

Attachment #1

**TPO Technical Committee
August 12, 2008
9:00 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City/County Building
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee met on August 12 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building in Knoxville. Darryl Smith, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order.

*Gordon Acuff	East Tennessee Human Resource Agency
*Brian Boone	City of Maryville
*Rich DesGroseilliers	Lakeway Area TPO
*Deborah Fleming	Tennessee Department of Transportation for Angie Midgett
*Mark Donaldson	Knoxville/Knox County MPC
*Mark Geldmeier	City of Knoxville Engineering for Steve King
*Chris Hamby	City of Alcoa
*Barbara Monty	Knox County Community Action Committee
*Ted Newsom	Knoxville Commuter Pool
*Cindy Pionke	Knox County Engineering for Bruce Wuethrich
*Melissa Roberson	Knoxville Area Transit
*Darryl Smith	Town of Farragut
Jeff Welch	Transportation Planning Organization Director
Nathan Benditz	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Amy Brooks	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Doug Burton	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Mike Conger	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Karen Estes	Knox County Community Action Committee
John Fairstein	Citizens Against Beltway Orange Location
Katie Habgood	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Brent Johnson	City of Knoxville
John Sexton	Knox County Engineering
Robert Shaw	Citizens Against Beltway Orange Location
Andrew Sonner	City of Alcoa
Charlotte West	Transportation Planning Organization Staff
Ellen Zavisca	Transportation Planning Organization Staff

*voting members

Determination of Quorum

Presenter: Darryl Smith, Chair

Item Summary: Approval of June 10, 2008, TPO Technical Committee minutes.

Background: Attachment #1 – June 10, 2008, Minutes.

A motion was made by Deborah Fleming and seconded by Cindy Pionke to approve the June 10 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Recommendation of Approval of Amendments to the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The attached TIP amendments reflect adding one new project to the TIP, removing an existing project from the TIP, and the administrative adjustment of 8 existing TIP projects.

a. Drop TIP Project #2008-031: Middlebrook Pike/Old Cedar Bluff intersection. \$80,000 in Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds will be returned to the TPO's CMAQ bucket. Attachment #2a.

b. Add TIP Project #2008-125 – SR-33, Henley Street Bridge widening over Tennessee River. This project uses Federal HPP funds (\$1,920,000) and State funds (\$480,000) for FY2008 ROW. Attachment #2b.

Jeff discussed these two projects.

A motion was made by Chris Hamby and seconded by Mark Donaldson to recommend approval of amendments to the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program to the Executive Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Adjustments were made to the following projects:

c. Adjust TIP Project #2008-001- Alcoa Highway – Woodson Drive to bridge over Tennessee River – adjust project from FY 2009 to FY 2010. Attachment #2c.

d. Adjust TIP Project #2008-003 – Alcoa Highway – North of bridge over Little River to Maloney Road – adjust ROW phase from FY 2009 to FY 2010, and adjust the Construction phase from FY 2010 to FY 2011. Attachment #2d.

e. Adjust TIP Project #2008-05- Alcoa/Maryville Signal Timing- change phase from CON to PE, ROW, CNST. Attachment #2e.

f. Adjust TIP project #2008-023 - I-640/Broadway modifications – increase funds in ROW phase by \$162,000 (\$129,600 Federal and \$32,400 state). Attachment #2f.

g. Adjust TIP Project #2008-028 – Knoxville ITS operations - to adjust the maintenance phase from FY 2009 to FY 2008 and change the IM funds to state CMAQ. Attachment #2g.

h. Adjust TIP project #2008-029 – Lovell Road improvements – due to high construction estimates revise the project limits (shorten) - from Gilbert Rd. to just west of Pellissippi Parkway. Attachment #2h.

i. Adjust TIP Project #2008-046 – SR-35 Improvements - to adjust PE into two phases, PE-N and PE-D. Attachment #2i.

j. Adjust TIP Project #2008-111 – KAT Preventative Maintenance - to add 5307 funds (\$184,998 Federal, \$18,500 state, \$18,500 local). Attachment #2j.

3. Recommendation of Approval of Amendments to the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) adding CMAQ funded projects for FY 2009.

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The TPO received eight applications requesting almost \$3.5 million in CMAQ funds. Staff reviewed the projects and has a list of funded projects for your consideration. **Attachments #3a and 3b.**

Background: CMAQ funds are used for projects that can be shown to reduce emissions and therefore improve the region's air quality. The TPO region received \$1.1 million to distribute in FY 2009.

Jeff Welch stated that there were ten projects submitted. He discussed each project. With the limited dollars available, staff recommended the projects on Attachment #3b. He gave the total from 3b. Many of the selected projects can be implemented quickly, most within a year. Staff recommends approval. Previously approved CMAQ project, IdleAire in White Pine is defunct, and we should receive some of those funds back. It is unknown at this time when that \$750,000 will become available..

A motion was made by Chris Hamby and seconded by Cindy Pionke to recommend approval of the CMAQ amendments, as shown on Attachment 3b, to the FY 2008-2011 TIP to the Executive Board. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Appointment to Bicycle Advisory Committee.

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The Technical Committee appoints members to the Bicycle Advisory Committee. The new appointment is Ryan Cooper.

Background: Twelve citizens serve on the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) and address bicycling issues and concerns as part of the coordinated intermodal transportation system. **Attachment #4.**

Ellen Zavisca, TPO staff, stated that Ryan Cooper has asked to be a member of the BAC and told the committee about his background.

