



Comments

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: April 14, 2022, 1:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, NE

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

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

REVIEW AND ACTION ON THE PROPOSED FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Members present: Barnes, Bergstrom, Davis, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Oelke, Rouse, Simmering and Sokolik voting 'yes'; Cary, Johnson, Marvin and Wacker absent.

Barnes stated this is the annual TIP. Staff has been working on this since 2021. This is carrying forward the recommended projects as they were developed in the LRTP. We coordinate with all member agencies and incorporate their programs into the TIP. There is a subcommittee that meets separately to discuss those project. That committee met in February and March 2022 to communicate needs and projects. That subcommittee recommended approval. We need to see if the list of projects are in conformance, which they were determined to be. The TIP is available online for further review at:

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Planning-Department/MPO/TIP>.

Staff works in coordination with Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT). The State has identified 16 projects. Lancaster County has projects. The S. 68th St. project was included and the changes voted on earlier were reflected. We work with LTU to program their group of projects. Appendices show separate projects. He wanted to recognize that this TIP in year four shows a dramatic drop in 'Lincoln On The Move'

funds. That is the year it will sunset. That has been a nice additional funding source. We would like to continue the conversation. StarTran projects are included. There is the additional purchase of 13 buses and a maintenance garage project being added. Lincoln Airport Authority has a listing of projects. For FTA, these are the funds that get awarded to the State and come to the MPO through a competitive process, otherwise known as 5310 projects. We will be coming forward in the future to add projects that are currently under review. Ped, Bike and Trails has a variety of projects. He noted that Wilderness Trail is shown in two phases. Lastly is the RTSD project for grade separation project at 33rd and Cornhusker along with a lot of other improvements.

ACTION:

Figard moved approval of the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program, seconded by Davis and carried 14-0: Barnes, Bergstrom, Davis, Dingman, Elliott, Figard, Fisher, Goodbarn, Lay, Legg, Oelke, Rouse, Simmering and Sokolik voting 'yes'; Cary, Johnson, Marvin and Wacker absent.

MEETING RECORD

Advanced public notice of the Planning Commission meeting was posted on the County-City bulletin board and the Planning Department's website. In addition, a public notice was emailed to the Lincoln Journal Star for publication on Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

NAME OF GROUP: PLANNING COMMISSION

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 1:00 p.m., Hearing Room 112, on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lorenzo Ball, Dick Campbell, Tracy Corr, Maribel Cruz, Gloria Eddins, Tracy Edgerton, Cristy Joy, Rich Rodenburg, and Cindy Ryman Yost. Paul Barnes, David Cary, Steve Henrichsen, Alexis Longstreet, Shelli Reid, and Andrew Thierolf of the Planning Department; media and other interested citizens.

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING: Regular Planning Commission Hearing

Chairperson Edgerton called the meeting to order and acknowledged the posting of the Open Meetings Act in the room.

MISCELLANEOUS 22003

TO REVIEW THE DRAFT OF FY 2023 TO FY 2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR CONFORMANCE WITH THE CURRENT LINCOLN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP).

PUBLIC HEARING: **April 27, 2022**

Members present Ball, Campbell, Corr, Cruz, Eddins, Edgerton, Joy, Rodenburg and Ryman Yost.

Staff Recommendation: In Conformance with the Long-Range Transportation Plan

There were no ex-parte communications disclosed.

There were no ex-parte communications disclosed relating to site visits.

Staff Presentation:

Paul Barnes, Planning Department and Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization, 555 South 10th Street, appeared and gave a brief presentation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Barnes stated that the Metropolitan Planning Organization is required to adopt a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and development which is coordinated with the State TIP. He stated that the projects included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) come from the MPO Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Barnes stated there is a process for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) coordination and development. He also stated that the development of the TIP is done by the Metropolitan Project Coordination Committee which is a sub-committee to the Technical Committee. Barnes stated that the state has 16 projects in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Lancaster County Engineering has 8 projects included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Transportation and Utilities has 9 projects included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). All the plans are in conformance with the LRTP. He addressed that there has been funding put into the 56th Street project in the past. Barnes stated that Federal Transit Authority funds are provided.

Commissioner Ball asked how the South Beltway contributes to the other projects being proposed over the next few years. Barnes stated that the South Beltway was a state project and there was a bill that paid for majority of that development and there was a partnership with the city to contribute funds. Barnes stated that in terms of transportation development in that area, the growth plan incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan is being followed.

Campbell asked why the State wanted to place an intersection at 32nd Street and not at 27th Street to eliminate roads curving into Saltillo Road.

