time of its adoption. Jeff Welch noted that once the TIP is adopted by the TPO in the June timeframe projects that need to be changed for any reason can be amended at that time.

4. Presentation on Recently Awarded CMAQ Grants for our Region

Item Summary: TDOT will present an overview of statewide CMAQ projects and Knoxville-area CMAQ projects. *This Item has been removed from today's Agenda due to illness of the presenter.*

5. Legislative Update

Item Summary: Staff will provide a brief summary of Tennessee Legislative bills that have been introduced to address transportation funding.

Discussion: Jeff Welch reviewed an attached list of the numerous transportation funding related bills before the legislature which propose various means of addressing the transportation funding revenue issues in Tennessee. He then noted that there were 2 Amendments before the House Transportation sub-committee today; Governor Haslam's tax bill which was introduced as a caption bill and involves a \$0.07 cents tax increase on gasoline in addition to a diesel tax increase, plus other increased/additional fees (e.g. vehicle registrations).

The second is a bill presented by Representative David Hawk that proposes using a portion of existing revenues generated through sales tax as opposed to increasing the gas tax. He noted that part of the Governor's bill includes the opportunity for a local option for counties and cities to levy a tax for public transportation. Mr. Welch noted staff will share any updates as they become available. There was continued discussion on other bills that could negatively impact planning going forward, HB0476 and HB0496.

6. Other Business

- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building.
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building.
 - TDOT Commissioner John Schroer will be joining us and will be presenting on the transportation section of Governor Haslam's proposed IMPROVE Act.
- HappyHealthySmart Planning Symposium. March 29th and 30th. Jeff Welch described the intent of the film based symposium and reviewed the 3 events targeting the general public, elected and appointed officials and related professionals. A handout was distributed outlining event details. Two brief videos were shown that are related to the dialogue the symposium is intended to spur. One on autonomous vehicles and the other on minimum parking standards.
- A discussion ensued regarding autonomous vehicles where Mayor Rogero shared her experience in Washington, D.C. at the recent US Conference of Mayors where different perspectives on autonomous vehicles were presented, noting we need to be proactive in addressing the impact of these vehicles, both positive and negative. She further noted we want to be on the front end of the rollout in terms of our urban and transportation design. Jeff Branham, City of Knoxville Engineering gave an overview of how the City, in collaboration with the University of Tennessee, Oak Ridge National Laboratories, Grid Smart and Local Motors is proactively addressing the use of these vehicles, developing ways to actually prove how safe and secure they are before they are deployed in Knoxville. The videos can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ymz4SYVr_EE and here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYPMmKrwgPc&feature=youtu.be>.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.