

## MEETING RECORD

*Advanced public notice of the Officials Committee meeting was posted on the County-City bulletin board and the Planning Department's website.*

**NAME OF GROUP:** OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING

**DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:** February 16, 2024, 2:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Tom Beckius, Ryan Huff, Rick Vest and Sändra Washington; (Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird and Sean Flowerday absent. Paul Barnes, Rachel Christopher and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Department; and other interested parties.

Acting Chair Vest called the meeting to order and acknowledged the posting of the Open Meetings Act in the room.

Vest then called for a motion approving the minutes of the regular meeting held December 8, 2023. Motion for approval made by Beckius, seconded by Washington and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICERS:** **February 16, 2024**

Vest nominated Beckius as Chair, seconded by Washington and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

Beckius then called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Washington nominated Vest, seconded by Beckius and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** **February 16, 2024**

Members present: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:**

- a. **Review and action on revisions to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**
  - i. **Lancaster County Engineering program:**

1. **Saltillo Road, 27<sup>th</sup> Street to 68<sup>th</sup> Street – Increase costs for the ROW and Construction/Construction Engineering phases**
  2. **S. 98<sup>th</sup> Street, 'A' Street to 'O' Street – Increase costs for the Construction/Construction Engineering phase**
  3. **148<sup>th</sup> Street and Holdrege Street – Increase costs for the Construction/Construction Engineering phase**
  4. **NW 56<sup>th</sup> Street, I-80 to W. Holdrege Street – Reprogram ROW phase from FY 2026 to FY 2025, increase costs for Construction/Construction Engineering phase in FY 2027, and delete costs in Cost Beyond years**
- ii. **City of Lincoln Transportation and Utilities – Transportation program:**
1. **9<sup>th</sup> & 'A' St., 9<sup>th</sup> & 'D' St., 10<sup>th</sup> & 'A' St., 10<sup>th</sup> & 'D' St. – Traffic Signal Replacement – Delete Right-of-Way phase**

Washington wondered about the projects that are outside the growth boundary. She questioned if they are being done to a County or City standard. Rachel Christopher believes there is some back and forth when a project is on a stretch of rural area as to which standard it will be built to. That is a conversation between Lancaster County, Lincoln Transportation & Utilities, and most likely the State of Nebraska.

Paul Barnes agreed. Sometimes there is an agreement. 98<sup>th</sup> Street is an example. We all recognize this will be part of the City at some point. The details are coordinated.

**ACTION:**

Vest moved approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Huff and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**REVIEW AND ACTION ON THE UPDATED MPO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**February 16, 2024**

Members present: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

Christopher stated that staff has been working on this since last summer. It is a federally required document that is getting a full overhaul. The prior plan was from 2014. It was a good time to review this document and update it. A lot of public outreach was done as part of the plan update. There was an initial 30 day period for public input. That included a survey. There was a comment period on the initial draft and we received some comments. As the plan is accepted, staff would be looking to do a formal review and update every five years. We are also proposing to issue a monitoring report every two years. That would look at the metrics and report on the progress toward meeting the goals. She wanted to highlight a couple of aspects. One thing that

stood out was most people who completed the survey didn't seem to be very familiar with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and so an education goal was included. Many comments also addressed meeting people where they are, pertaining to location of meetings and method of outreach, along with a lot of comments made about equity and accommodation. In terms of major changes made to the final draft, recommendations were submitted from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and staff worked to address those, which mainly related to the discussion of Title VI and Limited English Proficiency activities. Information was also added summarizing the comments received and describing how comments were addressed in response to comments received from Washington. Total comments received were 104. Those came from 85 unique participants. The Technical Committee recommended this for approval.

Washington thanked everyone for this information. Beckius thanked Washington for her contribution to this.

**ACTION:**

Vest moved approval of the updated Lincoln MPO Public Participation Plan as recommended by staff, seconded by Washington and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**REVIEW AND ACTION ON MPO FEDERAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS; A) FHWA SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**February 16, 2024**

Members present: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

Christopher stated that this is part of federal performance measure targets that are required to be adopted by MPO's and by the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT). This proposal is for adoption of safety related targets. NDOT adopts targets and the MPO has the option to adopt the State targets or make their own. The Lincoln MPO proposes to adopt the State's targets. These are statewide targets, not just pertaining to the Lincoln MPO. This adoption of State targets is done with the understanding that the MPO will undertake projects and policies that support the overall statewide goals. New safety targets are set annually.

Vest questioned a graph that showed the target was not met. Christopher confirmed that targets not met for those years with actuals data are shown in red on the table and added that the fatality and injury rates are per 100 million miles traveled. The NDOT targets are developed using five year rolling averages of past actual.

