MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Of the

Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

June 3, 2020

Attendees: Mr. Andy Barlow, Mr. Russ Brashear, Mr. Tom Brashear, Mr. Felix Castroad, Mr. Ceagus Clark, Mr. Doug Demosi, Mr. Richard Donovan, Mr. Keith Free, Mr. Glenn Harper, Mr. Mike Harris, Ms. Billy Higgins, Mr. Joe Horne, Ms. Katrina Jones, Mr. Jim Kerr, Mr. Bo Logan, Mr. Jonathan Marston, Mr. Bill McCord, Mr. Addam McCormick, Ms. Sharmila Patel, Mr. Andrew Pieri, Mr. Kevin Rigsby, Mr. Jonathan Russell, Mr. Sean Santalla, Mr. Matt Schenk, Mr. Marty Sewell, Mr. Josh Suddath, Mr. Matt Von Lunen

Approval of the 5/6/2020 meeting minutes

Mr. Glenn Harper, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Mr. Jim Kerr said that he was not listed as present at the May meeting. Mr. McCord said he had a couple of small grammatical changes. He will get them to the staff.

Mr. McCord moved to approve the May 6, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Kerr seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Endorse Amendments to the FYs 2020-2023 TIP

Ms. Anna Emerson, MPO staff, briefly went over the TIP amendments for Cycle C of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that are currently undergoing a public review and comment period.

A few clarifying questions were asked and answered.

Mr. Doug Demosi moved to endorse the amendments for adoption by the Transportation Policy Board with Mr. Kerr seconding. The motion passed unanimously.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amend #</th>
<th>TIP #</th>
<th>RTP #</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020-008</td>
<td>2018-76-078</td>
<td>Active Transportation</td>
<td>Highway 231N Sidewalk Project</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>Add funding</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020-009</td>
<td>2020-76-100</td>
<td>Multimodal</td>
<td>Lebanon Rd (SR-24) Sidewalks – Phase 3</td>
<td>Mt. Juliet</td>
<td>Add project</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020-010</td>
<td>2014-111-051</td>
<td>1018-202</td>
<td>Dickerson Pk (US41/31W)/CSX Underpass Reconstruction</td>
<td>TDOT</td>
<td>Add funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020-011</td>
<td>2015-111-069</td>
<td>Active Transportation</td>
<td>North Nashville Transit Center</td>
<td>Nashville MTA (WeGo)</td>
<td>Add funds; clarify scope</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020-013</td>
<td>2020-14-101</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>I-24 Ramp Improvements at Exit 35</td>
<td>TDOT</td>
<td>Add project</td>
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<td>2020-014</td>
<td>2020-14-102</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>I-24 Ramp Improvements at Exit 57</td>
<td>TDOT</td>
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<td>2020-015</td>
<td>2020-14-103</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>I-24 Ramp Improvements at Exit 59</td>
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<td>2020-016</td>
<td>2020-56-104</td>
<td>Multimodal</td>
<td>Richland Park Sidewalk Connector</td>
<td>Portland</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020-017</td>
<td>2018-26-074</td>
<td>Active Transportation</td>
<td>Harvey Park Greenway – Phase 1</td>
<td>Spring Hill</td>
<td>Add funds</td>
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</tbody>
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**Presentation of Amendments to the FYs 2020-21 UPWP**

Mr. Sean Pfalzer, Transportation Planning Manager and MPO Coordinator, briefly went over the amendments to the UPWP. He said that the amendments include:

1) The additional planning activities for FY 2021
   a. Regional Traffic Shed/Impact Fee Analysis (requested by Wilson County)
2) Documentation of Related Planning Activities
   a. Statewide Active Transportation Plan (TDOT)
   b. WeGo Star Rail Improvements Planning Study (WeGo)
   c. Regional Park and Ride Investment Strategy (WeGo)
   d. Transit Shelter Planning and Implementation Study (Rover)
   e. Cool Springs Transportation Study (Franklin)

Mr. McCord asked if the statewide active transportation plan will be funded by all MPOs and RPOs. Mr. Pfalzer said no. The Statewide Active Transportation Plan will be funded by TDOT, but include our region (TDOT Region 3).

Mr. McCord said it seems that the impact fee study is localized and wondered if there is any regional application. Mr. Pfalzer said that the analysis will identify impact fees or additional revenues to support transportation improvements to manage growth and development across the region. The analysis will support local governments across Middle Tennessee that are seeking ways to manage growth and development.

