

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
Minutes for Tuesday, September 1, 2009 Meeting**

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Soules (Lawrence Public Works Director)
Mike Moriarty (KDOT)
Donna Hultine (KU on Wheels)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Dunfield (Public Transit Advisory Committee)
Eric Struckhoff (Bicycle Advisory Committee)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bart Rudolph (Transportation Planner)
Todd Girdler (Senior Transportation Planner)

Item 1: Call to Order

With the absence of a Chairman the TAC Secretary ran the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:36 PM. A quorum was not present.

Item 2: Welcome and Introduction of New TAC Members

Todd Girdler introduced himself and welcomed everyone in attendance to the TAC meeting. The rest of the attendees then introduced themselves and Mike Moriarty noted that he was here to replace Christy Lane as the KDOT representative on the TAC.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes – July 7, 2009

Since no quorum was present this item was deferred to the October meeting.

Item 4: Discussion of 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #6

Todd Girdler told the TAC that this amendment has been requested by KDOT to add design stage funding for the new interchange at K-10 Highway and Bob Billings Parkway/15th Street. This project is listed in KDOT's recently announced 2010-2012 program and in the L-DC MPO's 2030 Transportation Plan. Todd told the TAC that the amendment resolution and attachments would be in the October TAC packet for TAC approval on October 6th. He also told TAC members that if they need to make any changes to their TIP projects then those changes can be part of this amendment, but the MPO staff needs the detail about those changes within the next two weeks.

Item 5: Action Item: Approval of 2009 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #2

Todd Girdler presented this UPWP amendment to the TAC members present for review and discussion. He explained that most of these changes are related to the use of KDOT in-kind match in the budget and that the amendment does the following things:

- Adjust the budget and text to reflect changes to the Regional Travel Demand Model and Data Development work task to use KDOT in-kind match from the US 56 Corridor Management Plan with federal Consolidated Planning Grant funds to

- provide consultant services including staff training for the development and maintenance of a regional travel demand model
- Adjust the budget and text to reflect changes to the MPO Administration and Staffing work task to use KDOT in-kind match from the US 56 Corridor Management Plan with federal Consolidated Planning Grant funds to provide computer hardware and software needed for the development of a regional travel demand model
 - Revise the work task schedule to reflect progress made on projects through the first half of the year
 - Revise the budget to increase the hours allocated to the GIS Planner for MPO work in 2009
 - Revise the work task budget to reflect the exact amount for the Carpool Connection maintenance fee
 - Adjust the budget and text to reflect changes to the Public Transportation Planning work task that deletes Consolidated Planning Grant funds for a consultant for the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan and replaces that activity with increased MPO staff time
 - Adjust the budget and text to reflect the changes to Program Support & Administration, Short-Range Transportation Planning, Long-Range Transportation Planning, and Public Transportation Planning work tasks to decrease the amount of local cash match for staff time and increase the use of KDOT in-kind match for federal Consolidated Planning Grant funds.

Todd explained that since the TAC did not reach a quorum today that the MPO staff will send out this item for their approval via an email vote soon. He noted that the budget changes in this amendment are tied to this amendment being approved by the MPO Policy Board on September 17th so this needs to stay on schedule. The TAC members present agreed that this amendment had been sent to them and that an email vote would be acceptable.

Item 6: Discussion Item: Draft 2010 Unified Planning Work Program

Todd Girdler informed the TAC that the MPO staff is now working on the draft of the 2010 UPWP and should have it ready for TAC review and approval soon. Major projects planned for next year include the following:

- Update of the Roadway Functional Classification Map
- Completion of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Douglas County
- Overhaul of the TIP text and project submission process
- TransCAD modeling training for MPO staff
- Completion of a new Access Management Standards & Guidelines document
- Ongoing bikeway and pedestrian facility planning
- Ongoing committee and 3C program administration
- Ongoing participation in regional studies (5-County and US 56 Corridor)
- Ongoing participation in various planning groups (CTD #1, Lawrence-KU Transit Planning Team, etc.)
- Ongoing staffing of various committees (MPO, TAC, BAC, etc.)

Todd told the TAC that a smaller amount (about \$22,000) of KDOT in-kind funding from the US 56 Study would be available for 2010 and would be put into next year's UPWP

budget. Todd asked the TAC if they had suggestions for other activities next year. The TAC members did not offer any further work task suggestions.

