

**MINUTES**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**of the**  
**Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**April 21, 2010**

Attendees: Mayor Rogers Anderson, Mr. Phil Armor, Mr. Paul Ballard (for Vice-Mayor Diane Neighbors), Mr. Tom Brashear (for Mayor Robert Dedman), Mayor Ernest Burgess, Ms. Angie Carrier (for Mayor John Decker), Mayor Philip Craighead, Mayor John Finch, Mayor Jo Ann Graves, Mr. Grant Green (for Mayor Ronnie Erwin), Mr. Rick Gregory (for Mayor John Finch – for first part of meeting), Mayor Anthony Holt, Mr. Victor Lay (for Mayor Michael Dinwiddie), Mr. Mark Macy (for Mayor Karl Dean), Ms. Angie Midgett (for Gov. Phil Bredesen), Mr. Dana Richardson (for Mayor Tommy Bragg), Mr. Randy Robertson (for Mayor Linda Elam), Mr. Fred Rogers (for Mayor Scott Foster), Ms. Britta Stein, Mayor Ken Wilber

**Approve March 17, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Rogers Anderson, Vice-Chair, opened the meeting at 9:02 a.m. Mayor Ken Wilber moved to approve the March 17, 2010 meeting minutes with Mr. Fred Rogers seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**MPO Chair's Report**

Mayor Wilber said that Portland's 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Strawberry Festival will be May 15, 2010 and invited everyone to come.

**MPO Federal Certification Review**

Mr. Michael Skipper, MPO director, said that the MPO is in the middle of its quadrennial review. This required review is to ensure compliance with federal transportation planning requirements and to certify the local metropolitan planning process.

Ms. Britta Stein, FHWA, said that this review is done by representatives from the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency. She said that any comments from the members today will be entered into the review report which will be out in 60

days at which time she will report the findings to the Board. She said that all of the issues found in the 2006 review have been resolved. She said that she doesn't expect any corrective actions listed in this report as things are going very well.

Mr. Fred Rogers said that he wants to make sure that there is a consistency among all MPOs regarding what they are required to do. Mr. Mark Macy said that the Public Works Association is looking at a concept in the new transportation bill to level the steps for approval based on the project cost.

### **Public Hearing: Adopt Proposed Amendments to the FY 2008-2011 TIP**

Mr. Félix Castrodad, MPO staff, said that the following amendments to the FY 08-11 TIP have completed a required 21-day public review and comment period. No comments have been received to date.

He said that there are four TDOT projects (TIP amendment # 2008-88-011, 2008-89-014, 2008-89-015, and 2008-88-002) which are being removed due to not being ready to move forward.

<b>TIP #</b>	<b>LRTP #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Action</b>
2010-32-004	3004	SR-65/US-431	TDOT	Add project to TIP
2008-88-011	Consistent	Bridge Replacement Bucket (State)	TDOT	Add funds
2008-89-014	Consistent	Interstate 3R Improvements Bucket	TDOT	Add funds
2008-89-015	Consistent	State Route 3R Improvements Bucket	TDOT	Add funds
2008-88-002	Consistent	Bridge Replacement Bucket (Local)	TDOT	Add funds
503	E+C 75	Maddox-Simpson Parkway (SR-26)	TDOT/Lebanon	Reprogram funds; add funds
2010-79-005	Consistent	City of Lebanon 3R Improvements Bucket	Lebanon	Add project to TIP
2002-032	E+C 79	Franklin Traffic Operations Center	Franklin	Add funds
2009-89-020	Consistent	3R Improvements Bucket for 2009 ARRA Projects	MPO	Add funds
2004-014	8004	CCTV and Traffic Signal Interconnect	Murfreesboro	Add funds
203 & 203a	E+C 76	Middle Tennessee Boulevard	Murfreesboro	Reprogram funds; add funds
2008-15-040 & 2008-15-040b	Consistent	Passenger Stop Facility Improvements	MTA	Add funds
2008-15-044	8026	MTA Equipment	MTA	Add funds
2008-15-045	Consistent	Preventative Maintenance	MTA	Add funds
2008-15-046	Consistent	Project Administration	MTA	Add funds
2008-15-047	Consistent	Security & Surveillance	MTA	Add funds
2008-15-048	Consistent	Service & Support Vehicles	MTA	Add funds
2009-15-031	Consistent	ARRA Operating	MTA	Remove funds; remove project from TIP

