Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
Freight Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, August 23, 2016 10:00 AM  
3175 Lenox Park Boulevard, Suite 201  
Memphis, Tennessee 38115

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Committee Chairman Mayor Rhea “Skip” Taylor, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. In addition to Mayor Taylor, the following voting members were present at the meeting:

Stephen Edwards  City of Memphis  
Michael Garriga  BNSF  
Randy Richardson  Port of Memphis  
Bobby Williams  West Memphis MPO  
Trung Trinh  MDOT  
Jessica Dilley  MDOT  
Dan Pallme  University of Memphis  
Scarlet Ponder  MATA  
Bennie Hopkins  DeSoto County  
Ernest Strickland  Memphis Chamber  
Aayush Thakur  TDOT  
Casey Langford  TDOT  
Darren Sanders  Shelby County

Interested Individuals present:

Lee Hutchins  AECOM  
Max Baker  AECOM  
Don Harrison  RJ Corman RR Group  
Mike Golias  University of Memphis

The following MPO Staff members were present:

Pragati Srivastava  Nat Heyward  Roger Ekstrom  Sajid Hossain

A quorum was present.
1) Welcome and Introduction
   The members of the committee introduced themselves.

2) Memphis MPO Regional Freight Plan Update
   Mr. Lee Hutchins of AECOM, the consultant for the plan, gave a presentation that updated the committee on the current progress regarding the Regional Freight Plan. The first step in the process was to identify regional connections across North America, and to identify peer regions. This will allow the plan to see best practices from similar conditions. Industrial zones in the Memphis MPO area were also identified, and their characteristics were noted to understand how current industrial areas in the region affect the freight system. The next step was to then identify the transportation network connections. This includes highlighting interstate roadways, arterial network roads, and railroad and multimodal networks. Combining this information with the land use information already gathered creates a comprehensive picture of the state of the current freight system for the greater Memphis region.

   Mr. Hutchins then outlined the next steps in the process for the development of the plan. This includes looking at transportation access, taking a further study of the railway and roadway networks, and looking at the relationship between the current freight movement and the Aeotropolis.

   Mr. Aayush Thakur asked how Mr. Hutchins and his team went about identifying the industrial zones, and asked if they looked at the zones based on their primary mode of transportation. Mr. Hutchins said they used the land use data as a base to identify these zones. They used aerial data and property data to identify properties that were of industrial use. Mr. Hutchins said that their future study of the rail and roadway network would help inform their categorization of the industrial zones based on their mode of transportation.

   Mr. Hutchins asked the committee to get in touch with him or MPO staff in order to provide any future input regarding the plan.

   Mr. Stephen Edwards asked whether or not documentation regarding the methodology of the plan, and asked if higher resolution maps could be provided for review. Mr. Hutchins said that the information could definitely be provided once they had more thoroughly developed their methodology and data. Mr. Hutchins said they could provide higher resolution maps as well. Mr. Edwards asked about the importance of identifying high density retail areas that might affect freight movement. Mr. Hutchins explained that that hadn’t happened yet as part of their analysis but it was something they’d look at going forward. Mr. Edwards identified retail areas that could have some impact. Mr. Hutchins and Mr. Edwards briefly discussed what those impacts could be.

   Mayor Taylor asked Mr. Hutchins whether or not they were having issues collecting the data that they were looking for. Mr. Hutchins said that they’ve been very successful getting information and data from the various stakeholders related to the plan.
3) **Other Business**
   There was no other business to discuss.

4) **Adjourn**

   Meeting was adjourned at 10:36am

   *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 Sajid Hossain, Transportation Planner (901) 576-7183*