

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
Minutes for Tuesday, February 13th, 2018 Meeting

Voting Members

Keith Browning (Douglas County Public Works Director)
Scott McCullough (Lawrence-Douglas County Planning & Development)
Leslie Herring (Eudora)
Bob Nugent (Lawrence Transit)
Danny Kaiser (KU on Wheels)
Ed Courton (Baldwin City)
Allison Smith (KDOT)
Aaron Quisenberry (KU on Wheels)

Non-Voting Members

Chris Tilden (Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department)

Staff

Jessica Mortinger (Senior Transportation Planner)
Ashley Myers (Transportation Planner)

Others

Charles Fertig

1. Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Ed Courton called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM. A quorum was present.

2. Public Comment

No public comment was made.

3. Action Item: Approval of minutes from the January 2, 2018 meeting

Ed Courton asked if anyone had changes to the minutes from the January 2nd meeting. Allison Smith moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Keith Browning and passed unanimously, 7-0.

4. Action Item: Recommend Approval of TIP Amendment 4

Ashley Myers presented the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 4. There was one new KDOT project which is to complete access consolidation on 23rd St east of Naismith Dr. and seven other projects adjusting funding and project years. She stated two public comments were received regarding the Sante Fe Depot Restoration project. One was in support of the project and the other was from KDOT adjusting the funding on the project based on the signed contract.

Bob Nugent arrived.

Keith Browning moved to recommend approval of the amendment; the motion was seconded by Allison Smith and passed unanimously, 8-0.

5. Action Item: Recommend Approval of the Crash Analysis and Countermeasure Identification Study

Jessica Mortinger presented the crash analysis, which digs deeper into specific roadway characteristics and crash data to propose countermeasures to improve safety. Ms. Mortinger explained that EXCESS Expected Average Crash Frequency (EEACF) was calculated for every intersection of roadways throughout Douglas County. Average Crash Frequency (ACF) is determined based on how many crashes occur each year at a particular location. Expected ACF is calculated based on intersection type, posted speed and volumes using the Highway Capacity Manual. EEACF shows the difference between the observed and expected crashes at

each intersection. If a site has positive excess, it shows that the site has a potential for safety improvements and merits further investigation. This is a new approach to prioritizing safety and the MPO staff and county public works departments agreed they will need to work to develop the process to incorporate EEACF into consideration for project identification and prioritization.

Keith Browning asked what .437 indicated. Ms. Mortinger responded that .437 means that the intersection saw .437 more crashes annually than expected. Ed Courton asked whether the road geometry is the same for each intersection in the model. Ms. Mortinger responded by saying no, that each intersection is unique by road classification type, posted speed and traffic volume from the travel demand model. Aaron Quisenberry asked whether there is data on the age of drivers available and Jessica Mortinger responded that yes, it could be investigated. Keith Browning moved to recommend approval of the Crash Analysis and Countermeasure Identification Study; the motion was seconded by Leslie Herring and passed unanimously, 8-0.

6. Action Item: Recommend Approval of the Safety Target Setting

Ashley Myers presented the proposed safety targets, which were based on discussion at last month's TAC meeting. It was determined the MPO should set our own targets rather than accept the State's as it is more localized and meaningful to our residents and planning process. These safety targets are due by February 27, which is before T2040 is expected to be approved in March. Therefore, these targets need to be set in February and incorporated into T2040. MPO staff calculated the difference between the annual averages to determine a ratio to be applied to the data to create trend lines for each of the five data sets. This evaluation included examining VMT, which according to the T2040 model is expected to increase by 2% every year. Five year rolling averages were created for each data set and plotted on a graph. Keith Browning asked what is the consequence if we don't meet our targets? Jessica Mortinger said we have to include a discussion of performance measures in the TIP - how the selected projects will help us meet our targets and eventually why we are or not meeting our targets. Ms. Mortinger indicated that the proposed safety targets are anticipated outcomes, while transit (another federally required performance measure) are desired outcomes. Allison Smith said this is the first 5 performance measures. The next set will begin in May. Some MPO's set aspirational goals for targets with trend data.

Ed Courton said as more people walk and bike as a correlation to more education and encouragement; it is probable there will be more bicyclist and pedestrian crashes and could be a challenge in the future. It makes sense mathematically that more people doing something will lead to more crashes. Ms. Mortinger indicated that this is the first step in performance based planning and tracking the data as well as the projects, policies and programs will be important as we move forward. She also noted that the targets could be revised and will be annual evaluated as part of the MPO planning process. Leslie Herring moved to recommend approval of the safety target setting; the motion was seconded by Keith Browning and passed unanimously, 8-0.

7. Quick Updates

T2040 Update – The period for public comment ends on March 2nd. The timeline for prepping for approval is tight. The March TAC agenda has to be sent out prior to the end of the public comment period. Once all the comments have been addressed the revised draft will be sent to TAC.

Walkability Action Institute – The City of Lawrence received a grant from The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors. A team of six will be going to Atlanta in April to work on walkability in Lawrence.

8. Other Business

Ed Courton asked about the CTAA report, stating he believes there is some momentum. Ashley Myers said a representative from the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) conducted a site visit to discuss potential transit services in Baldwin City and Eudora in October. He provided a draft report, which the Regional Transit Advisory Committee (RTAC) commented on. The report is currently being revised by

CTAA. RTAC plans to accept the report at their next meeting and then MPO staff and RTAC members will meet with representatives from Eudora and Baldwin City.

9. Next Meeting: March 6, 2018 or another date set by the TAC

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 PM.