

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021
REGULAR MEETING, TDC LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
423 W. FERGUSON, TYLER, TEXAS**



Members Present:

Don Warren, Chair; Ed Broussard; Leslie Black; Lisa Crossman; Riley Harris; and Vernon Webb.

Members Absent:

Carolyn Caldwell; Gary Halbrooks; Frank Davis; Cary Nix; and Nathaniel Moran.

Staff Present:

Heather Nick; Michael Howell; Zach Clark; and Shelia Henderson.

Others Present

David Manuel, Walter P Moore; Matt Rufo, Asakura Robinson; and Kadence Hampton, Asakura Robinson.

Don Warren called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Ed Broussard moved, seconded by Riley Harris, to approve the minutes from November 19, 2020. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Action Items:

1. Consider supporting the 2021 Statewide Safety Targets established by the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT)

Mr. Howell presented the item and discussed the adoption of the Statewide 2021 Safety Targets established by the Texas Department of Transportation. Mr. Howell stated that is an annual update that MPO's are required to do.

Mr. Howell stated that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) unanimously recommends that the Policy Committee adopts the 2021 Statewide Safety Targets that have been recommended and supported by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Mr. Broussard asked what the effects the modifications would have to our highway system if we adopt the targets. Mr. Howell noted that the purpose of the target is to benchmark the performance of various types of crashes that we see in the area. Mr. Howell stated that if Texas statewide is not meeting its statewide safety targets then there could be a requirement at the federal level that would mandate that the state put additional money into what's called the highway safety improvement program. If the safety targets are not being met that would be kind of the ramification that we could see. Mr. Howell also stated that what we've seen from previous years the safety targets have been adopted since 2018 and Texas has been able to meet those.

Riley Harris moved, seconded by Ed Broussard, to adopt the 2021 Statewide Safety Targets. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

2. Consider adopting an update to the Master Street Plan

Mr. Howell prefaced the presentation of the item by stating that Judge Moran and Commissioner Nix, who were not in attendance, requested that this item not have action taken on it at this time, but staff would present it, so that the members present could get a better understanding for the progress that has been made. David Manual, senior transportation planner with Walter P Moore and Matt Rufo discussed jointly the updates of the Master Street Plan.

Mr. Howell stated that the recommendations are intended to be general guidelines. There is no mandate that should change any of the standards for cities or counties.

No action was taken by the Transportation Policy Committee.

Staff Updates:

1. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Executive Director's Report

Ms. Nick presented stating that the consultants of Toole Design were conducting a transit route study to improve bus service in the City of Tyler. Ms. Nick noted that Toole Design is developing draft recommendations from the studies, which will be presented in May. Ms. Nick stated that there had been some federal rule changes that could impact MPO's. Ms. Nick noted the Office of Management and Budget and the Census Bureau had proposed changes to determine urbanized areas that could significantly impact small MPO's such as Tyler.

2. Upcoming Meeting Dates

Mr. Howell provided notice of the upcoming Technical Advisory Committee meeting on May 6, 2021 and the next Transportation Policy Committee meeting scheduled on May 27, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.