



**Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Transportation Policy Board Meeting**

Thursday, May 19, 2022, 1:30 PM

Holiday Inn University of Memphis – Tennessee Ballroom
3700 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN 38111

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Mayor Jim Strickland called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. In addition to Mayor Strickland, the following voting members were present:

Antoine Hawkins	<i>TDOT/Rep. Governor</i>	Jay Johnson	<i>Oakland</i>
Gary Scruggs	<i>TDOT</i>	Mayor Rhea Taylor	<i>Fayette County</i>
Perry Brown	<i>MDOT</i>	Harvey Matheny	<i>Piperton</i>
Darren Sanders	<i>Shelby County</i>	Bennie Hopkins	<i>DeSoto County</i>
Steve Hill	<i>Arlington</i>	Austin Cardosi	<i>Hernando</i>
Mayor A. Keith McDonald	<i>Bartlett</i>	Chadwick Bahr	<i>Horn Lake</i>
Frank McPhail	<i>Collierville</i>	Jason Gambone	<i>Olive Branch</i>
Andy Sanders	<i>Germantown</i>	Gary Rosenfeld	<i>MATA</i>
Donald Anthony	<i>Lakeland</i>	Randy Richardson	<i>Port Commission</i>
Jason Dixon	<i>Millington</i>		

The following Ex-officio members were present:

Sean Santalla	<i>FHWA-TN</i>	Amanda Hicks	<i>West Memphis MPO</i>
---------------	----------------	--------------	-------------------------

The following Interested Individuals were present:

Ashley Owens	<i>TDOT</i>	Kenneth Monroe	<i>Kimley-Horn</i>
Thiera Taylor	<i>TDOT</i>	Douglas Swett	<i>Kimley-Horn</i>
Kamillah Kelly	<i>WTRPO</i>	James Collins	<i>Kimley-Horn</i>
Ethan Skaggs	<i>Germantown</i>	Sebastian Guerro	<i>WSP</i>
Manny Belen	<i>Memphis</i>	Mary Connelly	<i>WSP</i>
John Lancaster	<i>MATA</i>	Gregory Dotson	<i>Barge Design</i>
Sonya Owens	<i>SCHD-Rideshare</i>		

The following MPO Staff members were present:

Pragati Srivastava	Nick Warren	Jordan Smith	Ethan Greene
Kate Horton	Mavrick Fitzgerald	Jasmine Champion	Clarke Shupe-Diggs

A quorum was present.

1) Call to Order @ 1:30 PM

Mayor Jim Strickland called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

2) Approval of February 24, 2022 Minutes

Mr. Gary Rosenfeld moved to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Darren Sanders seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

3) Memphis MPO's Administrator's Report

Ms. Pragati Srivastava gave an overview of the following items:

- a) 2021 State of the MPO Annual Report
- b) MOVING TOGETHER: 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- c) TDOT Transportation Planning Grant (TPG) Program Announcement

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

4) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Mr. Sean Santalla gave an update on the following items: recent FHWA best practice publications, Example Practices for Performance-Driven Programming and the Active Transportation Funding and Finance Toolkit, featuring the Memphis region and Memphis MPO staff; the status of open USDOT funding opportunities, including the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant, which will close on May 23, 2022, and the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program, which will close on September 15, 2022; and recently released USDOT publications, including the National Roadway Safety Strategy, Equity Action Plan, and a series of guidance documents related to the new and existing funding programs enumerated under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

5) Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Mr. Antoine Hawkins gave an update on the following items: the appointment of Deputy Governor Butch Eley to the position of TDOT Commissioner, effective June 15, 2022; the status of the Tennessee Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (TEVI) Deployment Plan, which will be finalized and submitted to the FHWA by August 1, 2022; and the award of Transportation Planning Grants to the cities of Memphis (Tchulahoma Corridor Study and Poplar Avenue Safety & Mobility Plan) and Oakland (Major Thoroughfare Plan), the work for which is set to begin on August 1, 2022.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

6) FY 2023-26 Transportation Improvement Program Improvement (TIP) Project List Approval

Ms. Pragati Srivastava provided an overview of the FY 2023-26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) project list.

Mr. Steve Hill moved to approve the FY 2023-26 TIP Project List as presented; Mr. Andy Sanders seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

7) Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Performance Measures (PM3) Targets

Ms. Pragati Srivastava provided an overview of the unified tri-state and individual statewide CMAQ PM3 targets.

Mayor A. Keith McDonald moved to approve the CMAQ PM3 Targets as presented; Mayor Rhea Taylor seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

8) Mid-South Region Freight Flows & Industry Analysis

Mr. Sebastian Guerro (WSP) gave a presentation on the Mid-South Region Freight Flows & Industry Analysis.

DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

Mr. Jason Gambone asked for an explanation of the value differential between air freight and truck tonnage. Mr. Sebastian Guerro responded that air freight is much more valuable per ton than trucking because many high value products (i.e. electronics) are moved by air due to delivery speed advantages.

Mr. Gary Rosenfeld asked whether the projected impact of congestion on the freight network is taking into account the projected impacts of the Blue Oval project. Mr. Sebastian Guerro responded that truck traffic estimates for the Blue Oval project are not reflected in the current 2050 projections but will be incorporated into the analysis in future phases of the Mid-South Freight Flow study.

Mr. Randy Richardson asked whether the 2050 projects reflect the current number of intermodal truck and rail movements within the region. Mr. Sebastian Guerro responded that the rail dataset contains confidential data that has not yet been released by the Surface Transportation Board, but that the standalone rail data will be incorporated into the Mid-South Freight Flow study analysis once the relevant approvals have been granted.

Mr. Jason Gambone commented that pavement condition is a high impact trend/issue that should be incorporated into the Mid-South Freight Flow study analysis given the poor quality of many roads throughout the region. Mr. Sebastian Guerro concurred that pavement condition is a high impact topic and confirmed that this issue will be accordingly identified and addressed in the final Mid-South Freight Flow study report.

Mr. Gary Rosenfeld commented that the ongoing truck driver shortage should be considered a high impact topic and a major threat to freight flows and industry in the Mid-South region. Mr. Sebastian Guerro concurred and noted that labor shortages (including rail operators and mechanics) are becoming more common throughout the logistics sector.

Mr. Chadwick Bahr commented that the advent of driverless semi-trucks and other technological innovations may provide relief to the aforementioned freight and logistics labor shortages in the near future.

9) **Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) 2022 Electric Vehicle (EV) Deployment Plan**

Laura Hartley (Arcadis) gave a presentation on the MDOT 2022 EV Deployment Plan, which will be finalized and submitted to the FHWA by August 1, 2022.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

10) **Open Grant/Funding Opportunities**

Current grant and funding opportunities, which may be of interest to the TPB, were provided and will be included in future agendas, as well as distributed via email.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

11) **Other Business**

- a) Next Scheduled TPB Meeting: September 22, 2022, 1:30 pm, Location: Holiday Inn University of Memphis – Tennessee Ballroom, 3700 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN 38111

12) **Adjourn**

Mayor Rhea Taylor moved to adjourn; Mr. Austin Cardosi seconded the motion. And the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Note: *The meeting minutes are a summary of the meeting. If you would like to review the tape recording of the entire meeting you may do so by scheduling an appointment with Kate Horton, Transportation Planner at (901) 636-7218.*