

**MINUTES**  
**Of the**  
**TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD**  
**Of the**  
**Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**June 16, 2021**

Attendees: Mayor Rogers Anderson, Mr. Andy Barlow (for Mayor James Maness), Mr. Kirk Bednar (for Mayor Rhea Little), Mayor Rick Bell, Mr. Steve Bland, Mayor Paige Brown, Mayor Mike Callis, Mayor Jamie Clary, Ms. Faye DiMassimo (for Mayor John Cooper), Mr. Gerald Herman (form Mayor Michael Arnold), Mayor Anthony Holt, Mr. Eddie Hood, Mayor Randall Hutto, Mr. Thad Jablonski (for Mayor Chaz Molder), Mr. Jim Kerr (for Mayor Shane McFarland), Mayor Bill Ketron, Mr. Victor Lay (for Mayor Derek Adams), Mr. Addam McCormick (for Mayor Rusty Tinnin), Mr. Matt Meservy (for Gov. Bill Lee), Mayor Ken Moore, Mayor Mary Esther Reed, Mayor Billy Vogle

**Call to Order and Approval of Previous Meeting minutes**

Mayor Billy Vogle, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

Mayor Ken Moore moved to approve the March 17, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved on the second by Mayor Bill Ketron.

Mr. Gerald Herman moved to approve the May 19, 2021 meeting minutes. Mayor Paige Brown seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Action Items**

**a) Public Hearing: Resolution TPB-2021-06 Amending the FYs 2020-23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Ms. Anna Emerson, Principal Planner, presented Cycle C amendments to the FYs 2020-23 TIP listed below. She said that the amendments have been out for the required public review and comment period. No comments have been received.

Mayor Vogle opened the public hearing. There were no public comments. Mayor Vogle closed the public hearing.

Mr. Victor Lay moved to adopt Resolution TPB-2021-06 amending the FYs 2020-23 TIP. Mr. Jim Kerr seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

<b>Amend #</b>	<b>TIP #</b>	<b>RTP #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Action</b>
2021-020	2020-57-118	Congestion Mitigation	Gallatin ITS Phase 2	Gallatin	Add project
2021-021	2020-56-119	Active Transportation Program	Lock 4 Multiuse Trail	Gallatin	Add project
2021-022	2019-12-100	2821	Charlotte Pike (SR-24/US70) Widening from Near I-40 to Near Annex Ave/Hillwood Blvd	TDOT	Add funds; revise termini
2021-023	2017-12-012	2820; 2821	Charlotte Pike (SR-24) Widening Phase 1	TDOT	Add funds; revise termini
2021-024	2021-17-120	2829	I-24 SMART Corridor Phase 3	TDOT	Add project
2021-025	2021-17-121	2831	I-24 Open Roads Testbed	TDOT	Add project

**b) Public Hearing: Resolution TPB-2021-07 Amending the FYs 2020-21 Unified (Transportation) Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Mr. Sean Pfalzer, Transportation Planning Manager, presented the proposed amendments to the FYs 2020-21 UPWP that include the addition of planning grants awarded by TDOT through a residual 5303 Call-for-projects and the initial round of the Urban Transportation Planning Grant (UTPG).

- nMotion Update (WeGo/RTA/GNRC)
- Sumner County Bike/Ped Plan (Sumner County/TDOT)

Mayor Vogle opened the public hearing. There were no comments. Mayor Vogle closed the public hearing.

Mayor Mike Callis moved to adopt Resolution TPB-2021-07 amending the FYs 2020-21 UPWP with Mr. Herman seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

**c) Resolution TPB 2021-08 Approving Regional Transit Safety Performance Targets**

Mr. Daniel Capparella, Active Transportation Planner, provided an overview of transit safety performance targets and the responsibilities of transit agencies and MPO as part of FTA performance-based planning requirements. He stated that all public transportation providers are required to develop public transportation agency safety plans and establish safety targets based on the following measures:

- Fatality: Total number of fatalities reported to NTD and rate per total vehicle revenue miles (VRM) by mode
- Injury: Total number of injuries reported to NTD and rate per total VRM by mode.
- Safety Event: Total number of safety events reported to NTD and rate per total VRM by mode.

- System Reliability: Mean distance between major mechanical failures by mode

He also said that MPOs are required to adopt transit safety targets specific to the MPO planning area. Below are the proposed transit safety targets for the transit agencies located within the Nashville Area MPO.

Mode of Transit Service	Fatalities (total)	Fatalities (per 100 thousand VRM)	Injuries (total)	Injuries (per 100 thousand VRM)	Safety Events (total)	Safety Events (per 100 thousand VRM)	System Reliability (VRM / failures)
<b>WeGo Public Transit</b>							
Fixed Route Bus	0	0	35	.55	24	.45	5,500
Demand Response Bus	0	0	6	.27	6	.26	24,800
Demand Response Taxi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) dba WeGo Public Transit</b>							
Commuter Bus – Contracted – Gray Line	0	0	0	0	1	.29	23,500
Vanpool – Contracted – The TMA Group	0	0	0	0	1	.21	N/A
<b>Franklin Transit Authority (TMA Group)</b>							
Fixed Route	0	0	3	1.4	3	1.4	17,000
Demand Response	0	0	1	1.3	1	1.3	20,000
<b>Murfreesboro Rover</b>							
Fixed Route	0	0	2	0.82	2	0.82	49,018

Mayor Moore moved to adopt Resolution TPB 2021-08 approving Regional Transit Safety Performance Targets in the region. The motion was seconded by Mayor Anthony Holt, and it passed unanimously.

