

**Minutes**  
**of the**  
**Transportation Policy Committee**  
**Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**January 15, 2008**

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee of the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization was held in Room 103 at 1625 13<sup>th</sup> Street, at 8:30 a.m. on January 15, 2008.

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 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  
Randy Hopmann, District Engineer, TxDOT  
LeeAnn Dumbauld, City Manager, City of Lubbock

Visitors/Staff: Tera Davis, Lubbock MPO  
Darrell Westmoreland, Lubbock MPO  
Diane Lann, TxDOT - Austin  
Marsha Reed, City of Lubbock  
Amy Sims, City of Lubbock  
James Loomis, City of Lubbock  
Larry Hertel, City of Lubbock  
Steve Warren, Texas Department of Transportation  
Bryan Wilson, Texas Department of Transportation  
Jo Stone, Golden Gazette  
Jonathan Ziegner, Parkhill, Smith and Cooper

**Call to Order.**

Ms. Jones called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. Ms. Jones asked the guests to introduce themselves.

**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 December 18, 2007 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 December 18, 2007 minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. John Leonard seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

**The Committee moved to the next item.**

**Update by the City of Lubbock on the Northwest Passage and Gateway Projects.**

Ms. Reed said there is no update at this time. She stated that City Council is scheduled to meet on this topic on January 24, 2008.

**The Committee moved to the next item.**

**Reports**

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

**Cities and County**

City of Wolfforth

No report.

City of Lubbock

No report.

Lubbock County

No report.

TxDOT

Randy Hopmann stated that they are finishing up the work on the direct connect bridges at Loop 289. He states that as of this time they are expected to open at the end of January or beginning of February. He said they are working hard to get them open. He said that they are working with the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Lubbock to have a media event recognizing them as the tallest and longest bridges in Lubbock. He stated that an announcement would be forthcoming.

He and Mr. Bryan Wilson explained that the parachute drapes that you see on 19<sup>th</sup> Street enable them to pour concrete in the winter as they hold in heat and allow the concrete to set without freezing. He stated they are approximately one month behind at this time but hope that some good weather will allow them to catch up. They are estimating early 2009 to open the portion of the Freeway in the Texas Tech area. Mr. Gilbreath stated that he lives in the area of the Freeway and travels it twice daily so the construction has a direct impact on him. He said that it is amazing that, in spite of the construction, it is still easy to travel. He said there are few problems on 4<sup>th</sup> Street with the traffic moving. Mr. Hopmann said that he appreciated Mr. Gilbreath's comment. He said the challenge is not to build the road but to keep the traffic flow moving during the construction.

Mr. Hopmann stated that it is possible the Transportation Policy Committee would be hearing some things in the media, particularly this week, about Texas Department of Transportation in other parts of the State. He said that starting today there will be about 46 town hall meetings along the TTC 69 Corridor

which is the Interstate 69 from the Valley, Laredo area, Corpus Christi, Houston, up the east side of Texas through Lufkin, Marshall, Texarkana and up that way. He said there would be three today, and more later in the week and even more in the next two or three weeks. He said there would be media talk about it and that possibly the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal might pick it up from the AP wires. He said there is a lot of progress being made for big transportation corridors.

Mr. Hopmann stated that John Hamilton represented Lubbock on a TTC Advisory Committee. He said that Committee was concluded at the end of the summer. He said what is happening now is some new advisory committees are being put together but will be corridor specific. He said there will be advisory committees set up for TTC 35 and TTC 69. He said that he believed that John received a letter notifying him of that but he would probably not be extended an invitation as they are wanting the membership to be along those corridors and it is a limited membership by legislation, limited to, he believes, twenty four individuals. He said there would be some county judges, mayors and chamber of commerce and economic development people who will represent those two corridors from Oklahoma to Mexico. He said that he is told that once they get those advisory committees in place, probably in the next twelve months, TxDOT will start looking more at the Ports to Plains Corridor and would probably take the step to set up an advisory committee for that corridor. He said that our time is coming.

Citibus

Mr. John Wilson said that with the fare increase in effect Citibus has had a 9.1% increase in ridership. He said that the revenue is 20% ahead and is looking good. He said that more people are purchasing passes, as they are less expensive. He said that is understandable. He said that it is really nice to see both a ridership and revenue increase.

Interim Director

Mr. Westmoreland stated that the MPO now has dates for the Federal Certification Review. It will be June 11, 12 and 13, 2008. He stated that all participants have agreed to these dates. He stated that he has read through the previous document. He stated that one thing that will be done is to revise the Congestion Management System Plan and that he will announce to the Transportation Advisory Committee when the MPO starts this 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 8:42 a.m.

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

At 9:04 a.m., the Transportation Policy Committee reconvened from Executive Session to the Open Meeting. Ms. Jones stated that the Transportation Policy Committee is not ready to take any action on this agenda item at this time and adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned.**

*The meeting adjourned at 9:04 a.m.*