



## **GREEN RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

April 28, 2021

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

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) met on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom and teleconference. A quorum was present with the following members in attendance:

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Steve Henry, Webster County Judge/Executive  
Curtis Dame, McLean County Judge/Executive  
Adam O’Nan, Union County Judge/Executive  
Brad Schneider, Henderson County Judge/Executive  
Steve Austin, Mayor, City of Henderson (Rep. by Doug Boom)  
Brian Howard, Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission (OMPC)  
Deneatra Henderson, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), District Office 2  
Mike Baker, Hancock County Industrial Foundation  
Candace Brake, Greater Owensboro Chamber  
Dan Lanham, Audubon Area Community Services/Green River Intra-County Transit System (AACS/GRITS)  
Brian Wright, Owensboro Riverport  
Joanne Kendall, Minority Representative  
Charlotte Whittaker, Senior Representative  
Donnie Mayton, Bicycle Owensboro  
Jimmy VanCleve, Area 3 Training Center

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Johnny “Chic” Roberts, Hancock County Judge/Executive  
David Johnston, Ohio County Judge/Executive  
Al Mattingly, Jr., Daviess County Judge/Executive  
Missy Vanderpool, Executive Director of Henderson Economic Development  
Tristan Durbin, Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport  
Captain Brenton Ford, Kentucky State Police (KSP) – Post 16

Mark Calitri, Owensboro-Daviess County Convention Center & Visitor's Bureau

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Suzanne Miles, Kentucky State Representative  
John Licht, TNT Rail Services  
Keirsten Jaggers, KYTC  
Doug Taylor, Regional Transportation Field Representative  
Blake Edge, GRADD  
Gina Boaz, GRADD  
Jennifer Alvey, GRADD  
Luke Hill, GRADD  
Therese Payne, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steve Henry called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Chairman Henry offered the minutes of the February 24, 2021, meeting of the GRADD Regional Transportation Committee for approval.

A motion was made by Adam O’Nan and seconded by Donnie Mayton to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2021, GRADD Regional Transportation Committee meeting.  
A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. OLD BUSINESS

None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. SHIFT Sponsorships

Luke Hill presented the Strategic Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow (SHIFT) sponsorships and shared discussion from local meetings regarding priorities. He announced that the Highway District Office (HDO) offered 99 sponsorships throughout the region. The HDO sponsored three projects in Hancock County, two in McLean County, one project in Ohio County, one in Union County and two in Webster County. Mr. Hill then presented the rest of the list of priorities not covered in the Highway District Office sponsorships. He went through each project to verify these projects were still priorities for the counties and local officials. Mr. Hill reiterated GRADD has 21 sponsorships available and will make every effort to be fair to each county. After discussion, GRADD will sponsor three Hancock County projects, three McLean County Projects, six Ohio County projects, five Union County projects, and four Webster County

projects. This final list gave Hancock County six total projects, McLean County five total projects, Ohio County seven total projects, Union County six total projects, and Webster six total projects sponsored.

A motion was made by Candance Brake and seconded by Adam O’Nan to approve the GRADD sponsorships. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Preliminary Draft Prioritization Plan Approval

Luke Hill shared a draft of the Prioritization Plan for the Committee’s approval. He stated the draft includes the SHIFT process, including a timeline of events. The next action for the Committee will be to choose which projects to boost at the July 28, 2021, meeting.

A motion was made by Adam O’Nan and seconded by Mike Baker to approve the preliminary draft of the Prioritization Plan. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

C. Regional Transportation Committee Membership

Chairman Steve Henry presented John Licht as newest member of the Committee, filling the vacancy. Mr. Licht shared his experience with veteran enterprises and projects with the Departments of Army, Navy and Engineers.

A motion was made by Donnie Mayton and seconded by Adam O’Nan to approve John Licht to fill the vacancy. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

V. UPDATES

A. Highway District Office Update

Before turning the floor over to Deneatra Henderson, Chairman Henry took the opportunity to recognize Representative Suzanne Miles and thanked her for her attendance. She spoke on behalf of Congressman Guthrie who is sponsoring five highway projects, two of which are from the GRADD region. The link to the projects is <https://guthrie.house.gov/legislation/member-designated-projects-t-i.htm>. Representative Miles also publicly thanked Deneatra Henderson for all she does for the district.

Deneatra Henderson asked Committee members to reach out to her if they had questions about specific projects. She shared four school safety projects were chosen and submitted, and all were approved. If and when there is another round of school safety funds, please submit projects directly to Nick Hall.

C. Other Updates

Doug Taylor thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to speak but had nothing to share as he was acting as an observer.

Luke Hill reminded the committee the next meeting will be July 28, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. as another hybrid meeting. Mr. Hill reminded members who were present to sign in on the sign in sheet.

Charlotte Whittaker shared Audubon Area Community Services is preparing to build a new community center like the Logsdon Community Center, but it would include a clinic. It could cause transportation issues.

Candace Brake suggested the Committee consider a compelling project to submit for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. It provides a unique opportunity for the U.S. Department of Transportation to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve national objectives.

Brian Wright from the Owensboro Riverport Authority updated GRADD on the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant. Utility contracts are underway now, and construction will be completed in 2022.

Dan Lanham shared the Invest Act has a provision requiring a commercial driver's license (CDL) for anyone transporting over eight passengers. This provision will be devastating to rural public transportation.

Chairman Henry thanked Luke Hill for getting the information collected and presented for this meeting. He also thanked GRADD staff for hosting the hybrid meeting.

VI. OTHER ITEMS

A. Public Comments

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

A motion was made by Adam O'Nan and seconded by Donnie Mayton to adjourn the meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

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Judge Steve Henry, Chairman