**d) COVID Relief Funds Call-for Projects**

Mr. Pfalzer said that the COVID relief funding was appropriated through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (HIP-CRRSAA). The purpose is to provide funding to address coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) impacts related to HIP. There is no federal match required and the eligibility is similar to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG). He said that the Nashville UZA was awarded \$7.9 million that must be obligated by September 30, 2024. The Murfreesboro UZA was awarded \$0.8 million and the obligation deadline is December 31,

2022. He also said that more suitable projects include the following based on the survey that was sent out last month:

- Roadway Safety Improvements
- Transportation Technology Upgrades
- Sidewalk Connectivity and Pedestrian Improvements
- ADA Related Improvements

Mr. Pfalzer previewed the application components that include a project description, schedule, budget, and point of contact. He also noted the schedule for the call for projects is as follows:

- June 16 – Transportation Policy Board to Issue Call for Projects
- June 23- July 14 – Open Pre-Application Period
- July 15- July 28 – Evaluation of Pre-Applications
- August 2- August 20 – Open Formal Application Period
- August 23- September 10 – Evaluation of Formal Applications
- September 15 – Announce Awards

Mayor Holt moved to approve the call for projects. Mayor Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Informational Items**

#### **a) Presentation of the FYs 2022 and 2023 Work Program**

Mr. Pfalzer said that the work program has a dual purpose: 1) coordinating planning for regionally significant transportation policies, plans, and programs and 2) prioritizing and programming federal planning grants in support of transportation goals across the metropolitan planning area. The types of work and activities applicable are outreach and engagement efforts, research and data analysis, policy coordination, and funding.

Mr. Pfalzer highlighted some of the planning activities included in the UPWP, including the Regional Conservation and Preservation Strategy, the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Update, and the Regional Pedestrian Safety Action Plan.

The draft document will be available for public comment in July and is schedule for adoption by TPB at their August 18th meeting after a public hearing. The latest draft can be reviewed at [www.gnrc.org/upwp/FY22-23](http://www.gnrc.org/upwp/FY22-23).

A clarifying question was asked and answered.

#### **b) Update on TDOT Activities in the Regional TIP**

Mr. Brian Hurst, TDOT Program Development and Administration Division, provided an update on challenges with cost estimates, use of advance construction as a funding strategy, and IMPROVE Act projects.

He said that cost estimates on larger projects are particularly challenging and is hopeful that new procedures can improve the accuracy of cost estimates. He noted that advance construction (AC) is generally utilized when insufficient federal funds and/or obligation authority is available and it has allowed TDOT to proceed with projects using state funds and then convert to federal funds at a later date. He stated that the cost projection to complete the IMPROVE Act projects has grown from \$10.4 Billion to \$15.3 Billion. Of the 1021 projects, currently 148 are complete, 499 are active in preliminary engineering, right of way, or construction, and 376 are not yet started. He demonstrated TDOT's Interactive Tennessee Road Improvement Program (iTRIP) that contains the status of all projects across the state. It is available at <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/long-range-planning-home/longrange-data-visualization/gis-mapping-and-support.html>

Several clarifying questions were asked and answered.

### **Regular Reports**

#### **a) FHWA and FTA Report**

Ms. Pam Kordenbrock reminded the members that USDOT is accepting applications for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants. There is approximately \$1 Billion available nationwide. There is a maximum award of \$25 million per project with a minimum match requirement of 20%. The application deadline is July 12, 2021. More information on the funding opportunity, including a series of webinars, is available on USDOT's website at <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants>.

She said that there will be a webinar on June 30<sup>th</sup> on the effectiveness of performance-based planning and programming in transportation decision making. The MPO staff has the registration information.

She said that FHWA is in the process of reviewing the draft UPWP and will have their comments by the beginning of July.

#### **b) TDOT Report**

Mr. Matt Meservy said that the region received four awards through TDOT Multimodal Access Grant program. The awards went to Hendersonville, Gallatin, Murfreesboro, and Smyrna.

#### **c) Chair's Report**

Mayor Vogle said that MPOs across the state of Tennessee have a high unobligated balance of suballocated federal funds that run the risk of expiring if not spent within required timeframes. In response, we would like to establish a Project Delivery Task Force to help identify obstacles to the timely obligation of funding and to work with TDOT to find solutions to moving these projects forward. The task force would be made up of local mayors, local jurisdictional staff experts, and TDOT. He asked Mayor Mary Esther Reed to chair and assemble the group.

#### **d) Staff Report**

Mr. Pfalzer said that there will be a webinar on June 22<sup>nd</sup> on Urban Freight.

Mr. Michael Skipper, GNRC Executive Director, introduced Ms. Candi Henry as the new GNRC Chief Legal Counsel and Ms. Jessica Hill as the Director of Community and Regional Planning.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Date: 8/18/21

Billy Vogle

The Honorable Billy Vogle  
Chair, MPO Transportation Policy Board

Sean Pfalzer  
Sean Pfalzer, Transportation Planning Manager  
Secretary, Transportation Policy Board