<b>TIP #</b>	<b>LRTP #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Action</b>
2008-15-049 & 2008-15-049b	8026	MTA Administration Building	MTA	Add funds
2009-85-010	8028	Martha Station Construction	RTA	Add funds
2009-85-019	8008	Regional Vanpool Expansion	RTA	Add funds
2006-009	8028	Music City Star Commuter Rail Line (Capital Improvements)	RTA	Add funds
2008-54-033	8004	Various Intersection Improvements	Gallatin	Add funds, shift funds between phases; revise termini & description
020	8004	Andrew Jackson Parkway	Metro	Remove funds; remove project from TIP
2008-17-026	1069	Arterial corridors compliant with ITS Communication and Implementation Plans	Metro	Remove funds
2008-11-027	1085	SR-255 Harding Place Extension (Phase I)	Metro	Remove funds
99-New-36	8004	Hobson Pike (SR-171)	Metro	Remove funds; remove project from TIP
2004-007	1067	Traffic Management Center	Metro	Remove funds
2008-14-030	8004	Various intersection improvements (state routes)	Metro	Remove funds
2006-124	1029	Gateway Boulevard	Metro	Add funds

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

Mr. Rick Gregory moved to adopt the TIP amendments as amended. Mr. Victor Lay seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The schedule to adopt is:

- *3/3 - TCC endorsement*
- *3/17 - XB endorsement*
- *3/19 to 4/9 - Public review and comment period*
- *4/7 - First public hearing (TCC)*
- **4/21 - Second public hearing / adoption (XB)**

### **Endorse FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program Studies (UPWP)**

Mr. Skipper said that the UPWP serves two purposes. First it is federally required document which publishes all of the planning activities across the region that are funded with federal dollars and, second, it serves as the MPO's operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

The proposed activities include:

- Planning activities
  - Interstate / limited access highway wayfinding study
  - Transit circulation in emerging markets
  - Major employer / transportation demand management research
  - Air quality planning & outreach
  - Transportation, urban design, and land use integration
- Data collection efforts
  - Household travel survey
  - Congestion management data collection
- Regional partners
  - Greater Nashville Regional Council
  - Regional Transportation Authority
  - Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority
  - City of Murfreesboro Department of Public Transportation (Rover)

He said that the staff is requesting an endorsement of the selection of studies. With the Board's endorsement, it will go to TDOT and FHWA for review and comment and will come back this summer for public review and comment and will be adopted in August to become effective in October 2010. Mr. Tom Brashear asked if there is any progress on the compilation of safety data on crashes. Mr. Skipper said that over the past couple of years, money has been set aside to assist in geo-coding crash data and that this is being incorporated into the project evaluation process. Mr. Brashear said that counties have very limited access to funds and have unsafe county roads that need fixing. He said that the state needs to be more helpful with this. Mr. Skipper said that if the local jurisdictions can identify these roads / area, the staff will take them into consideration.

Mr. Rogers moved to endorse the proposed FY 2011 UPWP studies. Mayor Anthony Holt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

*More information at: [http://www.nashvillempo.org/plans\\_programs/upwp/](http://www.nashvillempo.org/plans_programs/upwp/)*

### **Update on the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and FYs 11-14 TIP**

Mr. Skipper said that the staff is in the process of implementing the scoring for the long list of projects. He said that there will be TCC workshops in late May to finalize the list.

*More information at: [http://www.nashvillempo.org/plans\\_programs/rtp/](http://www.nashvillempo.org/plans_programs/rtp/)*

### **MPO Director's Report**

- Letter from TDOT re: CMAQ

Mr. Skipper said that the Jobs for Main Street Act didn't provide any extra stimulus money but it did restore the federal funds that were rescinded at the end of 2009. He referenced a letter from TDOT states that the CMAQ dollars will not be returned to the MPOs but that the state will retain the money and the MPOs will submit proposed projects to compete for the money. Mr. Skipper said that since the staff already has a list of the cut projects this process should go smoothly.

Mr. Randy Robertson asked if that approach had any particular value to any of the [MPO] jurisdictions. Mr. Skipper said that the most desirable approach from the MPO perspective would be that the funds be reallocated as they were prior to the rescission. He stated that TDOT's proposed approach does have merit for the state moving forward, as it ensures the timely use of federal funds which could be rescinded again if not used. He said that TDOT places a priority on projects that can be fully obligated by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Robertson asked if there are any added administrative requirements with this approach. Mr. Skipper said yes there is another level of analysis and process from MPO staff as it works to prepare proposals for the state.

