

MINUTES
of the
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
of the
Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
February 16, 2022

Attendees: Ms. Diana Alarcon (for Mayor John Cooper), Mayor Rogers Anderson, Mr. Steve Bland, Mayor Paige Brown, Mayor Jamie Clary, Ms. Sabrina David, Mr. Tim Ellis (for Mayor Rusty Tinnin), Mayor Anthony Holt, Mr. Eddie Hood, Mr. Jim Kerr (for Mayor Shane McFarland), Mayor Bill Ketron, Mr. Ken McLawhon (for Mayor Corey Napier), Mayor Ken Moore, Mr. Andrew Pieri (for Mayor Timothy Lassiter), Mayor Billy Vogle, Mr. Jonathan Wellemeyer (for Gov. Bill Lee)

Call to Order and Approval of Previous Meeting minutes

Mayor Billy Vogle, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

No action was taken due to lack of a quorum.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Action Items

a) Public Hearing: Resolution TPB 2022-01 Amending the FYs 2020-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ms. Anna Emerson, Principal Planner, covered the proposed TIP amendments for Cycle B.

Mayor Vogle opened the public hearing. There was no public comment. Mayor Vogle closed the public hearing.

No action was taken due to no quorum present.

Mayor Rogers Anderson asked if there was a way to suspend needing a quorum in order to hold a vote on this and the other action items. Mr. Michael Skipper said the organizational bylaws do permit this, but the state law requires an in-person quorum in order to conduct business. Ms. Candi Henry, GNRC Legal Counsel, said that the interpretation of the state law says that there must be a quorum to have a vote. She said that the staff will look into how to conduct business when there is not an in-person quorum. Mr. Skipper said that there will be a short special called

meeting, maybe in March, to take action on the three issues today. He will send out an email with times listed for the members to decide when to have the called meeting.

Amend #	TIP #	Project Name	Sponsor	Action
2022-022	2022-17-148	Traffic Management Center	Metro Nashville	Add project
2022-023	2022-17-149	Traffic Flow Improvements & Traffic Signal Upgrades – Phase 4	Goodlettsville	Add project
2022-024	2022-54-150	Various Intersection Improvements	Gallatin	Add project
2022-025	2022-67-151	Columbia Pike (SR-6/US-31) Traffic Flow Improvements	Spring Hill	Add project
2022-026	2022-77-152	Intelligent Transportation System – Phase 2	Lebanon	Add project
2022-027	2022-77-153	Mt. Juliet Road (SR-171) ITS & Signal Improvements Project – Phase 3	Mt. Juliet	Add project
2022-028	2021-811-117	Regional Park & Ride Facility	RTA	Add funds
2022-029	2022-65-154	Cool Springs Micro Circulation Transit Pilot	Franklin Transit Authority	Add project
2022-030	2022-76-155	Town Center Trail – Phase 3	Mt. Juliet	Add project
2022-031	2022-56-156	Citywide Sidewalk Improvements – Phase 2	Gallatin	Add project
2022-032	2022-65-157	Regional Vanpooling, Carpooling, and Employee Partnership Commute Benefits – Post-Pandemic Initiative	Williamson Co/TMA Group	Add project
2022-033	2022-76-158	Cedar City Pedestrian Improvements	Lebanon	Add project
2022-034	2022-46-159	Enon Springs Sidewalk Connectivity	Smyrna	Add project
2022-035	2022-56-160	Vol State – GAP Trail – Phase 2	Gallatin	Add project
2022-036	2022-54-161	SR-109 at I-65 Interchange Lighting Project	Portland	Add project
2022-037	2011-42-143	Bradyville Pike (SR-99) Widening	Murfreesboro	Add funds
2022-038	2018-46-083	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (SR-1/US-70S) Sidewalks – Phase 2	Murfreesboro	Add project
2022-039	2011-15-133	Bus Stop Improvements & Passenger Amenities	Nashville MTA	Add funds
2022-040	2008-15-049	Administration & Building Rehabilitation (Nestor)	Nashville MTA	Add funds
2022-041	2017-85-044	Track Rehabilitation & Maintenance	RTA	Add funds
2022-042	2019-85-126	WeGo Star Rail Improvements	RTA	Shift funds
2022-043	2022-62-131	Columbia Pike (SR-6/US-31) Widening from Duplex Road (SR-247) to Thompsons Ridge Road/Buckner Road	TDOT	Add funds
2022-044	2018-76-078	Highway 231 North Sidewalk Project	Lebanon	Add funds
2022-045	2022-16-162	Harding Pike (SR-1/US-70S) Sidewalk Project	Belle Meade	Add project
2022-046	2022-66-163	Hillsboro Road (SR-106/US-431) Multimodal Access Project	Williamson Co	Add project

b) Resolution TPB 2022-02 Updating Regional Safety Performance Measures Targets

Ms. Ashleigh Glasscock, Senior Analyst, presented an update to the regional safety performance measure targets.

Federal law requires State DOTs and MPOs to set performance targets for the following measures: 1) number of fatalities, 2) fatality rate (per 100 million VMT), 3) number of serious injuries, 4) serious injury rate (per 100 million VMT) and 5) number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. She said that the MPO set regional safety targets as part of the 2045 RTP Update of "1% Annual Reduction" – 1% annual decrease (compounding) out to 2045.

She said that the rural areas have two times more fatalities than urban areas.

Ms. Glasscock gave updates on each of the five performance measure targets. She reported that we did not meet the targets for number of fatalities, fatality rate, or number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. She also covered the roadway safety trends associated with increasing fatal crashes. These include 1) speed-related crashes, 2) geographic distribution, 3) commercial trucks involvement, and 4) time of day and day of week. She said that we met the number of serious injuries and serious injury rate targets. She encouraged members to explore GNRC's various crash dashboards that are available online at www.gnrc.org/dashboards.

