

Minutes
of the
Transportation Policy Committee
Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization
October 16, 2007

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee of the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization was held in Room 103 at 1625 13th Street, at 8:30 a.m. on October 16, 2007.

Required notices were given to the members of the Committee and the public. The following Transportation Policy Committee members were present:

Patti Jones, Commissioner, Lubbock County
Tom Martin, City of Lubbock Representative
Tom Head, County Judge, Lubbock County
L. C. Childers, Mayor, City of Wolfforth
Jim Gilbreath, City Council, City of Lubbock
John Leonard, City Council, City of Lubbock
John Wilson, General Manager, Citibus

Visitors/Staff: Tera Davis, Lubbock MPO
Darrell Westmoreland, Lubbock MPO
Diane Lann, TxDOT – Austin
Jere Hart, City of Lubbock
Sherman Phillips, Texas Bicycle Coalition
Durwood Mayfield, Bike Texas Safe Routes to School
Marsha Reed, City of Lubbock
Melinda Harvey, Citibus
Mitch Satterwhite, City of Lubbock

Call to Order.

Ms. Jones called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Ms. Jones cautioned that the Citizen's Traffic Commission would be meeting in the room at 9:30 and, if necessary, the meeting would be moved to the upstairs conference room.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Acknowledgement of Quorum by Chairman.

Ms. Jones acknowledged a quorum of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC).

The Committee moved to the next item.

Public Comment Opportunity / Acknowledgment of Guests

Ms. Jones asked for any comment from the public. No comment was made.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Approval of the September 18, 2007 minutes and September 24, 2007 special meeting minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting.

Ms. Jones asked for any corrections to the minutes. No corrections were made.

Jim Gilbreath made motion to approve the September 18, 2007 minutes and the September 24, 2007 special meeting minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Tom Head seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Discussion and action regarding expansion of the Metropolitan Area Boundary.

Mr. Westmoreland stated that the Transportation Advisory Committee had recommended the Metropolitan Area Boundary extension at their meeting on July 10, 2007. He stated that the TAC had discussed extending the boundary to the southern Lubbock County Line but the lack of roadway along the southern boundary made that infeasible because the roadway would be the best choice for a natural boundary. He stated that the amount of development activity south of FM 41 drops off considerably and this same rule applies to County Roads 1140 and 1200. Mr. Westmoreland stated the same applied to east of U.S. Highway 87. He stated that the reason for the revision was to bring Woodrow Road into the Metropolitan Area Boundary.

Mr. Westmoreland reminded the Transportation Policy Committee that they had postponed any action at the July 24, 2007 meeting. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan was being revised at that time and it was felt that it would be appropriate to complete that process prior to any action on the MAB. Mr. Westmoreland stated that the MTP is complete at this time and the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization Staff are recommending approval of this boundary based on the recommendation by the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Ms. Jones stated that it was on the agenda in July and, because of the revisions in the MTP: 2032 that were not finalized, the TPC had recommended postponing action on this item until the MTP was adopted. Ms. Jones asked if there were any questions. Mr. Childers asked if it was only being recommended to extend the MAB to the south. Mr. Westmoreland stated that it was at this time.

Tom Martin made motion to approve the expansion of the Metropolitan Area Boundary. Jim Gilbreath seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously

The Committee moved to the next item.

Review, discussion and action regarding awarding the bids received from the Request for Proposal for Urban and Non Urbanized Transportation Projects for Job Access and Reverse Commute purposes and to overcome existing barriers facing Americans with disabilities, FTA 5316 JARC and FTA 5317 New Freedoms Programs.

Mr. Westmoreland explained that the 2007 call for JARC and New Freedom Transit funds stipulated that whoever was selected by the Request for Proposal would be the sub-receiptor of funds through the Texas Department of Transportation. The Transportation Policy Committee directed the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization Staff to carry out the RFP process and Staff complied.

Citibus was the only submittal received through the RFP process. Mr. Westmoreland stated that he contacted Karen Dunlap of the Public Transportation Division of Texas Department of Transportation and she suggested that a letter of agreement be created between the TPC and Citibus. Mr. Westmoreland included a Resolution to ensure that all needs were met when it is reviewed by the Federal Transit Administration.

Mr. Westmoreland stated that Ms. Davis had contacted Jerry Cash at the District TxDOT office and that he stated that it is not necessary to do a Transportation Improvement Program revision at this time as the projects are listed in the FY 2008 – 2011 TIP. Mr. Westmoreland stated that the LMPO is recommending approval at this time.

Tom Martin made motion to award the bids received from the Request for Proposal for the JARC and New Freedom funds to Citibus. Jim Gilbreath seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Reports

- A. TxDOT**
- B. Cities and County**
- C. Citibus**
- D. Bicycle Coalition**
- E. Director's**

TxDOT

No report.