Mr. Felix Castrostad said WeGo is using CARES Act funds toward operations. He said that $75M is being divided between RTA, MTA, and Franklin Transit. The CARES Act funds will help in the interim to maintain the existing level of services and safety.
Update on Transportation Planning (MPO) Activities

Mr. Pfalzer gave a summary of the past couple of months with the impact of the tornado and COVID-19. He said that the staff has been in contact with our federal and state partners regarding the timeline for the update of the Regional Transportation Plan. The staff is reaching out to our state and federal partners to schedule time to discuss the challenging and aim to have an updated schedule ready for the TPB meeting on June 17th.

He said that the technical work continues to be carried out, yet public engagement is still on hold for the major studies.

Mr. Pfalzer said that as we move forward, we will have to consider the impact of emerging trends on transportation priorities and assess approaches to engage the public and stakeholders due to the pandemic.

Updates on Congestion Management Measures and Strategies

Mr. Pfalzer said that the staff continues to meet with TDOT and FHWA to go through the eight steps of the CMP process. They are exploring ways to better utilize the data and the level of analysis. The CMP has been fully integrated into the regional transportation planning process since 2010. The components are carried out through the development of the core MPO products including the RTP, TIP, and UPWP. They are produced with congestion management as a core strategy and rely on information and data that describes current and future traffic congestion and the benefits of various strategies aimed at mitigating and managing congestion impacts.

Emerging trends due to the COVID-19 pandemic are:
1) widespread use of telecommuting, 2) growing demand for delivery, 3) surge in active transportation activity, 4) improved air quality, 5) hesitancy for riders to return to transit, and 6) decline in tax revenue/delay of transportation investments.

Overview of TDOT I-40-81 Corridor Study

Ms. Melanie Murphy, TDOT, gave an overview of the I-40/I-81 Corridor Study. She said that the study will result in a 20-year phased set of recommended transportation improvements for the corridors. The study gives guidance for decision makers regarding future projects, identifies both long-term objectives and near-term steps, and promotes coordination with stakeholders on the future of this corridor.

Mr. Skipper asked how the community engagement via online has gone and what type of feedback has been received. Ms. Murphy said that the on-line workshops have been good. The most recent workshop for Region 3 had about 45 participants with lots of questions. Mr. Skipper asked if more workshops are planned in Middle Tennessee and
how much is TDOT relying on the RTP update to be the gateway to more community engagement on transportation issues. Ms. Murphy said that the state is relying on the RTP update to help. She said that there will be more community events.

Mr. McCord asked if the study is coordinating with North Carolina, Virginia, and Arkansas DOTs. Mr. Jonathan Russell said that has been a solid coordination with Virginia, and that Arkansas is also participating. He was not sure about North Carolina. He said that the study is well thought out for each area. He said that virtual meetings were implemented, and that feedback has been good. He said that they need to do a better job of getting the word out and coordinating with partners. Mr. Skipper said that the staff is struggling with this. He said that the staff is studying policies with community engagement. Mr. McCord said that freight traffic is growing fast and we need to make sure that the freight partners are involved. Mr. Russell agreed that freight is a big challenge.

Ms. Murphy said that a survey for the I-40/I-81 study can be taken at www.surveymonkey.com/4/F62R7DY.

To learn more about the project, visit www.tn.gov/tdot/i-40-81-study.html.

**TDOT Report**

There are two grants opportunities for applications:

1) **Multimodal Access Grant** – the notice of intent period is anticipated to open within the next two weeks and will be accepted through the end of July. More details on the Multimodal Access Grant are available at https://www.tn.gov/tdot/multimodal-transportation-resources/multimodal-access-grant.html.

2) **Transportation Alternatives Program Grant** – the application cycle is open from the first Monday in July until the first Friday in October. More details on the Transportation Alternatives Program are available at https://www.tn.gov/tdot/program-development-and-administration-home/local-programs/tap.html.

Mr. Pfalzer said that he would send out the information about these grants to the members.

**Staff Report**

Mr. Pfalzer said that he will email updates for the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan to the members.

He said that community engagement is on hold due to COVID-19 for the Inner Loop Study. Details on the study are available at https://solvethistogther.org/inner-loop.
Mr. Pfalzer said that the steering committee meeting for the South Corridor Study was held on May 23rd to cover updates on several deliverables, although final round of public workshops is on hold. Details of this study are available at https://southcorridor.org.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

8/13/2020

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Glenn Harper, Chair
Technical Coordinating Committee

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Sean Pfalzer, Transportation Planning Manager
MPO Coordinator