TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
Minutes for Tuesday, February 2, 2016 Meeting

Voting Members
Allison Smith (KDOT)
Robert Nugent (Lawrence Transit Administrator)
Danny Kaiser (KU on Wheels Administrator)
Scott McCullough (Lawrence-Douglas County Planning & Development)
Barack Matite (City of Eudora)
Keith Browning (Douglas County Public Works Director)
Chuck Soules (Lawrence Public Works Director)

Non-Voting Members
Charlie Bryan (Lawrence - Douglas County Health Department)

Staff
Jessica Mortinger (Senior Transportation Planner)
Ashley Myers (Transportation Planner)

1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions
Chuck Soules called the meeting to order at 1:32. A quorum was present and introductions were made.

2. Action Item: Approval of Minutes from the January 5, 2015 Regular Meeting
Chuck Soules asked if anyone had any changes to the minutes. There were none. Scott McCullough motioned to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Danny Kaiser and passed unanimously (5-0).

Barack Matite arrived.

3. Discussion Item: Kasold/E1200 Rd Closure – South of 31st
Jessica Mortinger said KDOT’s plan to close Kasold Drive south of 31st Street on a shorter timeline that originally planned was brought to the MPO’s attention during the functional classification discussion. Scott McCullough said KDOT will talk with the MPO Policy Board and then speak with the City and County governing bodies. The City has asked KDOT for safety and traffic counts regarding why the closure needs to occur now rather than when the South Lawrence Trafficway expanded to four-lanes, as it was originally planned. Keith Browning said the County, as a part of this closure discussion, is requesting that KDOT look at the Route 458 and Highway 59 intersection to see if it meets warrants for a signal or other safety improvements.

Chuck Soules said Frank Male from Lawrence Landscape is requesting a right in, right out on the south side of SLT, rather than completely closing it. Mr. McCullough asked if that would be appropriate when the road is turned into four lanes. Mr. Browning said he didn’t know.

Robert Nugent arrived. Danny Kaiser asked about how people living southwest of Lawrence are supposed to access the city? With this closure there will only be two access points. Discussion ensued about Wakarusa connections/intersection as an access point. Mr. Browning said the county wasn’t surprised about the closure, but was surprised about the timing of it. They were under the impression that it wouldn’t happen until the road went to four lanes. The County is requesting KDOT look if a right in-right out is feasible. Mr. Soules said he thinks KDOT wants a letter of support from the city/county commission. Mr.
McCullough said the TAC could take a position if we want; however, it might be more appropriate for the MPO Policy Board to pass a recommendation to the Commissions.

4. Quick Updates  
a. Regional Pedestrian Plan – Jessica Mortinger said the draft Lawrence recommendations from the Ped-Bike Issues Task Force are being incorporated into the Regional Pedestrian Plan. She noted MPO staff is also working on recommendations for the other communities.

b. MPO Tell Us Portal /Public Participation Plan – Ashley Myers said the MPO recently created our own Peak Democracy portal like Lawrence Listens that is called Tell Us. The public participation survey was released on the MPO Tell Us Portal and it will close on February 9th. The feedback will be incorporated into the plan. Then the plan will go to 45-day public comment and will come back to the TAC for recommendation of approval to the Policy Board in the spring.

c. Competitive CPG Studies- Transit COA, Bike Share Feasibility – Jessica Mortinger said we received proposals for the two RFPs. The transit COA selection committee met this morning. We will be scheduling interviews in the next couple of weeks. We will be reviewing the bike share feasibility RFPs next week. Many members of TAC will be asked to be on the steering committees for the studies.

Barack Matite asked how often competitive funding is available. Ms. Mortinger said it is available every three years, as KDOT collects CPG funding that the MPOs don’t spend over the years.

d. Coordinated Public Transit & Human Services Transportation Plan – Ashley Myers said the Regional Transit Advisory Committee met in October to revise the first half of this plan. The Committee met again last week to revise the second part of the plan. We will be doing a rider survey for the next couple of weeks and that feedback will be incorporated into the plan, which will most likely come to TAC for recommendation of approval in the spring.

5. Other Business  
Barak Matite asked if traffic projections have been done for K-10 once the SLT is completed. No one at the table had seen the traffic projections. Allison Smith will look into it.

Charlie Bryan asked if there is any information about ozone implementation. Allison Smith said KDOT didn’t plan to hear anything until after summer. KDHE wants to see how the summer goes. KDHE did workshops and public relations work in 2008, but they aren’t planning on it this time. Unless this summer is very hot and dry, the ozone results won’t be troublesome and everyone will be in attainment. Mr. Bryan said the Health Department facilitates an Air Zone Committee. Perhaps the Health Department could do a public education campaign based on what KDHE did in 2008. Jessica Mortinger said perhaps we do a state of the state program like last time. Keith Browning asked why Douglas County doesn’t have a monitor. Mr. Bryan said Douglas County used to, but decided it wasn’t necessary.

6. Next Meeting: March 1, 2016 or another date set by the TAC  
The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 PM.