A motion was made by Cindy Pionke and seconded by Barbara Monty to approve Ryan Cooper as a member of the BAC. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Recommend Approval of an Amendment to the FY2008 UPWP

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Staff is recommending moving approximately \$55,000 among 6 work program task items to reflect actual work to date and anticipated work for the last quarter. The overall budget remains the same.

Background: **Attachment #5.**

Jeff Welch stated that the attached memo relates to the current work program. No line item can go over 15 percent of its budget. We have four items that will be over by this fiscal year. We are moving money internally from one program to another.

A motion was made by Deborah Fleming and seconded by Barbara Monday to recommend approval of the amendment to the 2008 UPWP to the Executive Board. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Update of Long Range Mobility Plan

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: The first round of public workshops was successful. Staff will share the results of the workshops and other public participation opportunities and then discuss the necessary next steps as the Mobility Plan develops. **Attachment #6.**

Background: The Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan is scheduled to be adopted by the TPO Board in April 2009.

Katie Habgood, TPO staff, stated that the attachment summarizes the public meetings that were held in May and June. Over 100 people attended the meetings. There is a comparison of responses from 2007 and 2008 that also shows where the public's priorities are. She stated that if there are any questions, to contact her. The second round of public workshops will be held in four locations in September to talk about strategies and actions that we can take. The next Technical Committee meeting and Executive Board will have 30 minutes of workshop format following regular business. We will also continue to host public workshops to further the dialog and inform the public. A draft plan will be completed by January. Each local government should look at their operating and maintenance budgets from the last 3 or 4 years.

Robert Shaw, 6705 Cate Road, commended the staff on the public meetings. He asked if there is a plan to release all the data. Katie stated it will be posted online. The results of the survey show the public's preferences. He asked how the Technical Committee decides how to distribute the funding where the public would like to see it go. Jeff stated that is one of our challenges. Some funds can only be used for certain projects according to the legislation.

7. Update on Complete Streets Study

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the Complete Streets Study that will kick off later this month. Consultants have been selected to undertake the study, which will make recommendations for converting two auto-oriented corridors into places that are safe and convenient for all users and modes of transportation. **Attachment #7.**

Ellen Zavisca, TPO staff, stated that the study was funded by TDOT, and they are working with the City of Knoxville, Maryville and Alcoa on a study that will make recommendations for converting these two corridors into more walkable and bicycle-friendly places. The study will also result in a guidebook on how to retrofit other corridors into Complete Streets. They have selected a consultant, Gresham, Smith and Partners, to carry out the study.

8. Update on Travel Demand Forecasting Model

Presenter: TPO Staff

Item Summary: Staff will provide a status report to the update to the travel demand model.

Mike Conger, TPO staff, stated that we started last fall to update the travel demand model, beginning with data collection efforts such as an external travel survey that was done to get a better idea of the through traffic on the interstates in the region. Another major data collection effort that has been completed is an updated household travel survey that was conducted from February through May of this year, and the final report has recently been received. Mike gave a handout showing the summary findings from the household survey. Mike pointed out that there was a map showing the locations of the 1400 households that were surveyed in the 8-county region. Mike stated that we will be able to compare these results to the survey that was done in 2000/2001. Mike said that some of the main information that we get out of the survey, which feeds into the model development, are trip length by trip purpose, the time of day trips are made and the correlations between trip making and demographic characteristics such as income and how many children are in the household. Mike noted that while data collection was going on we also had a consultant prepare an interim update to the travel demand model which can be used for development of the 2035 Mobility Plan and the necessary air quality conformity analyses.

Rich DesGroseilliers stated that his office is working on the LRTP and has a consultant that is helping to develop a model for their area. He stated they will send Mike the necessary information to feed into the regional air quality conformity determination process as we go forward.

Melissa Roberson asked about why there were several households that were surveyed outside of the urban core. Mike Conger stated that was done by design as our model area covers the whole region and we needed to get data from that area since the previous survey was done only in Knox and Blount counties.

John Fairstein, 11205 Sam Lee Road, asked if there is data collection for peak travel during times when plants or churches get out. Mike stated that we use the traffic counts that are collected on an annual basis in order to determine where the peak traffic occurs, which is usually related to the work trips and locations of high employment. We are not usually as concerned about peak church traffic in terms of regional congestion since it does not coincide with the normal peak work trip traffic. Mike stated that the travel demand model can also be used to determine the peak traffic congestion since it is based on land use information we have on where major employment centers are located such as at Oak Ridge National Lab. We also collect data on roadway travel times as part of our congestion management planning, and we published a report on this information. We would also like to explore the possibility of using TDOT's Smartway ITS system to track data from the radar units on the urban interstates to determine daily and seasonal variation in traffic flows.

9. Other Business

- **Executive Board Meeting, August 27 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.**
- **Technical Committee Meeting, September 9 at 9:00 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building.**

Brian Boone asked about a specific project in the TIP. Maryville/Alcoa got an amended budget for TIP Project #2008-005. Jeff said we have a fund balance to allow for cost overruns. Jeff will increase the FY 2008 funding from \$126,000 to \$144,000 from the cost overrun bucket. This is within the 30 percent adjustment allowed.

10. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Technical Committee with a five-minute time limitation.

Bob Shaw stated that in a previous meeting, it was mentioned about inviting Allen Jones to speak on air quality and the new regulations. Jeff stated we will follow up on this. Mr. Shaw asked about the status of a joint Tennessee Legislative Committee to review financing of transportation in the state Jeff Welch stated that no appointments have been made that he is aware of and hopes the committee will be appointed by early fall..

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.