



Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Engineering and Technical Committee

Thursday, September 22, 2022, 11:00 AM

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

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Ms. Pragati Srivastava called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM. In addition to Ms. Srivastava, the following voting members were present:

Gary Scruggs	<i>TDOT</i>	Emily Harrell	<i>Lakeland</i>
Perry Brown	<i>MDOT</i>	Cheeyen Chew	<i>Memphis</i>
Bennie Hopkins	<i>Desoto County</i>	Randall Tatum	<i>Memphis</i>
Darren Sanders	<i>Shelby County</i>	Jason Dixon	<i>Millington</i>
James Crook	<i>Shelby County</i>	Ed Courton	<i>Oakland</i>
Steve Hill	<i>Arlington</i>	Andy Swims	<i>Olive Branch</i>
Rick McClanahan	<i>Bartlett</i>	Patrick Neal	<i>Piperton</i>
Tim Gwaltney	<i>Collierville</i>	Chase Dabbs	<i>Southaven</i>
Ethan Skaggs	<i>Germantown</i>	John Lancaster	<i>MATA</i>
Austin Cardosi	<i>Hernando</i>		

The following Interested Individuals were present:

Meghan Wilson	<i>TDOT - LP</i>	Leigh Huffman	<i>DPD – OSR</i>
Thiera Taylor	<i>TDOT - OCT</i>	Robin Richardson	<i>DPD - OSR</i>
Ashley Owens	<i>TDOT - OCT</i>	Ben Campbell	<i>HDR</i>
Amanda Hicks	<i>DeSoto County</i>	Peter Kaufmann	<i>HDR</i>
John Horne	<i>Bartlett</i>	Kenny Monroe	<i>Kimley-Horn</i>
Scott Young	<i>Olive Branch</i>	Vijay Kunada	<i>Neel Schaffer</i>
Kamillah Kelly	<i>MAAG</i>	Maria Munoz	<i>LDA Engineering</i>
Jared Darby	<i>DPD – OSR</i>	Ben Ledsinger	<i>SSR</i>
Mayor Chip Johnson	<i>Hernando</i>	Doug Swett	<i>Kimley-Horn</i>
Jennifer Marshall	<i>TDOT – LRP</i>	Brian Copeland	<i>MDOT</i>

The following MPO Staff members were present:

Sajid Hossain	Mavrick Fitzgerald	Ethan Greene	Clarke Shupe-Diggs
Kate Horton	Nick Warren	Jordan Smith	

A quorum was present.

1) **Call to Order @ 11:00 AM**

Ms. Pragati Srivastava called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

2) **Approval of May 19, 2022, Minutes**

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

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

3) **Memphis MPO's Administrator's Report**

Ms. Srivastava gave an overview of the following items:

- a) Mid-South Regional Safety Action Plan Update
- b) Mid-South Region Freight Flows and Industry Analysis
- c) Transit Vision Implementation Plan
- d) ADA Transition Plan – Cities & Counties – Maintain and Update
- e) FHWA - TN – Grant Opportunities Update

DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

Mr. Steve Hill asked if there is a federal requirement for holding regular public meetings and/or hearings during the ADA Transition Plan update process. Ms. Srivastava responded that formal public outreach is only required during the initial development of an ADA Transition Plan.

Mr. Rick McClanahan asked if federal funding for ADA Transition Plan updates is tied to functionally classified roadways. Ms. Meghan Wilson (TDOT – LP) replied that TDOT is currently researching the issue and will follow-up with an email with more specific information.

Mr. Jason Dixon asked if ADA self-certification is now required on an annual basis. Mr. Ethan Greene confirmed that self-certification will be required every year going forward.

Mr. Ethan Skaggs asked about potential discrepancies between the information submitted to the MPO and the self-certification status listed on TDOT's website. Mr. Greene responded that the MPO has passed on all plan information to the relevant state ADA Coordinator, and Ms. Srivastava noted that the MPO will follow up with TDOT regarding this matter.

The MPO followed up with TDOT on correction to ADA status list.

4) **2050 RTP Amendments and Air Quality Conformity for Shelby and DeSoto Counties**

Ms. Pragati Srivastava provided an overview of the 2050 RTP Amendments and the Air Quality Conformity Demonstration Reports for Shelby and DeSoto Counties.

Mr. Darren Sanders moved to approve the 2050 RTP Amendments and Air Quality Conformity Demonstration Reports (for Shelby and Desoto Counties) as presented; Mr. Tim Gwaltney seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

Mr. Steve Hill asked why the construction schedules for the SR-14 and Summer Avenue projects have changed. Mr. Gary Scruggs replied that construction of the SR-14 project will be expedited in consideration of the Blue Oval City project and that Summer Avenue construction has been delayed due to extensive utility work in the area.

