

## MEETING RECORD

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

**NAME OF GROUP:** TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

**DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:** January 31, 2022, 3:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St., Lincoln, NE

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** David Cary – Planning Department; Pam Dingman – Lancaster County Engineer; Elizabeth Elliott – Lincoln Transportation and Utilities; Paul Barnes and Stephanie Rouse – Planning Department; Thomas Shafer and Erin Sokolik – Lincoln Transportation & Utilities (LTU); Michael Davis – StarTran; Roger Figard – Railroad Transportation Safety District; Stephanie Fisher – City of Waverly; Tom Goodbarn and Craig Wacker – Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT); Robert Bartja – Parks & Recreation; Larry Legg – Lancaster County Engineer; Urban Development Dept.; Chad Lay – Lincoln Airport Authority; (Gary Bergstrom – Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Dept.; Dan Marvin – Urban Development Dept. and Kelly Oelke – City of Hickman). Allan Zafft and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Dept.; Justin Luther – Federal Highway Administration; and other interested parties.

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

Elliott then requested a motion approving the minutes of the meeting held November 29, 2021. Motion for approval made by Figard, seconded by Davis and carried 13-0: Barnes, Cary, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Rouse, Shafer, Sokolik and Wacker voting 'yes'; Bartja and Bishop absent at time of vote; Bergstrom, Marvin and Oelke absent.

### **REPORT ON THE ROTATION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OFFICERS**

Members present: Barnes, Cary, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Rouse, Shafer, Sokolik and Wacker; Bartja, Bergstrom, Bishop, Marvin and Oelke absent.

Allan Zafft stated that the position of Chair is rotated annually. This year, Pam Dingman will serve as Chair and David Cary as Vice-Chair.

Cary noted this is how it is spelled out in the bylaws.

Dingman thanked Cary and Elliott for the heavy lifting on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) last year. That is always a busy year when that is updated.

**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 PROJECT**

Members present: Barnes, Cary, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Rouse, Shafer, Sokolik and Wacker; Bartja, Bergstrom, Bishop, Marvin and Oelke absent.

Zafft stated this proposal is for a project to be removed. It is I-80 from Milford to Lincoln. This is because the project limits have been reduced. The modified project limits will be outside of Lancaster County. A new project will be added to the statewide TIP.

**ACTION:**

Cary moved approval of revision to the FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program to remove project a) Nebraska Department of Transportation, I-80, Milford to Lincoln, seconded by Goodbarn and carried 13-0: Barnes, Cary, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Rouse, Shafer, Sokolik and Wacker voting 'yes'; Bartja and Bishop absent at time of vote; Bergstrom, Marvin and Oelke absent.

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

Members present: Barnes, Cary, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Rouse, Shafer, Sokolik and Wacker; Bartja, Bergstrom, Bishop, Marvin and Oelke absent.

Zafft stated that this is the new TIP. It is early in the process. He wanted to review the schedule for the development of the TIP. December 2021 was a call for projects. January 2022 was the deadline for agencies to submit their project data. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) compiles and reviews the draft document. The MPO Project Selection and Coordination Committee will review the draft on February 3, 2022. Planning Commission will review the TIP on April 13, 2022. Technical Committee will act on the TIP on April 14, 2022. Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the document on April 27, 2022. Officials Committee will hold a public hearing on May 12, 2022 and take action. The TIP will then be sent to the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT) for inclusion in the State TIP (STIP). In September 2022, the TIP/STIP submitted to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for review and approval.

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

Members present: Barnes, Bartja, Bishop, Cary, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Rouse, Shafer, Sokolik and Wacker; Bergstrom, Marvin and Oelke absent.

Zafft stated that a certification review is done by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This was done last May. They provided us a report. It is available at: <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/files/sharedassets/public/planning/mpo/projects-amp-reports/final-2021-lincoln-certification-report.pdf>

Justin Luther from the FHWA appeared to give a presentation on the certification review of the transportation planning process for Lincoln. This is required every four years to do a review and certify the MPO. It is an opportunity for the MPO to receive federal funding through the planning process. The review team consisted of three folks from the FTA and himself. Two people were from the headquarters. This is a process for those areas over 200,000 population. This is usually a two day review. The resource center also helped out with the travel demand model analysis. The process lays a framework for how transportation funding is spent around the county. This makes sure the MPO's are adhering to the planning process. There are a lot of stakeholders involved in transportation planning. The area being reviewed was Lancaster County. An important part is the three C approach, continuing, cooperative and comprehensive. There is public input throughout the process. There are some things the Federal team does behind the scenes. They look at the Unified Planning Work Program, the LRTP, the Congestion Management Process, the TIP and the Public Participation Plan. These are all federally required documents. The MPO was certified through September 30, 2025. No corrective actions were identified. There were about six program areas that there were recommendations for and some commendations. This is an opportunity for planners around the county to look at areas and best practices. Some recommendations were the NDOT should share a draft version of the NDOT Statewide Planning and Research Planning Work Program with the Lincoln MPO. Also, the MPO should look at ways to improve its monitoring of the effectiveness of its public participation activities. They should include their monitoring activities in the update to the Public Participation Plan. Under Title 6 and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), the team recommended the Lincoln MPO and StarTran update their Title VI and ADA policies. The Congestion Management Plan is an eight step process. The MPO updated their plan in 2020. We would like that plan to be fully integrated into the planning process as it related to the LRTP and TIP. StarTran has prepared the Transportation Asset Management Plan and Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan. These should be placed on the MPO website. The MPO should continue to explore autonomous vehicles. Continuous updates to model documentation are encouraged. The MPO is encouraged to prioritize local data collection through the National Household Travel Survey. He noted that the FHWA is available if the MPO needs guidance on truck forecasting. The MPO should continue to work towards implementing the Bicycle and Pedestrian County Program. These activities are encouraged. The FHWA and FTA encourages the MPO to engage the Equity Subcommittee in development of the

TIP and Public Participation Plan as was done with the LRTP. They found the Equity Subcommittee to be a very valuable resource. For Commendations, best practices notes were the micro transit program. With regard to the 2050 LRTP update, there was a weighting criteria that was used to help identify vulnerable populations. They wanted to commend the MPO. The MPO is also commended for their use of its visualization and graphic techniques including YouTube videos with embedded Power Point presentations. The MPO is also commended for their use of going to the public for their meetings. They go to a lot of areas that are traditionally underserved. He encouraged the continuation that.

**OTHER TOPICS:**

- Chad Lay with Lincoln Airport Association wanted to make everyone aware that the airport is doing a strategic plan. This would be the first plan of its kind. There is also a master plan effort going on as well. This is done about every ten years or so. This is a requirement of the FAA . As a result of this being an FAA requirement, the plan itself is funded by the FAA. The plan can be a fairly comprehensive look. There are only two parts of the master plan that the FAA approves, inventory and forecast. They also approve an airport layout plan. This is a graphical representation of the land use and infrastructure needs they plan on building. This funnels into a Capital Improvement Program (CIP). They use this to provide a more comprehensive update at a future meeting.

Cary thanked Lay for the update. Elliott and Dingman agreed.

- Dingman stated that with the new infrastructure funds, this group will probably meet a few more times this year than usual.

Elliott made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Shafer and carried 15-0: Barnes, Bartja, Bishop, Cary, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Rouse, Shafer, Sokolik and Wacker voting 'yes'; Bergstrom, Marvin and Oelke absent.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.