

**Minutes Of The
Transportation Advisory Committee
Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization
September 1, 2009**

The meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization was held 916 Main, 2nd Floor Conference Room, at 2:00 PM on September 1, 2009. Required notices were given to the members of the Committee and the public. The following Transportation Advisory Committee members were present:

Bill McCay, Lubbock County
Mark Heinrich, Lubbock County
Marsha Reed, City of Lubbock
Steve Warren, TxDOT – Lubbock
Sharmon Owens, City of Lubbock
Lonny Kane, Citibus
Nick Olenik, Lubbock County
Randy Henson, City of Lubbock
Frankie Pittman, City of Wolfforth
Larry Hertel, City of Lubbock

Visitors/Staff: David Jones, Lubbock MPO
Tera Davis, Lubbock MPO
Darrell Westmoreland, Lubbock MPO
Darrell Newsome, City of Wolfforth

Call to Order.

Mr. McCay called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Acknowledgement of Quorum by Chairman.

Mr. McCay acknowledged a quorum of the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Public Comment Period/Acknowledgment of Guests

Mr. McCay welcomed Lonny Kane, who is the new Citibus representative, to the Transportation Advisory Committee. Mr. McCay asked Mr. Darrell Newsome, who is the Assistant City Manager at the City of Wolfforth, to introduce himself as well. Mr. Newsome will become the City Manager of Wolfforth when Ms. Pittman retires. Ms. Reed welcomed Ms. Sharmon Owens to the Committee as a permanent member as she recently became the City of Lubbock's Traffic Engineer. Ms. Owens had held the interim position prior to being appointed as the permanent Traffic Engineer.

Approval of the June 2, 2009 minutes of the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Mr. McCay asked for any corrections to the June 2, 2009 minutes of the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Randy Henson made motion to approve the June 2, 2009 minutes of the Transportation Advisory Committee. Marsha Reed seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Discussion and action on the FY 2010 Category 7 Funding.

Mr. Jones stated that he did not know that he could say any more than what is written in the backup for this agenda item. Mr. Jones said that we need to start the discussion and see if we can come up with a recommendation to the Policy Committee on what to do with our Category 7 money. Mr. Jones said that there are two proposals we will hear this afternoon and he doesn't know that action is limited to those two proposals if there are other street projects that are ready to go that we could use this money on.

Mr. Warren stated that he would like to give a little background information. He said that back in January he announced that TxDOT had no money available for the next year. That lack of money included the Northwest Passage project. At that time, the District Offices were told there wasn't any Category 7 money available and he did not find out until August 5, 2009 that there is actually about 3.8 million dollars in Category 7 funding for the Lubbock MPO for FY 2010. The reason it became a problem was that TxDOT did not have a project ready to go and under the current plan at TxDOT, you better spend it while you have it because you don't know if it will be there next year. At that same meeting they also found out that their rehabilitation and preventive maintenance budgets had been slashed and the money that was set aside for the East 19th Street project, which is actually U.S. 62/State Highway 114, was no longer there. What they did have was 3.75 million in Category 11, which is District Discretionary money that Mr. Eichorst can direct wherever he wants it to go, and the 3.8 million of MPO money in Category 7. Mr. Warren said that TxDOT went to the TPC last month in a panic because they had until August 31, 2009 to get their plan together for how the FY 2010 money would be spent even though they only found out two weeks before how much money was available.

Mr. Warren said that TxDOT proposed to the TPC that they roll the Category 7 funding into the East 19th Street, along with TxDOT's District Discretionary funding. The project would be scaled back as it was originally a 12.5 million dollar project. TxDOT would scale the project back to 7.5 million and do what they could. The TPC felt they did not have enough information to make a decision and wanted additional time. Mr. Warren said that is how it came back to the Transportation Advisory Committee. The money can only be spent in the Lubbock metropolitan area and TxDOT's proposal still stands that they would ask the MPO direct these funds towards the East 19th project. Mr. Warren said that project has been on the books for a long time. The road needs to be repaired as it is in bad shape. He said that East 19th Street is in a historically underserved area of the City. Mr. Warren said that at this time TxDOT is trying to focus on taking care of the pavement that we have and not so much on getting new roads built. Mr. Warren said TxDOT would ask that the MPO direct Category 7 funding to the East 19th project.

