

**Minutes Of The
Transportation Advisory Committee
Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization
December 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 December 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
Marsha Reed, City of Lubbock
Mark Heinrich, Lubbock County
Steve Warren, TxDOT – Lubbock
Sharmon Owens, City of Lubbock
Lonny Kane, Citibus
Nick Olenik, Lubbock County
Darrell Newsome, City of Wolfforth
Thomas Esparza, City of Lubbock

Visitors/Staff: David Jones, Lubbock MPO
Tera Davis, Lubbock MPO
Darrell Westmoreland, Lubbock MPO
Ken Sylvester, Ex-Officio Member

Call to Order.

Mr. McCay called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Acknowledgement of Quorum by Chairman.

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

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.

Steve Warren 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.

Consider reprioritizing projects in the 2007 – 2032 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Mr. Jones explained to the Transportation Advisory Committee that on October 9, 2009, FHWA sent TxDOT a letter stating that TxDOT did not have the proper funding levels in the FY 2007 – 2010 Unified Transportation Plan and that they were over programmed for the funding levels. TxDOT concurred with the FHWA findings and proposed to write a new UTP and STIP..

Mr. Jones explained that the Texas Transportation Commission approved two minute orders at their November 19, 2009 meeting. The first was the funding levels for the UTP 2010 – 2020 in all categories 1 through 12. The second minute order approved the funding levels of the Long Range Plan 2021 – 2035, in all 12 categories.

Mr. Jones explained that these funding changes will require all MPO's to amend their Transportation Improvement Programs and their Metropolitan Transportation Plans to meet the fiscal constraints of the State through 2020. The Lubbock MTP is already written to FY 2007 – 2032. This means that the MPO has the opportunity to reprioritize our projects to bring the MTP into fiscal constraint and not rewrite the entire document. Mr. Jones explained that we will also add a chapter to the MTP regarding Climate Change. Mr. Jones spoke with Mr. John Barton and Mr. Jack Foster and they both concur with this strategy.

Mr. Jones explained that all MPOs are in line to produce a new TIP this year so the MPO will begin that process shortly after the first of the year. Mr. Jones stated that the TAC could decide if it would be beneficial to wait until our regular cycle to develop a new MTP, which will begin in about a year to a year and one half, and just reprioritize the current MTP.

Mr. Jones asked each partner in the TAC to take the MTP project page and reprioritize the projects. At the January meeting the TAC will discuss and take action on the projects to fiscally constrain them to the funding amount. Mr. Jones asked the TAC to return the lists to the MPO by December 21, 2009 in order for the MPO to get them together prior to the January meeting.

Mr. McCay felt it would be best to just reorder the projects and not add additional projects at this time. Mr. Warren stated that he recommended that the TAC reorder the projects to bring them current to the new fiscal constraint.

Marsha Reed made motion to seek concurrence of the members of the TAC to reorder the current projects in the FY 2007 – 2032 Metropolitan Transportation Plan to bring them current to the new financial constraint. Mr. Warren seconded the motion and the motion passed with concurrence of the Transportation Advisory Committee.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Consider announcing a Call for Projects for the 2010 – 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Mr. Jones stated that he felt that the action taken on the above referenced agenda item answered this item. The TAC agreed that it would not be necessary to announce a Call for Projects.

Reports

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

Cities and Counties

City of Lubbock

Sharmon Owens stated that the City of Lubbock had applied for a Transportation Enhancement Grant. This project is for Pedestrian Safety Improvement buttons and signal heads. Ms. Owens stated that the Citizen's Traffic Committee had endorsed the project and that it was scheduled to go before the City Council tomorrow. She said the project is approximately \$500,000 and the City of Lubbock would put up the 20% match. She stated that it would be approximately eighteen months to two years before completion. The Grant Application must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on December 8, 2009.

Mr. McCay asked Ms. Owens when they would know if they were awarded the Grant. Ms. Owens stated that they do not know as the Grants are awarded as funding becomes available. Mr.