Mr. Hill further asked TDOT has developed a master plan for Blue Oval City. Mr. Scruggs replied that TDOT has not yet developed a master plan for the project.

5) FY 2023-26 TIP Adoption and Air Quality Conformity for Shelby and DeSoto Counties

Mr. Nick Warren gave a presentation on the FY 2023-26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Mr. Randall Tatum moved to adopt the FY 2023-26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and associated Air Quality Conformity Demonstration Reports (for Shelby and Desoto Counties) as presented; Mr. Darren Sanders seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

Mr. Sanders asked what percentage of the available funding are carry-over. Mr. Warren replied that it is approximately 50 percent.

6) FY 2023-26 TIP Amendment and Air Quality Conformity for Shelby County

Ms. Pragati Srivastava provided an overview of the FY 2023-26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment and associated Air Quality Conformity for Shelby County.

Mr. Darren Sanders moved to approve the FY 2023-26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment and associated Air Quality Conformity Demonstration Report for Shelby County, TN as presented; Mr. Tim Gwaltney seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

7) FY 2022-23 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment

Ms. Pragati Srivastava provided an overview of the FY 2022-23 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment.

- a) Mississippi PL Safe and Accessible Transportation Options (SATO) Funds – New Funding Source
- b) Mid-South Safety Action Plan – New MPO Task (Task F: Special Studies)

Mr. Rick McClanahan moved to approve the FY 2022-23 UPWP Amendment as presented; Mr. Ed Courton seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

NO DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS

8) MOVING TOGETHER: 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

- a) RTP Investment Strategy

Mr. Vijay Kunada (Neel Schaffer) gave a presentation on the 2050 RTP Investment Strategy.

DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

Mr. Ethan Skaggs asked if non-electrical types of alternative fuel infrastructure will be eligible for federal funding under the IIJA. Mr. Kunada responded that under the NEVI grant program, formula funds will only be allocated for EV charging station projects, but that non-electrical alternative fuel projects may be eligible for discretionary funding.

Mr. Rick McClanahan asked if routes linking to the Blue Oval City mega site (i.e., US 70 / SR-14) will be considered in future alternative fuel corridor designation cycles. Mr. Kunada responded that future regional studies will likely take the Blue Oval project into account.

Mr. Skaggs asked if the traffic impacts of TDOT I-40 widening projects were evaluated under the 2050 RTP update. Ms. Pragati Srivastava responded that there are several I-40 widening projects that are likely to impact the region, and that all of these projects will be addressed by the plan, esp the ones that are located within the MPO area. Ms. Srivastava further noted that the MPO will continue to coordinate with TDOT to assess the impacts of widening projects in areas external to the region, including Blue Oval City.

9) Mid-South Regional Safety Action Plan

Mr. Jordan Smith gave a presentation on the Mid-South Regional Safety Action Plan.

DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

Mr. Rick McClanahan asked if federal funding for Safety Action Plans and associated projects is tied to functionally classified roadways. Mr. Smith replied that all roadways will be eligible for funding—regardless of their classification—under the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program.

Mr. Ethan Skaggs asked if specific safety projects will be identified in the Mid-South Regional Safety Action Plan (SAP). Ms. Srivastava noted that the plan will include jurisdictional high injury maps and crash analysis that can be used to apply for locally contextual projects in future SS4A funding cycles, but that the project scope of the SAP itself will be as broad as possible. Mr. Smith further noted that the federal guidance for the SS4A program is constantly evolving, and that the MPO will continue to share funding updates with member jurisdictions on a regular basis.

10) Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Mr. Antoine Hawkins gave an update on the Tennessee EV Deployment Plan, which was recently approved by the FHWA, and the Carbon Reduction Program Plan, which is currently under development in partnership with an on-call consultant.

DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

Mr. Darren Sanders inquired about the strategies that will be used under the EV Deployment Plan to locate and install EV charging stations. Mr. Hawkins responded that charging stations must be installed every 50 miles along designated alternative fuel corridors (i.e., I-40 and US-64).

11) Open Grant/Funding Opportunities

- a) TDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TA)

- b) Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Discretionary Grant Program

DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

Mr. Steve Hill asked how jurisdictions can obtain an MPO endorsement during the TAP project application process. Ms. Kate Horton responded that any agency planning to submit projects for TDOT TA application to reach out to the MPO staff directly.

The MPO followed up with TDOT after the meeting to confirm.

12) **Other Business**

- a) Next Scheduled ETC Meeting: November 17, 2022, 11:00 am, Location: Holiday Inn University of Memphis – Tennessee Ballroom, 3700 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN 38111

13) **Adjourn @ 12:10 PM**

Mr. Ethan Skaggs moved to adjourn; Mr. Rick McClanahan seconded the motion. And the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 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.*