

TPO Technical Committee Minutes
June 14, 2016
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 June 14, 2016, 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>
*Beth Collins	City of Lenoir City
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC Transit
*Deanna Flinchum	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*John Lamb	Blount County
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County
*Mike Patterson	EHTRA, <i>for Gary Holiway</i>
*Pat Phillips	City of Loudon and Loudon County
*Ernie Pierce	City of Knoxville, <i>for Jim Hagerman</i>
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County
*Jack Qualls	TDOT, Region 1
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metropolitan 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 May 10, 2016 Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of May 10, 2016 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

A Motion was made by Pat Phillips and seconded by Cindy Pionke to approve the May 10, 2016 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion to Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program.

Item Summary: A short conformity report was prepared since these amendments involve air quality non-exempt projects. Staff recommends approval.

Discussion: Mike Conger reviewed the two proposed amendments noting both were requested by TDOT and both are included in the FY 2017 portion of the 3-year state TIP adopted by the legislature annually. The first project, Relocated Alcoa Highway (SR-115 / US-129), is amending in funding for the Right-of-

Way phase for FY 2017 for construction of 4 new lanes from SR-162 (Pellissippi Parkway) to South Singleton Station Road. The second project, Western Avenue (SR-62), is amending in funding for the Construction phase for FY 2017 from Texas Avenue to Major Avenue. As these 2 projects are air quality non-exempt (typically meaning they are adding capacity for motor vehicles), and as they are already included in the regional Long Range Mobility Plan, a short conformity report was done to demonstrate that we can rely on a previous regional emissions analysis to determine conformity for these 2 projects. Mr. Conger noted the report has been out for review by the Interagency Consultation Group and there has not been any major comments on it. The public comment period for the report concludes at the June 22, 2016 Executive Board meeting.

A Motion was made by John Lamb and seconded by Don Brown to recommend approval of an Amendment to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program. The Motion carried unanimously.

3. Overview of the Draft 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Item Summary: The FY 2017-2020 TIP is being updated in two separate phases due to the need for alignment with the schedule for the update of the TPO's Mobility Plan 2040. The first phase of the FY 2017-2020 TIP is represented in this document and consists only of a direct carry-over of projects from the previous FY 2014-2017 TIP that have phases of work which have not yet had funding obligated. The second phase of the FY 2017-2020 TIP will be completed in Spring 2017 and will coincide directly with the adoption of the Mobility Plan 2040, which is the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Knoxville Region. The complete Draft 2017-2020 TIP can be found here:

http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/TIP Phase 1_draft.pdf

Discussion: Mike Conger noted the entire state of Tennessee is on the same schedule for adoption of the statewide and individual MPO TIPs, subsequently, staff are preparing an interim TIP to be adopted later this year (September) to coincide with the statewide schedule. The draft was sent to TDOT at the end of May for their review process and staff expect that feedback by the middle of July. After staff addresses TDOT's comments it will be sent to the Federal Highway Administration for their review. He noted staff have met with individual jurisdictions to get their feedback on what needs to be carried forward, further noting no new projects are being added at this time. He noted the full project selection for the new TIP will occur in conjunction with finalizing the Mobility Plan Update next spring. Mr. Conger then briefly reviewed the listing of projects for each jurisdiction grouped by county and requested that Committee members review them.

4. Long Range Mobility Plan Update

Item Summary: TPO staff will provide an overview of the types and number of projects that have been submitted by TPO participants to be considered for inclusion in the 2040 Mobility Plan Update.

Discussion: Mike Conger gave an overview of the application process for the ongoing Long Range Mobility Plan Update. He began by reviewing the TPO planning area and which communities/areas are eligible to submit applications for projects to be included in the Mobility Plan. He then briefly touched on the project selection criteria and weighting, noting 180 project applications have been received under the Call for Projects and which staff are now reviewing and scoring based on the previously adopted criteria. Mr. Conger reviewed Plan cost summaries by location, by the 3 project categories (roadway, bike/ped and transit) as well as by Horizon Year. Mr. Conger, after a brief review of projected revenues, noted funding will remain a challenge. He concluded by reviewing the next steps leading up to the Plan Update adoption in April 2017. The complete presentation is available online and can be found here:

<http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/LRMP Update.pdf>

5. Overview of May 10, 2016 Technical Committee Transit Workshop

Item Summary: An overview of the TPO Technical Committee Workshop will be provided by staff. Discussion on next action items is requested.

