



SUMMARY NOTES
MPO Technical Advisory Committee
January 25, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m.
ZOOM Virtual Meeting

PRESENT:

Ben Hunt – KYTC, Chair
Barry House – KYTC Planning
Matthew Holder – KYTC Planning
Wes Watt – KYTC D3
Joe Plunk – KYTC D3
Greg Meredith – BGPW
Melissa Cansler – BGPW

Jim DeCesare – Sr. Rep. Meredith
Susan Harmon – BGWC Airport
Jennifer Tougas – WKU
Andrew Stewart – KYTC D3
Jeff Meisel – City Manager
Josh Moore – WCPW

STAFF:

Karissa Lemon
Rachel Hurt

Ben Peterson
Quentin Walker

The MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was called to order by Chair, Mr. Ben Hunt.

A. APPROVAL OF SUMMARY NOTES

Mr. Hunt asked if there were any additions or corrections to the summary notes from the December 14, 2020 TAC meeting.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

C. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Lemon, MPO Coordinator, introduced the first item of business – the preliminary draft of the FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Ms. Lemon explained the FY22 UPWP contains many of the same MPO work tasks as previous work programs, however, FY22 adds work hours for a revised Greenways Master Plan, GIS projects related to the MPO, and continued work on the SHIFT prioritization process. Mr. Barry House pointed out that though not applying for FTA Section 5303 transit planning funds, the MPO still works on transit activities. It was discussed if the MPO could use planning funds for bicycle and pedestrian marketing projects. While the funds cannot be used for pavement markings or signage, the funds may be used for marketing campaigns or educational materials. It was concluded to explore a budget and preliminary concept to include this in the FY22 UPWP, and to work with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) on overseeing this work.

The final item of business was the review of CHAF (wish list) projects for the SHIFT 2022 prioritization process. Ms. Lemon stated the first phase of the SHIFT 2022 process is to review all the CHAF database projects, making modifications to existing projects and/or adding new projects, as necessary. Today's meeting reviewed the remaining projects, continued from the December meeting. Ms. Lemon reviewed each project and comments were made as necessary by staff and TAC members regarding modifications to projects. The only new project idea suggested was providing a connection to Beech Bend from KY 185, via Garvin Lane. Ms. Lemon stated the next phase of the SHIFT process will be ranking the projects for sponsorship, then the sponsor projects will be scored by KYTC, and then the MPO along with the KYTC District 3 will boost projects for inclusion into the State Highway Plan.



D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Joe Plunk stated that a developer has interest in discussing River Street roadway improvements and may be interested in participating in the TAC discussion.

Project Updates:

- Ms. Lemon stated the Transit Service Development Plan will have a series of public engagement events the first two weeks of February, with a public meeting being held on February 9th. Additionally, the I-65 Interchange Feasibility Study is moving into the second phase of public involvement and will hold a public meeting on March 16th. More details for these events will be forthcoming.
- WKU reported that students are back on campus with hybrid schedules. The Campus Master Plan is being implemented and includes a number bike/ped project improvements. Topper Transit is operating under a new route system this spring, encouraging students to use on-demand van services for evening transport. Additionally, WKU is ramping back up to explore options, in conjunction with the City, on bike share opportunities.
- Warren County Public Works recently completed repairs on the newly constructed roundabout at Elrod and Smallhouse Roads. These repairs included curb work and Mr. Josh Moore reported they are exploring the inclusion of street lights in the future. Additionally, the County is in progress on two bridge rehab projects – Old Richlandville Road bridge and the bridge over Little Beaver Creek Road. The Old Richlandville Road project is under design for a preservation-style bridge with a 3-ton weight limit.
- The City of Bowling Green Public Works reported that drainage work has begun on Kenton Street and sidewalk rehab is underway across the City, mostly downtown. Public Works is working with the Transpark on various expansion plans and is moving forward with a number of projects: a new traffic signal at Shive Ln and Nell O'Bryan Way; Shive Ln Phase 2 and 3 final design will likely let this spring; Smallhouse Rd Phase 3 (shared-use path) is in final design, with purchasing of easements to soon begin; and the next phase of the Downtown improvements are also in final design.
- KYTC reported that the I-165 Exit 7 (Morgantown Rd) project has begun with ramp reconstruction. Several projects have recently let and will begin construction this spring/summer: I-65 pavement rehab from Cemetery Road to the Simpson County line; US 231 (Scottsville Rd) widening and improvements from KY 884 (Three Springs Rd) to Bryant Way – utility work will begin soon; repavement of Kentucky and Adams Streets with study recommendations implemented; River Street resurfacing; and intersection improvements along US 231 (Scottsville Rd) in the Alvaton area to include J-turns. Additionally, KYTC is moving to purchase right-of-way for several projects: US 31W near the Transpark, US 31W between Fairview Ave and Park Street, and potentially US 31W between the roundabout and Campbell Lane.
- Mr. Ben Peterson reported that the Planning Commission is continuing to see strong growth throughout the county. The 2020 year-end numbers are posted in the CCPC-MPO newsletter for viewing.
- Lastly, Ms. Lemon stated that the BPAC will be working on prioritizing grant projects for future grant opportunities.

E. ADJOURNMENT

It was announced that the next TAC meeting will be February 22, 2021.