Thomas Shafer, Assistant Director of Transportation (LTU), 949 W Bond St, Ste 200, stated that the development in that location needed to move to allow development on either side of the road. Campbell asked with the intersection at 68th Street, traffic would have to travel on Saltillo Road to get to 70th Street or 56th Street. Shafer stated that traffic should transition to 70th Street from the South Beltway with no issues.

Applicant Testimony:

No one came forward in testimony.

Proponents:

No one came forward in support.

Neutral:

No one came forward in neutral testimony.

Opposition:

No one came forward in opposition.

MISCELLANEOUS 22003

ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION:

April 27, 2022

Campbell moved to close public hearing, seconded by Eddins.

Motion to close public hearing carried 9-0: Ball, Campbell, Corr, Cruz, Eddins, Edgerton, Joy, Rodenburg and Ryman Yost voting 'yes'.

Campbell moved to approve MISC 22003, seconded by Cruz.

Campbell stated all the projects listed are well needed.

Edgerton expressed her appreciation for the details on the improvements.

Motion to approve MISC 22003, carried 9-0: Ball, Campbell, Corr, Cruz, Eddins, Edgerton, Joy, Rodenburg and Ryman Yost voting 'yes'.

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: May 12, 2022, 2:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, NE

MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ryan Huff, Deb Schorr, Tammy Ward and Christa Yoakum; (Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird and Richard Meginnis absent). David Cary, Paul Barnes, Rachel Christopher and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Department; Tom Beckius, City Council; Pam Dingman, County Engineer; and other interested parties.

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

REVIEW AND ACTION ON THE PROPOSED FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Barnes stated this is for the new TIP. This is inclusive of all transportation agencies within the County. They are planning for four years. The State has many projects. They are all considered to be in general conformance. The Lancaster County program has eight projects. He noted that the S. 68th St. project is being included in the TIP. The Lincoln Transportation and Utilities (LTU) program focuses on traffic management, signals and timing amongst other items. He noted that in the four year program, there is a reduced amount in year four for reduced funds. That would be the local sales tax that will sunset. All projects are in general conformance with the 2050 LRTP. The StarTran program includes operational funds. They have couple of new projects. They are all in conformance.

Schorr asked what would happen if the City should receive grant funds for the Multi-Modal Transit Facility. Barnes stated there would be an amendment and it would be rolled into the plan.

Barnes continued the Pedestrian, Bike and Trails section is generally funded with a combination of Federal and local funds. Most of these projects are listed in the current TIP. There are a couple of new projects in Waterford. They are all found to be in conformance. Next is the Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD). Included is their grade separation project at 33rd St. and Cornhusker Hwy. This is found to be in conformance. The Lincoln Airport Authority includes operational Capital Improvement Programs. These are mostly funded through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and are found to be in conformance. Last is Federal Transit Administration funds. These are separate from what StarTran receives. They are Section 5310 and 5311 funds.

Ward wondered about any potential future amendments to the TIP. Barnes responded that staff works with all their partners and lets them know if there are any upcoming items. He would like MPO Committees to meet quarterly.

ACTION:

Yoakum moved approval of the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program, seconded by Schorr and carried 4-0: Huff, Schorr, Ward and Yoakum voting 'yes'; Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird and Meginnis absent.

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Pete Ricketts, Governor

July 15, 2022

The Honorable Leirion Gaylor Baird
Mayor of Lincoln
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln NE 68508

Dear Ms. Gaylor Baird:

SUBJECT: State Approval by Governor's Designee of Lincoln MPO FY 2023 – FY 2026 TIP

As the Governor's designee, I am approving the Lincoln MPO FY 2023 – FY 2026 TIP Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as approved by the Lincoln MPO Technical Advisory Committee and approved by the Lincoln MPO Officials Committee on May 12, 2022.

The TIP approval applies to the first four years of projects listed that involve federal funds. Federally funded projects in the first year of the TIP must be programmed by the Nebraska Department of Transportation. Lincoln MPO TIP is included in Nebraska's State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) by reference. Consequently, the new TIP is included in Nebraska's STIP upon the notification to and approval of the Federal Highway Administration.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 402-479-3797.

Sincerely,

Ryan Huff, P.E.
Chief Strategy Officer
Strategic Planning Division
Nebraska Dept. of Transportation

CC: J. Luther, FHWA
D. Nguyen, FTA
R. Huff, NDOT
J. Gibson, NDOT
K. Ruse, NDOT
A. Starr, NDOT
J. Kamarad, NDOT
D. Cary, Lincoln MPO
R. Christopher, Lincoln MPO
Division file

John R. Selmer, P.E., Director
Department of Transportation

MAILING ADDRESS PHYSICAL ADDRESS
PO Box 94759 1500 Highway 2
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759 Lincoln, NE 68502