Discussion: Doug Burton began noting staff want to build a transit vision for the ongoing 2017 Long Range Mobility Plan Update. He briefly described the 5 regional transit studies that have been done noting the results of them were actually quite similar. From them, staff created lists of short, intermediate and long term shared visions identified in these studies, which he then reviewed in some detail. He noted the most recent transit study, done in conjunction with the PlanET process and which was highly driven by public input, reflected very similar issues and concerns as well as called for enhanced and increased transit services and coordination, again very similar to the earlier studies. Mr. Burton noted there have been 3 RTA studies done, the most recent in 2014 also as part of the PlanET process, all stating that there were no models for a region only coordinating human services transit. He then stated that throughout all of the various outreach efforts, the public consistently wants alternative transportation options. He also touched on upcoming regional studies and concluded by reviewing comments, questions and next steps identified at the workshop. The complete presentation is available online and is located here: [http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/Transit Workshop.pdf](http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/Transit%20Workshop.pdf)

6. Presentation on the 2015 Knox County Strategic Transportation Needs Assessment

Item Summary: The 2015 Knox County Strategic Transportation Needs Assessment report was prepared to identify roads in need of improvement based on safety measures. This plan updated information for minor collectors, major collectors, minor arterials and specifically identified local roads that serve a school.

Discussion: Kevin Cole, CDM Smith, began by noting that a common dilemma for states, counties and local agencies is having available resources to address all of the road safety needs in a community which frequently far outweigh available dollars. Knox County has undertaken a program to assess capital improvement needs based on safety, crash experiences, Average Daily Traffic and road width. Mr. Cole reviewed the sources and information gathered for this study. He noted in their assessment they are not evaluating the City of Knoxville or the Town of Farragut nor crashes that occur on the interstate or major arterials of TDOT. Cindy Pionke touched on next steps which included adding 2015 crash data (which would be the 4th year of data noting they are working towards compiling 5), consideration of adding crashes per mile criteria, adding a separate section for state routes and to continue using this data for their CIP. The complete presentation is available online and is located here: [http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/Knox Co Strat Trans Plan.pdf](http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/Knox%20Co%20Strat%20Trans%20Plan.pdf)

7. Loudon County Greenway Planning

Item Summary: Nicole Curtis, Chair of the Loudon County Greenway Committee, will speak about the Committee's efforts to gather support for greenways in Loudon County.

Discussion: Nicole Curtis reviewed Loudon County's existing trails and greenways and then described the proposed Tellico Parkway Greenway. Noting the mission of their Committee is to promote and facilitate development of these walking trails and greenways she stated that their goal is to connect all of these facilities into the Tellico Parkway Greenway corridor. Recognizing this is a large undertaking, they focus on steps they can successfully meet. They are pulling together a website consolidating information regarding all of these assets located in Loudon County. The complete presentation is available online and is located here: [http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/Loudon Co Gway Plan.pdf](http://www.knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/jun16/Loudon%20Co%20Gway%20Plan.pdf)

8. Other Business

- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.
- The TPO has a Call for Projects for Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding. Information will be on the TPO's website. Applications for new projects are due July 13. If a project was submitted for the Mobility Plan update, an application is not needed.
- TDOT is having a groundbreaking event on Friday, June 24th, at 2:30 p.m. at the Sevier Heights Baptist Church (3232 Alcoa Highway). This event is for the section of Alcoa Highway already under reconstruction between Woodson Drive and Maloney Road.
- Pat Philips is retiring from the Loudon County Economic Development Agency and has been appointed by Mayor Rogero to represent the City of Knoxville on the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Jack Qualls will be assuming his position as Executive Director.
- TDOT is having ADA RoundTable Discussion Events across the state to learn and to discuss the requirements of a comprehensive ADA Transition Plan. 2 people per city limit are allowed. The one for our area is being held at the TDOT Region 1 offices located at 7345 Region Lane, Knoxville, TN 37914 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on July 26, 2016. Lunch is on your own.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Pat Phillips and seconded by Jeff Ownby to adjourn the meeting. The Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.