



SUMMARY NOTES
MPO Technical Advisory Committee
September 28, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m.
ZOOM Virtual Meeting

PRESENT:

Ben Hunt – KYTC, Chair
Barry House – KYTC Planning
Matthew Holder – KYTC Planning
Wes Watt – KYTC D3
Joe Plunk – KYTC D3
Greg Meredith – BGPW
Melissa Cansler – BGPW
Steven Beck – City Transit/RATP Dev
Josh Moore – WC Public Works
Jennifer Tougas – WKU

Tim McWhorter – Topper Transit
Carroll Duckworth – CASOKY/GOBg
Nate Heisler – BRADD
Jim DeCesare – Sr. Rep. Meredith
Susan Harmon – BGWC Airport
John Dix – WCWD
John Callahan – AECOM
Nikki Koller – WC Public Works

STAFF:

Karissa Lemon
Monica Ramsey
Rachel Hurt

Quentin Walker
Ben Peterson

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

A. APPROVAL OF SUMMARY NOTES

Mr. Hunt asked if there were any additions or corrections to the summary notes from the July 27, 2020 TAC meeting.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

C. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Lemon, MPO Coordinator, introduced the first item of business. Ms. Lemon stated the final draft of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update is complete and once approved by the Policy Committee, will be the final long-range transportation planning document for the community. Ms. Lemon stated one minor modification was made to Table 6.1 to modify MTP ID #5's project description from "New Interchange" to "Interchange Reconstruction." Mr. Barry House stated the MTP update is an improvement to the last document that was updated in 2015. With no objections or further comments, the 2045 MTP was recommended to the MPO Policy Committee for approval.

The next item of business addressed FY2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #1. Ms. Lemon briefly explained this amendment reconciles the TIP with the 2020 Highway Plan to reflect project phases and funding listed in the Highway Plan. Mr. House emphasized project 3-199.00, which moved from the Informational Supplement to receive Federal funds, with construction slated for 2021. Ms. Lemon added that the final TIP Amendment #1 includes both 3-110.3 and 3-110.4 – both project breakouts from the 3-110.00 project. Additionally, Ms. Lemon stated there were no comments submitted during the 15-day public review and comment period. The Amendment will be approved by the MPO Policy Committee.

The final item of business addressed bicycle and pedestrian safety concerns that were brought up at the



August 3 public meeting for the MTP. Ms. Lemon stated several comments were made at the meeting regarding safety concerns, particularly at intersections for cyclists and pedestrians. Ms. Lemon asked if the Committee felt any action was necessary or if there were any ideas to help address these safety concerns. It was stated by Mr. Plunk and Mr. Meredith that work is actively being done to improve infrastructure, as funding allows. It was mentioned that the MPO could explore marketing opportunities to emphasize safety for vulnerable road users (bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorcyclists).

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Project Updates:

- Planning Commission staff reported developments are full steam ahead with 2020 being a record year for permitting and construction thus far.
- WKU stated with less students, faculty, and staff on campus, there is much more available parking throughout campus. Topper Transit reported additional COVID-19 safety measures are being taken to install Plexiglas barriers for the drivers.
- Warren County Public Works reported that the Elrod Road/Smallhouse Road roundabout is under construction and there will be a full intersection closure over fall break.
- GOBg Transit reported a flat line in ridership due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With ADA and fixed routes combined, there was a 28% decrease in ridership February (pre-pandemic) to August 2020. Additionally, GOBg Transit is continuing to install necessary COVID-19 safety features for drivers and riders. They recently launched a new mobile app allowing riders to purchase fares through their mobile devices.
- The City of Bowling Green Public Works stated the Southwest Parkway is nearly complete, which will provide a connection from Central Ave. to Russellville Rd. in the South Central Industrial Park. The City's annual overlay contract was recently let to construction. Several other projects are in the works including: stormwater mitigation, sidewalk rehabilitation, and moving forward with the Smallhouse Rd Phase 3 to continue the shared-use path to Broadway Ave/Scottsville Rd.
- KYTC reported work to soon begin for interchange reconstruction on Exit 7 and ramp improvements on Exit 3, both along I-165. Safety improvements will also be made to KY 234 (Cemetery Rd) from Hunts Ln to the Allen County line. Repaving for Kentucky and Adams Streets, with the recent study recommendations implemented, will be done in the spring construction season. Finally, minor improvements were made at several signalized intersections to re-stripe and re-signal the lights to allow for better traffic flow.
- The Bowling Green-Warren County Regional Airport reported work on taxiway Alpha should be complete by the end of October.
- Warren County Water District stated a new elevated tank was constructed on Briggs Hill, with the project now complete.

Ms. Lemon added that the selection committee for the MPO's Transit Development Plan met earlier in the day to select the most qualified firm to conduct the study. The selection will be approved by the Policy Committee at their September 29 meeting.

The next Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting will be October 12th at 4 p.m.

E. ADJOURNMENT

It was announced that the next TAC meeting will be October 26, 2020.