

**GRAND ISLAND AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (GIAMPO)
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MINUTES**

March 22, 2016 at 10:00 am

Community Meeting Room

Grand Island City Hall, 100 E. 1st Street, Grand Island, NE

Voting Members in Attendance:

Terry Brown, City of Grand Island, Assistant Public Works Director	Present
John Collins, City of Grand Island, Public Works Director	Present
Marlan Ferguson, City of Grand Island, City Administrator	Absent
Chad Nabity, Hall County Regional Planning Director	Present
Casey Sherlock, Hall County Public Works Director	Absent
Mike Meyer, Merrick County Hwy Superintendent	Absent
Wes Wahlgren, NDOR District 4 Engineer	Present
Brad Zumwalt, NDOR Highway Planning Manager	Present
Ramona Schafer, Village of Alda	Absent

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Bentley Tomlin, Burling Northern Santa Fe Railroad	Absent
Mike Olson, Central NE Regional Airport	Absent
John Adams, City of Grand Island MPO Manager	Present
Shannon Callahan, City of Grand Island Street Superintendent	Absent
Renae Griffiths, City of Grand Island Finance Director	Present
William Clingman, City of Grand Island Asst. Finance Director	Present
Catrina DeLosh, City of Grand Island Public Works Admin Assistant	Present
Tim Golka, City of Grand Island Project Manager	Present
Jerry Janulewicz, City of Grand Island City Attorney	Present
Nicki Stoltenberg, City of Grand Island Assistant to the City Administrator	Absent
Erich Hines, FHWA, Transportation Planner, Realty Civil Rights	Absent
Justin Luther, FHWA, Transportation Planner, Realty, Civil Rights	Present-phone
Mark Bechtel, FTA Community Planner	Absent
Logan Daniels, FTA – Region VII	Absent
Daniel Nguyen, FTA Community Planner	Present-phone
Cindy Johnson, Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce	Absent
Mary Berlie, Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation	Present
Larry Legg, NDOR Local Projects Engineer	Absent
Kaine McClelland, NDOR State Modeler	Absent
Noel Salac, NDOR Planning & Locational Studies Section Head	Present
Jeff Soula, NDOR Local Projects Urban Engineer	Absent
Kyle Nodgaard, Union Pacific Railroad	Absent
Kelli O'Brien, Union Pacific Railroad	Absent

Others Present

Matt Rief & Joe Johnson of Olsson Associates

Call to Order

Nabity called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken.

Approval of Minutes from the February 18, 2016 Technical Advisory Committee

Motion by Brown to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2016 meeting, seconded by Wahlgren. Upon voice vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

Self-Certification of the MPO Planning Process

Adams informed the committee this is done on an annual basis for smaller MPOs and acknowledges the transportation bill. This allows for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) work to be completed within the MPO area. The Technical Committee is slated to have an ADA transition plan in place by May 24, 2016 for referral to the Policy Board for acceptance.

Motion by Zumwalt to approve the Self-Certification of the MPO Planning Process, seconded by Brown. Upon voice vote, all voted aye. Motion adopted.

Final "DRAFT" of Journey 2040

Nabity introduced this item stating TAC is being asked to make a recommendation to the Policy Board for their consideration at their meeting this afternoon. The signed contracts and date of the MPO announcement require approval of a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) by GIAMPO no later than March 27, 2016. A 30 day comment period was conducted and ended on March 18, 2016. Nabity stated majority of the comments were addressed, with amendments more than likely in the future.

Motion by Collins to approve the Final "DRAFT" of Journey 2040, seconded by Brown.

Noel Salac stated NDOR would not be able to approve the draft plan if approved & submitted by TAC, as there are financial issues from their standpoint and they will not concur with the plan. Justin Luther & Dan Nguyen joined the discussion via phone and stated both FHWA & FTA also would not concur on approval of the draft plan if submitted to their respective agencies. Nguyen stressed there is plenty of time to work through the issues with the MPO as there are not any current projects in cue awaiting funding. Luther said it is up to the MPO on a decision; however FHWA & FTA comments were not addressed. The deadline of 3/27/2016 is 4 years after the MPO designation & a plan & TIP are both required for the LRTP to be submitted and approved.

Zumwalt (NDOR), Luther (FHWA) & Nguyen (FTA) all stated with the funding issues they can't concur with the approval of the MPO LRTP as it is not fiscally constrained. The LRTP deadline of March 27, 2016 is only an issue if a project is looming (applies to transit too) per Nguyen.

Zumwalt has questions on the revenue estimates shown in the plan, says more explanation is needed. Nability inquired on what years are in question, to which Zumwalt noted all (2016-2040) & that if TAC approves the draft LRTP the State cannot approve the TIP and FHWA can't approve the TIP to STIP.