Mayor Jo Ann Graves asked if the funding levels for projects lost in the rescission will be restored to the same level. Mr. Skipper said that any project that was in need of funding in FY 2010 was funded with alternative source of funding and that since the new TIP is currently being developed, future year funding for those projects are being considered for the new program. He said what is uncertain is what will happen to the projects in 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 that were pushed out in order to become fiscally balanced until the MPO gets through that process.

Mr. Macy asked if the U-STP and L-STP funds will be restored. Mr. Skipper said that the U-STP funds will be restored, but is uncertain at this time what the official amounts will be. The state has discretion over the L-STP funds, and has not been informed by TDOT as to the status of those funds.

Mr. Dana Richardson asked if an air quality analysis like for the RTP will have to be done on these old projects. Mr. Skipper said he didn't anticipate additional air quality analysis being needed so long as the analysis was done when a project was placed into the TIP. Mr. Richardson asked if the air quality is based on the model runs. Mr. Skipper said that is not based on model runs but on specific emission reduction analysis methods offered by EPA. Mr. Matt Meservy, MPO staff, said that CMAQ projects that are in the TIP are independently run on an air quality analysis that is different than what is done for the long range plan. Mr. Skipper said that the onus of doing these analyses will probably not be placed on the local jurisdictions.

Mayor Anderson said that it seems the way this new program is going to be done is that the local jurisdictions have to get in line for money for projects that were already approved for

funding. This means extra work on staff. He asked that Mr. Skipper send out a list of all of the rescinded dollars by jurisdiction. He said that the 60 days for an air quality analysis will cause problems. It is difficult to ask local funding boards yet again for matching funds which were committed in one fiscal year but are now needed in another year. It seems that if it was funded once, it should be funded again unless the local match can't be raised. Mr. Skipper said that the matching requirement is waived making them eligible for 100% funding by the feds. The state will likely give priority to projects that have the local match. He said that this doesn't just affect the CMAQ projects. The money taken from other projects to fund the CMAQ projects will now be able to be used on other projects.

Mayor Graves reiterated for clarification that projects were eligible for 100% funding but that projects that have local match are bumped up in priority. Mr. Skipper said that this is the indication but the ranking process has not been distributed. Mayor Graves said that there is a concern for those who can't come up with a match might really need a project. There seems to be an inequality. Somehow there needs to be a way to equalize the ability to pay.

- ARRA funds

Mr. Skipper said that the cost for many of the projects has come in much lower than anticipated which means that there will be available stimulus money that will need to be obligated. Staff will return to the Board with a recommendation on how to use this money by September 30, 2010. He said that the projects have to be ready to go and in the TIP.

Ms. Angie Carrier asked if a project's cost went over, could it be covered. Ms. Skipper said yes because the Board has already given him the authorization to cover overruns. Mayor Wilber asked if the money can be used as a match on other projects. Mr. Skipper said that it could not be used as a non-federal match nor could it supplant other federal funds currently programmed on projects.

Mayor Holt asked if the projects will be segregated by the three categories that were used to select ARRA projects in the first place. Mr. Skipper said no, ARRA funds should be placed on any eligible project that can be obligated within the short timeframe. Mayor Holt clarified that the first projects to be funded are those with overruns. Beyond that, will it be those partially funded. Mr. Skipper said that overruns will be the top priority, then any project that didn't get completely funded. Mr. Robertson asked if Mr. Skipper knew how much funding would be available for reprogramming. Mr. Skipper said he will work with TDOT to identify that amount, but that it probably wouldn't be more than 10% of the \$26 M the state will get.

- Update on Regional Studies

NE Corridor: Mr. Castrodad said that the study is in the final stages. A model is being run using the capital assumptions. The draft recommendations should be ready by the end of April. The TOD scenarios in the prototype areas (Hendersonville, Madison, and Gallatin) are also being done.

- Other Comments

Mr. Skipper reminded the Board of the Regional Summit on May 26<sup>th</sup> at the War Memorial Auditorium. He said that everyone would receive an invitation and that extras might also be sent for distribution to local commissions and councils. More information is on our website [www.nashvillempo.org](http://www.nashvillempo.org)

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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The Honorable Karl Dean  
Chairman, MPO Executive Board

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Michael Skipper, MPO Director  
Secretary, Executive Board