Item 7: Discussion Item: Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants

Todd Girdler told the TAC that he had met with Keith Browning and Chuck Soules and they agreed that they would work jointly to produce a City-County application for 31st Street Extension work using TGER funds.

Chuck Soules informed the TAC that the City is funding the section from Haskell to O'Connell and has hired Wilson & company to finish final design for that portion of this road. He noted that Douglas County has also hired Wilson & company to do design work on the section from O'Connell to County Route 1057. Chuck told the TAC that he was working on this application and would submit it by the September 15th deadline with a copy sent to the MPO staff. Todd Girdler told the TAC that this program was designed to fund projects costing between \$20 and \$300 million. Chuck noted that with the road extension out to Route 1057 this project would be close to the \$20 million but if it is a little less then it could still be funded since the TIGER program has a clause to allow smaller projects to get TIGER grants. Todd and Chuck commented that this application will compete with all sorts of transportation projects from around the country so it is hard to gauge how good our chances are at getting this money.

Item 8: Discussion Item: Transit Consolidation in Lawrence

Todd Girdler informed the TAC that the City-KU Transit Planning Team has been meeting for the last year to figure out ways that T and KU on Wheels services can be better coordinated. Donna Hultine handed out copies of the new joint city-KU Guide To Ride schedule and route map book. She then informed the TAC that the first joint KU-City transit route started service on August 17th. This is new Route 11 and so far it is experiencing high ridership levels. Adding this new Route 11 ridership into the T rider counts has doubled their monthly ridership levels. She said that with increasing ridership the T may soon be eligible for increased FTA funding. The T and KUOW have also consolidated its telephone information line and its lost and found process. Donna then told the TAC that a RFP for a new joint maintenance/operations facility is now out with proposals due back on October 5th. David Dunfield asked if more consolidation efforts are to come. Todd Girdler responded that the consolidation study being conducted by Olsson Associates is still ongoing and that the new Route 11 is just the first combined route. Donna and Todd told the TAC that more of this study would be released soon in draft form for comments. The PTAC should see more about this transit consolidation study at their meeting next week. Bob Nugent will be providing an update to the MPO about this transit consolidation effort at their September 17th meeting.

Item 9: Discussion Item: National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project in Lawrence

Bart Rudolph told the TAC that the bike and pedestrian counts will take place in Lawrence next week. He told the TAC that he still needs a few more volunteers and handed out a flyer about the counting program and the one-hour training class required to do this counting. He told the TAC that most MPO areas do not have good data on bicycling and pedestrian activity. Lawrence will be one of the first areas to complete a count using this new standardized national methodology. He noted that vehicular counts

will also be taken at three of the bike-pedestrian count stations so we can compare automobile, bicycle and pedestrian traffic counts. Bart then described the seven locations that staff had selected for the counts noting that there are shared route, bike lane, and shared use pathway locations on this list. The TAC then had a brief discussion about how these and other locations would be good for counting.

Item 10: Quick Updates:

a. US Highway 56 Corridor Study

Todd Girdler noted that this study is progressing and the MPO staff is involved in various types of meetings for this study.

b. 5-County Regional Transportation Study

Todd Girdler told the TAC that this study is moving into the last round of working group and public meetings and that several meetings for this study are scheduled for the next two months with a draft report due in December.

c. Name change and Logo for the L-DC MPO

Todd Girdler informed the TAC that the Policy board had decided not to change the MPO name but did want to see a logo design soon. He told the TAC members that their ideas for a logo would be welcomed.

d. KAMPO Fall Conference

Bart Rudolph told the TAC members that the L-DC MPO would be hosting this event on October 19th at the East Lawrence Recreation Center. TAC members will be sent an agenda and are welcome to come.

e. Election of TAC Chair and Vice-Chair

Todd Girdler told the TAC that these elections would be put on the agenda for October.

f. New Carpool Connection Agreement and website changes

Todd Girdler told the TAC that new software is being added to the site and will include a new employer module. Donna Hultine asked if KU should direct students/faculty to this site. Todd told her that should be fine.

g. Staff changes at KDOT Planning

Todd Girdler noted that Mike Moriarty will be replacing Christy Lane as our TAC representative from KDOT. Christy has taken another job as a transportation manager with Medicaid.

Item 11: Other Business

There was none.

Item 12: Next Meeting: October 6, 2009 or another date set by the TAC

The meeting ended at 2:22 PM.