

OMAHA-COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY  
Transportation Technical Advisory Committee  
Minutes of October 20, 2017 Meeting

The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee met on Friday, October 20, 2017, at Metro, 2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. Todd Pfitzer opened the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

VOTING MEMBERS

Dan Kutilek	Douglas County Engineers Office
Chris Shewchuk	City of Bellevue Planning Department
Dan Giittinger	City of Gretna Development Services Director
Joe Soucie	City of La Vista Public Works
Stephen Osberg	City of Omaha Planning Department
Murthy Koti	City of Omaha Public Works
Bob Stubbe	City of Omaha Public Works
Mark Stursma	City of Papillion Planning Department
Paul Gavin	Nebraska Department of Roads – Lincoln
Noel Salac	Nebraska Department of Roads – Lincoln
Maurice Hinchey	Nebraska Department of Roads – District 2
Eric Williams	Papio-Missouri River NRD
Evan Schweitz	Metro Transit
Bill Herr	Sarpy County Public Works

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Greg Youell	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
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GUESTS

Bryan Guy	City of Omaha Public Works
Gayle Sturdivant	City of Omaha Public Works
Asmarie Labao	Papio-Missouri River NRD
Kyle Kovar	3M Traffic
Brayden McLaughlin	E & A Consulting
Joan Green	Gonzalez Companies, LLC
Jason Carbee	HDR, Inc.
Arobindu Das	Iteris, Inc.

STAFF

Court Barber	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Josh Corrigan	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Travis Halm	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Mike Helgerson	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Megan Walker	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion #1: Approval of the minutes of the August 25, 2017 Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting.

Motion by: Chris Shewchuk  
Second by: Stephen Osberg  
Motion Carried

B. FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 1

Mr. Barber presented the FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment 1. The projects are:

- Papio-Missouri River NRD – Platte River Trail Bridge
- NDOT – N-31; Schramm Park – US-6
- Douglas County – 180<sup>th</sup> Street – Phase 2

- Douglas County – 180<sup>th</sup> Street, N. HWS Cleveland Blvd to W. Maple Road
- City of Omaha – Eastern Nebraska to Electric Vehicle CMAQ Grant

Motion #2: Seeking approval of the MAPA Board of Directors at their October 27, 2017 meeting of the FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment 1.

Motion by: Bob Stubbe  
 Second by: Maurice Hinchey  
 Motion Carried

#### C. FY2018 UPWP Amendment 1

Mr. Helgerson presented the UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program) Amendment 1. He said the planning agreement with NDOT for federal transit administration funding and FHWA was slightly more than anticipated and when the UPWP was approved in June, it was around \$8,000 lower than what was actually received. This budget amendment includes the provision to increase funding and also programs MAPA's support of the Smart Cities Lab project.

The Amendment also includes detail descriptions of pass-through contracts for MAPA's PL funding for  
 City of Omaha (Planning and PWs)  
 Sarpy County (Planning and PWs)  
 Douglas County GIS  
 Pottawattamie County GIS  
 Papio-Missouri River NRD

Motion #3: Seeking approval of the MAPA Board of Directors at their October 27, 2017 meeting of the FY 2018 United Planning Work Program Amendment 1.

Motion by: Bill Herr  
 Second by: Noel Salac  
 Motion Carried

#### D. FY 2018 City of Council Bluffs Transit State of Good Repair Targets

Mr. Barber told the group the FTA has set the State of Good Repair category which has to be met by transit agencies. He said the Council Bluffs targets are only for their revenue vehicles with a percentage exceeding their useful life. Based on their historical fleet make-up, 25% of their fleet will exceed the useful life of those vehicles. Clarification from the State of Iowa for Council Bluffs says the paratransit services does fall into the large urban category and the City has agreed to this target. It was reported their fleet is quite new.

Motion #4: Seeking approval of the MAPA Board of Directors at their October 27, 2017 meeting of the FY 2018 City of Council Bluffs Transit State of Good Repair Targets.

Motion by: Stephen Osberg  
 Second by: Mark Stursma  
 Motion Carried

#### E. Funding Obligation and Project Status

Mr. Helgerson presented to the TTAC the status of the obligation authority. He said the obligation limit for FY 2017 for STBG in Nebraska was met. This is part of the obligation authority flex ability by NDOT saying progress has been made in spending down the \$70 million balance and it will allow progress in spending down the balance. He said there is also good news regarding the OA balance saying likely the \$70 million will be spent on projects in the next 2 or 3 years.

Mr. Helgerson highlighted projects for both Nebraska and Iowa being funded by TAP and STBG funding.

Mr. Helgerson said as the OA balance grew last year because obligations were going down, there was progress made by narrowing that and will be keeping a number of years with sustained high level of obligation. A good job has been done in spending through the Fast Act apportionment money which has to be spent within a certain number of years in order not to lose it as a region.

Mr. Youell said a rescission could happen in a few years. A rescission happens when money that's authorized or apportioned to communities isn't able to be met by the Highway Trust Fund. In the past, rescissions have always had an exception where local money or STBG funding has not been eligible and the State has to deal with the loss of funding but it's been projected local projects will not be affected. One of the bills being worked out in the budget process will be to potentially remove that exception.

Mr. Youell told the group about the invitation to Congressman Schuster by Congressman Bacon. Congressman Schuster is the Chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. He did meetings in the area on October 19<sup>th</sup> as well as a gathering at the MAPA offices. He talked about many aspects of transportation and touched on airports and FAA, water, the future of transportation and funding as well as other infrastructure issues. He said Congress will be focusing on tax reform in the next two months and he feels there is an opportunity if they're able to get the tax reform through it will be coupled with an increase of a user fee.

