

OMAHA-COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY
Transportation Technical Advisory Committee
Minutes of April 20, 2018 Meeting

The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee met on Friday, April 20, 2018, at Metro, 2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. Todd Pfitzer opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

VOTING MEMBERS

Janet McCartney	Cass County
Dan Kutilek	Douglas County Engineers Office
Dan Giittinger	City of Gretna Development Services Director
Joe Soucie	City of La Vista Public Works
Todd Pfitzer	City of Omaha Public Works
Bob Stubbe	City of Omaha Public Works
Stephen Osberg	City of Omaha Planning Department
Mark Stursma	City of Papillion Planning Department
Curt Simon	Metro Transit
Mark Fischer	Nebraska Department of Transportation – Lincoln
Eric Williams	Papio-Missouri River NRD

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Greg Youell	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Jason Carbe	HDR Engineering, Inc.

GUESTS

Jeff Riesselman	City of Omaha Public Works
Maurice Hinchey	Nebraska Department of Transportation – District 2
Steve Schmidt	Burns & McDonnell
Arobindu Das	Iteris, Inc.
Nick Weander	Olsson Associates
Shane Swope	Schemmer
Steve Ziemba	Terracon
Gayle Sturdivant	City of Omaha Public Works
Rachel Ernst	UNO Student
Bryan Guy	City of Omaha Public Works

STAFF

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

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion #1: Approval of the minutes of the March 23, 2018 Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting.

Motion by: Dan Giittinger
Second by: Dan Kutilek
Motion Carried

B. FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 6

Mr. Barber presented the FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment 6. The projects to be amended are:

1. Metro Transit - Program of Projects
2. City of Omaha - Sign Management Inventory
3. PMRNRD/NDOT – Western Douglas County Trail Phase 1
4. City of Omaha – North Downtown Riverfront Pedestrian Bridge
5. City of Omaha – 132nd at West Center Road Safety Project

Eric Williams noted that Western Douglas County Trail Phase 1 may need to be updated to include phase 2 as well; the two projects are supposed to be combined into one.

Motion #2: Recommending approval of Amendment 6 to the FY2018 Transportation Improvement Program to the MAPA Board of Directors at their April 26, 2018 meeting.

Motion by: Curt Simon
Second by: Mark Stursma
Motion Carried

C. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Amendment 7

Mr. Barber presented Amendment 7 to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan. He said the amendment increases total cost of the City of Omaha's 156th Street Phase Two project from \$22,329,560 to \$28,634,550. A public comment period will begin today and a public meeting will be held in early May.

Motion #3: Recommending approval of Amendment 7 to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan to the MAPA Board of Directors at their April 26, 2018 meeting.

Motion by: Stephen Osberg
Second by: Dan Kutilek
Motion Carried

D. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Fee

Mr. Youell addressed the TTAC on the proposed TIP Fee and asked for a recommendation to update the interlocal agreement to include the fee. He said some changes have been made from the previously presented draft, including a cap for jurisdictions with a population of 5,000 or less and working with the City of Council Bluffs on the timing of the fee's assessment.

Dan Kutilek commented that he agrees with having a MAPA position focused on delivering local projects. He would like to see an allowance for jurisdictions with very large projects to pay over time. Mr. Youell said this is a likely outcome. Mr. Kutilek added that the fee will likely hurt project delivery for Douglas County.

Bob Stubbe echoed Mr. Kutilek's concerns regarding the fee's impact to programs. He said he hopes the new position will be focused solely on transportation and not planning. He was concerned about when fees would be collected for AC projects, wanting to make sure they are assessed at conversion, not when the project is delivered with local funds. Mr. Youell said that would be the case.

Stephen Osberg asked how much the fee would generate for MAPA per year. Mr. Youell said about \$180,000 in an average year.

Curt Simon asked if the fee can count toward local match. Mr. Youell said he did not know, but could find out.

Eric Williams asked how the fee is to be approved by each agency. Mr. Youell said the fee's implementation will be done by MAPA's board and council of officials, expenditure of funds should be handled by jurisdictions in whatever manner is typical for them.

