

MEETING MINUTES

Technical Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 6, 2014

1:30 p.m.

Room 113, County/City Building

Members Present: Thomas Shafer, Roger Figard, Randy Hoskins, Public Works/Utilities/RTSD; Marvin Krout, David Cary, David Pesnichak, Planning; Doug Pillard, County Engineering; Wynn Hjernstad, Urban Development; Gary Bergstrom, Health; Michael Davis, StarTran; Brad Zumwalt, Tom Goodbarn, Nebraska Department of Roads.

Others Present: Mark Bechtel, Federal Transit Administration; Barb Fraser, PBAC; Michael Kleffner, Kaine McClelland, Wayne Masek, Kari Ruse, Frank Faughn, George Gallardo, NDOR; Brian Praeuner, Scott Tharnish, Ryan Kacirek, StarTran; Rick Haden, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig; Nancy Hicks, Journal Star; Mike Brienzo, Michele Abendroth, Planning.

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

1. Review and action on the draft minutes of the November 7, 2013 Technical Committee meeting.

Cary moved to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2013 Technical Committee meeting, seconded by Goodbarn. The motion carried unanimously with Hoskins abstaining.

2. Rotation of the Technical Committee Chairperson.

Brienzo explained that Esposito has served as the Chair of the Technical Committee for the past two years. We typically rotate the Chair annually. Krout has agreed to serve as Chair for a year.

3. Review and action on amendments to the MPO Public Participation Plan based upon the FHWA/FTA Certification Review of Civil Rights requirements and resulting recommendations.

- a. Establish the Title VI coordinator, contact, and complaint process**
- b. Implement the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title VI requirement**
- c. Update the Limited English proficiency (LEP) requirement**

Brienzo explained that at the November meeting, we proposed an amendment to the Public Participation Plan. The proposed changes address the Limited English Proficiency Program Plan and clarify the Accommodations Policy which is to comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Public notices for the amendment were posted on the MPO webpage, posted in the Journal Star and sent via email to individuals on the MPO mailing list. No comments on the proposed revisions have been received at this time.

Krout asked if this meets the federal requirements. Davis stated that this policy is City-wide and meets all the requirements.

Brienzo noted that the County has their own LEP and Title VI policy. The County policy does not really apply to the MPO activities since the City of Lincoln is the designated as the MPO.

Krout asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

Shafer moved to accept the amendments to the MPO Public Participation Plan, seconded by Hoskins. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Briefing on the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 2013 Triennial Review of the City of Lincoln StarTran.

Praeuner stated that this is an audit of how StarTran conforms with federal rules and regulations. This review is conducted once every three years. In October, the FTA contractors came and looked at StarTran's records and asked questions about the procedures. There are 18 areas that FTA looks at. FTA found eight areas where StarTran needed to update their plans and procedures. FTA gives seven days to update those. Praeuner reported that they corrected all items they identified within the seven day window, and FTA has formally accepted all the changes.

Bechtel stated that he was not part of the review, but complimented staff for completed the eight deficiencies in the seven day window.

5. Review and action on *proposed* amendment to the Lincoln MPO FY 2013-2014 Unified Planning Work Program to include the *Transit Development Plan Study* in the Transit Planning Work Program (Section 6700).

Brienzo stated that staff would like to add a project to the Work Program for a Transit Development Plan (TDP). The project will be funded with a combination of local and federal funds.

Praeuner stated that a TDP was done in 2007, and it is time to do another one. They would like to begin the project with an RFP sent out in March. They plan to implement the changes to the system in August of 2015. Brienzo noted that the project needs to be in the Work Program before the RFP can be issued.

Krout asked if the study will look at a trolley or street car system. Davis stated that a scope of services has been developed, and they can make sure they look at that as well. Bechtel stated that they encourage looking at a street car system. They are also pleased that they are including a feasibility study for a multi-modal center.

Krout asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

Figard moved to approve the amendment to the FY 2013-2014 Unified Planning Work Program, seconded by Bergstrom. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Review and action on revisions to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program.

- a. Nebraska Department of Roads**
- b. Lincoln Public Works & Utilities Department**
- c. StarTran**
- d. Lincoln Parks Department**

Brienzo explained that there are four revisions to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program. The first one is for NDOR to move STP funds from the City program into the State program for Interstate I-80, 6-lane reconstruction project at NW 56th Street and US-77 interchange. Shafer explained the reason for the change. Every year, the City receives approximately \$5.3 million in funds. The other \$6 million is a result of federal regulation changes affecting the Antelope Valley project which allowed some money that they were not previously able to tap into to now be used. They are working through

the details of how the City will get credited back for those funds. This will not slow down any of the federal aid projects. From the City, State and public standpoint, this is a win situation. He thanked the State for working with them on this.

Brienzo explained that the other part of the NDOR amendment is converting NE funds to Federal Highway funds for three projects on Interstate I-80.

The second amendment is for the City Streets and Highways program. The changes are for Traffic Optimization and Management Program; Roadway and Bridge Rehabilitation; 56th Street from Shadow Pines Drive to Old Cheney Road; North 10th Street & Military Bridge; 9th Street, Van Dorn to South Street; and Highway 2, Van Dorn to S. 14th Street.

The third amendment is for StarTran for the addition of the Transit Development Plan update.

The fourth amendment is to add the Billy Wolff Trail project to the Pedestrian, Bicycle and Trails section. Cary noted that this is the busiest part of the trail, and the widening will be much appreciated.

Krout asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

Shafer moved approval of the revisions to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program, seconded by Zumwalt. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Other topics for discussion.

Bechtel reviewed some recent personnel changes at FTA. He noted that he will be the contact person while Nguyen is on leave. The administration wants staff to be in the field more so that is why he is here today.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:43 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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