

**Metropolitan Planning Organization
Transportation Policy Committee
March 24, 2014**

Minutes

1. Call to Order

By Mayor Clarence Fields

2. Roll Call

Member present:

Mayor Clarence Fields
Harry Silver
James Branch
Murphy Ledoux
Brandon Buckner
Eric Duck

Mayor Jacques Roy
Mayor Jonathan Dean
Charlie Moore
Joseph Bishop
John Marzullo
Jon Grafton

Other present:

Rich Dupree
Dawn Sholmire
Jonathan Lachney
Chandra Bondzie
Dara Antee
John Miller
Yuwen Hou
Carol Zhou

Albin Provosty
Dan Broussard
Larry Mathews
Delores Brewer
Kay Michiels
Matt Johns
Blake Powell

3. Approval of Minutes (October 2, 2013)

- Motion by Mayor Jacques Roy
- 2nd by Mr. Harry Silver

Passed Unanimously

4. Updates related to the Jackson Street at Horseshoe Roundabout Project

Larry Mathews led the discussion on the Jackson Street at Horseshoe Roundabout Project. This project is a City of Alexandria funded project that dates back to 1980s; and about a year and a half ago, the city started to look at the opportunity to work with the State of Louisiana and move forward on the design of a roundabout in lieu of a signalized intersection. The State of Louisiana will be responsible for the R/W negotiation, and the city will be responsible for all the costs associated with the R/W purchases. Mr. Mathews said he was working with Anna Hanks and that it was possible for the MPO to utilize STP<200k funds to cover the utility purchases at an 80/20 match. The total construction cost is estimated to be about \$1.6 million, and it is state funded. Mr. Mathews continued that if roadway lighting is desired by the city, the associated costs will be the city's responsibility; the requested sidewalks could be constructed with the

STP<200K funds with the match (20%) provided by the city; and that all the costs associated with Project Inspection would be the State's responsibility.

5. Updates on US 71 (MacArthur Drive) Corridor Study Kick-Off Meeting

Keith Sayer presented the summary of discussion from the US 71 (MacArthur Drive) Corridor Study Kick-Off Meeting. ARCADIS has been contracted by LADOTD to perform a Corridor Study for the US 71 corridor, from Sugar House Road to the South Circle (Phase I), and then from the circle to Highway 1 (Phase II). It is anticipated to take a year for each phase. The purpose of the project is to improve mobility and safety on MacArthur Drive. The purpose of the kick-off meeting was to discuss scope, procedures, deliverables, schedule, and near-term milestones for this task order. Mr. Sayer said that the City of Alexandria introduced the topics of pedestrians and bike facilities along the corridor. Mayor Roy asked about "No-Build", Murphy Ledoux confirmed that this project has come up with three alternatives and no build for phase I. Mr. Ledoux also stated that the project was aimed to receive public comments to see what the citizens want, with a major focus on safety and mobility as opposed to lowering the speed.

6. Updates on Alexandria ITS Phase 1 - Kickoff Meeting

Yuwen Hou presented the discussion from the Kickoff meeting for Alexandria ITS Phase I. Attendees discussed the safety issues, wireless link establishment, the location of the signs/cameras etc. The attendees also decided to move the priority of the phase 4 northern DMS up to phase 1.

7. Review and Adoption of 2014-2015 Unified Planning Work Program

Yuwen Hou pointed out that the majority of the UPWP remained the same compared to the previous year. The only changes were the funding figures shown on the last page of the funding matrix. The MPO Policy Committee adopted the UPWP pending public comment. Immediately following the meeting, the UPWP would go for 14-day period public review.

- Motion by Mayor Jacques Roy
- 2nd by Joe Bishop

Passed Unanimously

8. Other Business

Yuwen Hou introduced that RAPC was working on establishing the Central Louisiana Regional Safety Coalition. She presented the planning area, goals, objectives, and anticipated involved entities etc. Matt Johns presented the TMC project and its removal from the TIP based on some rule changes at the federal level. The projects removal from the TIP will result in an additional ~\$1.6 million STP funds available for projects in the area. Jon Grafton shared the great news about the availability for larger passenger jets with more first-class seats at the airport.

9. Adjournment

- Motion by Mr. Joe Bishop
 - 2nd by Mayor Jonathan Dean
- Passed Unanimously

Respectively submitted,

Carol Zhou