

# **WICHITA FALLS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

## **Technical Advisory Committee**

### **Minutes**

Thursday, April 6, 2017

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#### ***Voting Members Present:***

Lin Barnett, Wichita Falls MPO, MPO Director, TAC Chairperson  
David Rohmer, TxDOT, Area Engineer  
Davis Powell, City of Wichita Falls, City Engineer  
Karen Montgomery-Gagne, City of Wichita Falls, Planning Administrator  
Allan Moore, TxDOT, Director of Construction  
Glenn Allbritton, TxDOT, Director of Operations  
Larry Wilkinson, City of Wichita Falls, Traffic Superintendent

#### ***MPO Staff:***

Jaimie Lee, Wichita Falls MPO, Transportation Planner II

#### ***Visitors:***

John Overman, Texas Transportation Institute  
Phillip Lujan, IEA. INC  
Mark McBurnett, SAFB  
John Burrus, City of Wichita Falls, Director of AT&T

#### ***Absent:***

Jim Dockery, City of Wichita Falls, Deputy City Manager  
Mike Beaver, TxDOT, Director of TP&D

#### **I. Welcome & Introduction**

Ms. Lee, the TAC chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

#### **II. Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items**

Ms. Lee asked for any public comments on agenda and non-agenda items. Receiving none, she moved on to the next agenda item.

#### **III. Review and Approval of the January 12, 2017 Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC) Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Lee asked for any comments or corrections to the January 12, 2017 TAC meeting minutes. Receiving none, she then asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mrs. Gagne made the motion to approve. Mr. Powell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**IV. Review and Comment Regarding the January 25, 2017 Transportation Policy Committee's (TPC's) Meeting Minutes – No Action Required**

Ms. Lee asked for comments on the January 25, 2017 TPC meeting minutes. MPO staff received none. The committee moved on to the next agenda item.

**V. Review and Recommendation to the Policy Board to Approve the FY 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program**

Ms. Lee directed the committee's attention to the revised 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) enclosed in the meeting packet. She summarized the revisions made to the new UPWP starting with implementation of the FAST Act (Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act that was signed into law on December 4, 2015). She stated the FAST Act will continue MAP-21's Planning and Emphasis areas and Performance Measure requirements.

Ms. Lee explained that one new change in Task 4.0 included hiring a qualified consultant to perform the Socioeconomic and Demographic Data Forecast update for the WFMPO. Ms. Lee continued on discussing minor updates to the subtasks. Ms. Lee explained that she, Mr. Burrus, Mr. Powell, and Mr. Barnett attended a workshop regarding TxDOT's Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TA-Set Aside) in March. The program would provide funding for a variety of alternative transportation projects that improve mobility for non-motorized users. Ms. Lee stated WFMPO, along with the City and TxDOT, will assemble a TA-Set Aside Development Committee to select potential projects for submission. The grant application is due May 22, 2017.

Ms. Lee discussed the Budget Summary Tables for FY 2018 and 2019 explaining the figures were just estimates. Ms. Lee asked for any comments or questions regarding the 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program. Receiving none, she asked for a motion to forward the document to the Policy Board for their review and approval. Mr. Powell made the motion to forward the document to the Policy Board. Mr. Rohmer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**VI. Discussion of Unified Transportation Plan, Prop 1, Prop 7, and Traditional Funding**

Mr. Moore stated TxDOT approved the Unified Transportation Plan in March and there were no changes to Proposition 1, Proposition 7 and Traditional Project Funding.

Mr. Barnett informed the committee about the on-going work within the Texas Association of MPO's (TEMPO) to revise the Category 2 funding formula. Currently, the formula allocates 87% of all Category 2 funding to the six largest Texas MPO's, while the remaining 13% goes to the 19 medium and small Texas MPO's. There is a proposal to change this to a 90/10 split. There are ten different funding scenarios that TEMPO has considered to accomplish this goal in a fair and equitable manner for all of the state's MPO's. Each scenario applies weights to many variable such as Transportation Management Areas (TMA's), congestion costs, vehicle miles traveled (VMT's), crashes per VMT, delay costs, and population densities. Mr. Barnett commented that under the proposed 90/10 split, the Wichita Falls MPO would receive a slight boost from .45% to .48% of the overall 10% portion of Category 2 funds.

Ms. Lee asked for any comments or questions regarding Proposition 1, Proposition 7 and Traditional Project Funding. Receiving none, the committee moved on to the next agenda item.

**VII. Other Business:**

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

**City:** Mr. Powell reported the Wichita Bluff Hike & Bike Trail Phase 1 was 85% complete. Falls Bridge & Trail Improvements was awarded and currently working on contract documents. 2016 Drainage Project was 5% complete. 2017 Asphalt Street Rehab at various locations across the city along with the 2017 Concrete Street Rehab was in the beginning stages of development. He reported scheduled projects include the Hike and Bike Trail Phase 2, Kemp Street Pedestrian Improvements, and future projects awaiting funding include two projects that will be submitted for grant funding for the TA-Set Aside program, the Hike and Bike trail from Loop 11 to Lucy Park and the Hike and Bike trail along BNSF railroad from Seymour Hwy. to Barnett Road.

**TxDOT:** Mr. Rohmer reported that SH 240 at Sinclair Road drainage ditch, FM 171 at Old Friberg Road, FM 369 at Fairway near Hughes Street, FM 2650 from FM 369 to FM 1954, US 82 near McKinney Road, SH 79 at US 82, and US 287 at IH 44 SB were all complete. He reported that FM 369 near US 82/277 was on track. SH 79 on Professional Drive and FM 890 on IH 44 should be complete by summer.

**b. MPO Quarterly Financial Report (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY 2017 – October, November, December)**

Ms. Lee reported on the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter expenses for the MPO. She stated that the MPO had spent approximately 20.45% of its total allocation for FY 2017. Mr. Barnett commented that the total programmed amount did not include the \$40,000 of State Planning and Research (SPR) funds. He commented that MPO staff would adjust the overall Transportation Planning Fund (TPF) fund amount at the end of the year when he submits the Annual Performance and Expenditure Report. Ms. Lee asked for any comments or questions on the first quarter financial report. She received none.

**c. Grouped TxDOT CSJ Projects Report**

Ms. Lee reported there was only one new grouped TxDOT CSJ project.

**d. Socioeconomic and Demographic Data Forecast Update – Progress Report**

Mr. Barnett took a moment to inform the committee that WFMPO received one proposal from the Walter P. Moore Company for the Socioeconomic and Demographic Data Forecast Update. He stated the kickoff meeting was held on March 30, 2017. MPO staff, TxDOT Modeling staff, and the consultant discussed the project scope of services, project schedule, and preliminary data needs. WFMPO will work with the consultant to supply them with all appropriate data.

**e. Other Items**

Mr. Powell reiterated the top three projects the City of Wichita Falls will submit for funding through the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program. He stated the first project is the hike and bike trail along the BNSF railroad from Seymour Highway

to Barnett Road, the second project is the hike and bike trail from Loop 11 to Lucy Park, and the third project is the hike and bike trail at Lake Wichita from the Marina to Lake Wichita Park.

**VIII. Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

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Irvan F. "Lin" Barnett Jr.  
MPO Transportation Planning Director  
Wichita Falls MPO

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