Mr. McCay asked how long it has been since the stretch of road has been seal coated or had any rehabilitation. Mr. Warren said there hasn't been any major rehab to it in fifteen to twenty years. Mr. Warren said that it may have been seal coated once in the last ten years but did not have the records. Mr. McCay said that it seemed when he first got into office it was talked about being a long overdue project even four and one half years ago. Mr. Warren said the plans would have to be adjusted as there is not 12.5 million dollars but they could have 7.5 million between the two funds to at least address the pavement issue. He said that they might be able to take care of the lamination as well but they would be focused primarily on the pavement.

Mr. McCay asked if the money is not given to TxDOT and the project is put off again at what point in time would that stretch of road disintegrate. Mr. Warren said that it is already falling apart but doesn't carry as much traffic as some of the other roads in town. Mr. Warren said it is only going to get worse and seal coats can only do so much. He said there is a lot of alligator cracking and the pavement has a lot of rutting. Mr. Warren said if the MPO doesn't put their funding into the project, TxDOT would be unable to do anything substantial with the 3.75 million so they would take that money and find somewhere in the district to use it. Mr. Warren said those funds would also need to be spent as they might not be there next year. Mr. Warren said they would make

sure that money goes somewhere but it won't go into that road as the only way they would proceed with the project is if both funds are put into it.

Ms. Owens asked if there had been citizen requests for the area or a vocal group. Mr. Warren said you always get requests from various areas of town, but specifically related to this project TxDOT has not had a lot of input. Mr. Warren said if you attended the City Council's public meeting on the bond package, you heard a lot from the east side of Lubbock, not necessarily regarding streets, but there was a group of citizens concerned that all the money is going to the southwest part of Lubbock. Mr. Warren said they did not mention this road specifically but you always hear from certain areas of town that they are underserved and it is easy to see that impression given the projects in southwest Lubbock are big mobility type projects. There is a lot of demand and there is more money being put into the southwest part of town as the east side does not have the traffic. Mr. Warren said that this project shows on their pavement records as one of the worst in the District. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Warren if the plans come west far enough to pick up the railroad crossing west of Avenue A. Mr. Warren said it stops right at Avenue A. Mr. Jones said that crossing is really bad. Mr. McCay said that between the Interstate and Avenue A, it is in worse condition than other parts of the road. Ms. Owens asked if signals were included. Mr. Warren said they were planning on that in the big project, but signals were not included in the scaled down project.

Ms. Reed said that she was not at the TPC meeting but that the Mayor and the Council that was there were reluctant to just approve putting the funds on East 19th Street. She said it is a scaled back project, some 30% from the original project. She said that she knows there was some discussion on what could be done with the Gateway program. She said, as a matter of history, the City of Lubbock put up 12.5 million dollars to get Marsha Sharp Phase 3B done. She said the City had put up what was originally intended to be a bridge crossing for the Northwest Passage, estimated at that time to be 25 million, and it ended up that the City was able to leverage two projects at the request of TxDOT to do the Loop Project with Slide Road, 4th Street, widening the Loop to six lanes, and then were able to leverage, with stimulus money, the West Loop Project which was on hold. That Project was very important as well. Ms. Reed said that all of the projects are very important, which is a problem. She said that in the discussion, as Mr. Warren said, it is a "spend it now or not see it again". Ms. Reed said that the Gateway Streets Project is upside down and the City is funding 83% of the Northwest Passage Project Bridge project. She said that they are on the table right now for another 11.5 million for the West Loop Project.

