

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: January 23, 2020, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 113, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, NE

MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: David Cary – Planning Department, Pam Dingman – County Engineering, Thomas Shafer – Lincoln Transportation and Utilities (LTU), Michael Davis – StarTran, Chad Lay – Lincoln Airport Authority, Tom Goodbarn and Craig Wacker – Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT), Larry Legg – County Engineer, Roger Figard – Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD) and Sara Hartzell – Parks and Recreation, Lonnie Burklund and Mark Lutjeharms - Lincoln Transportation and Utilities, and Kellee Van Bruggen – Planning Dept.: (Paul Barnes – Planning Department, Gary Bergstrom – Health Dept. and Dan Marvin – Urban Development Department absent). Allan Zafft and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Dept. 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 October 4, 2019. Davis noted that on page 2 of the minutes, a comment attributed to him needed to be updated to change ‘three electric buses’ to ‘four electric buses’. Figard added that on page 6, a comment attributed to him about NDOT and vehicles per day can be deleted. He did not recall making the statement. Motion for approval with amendments as proposed, made by Shafer, seconded by Figard and carried 12-0: Burklund, Cary, Davis, Dingman, Figard, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Lutjeharms, Shafer, Van Bruggen and Wacker voting ‘yes’; Hartzell absent at time of vote; Barnes, Bergstrom and Marvin absent.

REPORT ON THE ROTATION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OFFICERS:

Allan Zafft stated that the Chair and Vice-Chair of Technical Committee are rotated every year from the Tri-Chairs. This year, the chair is David Cary and Tom Casady is the Vice-Chair.

REVIEW AND ACTION ON AMENDMENT TO THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Zafft reviewed the proposed amendments to the MPO Management Plan. At the last Technical Committee meeting, one item was deferred for more research. This is to clarify that RTSD has a separate vote. Staff did some research and the proposal is to separate the Lincoln City Engineer/RTSD as two separate voting members. This changes the bylaws and will go on to Officials Committee for a vote.

Cary stated that the voting procedures regarding quorum were updated as well to show the addition of one member.

ACTION:

Figard made a motion to amend the MPO Management Plan as proposed, seconded by Shafer and carried 13-0: Burklund, Cary, Davis, Dingman, Figard, Goodbarn, Hartzell, Lay, Legg, Lutjeharms, Shafer, Van Bruggen and Wacker voting 'yes'; Barnes, Bergstrom and Marvin absent.

REPORT ON THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) SECTION 5310 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR THE FY 2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP):

Zafft stated that the MPO receives a set amount of FTA funds. This goes through the State. Back in 2012/2013, NDOT took over the program. The State approved an administrative modification to the TIP in December 2019 in regard to funds to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities, available funds which are recommended for programming.

Cary questioned where we are at with the use of those funds, is there a carryover amount? Wacker would have to check on that. The transit program runs this. Cary thought there was still a desire to get more projects. Zafft perceives there was a carryover. Staff is still working on the exact amount.

REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW SCHEDULE FOR FY 2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

Zafft stated that this is a busy time for the TIP. He reviewed the working schedule. Most agencies are still working on their draft of projects. The MPO Project Selection and Coordination Committee will review the projects on Feb. 7, 2020 and Feb. 14, 2020, if needed. The Planning Commission briefing will be on Mar. 25, 2020 with the public hearing on April 1, 2020. The Technical Committee will review the TIP on April 16, 2020 and it will go to the Officials Committee on May 1, 2020. The TIP will be sent to NDOT on May 4, 2020 to be included in the State TIP.

Cary stated that there has been more recent discussion about doing a special hearing at Planning Commission of the TIP and CIP on April 8, 2020. This could move the schedule out by one week.

REPORT ON THE CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS (CMP) UPDATE:

Zafft stated that this is mandated for an MPO with a population of over 200,000. In the 2017 MPO certification review, a recommendation was to update the CMP. The CMP has an 8 step framework. The first step is to develop regional objectives. The second step is to define a CMP network. The third step is to develop multimodal performance measures. The fourth step is to collect data and monitor system performance. The fifth step is to analyze congestion problems and needs. The sixth step is to identify and assess strategies. The seventh step is to program and implement strategies. The eighth and last step is to evaluate strategy effectiveness. Felsburg Holt & Ullevig (FHU) is a consultant and they are helping with the CMP. There is a subcommittee led by LTU that is helping with the CMP as well. We are hoping to wrap this up by spring.

Cary inquired if the idea is to use this updated information for the update of the LRTP. Zafft replied he was correct. Cary thinks it sounds like a needed update and a good idea.

REPORT ON UPDATING THE MPO LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP):

Zafft stated that every five years, the LRTP is updated. The process was kicked off and staff received three consultant proposals. FHU was selected. We are in the process of contract negotiations. We are working with FHU to put together a schedule. It is about a two-year process that involves transportation visioning. Outreach will involve pop-up events, along with an online virtual meeting. The second step in the process is alternative development, then alternative analysis. Then comes plan development and finally plan approval at the end of 2021. There will be a lot of outreach throughout the process. There will be open houses and online surveys. The LRTP will be updated in conjunction with the Comprehensive Plan update. There is a kick-off event at Pinnacle Bank Arena scheduled for Feb. 6, 2020.

Cary stated that in conjunction, the staff will also kick off the process for the update of the Comprehensive Plan. Everyone is welcome to attend. Zafft added that there will be an LRTP Oversight Committee, with their first meeting in March 2020. Folks from various different City, County, State and Federal Highway will be involved.

Dingman thinks we need to take a look at overall bridge sufficiency. That is more of a definition of bridge condition. The problem in the County is that most are scour critical. The overall bridge sufficiency doesn't give a good picture of bridge health. She thinks we need to move to deficient bridges and look at high value structural assets. You find your top ten percent and apply the scoring. It is her understanding that is the practice at NDOT. The problems with scour critical bridges are not well defined. She thinks people are moving away from that on the national level.

Davis added that the Transit Development Plan will also be updated before the end of this timeline. The LRTP will probably be developed first. The Travel Demand Model can be used to feed into the information of the Transit Development Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.