

**MINUTES
MPO TECHNICAL STAFF
JACKSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
CITY HALL – FIRST FLOOR BEN LANGFORD MEETING ROOM
111 EAST MAIN STREET
NOVEMBER 16, 2023 – 10:30 A.M.**

Staff/Others Present:

Stan Pilant, Planning Director

Daniel Kenagy, Region 4 (MPO & RPO)

Shelton Merrell, SWTDD

Ashley Owens, TDOT-OCT

Thiera Taylor, TDOT-OCT

Bart Walls, County Highway Dept.

Wes Williams, TDOT

Austin Brown, Planning Dept.

Melinda Clark, JTA

Maury Miles, JTA

Chris Chilcote, JPD

Andrew Webster, TDOT

Stan Pilant, Chairman of the MPO Technical Staff, called the meeting to order upon making a determination of a quorum of members present. Mr. Pilant welcomed the public and officials in attendance and opened the floor to any member of the public wishing to speak. There was no one present wishing to make a public comment.

Adoption of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Urban Boundary and Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary – Mr. Pilant stated that since the Long Range Transportation Plan was reviewed recently based off the urban area, there will not be any changes or modifications. Comments were received by TDOT’s staff that will be incorporated when it is modified, which will be due by December 2026. He also added that the Urban Boundary will be based on what is determined by the census data. At this time, no action is needed.

Afterwards, the minutes of August 10, 2023 were unanimously approved on motion of Maury Miles and seconded by Ashley Owens. Afterwards, Mr. Pilant began reviewing the agenda business items.

Annual Listing of Federally Obligated Projects – Mr. Pilant briefly highlighted the obligation report from TDOT that provides a list of current ongoing projects that have federal funds. No action is required.

Also, Mr. Pilant mentioned that the Southern Bypass project is not in the current three-year program. The project is still in the design phase. TDOT will step in once the design is complete, but there is no definite timeline on when the project will begin.

Adoption of the PM1 Safety Targets -- Mr. Pilant presented the PM1 Safety Targets to the Technical Staff. The safety targets are done on an annual basis that allows the MPO to create

their own safety targets or adopt TDOT's safety targets. Mr. Pilant stated that the MPO has chosen to accept and adopt TDOT's safety targets for consistency.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Bart Walls and seconded by Austin Brown to recommend approval to the MPO Executive Board the PM1 Safety Targets. The motion was unanimously approved.

JTA Amendment -- Mr. Pilant presented the amendment to the Technical Staff. JTA is currently programming \$500,000 per year for 2024-2026 that totals up to \$1.5 million toward their ADA Paratransit Service. Since additional funds are being added to the project, an amendment is needed.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Melinda Clark and seconded by Bart Walls to recommend approval to the MPO Executive Board the amendment for JTA. The motion was unanimously approved.

Updates – Ashley Owens, TDOT-OCT, mentioned that the Transportation Modernization Act SPP list is undergoing a final evaluation for the remaining 66 projects. There will also be a presentation at the end of the year as part of the overall 10-Year Project Plan.

The planning strategies to set the framework for the Carbon Reduction and Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative Efficient and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) funding are currently underway.

Also, the PM1 adoptions are due by February 27, 2024 and the Multimodal Access Grant announcements will occur this quarter or next quarter.

Daniel Kenagy, TDOT, mentioned that TDOT has upcoming trainings that will be held in Jackson. The Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) Training will be held on November 28th and 29th. The Local Government Guidelines Manual and Right-of-Way/NEPA training has been rescheduled to December 12th and 13th.

Bart Walls mentioned that the County has a bridge grant project on Britton Lane that will begin this week. The bridge on Allen Road will be going to bid soon with the anticipation of starting construction the first quarter of 2024.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.