

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018  
REGULAR MEETING, TDC LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM  
423 W. FERGUSON, TYLER, TEXAS**



**Members Present:**

Heather Nick, Michael Howell, Kyle Kingma, Jeffrey Harmon, Peter Eng, Leroy Sparrow, Brian Capps.

**Others Present:**

Brent Bradberry, Tyler Area MPO, James Torres, McDonald Transit, Bill Hicks, Halff Associates.

**Heather Nick called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Peter Eng moved, seconded by Leroy Sparrow, to approve the minutes from September 7, 2017. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Public Hearings:**

**1. Presentation: Amendment to the Tyler Transit Paratransit Plan – Leroy Sparrow**

Mr. Sparrow presented the proposed amendments to the Tyler Transit Paratransit Plan. The ADA Paratransit Plan is required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Various changes and updates are proposed to the Tyler Transit Paratransit Plan. These changes include: updating the appeals process, response time (negotiation) window, definition of a “no-show”, “no-show” percentages, fare structure increases, adding specific language for the lifts and securement section. These changes have been discussed and recommended by the Disability Issues Review Board (DIRB) and the FTA.

**2. Discussion and Action: Consider recommending amendments to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)**

Mr. Howell presented the proposed amendments to the 2017-2020 TIP. The City of Tyler was awarded the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) grant from the Texas Department of Transportation for the Bike Stripe Program which is the 56-miles of bike lane striping. Dr. Souliman with UT Tyler has developed the 56-mile bike striping for the City of Tyler. Since this project includes federal funding that has been administered through TxDOT, this project has to be included in the TIP before the project can move forward for construction. This project is just over \$1,000,000 and is an 80/20 percent split where 80% will be paid through the grant and 20% will be paid by the City of Tyler.

Kyle Kingma, asked if this was only for striping pavement. Peter Eng, stated that the project is primarily for striping pavement but some of the funding could also be used for signage but most of the cost is for striping and marking of the pavement. Mr. Kingma, also stated that the supporting map shows a bike lane traversing the downtown square and asked if that route would also be striped. Mr. Eng stated that the routes and details are not final and that the map shown is a general concept of the bike strip plan.

Brian Capps, Smith County representative, asked if this striping plan, while connecting south Tyler with the rest of the city, was an attempt to keep bicycles off of U.S. 69. Mr. Eng stated that the bike stripe plan is for city streets only and no TxDOT facilities would be striped; however, the bike lanes striping may cross over a TxDOT facility. Mr. Eng also stated that the current designated north-south bike route utilizes the Rose Rudman Trail and not U.S. 69.

Kyle Kingma moved, seconded by Jeffrey Harmon, to approve the amendment to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. The motion carried with an unanimous vote.

**3. Discussion and Action: Consider recommending the MPO adoption of Safety Performance Targets established by TxDOT**

Mr. Howell presented the proposed Safety Performance Targets and stated that a provision of the Fixing Americas Surface Transportation (FAST) Act which required MPOs to establish and adopt performance measures. These performance measures would establish benchmarks for specific metrics but will not affect funding if these performance measures are not met.

Initially, State transportation agencies were to adopt the performance measures first. Once the State transportation agency has adopted the performance measures, the MPOs could adopt what their respective State transportation agency has adopted or adopt their own. Mr. Howell stated that after discussing the performance measure with the local TxDOT office, the Tyler MPO has decided to adopt the safety performance measures that TxDOT has established.

Leroy Sparrow moved, seconded by Kyle Kingma, to approve the adoption of Safety Performance Targets established by TxDOT. The motion carried with an unanimous vote.

**4. Discussion and Action: Consider recommending the MPO adoption of Transit Asset Management Performance Targets established by Tyler Transit**

Mr. Howell presented the proposed Transit Asset Management Performance Targets. Similar to the safety performance targets, the MPOs can the transit providers performance targets or adopt their own. Since Tyler Transit has already adopted a Transit Asset Management Plan, the Tyler Area MPOs recommendation is to adopt the Tyler Transit Asset Management Plan and Performance Targets.

Leroy Sparrow moved, seconded by Jeffrey Harmon, to approve the MPO adoption of Transit Asset Management Performance Targets established by Tyler Transit. The motion carried with an unanimous vote.

## **Staff Updates:**

### **1. Executive Director's Report**

#### Active Transportation Plan

A Request for Qualifications for the Active Transportation Plan was posted on the MPO website on December 8th. The deadline for submitting was January 5th and the staff received 3 responses. The firms which responded are:

- Toole Design Group
- HALFF Associates
- Alliance Transportation Group

A grading committee will conduct interviews and score the qualification packages from each respondent which will take place on January 23rd. The staff will present the Committee's recommendation to the Policy Committee for approval on January 25. As the City of Tyler serves as the fiscal agent for the MPO, the contract will then be presented to the Tyler City Council on February 14th for approval of the contract.

#### FM 2493 Update

In December the MPO notified the committee that Jeff Austin had secured a large commitment from TxDOT for the widening of Old Jacksonville Highway from four lanes to six lanes between Loop 323 and FM 2813.

The commitment is for the State to contribute 50 percent of the estimated \$52,300,000 cost to construct the project. The MPO will be working with the City of Tyler and TxDOT district staff to identify the revenue source for the remaining \$26.15 million needed to fund the widening.

When the funding source is identified, it will likely require updates to the short and long-range transportation plans. TxDOT expects to begin preliminary plans to for the project this spring.

### **2. Upcoming Meeting Dates**

Mr. Howell provided notice of the upcoming Policy Committee Meeting on January 25, 2018 and the next Technical Advisory Committee meeting scheduled on March 1, 2018.

**The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.**