Mayor Jamie Clary asked if the crash trends PowerPoint can be sent to the members electronically. Ms. Glasscock said staff would send it.

Mayor Vogle said that safety is a serious issue. It seems that even though there is less traffic, there are more fatalities. Mayor Paige Brown asked what percentage of crashes are speed related. Ms. Glasscock said that she thought it was 30% but would doublecheck and report back to the Mayor.

Ms. Sabrina David, FHWA said that February 27th is the deadline for the MPO to adopt the regional safety performance measures targets. If no action is taken, it freezes the TIP amendments until the safety targets are adopted. Mayor Anderson asked if we could just keep the baseline the same as last year. Ms. David said that that would also require a vote. Mr. Skipper said the board should consider a special called meeting.

Ms. Diana Alarcon asked if there is data showing how distracted driving contributes to crashes. Ms. Glasscock said that it is hard to tie distracted driving to a crash unless it is witnessed.

Mr. Skipper asked if the data can produce county profiles. Ms. Glasscock said that is easily produced.

No action was taken due to no quorum present.

c) Election of Transportation Policy Board Officers

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Ms. Mary Esther Reed reported that the nominated slate of officers are Mayor Billy Vogle for Chair and Mayor Chaz Molder for Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations from the floor.

No action was taken due to no quorum present.

Informational Items

a) Update on FYs 2023-26 TIP Development

Ms. Emerson said that the county-level workshops have been successful. She said that in order to capture updates, staff used the online Knack TIP Tracker at www.gnrc.org/app/tip-tracker so that members can see real-time updates to projects and submit any notes related to those projects. She said that the common issues and challenges that have been identified via the project delivery survey are 1) lack of buy-in or priority at the local level, 2) lengthy NEPA review and approval; issues raised late or after approval, 3) insufficient funding, and 4) lack of consistent communication between MPO on TIP and TDOT Local Programs on project development.

Mr. Skipper reminded the members to complete the survey. He said that members generally have a high level of understanding of the project development process. He said that complex review and approvals was the most experienced issue among respondents to the survey, followed by utility relocation, staffing challenges at TDOT, insufficient funding for projects, conflicting expectations on design, and lack of public buy-in.

Ms. Emerson said that the other challenges and opportunities are 1) lack of single source of shared information on projects, 2) local programs projects need to have the same level of importance as the State-led projects at TDOT, 3) locals should have funding secured or be removed from the TIP until ready, 4) involve TODT OCT staff for support with Local Programs, 5) overhaul or streamline the local programs and NEPA process to enhance accountability, and 6) develop a quicker process for small scale projects such as traffic operations and bike/ped projects.

Ms. Emerson went over the immediate next steps. She said that staff requests final updates to existing TIP projects by February 25th. There will be a call-for-projects for new TIP projects in March.

She said that it is important for members to visit the TIP tracker and familiarize themselves with it. For more information on the TIP, visit www.gnrc.org/app/tip-tracker.

b) 2022 Nashville TMA Federal Certification Review

Mr. Sean Santalla, FHWA, said that all MPOs must have a federal certification review every four years. The deadline for the Nashville Area MPO review is August 3, 2022.

He said that they will review the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process. It will include involvement of the public and stakeholders. Performance based planning will also be looked at. He also said that FHWA will look at how effectively the MPO is in meeting the 10 federal planning factors which are 1) economic vitality, 2) safety, 3) security, 4) accessibility and mobility, 5) environment/energy, 6) integration & connectivity, 7) efficient management and operations, 8) preserve existing system, 9) resiliency and reliability, and 10) travel and tourism.

He said that the review is of the planning process. Specific products will not be looked at. He said that the purpose of the review is a federal regulatory compliance requirement to make sure all federal regulations are being met. FHWA will also use this as a review of the effectiveness of the process and as a discussion of the process.

He said that the FHWA and FTA conduct the review and lean heavily on the staff and partners.

He said that feedback is very important. Members can use a virtual listening session and email to give feedback.

Mayor Brown asked if the 2018 review is available online. Mr. Skipper said yes.

Regular Reports

a) FHWA and FTA Report

Ms. Sabrina David said that more information about the Infrastructure Bill is coming out. She said that information on 1) the electric vehicle charging program, 2) fact sheets for various programs, and 3) safety information is now out.

The 2022 RAISE program which is to improve racial equity, reduce impacts of climate change, and create good paying jobs. The deadline for applications is April 14, 2022.

The deadline for the alternative fuel applications is May 13, 2022.

She said that FHWA will continue to share information as it comes out.

Ms. David reminded the members that the Highway Infrastructure Program funds from FY 2019 will lapse at the end of this fiscal year if not spent.

b) TDOT Report

Mr. Wellemeyer said that the planning grants from the Urban Transportation Planning Grant Program (UTPG) are at the Governor's office for approval and will be announced once they are approved.

c) Chair's Report

Mayor Vogle thanked everyone for all of the help he was given during this past year as Chair.

He said that the next Task Force Meeting will be Tuesday, February 22nd in Murfreesboro.

d) Staff Report

Mr. Skipper introduced Ms. Diana Alarcon as Mayor John Cooper's representative. She is the new director for NDOT.

He thanked Mr. Ray Render (Rep. Rose's office), Ms. Patti Carroll (Congressman Green's office), and Mr. Stan Feldman (Senator Hagerty's office) for being at the meeting.

Mr. Skipper said that there will be a special called meeting to vote on the action items from today's meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Date: 4-20-22

Billy Vogle
The Honorable Billy Vogle

Chairman, MPO Transportation Policy Board

Sean Pfalzer
Sean Pfalzer, Transportation Planning Manager
MPO Coordinator