TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
Minutes for Tuesday, February 14, 2017 Meeting

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

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

Staff
Jessica Mortinger (Senior Transportation Planner)
Kenna Davis (Transportation Planning Intern)

Public
Frank Male (Lawrence Landscape)
C.L. Maurer (Landplan Engineering)

1. Call to Order and Welcome
Danny Kaiser called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM. A quorum was present and introductions were made.

2. Action Item: Approval of Minutes from the January 3, 2017
Danny Kaiser asked if anyone had changes to the attached minutes. There were none. Allison Smith moved to approve the January minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Robert Nugent and passed unanimously, 7-0.

3. Action Item: Review and Recommend Approval of the FFY17-20 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 1
Jessica Mortinger presented the TIP Amendment 1. Ms. Mortinger handed out copies of the project changes list, the public comment received and the MPO staff response, which were also included in the agenda packet. The amendment changes funding or funding year of projects already included in the TIP and/or changed programmed funds for projects to include toll credits as match sources to federal funds which will allow KDOT to free up state funds. The public comment period for the TIP Amendment 1 was held January 12 to January 27. One comment was received from Frank Male about the Wakarusa Drive Extension on TIP #106. Amendment 1 changes the project number, but none of the funding or the scope to project #106. Mr. Male’s comment concerned the design of the interchange.

C.L. Maurer arrived.

Ms. Mortinger reiterated the MPO staff response to Mr. Male’s comment, indicating that the MPOs role in programming projects in the TIP does not include project design and or the year or amount of funding that will be available in City/County budgets through the Capital Improvement Plan process. MPO staff added a comment to project #106 description: ‘Alignment not finalized’. Frank Male noted that he appreciated the opportunity to share an alternative option to interchange design to have the option on the table for continued discussions. Keith Browning indicated that the plan to connect to the existing bridge to the
South on 1150 was feasible and being discussed regardless of the location of the interchange. Scott McCullough noted that the proposal that Mr. Male brought to the table required development of segments throughout the floodway/floodplain and would have extensive costs to develop. Mr. McCullough noted that the current timeline of events with K-10 opening, Kasold & K-10 transition to a Right in/Right out, the West Leg Study and the work KDOT continues with the 3 year EIS leaves some question to the timing of decision making around the state funded interchanges. This will play into the update of the Transportation Plan and at this point we assume Kasold will not be open at K-10.

Keith Browning indicated that project 106 was added by the County, and he has requested participation by the City. Chuck Soules indicated that the City timeline would be looking to 2022 at the earliest to construct local segments to an interchange. Mr. Browning said he believes an interchange to remove the at-grade crossings could happen before K-10 is widened to address safety issues.

Frank Male said he was glad to be able to propose the alternative option to have a discussion. Jessica Mortinger encouraged Mr. Male to continue to be involved in the Transportation Plan update; she explained the role the Travel Demand Model scenarios play into selection projects for the long range plan.

Charlie Bryan arrived.

Allison Smith let the TAC know that KDOT will plan to submit west leg interchange projects as part of the Transportation Plan development. Danny Kaiser asked if there was any additional discussion, there was none. He let TAC members know that MPO staff is looking for a recommendation to forward the TIP to the MPO Policy Board for consideration at their February 23rd meeting. A motion to recommend approval of the FFY2017-2020 TIP Amendment 1 was made by Leslie Herring, seconded by Keith Browning and passed unanimously, 7-0.

4. Action Item: Review and Recommend Approval of the Lawrence Bike Share Feasibility Study

Danny Kaiser told TAC members that the Bike Share Feasibility Study will be tabled until the March agenda. Jessica Mortinger said that the MPO became aware that there are concerns from stakeholder remaining about the final draft and the MPO would like to address those comments.

5. Action Item: Review and Recommend Approval of the Functional Classification Map Revision (attached)

Jessica Mortinger presented the revised functional classification map, which reflects the KDOT request to rebalance the system and consider the classification of the Kasold & K-10 Crossing since the change was made to right-in/right-out. She handed out copies of the proposed revisions and map which were included in the agenda packet. Ms. Mortinger noted that this rebalance changed downgraded several road segments to balance the network from the previous amendment where the MPO downgraded all the non-state highways from principal arterials to minor arterials.

