SUMMARY NOTES
MPO Technical Advisory Committee
June 24, 2019 @ 1:00 p.m.
City-County Planning Commission
1141 State Street Bowling Green, KY 42101

PRESENT:
Ben Hunt – KYTC, Chair
Barry House – KYTC Planning
Jennifer Tougas – WKU PTS
Tim McWhorter – WKU PTS
Melissa Cansler – BGPW
Greg Meredith – BGPW
Nick Cook – BG NCS
Brent Childers – BG NCS
Carroll Duckworth – CASOKY/GObg Transit

STAFF:
Karissa Lemon
Ben Peterson

Hannah Gray – CASOKY/GObg Transit
Ron Cummings – Warren County Fiscal Court
Angie Alexieff – Operation PRIDE
William Henderson – Operation PRIDE
Emily Hathcock – BRADD
Josh Moore – WCPW
Jeff White – BGMU Electric
Anita Napier – Builders Assoc.
Wes Watt – KYTC D3

The MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order by Chair, Mr. Ben Hunt. Mr. Hunt initiated introductions.

A. APPROVAL OF SUMMARY NOTES
Mr. Hunt asked if there were any additions or corrections to the summary notes from the May 20, 2019 TAC meeting. Being none, he moved onto public comment.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT
Lee Ann Tatum and Gerald Cline, residing in the Cave Mill Road – Meadowwood Lane area near the Bark Park and greenway, voiced their concerns regarding pedestrian safety along Cave Mill Road. Ms. Tatum stated that many people walk from Meadowwood Lane to the Bark Park and onto Lost River Cave via the greenway. She stated that the crosswalk on Cave Mill Road poses a threat to pedestrians because of speeding vehicles and lack of sidewalk. Ms. Tatum and Mr. Cline asked if the City could consider constructing sidewalks and/or installing pedestrian safety enhancements such as rumble strips or flashing signs. Greg Meredith, Bowling Green Public Works Director, stated that a portion of Cave Mill Road is a candidate for new sidewalks in the upcoming fiscal year sidewalk program.

C. NEW BUSINESS
MPO Coordinator, Ms. Karissa Lemon, introduced Brent Childers, Neighborhood and Community Services Director, to present the findings of the Bowling Green-Warren County Housing Needs Assessment, conducted by Bowen National Research. Mr. Childers reviewed housing characteristics and needs for the community. The study concluded that Bowling Green-Warren County is continuing to grow and the housing market is strong, with housing needs – both rental and owned – at all price points.

The next item of business reviewed the MPO’s Draft SHIFT 2020 Prioritization Plan. Ms. Lemon explained that
MPOs, ADDs, and District Offices were required to submit draft prioritization plans in May to outline the methodology and criteria used to prioritize projects for SHIFT 2020. Ms. Lemon stated that the plan will be finalized and submitted to the KYTC in August.

Ms. Lemon discussed the draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) update with the committee. Ms. Lemon reviewed the contents of the first part of the draft, covering FY2019-2024. It was stated that the final draft TIP update will be completed for the TAC’s review at the July 22 meeting.

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

There were no public concerns.

Project Updates:

- Ms. Lemon stated that SHIFT 2020 project scores will be released by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Central Office this week. The MPO will review project scores and select the priority projects to boost for potential inclusion into the 2020 Highway Plan at the upcoming July 22 TAC meeting.

- WKU is in construction season on the main campus, with the biggest project kicking off to construct the Freshman Village near Pearce Ford Tower. Work has started on the Park Street parking lot. WKU’s bike share program will be adding electric-assist bikes to their fleet later this summer. Additionally, they are looking into providing an airport shuttle service for WKU students, with potential partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce and/or the Bowling Green Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. Topper Transit is modifying several bus stop locations and will have an updated NextBus system and Google Transit feed live in August. Additionally, they are working to gradually refurbish their fleet to extend the useful life of the buses.

- The KYTC District 3 is underway with construction and resurfacing projects. Concrete medians improving access management and safety are constructed and complete on Campbell Lane, Nashville Road, and Scottsville Road. These minor improvements have had lots of positive feedback. Access management designs are underway for a portion of Campbell Lane near Chick-fil-A. A statewide initiative to widen roadway striping has begun, with Lovers Lane being one of the first in Warren County to implement the wider striping to promote visibility.

- GObg Transit is continuing to see an increase in ridership year-over-year. They received grant funding for digital signage, a new ticketing system, and are waiting for approval for several additional grants. GObg will be making minor tweaks to Route 1 and Route 6 to add several stops. They are working with Google Transit to incorporate their routes into the Google Maps feature. Additionally, grant money will provide transit stop seating in various locations in the Route 2 area.

- The City of Bowling Green Public Works department is wrapping up their paving contract of nearly 18 miles. The City anticipates about $2.5 million in the upcoming fiscal year for their paving contract, including ADA improvements to sidewalks. Signal installation at Dishman Lane – Industrial Drive is forthcoming. The Shive Lane widening project is in the property acquisition phase and will widen to 3 lanes with a roundabout at Ken Bale Blvd. Phase 2 of this project was proposed to extend the widening to Middle Bridge Road with an additional roundabout, with a future phase 3 to connect to Lovers Lane. The current sidewalk contract is underway. FY20 proposed sidewalks and neighborhood roundabouts are under review. Additionally, the Downtown project is ongoing – construction completion is anticipated for November and landscaping should be complete by spring 2020. The Southwest Parkway connector design phase is almost complete and is moving into property acquisition. The Smallhouse Road widening phase 2 is complete. The City is
proposing funding for phase 3 to extend the shared-use path and intersection improvements at Scottsville Road.

• Warren County Public Works is primarily working on tree trimming, with recent months having the highest amounts of downed trees recorded in years. The County has a paving contract out that will pave 20 miles of county roads with discretionary funds.

• Ms. Lemon stated that the US 31W Bypass Road Diet Feasibility Study RFP is complete and will be issued on July 1, 2019. Ms. Lemon provided a brief overview of current BPAC initiatives. Ms. Jennifer Tougas reported that various departments at WKU are working to evaluate the start of a student-faculty led program that would provide funding for students and/or faculty to become League Certified Cycling Instructors. With this, the instructors would lead bike safety programs and bike rodeos.

E. ADJOURNMENT
It was announced that the next TAC meeting will be July 22, 2019.