

CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY/NORTH GEORGIA  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO)  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

February 2, 2010, 1:30 PM

A G E N D A

1. **Approval of the Executive Board meeting minutes of November 17, 2009.**  
(Chairperson Staff, Requires Formal Action)
2. **Approval of the ARRA Contingency Resolution for Tennessee**  
(Melissa Taylor, Requires Formal Action)
3. **Approval of the ARRA Contingency Resolution for Georgia**  
(Melissa Taylor, Requires Formal Action)
4. **Participation Plan Provisions: Special Call Meetings**  
(Melissa Taylor)
5. **Public Comments and Other Items of Importance:**  
Next TPO Executive Board meeting is February 16, 2010 and next Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) (formerly known as the TPO Executive Staff) meeting is March 2, 2010. Adjourn.

CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY/NORTH GEORGIA  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (TPO)  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

November 17 2009, 1:30 PM

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peter Hetzler.

**Item #1: Approval of the October 20, 2009 meeting minutes. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Manny Rico and seconded by Mayor Johnny Baker. The motion carried.**

**Item #2: Approve for Public Comment Fiscal Constraint of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Resulting from 2009 Federal Rescission.** Includes project revisions for CARTA and GA ARRA. The ARRA included are: Georgia High Speed Rail; Georgia Resurfacing Bucket; Georgia Bicycle-Pedestrian Bucket; CARTA TIGGER Grant; CARTA Operations Assistance; and CARTA Incline Rail Maintenance. Ms. Melissa Taylor reviewed the lists and the methodology used in detail and said that staff did not receive any issues/problems from any jurisdictions in response to the emailed lists sent last week to Board and Staff. The City of Chattanooga said they were good with their projects and Hamilton County said their projects previously in the TIP looked fine to them. Ms. Taylor said at this time we are only dealing with Tennessee and we are not doing anything with Georgia projects. We passed an Interim TIP for Georgia in October 2009 and are using that as our Fiscally Constrained TIP for the Georgia side. Georgia considers all projects fiscally constrained at this time. As part of the Fiscal Constraint, there were a few Amendments that needed to be made to the TIP for ARRA projects. Six projects were referenced: Georgia High Speed Rail project is to focus in Catoosa and Walker Counties in Georgia. \$500K+ of ARRA funding was returned that could not be spent on Chickamauga Avenue streetscape; therefore, we accommodated two cost overrun projects – McFarland Avenue and Lafayette Street (resurfacing). This increased our Resurfacing ARRA Bucket for Georgia. We took that money away from the Bike/Ped Bucket (where the \$500K+ was returned). CARTA also received the TIGGER Grant and that project is shown, along with some money shifted to CARTA Operations & Assistance / Maintenance activities (\$250,000). **Motion to approve for public comment was made by Mr. Steve Leach and seconded by Councilman Manny Rico. The motion carried.**

**Item #3: Approval of Current and Future TDOT/Local Priority Project Lists:**

Ms. Melissa Taylor reviewed the TDOT Project Priorities Staff Recommendation List which was requested by TDOT and which helps them look to the TPO for guidance regarding which projects are more important (whether or not there is funding). The recommendation list is a culmination of TDOT's 3-year program of projects (put out by TDOT annually) and the LRTP 2035 draft project list (currently being reviewed by TDOT). Staff has also developed a Local Project Priorities Staff Recommendation List (all local projects) for Board consideration in prioritizing where we might go with local funds. These lists were sent to Board and Staff on 11/12/09 for review, they in no way jeopardize any project that is currently in the TIP for implementation and only serve as a guide for discussion about projects that need to be done first or be funded. This would be a point to begin the discussion; it does not mean that a project would receive funding and some other project would not. Ms. Jeanne Stevens agreed that is the case. A point based ranking system was used to rank the projects by staff. Ms. Taylor said the lists are recommendations of staff and do not jeopardize ARRA funding for a particular city not showing on the lists.

