

## MEETING RECORD

*Advanced public notice of the Officials Committee meeting was posted on the County-City bulletin board and the Planning Department's website.*

**NAME OF GROUP:** OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING

**DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:** March 7, 2022, 11:00 a.m., City Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird, Ryan Huff, Richard Meginnis, Deb Schorr, Tammy Ward and Christa Yoakum. David Cary, Paul Barnes, Stephanie Rouse and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Department; Justin Luther; and other interested parties.

Paul Barnes opened the meeting and noted that the committee needs to vote on a new Chair.

Ward nominated Mayor Gaylor Baird to serve as interim Chair, seconded by Meginnis and carried 6-0: Mayor Gaylor Baird, Huff, Meginnis, Schorr, Ward and Yoakum voting 'yes'.

Acting Chair Mayor Gaylor Baird called the meeting to order and acknowledged the posting of the Open Meetings Act in the room.

Mayor Gaylor Baird then called for a motion approving the minutes of the regular meeting held December 15, 2021. Motion for approval made by Meginnis, seconded by Schorr and carried 5-0: Mayor Gaylor Baird, Huff, Meginnis, Schorr and Ward voting 'yes'; Yoakum abstaining.

### **ELECTION OF THE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE OFFICERS:**

Mayor Gaylor Baird called for nominations for Chair.

Schorr nominated Ward for Chair, seconded by Meginnis and carried 6-0: Mayor Gaylor Baird, Huff, Meginnis, Schorr, Ward and Yoakum voting 'yes'.

Chair Ward called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Ward nominated Schorr, seconded by Yoakum and carried 6-0: Mayor Gaylor Baird, Huff, Meginnis, Schorr, Ward and Yoakum voting 'yes'.

**REVIEW AND ACTION ON REVISIONS TO THE FY 2022-2025 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP); A) NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, I-80, MILFORD TO LINCOLN; REMOVE THE PROJECT:**

Barnes stated this is an amendment to the current TIP. This is a four year document that programs the transportation dollars. This is a State project on Interstate 80 for mill and overlay for a segment of the road. There has been a project that overlaps which is the widening of Interstate 80. This is reflecting the fact that a section of the mill and overlay will be widened.

**ACTION:**

Meginnis moved approval on the revision to the FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program; a) Nebraska Department of Transportation, I-80, Milford to Lincoln; remove the project, seconded by Yoakum and carried 6-0: Mayor Gaylor Baird, Huff, Meginnis, Schorr, Ward and Yoakum voting 'yes'.

**REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW SCHEDULE FOR FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:**

Barnes stated that this process was kicked off late last year. Staff has been working with other staff and agencies. The MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) Coordination Committee met last week. Some minor changes will be made in anticipation of upcoming meetings. The MPO Technical Committee will review the draft at their meeting on April 14, 2022 and make a recommendation. All of these projects need to be in conformance. That recommendation will be forwarded to the MPO Officials Committee for review on May 12, 2022 and then it goes on to the Nebraska State DOT (Department of Transportation) for inclusion in the statewide TIP which has its own public process. That is submitted to the FTA (Federal Transportation Administration) and FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) in the fall and the fiscal year begins September 1, 2022.

Meginnis inquired if this is included in the CIP (Capital Improvement Program) at some point. Barnes responded it is coordinated with the CIP. The TIP focuses on federally fund projects or projects of significance. Every single project doesn't need to be included in the CIP. The TIP and CIP go to public hearing together.

**REPORT ON THE FHWA/FTA MPO CERTIFICATION REPORT:**

Justin Luther is with the Federal Highway Administration. Every four years, a certification is done and the planning process is looked at as a whole. He is here to go over the results of the review. The transportation planning process is important because it decides how transportation funding is spent. The MPO helps to prioritize regional needs and determine the best solutions. There is a framework that is used for the MPO's nationally. There are a lot of players from Game and Parks

to the MPO. There is a lot of public input. The MPO covers all of Lancaster County. The transportation Planning process is multi-modal. There is a lot of public engagement. Some of those process items are the UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program), LRTP (Long Range Transportation Program), CMP (Congestion Management Process), the TIP and the Public Participation Plan. The outcome of the review was very positive. No corrective actions were identified. There are recommendations and commendations. The first recommendation is sharing off the Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) work program with the Lincoln MPO. Second is the MPO should look at ways to improve its monitoring of the effectiveness of its public participation activities. In addition, the MPO should include their monitoring activities in the update to the Public Participation Plan (PPP). Third is the Lincoln MPO and Star Tran should update their Title VI and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) policies which were developed in 2010 to ensure they remain current. Fourth, the MPO should look at integrating the CMP (Congestion Management Process) into planning documents such as the LRTP and TIP. The next recommendation is from the FTA regarding the StarTran Transit Asset Management Plan and Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan. These should be placed on the MPO website. Also, the MPO should collaborate with StarTran to continue to explore and plan for the use of autonomous vehicles. Regarding travel demand modeling, there should be continuous updates to model documentation, prioritize local data collection and provide technical guidance. FHU (Felsburg Holt & Ullevig) can help with these. The MPO should work towards implementing a bicycle and pedestrian count program. FHWA and FTA encourage the Lincoln MPO to engage the Equity Subcommittee in development of the TIP and PPP. Regarding commendations, StarTran had an innovative approach to micro transit. They wanted to recognize their use of this. The Lincoln MPO has developed a weighting criteria for use in the 2050 LRTP. There was an identification of vulnerable areas. They think this is a great process. The MPO was commended for its use of visualization and graphic techniques. The MPO was also commended for its proactive efforts for attending and presenting to various organizations and community leaders to build relationships with those that are traditionally underserved.

Barnes added that staff is already starting to work on some of the recommendations.

Barnes mentioned that Allan Zafft has taken a position with the Grand Island MPO. The position was advertised and they are hoping for some candidates and to have this position filled quickly.

Mayor Gaylor Baird expressed her thanks to Allan Zafft for his service and good work, especially through some trying times with the pandemic. Barnes noted that a lot of these recommendation were from Allan's work.

Schorr moved to adjourn, seconded by Yoakum and carried 6-0: Mayor Gaylor Baird, Huff, Meginnis, Schorr, Ward and Yoakum voting 'yes'.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 p.m.