PHONE 402-471-4567
EMAIL NDOT.ContactUs@nebraska.gov

dot.nebraska.gov



U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration
901 Locust Street, Room 404
Kansas City, MO 64106
816-329-3920
816-329-3921 (fax)

Federal Highway Administration
100 Centennial Mall North, Rm 220
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-742-8460
402-742-8480 (fax)

September 30, 2022

John R. Selmer, P.E. Director
Nebraska Department of Transportation
Lincoln, NE

Dear Mr. Selmer:

FHWA/FTA Approval of the Nebraska FY 2023 - 2026 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

This letter is to inform you of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) review and approval of the highway and transit projects contained in the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) FY 2023-2026 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), including the projects from the incorporated Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) for Lincoln MPO (City of Lincoln and Lancaster County), South Sioux City (SIMPCO), Omaha (MAPA), and Grand Island (GIAMPO).

The Draft FY 2023-2026 STIP was available for public comment from August 9, 2022 to August 29, 2022. NDOT received one comment on the proposed STIP during this public comment period. NDOT responded directly to the commenter about a specific project outlined in the STIP.

The Metropolitan Area Planning Agency's (MAPA) Board of Directors approved the TIP on June 23, 2022. The Lincoln MPO TIP was approved by the Officials Committee on May 12, 2022. The Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO) TIP Policy Board approved the TIP on June 23, 2022. The Grand Island TIP was approved by the Policy Board on May 24, 2022. NDOT approved all of the Metropolitan TIPs for inclusion into the STIP on July 15, 2022.

Throughout the year, FHWA and FTA have had ongoing communication with the NDOT, the metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and the state's transit agencies. In accordance with 23 CFR Part 450.218(b) and 23 CFR Part 450.334(a), FHWA and FTA have jointly determined that the highway and transit projects included in the STIP and the metropolitan TIPs are based on a transportation planning process that substantially meets the requirements.

The enclosed planning finding was prepared to demonstrate how the NDOT's statewide and metropolitan transportation planning and programming processes meet the Federal requirements. Based on FHWA and FTA review of the FY 2023-2026 STIP, the monitoring activities throughout the year, the MPO's self-certifications, and the enclosed planning finding, the FY 2023-2026 STIP is hereby approved.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Justin Luther, FHWA, at (402)742-8464 or Daniel Nguyen, FTA, at (816)329-3938.



Mokhtee Ahmad
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

Sincerely,

**JOSEPH A
WERNING**

Digitally signed by
JOSEPH A WERNING
Date: 2022.10.03
08:59:52 -05'00'

Joseph Werning
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc:

Amy Starr, NDOT
Ryan Huff, NDOT
Craig Wacker, NDOT
Curtis Nosal, NDOT
Jaime Kamarad, NDOT
Michael Helgerson, MAPA
David Cary, Lincoln MPO
Allan Zafft, GIAMPO
Michelle Bostinelos, SIMPCO

Nebraska FY 2023-2026 STIP FHWA and FTA Joint Planning Finding

As part of the stewardship and oversight responsibilities, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) must ensure that both the statewide and metropolitan transportation planning processes satisfy the requirements of 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C 5303-5304, and 23 CFR 450. From a statewide perspective, the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) certifies the process through the submittal of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), while the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) certify the metropolitan transportation planning process through the submittal of their respective Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and self-certifications.

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.220 and 450.330 (a), the FHWA and the FTA hereby find that the projects included in the fiscal year 2023-2026 STIP are based on a transportation planning process that substantially meets the requirements of 23 CFR Part 450 subpart A, B, C, 49 U.S.C. Sections 5303-5304, and 23 U.S.C. Sections 134 and 135. This joint finding is based on the certification of the statewide transportation planning process for and within Nebraska as well as FHWA's and FTA's ongoing participation in both statewide and metropolitan transportation planning processes (including certification reviews conducted in transportation management areas).

TIP/STIP:

The NDOT STIP is composed of a listing and description of all regionally significant capital and non-capital projects or phases of project development which are FHWA and FTA funded projects. The listing shows a project or phase of a project to be advanced by year for the next four-year period. The MPO TIPs contain a listing and description of all regionally significant capital and non-capital projects or phases of project development which are FHWA and FTA funded projects. The listing shows a project or phase of a project to be advanced by year for the next four-year period.

During the review of the FY 2023-2026 STIP, it was noted that the apportionment amounts and beginning balance forecasts were inaccurate. The main reason for this discrepancy is that the NDOT STIP was prepared prior to the fiscal year ending. FHWA and FTA recognizes a substantial portion of the NDOT, and the MPOs' programs were obligated between the time the STIP was prepared and the end of the 2022 federal fiscal year. To address this issue, please ensure the next STIP amendment accurately portrays the beginning balances.