In answer to a question, Mr. Steve Leach stated the widening of Shallowford Road included replacement of the bridges (shown as widening). An Open House forum was held by staff on Friday, 11/13/09, for jurisdictions to talk with staff about the Fiscal Constraint and Project Priorities Staff Recommendation Lists. There were no negative comments about the Staff Recommended Lists. **Motion was made to approve by Councilman Manny Rico and seconded by Mr. Billy Cooper. The motion carried.**

**Item #4: Nomination of TPO Executive Board Officers (Chair and Vice-Chair) for 2010 thru 2011:** Ms. Melissa Taylor said election of officers is every two years and called for nominations to be received on or before **December 31, 2009**, which may be sent to Ms. Taylor via email ([taylor\\_melissa@mail.chattanooga.gov](mailto:taylor_melissa@mail.chattanooga.gov)), or to Ms. Rozanne Brown ([brown\\_roz@mail.chattanooga.gov](mailto:brown_roz@mail.chattanooga.gov)). Nominations will be presented to the TPO Board for election of new officers February 9, 2010 (first meeting of the even year per ByLaws).

**Item #5 - Status of Projects: ARRA Projects - "As of October 30, 2009." Report on progress, and possible reevaluation of funding allocation.** Based on a TPO Board resolution on 10/20/09 stating that we would get a status on all ARRA projects as of 10/30/09 at the 11/03/09 TPO Executive Staff (Technical Committee) meeting, staff requested that each jurisdiction provide an overview of the status of their projects. Staff also provided a TDOT list outlining how they see the status of each project. After thorough discussion, all jurisdictions felt strongly that they are capable of getting their projects Federally obligated by the February 17, 2009 deadline. However, based on some of TDOT's status reports, there may have been progress issues related to projects in Red Bank and Collegedale (possibly involving approval of preliminary engineering or final environmental clearance documents, or whether or not they had submitted bid packages – all necessary stages in getting to the point of obligation). Mr. Wayne Hamill (Red Bank) stated that to his knowledge they are lacking two things related to maps and plan sheets. There has been a delay due to an emergency, but they have been in discussion with consulting engineers to provide those very soon. Mayor John Turner (City of Collegedale) said they were progressing along with requirements but suffered some unexpected illness at their engineering firm. They have taken necessary steps to resolve the delay and hope to conclude very soon. Ms. Taylor said that some other MPO's have set an obligation date of 12/15/09 so that, if projects are not Federally obligated by that date, they can reallocate funds to other projects. Ms. Taylor said she is not aware of any other projects to which we could redirect unobligated funds should we set such a cutoff date as 12/15/09, unless they were cost overrun projects. However, there is also the possibility of asking the State of Tennessee if there are any other State projects needing funds within our TPO area. If we do not get ARRA funds obligated within our TPO area by 2/17/10 (one year from legislation signed by the President), or given back to the State to use on other projects, both our TPO and the State of Tennessee lose the money. That decision rests with the TPO Board and Ms. Taylor wanted to open the dialogue for consideration of a motion for some sort of deadline (i.e. 12/15/09), which should still leave time to quickly choose other projects (even if they are State projects) and get money obligated on them before the 2/17/10 deadline. Ms. Taylor said the 12/15/09 deadline was suggested to her by another MPO who had found the date should provide enough time for the obligation of other projects. Ms. Jeanne Stevens (TDOT) said that part of the consideration was that, after 12/15/09, it may be more difficult to get things moved through the process due to holidays (over 2-3 weeks). Ms. Taylor said that, based on what she knows about other MPO's, they may have a few more projects obligated but are also struggling with obligation. Ms. Taylor said that to her knowledge GDOT is asking for all jurisdictions to have their bid books and final plans to them by 12/15/09, so they can get projects authorized (obligated). Ms. Taylor said this might be a suggestion for TDOT as well – with all bid books and all packets of materials being provided to TDOT by 12/15/09 for obligation. Ms. Taylor said the Board's options today include: (1) take no action at this time, (2) set an obligation (cutoff) date, or (3) set a date for all material packets to be at TDOT/GDOT in order for projects to be obligated or

authorized. Mr. William Whitson said they (East Ridge) have had a team working for months, they understand what has to be done, are working diligently and will get this done (project obligated). All their paperwork is in Nashville except for a few minor things that they cannot provide until authorized to do so by TDOT. He does not believe that arbitrary deadlines set by the Board would be beneficial. Mr. John Culpepper (City of Chickamauga) stated that, if the in-progress (current) projects have not made it through the process by now, he does not believe anyone else with new projects can do so between 12/15/09 and the 2/17/10 deadline. **Motion to “take no action at this time” (11/17/09) was made by Mr. William Whitson and seconded by Mr. Chris Dorsey. The motion carried.**

