

Minutes
of the
Transportation Policy Committee
Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization
February 10, 2009

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 February 10, 2009.

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

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

Visitors/Staff: David Jones, Lubbock MPO
Darrell Westmoreland, Lubbock MPO
Tera Davis, Lubbock MPO
Diane Lann, TxDOT - Austin
Steve Warren, Director of Transportation Planning & Development, TxDOT-Lubbock
Melinda Harvey, Director of Service Development, Citibus
Mitch Satterwhite, City of Lubbock
Dan Kessler, North Central Texas Council of Governments
Fred Underwood, Texas Transportation Commission

Call to Order.

Mr. Leonard called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Acknowledgement of Quorum by Chairman.

Mr. Leonard acknowledged a quorum of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC).

The Committee moved to the next item.

Public Comment Opportunity / Acknowledgment of Guests

Mr. Leonard moved to acknowledgement of guests and introduced Fred Underwood with the Texas Transportation Commission and Dan Kessler with the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

Mr. Leonard asked for any comment from the public. No comment was made.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Approval of the January 20, 2009 minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting.

Mr. Leonard asked for any corrections to the minutes. No corrections were made.

Patti Jones made a motion to approve the January 20, 2009 minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. Tom Head seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Mr. Leonard stated that he wished to take the agenda items out of order and skip to Agenda Item 6. The Committee moved to Agenda Item 6.

Discussion and action on TxDOT's, Citibus', and the City of Lubbock's submittal of economic stimulus projects and preparations to accommodate the revision of the TIP/STIP and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Mr. Steve Warren explained to the Transportation Policy Committee that the Lubbock MPO would receive \$5.9 million dollars for projects from the economic stimulus package. Mr. Warren also stated that the Texas Transportation Commission would have an additional \$1.5 billion to use at their discretion. He said that the Commission asked the District to help them come up with criteria to distribute that money. The criteria selected was:

- Funds distributed fairly and equitably throughout the State
- Leveraging
- Safety
- Sustainable Economic Development
- Project Connectivity
- Economic Distribution

Mr. Warren presented the Transportation Advisory Committee's recommendation for the \$5.9 million dollars:

\$3 million of the MPO's economic stimulus funding, along with the City of Lubbock's \$25 million in bond proceeds, and \$12 million from the Commission's discretionary fund for the Northwest Passage Project.

\$2.9 million of the MPO's economic stimulus funding, and \$15 million from the Commission's discretionary fund for the West Loop Project.

Mr. Warren felt that the Commission would fund these projects as they are providing \$27 million and getting \$60 million worth of projects. Mr. Martin questioned the \$15 million expected from TxDOT for the Northwest Passage. Mr. Warren explained that while TxDOT would honor the agreement previously made, the money might not be available for many years and the economic stimulus funding is available now. Mr. Warren reminded the Committee that the decision for the \$5.9 million was theirs to make.

Commissioner Underwood stated that he felt that Mr. Warren was presenting a good recommendation for the Economic Stimulus funding that would be advantageous to both Lubbock and the Commission.

Mr. Leonard and Mr. Martin thanked Mr. Warren and Mr. Underwood for their guidance regarding these funds.

Mr. Leonard called for a five-minute recess. The Transportation Policy Committee adjourned to recess at 9:40 a.m.

The TPC convened again at 9:44.

Melinda Harvey presented the Transit Projects that Citibus wanted to submit for their part of the economic stimulus package.

Those projects were:

Land Acquisition and Relocation; Professional Services fees

23 Replacement Buses

12 Replacement Paratransit Vehicles

Bus Wash Replacement

Parking Lot Expansion and Security Enhancements

Mr. Gilbreath had concerns regarding the use of economic stimulus funds for land acquisition. Mr. Jones reminded the TPC that there are no guarantees regarding these economic stimulus funds at this time and no guarantees that the Commission will fund these two projects. Mr. Warren suggested two contingency projects totaling the \$5.9 million. Those projects are:

FM 1730 from Loop 289 to 98th Street

Slide Road from FM 2255 (4th) to N. Loop 289

Tom Martin made motion to approve the projects submitted for economic stimulus funding with the addition of the two contingency projects. Lee Ann Dumbauld seconded and the motion passed with a no vote by Jim Gilbreath and L.C.C. Childers.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Discussion and action by the Transportation Policy Committee to authorize the draft amendments of the Transportation Improvement Program and Metropolitan Transportation Plan to go to the Public Involvement Process.

Mr. Jones requested approval to authorize the draft amendments of the Transportation Improvement Program and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan to go to the Public Involvement Process

John Wilson made motion to approve the draft amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan to go forward to the Public Involvement Process. Tom Martin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Committee moved to Agenda Item 5

Presentation by Dan Kessler, Assistant Director of Transportation, North Central Texas Council of Governments, and Executive Director, Texas Associations of MPOs, regarding a local option election strategy for raising money for transportation improvements and its relationship to NCTCOG's Rail North initiative.

Mr. Dan Kessler gave the Committee a presentation concerning a local option election strategy. Mr. Kessler stated this is a tool they wish to use for the greater DFW metropolitan area designed to raise new money for regional transportation projects. All projects and any new fees must be approved by the voters of a county.

Mr. Kessler stated that options being considered for the North Texas area for their passenger rail projects are:

- Roadway Impact Fee
- Local Option Mobility Improvement Fee
- Driver's License Renewal Fee
- Motor Fuels Tax
- Motor Vehicle Emission Fee
- Parking Management Fee; and
- Property Tax

Mr. Leonard thanked Mr. Kessler for his presentation.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Meeting Adjourned.

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee adjourned at 10:45 a.m.