

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

October 12, 2010, 1:30 PM

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Manuel Rico. There being no quorum at 1:30 p.m., the agenda was reordered and the meeting began with Staff Reports (Item 8.). Mr. Patrick Hall said that the ITS Architecture has been finalized with workshops and training over the past 6 weeks concerning the ITS tracking software (TURBO); a link to the information was provided on September 28, 2010 to the TPO via email. Regarding the Regional Freight Study, Mr. Hall said that a kickoff meeting was held the previous week with the consultant (Cambridge Systematics); the study will begin in October, 2010 with a final product for the March, 2011 TCC meeting and April, 2011 TPO Board meeting. We are requesting to have a better idea of truck counts on the Interstates and what they are carrying (partial/full loads); the study also looks at railroad freight traffic and opportunities for intermodal locations. Mr. Nelson Galeano said the purpose of the On-Board Transit Survey is to develop the transit component of the Travel Demand Model as a federal requirement for improving transportation. It provides very important information including ridership profiles and works together with the Household Survey. Volunteers will be trained by CARTA and data collection will begin in the first week of November requiring about two weeks for data collection and six months for data processing. Regarding the Multimodal Travel Time Study done in conjunction with UTC and with the ProWalk/ProBike Conference recently held in Chattanooga, Mr. David Baird said that he has been giving updates to the TPO Board and that he served as the Project Lead on the study with help from other staff. They looked at how long it took using four major downtown corridor travel modes (automobile, pedestrian, bicycle and transit) to reach main destination points around town with different routes using trained participants with Google maps (showing fastest route – one directional). CreateHere suggested five major destinations (Coolidge Park, Tennessee Aquarium, Chattanooga Choo Choo and UTC Student Center). Mr. Baird recapped results from the study and said that the UTC Department of Health & Human Performance had developed and rigorously tested the methods used for the study. In total, for 8 of 10 routes, the bicycle was the quickest way to get from point A to B. This is a pilot study and we will determine whether to do a full blown study, possibly for a Denver national conference presentation. Mr. Baird said this could be an educational tool that may help with congestion issues; adding bikes to the road is not only a fun leisure thing to do, it reduces the number of automobiles and the need for roads/ facilities. Ms. Yuen Lee said that the Household Travel Survey is a requirement for the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan update; it collects various data including where people are going, trip time/length and mode of transportation. NuStats was contracted to do the study which began in June, 2010. The pilot study was completed with 48 of 92 households sampled responding (or about one-half; with 22% in North Georgia). Pilot study results were provided in a handout and will indicate where we need to make adjustments for the full study (i.e., perhaps oversample in North Georgia, since they were under-represented in the pilot). Results show 35% of participants were over age 65 (perhaps they are more willing to respond); about 1% of trips using bus; 88% using auto (65% driver / 22% passenger – average 2 people per vehicle); 6% walk to the destination. The average trip duration is about 17 minutes; average activity duration is about 5.5 hours. Usually, people take short trips (less than five miles); 46% home related; 7% work related; 10% shopping related. The pilot study indicates that we need to oversample in North Georgia (due to low response) and modify the initial letter being sent out to reference North Georgia. We will request participants to either go online or call an 800 number for NuStats (return mail is not cost effective). We need 1,500 participates in the survey (starting October 2010 thru February 2011) and everyone's support was requested. Ms. Melissa Taylor said the External Travel Survey is on temporary delay due to budgetary constraints and until we can work with Cambridge Systematics on the methodology.

There being a quorum as of 1:45 p.m., the meeting continued with Items #1 through #7, and #9.

Item #1: Motion to Approve the August 17, 2010 TPO Executive Board meeting minutes was made by Mr. Billy Cooper, seconded by Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey; the motion carried.

Item #2: Motion to Approve Resolution Recognizing Service of The Honorable Ronald L. "Ronnie" Cobb, Mayor of Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, as an Active Member of the TPO Executive Board was made by Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Billy Cooper; the motion carried.

