

MINUTES
MPO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
JACKSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
CITY HALL – 1ST FLOOR BEN LANGFORD ROOM – 101 EAST MAIN STREET
MARCH 23, 2023 – 10:30 A.M.

Members Present: **Mayor Scott Conger, City of Jackson**
 Mayor A.J. Massey, Madison County
 Mayor Brad Replogle, City of Medon
 Russ McKelvey, Jackson City Council
 Ashley Owens, TDOT-OCT

Staff/Others Present:

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| Stan Pilant, Planning Director | Thiera Taylor, TDOT-OCT |
| Commissioner Eley, TDOT | Sgt. Chris Chilcote, JPD |
| Hannah Mathis, Planning Department | Cody Roberts, TDOT-D48 Operations |
| Austin Brown, Planning Department | Jason Baker, TDOT-R4 Director |
| Gary Scruggs, TDOT Project Development | |
| Nichole Lawrence, TDOT Community Relations | |

The MPO Executive Board meeting was called to order and a determination of a quorum was made by Mayor Scott Conger. Mayor Conger welcomed the public and officials in attendance and opened the floor to any member of the public wishing to speak. With no one present from the public, Mayor Conger recognized and welcomed Commissioner Eley.

TDOT Commissioner Eley - Build With Us Initiative Presentation – Commissioner Eley virtually presented the Build With Us Initiative. During his presentation, he briefly gave an overview of the Transportation Modernization Act and its three components which includes: Choice Lanes, Alternative Delivery and Creating Parity with Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (EV).

After the presentation, there was some discussion regarding the plan to capture revenue from Hybrid and EV taxes. Annually, EV's will pay \$200 and Hybrids will pay \$100 towards taxes that will go to the state's highway fund. In addition, Commissioner Eley stated that the Governor has budgeted \$300 million that will go straight to Tennessee counties to support transportation needs at the local level through the State Aid Program.

Afterwards, there was further discussion regarding the status of the Southern Bypass, funding and start of the right of way acquisition. Currently, preliminary design is underway towards moving to the next step, which is funding the project to completion.

Approval Of Board Minutes: December 1, 2022 – Mayor Conger presented the minutes to the Executive Board.

The minutes of December 1, 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted.

Adoption of PM2 and PM3 Safety Targets – Mr. Pilant presented the PM2 and PM3 Safety Targets to the Technical Staff. Annually, the MPO is required to create their own safety targets or adopt TDOT’s safety targets. The MPO has chosen to adopt TDOT’s safety targets to maintain consistency.

The Technical Staff recommended approval of the PM2 and PM3 Safety Targets to the MPO Executive Board.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Russ McKelvey, seconded by Ashley Owens to approve the PM2 and PM3 Safety Targets. The motion was unanimously approved.

Amendment to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Mr. Pilant presented the amendment to the Technical Staff. Currently, the state has approved two transportation projects, Airways Phase I and II. Covid relief funds that were received by the state will go towards funding the N/PED portion of the two projects, estimating around \$400,000. As a result, two amendments to the current 2020-2023 (TIP) are needed to obligate the funds by the end of September 2023.

The Technical Staff recommended approval to amend the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the MPO Executive Board.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Russ McKelvey, seconded by Ashley Owens to amend the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The motion was unanimously approved.

Updates – Cody Roberts, TDOT, discussed updates regarding current and upcoming projects which includes:

1. The current project at I-40 and Hollywood overpass is still in progress. Due to the wet conditions, the dirt work can’t be done right now. However, the Hollywood bridge is still underway.
2. The asphalt work on 412 will begin May 1, 2023 beginning at Windy City to Old Humboldt Road to Crockett County.
3. The upcoming projects on 412 from I-40 and State Route 1 and State Route 1 from downtown to Whitehall Street will be let in May.
4. Drains are currently being installed at the State Industrial Access (SIA Road) on the Georgia Pacific side that kicked off sometime last week.
5. Parkway will be let in May 2023.

Jason Baker, TDOT, discussed resurfacing projects and stated that there has been a total of 14 new resurfacing projects this year. As a result, funding for pavement has become a challenge and a concern due to the increase of paving.

Gary Scruggs, TDOT, discussed projects that are in development which include:

1. Interchange improvement project on I-40 at Exit 68 is currently underway. Scheduling for construction has not been set.
2. Interchange improvement project on I-40 and Christmasville Road planning work is underway. Currently working on the Interstate Access Request (IAR). A letting schedule has not been set.
3. Two sections of State Route 18 from the county line up to Medon Malesus Road has had a field survey and preliminary plans completed. Once funding is secured, TDOT will proceed with the right of way plans.
4. Two intersection improvement projects on State Route 20 and Old Bells Road have right of way plans almost complete. Right of way acquisition should begin in the summer.
5. State Route 43 constructions has been let and should begin in May.
6. The bridge replacement project at 152 Law Road over I-40 is currently waiting on funding.

Ashley Owens, TDOT, stated that TDOT has released this week the notice of intent for the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program. In late spring, TDOT will release a notice of funding opportunity. By early summer or fall, TDOT will award the contracts. Also, the Transportation Planning Grant will be released in sixty days.

Afterwards, there was a brief discussion about including the passenger rail from Memphis to Nashville.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.