

Minutes
of the
Transportation Policy Committee
Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization
June 16, 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 June 16, 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 Martin, Mayor, City of Lubbock
Jim Gilbreath, City Council, City of Lubbock
L.C. Childers, Mayor, City of Wolfforth
Lee Ann Dumbauld, City Manager, City of Lubbock
Doug Eichorst, District Engineer – TxDOT Lubbock

Visitors/Staff: David Jones, Lubbock MPO
Darrell Westmoreland, Lubbock MPO
Tera Davis, Lubbock MPO
Steve Warren, TxDOT-Lubbock
Bryan Wilson, TxDOT - Lubbock
Randy Henson, City of Lubbock
Marsha Reed, City of Lubbock
Melinda Harvey, Citibus
Eddie McBride, Chamber of Commerce
Amy Sims, City of Lubbock

Call to Order.

Mr. Leonard called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Acknowledgement of Quorum by Chairman.

Mr. Leonard acknowledged a quorum of the Transportation Policy Committee.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Public Comment Opportunity / Acknowledgment of Guests

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

The Committee moved to the next item.

Approval of the May 19, 2009 minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting.

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

Jim Gilbreath made a motion to approve the May 19, 2009 minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee Meeting. L.C. Childers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Consider and take action on, the Proposed FY 2010 budget of the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Mr. Jones explained there were four key changes made to the budget since it was approved by the Transportation Policy Committee at their May meeting. After the TPC meeting, and the June 2, 2009 Transportation Advisory Committee, the LMPO received a letter from the Federal Transit Administration stating that the amount of 5303 funding the MPO will receive for FY 2010 is \$93,761 rather than the \$88,285 that was approved. The Transportation Advisory Committee also approved the \$36,000 carryover amount for Traffic Engineering's Permanent Traffic Counter in order to complete that project during FY 2010. The TAC also made their recommendations for the \$146,308 that remained for programming.

The staff presented the MPO's recommendations to the TPC for programming along with the final TAC action taken at their June 2nd meeting. After considerable discussion the TPC approved the final budget including the programming. That programming included an additional \$5,000 for the Planning Department to continue hosting the main data file, \$141,308 to Planning to manage an aerial photography project, and no recommendation for TxDOT to perform a South Loop Study, nor to Citibus for a Fixed Route Study, nor to the MPO for an operating contingency.

Mr. Martin asked Ms. Harvey how, if Citibus asked for \$100,000 and would only receive \$80,000, they would pay the additional \$20,000 for the study. Ms. Harvey stated that Citibus would seek additional funding of \$20,000 to complete the study or the study would be scaled back to \$80,000. Ms. Harvey stated that the comprehensive study would not only include the City of Lubbock but would have regional significance as they would be looking at rural providers and Greyhound, as well as pedestrian and bicycle elements.

Mr. Martin was concerned that Citibus has received \$60,000 from the MPO in the past and has not done a Comprehensive study and wondered how they would achieve those results for FY 2010. Ms. Harvey stated that the \$60,000 contributions in the past were not earmarked for that type of study.

Mr. Jones then explained that the reason no funding was recommended by the MPO for the aerial photography was due to the fact that we would only have around \$60,000 of a \$200,000 request and did not feel that it was enough to make an impact on the project. Mr. Jones stated that the TAC reasoned that the \$60,000 was enough of an impact towards the project for it to be priority over the South Loop study. Mr. Leonard asked Ms. Reed to address the South Loop 289 project. Ms. Reed deferred to Mr. Eichorst. Mr. Eichorst stated that Phase 1 of the study realized that a ramp reversal might help the Level of Service on the South Loop area but in reversing the ramps it would put additional traffic on the access roads and intersections. Mr. Eichorst said Phase 2 would determine the best way to handle that increase in traffic. He stated that there were no guarantees that the project could be done after the second phase was complete and that it would depend on funding.

Mr. Leonard stated that he felt that the aerial photography needed to be done right away and that TxDOT could not confirm that the ramp reversal could be done in a timely fashion. Ms. Dumbauld asked about the contingency funding and Ms. Jones stated she was confused as the contingency funding was in the budget for this year. Mr. Jones confirmed that the contingency amount was placed back into the funding

available for programming. Ms. Jones stated if that contingency amount was utilized for the aerial photography it would leave a \$5,476 fund balance for the MPO.

Tom Martin made motion to approved the FY 2010 budget of the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization. Patti Jones seconded and the motion passed unanimously

The Committee moved to the next item.

Consider, and take action on, the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program, including certifications.

Mr. Martin stated that he would move to approve the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program with the following changes. The additional \$20,000 recommended to Citibus would be zeroed out as would the \$61,308 contingency for the MPO. That \$81,308 would be added to the \$60,000 for the aerial photography for a total of \$141,308 to go to the City of Lubbock Planning Department for the aerial photography project.

Ms. Jones was concerned that Citibus would not be able to complete the comprehensive study if they did not receive the additional \$20,000 in funding and suggested that amount go to Citibus and that Lubbock County and some of the surrounding areas might be able to add some funding to the aerial photography project.

Mr. Martin felt that the aerial photography project was first priority and that he did not have an interest in the rural areas. He felt that the \$60,000 was sufficient and felt that Mr. Wilson would be able to obtain additional funding to complete the Comprehensive Study.

Tom Martin made motion to approve the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program with the changes of removing the \$20,000 from the Citibus Fixed Route Analysis and the \$61,308 contingency funds from the MPO for a total of \$141,308 going to the Aerial Photography project to the City of Lubbock. Jim Gilbreath seconded and the motion passed with one dissenting vote by Patti Jones

The Committee moved to the next item.

REPORTS

- A. Director's**
 - Legislative Updates**

Director's

Mr. Jones stated that in the weekly conference call, Mr. John Barton with TxDOT stated that TxDOT had met the fifty percent threshold of \$780 million to be obligated and that by the deadline of June 29th they would have obligated \$790 million. Mr. Martin stated that it was his understanding that no Prop 14 funds were released for Phase 4 of the Marsha Sharp Freeway. Mr. Eichorst said that Prop 14 funds were in limbo at this time. He stated that his office will apply for a discretionary grant for funds to complete Phase 4. Mr. McBride said the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce prepared and sent a letter a couple of weeks ago regarding the specifications for the award of the Tiger funding as it is a Chamber priority.

Meeting Adjourned.

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee adjourned at 9:24 a.m.