Cities and County

City of Wolfforth

No report.

City of Lubbock

Ms. Reed with the City of Lubbock stated that the City has been awarded a ten thousand dollar grant on the Safe Routes to School. The City of Lubbock had applied for a grant several months ago.

Ms. Reed also stated that the City of Lubbock has met with Amadeo Saenz of TxDOT in Austin and have moved their estimates into separate phases on the Northwest Passage project and have four different scenarios. She stated that the Finance Department is currently running new models on the financing plan and that when that is complete they will meet with the City Council again before returning to Austin to meet with Mr. Saenz. She stated it was hoped to be complete in a couple of weeks.

Lubbock County

No report.

Citibus

Mr. Wilson stated that Citibus was shorted by \$300,000 from TxDOT for the annual transportation funding. Since that time the Lieutenant Governor and the LBB have met and have send a letter saying that it would be restored.

He stated that TxDOT also has granted Citibus Transportation Development Credits for a bus wash and a parking lot revision. He said the credits now make the money one hundred percent. He said that it is a credit and not actual money but it allows them to spend the money they do have now.

Bicycle Coalition

Mr. Durwood Mayfield stated that on the 28th of September the Texas Transportation Committee approved about 245 local grant applications for about twenty five million dollars. He said it is one like Ms. Reed said the City of Lubbock received. He stated that the application to expand the Texas Bicycle

Coalition Safe Routes to School Regional Pilot Program was not selected for funding. The Texas Bicycle Coalition Education fund has been very involved and established the framework and funding for the Safe Routes To School Nationwide to be administered through the State Departments of Transportation in each State.

Mr. Mayfield stated that they are disappointed that the Transportation Commission declined to furnish their application. Since 2004 the pilot program employed eight local outreach coordinators working in and around the cities of Ft. Worth, Wichita Falls, Amarillo and Lubbock to promote biking and walking events for elementary school P.E. teachers and community leaders to improve the knowledge, attitudes and physical amenities, like sidewalks, that are factors in children walking or biking to school.

Mr. Mayfield said they are grateful for the strong support from the Texas Cyclists, Civic Organizations and the different City Departments over these years. He stated they would like to thank the members of the LMPO and especially Jere Hart, Jim Gilbreath, Tom Martin, Darrell Westmoreland, Tera Davis, and Theresa Drewell, of Texas Tech, all of whom they have worked closely with and Steve Warren who provided answers and information to them. Mr. Mayfield said their mission is still focused on Bicycle Safety and Education especially for children. He stated they would work towards the future to best utilize the assets that they now have. He said that he and Mr. Phillips will still be available as a resource in town and they anticipate continuing working with the Texas Bicycle Coalition in some form.

He said that of the 30th of September he and Mr. Phillips would no longer be Outreach Coordinators and will probably miss a lot of the meetings. He said that they will miss coming to the meetings and wanted to say it has been very informative and they have enjoyed it. Mr. Gilbreath stated they have done a good job and wondered if Mr. Mayfield had heard anything about what was going on at Texas Tech with the bike path from Quaker Avenue by Greek Circle that was going to the main commuter lot. Mr. Mayfield said that last he had spoken to Ms. Drewell, that it would be tied into the construction of a building that will house a soccer team's dressing rooms. He said it would come out of the back, northeast corner of the Greek Circle and will be a ten-foot wide concrete trail out to the complex and tie into the parking lot.

Mr. Gilbreath stated that they have been great advocates and he appreciates them very much. Mr. Mayfield said that he appreciates all the help from the LMPO. Ms. Jones stated that the LMPO appreciates them and that due diligence has been on the part of both Mr. Mayfield and Mr. Phillips and that they will be missed. She stated they are both welcome to come back as guests. Mr. Mayfield said they would.

Interim Director

Mr. Westmoreland pointed out the calendars for the meeting dates and times. He explained that the room is not available for the normal date in November and that the only available date would be for November 6, 2007. Mr. Head wondered if there was reason to meet in the month of November. Ms. Davis stated there are no pressing agenda items. Mr. Westmoreland stated that he would keep the room reserved in case something does come up in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Westmoreland also wanted to thank everyone who is helping him through the interim process.

Hold an executive session in accordance with the V.T.C.A. Government Code, Section 551.074(a)(1), to discuss personnel matters.

The TPC adjourned to executive session at 8:52 a.m.

Discussion and action concerning the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization's Executive Director position.

At 9:00 a.m., the Transportation Policy Committee reconvened from Executive Session to the Open Meeting. Ms. Jones stated that applications are coming in for the Executive Direction position and the application process is still open at this time. No action will be taken.

Meeting Adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.