Item #3: Mr. Patrick Hall said that the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved for Public Comment (14 days) and Recommended for Approval by the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) on September 7, 2010; and approved by ICC on August 25, 2010. A public hearing was held September 9, 2010 and comments have been included in the document. All state and federal comments have been satisfactorily addressed. **Motion to Approve the FY 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was made by Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey, seconded by Mr. Bill Payne; the motion carried.**

Item #4: Ms. Melissa Taylor said the Conformity Determination Report (CDR) for the 2011-2014 TIP was approved for Public Comment (30 days) and Recommended for Approval by the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) on September 7, 2010; and approved by ICC on August 25, 2010. A public hearing was held September 9, 2010. All state and federal comments have been satisfactorily addressed. **Motion to Approve the Conformity Determination Report (CDR) for the 2011-2014 TIP was made by Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey, seconded by Hamilton County Commissioner Larry Henry; the motion carried.**

Item #5: Ms. Betsy Shuttles said that the Amendment to the Participation Plan was Approved for Public Comment (45 days) and Recommended for Approval by the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) on July 6, 2010. A public hearing was held August 12, 2010. All state and federal comments have been satisfactorily addressed. **Motion to Approve the Amendment to the Participation Plan was made by Mr. Ted Rumley, seconded by Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey; the motion carried.**

Item #6: Reviewing the projects, Ms. Melissa Taylor said that the TPO Executive Board is being requested to endorse the 2011 Enhancement Projects List due in November to TDOT. Motion to endorse the 2011 Enhancement projects List was made by Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey, seconded by Hamilton County Commissioner Larry Henry; the endorsement carried.

Item #7: Ms. Melissa Taylor said that the Notice of Third Infantry Division Highway Corridor Study is being given by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The legislation to study this corridor was signed into law as part of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2005: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The legislation provides funding for a corridor study "from Savannah, Georgia to Knoxville, Tennessee, by way of Augusta, Georgia." Ms. Taylor said that she would send any additional information on this to the TCC and Board, along with any additional information on ITS Architecture (in one email).

Item #9: The next regularly scheduled TPO Executive Board meeting is December 21, 2010 (1:30-3:00 p.m. Eastern). The next regularly scheduled Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meeting is November 2, 2010 (1:30-3:00 p.m. Eastern). *(NOTE: These two meetings were subsequently cancelled).* Adjourn.

Handouts Available: 2011-2014 TIP and accompanying CDR; Participation Plan; NuStats Data October 11, 2010; Third Infantry Division Highway corridor Study Expert Working Group Kick-off Meeting Minutes September 16, 2010; TTAP Fall Training Update schedule.

TPO Board Meeting

Role Call October 12, 2010

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governor	State of Tennessee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner	Georgia Department of Transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor	City of Chattanooga
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elected Representative	Chattanooga City Council
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Mayor	Hamilton County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elected Representative	Hamilton County Commission (209-7202)
<input type="checkbox"/> Elected Official	North Georgia Legislative Delegation Catoosa, Dade, Walker Counties, Georgia
<input type="checkbox"/> Elected Official	Tennessee Legislative Delegation, Hamilton County, Tennessee
<input type="checkbox"/> Chairman of the Board	Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Chairman of the Board	Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport Authority
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director	Chattanooga-Hamilton Co. Air Pollution Control Bureau
<input type="checkbox"/> Elected Representative	Dade County, Georgia Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Elected Representative	Walker County, Georgia Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Elected Representative	Catoosa County, Georgia Government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Chickamauga, Georgia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Collegedale, Tennessee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council Representative	East Ridge, Tennessee
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Lakesite, Tennessee
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Lookout Mountain, Georgia
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Lookout Mountain, Tennessee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Red Bank, Tennessee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Ridgeside, Tennessee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Ringgold, Georgia
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Rossville, Georgia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council Representative	Signal Mountain, Tennessee
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Commission Representative	Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Alderman Representative	Walden, Tennessee

Quorum: *yes, Melina D. Taylor*