

TPO Technical Committee Minutes
August 14, 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 August 14, 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
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Terry Bobrowski	ETDD
*Megan Brooks	City of Alcoa
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway MTPO
*Troy Ebbert	TDOT, Region 1
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC Transit
*Deanna Flinchum	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Gerald Green	Metropolitan Planning Commission
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville
*Chico Messer	Blount County
*Jeff Ownby	Sevier County
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County
*Jack Qualls	City of Loudon and Loudon County
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Blake Sartin	Metro Knoxville Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	

1. Motion to Approve June 12, 2018 TPO Technical Committee Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the June 12, 2018 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

A Motion was made by Jim Hagerman and seconded by Cindy Pionke to approve the June 12, 2018 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion to Recommend Approval of a Resolution to Amend the FY2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the Executive Board

Item Summary: TDOT requested amendments for projects exempt from air quality conformity. Staff recommends approval.

Discussion: Craig Luebke reviewed the proposed 7 amendments involving \$23.7 million in added funding. There are two ITS Expansion related amendments. The first amendment, requested by TDOT, is along I-40 from west of Exit 398 to east of Exit 407 (1A) and changes the termini and description for an existing project.

The second ITS amendment is adding a new project for ITS equipment installation along a 9.2 mile stretch of I-140 from mile marker 2 to mile marker 11. The remaining five amendments involve new projects that stem from the recent CMAQ Call-for-Projects. The first project is for expansion of the Advanced Traffic Management System along a 6.5 mile stretch of Middlebrooks Pike, the second is for Phase 1 of a project for traffic signalization improvements for each of the 15 traffic signals in Clinton and the third is for the Signal Timing Optimization Program, Phase 2, in Oak Ridge to connect and improve 14 signalized intersections. The fourth CMAQ project will upgrade a fueling terminal at Knoxville Renewable Filling Station to use biodiesel fuel and the last project will repower five Tier 2 locomotives to Tier 4 Emissions Standards for the Knoxville and Holston River Railroad.

A Motion was made by Chico Messer and seconded by Gerald Green to recommend approval of a Resolution to amend the FY2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the Executive Board. The Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion to Recommend Approval of a Resolution to Amend the FY 2018/2019 Transportation Planning Organization Work Program to the Executive Board

Item Summary: For several months staff was not able to charge any time or direct charges to FTA Sec 5303 grant as identified in the adopted work program. As a result certain task items were charged additional time and resulted in an overage in expenditures for FY 2018. This amendment adjusts several tasks to reflect a more balanced work program budget by task for FY2018. Staff is also recommending text changes to reflect the budget changes and a minor budget adjustment to two task items in FY2019. Staff recommends approval.

Discussion: Jeff Welch reviewed the proposed amendment to the Work Program noting the amendment only involves shifting of previously approved funding.

A Motion was made by Gerald Green and seconded by Daryl Smith to recommend approval of a Resolution to amend the FY 2018/2019 Transportation Planning Organization Work Program to the Executive Board. The Motion carried unanimously.

4. Presentation on Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Data Within Knox County

Item Summary: Staff has updated the database of reported pedestrian/bicycle crashes, and have completed the analysis of crashes in Knoxville, Farragut and Knox County through March 2018.

Discussion: Ellen Zavisca reviewed the data which encompasses approximately eleven years of information. She touched on what was new since the last data update including an online map and then moved onto an overview of the analyzed data. She also reviewed ongoing issues or “hot spots”. She described the sources used to gather the data and reviewed the list of crash factors highlighting the most common ones. Ms. Zavisca entertained questions and comments from Committee members. The presentation is available online and can be found here: https://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/aug18/knox_ped_bike_crash_data.pdf

5. Presentation on Volkswagen Settlement: The State of Tennessee’s Proposed Beneficiary Mitigation Plan

Item Summary: TN’s initial allocation based on the 2.0 and 3.0 liter partial settlements is \$45,759,914.40. Staff will present an overview of the proposed distribution plan by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC).

Discussion: Mike Conger reviewed the report, released for comment [open through Friday, August 17, 2018], beginning with an overview of the settlement that proposes to commit \$14.9 billion across 3 categories: Vehicle Buyback and Modification (largest amount, involves direct consumers), Zero Emission Vehicle Investment and Environmental Mitigation Trust. The Trust involves \$2.9 billion which will fund environmental mitigation projects that reduce NOx emissions. He described how Tennessee plans to split their allocations with the development of a required Beneficiary Mitigation Plan, which Mr. Conger reviewed. The presentation is available online and can be found here: <https://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/aug18/TDEC VW Settlement.pdf>

6. Air Quality Conformity Analysis Update

Item Summary: The TPO staff is performing air quality conformity analysis update in response to a DC Circuit Court ruling that impacted a previous Clean Air Act interpretation by EPA that air quality conformity was no longer required in the “1997 Ozone Areas” that were meeting the newer, more stringent “2008 Ozone Standard”. Staff will present a proposed updated Mobility Plan project list that includes a revised analysis year from 2022 to 2024.

Discussion: Mike Conger touched on the events leading up to the Update. He noted EPA has requested a Court Re-hearing which is currently under consideration but it is staff’s opinion that moving forward with the analysis update is in our best interest. FHWA Guidance was issued on April 23, 2018 stating essentially that until further notice new Long-Range Plan and TIP updates and amendments which involve a *non-exempt* project may not proceed until conformity with the 1997 Ozone Standard is demonstrated. He then reviewed the affected geographic areas and referenced the attached Mobility Plan Project List which staff has updated pursuant to the 2018 revised conformity determination. Jeff Welch asked Committee members to review the Project List and contact staff with any questions. The updated determination will go through the required Air Quality Inter-Agency Consultation review and will then go out for a 30 day public comment period. The presentation is available online and can be found here: <https://knoxtrans.org/meetings/agendas/tech/aug18/air quality conformity.pdf>

7. Other Business

- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building.
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building.
- TDOT has released their Multimodal Access Program 2018 Call for Projects. The TPO is tasked with recommending up to 3 applications to submit to TDOT. Total project costs for a Multimodal Access project may not exceed \$1 million dollars (\$1,000,000.00). Projects larger than \$1 million dollars should be separated into phases. Applicants may apply for additional grant funding for future phases. Successful applicants may receive up to 95% in State grant funds. Applicants are responsible for a minimum 5% local match. The applications are due to the TPO by August 27, 2018 and to TDOT by September 28, 2018, with staff recommendations coming before the Technical Committee and Executive Board at their regularly scheduled September meetings. Please contact Ellen Zavisca with any questions at 865-215-4014 or ellen.zavisca@knoxtrans.org. A review committee meeting has been set for September 7th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at Legacy Parks. Any jurisdiction that submitted an application is encouraged to attend.
- Jeff Welch introduced Megan Brooks who will now be representing the City of Alcoa.
- Mr. Welch also announced that both Kelley Segars and Christi Wampler will be leaving the TPO shortly and moving on to other opportunities.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Adjournment

**A Motion was made by Gerald Green and seconded by Jack Qualls to adjourn the meeting.
The Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned**