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**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE (TPC) MEETING  
WICHITA FALLS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**January 21, 2004**

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**Present:**

Woodrow (Woody) Gossom, County Judge, Vice-Chairperson	◆ Members
Dennis Wilde, NORTEX Regional Planning Commission	◆
Johnny Burns, City Council Representative	◆
Don Sheppard, Lakeside City	◆
Joe Nelson, TxDOT, District Engineer	◆
Linda Ammons, City Council Representative	◆
Scott Taylor, Director of Public Works	◆
Darron Leiker, ACM/Dir. Traff., Trans. & Avia., Interim MPO Director	◆ Staff
James Kelley, TxDOT	◆
Lin Barnett, Transportation Planner II	◆
Mark Beauchamp, City of Wichita Falls – Acting Traffic Superintendent	◆
Phillip Lujan, TxDOT, Interim Dir. Trans. Planning & Development	◆ Ex-officio
Rhonda Poirot, Senator Estes, State Senator, District 30	◆
Dan Shine, Chairperson	◆ HNC
Bill Presson, Wichita County	◆ Guests
Jon Möller, Citizen Stakeholder	◆
Mayor Bill Altman, Chairperson	◆ Absent
Jeff Watts, City of Pleasant Valley	◆

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**I. Welcome & Introduction.**

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 8:37 a.m. by Mr. Burns. Judge Gossom arrived a few minutes later and chaired the rest of the meeting.

**II Review and Comment on the January 7<sup>th</sup> TAC meeting minutes – *No Action Required***

Mr. Nelson stated there needed to be more discussion during today's meeting on the 50/50 cost share of the new VIVID detectors. Mr. Leiker made some brief comments on the decision by City Council to approve the purchase of more of the video detection units. He stated that no purchases had been made or purchase orders issued to date, and that there was still time for more input from those interested. Mr. Burns stated that Council did unanimously approve the purchase of the units.

**III. Approval of the TPC's October 24<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes**

Mr. Taylor motioned to approve both sets of minutes. Mr. Sheppard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Review and Comment on the FY 2003 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report – *No Action Required, For Informational Purposes Only***

Mr. Barnett gave a brief summary of the FY 2003 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report sent to Austin, TxDOT (TPP) on January 2, 2004. No comments were received.

**V. Review and Comment on the Revised Request For Proposal for a Qualified Consultant to Complete the 2005 – 2030 MTP update – *No Action Required, For Informational Purposes Only***

Mr. Leiker stated the RFP was mailed out to 103 prospective consultants and that MPO staff had received 10 to 15 requests, via email, for copies of the RFP. The RFP was also published twice in the Wichita Falls Times Record News.

Mr. Nelson stated TxDOT had referred several consultants up to this area. The discussion then focused on the number of finalists that would be interviewed and who the interviewers would be. A subcommittee made up of three MPO members, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Leiker, would then make the final selection to be presented to TPC for its approval.

**VI. Review and Comment on the Definitive Use in the Planning Effort of Sample Data Taken From the ACTRA System**

Mr. Leiker explained the example of the report (included in the meeting packet) from the ACTRA system and its use as a planning tool for traffic and transportation. Mr. Beauchamp then gave a very detailed description of the ACTRA system, the video detection units (VIVID), and the various ways of compiling a specialized report. He commented that the equipment is not portable and is a permanent installation, but is considered a multiple use tool. Mr. Beauchamp stated the current installations were TxDOT owned. Mr. Leiker commented that any additional installations, plus those units already in place, would be maintained by the City.

(The board returned to this item after the discussion of Other Business at the request of Mr. Leiker in order to provide better clarification and guidance.)

Mr. Leiker outlined the October 2003 TPC directive to split the cost of the detectors 50/50 based on a total cost of \$48,000. He stated the actual cost was approximately \$52,000 and the split would be closer to \$25,500 rather than \$24,000. Mr. Leiker asked the board for direction on whether to remain with the estimated cost or apply the actual cost. The board directed Mr. Leiker to leave the MPO contribution at \$24,000 dollars.

Mr. Nelson commented the presentation by Mr. Beauchamp illustrated well the uses of the ACTRA system with the video detection units. He also stated there was a definite use of the system as a planning tool for the MPO and that it would supply a positive benefit for TPC review.

## **VII. Discussion, Recommendation, and Approval of the February amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mr. Leiker briefly outlined the amendments highlighted in gray for 2005 and 2006. There were no amendments for 2004. Mr. Lujan gave a more in-depth description of the listed amendments.

Mr. Sheppard motioned to approve the amendments as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. Discussion & Overview of Progress on Local Transportation Projects – City and TxDOT staff (Quarterly Review)**

Mr. Taylor discussed the Faith Village improvement, Phase 1 project; scheduled start date is March/April of 2004. He discussed the suspension of the regular street overlay project until March 1<sup>st</sup> due to weather concerns. He stated funding was now available for a CDBG street overlay project to be bid in the early spring. He stated there was \$1.6 million available for street overlay and/or reconstruction projects for this summer. He stated City Council had awarded an engineering services contract to a consultant from Ft. Worth to design Faith Village Phase 2 and 3. He stated there would need to be interaction between the City and TxDOT because of work starting on Rhea Rd. and coming along Southwest Pkwy., where an enclosed channel is to be located. He also commented on a box culvert at Kemp and potentially relocating the bridges on Maplewood.

Mr. Kelley discussed the gateway landscaping project nearing completion. He discussed the work progressing on FM 2380, and the pre-construction meeting for the Scott Street overpass, which should begin at end of February and complete in six months.

Mr. Lujan discussed Loop 11 and the on-going work with the City to acquire right-of-way, the Kell Interchange project and the Kell West projects, stating TxDOT still has not received construction authority as of yet. Mr. Nelson commented on TxDOT's commitment to continue the landscaping projects on Maurine Street and other intersections around the City. He stated that beautification had been committed to several years ago and that TxDOT was trying to keep that commitment. Mr. Lujan stated the Maurine project simply ran out of funds, and would be delayed to a later date. He also commented on the two railroad underpass projects for Business 287.

Mr. Shine commented that the Loop 11 project should continue to be at the forefront of public information because of the amount of public interest. Mr. Nelson commented work would be farther along on this project if it were not for the issue of Access Management. He stated there was an opportunity to inform the public with either a one-

hour overview or a six-hour mini-course of what constitutes Access Management by a speaker from Austin TxDOT.

**IX. Other Business:**

**a. Update on TEMPO Contract Meeting held January 12-13, 2004 at the Austin CAMPO Offices – Purpose: Discussion of Roles, Responsibilities, and Relationship of the MPO, MPO Policy Committee, Fiscal Agent and Transportation Planning Director**

Mr. Leiker gave a brief summary of his attendance at the TEMPO contract meeting in Austin. He stated 13 to 14 other MPO's were also there. He discussed the expiration, last September, of the Wichita Fall's contract and its temporary extension. He commented on the fact that FHWA and TxDOT wanted the MPO's to have continuity through a standard document and not have 25 different documents to contend with. He stated TEMPO was requesting the MPO's form subcommittees to review the contract and meet with TxDOT staff in Austin to formulate a final product. The deadline for submittal would be at the end of 2004. The timeframe of the contract has yet to be determined and will probably be tied to the next Congressional bill.

**b. MPO Quarterly Financial Statement: Two sample formats**

Mr. Barnett briefly described both statement formats stating the first format would cover an entire quarter and provide a moderate amount of detail, whereas, the second format would present a monthly summary with a large amount of detail. The board members preferred the first format, but with a breakout of the tasks. Additionally, the summary from the second format should be added in order to provide a comparison between meetings and to illustrate progress.

**c. Other**

Mr. Nelson commented on the handout "*Why Toll Roads for Texas?*" that he had brought for the board members to review. The handout gave a brief overview of how TxDOT will conduct future business and how new sources of income can be used for upcoming transportation issues. He stated gasoline taxes would not be enough to cover the costs associated with a free highway system, especially with the new hybrid vehicles being produced.

Mr. Nelson also commented on the Trans Texas Corridor and the importance of it in TxDOT's overall transportation planning. He stated there would be public meetings in every county in the state in February to make the public aware of its impact. Mr. Nelson then discussed Pass-Through Tolling or Shadow Tolling and its use as a funding mechanism.

**X. Public comment on any item not on the agenda**

Mr. Möller discussed planning issues at 15<sup>th</sup> and Holiday, on over to Brook, which will help establish a zone of redevelopment in that area. He raised questions of how TxDOT

will complete the intersection, whether there will be a main-lane facility or a public recreation facility in the right-of-way areas.

Mr. Nelson commented there was a long-term commitment for Kell to have an interchange and an elevated section over Scott Street and reenter at the Emmanuel Davis overpass, which had been accepted by the public. He stated this issue should be scrutinized closely during the 25 year plan review.

## **XI. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

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Mayor William Altman, TPC Chairperson