

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: November 10, 2016, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 113, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, NE

MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: David Cary - Director of Planning Dept., Pam Dingman - Lancaster County Engineer, Miki Esposito - Director of Public Works & Utilities, Paul Barnes and Kellee Van Bruggen - Planning Dept., Michael Davis - StarTran, Roger Figard and Randy Hoskins - Public Works & Utilities, Sara Hartzell - Parks & Recreation, Wynn Hjermsstad - Urban Development, Brendan Lilley - County Engineer, Brad Zumwalt - Nebraska Dept. of Roads and Gary Bergstrom - Health Dept. (David Haring – Lincoln Airport Authority absent); Thomas Shafer of Public Works and Utilities; Nick Weander of Olsson Associates; Nancy Hicks of the Lincoln Journal Star; and other interested parties.

Chair David Cary called the meeting to order and acknowledged the posting of the Open Meetings Act in the room.

Cary then requested a motion approving the minutes of the meeting held September 18, 2016. Motion for approval made by Hoskins, seconded by Esposito and carried 14-0: Barnes, Bergstrom, Cary, Davis, Dingman, Esposito, Figard, Goodbarn, Hartzell, Hjermsstad, Hoskins, Lilley, Van Bruggen and Zumwalt voting 'yes'; Haring absent.

REVIEW AND ACTION ON REVISIONS TO THE FY 2017-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: A) NEBRASKA, VANPOOL PROJECT,VENDOR VANPOOL SERVICES TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE CONTRACTED SERVICES WHICH INCLUDES SERVICE FOR a) THE LINCOLN AND OMAHA (LCLC AND MAPA) METRO REGIONS AND b) RURAL NEBRASKA VANPOOL SERVICE; B) LANCASTER COUNTY, RAILROAD CROSSING ADVANCED PAVEMENT MARKINGS PROJECT TO UPGRADE PAVEMENT MARKINGS AT 9 LOCATIONS IN LANCASTER COUNTY; AND C) LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT, ROSA PARKS WAY TRAIL, RAILROAD UNDERCROSSING TRAIL WEST OF 1ST AND J STREET:

Mike Brienzo stated that the Vanpool project establishes a statewide program and a contract between Lincoln and Omaha. There is a rural vanpool program as well. The State of Nebraska has an RFP (Request For Proposal) out now. This was in the CIP program for being programmed in 2015-2016. The RFP had not been released yet, so the programming is being pushed back.

The second item is a Lancaster County safety project. The County has been working on this. There are nine different locations. Pam Dingman added these are epoxy placed in the pavement, so they are quite durable. Brienzo believes this is scheduled to go out for contract in the first part of January 2017.

The third project is the Rosa Parks Way Trail. This has been in the CIP for several years. Federal funds are being used. We are moving the right-of-way portion from last year to the current year. He believes there were discussions that needed to happen with the railroad.

ACTION:

Motion for approval of revising the FY 2017-2020 TIP to include: A) Nebraska Vanpool Project, vendor vanpool services to provide statewide contracted services which include service for a) the Lincoln and Omaha (LCLC and MAPA) metro regions and b) rural Nebraska vanpool service; B) Lancaster County, railroad crossing advanced pavement markings project to upgrade pavement markings at 9 locations in Lancaster County; and C) Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, Rosa Parks Way Trail, railroad undercrossing west of 1st and J Street, made by Figard, seconded by Cary and carried 14-0: Barnes, Bergstrom, Cary, Davis, Dingman, Esposito, Figard, Goodbarn, Hartzell, Hjermsstad, Hoskins, Lilley, Van Bruggen and Zumwalt voting 'yes'; Haring absent.

BRIEFING ON THE UPDATING OF THE LINCOLN MPO 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN:

Brienzo would like to go over the latest public outreach for the LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan) Update. The performance based elements started in September 2015. The LRTP Project Oversight Committee was recruited. The Planning Commission represented the citizen advisory arm of the project. We have gone through a number of meetings, focus groups, public meetings, community surveys and open houses. We have had extensive discussions on the funding aspects. In September of 2016, the public review period was opened up. We incorporated an open house for the Comprehensive Plan and Long Range Transportation Plan updates. A notice was emailed to over 1,800 contacts. The Technical Report and Executive Summary are available online. An online survey received 259 responses.

There were numerous meetings with stakeholder groups. One primary question that was asked was regarding how we would recognize increasing construction costs and maximize the system's capacity. There was also a focus on smart systems. We thought this plan would have a greater emphasis on technology for rehabilitation and traffic signal coordination. Through the early stages, a Resource Allocation Plan was formed. This follows the feedback that we have received throughout this process. Maintenance and construction is the largest piece of funding. Alternative Modes are primarily public transit, but bicycle and pedestrian activities are also covered. Roadway Construction Activities is another piece. There is another funding source that we have no control over such as the RTSD (Railroad Transportation Safety District). Committed projects are already in the pipeline. Something new was added this time. The

public was very focused on the East Beltway at public meetings. It kept coming to the top of the list. We have corridor preservation and that is being managed through our programming. There was a nice distribution of ages taking the survey. The geographic distribution was mapped out as well. People throughout the community responded. We asked if people agreed with the funding objectives in the plan. Those who strongly agree or somewhat agree was 64 percent of responses. Most people felt that the LRTP adequately funds maintenance activities. People seemed to be evenly split on the adequate funding of alternative modes of transportation. About 52 percent believes the funding for roadway construction activities seemed just about right. There were opposing views on resource allocation.

For the next steps, the Technical Committee will have public hearing on November 10, 2016. The Planning Commission will have public hearing on November 16, 2016. The City Council and County Board will hear the LRTP along with the LPlan 2040 Update. We hope to have City Council take action on December 5, 2016 and County Board on December 6, 2016. It will then go to Technical Committee on December 8, 2016 and to Officials Committee for final approval in December 2016.

Paul Barnes stated that documents are available online today for LPlan 2040 Update and LRTP Update. We will send messages to various groups notifying them that this information is available.

Dingman knows that Brienzo has worked very hard on this. She appreciates his leadership and coordination. Brienzo noted that this is not a one person job. There has been a lot of support from many people and groups.

Cary added that the LRTP is effectively what was reviewed in September 2016. The feedback received didn't change any of the information. Staff believes we went in the direction that the public was going. The content won't be different than what was already seen.

Dingman thinks it is important to note that as we look at the long term infrastructure needs that we publicly acknowledge that there are not enough dollars to do what we need to do and maintain a system of this size. She appreciates looking at signal timing and intersections and she appreciates any creative alternatives. She also appreciates any ideas on innovation or the thought of something new. In the past, engineering and planners kept doing the same thing. That is no longer what we can do. We have to look at all approaches and know that nothing can stay the same. She is confident we have all the right people to accomplish that.

OTHER:

Dingman acknowledged Roger Figard on his last MPO Technical Committee as he is retiring November 2016 and expressed her appreciation for his long service with the City of Lincoln. Everyone agreed.

Miki Esposito stated that Figard will stay on to assist with RTSD functions as Executive Director until April 2017. He will continue to attend meetings on behalf of the RTSD.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.