Warren felt that it would be in the spring. Ms. Reed stated she thought March or April. Ms. Reed said that the City had done three projects in a previous call and this was not one of those. She stated that none of those were selected. Mr. Warren stated he thought all of those would also be included in the new call. Ms. Owens asked if the City should pull the previous projects. Mr. Warren stated that he would see if they are automatic and then take them out.

Ms. Reed said as the bond streets package passed the City is taking bids on Indiana from 103rd to FM 1585 on December 17th and 18th. They are hoping to take a February bid on Quaker from 98th to 114th. Ms. Owens said that the RFQ has gone out for the 34th Street reconstruction. She stated that 114th Street is a year or two out due to a water line. She stated that 114th University to Slide is strip paved. Mr. Olenik asked if LP&L replaced water lines on the county roads from 114th to the East. Ms. Reed said that they did the reconstruction. She said it would probably be strip paved in 2011.

Lubbock County

Mr. Olenik asked if the Outer Loop Study's scope had changed. Mr. Warren said that it had not since the agreement between the County and TxDOT. He said that the name was changed to the Outer Route Study to ensure that the public understands that it will not be a full loop but a route on the south and the west. Ms. Reed asked when the next stakeholder's meeting was scheduled. Mr. Warren said that it has not been scheduled yet.

City of Wolfforth

Mr. Newsome said that Frankie Pittman has now officially retired. He thanked everyone who was able to come to her retirement party. Mr. Newsome said that there are currently thirteen houses in various stages of construction. He said that Preston Manor has been cleaned up a bit. Mr. Newsome said if you have not been out there lately to go and see. He said there would be a meeting on Saturday at the Overton Conference Center for the Homeowner Association and they will talk about taking bids to finish the Recreation Center. He said that the homeowners would make the decision of where to go with Preston Manor. He said that there are currently 336 empty lots. The meeting is at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

TxDOT

Mr. Warren stated that as you all know about a year and a half ago the bottom fell out of TxDOT. Mr. Warren said that TxDOT, along with a very successful partnership with the local entities, has uncovered funding since that time. Mr. Warren said that Prop 14 funding has funded Phase 4 of the Marsha Sharp Freeway and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has helped to fund two of the Northwest Passage Projects, along with the funding provided by the City of Lubbock. Mr. Warren said that Prop 12 funding will now fund the full project on the East 19th/Idalou Highway. Mr. Warren said that next year's funding looks as bleak, but there is talk of an "Economic Stimulus 2" release of funds as well as the possibility of a "Second Round Prop 12".

Mr. Warren told the TAC that he will be presenting a "progress report" to the TPC at the December 8, 2009 meeting. Mr. Warren stated that he was not sure that everyone understood how much progress has been made since the 2005 Funding Plan. He wanted to invite all TAC members to attend the TPC meeting. Mr. Warren stated that he felt everyone would be shocked at how much has been accomplished in the past four years and he appreciates all that has been done with the local partners and wants to say "thank you". Mr. Jones stated that the TAC has a standing invitation to the TPC meetings and would encourage all to attend that are able.

Mr. Warren stated that the Texas Transportation Forum will be the first week in January.

Citibus

Mr. Kane stated that the parking lot renovation is now complete. Mr. Kane said that Citibus has also purchased six hybrid electric buses. He said they are on routes but that they will not be able to measure savings until they have been running at least one month. Mr. Kane said that there has been a "Call for Projects" and if successful Citibus will be able to use that funding to renovate the Downtown Transfer Center and that they should know by July if it will be funded. Mr. Kane also told the TAC that the Fixed Route Feasibility Study should be awarded sometime in January. .

Director's Report

Mr. Jones did a presentation regarding the two minute orders from the Transportation Commission Meeting. Mr. Jones said that it is pretty serious and that the Commission realizes they have a real problem on their hands. Mr. McCay stated that he would encourage everyone to visit with their State Representatives and Senators. Mr. Jones said one thing you could do is talk to them about diversions from Fund 6. He said that he felt the largest amount goes to the Department of Public Safety.

Mr. Westmoreland asked if Ms. Pittman had given the MPO a copy of Wolfforth's Master Plan. Mr. Jones stated that she had.

Meeting Adjourned.

Mr. McCay adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.