NDOT approved all the MPO TIPs on July 15, 2022 for inclusion into the NDOT 2023 -2026 STIP. The MPOs' TIPs were approved by their respective policy committees on the following dates:

- The Metropolitan Area Planning Agency's (MAPA) Board of Directors approved the TIP on June 23, 2022.

- The Lincoln MPO (City of Lincoln and Lancaster County) TIP was approved by the Officials Committee on May 12, 2022.
- The Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO) TIP Policy Board approved the TIP on June 23, 2022.
- The Grand Island TIP was approved by the Policy Board on May 24, 2022.

FHWA and FTA have jointly determined that the FY 2023-2026 NDOT STIP, which is inclusive of each MPO TIP, adequately demonstrates fiscal constraint by year. All the TIPs included self-certifications and discussion on Transportation Performance Management target establishment.

The STIP and TIPs are all developed utilizing the Nebraska STIP Development Guidelines which were agreed to by FHWA, FTA and NDOT in April 2011 and updated in 2014. NDOT recently sent a draft of updated guidelines that are under review by FHWA and FTA. This document contains many of the administrative procedures for developing the STIP and TIPs. Also, this document outlines the amendment thresholds that the transportation partners have agreed to in Nebraska for both TIPs and Long-Range Transportation Plan amendments. This document continues to be a major streamlining tool to help advance projects through the planning process in Nebraska.

Public Involvement:

Public involvement is required in the development of the STIP. Specific to the planning process, NDOT has developed a Public Involvement Plan specific to the process of outreach efforts for development and approval of the STIP. This document helps to ensure the State meets federal requirements regarding public participation during the development of the STIP. A letter is sent annually to all non-metropolitan elected and appointed officials offering them an opportunity to comment on the STIP. In the letter, a link is provided to the online STIP to facilitate review and comment by non-metropolitan local officials. The draft STIP is posted on the website and made available at the eight district offices.

In addition, NDOT prepares a news release for media outlets informing the public that the draft STIP is available for public comment. The 2023 -2026 STIP outreach was disseminated as follows:

- A press release to 3,939 recipients, including 315 media outlets statewide.
- A Tweet to 27,688 NDOT followers.
- Gov. Delivery (web-based email subscription service) note to the 1,619 subscribers of RSS feed of NDOT Twitter page.
- Gov. Delivery note to the 739 subscribers of the NDOT STIP page.

In addition to the STIP, NDOT prepares a six- year surface transportation program book. This program book contains many of the projects listed in the STIP. The program book seeks public involvement through the Highway Commission meetings and is approved by the Governor. The latest six-year surface transportation book can be found at the following link: [NDOT six-year transportation program book](#)

The Draft FY 2023-2026 STIP was available for public comment from August 9, 2022 to August 29, 2022. NDOT received one comment on the proposed STIP during this public comment period. NDOT responded directly to the commenter about the status of a specific project outlined in the STIP.

FHWA and FTA have noted over the past few years there has not been a lot of public comments received during the comment periods for the STIP. FHWA and FTA recommend NDOT analyze the 2-week timeframe provided for public comment on the STIP this fiscal year to determine if there are opportunities to enhance public engagement in the STIP development process, including assessing whether additional time is warranted for public notification, review, and comment. A potential area of focus could be determining if there is a need to extend the comment period or look at a phased approach to public notifications (i.e. initial outreach followed by a reminder notification) to encourage greater public engagement.

Self-Certification Statements:

The self-certification statements are an opportunity for the MPOs and NDOT to present how they have incorporated participation in the transportation planning process -- be it citizens or contractors. These agencies use these statements to outline how their operations are conducted in a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuous (3C) manner. It ensures that the transportation planning process occurs to satisfy the objectives of a non-discriminatory, environmentally respectful and citizen-oriented atmosphere.

In accordance with 23 CFR 450.220 (a), NDOT has completed its self-certification requirements and has posted the statement as part of their letter transmitting the STIP to FHWA and FTA. In addition, each of the MPO self-certifications are included by reference, as required under 23 CFR 450.336 (a). NDOT and each of the MPOs have self-certified that the transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with all applicable requirements found in 23 CFR 450.220 (a) and 23 CFR 450.336 (a), respectively.

Planning Finding:

Corrective Action: Items that are compliance issues failing to meet one or more requirements of the federal planning statute and regulations.

Recommendation: Items that address technical improvements to the conditions described by the observation involving processes or procedures that are not regulatory.

Corrective Action:

There are no corrective actions identified for the FY 2023 Planning Finding.

Recommendations:

Enhancing Public Engagement: FHWA recommends that NDOT analyze the timeframe provided for public comment this fiscal year to determine if there are enhancements that could be implemented to facilitate greater public engagement in the STIP development process, including public notification, review and comments.