Washington stated that in looking at 2021, it says there were 241 fatalities. Christopher stated that was the target. Washington wondered if we know the actual. She showed the State website identify 221 as the actual number for that year, which was below the target. Washington asked if staff has any idea how many of those are Lincoln and Lancaster County. Christopher stated that Lincoln Transportation and Utilities (LTU) reports on that for the Annual Transportation Report that the MPO publishes, although she is not sure if the data comes from the same source. Washington is not opposed to supporting the State targets. She just wondered how we are tracking. Christopher stated staff is hoping to publish the latest report from 2022 very soon. That will have historic data for at least the Lincoln area, if not Lancaster County.

**ACTION:**

Vest moved approval to support the NDOT Performance Targets for Safety as the MPO Targets, as recommended by staff, seconded by Washington and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**REVIEW AND ACTION ON REVISIONS TO THE LINCOLN MPO 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP); A) MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER – UPDATE PROJECT COST UNDER THE PRIORITY TRANSIT PROJECTS; B) N. 148<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND HOLREGE STREET; S. 98<sup>TH</sup> STREET, OLD CHENEY ROAD TO US-34; SALTILLO ROAD, S. 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO S. 68<sup>TH</sup> STREET; AND NW 56<sup>TH</sup> STREET, WEST 'O' TO W. HOLDREGE STREET – UPDATE PROJECT COSTS UNDER THE FISCALLY CONSTRAINED RURAL ROAD AND BRIDGE CAPITAL PROJECTS; C) PROJECT 102 (N. 98<sup>TH</sup> STREET, HOLDREGE STREET TO US-6) – ADJUST COST ALLOCATION FOR PROJECT UNDER THE FISCALLY CONSTRAINED RURAL ROAD AND BRIDGE CAPITAL PROJECTS; AND D) LANDMARK FLETCHER TRAIL, BEAL SLOUGH TRAIL AND WATERFORD TRAIL – UPDATE PROJECT COSTS**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**February 16, 2024**

Members present: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

Christopher stated that these proposed revisions increase the project costs for the rural road, transit, and trail projects listed. The LRTP contains a series of project listings. This amendment is a result of NDOT federal environmental review where recently the review wasn't allowed to continue until the cost in the LRTP matched the cost in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). There were a few projects that had crept up in cost over time in the TIP and were amended. NDOT is wanting the costs to match, which was the impetus for this amendment.

**ACTION:**

Washington moved approval of the amendment to the 2050 LRTP as recommended by staff, seconded by Vest and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**REVIEW AND ACTION ON REVISIONS TO THE FY 2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION; A) PLANNING PROGRAMS; I) CREATE NEW PROGRAM FOR PLANNING AND REFLECT FEDERAL SAFE STREETS FOR ALL (SS4A) GRANT AWARDS TO CITY OF WAVERLY AND LINCOLN TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES**

**PUBLIC HEARING:****February 16, 2024**

Members present: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

Christopher stated the TIP is a four year program of projects using federal and state funds. This is a proposal to add a new section of the TIP. This new section is not for projects, but for transportation planning efforts. A new section would be added and two new programs will be listed under the Federal Safe Streets for All program. It is a safety program and allowed for application for discretionary planning and implementation grants. In this case, there were two awarded grants for planning in the MPO area for the City of Waverly and LTU. She just learned that the City of Bennet was also awarded a planning grant, so their grant will be added to the program in the future.

**ACTION:**

Vest moved approval of the amendment to the FY 2024-2027 TIP, as recommended by staff, seconded by Washington and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

**REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT AND SCHEDULE FOR THE FY 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:**

Christopher stated that every year, a new TIP is adopted. As previously mentioned, the TIP lists transportation projects coming over the next four years. The current TIP is for 2024-2027, and the new TIP will cover 2025-2028. These speak to federal fiscal years. Currently, staff is working with the different transportation agencies and departments to develop their programs. Revisions can be made, new projects can be added, and projects can be removed with the annual TIP. It goes through a staff process, then will go on for public hearing and action. The TIP will go before the MPO Technical Committee in April 2024. A Planning Commission public hearing and recommendation is the next step. Then, it goes on to Officials Committee in May 2024.

The TIP goes into effect on October 1, 2024 at the start of the new federal fiscal year. The TIP will become public when the Technical Committee agenda is sent out.

Vest understood that this is updated every year and the total document covers four years. Every year, it rolls one year into the future. Christopher concurred.

Washington asked whether she could submit comments to the Technical Committee or directly to staff. Christopher noted that directly to staff would be fine. She reiterated that the draft will be live in early April 2024.

**OTHER:**

There were no other topics for discussion.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one appeared.

Washington made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vest and carried 4-0: Beckius, Huff, Vest and Washington voting 'yes'; Mayor Gaylor Baird and Flowerday absent.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.