Mayor Jim Strickland called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM. In addition to Mayor Strickland, the following voting members were present at the meeting:

- Tom Needham, Shelby County
- Gary Scruggs, TDOT
- Evan Wright, MDOT
- James Hay, MSCAA
- Bennie Hopkins, DeSoto County
- B J Page, Olive Branch
- Christopher Pate, Oakland
- Frank McPhail, Collierville
- Tim Gwaltney, Germantown
- Forrest Owens, Lakeland
- Willie Davidson, Horn Lake
- Mayor A. Keith McDonald, Bartlett
- John Trusty, Millington
- Keith Briley, Hernando
- Steve Hill, Arlington
- Harvey Matheny, Piperton
- Whitney Choat, Southaven
- John Lancaster, MATA
- Randy Richardson, Port Commission

The following Ex-officio members were present:
- Elizabeth Watkins, FHWA-TN
- Bobby Williams, West Memphis MPO

The following Interested Individuals were present:
- Antoine Hawkins, TDOT
- Jennifer Marshall, TDOT
- Meghan Wilson, TDOT
- Nate Brugler, TDOT
- Suzanne Carlson, Innovate Memphis
- Tim Wheat, MCIL
- Jared Darby, SC Office of Resilience
- Dana Sjostrom, SC Office of Resilience
- Darren Sanders, Shelby County
- Manny Belen, Memphis
- Vivian Ekstrom, Office of Sustainability
- Spencer Robinson, MDOT
- Ross Buckler, MDOT
- Kenneth Monroe, Kimley-Horn
- Dennis Lynch, Sierra Club
- Allison Donald, MCIL
- James Collins, Kimley-Horn
- Douglas Dietz, Ensafe
- Brian Copeland, MDOT
- Emmanuel Tuombe, ABES Engineering
- Sonja Owens, SCHD

The following MPO Staff members were present:
- Pragati Srivastava
- Mavrick Fitzgerald
- Kate Horton
- Sajid Hossain
- Jordan Smith
- Nick Warren
- Sajid Hossain
- Jordan Smith
- Zylavian Watley

A quorum was present.
1) **Call to Order @ 1:38 PM**

Mayor Jim Strickland called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM.

2) **Approval of November 15, 2018 Minutes**

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

**NO DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS**

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

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

a) MPO Unobligated Balance (TN) - Update

**NO DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS**

4) **Memphis Urban Area MPO TDOT, MDOT, and Mata Transportation Planning Agreement**

Ms. Srivastava provided an overview of the proposed update to the Transportation Planning Agreement between the Memphis MPO, TDOT, MDOT, and MATA for coordination of transportation planning activities, as required by 23 CFR 450.

Mr. B J page moved to approve the Transportation Planning Agreement as presented; Mayor A. Keith McDonald seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

**NO DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS**

5) **FY 2020-23 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project Approval List**

Ms. Srivastava provided an overview of the proposed fiscally constrained list of projects for the development of the FY 2020-23 TIP. This includes projects managed by TDOT, MDOT, MATA and Local Tennessee and Mississippi jurisdictions.

Mayor A. Keith McDonald moved to approve the TIP Project List as presented; Mr. Keith Briley seconded the motion and the motion carried without dissent.

**DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS**

Ms. Suzanne Carlson, citizen, commented on the City of Memphis not receiving fair share of projects on the FY 2020-23 TIP project list for approval.

Mr. Dennis Lynch, Sierra Club, commented in support of some of the projects on the FY 2020-23 TIP project, but not all. Mr. Lynch commented that climate change is happening and that the economic strength of Memphis is important to the region. A copy of Mr. Lynch’s comments, as submitted, are included within the minutes.

In response, Mayor McDonald commented that there is structured application process and the engineers representing all of the jurisdictions, review the project list before taking it to the meetings for approval. He also
added that local match is an issue that impacts the implementation of the projects resulting in the large balance of unobligated funds.

Ms. Srivastava commented it is a priority that all projects continue to move forward to reduce the unobligated balance.

