Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Engineering and Technical Committee
Thursday, August 6, 2015 1:30 PM
UT Health Science Center – Student Alumni Building
800 Madison Avenue - Memphis, Tennessee

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Ms. Pragati Srivastava called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM. In addition to Ms. Srivastava the following voting members were present at the meeting:

Perry Brown  MDOT
Frank McPhail  Collierville
Becky Bailey  Bartlett
Darren Sanders  Shelby County
Bennie Hopkins  Desoto County
John Lancaster  MATA
John Cameron  Memphis
Christopher Pate  Oakland
Steve Hill  Arlington
Jared Darby  Hernando
Carlos McCloud  TDOT
Tim Gwaltney  Germantown
Kevin Eason  Shelby County
B. J. Page  Olive Branch
Mayor Chester Cocke  Braden
Brett Morgan  Millington
Stephen Edwards  Memphis
David Smith  Lakeland
Pat Brown  Gallaway

The following Interested Individuals were present:

Mike Merry  MDOT
Bob Rogers  SCHD
Jimmy Dickerson  Buchart Horn
Tom Word  MLGW
Dennis Lynch  Sierra Club
Collins Simpson  Waggoner
Nate Brugler  TDOT
Art Wolff  Citizen
Tom Skehan  Lakeland
Brian Copeland  MDOT
Steve Chipman  TDOT
Mark Grey  Buchart Horn
Aury Kangelos  TDOT
Jason Allen  PHD
Andy Jeffrey  MDOT
Josh Shumaker  MAAG
Nisha Powers  PHD

The following MPO Staff members were present:

Sajid Hossain  Andrew Ray  Mitchell Lloyd  Nathaniel Heyward
Kate Horton  Nicholas Oyler  Linda Kay Lawrence  Kwasi Agyakwa

A quorum was present.
1) **Call to Order @ 1:31 PM**

2) **Approval of June 25, 2015 Minutes**

   Mr. B. J. Page moved to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Bennie Hopkins seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

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

   Ms. Pragati Srivastava gave an overview of the following items:
   a. Livability 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update
   b. Bus Stop Accessibility Design Guidelines RFQ
   c. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application Summary
   d. MS TIP Project Status Update Meeting – August 18th at 10:00 am
   e. FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Preparation
   f. TDOT’s CMAQ Program Awards – Additional TIP Amendments August TPB Meeting
   g. Introduction of Mr. Nathaniel Heyward, Memphis MPO Transportation Planner

   **COMMENTS:**

   Mr. Dennis Lynch asked if travel forecasts would be presented to the public or if there were materials available for review prior to the release of the RTP document for public review. Ms. Pragati Srivastava responded that the travel pattern forecasts were presented as part of the Mid-South Household Travel Survey and presentations of the RTP draft document which will occur in November during the public review period.

   Mr. Dennis Lynch asked if the Bus Stop Accessibility Design Guidelines had been reviewed by Memphis Center for Independent Living (MCIL), the City of Memphis’s ADA Coordinator or other public groups. Ms. Pragati Srivastava responded that this is the Request for Qualification and public stakeholders and interested parties will have an opportunity to provide input once a consultant is selected and the guidelines are being developed.

4) **Roadway Functional Classification Update**

   The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have requested that the MPO submit appropriate functional class change requests for roadways that were affected by the updated 2010 census urbanized areas, and/or were added to the MPO planning area as a result of the MPO boundary expansion. The changes that were approved at the November 2012 TPB meeting are also being resubmitted per the request of TDOT.
Ms. Pragati Srivastava gave an overview of this item.

Mr. Chris Pate moved to approve the Roadway Functional Classification Update; Mr. David Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Steve Hill asked how jurisdictions will get the official updated roadway functional classification map. Mr. Carlos McCloud responded that TDOT is undergoing an updated to their website, so to facilitate the information quickly he will forward the updated maps to the MPO for distribution once the official approval letter is received from FHWA. Ms. Pragati Srivastava clarified that these changes were only happening in the Tennessee portion of the planning area.

Mr. Steve Hill asked why the City of Arlington has multiple asterisks behind its name on the chart in the table provided. Mr. Carlos McCloud responded that TDOT had the City of Arlington’s urban boundary separated outside of the MPO urban boundary, but they are now combined together.

Mr. Dennis Lynch asked what the abbreviations stand for on the provided chart, what criteria is used to determine the classification for any specific road segment, and if the public has any input to in the process. Mr. Carlos McCloud responded that at the conclusion of the meeting he would sit down with Mr. Lynch’s questions to go over his questions.

5) Adoption of Congestion Management Process (CMP)

Ms. Pragati Srivastava gave an overview of this item.

Mr. Kwasi Agyakwa gave a presentation on this item.

Mr. David Smith moved to approve the Congestion Management Process Update; Mr. Tim Gwaltney seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Art Wolff expressed his concerns about the ETC meeting advertisements and his dissatisfaction with only have two minutes to speak on specific agenda items. Mr. Wolff emphasized the importance of public participation in the planning process. Mr. Wolff expressed that he is interested in traffic around Shelby Farms Park and the procedures followed when the MPO is developing studies.

Mr. Dennis Lynch thanked Mr. Kwasi Agykwa and Mr. Nathaniel Heyward for meeting with him and Mr. Wolff to discuss the CMP. Mr. Lynch stated that the CMP was good and wanted to see how it would be applied to the TIP and RTP. Mr. Lynch mentioned that attention should be paid to reducing the amount of land use for vehicle travel and to increase useable land for other activities.
6) FY 2014-17 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project Status Update

Ms. Pragati Srivastava gave an overview of this item.

Ms. Kate Horton gave a presentation on this item.

NO COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

7) FY 2014-17 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Ms. Pragati Srivastava gave an overview of this item.

Mr. John Cameron moved to approve the FY 2014-17 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment as presented; Mr. David Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

TDOT Road Amendment.

a. TIP Amendment TN-IM-2011-01 I-55 Interchange at Crump Blvd

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is requesting to amend the TIP by adding an additional $31,500,000 in National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) federal funds and $3,500,000 in State funds. Increasing the total construction cost to $67,500,000 for FY 2016.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Darren Sanders asked for a status update on the project. Mr. Carlos McCloud responded that there will be an economic impact analysis study done by TDOT delaying construction for one year.

8) Other Business

a. Next Scheduled ETC Meeting: November 5, 2015 1:30pm, Location: UT Health Science Center

COMMENTS:

Mr. Bob Rogers provided an update on Shelby County’s Ozone Maintenance Plan.

Mr. Darren Sanders announced that there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the ground breaking of the Greenline extension project on Friday, August 7, 2015 and everyone is invited to attend.

Mr. Dennis Lynch stated that the Congestion Management Process is difficult to locate on the MPO website using the menu bar. Mr. Lynch mentioned in an effort to search for congestion on the MPO website, he ran into some challenges in identifying the correct CMP documents and sites to review. Mr. Lynch suggested the MPO add more useful search features to the MPO website to help visitors find content easily and quickly.
9) **Adjourn @ 2:21 PM**

Mr. David Smith moved to adjourn; Mr. B J Page seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

*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) 576-7218*