

TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE (TPC)

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
Council Chamber - Second Floor
200 East Main Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

Wednesday, January 22, 2014 – 2:30 P.M.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE – Nicholasville Mayor Meyer called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. TPC members in attendance were:

- Russ Meyer – Mayor of Nicholasville
- David Carlstedt – Representing Harold Rainwater, Mayor of Wilmore
- Neal Cassity – Jessamine Co. Judge Executive
- Shevawn Akers – UCG Council Representing Districts 1, 2, 6
- George Myers – UCG Council Representing Dist. 4, 7, 8
- Barry House – Representing Mike Hancock, Secretary Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
- Rocky Burke – LexTran
- Harry Clarke – UCG Council Representing Districts 9, 10, 12
- Derek Paulsen – Representing Jim Gray – Mayor of Lexington
- Chuck Ellinger – UCG Council At Large
- Jon Larson – Fayette Co. Judge Executive
- Bernadette Dupont – FHWA (Non-voting member)

Members absent were:

- Peggy Henson – UCG Council Representing Districts 3, 5, 11
- Steve Kay – UCG Council At Large
- Linda Gorton – Urban County Government Vice-Mayor
- Pam Shepherd, Federated Transit Services of the Bluegrass (FTSB)
- Abigail Rivera – FTA (Non-voting member)

Business items:

1. **Approval Of Minutes** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of October 23, 2013.
2. **Public Comment:**

Liz Hobson resident of Jessamine County spoke about the past, present, and future of the I-75 connector. The past which included one time when it was thought to not be worth doing and another time when it was thought to be a good idea to route it through Garrard County so that it would not have to cross the Kentucky River. The present is a study done by the Department of Transportation in which they suggested that many of the citizens surveyed thought it was a better idea to improve and fix the roads and bridges that are not doing so well and spend money on the infrastructure rather than creating new roads. The future that she would like to suggest in Jessamine and Fayette County is to envision a different kind of future that is not based on building new highways but is based on thinking of better uses of using our money and more thoughtful ways of getting jobs for our citizens as well as getting them through the region. Also, think about a future that does not depend on building a half a billion dollar road.

Nancy Stone spoke on behalf of the Jessamine County Transportation Task Force. Ms. Stone said that she and Judge Cassity have been working on the I-75 connector project since 2005 and Judge Cassity even longer than that. We in Jessamine County are one of the fastest growing counties in the Commonwealth and regardless of what the past has been and what people would like for the future, the reality is we continue to grow and have transportation problems. I sent out a packet with information and traffic counts. There will be a new development that will occur on the corner of Man o War and US-27 which will increase the traffic. We have got to have connectivity. We are suffering mightily because we deal with all the major traffic that is coming through us to Fayette County. We ask that you give this project serious consideration and understand the needs of our county and the possibilities. We trust the Department of Transportation to build this road in a timely manner and with all of the consideration for the environment and the people who live there. We will also be monitoring this project from the beginning to the end.

Information / Discussion Items:

1. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Transportation Planning Process – Ms. Bernadette Dupont gave a presentation on what is a Policy Board (decision-makers that determine the policies for their region) and what is their core functions (establish fair and impartial settings to make regional decisions, involve the public, evaluate transportation alternatives, and help with the development of the four key planning documents which are the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Public Participation (PP), Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)).

Mr. Larson asked if the interconnector road between I-75 and Nicholasville Bypass will come to the TPC for approval. Ms. Dupont said that the TPC would decide if it was to go into the MTP or not. If you do decide to put it in then it would go through the prioritization process which would include the District 7 Office, the KYTC, the State Legislature, and then on to the Governor.

2. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Funding and Project – Mrs. Gleason gave a presentation on what had previously been presented to the TPC which were the Goals and Objectives, national and local travel trends, transportation survey summary, project scoring tool, and the list of locations for evaluation. Then she went on the talk about the financial forecast, the funding scenarios, and the MTP project list. Mrs. Gleason said that we will have a draft MTP by the end of February for our public input meetings in March, and then we will have the final plan ready for review and adoption at the April meeting.

Mr. Conyers said that even with our financial constraints we were able to fund many projects from our project recommendations given the revenue that we will have estimated from the trend data that we received from Mr. House.

3. Other MPO Items:

- FY-2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Mr. Conyers said that the UPWP shows all the Federal, State, and local funds that the MPO is allocated, is arranged by activities and elements, and basically lays out what the staff will be doing in FY-2015. We will bring the document for the committee's approval on April 23, 2014.
- PL Discretionary: Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) – Long Range Transit System Analysis – Mr. Conyers said as part of the UPWP we put in requests for Federal Planning (PL) money for any priority discretionary needs. We have requested \$120,000.00 to supplement LexTran's COA that is done every five years.

We would like for them to look further into the future at things like bus rapid transit (BRT) and other innovative ways to help make our transit system grow.

- Transit Alternatives Analysis – Nicholasville Road / Lexington Road (US-27) - Mr. Conyers said that the transit alternatives analysis from Jessamine County to downtown Fayette County. They are looking at different alternatives. We will ask the consultant to come give a presentation to the committee in March.
- CMAQ, TAP, TE Projects – Mr. Conyers said applications have been submitted on the projects that the committee prioritized.

New / Other Business:

- Any TPC Members Questions / Concerns – none at this time.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

The next meeting of the TPC will be on April 23, 2014 at the Fayette County Council Chambers.