

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
Draft Minutes for Tuesday, December 4, 2007 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Finkeldei (MPO)	Keith Browning (DGCO PW)
Byron Low (FHWA)	Joel Skelley (KDOT)
Sheila Stogsdill (Planning)	Dena Mezgar (Lawrence PW)
Anson Gock (Planning)	Daniel Nguyen (FTA)
Cliff Galante (Lawrence Transit)	Shoeb Uddin (City of Lawrence)
Greg Moore (MPO-non voting)	

OTHERS PRESENT: Allison Smith (KDOT), Mark Huffhines (FHWA), Davonna Morgan (Planning)

ITEM 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 PM. A quorum was present.

ITEM 2: Approval of Minutes – October 2, 2007

Meeting minutes of the October 2, 2007 TAC was reviewed with no further discussion.

MOTION made by Cliff Galante, and a 2nd by Keith Browning to approve the September minutes with corrections. Motion was unanimously approved.

Item 3: Discussion Item: FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

Gock and Morgan presented the committee with several items concerning the upcoming Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

-TIP Memo to City Manager: Gock presented a memo to the committee explaining the status of the current FY 06-09 TIP to the City Manager. The memo states that once the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is approved the current TIP will be invalid and a new TIP must be approved shortly after the LRTP is approved. The staff stated that they are currently working on the new TIP so that it can be ready for the MPO approval process, once the LRTP is approved.

SRTS to Baldwin: Gock presented a letter from KDOT to the committee in regards to KDOT's Safe Route to School (SRTS) program being awarded to the City of Baldwin. Since the current FY 06-09 TIP is frozen; therefore, this project will have to wait until the new TIP is approved. Staff has informed the City of Baldwin in regards to the status of the TIP. The staff informed the City of Baldwin that they are currently working on the new TIP so that it can be ready for the MPO approval process, once the LRTP is approved.

-TIP Database: Morgan presented the committee with an example of the TIP listing report. Morgan explained that this report would be how the projects in the TIP would

appear. The committee offered several comments to improve the report, including developing a listing that will the needs of transit projects best. The staff conveyed to the committee that all comments and suggestions mention would be considered in the development of the database.

-*TIP Policy*: Morgan presented to the committee the TIP Policy which explains the MPO guidelines regarding TIP development, the amendment process, and defining what a “regionally significant” project is. The committee suggested that the policy can require less detail and that the funding and project selection parts of the policy should be corrected. The staff will follow up with another version of the TIP Policy incorporating the committee’s suggestions.

Item 4: MPO Reorganization and By-Laws Item

Gock presented the committee with a list of potential members of the reorganized MPO. The listing showed seven members consisting of: 2 City of Lawrence elected officials, 1 Douglas County elected official, 2 representatives from Lawrence/Douglas County Planning Commission, 1 elected official to represent the small cities, and 1 representative from KDOT. The committee discussed the ramifications of having elected officials serve on the MPO board during the same time frame as their elected term. A brief discussion was held concerning potential ex-officio members and advantages and disadvantages of having 7 or 5 proposed MPO Policy members. The committee suggests the discussing the proposed MPO members in joint meeting sometime in February or March. KDOT suggests that new by-laws not be drafted until after the MPO is reorganized A formal recommendation will be made by staff to the committee the 1st quarter after T2030 is complete.

Item 5: Thoroughfare Plan Update

Gock explained to the committee of need to review the certain portions of the Thoroughfare Plan Map especially NW section of the UGA just north 6th St. and south of I -70 and south of Wakarusa River and determining the feasibility of these roads being development. Gock stated the basis of the map should represent the future road network based on land use and topography; this is not a part of the scope of work for the update T2030 and rests upon staff and other members of the committee. This review is necessary because the map should reflect consistency with H2020, sector plans and T2030 land use plan.

Item 6: Discussion Item: Long Range Transportation Plan Update

The MPO staff updated the committee on the status of the T2030 Plan Update. The staff told the committee the next steps to getting the plan approved by March. The draft T2030 plan will be presented at Planning, City, and County Commission meetings to maximize public comment opportunities.

Item 7: Other Business

Cliff Galante distributed and presented the Lawrence Freenet proposal to the City Commission. The proposal outlined details for a “BusQuest” project that utilizes wireless technology to track bus arrival and departure times, can help riders plan their bus routes, and free wireless internet service for bus patrons. Galante address this matter to

the committee as an FYI item and stated the City Commission has decided to defer the issue back to city staff for further study.

Gock presented a letter to the committee from Kansas Association of MPO's (KAMPO). This letter speaks of the concern regarding insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund and how that will affect the Planning funds that are allocated to MPO's every year that support staff. The letter states that KAMPO would like for their national associations, NARC and AMPO to work with USDOT and members of Congress regarding this issue.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Tuesday, January 8th at 1:30 P.M.