Adams pointed out the revenue in the LRTP is currently in place and is consistent with the LRTP TIP, which is built on actual numbers.

Matt Rief noted the Stolley Park Road Rehabilitation project could be impacted if the LRTP isn't acted on – to which Nability also noted the transit funding could potentially be impacted as well. Collins stated transit requires TIP & delaying the LRTP makes it impossible to follow procurement rules and institute a new transit contract by July 1st.

Nguyen stated the MPO has time to make corrections and can amend the plan – MPO decision is fine either way.

Salac clarified an amendment would require the start of a new 30 day comment period.

Zumwalt noted if TIP can't be approved there is no LRTP anyway.

Collins stated transit requires TIP.

Nguyen noted the transit is a TIP project and the City can continue with City procurement policy – should delay LRTP decision so we don't have to start over with comment period.

Nability explained the Section 5307 funds expire July 1, 2016 and asked if fiscal constraint numbers could be provided to the MPO.

Zumwalt stated NDOR will provide fiscal constraint numbers as there is a piece missing on how MPO arrived at numbers in draft LRTP and there was no explanation provided. He also informed the committee there is a meeting on 3/31/2016 to provide guidance on fiscal numbers with Adams, Zumwalt, Nguyen & Luther.

Joe Johnson stated he worked with a NDOR Controller to obtain the revenue numbers listed in the draft LRTP. Keeping buyback flat is not realistic based on population growth. As bridges are completed bridge dollars go back into the pot and are redistribute. Joe doesn't feel there are any major issues with the comments and no reason they can't be handled. Federal dollars are difficult to project – anything beyond 6 years is an educated guess. Rief told the committee Olsson Associates could have the comments needing addressed turned around within 1 week after the 3/31/16 meeting. Salac questioned Luther & Nguyen on their timeframe to review – they each stated 10 days (around 4/21/16). Luther noted goal is to be done & "ok" when the 3/31/16 meeting is over. Nguyen informed the committee this is a top priority to have this LRTP done. Salac made a similar comment that NDOR also has this as a top priority to get done. Wahlgren wants to make sure the City is invited & in attendance at all meetings.

Nabity inquired on if the MPO does not adopt the LRTP today if the comment period is still open even though it closed on 3/18/16. Nguyen replied that the comment period can just be extended. Luther noted the comment period doesn't have to be extended – if any comments come in before the LRTP is adopted they need to be addressed. If major comments come in that would affect the draft LRTP then a new 30 day comment period would need to be opened, however there is no need to publicly extend the previous 30 day comment period.

Nguyen directed the MPO to proceed with the Council public hearing to change the 5307 funding on the agenda tonight (3/22/2016).

Nabity summarized if the draft LRTP is not approved there is no penalty – Luther acknowledged that fact. Nabity stated if the comment period is extended, which ended on 3/18/16, comments from the 3/31/16 meeting can be incorporated. Luther & Zumwalt both acknowledged this.

Nabity anticipates a 4/26/16 meeting to present the LRTP to TAC with updates for final approval – if draft LRTP is approved today we move right to an amendment with a new 30 day comment period being opened.

Adams questioned with the TIP projects being in the STIP if that would reduce NDOR's review time. Zumwalt stated TIP expires 3/27/16 and the 1 & 5 are gone then.

Luther stated NDOR is carrying the City through the planning process only through 3/27/16 and TIP is amending STIP – STIP has to be amended – no additional.

Collins noted if the decision is postponed the scheduled Policy Board meeting for this afternoon should also be postponed.

Substitute motion by Walhgren to postpone a decision until 4/26/2016 or after, seconded by Zumwalt. Upon voice vote, all voted aye.

Final "DRAFT" of Transportation Improvement Program

With the committee choosing to postpone the decision on the Final "DRAFT" of Journey 2040 this item was also postponed.

Motion by Zumwalt to postpone a decision until April 26, 2016 or after, with a second by Wahlgren. Upon voice vote, all voted aye.

Creation of Non-Motorized Sub-Committee of Technical Advisory Committee

Nabity updated the committee on the Walk Grand Island Program through the Health Department. It is thought that the City needs to have additional pedestrian/bike mobility through the MPO. A volunteer is needed to represent the MPO on the committee.

Motion by Wahlgren to create a Non-Motorized Sub-Committee of the Technical Advisory Committee, seconded by Collins. Upon voice vote, all voted aye.

Next Meeting Date

The next Meeting of the TAC will be a Special Meeting on April 11, 2016 @ 10:00 am.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Nabity adjourned the meeting at 11:15 am.