

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 13, 2005 – 1:30 p.m.
Grand Forks City Hall Conference Room A302**

CALL TO ORDER

Earl Haugen, Chairman, called the April 13, 2005, meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee to order at 1:30 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL

On a Call of Roll the following members were present: Ryan Brooks, EGF Planning; Kent Ehrenstrom, MNDOT-Bemidji; Paul Benning, NDDOT-Bismarck; Dan Jonasson, GF Engineering; Dean Wieland, EGF Engineering; Les Noehre, NDDOT-Grand Forks; Roger Foster, Public Transportation; and Dennis Potter, GF City Planner.

Staff present were: Earl Haugen, GF/EGF MPO Executive Director; Lane Magnuson, GF/EGF MPO Planner, Senior; and Peggy McNelis, GF/EGF MPO Executive Assistant.

Guests present were: Wayde Swenson, NDDOT-Bismarck; Sarah Koepke, FHWA-Minnesota; Gary Spicer, Nodak Cab, and Wayne Westling, GF Taxi.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Brooks, seconded by Foster, to approve the March 9th, 2005, minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee, as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

MATTER OF APPROVAL OF DRAFT 2006-2008 T.I.P.

Haugen referred to information included in the packet and explained that it was the same information that was submitted to the public for review and comments. He stated that nobody came in to either office to review the draft document, nor did they receive any comments via the telephone. He added that since this was put out, if you will recall, at the March meeting he handed out a pre-draft list, into which he incorporated all changes and comments he received by the March 23rd deadline, so the draft that was included in the packets includes those comments and changes.

Haugen commented that the draft 2006-2008 T.I.P. is not substantially different from the final 2005-2007 T.I.P. document, with the only additions being the 2006 Pending T.E. Application for the bike trail extension on North 55th Street in Grand Forks; the District's request for an entrance

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sign at 55th and Gateway Drive; and the 2008 transit projects; otherwise, because of the funding, particularly in Grand Forks for the 42nd Street Underpass, the 2008 project is payback of the 2007 underpass and grade separation project, and in East Grand Forks there were no projects for 2008.

Benning referred to Page V-3 of the document, and commented that he has a couple of minor changes that need to be made. He explained that he was just told of these changes yesterday, and that they involve Project 8 – Overlay on U.S. Highway #2, in that the description should be changed to read: “West side of the Grand Forks Air Force Base to two-miles west of Columbia Road”. He stated that in addition to that change, the dollar value also changed, so the new total should be \$1.927 million, the federal should be \$1,560,000, and the State should be \$367,000.

Benning reported that Grand Forks’ 2006 T.E. project on 55th Street and University was selected for funding. Haugen asked if the NDDOT’s request for an entrance sign on 55th, was selected as well. Benning responded that it was not.

Benning stated that the MPO’s program sheets back at the office, and after adding these changes to them, he will get them out by April 22nd.

Jonasson reported that he has a couple of minor changes as well. He referred to Page V-3, Project #6, and stated that the remarks need to be deleted as they are from a prior T.I.P., and are no longer true. He then referred to Page V-4, Project #9, and pointed out that the description should read: “Construction of Collector between 20th Street South and Ruummele Road”, not Columbia Road.

Haugen opened the public hearing. There was no one present to speak on this item.

Haugen asked if either Mr. Benning or Mr. Ehrenstrom knew if, should Congress adopt the Reauthorization, and the numbers the MPO has been working off of were to increase, any thought had gone into what we will do between now and final draft. Both Mr. Benning and Mr. Ehrenstrom responded that there hadn’t been any thought given to that, however, Mr. Benning noted that they are waiting for Federal Highway, and that some T.I.P. amendments may be necessary.

Haugen added that this 2006-2008 T.I.P., from the MPO’s perspective, will be completed in July or August, so we may need to amend the 2005-2007 T.I.P., or, in Minnesota’s case, the 2004-2006 T.I.P., as they didn’t approve a 2005-2007 T.I.P..

Moved by Brooks, seconded by Potter, to close the public hearing, and forward a recommendation to the MPO Executive Policy Board that they approve the Draft FY2006-2008 T.I.P., subject to inclusion of the above noted amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

MATTER OF APPROVAL OF I.T.S. REGIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Haugen reported that the MPO has gone through a two-year process, with ATAC, to create a Regional Architecture Plan for the Grand Forks/East Grand Forks Metropolitan Area. He said

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that back in March he did e-mail everyone the location of a web-site from which you could download the entire document. He pointed out that a copy of the executive summary was included in the packet for review.

Haugen commented that there is a requirement that this plan be approved in April of this year, and a copy of a letter from Federal Highway in Bismarck, indicating that they believe that this plan is in compliance with the requirements of 23 CFR, Part 940, which pertains to ITS Architecture, was included in the packets as well.

Moved by Potter, seconded by Brooks, to approve the Regional ITS Architecture Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Letter To MPO's Regarding Second Half Of Progress Report For 2004

Benning reported that he sent a letter to the Grand Forks/East Grand Forks MPO, and to the other MPOs as well, concerning the second half of their Progress Reports for 2004. He explained that the letter essentially states that the MPO has a contract with NDDOT for it's Unified Work Program, and if amendments are required to that document, the MPO needs to submit those requests to the NDDOT in writing.

Haugen asked if this was a letter that was still coming, as he doesn't recall seeing anything such as this yet. Benning responded that it was in the mail, and that the MPO should be receiving it very soon. He gave a brief overview on what is being required. Haugen commented that, as he understands this, this is something that the MPO has already been doing.

2. ITS Variable Message Sign

Noehre commented that he has added another decision item into the Highway #2 PCR, and that is to include a variable message sign in the ITS Plan on Highway #2. Haugen asked if he was going to ask for this, or is it already programmed. Noehre responded that they are going to put it into the PCR as a decision item.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Foster, seconded by Brooks, to adjourn the April 13, 2005, Technical Advisory Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Peggy McNelis
Executive Assistant