**Item #6: Enhancement Grant Applications:** Ms. Melissa Taylor presented each of the six applications for 2010 and each representative was given opportunity to make comment regarding their project(s). Ms. Taylor said there is no requirement for the TPO Board to either prioritize or approve Enhancement grant applications, but that jurisdictions are required to advise the TPO of such applications. All jurisdictions believe the grant(s) are significant to their community and Ms. Taylor said the Manufacturers Road/Hamm Road application is part of the Gateway to Moccasin Bend. Mr. Steve Leach said the Hamilton County/City of Chattanooga Riverwalk application is part of the negotiations with (and commitment to) Alstom Power by both the City and County. Work is also being done on the Main Street side and the proposed work is along the Tennessee River. It is an important project for both Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga and both governments are very interested in getting this done. Mr. Todd Leamon said Phase I runs from Ross’s Landing through Alstom to Finley Stadium; Phase II picks up and connects to St. Elmo. The six 2010 Enhancement Grant applications are: City of East Ridge – Exit 1 and Ringgold Road Streetscape; City of Chattanooga – Highway 58 (Phase II), Manufacturers Road/Hamm Road; Hamilton County / City of Chattanooga – Riverwalk; and City of Lakesite (resubmittal of 2009 application for pedestrian enhancement and other pedestrian-related improvements). Ms. Taylor said that, in the future, the TPO Board might want to consider prioritizing Enhancement Grant applications to help facilitate them.

**Item 7: Staff Reports:**

**Long Range Transportation Plan 2035 (LRTP 2035) -** Ms. Melissa Taylor said the draft document comments have just been received back from TDOT and Mr. Ulysses Mitchell said that Melissa will receive comments from GDOT on 11/17/09. Staff is working to respond to TDOT/GDOT comments, and if it does not take longer than two weeks, we will be on target for the draft LRTP to go to Federal partners (and other partners) for review on or before November 30, 2009. Approval of the plan is scheduled for the TPO Board meeting on February 9, 2010.

**Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture Update -** Mr. Patrick Hall said invitations are being sent out for an Incident Management Task Force meeting to discuss ITS Architecture in the Chattanooga Region on December 10, 2009 (11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Eastern) at the Development Resource Center (Conference Room 1A). Mr. Hall invited all Board members to attend the meeting. Mr. Hall will also be attending a Management and Operations Summit in Nashville on 11/18/09 – 11/19/09.

**Item #8: Public Comments and Other Items of Importance:** Ms. Jeanne Stevens (TDOT) pointed out one issue pertaining to two items on the agenda and offered a suggestion for the Board’s consideration in future years. This year, TDOT requested Multimodal projects be included by the TPO in their recommendations for TDOT’s Project Priorities List. She suggested that, in the future, the TPO consider breaking out Bike/Ped projects with specifics and priorities. Not all highway projects can be funded, so more direction to TDOT from the TPO on what highway projects can wait in order to get the Bike/Ped improvements would be helpful (also Enhancement Grant applications). Special Call Board Dec 8, 2009, First TPO Board meeting of the New Year is February 9, 2010, and the Next scheduled TPO Staff meeting is December 22, 2009. **Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Steve Leach and seconded by Councilman Manny Rico. Adjourn**

RESOLUTION OF THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY/NORTH GEORGIA  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
APPROVAL OF CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF  
2009 FUNDING TO THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 the President of the United States signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 bill allowing the Chattanooga-Hamilton County/North Georgia Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) to prioritize and allocate \$8,388,329 in transportation funding for projects within the TPO Transportation Management Area; and

WHEREAS, in March of 2009, the TPO Board approved a priority list of projects located within boundaries of the City of Chattanooga, Hamilton County, City of East Ridge, City of Red Bank, Collegedale, and Town of Signal Mountain; and

WHEREAS, the above mentioned jurisdictions signed certification commitment letters outlining their responsibilities for project implementation; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2010 the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) requested a contingency resolution be passed by MPOs to prevent the loss of any unobligated ARRA funding; and

WHEREAS, this aforementioned request specified all funding not obligated by February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 within the Tennessee portion of the TPO boundary be authorized for use by TDOT for State projects; and

WHEREAS, TDOT will give priority to State projects within the Chattanooga-Hamilton County/North Georgia TPO area; and

WHEREAS, as all State projects must be obligated by March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 or the unobligated portions will be rescinded by the Federal Highway Administration and reallocated to other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the unobligated ARRA funding will be returned immediately to TDOT, with the intention to use the aforementioned ARRA funding on state selected and managed projects within the borders of Hamilton County, Tennessee.