Ms. Reed said they are also in the midst of thoroughfare projects that are in the long range plan. She said they have designs ongoing for Gateway Streets and Ms. Reed approached Mr. Warren about the MPO committing the 3.8 to the West Loop job to free up the City's portion allowing the City, without all the federal "strings" attached, to do another thoroughfare project in the Gateway Streets Fund. She said what you hear about Council Meetings is not always fact. She said there is a bid out right now to reconstruct MLK from Parkway to Broadway. She said the Council also approved in the budget a 65 million dollar storm sewer project to take care of flooding on the east side. She said a lot of those things that you don't hear about, because they are not in the bond package, are going on.

Ms. Reed said the City of Lubbock is proposing that the MPO apply the 3.8 million dollars to the West Loop project, relieving the City of Lubbock from its complete 11.5 million dollar obligation. She said she thinks the City of Lubbock has been an extremely "good faith" partner with TxDOT and they have some necessary projects as well. She said there are new schools being built out south of town and they need to be serviced with something besides dirt.

Mr. Warren said he does not disagree that what Ms. Reed is proposing. He said he did get word about ten minutes ago from Mr. Barton that what Ms. Reed was proposing would be eligible. Mr. Warren said that Ms. Reed's proposal keeps the West Loop as it is and adds new roads to southwest Lubbock. Ms. Reed said it is unclear what the money would be used for at this time. If they were to get the 3.8 million they would see what they could "squeeze" out of the bottom line to

do. She said right now the bond package includes 114th Street; strip paved all the way from University to Slide, Quaker from 98th Street to 114th street, seven lanes. She said they were able to get the CAC to put that on along with Milwaukee from 94th where they stopped to about 106th, full width, to get that intersection through the lake and strip paved back towards Juneau on 98th Street and south onto 114th Street, so there they would tie into County strip paving. She said that at least it would be paved to the new Sports Complex because, quite honestly, they have street equipment parked out there all the time because they cannot keep up with all the new development. She said it is just a sea of dirt when you get out in there and the funding would allow them to possibly do another mile. She said that it would be a City Council decision although she will make a recommendation. She said she would not know until they received estimates what they could actually build with that amount of money.

Mr. Warren said we are facing basically the same dilemma as the Commission has been facing in Austin whether to throw money into rehab or put it into mobility as they are both needs. Mr. Warren said both proposals are good proposals and they couldn't go wrong one way or the other. It is just deciding whether to repair what we have or add more capacity. Mr. McCay said that we all know to maintain what we have is an asset. Mr. Warren said that the TPC will make the final decision and this is just the TAC's recommendation. Mr. Warren said if there are any other projects that someone has in mind, these are just the two that he and Ms. Reed talked about. Mr. Warren said they are open to anything else although these funds have to be spent in the metropolitan area and have to follow federal regulations. Mr. Heinrich asked if the 3.7 million would not be enough to do some of the East 19th Project. Mr. Warren said that it is not enough and that spending the 3.7 million on that would be a waste of money. He said they could get a lot more "bang" by going out and seal coating as they could do many more roads.

Mr. McCay asked if there were any thoughts. Ms. Reed said that there are several projects in design. She said they have Quaker Avenue from 114th to FM 1585, Milwaukee to FM 1585, Frankford from 98th to 114th, 114th from Quaker to Slide, 98th from Frankford to Milwaukee, a host of projects that are in design and should be complete this fall. Mr. Henson asked if Ms. Reed knew how many miles were left. Ms. Reed said five to six miles that they will have designs for with no money to construct. She said the issue there is that if they were looking to have money in the next year they could put it off but right now they are looking at fifteen years before they have any additional funds unless fuel costs go up a lot. She said they were bonded out and one reason she had asked Mr. Warren about putting the money on the West Loop is because it does come with strings, it is federal money, and they were instructed last year by City Council to go get all these projects designed, get the right-of-way by hook or crook, and they are there, ready to go. She said when the models were run for this year's budget they found out the Gateway Funds were not going to support anything that it supported a year ago.

