

MEETING MINUTES

Technical Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 13, 2012

1:30 p.m.

Room 113, County/City Building

Members Present: Miki Esposito, Roger Figard, Randy Hoskins, Public Works/Utilities/RTSD; Marvin Krout, David Cary, Planning; Doug Pillard, County Engineering; Chris Schroeder, Health; Brian Praeuner, StarTran; Randy Eldorado, Nebraska Department of Roads.

Others Present: Justin Luther, FHWA; Kaine McClelland, Mick Syslo, NDOR; Barb Fraser, PBAC; Thomas Shafer, Engineering Services; Mike Brienzo, Michele Abendroth, Planning.

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

Review and action on the draft minutes of the August 9, 2012 Technical Committee meeting

Figard moved approval of the meeting minutes of the August 9, 2012, seconded by Cary. The motion carried unanimously.

Krout announced that Nicole Fleck-Tooze has taken a new position with the Parks and Recreation Department and David Cary has been promoted to serve as the Long Range Planning Manager.

Review and action on the *Project Selection Task Force* recommendations on project funding and programming for the Federal Transit Administration Job Access/Reverse Commute (Section 5316) and New Freedom (Section 5317), programs. Action is to include *amending* to the proposed FY 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program to add these projects and federal funding.

Brienzo stated that each year, we receive federal transit administration funds for Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom (JARC/NF). We have a Call for Projects, and a Project Selection Task Force reviews those projects. We received two proposals for NF funds and three proposals for JARC funds. These are projects that we have been funding for the past few years, and there are no changes to the proposals. The three JARC projects are from the Lincoln Literacy Council, StarTran, and the Center for People in Need. The amounts awarded are approximately 3% less than what was awarded last year. The NF projects are from the League of Human Dignity and the Seniors Foundation. The Project Selection Task Force is recommending approval of these proposals.

Eldorado moved approval of the recommendations on project funding and programming for the Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom programs, seconded by Figard. The motion carried with Praeuner abstaining.

Review and action on *revisions* to the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program.

Brienzo explained that it was determined these revisions could be acted upon administratively, therefore no action is needed by the Technical Committee. These administrative modifications are posted on the MPO website.

Review and action on revisions to the proposed FY 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program.

Brienzo explained that there is one revision to the Streets section, which is a safety project at 66th and Fremont streets. We need an amendment to add this to the 2013-2016 TIP.

The second set of projects are JARC/NF funds reflected in the previous agenda item.

Figard moved approval of the revisions to the proposed FY 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program, seconded by Cary. The motion carried unanimously.

Briefing by NDOR on the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) under MAP-21.

Syslo explained that MAP-21 passed in July and with that were changes to the definitions for the National Highway System (NHS). This means that all arterial principals are part of the NHS in Nebraska. This has added 700 center lane miles to the NHS. He displayed a map showing the current system and the new system. There are two boundaries on the map, one being the urban boundaries and the other corporate limits. All the changes have occurred within the corporate limits. They have not received new definitions based on the last census. At this point, they are utilizing the current definitions. Several segments are now included in the NHS including Rosa Parks, Cornhusker Highway from the airport to the I-80 interchange and then to 10th Street, Superior Street from I-180 to Highway 6, 27th Street from Cornhusker Highway to the Interstate, and L Street. This takes effect October 1, 2012. They are currently trying to determine what the implications are.

Krout questioned why L Street is included. Syslo responded that he believes it is because of the functionality of it and how it ties into Rosa Parks. Luther stated that if a street is functionally classified as a principal arterial, it is functioning as such, so this just means that it is designated in the NHS. The Department of Roads will update the maps and ask the MPO if the system functions as it shows. The key is that the MPO controls the map for Lancaster County.

Syslo stated that Lincoln currently has 14.17 miles of NHS and it will increase to 25.91 miles.

Syslo explained that this does require as part of the funding that it is now part of the performance measures. They are already collecting data on the system, but if the performance measures change, then funding may change as well.

Cary clarified that this does not necessarily mean we will get more funding because we have more miles.

Syslo stated that no action is needed today, but they will be coming forward with more information in the future.

Figard asked if the state's functional class definition is the same as the federal functional class. Syslo stated that there are still two different classifications. Figard then asked if there is a goal to marry the two systems. Syslo and ElDorado indicated that they are not aware of marrying the two. Figard commented that he is not saying this is right or wrong, but it confuses the process.

Other topics for discussion

Shafer informed the committee of another administrative amendment they will be processing. Unobligated earmarks have been made available to the state. Since the City of Lincoln and the partners on the South Beltway had been so instrumental in getting that earmark, the state has allowed those funds to be used on one of our projects. Administratively, they will add that to the 2013 resurfacing project. This does not change the South Beltway schedule in any way.

Shafer also stated that another amendment will be the 10th Street Bridge over Salt Creek over Military Road. They will be do a study to determine if it should be rehabbed or replaced depending upon what is most cost effective.

Fraser stated that the PBAC is grateful that current projects are getting funded, but there is some concern and frustration that because a lot of the rescinded money came from transportation enhancements, there will be fewer new projects funded in the next couple years.

Brienzo stated that two proposals were received for the Travel Demand Management project, and interviews were conducted this week. Nelson/Nygaard has been selected, and they are waiting for the notice to proceed from the state. They will then begin to further define the project and do cost negotiations. Eldorado recommended that an Independent Cost Estimate be prepared, and both the MPO and the consultant will use this as the basis for negotiations.

Luther stated that MAP-21 is a two-year authorization bill. There was a major restructuring of the program, so there are now five core programs. One of the biggest changes is performance measures. The MPO will establish performance targets once the state sets their performance targets.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

*** Please note that these minutes will not be formally approved until the next meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee. ***

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