

MEETING MINUTES

Technical Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 6, 2010

1:30 p.m.

Room 113

Members Present: Greg MacLean, Public Works/Utilities; Roger Figard, Randy Hoskins, Public Works/Utilities/RTSD; Marvin Krout, Nicole Fleck-Tooze, David Cary, Planning; Brian Praeuner, StarTran; Don Thomas, Doug Pillard, County Engineering; Randy ElDorado, Nebraska Department of Roads; Rick Thorson, Health; Ken Smith, Urban Development; Lynn Johnson, Parks & Recreation, Ken Vice, Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee.

Others Present: Brad Zumwalt, Kaine McClelland, Nebraska Department of Roads; Jesse Poore, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig, Thomas Shafer, Susie Filipi, Public Works/Utilities; Mike Brienzo, Michele Abendroth, Planning.

Krout called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

1. Review and action on the draft minutes of the February 11, 2010 Technical Committee meetings.

Figard moved approval of the February 11, 2010 Technical Committee meeting minutes, seconded by MacLean. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Briefing on the FHWA/FTA on the Joint Certification Review of the Lincoln MPO and the Work Plan for Addressing the Quadrennial Certification Review.

Brienzo stated that in May of 2009, the Transportation Management Area (TMA) underwent a certification review and interviews with staff and the public. On September 11, 2009, the TMA received the corrective actions report based on that review. The TMA is to set milestones for addressing corrective actions. The TMA has been found to be in compliance subject to the implementation of the corrective actions which include the following actions. The TMA fully expects to update the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) by January 2012. Another element was the Transportation Improvement Program in which total project costs were identified. The Congestion Management Process will be incorporated in the LRTP. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) must provide more detailed descriptions of the planning projects and this document will be further amended. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) is expected to be completed by September 2010. Planning agreements will be updated and have a target completion date of July 2010. The boundary of the Metropolitan Planning Area was identified in the MPO Management Plan, and the MPA will be defined in the planning agreements.

Brienzo noted that the Work Plan for Addressing the Quadrennial Certification document will be included in the UPWP as an addendum.

ElDorado asked if a draft copy of the planning agreements could be provided to the State as they would like to review it further.

Cary moved to include the Work Plan in the UPWP, seconded by Fleck-Tooze. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Review and action on a recommendation regarding 2010 Self-Certification review that the Transportation Planning Process for the Lincoln Metropolitan Area complies with applicable federal laws and regulations.

Brienzo stated that the federal highway bill requires the MPO to conduct an annual certification process to look at the transportation planning process and see if it is meeting all the regulations. There are ten regulations that we address and identify how we are meeting those regulations. The MPO has a coordinated transportation services plan, a public participation plan, an environment justice plan, a Long Range Transportation Plan, a Transportation Improvement Plan and a Unified Planning Program. It is the findings of staff that we are in compliance with these requirements. This certifies that the planning process is addressing major issues facing Lincoln. The Tech Committee action will be forwarded to the Officials Committee

Figard moved to accept the 2010 Certification that the Transportation Planning Process complies with the applicable federal laws and regulations, seconded by Thomas. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Review and action on the draft Lincoln City / Lancaster County FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

Brienzo stated that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is updated annually and is included in the State TIP. The purpose of the TIP is to identify federal funding for transportation projects and projects that have significant impacts to the transportation system. Any project that is to receive federal funding must be in the TIP. The project must also be identified in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The projects in the TIP go through a prioritization process and are considered to be priority projects for the MPO area. The TIP now covers a four year period. Past TIPs included six years. This year the program has a strong emphasis on maintenance. All projects are in conformance with the LRTP.

Brienzo stated that it was brought to our attention that we have \$5.1 million in STP funds that are allocated to the MPO planning area and we have \$5.9 million programmed. It has been suggested that we make an adjusted to bring the federal commitments down to \$5.1 million. In working with Public Works & Utilities, we have identified project 4, so we are proposing to move \$700,000 from the current program and we could reduce the federal commitment. These are estimates and will be further refined.

Hoskins asked about the project in the State portion of the TIP on statewide curb ramps.

ElDorado stated that he does not have any details but would get back to the committee on the specifics of the project.

Figard clarified that in project 4, LC will be reduced by \$700,000 and WR will increase by 700,000 and totals will change accordingly.

Thomas moved to accept the draft FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program including the revision, seconded by Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Briefing on the Lincoln MPO Travel Demand Model Update and the process and schedule for the Long-Range Transportation Plan Update.

Brienzo stated that LSA consulting firm was selected in the process to update the travel demand model. He is currently working on a schedule. We are in the process of establishing a Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee. There will be a great deal of committee work as well as citizen involvement. Several workshops are in the process of being developed. Brienzo noted that he will provide more details on the travel demand model at the next meeting.

6. Other topics for discussion.

Figard expressed his frustration with FHWA changing the requirements of the TIP to a four-year document which has always mirrored the six-year CIP (Capital Improvements Program). He believes this increases the potential for error and conflicts between the documents. Krout stated that he shares those concerns and they are trying to address this in the corrective actions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

*** Please note that these minutes will not be formally approved until the next meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee. ***