Ms. Reed they had to go back to the Citizen's Advisory Committee as they had already made their recommendations. She said these funds would free up actual City of Lubbock dollars where there would be no strings attached to it from a federal standpoint and they would not have to go spend more money appraising right-of way and the environmental documents which drives the cost up higher. Ms. Reed said that whatever the TPC decides she doesn't care but feels like the City of Lubbock right now is on the table for 37.5 million over the past couple of years and they have needs they need to address. She said they are spending ten million dollars a year doing their street maintenance. Ms. Reed said they are looking to start reconstruction this year on a street maintenance program, looking to do 1 ½ miles this year in thoroughfares and they are going to keep going as long as the Council keeps approving the money. Ms. Reed said that we are going to begin seeing a lot of City streets being reconstructed, even though they may not be on system, for the first time in the history of the City pretty much.

Mr. McCay asked how long East 19th Street would last before it crumbles. Mr. Warren said that their maintenance guys will continue to do the best job they can to keep together and have been doing it for several years. Mr. Warren said he is not saying that it is just going to turn to gravel in a year, but it depends on how bad the winters are. Mr. Warren said the maintenance guys will be

out there doing the best they can. Mr. Warren said he just doesn't know when it will come back up. He said right now TxDOT's funding is bleak and the recession is hitting everyone. He said they say it doesn't hit Lubbock bad, but this is how it shows up and gas tax revenues are down. Mr. Warren said even with gas prices going down people are driving less. Mr. Warren said that there is no new highway bill and there will probably be an eighteen month extension on the current one, so there is no real clean picture of how the future looks as far as funding.

Mr. Warren said to give full disclosure here, he does not know what Austin will do with the funding they have today that might affect this project. Mr. Warren said that a good point for Ms. Reed's proposal is that if we go that route the Category 7 money should be insulated once it goes into the West Loop in January. Mr. Warren said that if the TPC approved the East 19th Street Project he still might have to come back in three months and say that we don't have the 3.75 million. Mr. Heinrich asked if that could happen. Mr. Warren said that it could.

Mr. Warren said one thing that happened this summer was the numbers they were working with back in May and June were before the Commission chose to go with all the Prop 14 bond issues. He said Phase 4 was supposed to be let in June and got delayed till July and got delayed again and all the Prop 14 projects statewide kept getting delayed because they were counting on the legislature to come out during the session and eliminate diversions for the gas tax. They did some of that, but did not eliminate all of them. TxDOT made a deal with the legislature last year and the Governor that they would issue the Prop 14 Bonds and eliminate diversions to pay for them. They approved all the projects in Prop14 to go forward but the legislature only did a partial job of eliminating diversions. The bright side is that we got Phase 4 of Marsha Sharp funded, but it affected maintenance and rehab dollars for the future. Mr. Warren did not know that would happen in May and said he cannot sit here today and say something else won't happen in October that might further affect this. Mr. Warren said the positive thing about Ms. Reed's plan is once the decision is made it is more likely to stand. Mr. McCay asked if Ms. Reed's plan was a safer decision. Mr. Warren said he hated to say it but probably would be a safer decision.

Mr. McCay said that there are mobility issues. Mr. McCay asked Mr. Olenik what he thought. Mr. Olenik said he agrees with Mr. McCay on mobility in the west part of Lubbock and, as Ms. Reed said, there are a lot of other project needs in the City. Mr. Olenik said they face that on the County road system and they share the challenges that TxDOT's maintenance department will have. He said having to meet the federal requirements and jumping through the hoops is nerve racking and he is not sure that many people understand the demand on staff with all the criteria that have to be met. Mr. Olenik said to be able to run with some projects for the City's benefit, he felt it is worth looking at for the West Loop projects.

