

**MINUTES**  
**MPO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
**JACKSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**  
**CITY HALL – 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR BEN LANGFORD ROOM – 101 EAST MAIN STREET**  
**DECEMBER 1, 2022 – 10:30 A.M.**

**Members Present:**           **Mayor Scott Conger, City of Jackson**  
   **Mayor Larry Sanders, Three Way**  
   **Russ McKelvey, Jackson City Council**  
   **Antoine Hawkins, TDOT-OCT**

**Staff/Others Present:**  
**Hannah Mathis, Planning Department**  
**Cody Roberts, TDOT Operations**  
**Gary Scruggs, TDOT Project Development**  
**Shelton Merrell, RPO**  
**Ashley Owens, TDOT-OCT**  
**Thiera Taylor, TDOT-OCT**  
**Rachel Webb, TDOT Project Development**  
**Chris Chilcote, Jackson Police Department**

The MPO Executive Board meeting was called to order and a determination of a quorum was made by Mayor Scott Conger. Mayor Conger welcomed the public and officials in attendance and opened the floor to any member of the public wishing to speak. With no one present from the public, the minutes of June 23, 2022 were unanimously approved as presented. Mayor Conger then asked the group to begin review of the agenda business items.

**Adoption of the 2050 Long Rang Transportation Plan (LRTP)** – Mark Holloran, Gresham Smith, gave a brief presentation and overview of the latest update to the 2050 LRTP, which the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires the MPO to update every five years. The FHWA has reviewed and approved the 2050 LRTP with very few comments.

The Technical Staff recommended approval to adopt the 2050 Long Rang Transportation Plan (LRTP) to the Executive Board.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Mayor Sanders, seconded by Mayor Massey to adopt the 2050 Long Rang Transportation Plan (LRTP). The motion was unanimously approved.

**Adoption of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2023-2026** – Mr. Pilant presented the TIP for FY 2023-2026 to the Executive Board and briefly highlighted short range projects listed within the TIP.

The Technical Staff recommended approval to adopt the TIP for FY 2023-2026 to the Executive Board.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Mayor Massey, seconded by Mayor Sanders to adopt the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2023-2026. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Adoption of the PM1 Safety Targets** – Mr. Pilant presented the PM1 Safety Targets to the Executive Board. Each year, TDOT evaluates certain safety factors on the roadways to come up with targets to improve driver safety. The MPO has elected to accept and adopt TDOT's safety targets.

The Technical Staff recommended approval to adopt the PM1 Safety Targets to the Executive Board.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Mayor Massey, seconded by Mayor Sanders to adopt the PM1 Safety Targets. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Annual Listing of Federally Obligated Projects** – Mr. Pilant presented the annual listing of federally obligated projects for review to the Executive Board and briefly discussed each project. The annual listing of federally obligated projects was prioritized and ranked as follows:

1. (Southern Bypass) SR-186 from SR-1 (Airways Boulevard) to SR-5 (South Highland Avenue) in Jackson (IA)
2. From North of Jared Lane to North of Medon-Malesus Road (IA)
3. (Bolivar Highway) From North of Medon-Malesus Road to US-45 (SR-5) in Jackson (\*\*\*) (IA)

The Technical Staff recommended approval of the priority ranking of the annual listing of federally obligated projects to the Executive Board.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Mayor Sanders, seconded by Mayor Massey to approve the annual listing of federally obligated projects as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Proposed Amendment to the Public Participation Plan (PPP) for comment period from 45 days to 30 days** – Mr. Pilant presented the amendment to the Executive Board. He mentioned that Gresham Smith coordinated with Fairpointe Planning to develop a new Public Participation Plan. This plan also needed significant updating to find new ways to reach the public. A portion of the plan that needed updating was the public comment period. Currently, the public participation plan requires 45 days for public comment, which has created difficulty in meeting deadlines when reviewing various documents. As a result, the public comment period needs to be amended from 45 days to 30 days.

The Technical Staff recommended approval of amending the Public Participation Plan (PPP) for comment period from 45 days to 30 days to the Executive Board.

Afterwards, a motion was made by Mayor Massey, seconded by Mayor Sanders to approve the amendment to the Public Participation Plan (PPP) for comment period from 45 days to 30 days. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Updates** – Cody Roberts, TDOT, discussed updates regarding current and upcoming projects. He stated that the Jones Brothers project was completed November 2022. The current project on Exit 79 has a lane closure on Highway 412 which has caused congestion issues. Also, the I-40 bridge over Hollywood is getting demoed and replaced. Cody also mentioned that there will be some upcoming resurfacing projects starting next year on Highway 70 from downtown going north and on Highway 412.

Gary Scruggs, TDOT Project Development, discussed several status reports on development and preconstruction projects, such as the ITS expansion on I-40, I-40 Interchange Improvement on State Route 138, State Route 186 Southern Bypass and I-40 Interchange Improvement on Christmasville Road.

Antoine Hawkins stated that the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (TEVI) Deployment Plan was approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) which unlocks access to \$88.3 million over the next five years for the construction of electric vehicle charging stations. TDOT is looking into placing the charging stations within the Jackson area along the I-40 corridor. The first allocation is eligible to receive next year. Once build out occurs, the charging infrastructure will be installed every 50 miles. Any excess money can be used to build other charging stations in other corridors in the county.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.