

TPO Technical Committee Minutes
May 14, 2019
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 May 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building in Knoxville, TN. Vice Chair Brian Boone 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
*Megan Brooks	City of Alcoa
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Don Brown	ETDD, <i>for Terry Bobrowski</i>
*Michelle Christian	TDOT, Region 1, <i>for Troy Ebbert</i>
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway MTPO
*Karen Estes	Knox County CAC Transit
*Jim Hagerman	City of Knoxville
*Chico Messer	Blount County
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County
*Blake Sartin	Metro Knoxville Airport Authority
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
*Jacob Wright	Knoxville Area Transit
TPO Staff	
Partner Agency Staff	
Members of the Public	
*voting members	

Wayne Blasius introduced Smey Taing who is visiting the City of Oak Ridge from Cambodia. Oak Ridge participates in the International City Managers Association Program where visiting planning and engineering professionals come to the United States to observe our practices. Ms. Taing is an Environmental Engineer and is interested in sustainable development.

1. Motion to Approve March 12, 2019 TPO Technical Committee Minutes

Item Summary: Approval of the March 12, 2019 TPO Technical Committee Minutes.

A Motion was made by Cindy Pionke and seconded by Blake Sartin to approve the March 12, 2019 TPO Technical Committee Minutes. The Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion to Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the FY 2019 Transportation Planning Work Program to Fund a Planning Study for the City of Oak Ridge to the Executive Board.

Item Summary: The City of Oak Ridge has requested planning funds to prepare Center City Circulation Study and Towne Center Plan. The City has requested \$48,000 and will match with \$12,000 local funds. Staff recommends approval.

Discussion: Jeff Welch gave a brief overview of the request before the Committee which totals \$60,000. Wayne Blasius noted that in addition to the above noted funds, he has been working with

corporate partners in Oak Ridge to raise an additional \$30,000 to fund an Economic Market Analysis to ensure that land use and transportation planning is done in an empirically based manner.

A Motion was made by Chico Messer and seconded by Blake Sartin to recommend approval of an Amendment to the FY 2019 Transportation Planning Work Program to Fund a Planning Study for the City of Oak Ridge to the Executive Board. The Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion to Recommend Approval of the FTA Section 5307/5339 FY19 Program of Projects to the Executive Board.

Item Summary: FTA requires a public hearing on the Program of Projects (POP). The POP is a list of projects, for each agency, to be funded with the Section 5307 and 5339 funding. The POP public hearing will be at the May 22, 2019 Executive Board meeting. Staff will update the Technical Committee on the FY19 – FTA Appropriations and the local distribution of funds. Because the TIP already has both the Section 5307 and 5339 funding pages approved, the additional funds and projects will be added through internal adjustments. Staff recommends approval of the FY19 – POP.

Discussion: Jeff Welch gave an overview of the proposed Program of Projects. These proposed allocations are based on formulae developed by the City of Knoxville, the designated recipient for the funds, with support from the TPO and in concert with Knoxville Area Transit, East Tennessee Human Resource Agency and Knox County CAC Transit. He noted we have received the FY 2019 allocations and touched briefly the amounts proposed to be distributed.

A Motion was made by Wayne Blasius and seconded by Chico Messer to recommend approval of the FTA Section 5307/5339 FY19 Program of Projects to the Executive Board. The Motion carried unanimously.

4. Preliminary List of FY 2020-2023 TIP Projects

Item Summary: A call for projects funded with TPO allocated funds to be programmed in next TIP, covering fiscal years 2020 - 2023 was open from January 22, 2019 through March, 1 2019. Project requests for L-STBG and L-STBG-TA funds exceeded projected revenues. Staff will present the preliminary project list which will maintain required fiscal constraint for the DRAFT FY 2020-2023 TIP. Projects funded with state directed federal funds are also listed as requested for the same time period.