Mr. Hertel said he is still confused about something. Mr. Hertel said that it has to do with the Slide Road Bridge. He said the City committed 12.5 million dollars that came from the freeway which is half of the twenty-five million dollars that was pledged for the bridge. He said the prices that came in on the actual bid for the Slide Road Bridge and the 4th Street Bridge and the widening of the Loop were low. He said the original estimate, just for the City's part for the Slide Road bridge was 25 million dollars and that is what they thought they would be putting up for that project and that would be their part of the Slide Road Bridge. As it turned out, the actual cost of the Slide Road Bridge projected turned out to be 14 or 15 million dollars. He said it seems like we are talking about 3.8 million dollars here where we should be talking about 10 million dollars of City money that was committed toward the state system. He said about 15 million was going to be committed to go on the state system which would be for the Slide Road bridge, but it seemed like they were talking about 3 million dollars instead of the 10 million dollars. Ms. Reed said that she and Mr. Warren hashed this over yesterday. Mr. Warren said this thing has gone through so many changes and Mr. Hertel is right. It was in late 2007 when the City went down to Austin meet with Mr. Saenz. This was when pass through tolling was still going on and the City of Lubbock was trying to get a pass through agreement in place but that was when the bottom fell out of TxDOT. He said that he and Ms. Reed would probably, till their dying days, disagree on what was actually agreed to in the meeting between the City of Lubbock and the Texas Department of

Transportation. Mr. Warren said he was not at the meeting in Austin but the bottom line was the City and TxDOT were going to partner up on Slide Road/4th Street/West Loop project and, it was Mr. Warren's understanding, the City would put in 25 million. He said that Ms. Reed's understanding was that the City would pay for the Slide Road Bridge. He said it doesn't matter now anyway because when the stimulus came out and the MPO was given 6.5 million or so in MPO stimulus funds to do with as they saw fit. The Commission also committed a large chunk of stimulus funds to go to project specific projects. The TPC pledged the MPO's stimulus funds and the City agreed to put up 25 million dollars towards these two projects. The leveraging was why the two projects were chosen by the Commission.

Mr. Warren said he doesn't know if the Council ever took any action on that whatsoever. Mr. Warren said there was an agreement, and at that time they had the AFA signed for 25 million dollars on Northwest Passage so there was a commitment by the City to commit 25 million dollars to that Northwest Passage project. Mr. Warren said the MPO probably acted improperly in saying that 25 million is there so we are going to use it as leverage for stimulus projects. He said TxDOT threw it at the Commission and said the City is going to put in 25 million and the MPO is going to put in 6.5 million and we want the rest from the Commission to get both projects. The Commission selected them and said good leveraging, great partnerships, here are your two projects.

Mr. Warren said almost a week after the two projects were selected the Commission asked Mr. Warren if the City could break their money out so they could spend all the Commission money on the first project as 50% of all the funds had to be spent in 120 days. They also found out the MPO dollars could not be counted towards the 50% so they needed to spend all the Commission funding on the first project. They asked the City if they would take that 25 million and split it between the Northwest Passage projects. The City agreed and TxDOT changed it so that the City put 13.5 million into the Northwest Passage. Mr. Warren said bids came in low, but unfortunately for the City of Lubbock that didn't benefit them. The under run money went back into the Commission pot to be distributed for more stimulus projects. Mr. Warren said we have a project on Plan B list, which is Slide Road from Marshall up to U.S. 84. It is still on the list to be considered for those under run funds. Mr. Warren said he didn't know what the odds were of that project being approved, but Lubbock wasn't the only one that was treated this way. Every project funded by the Commission that has under runs are being put back in the pot to be redistributed. He said there was nothing he can change on that. It is done. He said the only thing we can do is to try to do everything possible to get the Slide Road project funded with the under runs.

