Active Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 28, 2014 4:00 PM
Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Mr. Kyle Wagenschutz called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. In addition to Mr. Wagenschutz, the following committee members were present at the meeting:

Mr. Steven Edwards  City of Memphis  Ms. Dawn Vinson  Citizen
Mr. Dennis Lynch  Sierra Club  Mr. Gene Carkeet  Citizen
Ms. Barbara McClanahan  University of Memphis  Mr. John Paul Shaffer  Livable Memphis
Mr. Dale Christie  Citizen

The following members of the general public were present at the meeting:

Mr. James Stokes  Bass River Advisors
Mr. Rick McClanahan  City of Bartlett
Ms. Bert Wolff  Citizen
Mr. Art Wolff  Citizen

The following Memphis MPO Staff were present:

Mr. Kyle Wagenschutz  Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator
Mr. Kwasi Agyakwa  Transportation Planner
Mr. Nicholas Oyler  Transportation Planner
Mr. Mitchell Lloyd  Transportation Planner
1) Welcome & Introductions

Mr. Wagenschutz briefed the committee on the meeting’s agenda. Those present at the meeting briefly introduced themselves.

2) Regional Bike/Ped Plan Update

Mr. Wagenschutz stated that the draft Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was released for public review on October 11. The plan incorporates four themes: safety/comfort, connectivity, accessibility, and mode shift. Each planning theme involved its own type or types of analysis. The analyses’ results were overlaid in order to create a numeric composite score of every roadway and trail segment in the Memphis MPO region. The higher the score is, the greater the need on that particular segment for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, as determined by the analysis. The plan is not a financially constrained document. Local jurisdictions will ultimately decide which projects they implement; the ranked and scored projects simply allow a comparison of roadway segments based on their need. Comments are due by November 12th.

Mr. McClanahan voiced his concerns on the scoring matrix and methodology. He stated that he would like to see project feasibility or constructability incorporated into the composite score somehow. He also suggested incorporating a measurement of the ability of trail/facility segments to connect to each other, especially if these scores will be used in connection with funding. Mr. McClanahan stated that his concern was that if a jurisdiction submitted a project that was not included in the plan’s project list, that project would be ineligible to receive funding. Mr. Wagenschutz responded that the novelty of the plan’s composite scoring methodology is that now every individual roadway/trail segment in the Memphis MPO region has a score, and that projects proposed in the future could easily be incorporated, unlike with the previous Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Mr. Wolff asked if the ATAC would be the proper venue for questions on specific bicycle and pedestrian projects – which Mr. Wagenschutz confirmed – and moved on to express his concerns about the Walnut Grove Road project and its bicycle/pedestrian access.

3) TDOT Multimodal Access Fund

The Memphis MPO released a call for applications to its Tennessee jurisdictions on October 2 for TDOT’s 2014-2015 Multimodal Access Fund grant program. Applications are due to the MPO by 3:00 Pm on November 5. As per TDOT guidelines, the MPO will select up to two submitted project applications for consideration by TDOT. If the MPO receives more than two applications, staff will score the project applications to determine which two are submitted to TDOT.
Mr. Oyler updated the ATAC on the status of the Livability 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP project kicked-off in August 2014 with a strong public outreach phase. MPO staff and its consultant team conducted a series of public meetings as well as “tag-on” meetings with community organizations, such as Livable Memphis and the Westwood Community Association. A public survey was available from August to October. Additionally, an interactive mapping tool that allows the public to submit location-specific comments is accessible via the RTP’s dedicated website: www.livability2040.com. Draft goals and objectives have been developed for the RTP and will be approved at the next Transportation Policy Board meeting. Upcoming phases of the RTP’s development include analysis of existing and future conditions, a SWOT analysis, and scenario analysis.

Mr. Shaffer encouraged that the results and recommendations of the Mid-South Greenprint Plan be incorporated into the RTP. Mr. Oyler responded that the MPO staff and consultants are already doing so.

Mr. Lynch encouraged that the RTP live up to its “livability” title as much as possible.

Mr. Wolff suggested that MPO staff perform public outreach via non-electronic means. Mr. Oyler stated that the MPO mailed thousands of paper postcards to area residents and stakeholders and that the MPO has participated in TV and radio interviews regarding the RTP.

Since Mr. Lloyd last presented the PPP to the ATAC at its previous meeting, the MPO has completed the draft document, submitted it to public, State, and Federal review, and has begun revising the document as needed as per comments received. One significant change in MPO practices as a result of the PPP update will be the cataloging of public meetings and media appearances in order to track the effectiveness of various outreach methods. Public review will end on November 18th. The draft PPP is available online, in area libraries, and in the MPO offices. The Transportation Policy Board will vote to adopt the PPP at its meeting on November 20th.

Mr. Wolff supported any efforts that strengthen public participation.

Mr. Agyakwa briefed the ATAC on the Congestion Management Process (CMP). The CMP is a required document for the MPO to develop because of the area’s nonattainment status with air quality standards. As part of the public outreach efforts, a Mobility Summit at the KROC Center was recently held. The CMP will offer a list of congestion management strategies. A draft should be available in February 2015, and the final document is targeted for adoption in April or May 2015.

Committee members discussed the congestion that occurs when an incident management team responds to a crash or accident, and they supported working with police and fire departments to streamline their response approaches.

Mr. Wagenschutz introduced the proposed 2015 ATAC meeting calendar, which was then approved by the ATAC.
8) **New Business**

- Mr. Dennis Lynch announced that the Sierra Club is hosting an Environmental Justice Conference on November 1, 2014 at the University of Memphis from 9 AM to 1 PM.
- Mr. Dennis Lynch asked whether or not any issues related to public transit will be coming before the committee, as public transportation falls within the oversight of the ATAC yet few such issues have been included in the committee’s discussion. Mr. Wagenschutz stated that there simply have not been any new business items related to transit to have been discussed during the recent meetings. MATA had intended to present its Midtown Alternatives Analysis Study to the ATAC, but that project has been temporarily suspended while the new President/General Manager assesses the organization.
- Mr. Art Wolff asked whether or not the ATAC had any oversight of the Shelby Farms Parkway/Walnut Grove Road project. Mr. Wagenschutz stated that this project is under the jurisdiction of the City of Memphis and the State of Tennessee, and that the ATAC is not involved with it.

9) **Adjourn @ 6:00 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 so do by scheduling an appointment with Kyle Wagenschutz, Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator at (901) 576-7190.*