RESOLUTION APPROVED:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor J. Peter Hetzler  
Chair, Executive Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry M. Bennett  
Chair, Executive Staff

RESOLUTION OF THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY/NORTH GEORGIA  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
APPROVAL OF CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF  
2009 FUNDING TO THE STATE OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 the President of the United States signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 bill allowing the Chattanooga-Hamilton County/North Georgia Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) to prioritize and allocate \$2,244,285 in transportation funding for projects within the TPO Transportation Management Area; and

WHEREAS, in March of 2009, the TPO Board approved a priority list of projects located within boundaries of Catoosa County, the City of Chickamauga, the City of Ringgold, and the City of Rossville; and

WHEREAS, the above mentioned jurisdictions signed certification commitment letters outlining their responsibilities for project implementation; and

WHEREAS, on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) requested a contingency resolution be passed by MPOs to prevent the loss of any unobligated ARRA funding; and

WHEREAS, this aforementioned request specified all funding not obligated by February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 within the Georgia portion of the TPO boundary be authorized for use by GDOT for State projects; and

WHEREAS, GDOT will give priority to State projects within the Chattanooga-Hamilton County/North Georgia TPO area; and

WHEREAS, as all State projects must be obligated by March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 or the unobligated portions will be rescinded by the Federal Highway Administration and reallocated to other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the unobligated ARRA funding will be returned immediately to GDOT.

RESOLUTION APPROVED:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor J. Peter Hetzler  
Chair, Executive Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry M. Bennett  
Chair, Executive Staff



**American Recovery Reinvestment Act of 2009  
MPO Sub allocated Area  
Substitute TDOT Projects**



<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>ROUTE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TYPE OF WORK</u>	<u>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST</u>
Bradley	SR-74	From SR-74 SB (Broad Street) to SR-2 (US-11) in Cleveland	Resurfacing	\$ 630,000
Davidson	SR-255	From Franklin Road (SR-6/US-31) to Recovery Drive	Resurfacing	1,100,000
Davidson	SR-251	From the Cheatham County line to Old Charlotte Pike	Resurfacing	950,000
Davidson	I-24	From SR-45 to I-65	Resurfacing	1,900,000
<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>SR-2</b>	<b>From the Marion County line to SR-38 (US-11)</b>	<b>Resurfacing</b>	<b>610,000</b>
<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>SR-58</b>	<b>From Greenwood Road to near Sims Road</b>	<b>Resurfacing</b>	<b>790,000</b>
<b>Hamilton</b>		<b>Shallowford Road, Bridge over South Chickamauga Creek, LM 4.01</b>	<b>Bridge Replacement</b>	<b>7,512,000</b>
<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>SR-17</b>	<b>Bridge over Holman Spring Branch, LM 0.09</b>	<b>Bridge Replacement</b>	<b>380,000</b>
<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>I-24</b>	<b>Bridge over EB Ramp to I-124 North, LM 7.52</b>	<b>Bridge Rehabilitation</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>I-75</b>	<b>Bridge over Big Spring Creek, LM 1.17</b>	<b>Bridge Rehabilitation</b>	<b>400,000</b>
<b>Hamilton</b>		<b>South Seminole Drive, Bridge over I-24, LM 3.27</b>	<b>Bridge Rehabilitation</b>	<b>300,000</b>
Knox	SR-1	From east of Glen Abby Boulevard to east of SR-332	Resurfacing	490,000
Knox	SR-34	From SR-9 (US-25W) to the Jefferson County line	Resurfacing	1,360,000
Madison	SR-1	From Dr. F. E. Wright Drive in Jackson to I-40	Resurfacing	990,000
Madison	I-40	Interchange at Dr. F. E. Wright Drive in Jackson	Signalization	500,000
Montgomery	SR-12	From the Red River Bridge to SR-374 in Clarksville	Resurfacing	1,380,000
Rutherford	SR-99	From west of Rockvale Road to east of Clearidge Drive	Resurfacing	940,000
Shelby	SR-175	From Shelby Drive to SR-57 (US-72)	Resurfacing	900,000