As a result of those changes, the West Loop became funded strictly with MPO and local dollars. Right now there is no Commission money in the West Loop at all. Mr. Warren said Ms. Reed is simply saying instead of the \$11.5 million in local funds, the City will put \$7.7 million in local funding into the project and \$3.8 million of MPO funds which frees up \$3.8 million for the City to take out of the equation and put wherever they want. Mr. Warren said that he did not know if he agrees or disagrees with under runs going back into the Commission pot. He understands the reasons for it as they can get more projects out statewide. The state has an obligation to get all of the funds obligated within the year.

Mr. Henson asked if the challenge is to forward one of these projects as a recommendation to the TPC. Mr. McCay said it was. Mr. Henson asked if he made a motion on the West Loop, then a decision by default would determine if that project would be selected as the recommendation. Mr. McCay said yes there would be a vote and that would be the recommendation to the TPC.

Randy Henson made motion to recommend the MPO FY2010 Category 7 funding be committed to the West Loop Project. Larry Hertel seconded and the motion passed with one dissenting vote by Steve Warren.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Reports

- A. Cities and County
- B. TxDOT
- C. Citibus
- D. Director's

Cities and Counties

Ms. Reed said that Council has called a bond election in November. She said they feel like they have a good package for streets, although not as much as they wanted. The total is around \$61 million with \$40 million of that going to the streets package. She said included in that is the 34th Street reconstruction from Avenue Q to Indiana, Quaker reconstruction from 98th to 114th, strip paving on 114th from University to Slide and the reconstruction and widening of Milwaukee from 94th Street to about 106th Street, to the fire station, and strip paving south to 114th and back east to Juneau.

Ms. Owens talked about the traffic signal projects that the CAC recommended.

Ms. Reed said they are approaching 85% completion on Erskine and Slide. She said the one on the south side of the Loop is in Phase 3 now. Mr. Hertel said it was probably 60 to 70% complete. Ms. Reed felt they would finish early on both of those two street projects.

Ms. Reed said they are moving ahead with the Indiana project, widening from 103rd to FM 1585 which they are hoping to go out to bid on after the first of the year barring any right-of-way issues so that project is moving forward. Ms. Reed said that 34th and University is under construction. Mr. Hertel said they are partnering with TxDOT on 50th Street.

Lubbock County

Mr. Olenik said that Don Becker has delivered to Mr. Jones the project that Lubbock County has been working on for some time, taking all the saturation maps from 1995 to 2005 and make it a GIS tool to look at those trends. Mr. Olenik said it would give Mr. Jones a chance to look at it and see if there was any tweaking to do on that project.

Mr. Olenik said he is working on a grant through the office of Rural Community Affairs. He said this goes back to the September 11th Texas flood of 2008 and Lubbock County's response to those flooded areas and the resulting road damage.

Mr. Olenik said that their crews are doing seal coats around the County. He said they have about 300 miles of paved roads. He said they focus their attention on section line roads. Mr. Olenik said there are subdivisions where they are working on pavement management.

TxDOT

Mr. Warren said that TxDOT is still broke. Mr. Warren said that Phase 2 of the Marshal Sharp Freeway is essentially complete. He said the speed limit is temporarily set at 60 mph and the City will be passing the ordinance on the speed limit. He said the City would do speed studies on it first. In theory you are supposed to open it to traffic with no speed limits and see what everybody drives before the final speed limit is set..

Mr. Warren said Phase 3B is coming along. He said they were somewhat behind schedule because all of the crews were working on Phase 2. He said that they will begin taking bids next week on Phase 4 hopefully.

Mr. Warren said they are having a public hearing on September 14, 2009 on the West Loop project. He said they are widening the Loop there to six lanes and replacing the 19th Street interchange. They will be tearing out the cloverleaf and putting in a diamond interchange. Mr. Warren said they have met individually with the property owners in those four corners to talk about the potential for surplusing that right-of-way back to them. Mr. Warren said he did not expect a whole lot of negative attention at the public hearing.