6) **FY 2017-20 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment**

Ms. Srivastava provided an overview of the following amendment:

   i. **TIP Amendment MS-BUILD-2019-01: Holly Springs Road**
      Desoto County, Mississippi is requesting to amend the FY 2017-20 TIP by adding the Holly Springs Road project, which was selected by USDOT under the 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant. The amendment will add $13,000,000 in BUILD grant funds to FY 2019, along with $2,305,069 in additional federal and state funds and $15,121,931 in local match.

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

**NO DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS**

7) **Mid-South Regional Resilience Master Plan**

Mr. Jared Darby and Mr. Chris Horne gave a presentation on the Mid-South Resilience Master Plan.

**NO DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS**

8) **Other Business**
   i. Next Scheduled TPB Meeting: July 25th, 2019 at 1:30 pm, Location: UT Science Center

**NO DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS**

9) **Adjourn @ 2:04 pm**

Mayor McDonald moved to adjourn; Mr. Keith Briley seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:04 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.
May 16, 2019

Memphis Area MPO
Transportation Policy Board Members
Hand Delivered

Attention: MPO Administrator and TPB Members;

The Sierra Club hereby submits its comments regarding the Memphis MPO's 2020-2023 TIP.

We support some of the projects in the Memphis MPO's draft TIP Project List, but we do not support them all. We understand that this list is up for approval at this meeting.

As foundation to our comments on the TIP, we make the following assertions:
1. Climate change is happening, it is largely man-made, CO2 and other greenhouse gases are the major contributing factors, and the risk of significant negative consequences is growing rapidly. Therefore, it is incumbent on all governments to seriously consider and to develop and implement strategies which will help reduce climate change and its impacts. Some relevant strategies include more electric vehicles, more effective transit, and development which enables traveling less miles.

2. The economic strength of Memphis is important to the entire region- as Memphis gets stronger, the region will get stronger. Thus, the region's MPO should emphatically support pro-Memphis strategies.

3. The Memphis 3.0 Comprehensive Plan has laid a groundwork for the future strength of Memphis, and its key philosophy is to "build up, not out". This further reinforces points (1) and (2).

Our specific comments regarding the TIP are as follows:

1. We object to any money being spent or allocated for Walnut Grove Middle or Kirby/Whitten Parkway projects (STP-M-2000-11, STP-M-2006-10), as no ROD has yet been approved, and traffic volume questions still remain.

2. We support the existing list of MATA projects, and bike/ped projects.

3. We strongly encourage the MPO to develop specific plans to address climate change.
   3a. MPO plans and funding should support Memphis 3.0's theme- "building up and not out". To make this happen, the project scoring/priority formula should add points for projects which will increase density and livability within the core city, and subtract points for projects which encourage sprawl.
   3b. The TIP should increase support for MATA, including increased funding in support of the Transit
vision plan (which is part of Memphis 3.0), and for more rapid electrification, over and above the amounts in this TIP project list.

3c. The MPO should develop a GHG reduction plan, and also incorporate GHG reduction into all other plans. Further, each individual project should estimate and publish CO2 emissions and impacts, and make sure that these estimates can be easily found on the MPO’s and MATA’s home pages.

4. The draft list of TIP projects should summarize the percentage distribution of dollars by community, with and without state projects, to ensure that funding supports the “strengthen the core city” and the “build up, not out” strategies.

5. CMAQ and other funding should be provided for EV charging infrastructure throughout the region. A complete charging infrastructure plan should be developed as soon as possible, and multiple locations should be funded in each year of the TIP. Some CMAQ funds should be initially undesignated so that they can be made available for these EV charging projects.

6. The TIP should provide more funding for upgrading crosswalks throughout the region (noting the pedestrian death this week on Houston Levee), starting with development of an appropriate plan. Priorities should be based on intersections with more accidents, with more pedestrian traffic, and with more vehicular traffic.

7. Funding should be provided to MATA to address existing ADA-related shortcomings.

8. The TIP should provide funding for an on-street parking plan and a Transportation Network Company (Uber/Lyft) passenger pickup locations plan. Implementation of these plans will improve vehicle and pedestrian safety.

We thank you for your attention to these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Dennis Lynch, BS MechEng MIT, MS CivEng MIT
Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter Transportation Chair
Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Chair (West Tennessee)
dmlynch@alum.mit.edu  901-361-8029