

**MPO POLICY COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017  
REGULAR MEETING, TDC LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM  
423 W. FERGUSON, TYLER, TEXAS**



**Members Present:**

Martin Heines, Chair; Nathaniel Moran; Jeff Warr; Edward Broussard; Carolyn Caldwell; Aaron Smith; Frank Davis, P.E.; and Gary Halbrooks.

**Others Present:**

Heather Nick, AICP, Tyler Area MPO; Michael Howell, Tyler Area MPO; Brooke Droptini, P.E. TxDOT; Nick Page, TxDOT TP&P; Michael Leary, FHWA; and Justin Morgan, FHWA.

**Martin Heines called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.**

**Introductions:**

Mr. Howell introduced the State and Federal staff present at the meeting. Mr. Leary explained Justin Morgan's role and explained FHWA's desire to visit all MPOs periodically.

**Minutes:**

The minutes from the November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Policy Committee Meeting were presented for approval. Frank Davis moved, seconded by Gary Halbrooks, to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

**Public Hearings:**

**1. Discussion and Action: Consider recommending amendments to the FY16-17 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Mr. Howell explained that the contract with Alliance Transportation Group to update the network demographics for the traffic model had been delayed and was not completed in FY 16 as originally forecasted. At the end of FY 16 the balance on the contract was \$62,245. The amendment added the remaining balance to the FY 17 budget to cover the remaining expenses.

Jeff Warr moved, seconded by Frank Davis to approve the amendments to the FY16-17 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

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

Mr. Howell summarized the updates on the TIP as adding language, at the request of the Federal Transit Administration, to clarify that the MPO's public participation process also met FTA's. The amendments also adjusted costs, project numbers, description and other administrative changes to the grouped projects listed in Appendix A. Mr. Howell noted that as all amendments were administrative that a public meeting was not held to review the changes.

Gary Halbrooks moved, seconded by Edward Broussard to approve the amendments to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**3. Discussion and Action: Consider recommending an amendment to the MPO Boundary**

Mr. Howell stated that the MPO boundary was last updated in 2012 to include all urbanized areas within the boundary based on the 2010 census, and the Federal Highway Administration FHWA has alerted the staff that a 0.85 acre parcel in the Bullard area had been omitted. Mr. Howell noted that the City of Bullard had representation on the Transportation Policy Committee, and no amendments to the membership was necessary.

Jeff Warr moved, seconded by Aaron Smith to approve the amendments to the MPO boundary. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**4. Staff Updates**

Ms. Nick provided an update on the staff's participation in Texas Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (TEMPO) to revise the Category 2 funding formulas which determines the percentage of Federal funds that each MPO receives. He said the TEMPO members met on January 6<sup>th</sup> and came to consensus on the revision which yielded a 3.07% increase to the current formula. He noted that the proposed formula would next be sent to the legislature for consideration.

Ms. Nick provided notice of the upcoming Technical Advisory Committee meeting on March 2, 2017 and the next Transportation Policy Committee meeting scheduled on March 23, 2017.

**Other Comments:**

Gary Halbrooks gave an update on progress made toward Toll 49 Segment 6. He also discussed being ready for a new infrastructure plan and a draft project list.

Brooke Droptini gave a status update on progress made toward the widening of Old Jacksonville Highway and the overpass to be constructed at the intersection of Old Jacksonville Highway and FM 346.

**The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.**