Mr. Warren said when all of those projects come on line; he will probably be sending something to the October Policy Meeting. He said he is going to try and put together a presentation, basically a "pat on the back" for the TAC and TPC for what they have been able to accomplish since the funding plan was adopted in 2005. Mr. Warren said, if you will recall, back then we were discussing toll roads on Marsha Sharp Freeway and were instructed to come up with some type of innovative funding. He said the City of Lubbock stepped up with the Gateway funding strategy along with a list of a lot of projects in 2005 and we had shown how we were going to try and get them all accomplished.

Mr. Warren said that once Phase 4 goes to construction and West Loop goes to construction, we will have completed all but one of the projects that were on that list. He said that was an amazing accomplishment. He said Phase 5 of the Marsha Sharp Freeway is the only one we are not to yet, and unfortunately it is looking farther out there in the future now, but we were able to get the Freeway, West Loop, Northwest Passage, Milwaukee Avenue, FM 179 in Wolfforth, Spur 327, 50th Street, all these projects were in that plan in 2005 and all have been brought to construction except for one. He said he felt it was a testament to this MPO, the Policy and Advisory Committee, the City of Lubbock for stepping up and everybody's support. He said he appreciates it and he thanks everyone.

Mr. Warren said he just needs to put something together to show everybody what has been accomplished. He said he is tired of all the doom and gloom because that is all he ever hears anymore and it is time to go out and say something good. He said when he gets a new tool, he likes to show off what he has built, and he feels there are a lot of new tool projects to show from 2005. He said we accomplished something very impressive. He said we keep moving on and look to the future.

Mr. Warren said the Outer Loop public meeting will be held tonight at 6:30 at the Frenship High School Cafeteria. Mr. Warren said he did not know what to expect. He said he was asked by the Administration why they are still pursuing a feasibility study for a project giving the current funding and he said he told them that it is the responsibility of the District and the MPO to plan thirty years into the future and that is what we are doing.

Mr. Warren said that there will be a presentation of the Freight Study at the September 15th TPC meeting. He said it has been put off for any number of reasons. He said it would not be presented to the TAC so he encourages the TAC, if they are interested in the results of the Freight Study, to come to the TPC meeting. He asked the TAC to bear with TxDOT as they continue to go through their growing pains.

Mr. Hertel said that he did want to point out one thing on the Northwest Passage projects. He said there is still one key element that hasn't been done or funded yet and that is the interchange for Quaker/Erskine/Loop 289 where it all comes together. Mr. Hertel said the City of Lubbock is making an application for the TIGER grant. He said the State can't make, or isn't making the applications. Mr. Warren said the State chose not to make those decisions as there is only 300 million maximum to any State and a minimum of 20 million. He said there is no way that TxDOT was going to be able to make those choices. He said that TxDOT encouraged everyone to send in their requests and they will support it. The only ones that TxDOT will send in individually will be rural connector type projects, such as something along the lines of Ports to Plains. Mr. Hertel said he would like the TAC to keep in mind that it is still a major need that we are going to have with the Northwest Passage. He said the overall list of projects are still going to cause a bottleneck

there on Erskine, taking a seven lane thoroughfare and dead ending it into a two lane frontage road. Mr. Warren said they will cross that bridge once the Slide Road Bridge is complete. Ms. Reed said the TIGER grant is on the Council agenda next week for their support.

Citibus

Mr. Kane said Citibus is taking delivery of six hybrid electric buses in November and that they took delivery of 16 CitiAccess vans. He said they are working to get those into operation. Mr. Kane said the parking lot on the north side expansion is almost complete. He said it just needs some illumination and the west side street connector and the fence.

Mr. Kane said they are preparing to do renovation on the Downtown Transfer Plaza. He said the contract is completed with the architectural firm and it will go to the City Council on the 10th. He said the contract for the renovation of the maintenance facility and administration offices is also going before City Council. He said they have a lot of projects working. Mr. McCay welcomed Mr. Kane aboard the TAC.

Director's Report

No report.

Meeting Adjourned.

Mr. McCay adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.