Dan Kutilek asked what happens if an organization does not approve payment of the fee. Mr. Youell said that, if the fee is approved by MAPA, it would be a requirement to receive federal funding.

Gayle Sturdivant asked about how this fits with programmatic agreements. Mr. Youell and Mr. Helgersen responded that the fee's addition to the agreement form has been approved by NDOT.

Eric Williams asked about the approval schedule. Mr. Youell said MAPA intends to bring the final version before the board at the April 26, 2018 meeting.

Bob Stubbe said the potential for the fee to count toward local match is particularly important and should be answered before TTAC makes a recommendation.

Joe Soucie said he does not agree with the cap for communities of 5,000 and under. Mr. Kutilek agreed.

Curt Simon asked if funds flexed to the FTA apply. Mr. Youell said only STBG funds will be assessed a fee.

Mr. Youell asked for a recommendation from the group, whether that is with or without the cap for small jurisdictions. Mr. Stubbe said he agrees with Mr. Soucie that the cap should be removed.

General consensus from the group was that without the answer to whether the fee will count as local match they could not make a recommendation. Mr. Youell stressed the importance of timing with respect to MAPA's budgeting process and asked for a general recommendation from TTAC. The group maintained their unwillingness to provide a recommendation at that time. Todd Pfitzer asked that everyone be prepared to provide MAPA with a recommendation as soon as the answer is provided.

Motion #4: Table the recommendation until an answer to the local match question is provided.

Motion by: Mark Stursma
Second by: Dan Kutilek
Motion Carried

E. 2018-2021 Civil Rights Plan (tabled)

Mr. Pfitzer informed the TTAC this agenda item is not ready and must be tabled until the May meeting.

F. TIP Project Management Tool

Mr. Corrigan presented on the new TIP database and the project status update back-end.

G. Funding Obligation & Project Status

Mr. Helgersen described the current state of STBG and TAP obligations as well as project status updates.

H. Transit ROI Study

Naomi Stein, Project Manager, EDR Group presented to the committee an introductory presentation for the upcoming Transit Return on Investment (ROI) Study. She stated that the goal of the ROI Study was to assess economic returns associated with existing and potential future transit services within the context of the Omaha region's ongoing economic and land development.

Ms. Stein laid out the following team organization for the project: Glen Weisbrod (EDR Group) as Officer-In-Charge; Naomi Stein (EDR Group) as Project Manager; Steve Wolf (JEO) as Stakeholder Lead and Chandler Duncan (Metro Analytics) as the Technical Advisor.

Ms. Stein elaborated that the workplan would be organized into four tasks: 1) Project Management & Administration; 2) Stakeholder Outreach and Input; 3) Data Gathering and Research; 4) Final Report & Documentation.

Ms. Stein stated that the methodology of the project will find the economic role of transit today, find the implications of future land development within the region, and then provide a technical workshop of how current and proposed transit can move forward.

Ms. Stein said the three main elements of the study will be a Stakeholder Committee, Interviews and Case Studies, and Data Collection. Eventual information gathered will lead to community advocacy talking points and ultimately result in community buy-in.

Ms. Stein said there will be four stakeholder meetings with the following topics: 1) Stakeholder Kickoff; 2) Transit Economics Workshop; 3) Transit Futures brainstorming; and 4) Findings.

I. Member Agencies Updates

- Todd Pfitzer and Bryan Guy updated the committee on City of Omaha projects.
- Dan Kutilek updated the committee on Douglas County projects.
- Joe Soucie updated the committee on City of La Vista projects.
- Maurice Hinchey updated the committee on NDOT District 2 projects.

- Curt Simon updated the committee on Metro Transit projects.
- Janet McCartney updated the committee on Cass County projects.

J. Additional Business

Mr. Youell informed the committee of a meeting of the DELVE team held on April 19th. Topics included a federal funding recision and the August fund redistribution with a focus on working with NDOT to deliver projects. He said the group would be meeting every six months.

- MAPA Board of Directors – April 26, 2018
- Coordinated Transit Committee – May 16, 2018
- Transportation Technical Advisory Committee – May 25, 2018

K. Adjournment

Motion #5: Motion to adjourn:

Motion by: Curt Simon
Second by: Dan Kutilek
Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.