Jessica Mortinger let the TAC members know that she had received a call from Frank Male inquiring about the change of Kasold/1150 from a Minor Arterial to a local road. Mr. Male asked if traffic counts had been collected and thought that the change to local might have been proposed too soon, considering that Kasold/K-10 might operate as a right in/right out for years before a new interchange is built.
Keith Browning noted that classifying that crossing as a Minor Arterial does not make sense, and that a Collector would better fit. Allison Smith said that KDOT’s original request and consideration for the MPO to consider it as a local roadway was in the context of discussions about when the roadway was going to be closed. She indicated that KDOT wouldn’t require the MPO to change the classification, they just inquired if Minor Arterial was the correct classification considering the change of the intersection to Right in/Right out.

Charles Soules asked what the level of classification was available for federal funding. Allison Smith indicated collector and above. Scott McCullough noted that the region has a Major Thoroughfares map which uses functional classifications tied to the development code, these maps are separate.

After discussion, TAC members agreed to classify the E 1150 Rd and E 1200 Rd/Kasold Dr. as Minor Collectors rather than local roads. A motion to recommend approval of the Functional Classification map as altered at the meeting was made by Robert Nugent, seconded by Keith Browning and passed unanimously 7-0.

6. Action Item: Review and Recommend Approval of the 2017 Unified Planning Work Plan (UPWP) Amendment 1

Jessica Mortinger presented the 2017 Unified Planning Work Plan Amendment 1 that utilizes excess CPG funding. She reviewed the Summary of changes that was included in the agenda packet. This Amendment includes three proposed RFPs to hire consultants for a Lawrence Loop Analysis, a Safety Analysis, and a Transit Center Location Analysis. The Lawrence Loop Analysis will manage the development and approval for the bikeway sections between the end of Burroughs Creek Rail Trail and Burcham Park and the Sandra Shaw Trail and Peterson Road Shared Use Path. The Safety Analysis will focus on crash histories, a multimodal hot spot analysis, identifying counter-measures, through projects and programs to address the safety issues identified. The Transit Center Location Analysis will use the data collected from the Transit Comprehensive Operations Analysis to set criteria to find a transit center.

The amendment includes additional part time staff billed to the Consolidated Planning grant to help support MPO staff during the year. Additional the amendment programs funding to coordinate with the Topeka and Flint Hills MPOs to purchase automated bike/pedestrian counters that will be shared and rotated among the three groups. The cost to Lawrence will be no more than $2,600 local funding that will match extra CPG that KDOT hasn’t allocated to the MPOs. A motion to recommend approval of the 2017 UPWP Amendment 1 was made by Allison Smith, seconded by Robert Nugent and passed unanimously, 7-0.

Frank Male and C.L. Maurer left the meeting.

7. Action Item: Review and Approve the amended TAC Bylaws (attached)

Jessica Mortinger presented the amended TAC Bylaws that remove non-voting members from the Lawrence-Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) and the Lawrence Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC) as requested by TAC members at the previous meeting. Allison Smith asked if the TAC considered adding the MPO BAC as an ex-officio member. Jessica Mortinger indicated that the TAC discussed adding the other MPO subcommittees, however decided since the meetings were public and staff coordinated efforts that it wasn’t necessary at this time. A motion to approve the amended TAC Bylaws was made by Leslie Herrings, seconded by Robert Nugent and passed unanimously, 7-0.
8. Quick Updates
Jessica Mortinger presented the public participation plan for the T2040 update. The timeline for Mobile Meetings and Open House Events in Douglas County were shown. Charlie Bryan suggested some other public participation locations, such as schools’ Field Day events and Just Food.

9. Other Business
Charlie Bryan noted that the Health Department will be hosting the Complete Streets Coalition for a workshop at a date to be determined between June 15-20.

10. Next Meeting: March 7, 2017 or another date set by the TAC
The meeting adjourned at 2:43 PM.