Discussion: Craig Luebke summarized the outcome of the call for projects which resulted in 22 new project applications and 37 existing rollover applications for the 2020-2023 TIP. He touched on the L-STBG AND L-STBG-TA funds projected for FY 2020-2023. He noted the Draft TIP will be submitted to TDOT for review in June 2019, come before the TPO Technical Committee and Executive Board later in the summer for further review and discussion and then approval in October 2019. He asked member jurisdictions to review the attached preliminary list of projects and the projected funding recommendations and provide feedback to staff. Mr. Luebke summarized the lists highlighting projects that were either fully or partially otherwise funded or where an adjustment was made to the original project application. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

5. Website Updates TPO & Smart Trips

Item Summary: Both the TPO and Smart Trips website were outdated and in need of transformation. Information staff has worked hard to update TPO resources during the rebranding of Knoxville-Knox County Planning.

Staff will showcase the newly updated TPO and Smart Trips website to the Technical Committee Members along with the most efficient way to navigate and access information.

Discussion: Ally Ketron demonstrated the new websites for Committee members highlighting changes and updates on both sites. The Smart Trips Program now has an updated look and logo and is easier to navigate. A nice addition to this site is a calendar of Smart Trips events. The TPO website now has a new domain, www.knoxtpo.org. This site is also laid out in a more user-friendly format having been somewhat reorganized in its layout of information. She walked Committee members through the new tabs and where information can now be found. This site also has a new search function which is purposely placed in a prominent spot on the home page. Lastly, another great new feature is that the that site now allows for information to be presented for 3 separate potential site users: Curious and Concerned Residents, Government and Transportation Professionals and Data Seekers.

6. TDOT 3-Year Program of Projects

Item Summary: Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee and TDOT Commissioner Clay Bright released the state's annual 3-year transportation program on April 18th. The TPO staff has summarized the highway projects with phases of work included for funding in the proposed program within our Region in a tabular and map format and will provide a brief overview for the Committee's information.

Discussion: Mike Conger touched briefly on each of the projects included on the list for FY 2020-2022 for our planning area noting only the first year of funding is guaranteed. He noted this list is reflective of the project ranking that we do here locally every year typically in the late fall. The summary table and map are available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

7. Pavement Management Survey Update

Item Summary: A survey was sent to each local government on the Technical Committee earlier this year to determine typical practices related to their roadway resurfacing program. TPO Staff will provide an overview of the survey results and further discuss potential interest in pursuing a regional pavement management program.

Discussion: Mike Conger shared the results of the survey which was sent to 13 member jurisdictions back in March that have responsibility for maintaining roadways, 10 of which have responded. He touched on survey responses including the level of interest of member jurisdictions for the TPO to develop and fund, with federal STBG funds, a regional Pavement Management System, concluding his presentation by reviewing the projected mileage and estimated local costs for the System. The presentation is available online and can be found here: [Presentation](#)

8. Other Business

- TDOT is accepting Notice of Intent [to be sent directly to TDOT] to apply for the 2019 Multimodal Access Grant from April 30, 2019 through June 28, 2019. Ellen Zavisca encouraged member jurisdictions to explore applying for this grant. She noted that this grant funds many different types of bike/pedestrian facilities along or adjacent to state routes including sidewalks, trails and on-street bicycle facilities and other related amenities. She also noted that there is only a 5% local match required. Guidance for the letter and applications can be found on TDOT's website.
- Ms. Zavisca also noted there is an Active Knox Event next week "*Building Safer Streets – Together*" on May 23, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the Community Room at Pellissippi State Community

College, 1610 E. magnolia Avenue, Knoxville. RSVP at <http://tinyurl.com/ActiveKnoxPanel>.
Doors open at 5:30 pm.

- TDOT Resurfacing Data Website <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/maintenance/pavement-office/future-paving-projects.html>. Mike Conger noted this website provides TDOT's list of upcoming paving projects for 2019. It is TDOT's intent to soon be releasing 3-year lists for future project planning and coordination.
- Michelle Christian shared a link to the I-75/I-55/I-26 Multimodal Corridor Study that TDOT is hosting and asked member jurisdictions to share the link with anyone they feel is appropriate. Take the survey here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/QZHRQJ7
- Technical Committee meeting Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building.
- Executive Board meeting Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly room of the City County Building.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Don Brown and seconded by Jacob Wright to adjourn. The Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.