



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

April 27, 2021

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 at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 27, 2021. 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)
Joanna Shake, Green River Area Development District (GRADD) (represented by Gina Boaz)
Barry House, KYTC Division of Planning
Brittaney Johnson, Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation (GO-EDC) (represented by Elizabeth Griffin)
Brian Howard, Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission (OMPC)
Mark Brasher, Daviess County Engineer
Sgt. Mike Page, Owensboro Police Department (OPD)
Scott Atherton, Kenergy
Candance Brake, Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce
Kevin Collignon, Owensboro City Engineer
Charlie Castlen, Daviess County Commissioner
Pamela Canary, Owensboro Transit System (OTS)
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)
Tristan Durbin, Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Sean O'Bryan, Regional Water Resource Agency (RWRA)
Brian Wright, Owensboro Riverport Authority

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Al Mattingly, Daviess County Judge/Executive, Chairman
Tom Watson, City of Owensboro Mayor, 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

Blake Edge, GRADD
Luke Hill, GRADD
Dan Lanham, GRITS
Tom Lovett, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 30, 2021, joint Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Committee meeting were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Candance Brake and seconded by Nick Hall to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2021, Technical Advisory/Policy Committee meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bernadette Dupont of FHWA's Kentucky office told her fellow MPO members about two new funding opportunities: the RAISE grant and the National Scenic Byways Program. She provided links to the notices for both programs:

- www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-nofo
- www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/scenic_byways/

Ms. Dupont advised the MPO about the deadline for transit agencies to submit their annual Safety Targets to the MPO. It is July 20th. The targets must be reaffirmed each year. They then must be added to the TIP.

Ms. Dupont invited members to attend the Nature's Call to Action Conference, which will be held virtually on May 18th -19th. The free conference focuses on livability, climate change, complete streets and air quality. Anyone interested may email her for an invitation.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. UPWP Briefing

Tom Lovett told committee members he had been asked to provide the MPO with an update on projects Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) being undertaken in the absence of a major document to prepare, such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

He shared one focus would be Bicycle/Pedestrian transportation. He planned to reconvene the Bike/Ped Committee with a goal of reviewing the MPO's Bike/Pen plan and updating the plan as necessary. He shared the survey done last year in preparation for the MTP found animosity between bicyclists and motorists in the community. One task of the Bike/Ped committee will be to determine whether this feeling is unique to Owensboro and what can be done to ease the tension.

Other projects Mr. Lovett plans to pursue include the possible creation of a new website. GRADD created a separate site for COVID-19 resources and might be able to do the same for the MPO.

He suggested the MPO consider the productiveness of a social media presence. The MPO would be examining how it can increase coordination with the Owensboro Planning Commission.

B. UPWP Approval

Mr. Lovett told the committees since presenting the draft of the UPWP in February, corrections and additions have been made and barring any concerns, it was ready for consideration for approval.

Barry House of the KYTC Division of Planning pointed out both he and Bernadette Dupont of FHWA's Kentucky's office had provided comments and corrections to the plan and those corrections had all been made.

A motion was made by Kevin Collignon and seconded by Candance Brake for the TAC to recommend the Policy Committee approve the FY 2022 UPWP. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Judge Al Mattingly made a motion for the Policy Committee to approve the FY 2022 UPWP. It was

seconded by Deneatra Henderson. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

C. SHIFT Sponsorship

During its March 30, 2021, meeting, MPO members set a tentative list of projects for sponsorship in the 2022 Strategic Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow (SHIFT) process. The MPO has nine slots for sponsorship, but 12 projects were selected, in anticipation of some projects possibly being sponsored by the KYTC District 2 office.

Mr. Lovett told the committees District 2 would be sponsoring two projects:

- The Old Hartford Road/Fairview Drive intersection (roundabout)
- Improve Fairview Drive from Settles Road to KY 54

These two projects were the first two on the MPO's list. Mr. Lovett asked members if they would like to discuss which projects to sponsor or just take the next nine projects off the list. Judge Mattingly asked if anyone had any objections to taking the next nine projects. There were none.