#### F. Close the Gap White Paper

Mr. Youell presented the Close the Gap White Paper which goes back to the Salt Lake City site visit in 2016. He said a group had just visited the Minnesota Twin Cities for a site visit on October 9<sup>th</sup>. They visited their transit systems, redevelopment, bicycle and walking trails. He mentioned an important item from the Salt Lake City trip was the need for more data and that's how the Close the Gap White Paper began. A committee of planners and engineers met to look at the corridors that make the most sense for transit, the density of residential and the density of employment and then taking another step to where the opportunities are most likely to occur. Forecasted are the decline of brick and mortar retail so there could be more opportunity for redevelopment. With land use forecasts and modelling, the Close the Gap White Paper shows a high level scenario of corridors with potential for redevelopment.

In addition to the activity centers that exist on these corridors, H2050 is looking in the future recognizing the workforce challenge will probably be the importance of transporting people to and from school and educational institutions.

Scenarios have Metro Transit at 15,000 riders per day and with ORBT, that number will increase to 60,000 in 2040. Another scenario included the streetcar being proposed and this scenario included its route west to Aksarben and on to Oak View Mall on the West Center corridor which ups the ridership to 90,000.

Mr. Youell mentioned while on their Twin Cities visit, they noticed where transportation infrastructure was added, redevelopment thrived. Discussion continued with potential corridors in the metro area.

#### G. Member Agencies Update

- Joe Soucie (La Vista) Harrison Street complete; closed Brentwood Drive at 84<sup>th</sup> Street; consultants working on 84<sup>th</sup> Street Streetscape Plan; vacant street superintendent position
- Bill Herr (Sarpy County) 132<sup>nd</sup> Street and Giles Road under construction but opening soon; Harrison Street from 147<sup>th</sup> to 157<sup>th</sup> Streets; Harrison Street - Pre-Con meeting with Vrana on October 25<sup>th</sup>; public meeting on October 30<sup>th</sup> for same project; noise walls being constructed this fall and winter
- Gayle Sturdivant (City of Omaha) 114<sup>th</sup> Street from Burke to Pacific Streets; 132<sup>nd</sup> and Pacific Streets is nearing completion; construction bid is out for 168<sup>th</sup> Street from Dodge to West Maple - public meeting for this project in January; 150<sup>th</sup> & Dodge Streets interchange to go out for bid in December with construction in 2018
- Bob Stubbe (City of Omaha) 144<sup>th</sup> Street working with developer on West and South Farms; 132<sup>nd</sup> and Pacific Streets opened;
- Chris Shewchuk (City of Bellevue) 36<sup>th</sup> Street – Environmental is approved, final design consultant has been selected; fall work is underway before winter
- Murthy Koti (Omaha) Traffic signal at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Meca Drive
- Mark Stursma (Papillion) work continues on Lincoln Road; replacement of pedestrian bridge over 84<sup>th</sup> Street; closing of 84<sup>th</sup> Street for demolition
- Maurice Hinchey (NDOT) ramp off of Hwy 75 to Cuming Street underway; Radial Highway; Maple Street west of Elkhorn; Ralston Viaduct; Hwy 75 south of Offutt – traffic all on SB lanes; 126<sup>th</sup> Street off ramp at Harrison, Hwy 50 and 370 off ramps; Hwy 92 by Venice; I-L-Q off of I-80
- Stephen Osberg (City of Omaha) H2050 mini-grants feasibility study

- Dan Giittinger (Gretna) 204<sup>th</sup> Street sewer project from Schramm Road to Hwy 370 to be complete by end of October
- Eric Williams (Papio-Missouri River NRD) Cass County voted to support US Hwy 34/75 trail bridge over Platte River; bidding West Papio trail 108<sup>th</sup> and Giles to 132<sup>nd</sup> and Q Streets – no federal funding – next phase from Harry Anderson Avenue to 137<sup>th</sup> Street and Millard Avenue has federal funding – preliminary environmental design will start for the next segment under 132<sup>nd</sup> and Q Streets and Millard Avenue and that will eventually close the West Papio Trail all the way through
- Bryan Guy (City of Omaha) Signal Infrastructure projects A2 and A3 bids have come in for signals from 72<sup>nd</sup> to Millard Avenue Center to L Streets; Dodge and 84<sup>th</sup> & F Streets corridors; A1 project (70 signals) along Dodge and 72<sup>nd</sup> Streets
- Noel Salac (NDOT) Freight Plan has been sent to FHWA for review; 3 projects are out for NDOT with the TIGER grants and two projects are out with the INFRA grants
- Paul Gavin (NDOT) November 1 will be the annual coordination meeting of MPOs with the topic being Performance Measures 2 and 3 related to pavement and bridge performance measures and travel time and freight performance measures
- Josh Corrigan (MAPA) In the process of putting together traffic counts for FY 2015 and FY 2016 with comments requested to be back in two weeks; aerial photography RFP is out
- Travis Halm (MAPA) A dual request is being sent out for a traffic safety workshop with two being held in November in relation to the performance measures
- Greg Youell (MAPA) Spoke of the death of Bill Christian, former MAPA transportation planner
- Dan Kutilek (Douglas County) 192<sup>nd</sup> Street will be opening between Maple and Dodge Streets

#### H. Additional Business

- MAPA Board of Directors – October 26, 2017
- Safety Workshop – TBD (Mid November)
- Coordinated Transit Committee – Nov 15, 2017
- Transportation Technical Advisory Committee – December 1, 2017
- MAPA Board of Directors – December 7, 2017

#### I. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.