



**Think Progress. Think Tomorrow. Think GRADD.**

**MEETING OF THE  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AND THE POLICY COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
OWENSBORO-DAVIESS COUNTY  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

September 22, 2020

**M-I-N-U-T-E-S**

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Policy Committee of the Owensboro-Daviess County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) met in a joint meeting on Tuesday, September 22, 2020, at 10 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom. Quorums for both committees were present with the members, as listed:

**TAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Nate Pagan, Owensboro City Manager, Chairman  
Nick Hall, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) District 2  
Tim Lyons, Owensboro Municipal Utilities (OMU)  
Sean O'Bryan, Regional Water Resource Agency (RWRA)  
Joanna Shake, Green River Area Development District (GRADD)  
Barry House, KYTC Division of Planning  
Brittaney Johnson, Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation (GO-EDC)  
Brian Howard, Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission (OMPC)  
Mark Brasher, Daviess County Engineer  
Sgt. Mike Page, Owensboro Police Department (OPD)  
Scott Atherton, Kenergy  
Sgt. Tyler Free, Daviess County Sheriff's Office  
Bernadette Dupont, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)  
Eric Perez, KYTC Office of Transportation Delivery (represented by Carrie Elliston)

**TAC MEMBERS ABSENT**

Pamela Canary, Owensboro Transit System (OTS)  
Brian Wright, Owensboro Riverport Authority

Candance Brake, Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce  
Kevin Collignon, Owensboro City Engineer  
Charlie Castlen, Daviess County Commissioner  
Rob Barnett, Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Watson, City of Owensboro Mayor, Chairman  
Al Mattingly, Daviess County Judge/Executive, Vice-Chairman  
Deneatra Henderson, KYTC District 2

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Todd Jeter, KY Division Administrator, FHWA  
Yvette Taylor, Regional Administrator, FTA

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Darren Grenfell, FHWA  
Kiersten Jaggers KYTC District 2 office  
Skyler Stewart, GRADD  
Tom Lovett, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Policy Committee member Al Mattingly called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

II. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 28, 2020, joint Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Committee meeting were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Mayor Tom Watson and  
seconded by Nick Hall to approve the minutes of the July  
28, 2020, Technical Advisory/Policy Committee meeting.  
A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Tom Lovett presented the committees with a final draft of the new Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for approval. He told the committees that he brought the new MTP before them during the July 20 meeting. Since then, he said, a public meeting was held via Zoom

and Facebook on August 12, 2020. The document also was made available to the public for the required 30-day public comment period. Public comments were accepted August 13 through close of business on September 14, 2020. Daviess County Judge/Executive Al Mattingly asked if there were any comments from the public. Mr. Lovett told the committees that 18 people attended the online meeting and two people asked questions. One person provided comments during the 30-day comment period. Mr. Lovett explained that a Mr. Eddie Atherton was one of the two commenters during the meeting and was the person who provided comments during the comment period. Mr. Lovett explained that Mr. Atherton felt that KY 56 needs work and that that work should be a higher priority. The other commenter during the Zoom meeting was a Mr. Phillip Morris. He asked about three issues: widening Old Hartford Road, an extension to East Byers Avenue and whether the speed limit on U.S. 60 (the former bypass) could be lowered.

A motion was made by TAC member Nick Hall and seconded by Tim Lyons to recommend that the Policy Committee agree to adopt the new Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). A vote was taken and the motion carried.

A motion was then made by Policy Committee member Deneatra Henderson and seconded by Mayor Tom Watson to adopt the new MTP. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Bicycle/Pedestrian report

Bernadette Dupont of the Federal Highway Administration made a presentation to the committees about the growth of Bicycling in the nation and in Kentucky specifically. She also introduced Darren Grenfell, Kentucky's new Bicycle/Pedestrian coordinator. (Slides from her presentation are included.)

Mr. Grenfell addressed the committees and said the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration policy encourages all transportation agencies to go beyond the minimum requirements and proactively provide convenient, safe and connective context-sensitive facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians. He said he recognized how difficult that can be, given how competitive funding is. He offered to assist the MPO in any efforts it makes.

Mayor Watson asked Mr. Grenfell to define "safe" in the context of the policy statement. Mr. Grenfell said that in the context of pedestrians and bicyclists is difficult. He said a stripe or a painted lane does not automatically make bicyclists safe. Mayor Watson said that's what he struggles with as well. Judge Mattingly said he concurred with that concern. He added that sometimes riders get a false sense of security and are less vigilant than they need be in looking out for their welfare.

Ms. Dupont said the state of Kentucky has a new Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, Daniel Walker, who could not attend the meeting. He said she, Mr. Walker and Mr. Grenfell would be happy to help the MPO with any Bike/Ped project.

B. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Modification #7

Mr. Lovett told committee members that he had created a modification to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to reflect a change in the funding for the project from SPP (State Project, High Priority) to STP (Surface Transportation Block Grant Program) for Design, Right-of-Way, Utility and Construction phases. Because of this change in funding, the project was moved from the TIP's Informational Supplement to the Federally Funded Projects list. He told board members this too was an information-only document, no action was required.

C. Performance & Expenditure report

Mr. Lovett told committee members that every year, the MPO is required to produce a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). In that document, the MPO lays out projected expenditures in each of nine work elements. After the fiscal year closes, the MPO is required to produce a Performance & Expenditure report, comparing those cost estimates with the actual expenditures. That report was due to KYTC on September 18. Mr. Lovett said he'd produced and submitted the report and was providing it to the MPO members as required in the UPWP. He told board members this was an information-only document, no action was required.

VI. UPDATES

A. Highway District Office Update

The District 2 office had no updates. Judge Mattingly said he appreciated the mowing effort by the state. He said he was receiving calls from people concerned about overpasses, where trees and saplings are growing up around overpasses, especially along the former U.S. 60 bypass. Nick Hall of the District 2 office said he'd pass that concern along to the mowing crews. TAC Chair and Owensboro City Manager Nate Pagan asked about requests for design for the KY 54/Fairview Drive project in the new MTP. He asked if he was correct in understand that an RFP had been made. Nick said he was correct and it is open through the end of September.

B. MPO Update

Tom Lovett gave the following updates:

- He said the MPO needs to elect new officers. The bylaws set a two-year term, which expires at the end of the year
- He also asked about possible MPO membership for the City of Whitesville. After discussion, Nate Pagan said he or Joanna Shake of GRADD would reach out to the city to gauge interest.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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