Projects 3-11 are:

- Improve the south bridge over Flat Lick Creek on Lyddane Bridge Road
- Improve KY 144 from US 60 to KY 405
- Improve Thruston-Dermont Road from KY 54 to Hayden Road
- Improve E 18th St from JR Miller to Breckinridge to allow for center turn lanes
- Improve E 18th St from Breckinridge to Leitchfield to allow for center turn lanes
- Improve W 18th St from Frederica to JR Miller to allow for center turn lanes
- Upgrade US 60/231 to interstate standards from the end of I-165 to the Natcher Bridge at Maceo
- Improve E 9th Street to move the road away from the railroad tracks
- Reconstruct Keller Road from KY 81 to Carter Road

A motion was made by Ms. Brake and seconded by Charlie Castlen for the TAC to recommend the Policy Committee sponsor projects 3-11 on the sponsorship list. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Judge Mattingly and seconded by Nick Hall, for the Policy Committee to sponsor projects 3-11 on the sponsorship list. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

VI. UPDATES

A. Highway District Office Update

Deneatra Henderson of KYTC's District 2 Office told the members the governor had announced funding for several school safety projects, including one in Daviess County, KY 298 near Southern Oaks Elementary School.

- The right-of-way on KY 54 continues to progress well, and the project will move into the utilities phase but a letting date has not yet been set.
- The design of Fairview Drive roundabout is being finalized with a letting date to be set.
- There is a HSIP (Safety) project south of the roundabout on KY 81 to the county line. The project is for shoulder widening and other safety improvements. They are hoping for a letting by the end of the year.
- The Outer Loop planning study is moving along.
- Two maintenance projects: The crossdrains on US 431 and US 231 are being replaced.
- Three resurfacing projects:
 - The southbound lanes of KY 331 complete by the end of June.
 - Nine miles on 231/Hartford Road by the Panther Creek Bridge, to be complete by the end of September.
 - Three miles on KY 2830 near Iceland Spur, with a completion date of November 15th.

Judge Mattingly asked for more information about the school safety project. He asked where the projects came from. Ms. Henderson explained the projects were drawn from internal documentation of complaints they had received about locations. If there were any locations for consideration, the information should be given to Nick Hall. Judge Mattingly asked the office consider contacting the fiscal courts and cities in the region when compiling any future lists. He stated both Owensboro and Daviess County have projects needed to prevent students from walking in the streets and having to cross highways without crosswalks.

Ms. Henderson shared the office had very short notice to compile the list and used meetings such as the MPO meeting to reach out to city and county officials for recommendations for possible future projects.

Barry House pointed out if the school safety money was federal, it would need to be added to the TIP.

B. MPO Update

Tom Lovett gave the following updates:

- The state is reworking the intersection of KY 331 and US 60 near the GRADD office. He thanked Ms. Henderson on behalf of the GRADD staff, who use that intersection frequently. Ms. Henderson stated that project was a maintenance project she accidentally left off her list.
- Mr. Lovett introduced Mr. Tristan Durbin, the new manager of Owensboro Regional Airport and a member of the TAC. Mr. Durbin said he looked forward to working with the committee. Judge Mattingly added he was pleased to see younger people interested in and working for the community.

- Mr. Lovett shared he'd been doing grant work with Owensboro Transit and asked OTS manager Pamela Canary if she wanted to discuss their collaboration. She did not, so Mr. Lovett told the members they have finalized the FY 2020 formula grant, started work on the FY 21 Formula grant and completed a CRRSAA grant for the Wendell Foster Center that will be administrated by OTS. Ms. Canary added the only way Wendell Foster could receive the grant is if it was funneled through an agency receiving 5307 funds, such as OTS.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

/tl