

**Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Policy Board Meeting Minutes-Tuesday, July 5, 2016**

Attendance:

Organization	Name	Present
Voting Members		
Lawrence City Commission	Matthew Herbert	x
Lawrence City Commission	Stuart Boley	x
Douglas County Commission	Nancy Thellman	x
L-DC Metropolitan Planning Commission	Eric Struckhoff	
L-DC Metropolitan Planning Commission	Bryan Culver (Chair)	x
City of Lecompton	Jimmy Wilkins	x
Kansas Department of Transportation	Cory Davis	x via phone
Non-Voting Members		
Federal Highway Administration	Paul Foundoukis	
Federal Transit Administration	Daniel Nguyen	
University of Kansas	Paul Graves	
City of Eudora	Tim Reazin	
City of Baldwin City	Marilyn Pearse	
Staff		
Lawrence - Douglas County MPO	Jessica Mortinger, AICP	x
Lawrence – Douglas County MPO	Ashley Myers	x
City of Lawrence-Douglas County Planning & Development Services Dept.	Scott McCullough, AICP	x
Others		
Kansas Department of Transportation	Allison Smith	x via phone
Lawrence – Douglas County MPO	Adam Weigel	x
City of Lawrence	Chuck Soules	x
City of Lawrence	David Cronin	x
Brook Creek Neighborhood	Michael Almon	x

1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

Bryan Culver called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

2. Action Item: Review and Approval of the 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #5

Bryan Culver asked Jessica Mortinger to present the TIP Amendment #5. She said this amendment was requested outside of the scheduled quarterly amendment cycle because the Transit TIGER grant application needed a TIP number so EPA could begin to review the environmental aspects of the project. The Multimodal Transit Center project only has local funding listed and does not specify a location at this time; it is currently a placeholder project. However, if the TIGER grant is awarded the federal funding and location will be amended into the TIP. As we were amending the TIP, we asked other project sponsors if they any amendments as well. We received several public comments on the projects. They are posted online at www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/tip/comments and were also passed out to the Board via

email and handouts at the meeting.

She reminded the Board that the TIP implements T2040 (the long range transportation plan). Projects are included in the TIP after a local project selection process. The TIP must have all federal projects and any regionally significant projects in it. Ms. Mortinger noted that all the projects in the TIP were consistent with T2040.

Mr. Culver asked why one project was removed. Ms. Mortinger said the Lawrence SRTS Master Plan project was removed as a result of a public comment which caused project sponsors to realize the project is no longer relevant as the SRTS Master Plan was implemented differently than originally intended.

Mr. Culver asked Michael Almon if he would like to comment on the TIP amendment in addition to the comments submitted. Michael Almon said he was representing the Brook Creek Neighborhood. The neighborhood is opposed to project 229 – 19th Street Reconstruction, O'Connell to Harper – and have been vocal against it since 2011. They would like the project to be defunded, not adjusted in years. They don't feel the road is necessary. They believe the extra traffic to the Venture Park should go on the new road that is platted. East 19th Street is residential and not a through street. Ms. Mortinger responded to Mr. Almon's comments saying that T2040 identifies that section of 19th Street as a Major Collector on the 2016 MPO-KDOT-FHWA Roadway Functional Classification Map and as a Minor Arterial on the T2040 Major Thoroughfares Map. These maps are developed as part of a long range planning process to identify major corridors for future roadway improvements and its future intended role in the network. MPO staff consulted with the project sponsor – Lawrence Public Works – they recommend no change. Any changes/final design work will be decided by the Lawrence City Commission.

Nancy Thellman asked if the City Commission would discuss a traffic study and who would initiate a traffic study if it was necessary. David Cronin said a traffic study was done for Venture Park and intersection improvements were identified. Traffic generation wasn't high, but the study determined 19th street should be used as a second entrance to Venture Park. This was done as a part of the platting process. The 19th & Harper intersection didn't warrant a traffic signal. However, Public Works is looking at other solutions to slow down/divert traffic which include a roundabout or other traffic calming devices. The intention is for 19th street to be used by residential traffic, not trucks. It is anticipated that Lawrence City Commission will make the final design decisions later this year.

Ms. Thellman asked if the TIGER grant is awarded would it trigger the need for a full corridor study or would the City of Lawrence continue to do each piece independently as projects were identified and funded. Mr. Cronin said a corridor study could be considered but the project wouldn't automatically trigger a corridor study. If the TIGER grant is awarded it would trigger a traffic impact study for that specific site.

Scott McCullough noted that even before the City acquired the Venture Park land the City of Lawrence did a study that showed 19th Street connecting as a secondary access. Since 2007 the connection has been anticipated as part of the network. The TIP project aligns with plans. The 19th Street It will be more used as an employee route rather than a truck route.

Ms. Mortinger noted that projects included in the TIP that are not yet designed if projects will have opportunity for engagement through Public Works after the Lawrence City Commission directs staff to work on design.

Ms. Mortinger also mentioned that there were two changes as a result of the public comments: Incorporated "Safe Routes to School" and "students" into the Planning Factors which are utilized in conjunction with Engineering Factors to determine if a project is appropriate for inclusion in the TIP.: Removed Project #502 - Lawrence Safe Routes to School Master Plan - from the TIP as the project funding from KDOT was not spent or reimbursed and this project is no longer a valid listing.

Allison Smith asked MPO staff to make sure to include the public comments and MPO responses with the approval letter when the TIP amendment is sent to KDOT. Ms. Mortinger indicated MPO staff would project documentation to KDOT and post comments and responses online.

Approval of the 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #5 with the changes Ms. Mortinger mentioned was moved by Nancy Thellman, seconded by Jimmy Wilkins and passed unanimously (6-0).

3. Other Business

There was none.

4. Public Comments

There were none.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 am.

Next Meeting: The MPO Policy Board will meet next for its regularly scheduled meeting on July 21, 2016 at 3:00pm in the City Commission Room at Lawrence City Hall (6 East 6th St) or another date set by the MPO if needed.