



NASHVILLE AREA

# Metropolitan Planning Organization

## MPO Executive Board

Wednesday, April 19 | 9:00 AM

Second Floor Conference Room of the Nashville MTA Music City Central Station

400 Charlotte Avenue in Nashville, Tennessee

**1. ACTION ITEM: Approve March 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes (attachment)**

**2. Public Comment**

**3. MPO Chair's Report**

**4. INFORMATION: Creative Placemaking Symposium and Community Engagement**

Senior Policy Analyst, Rochelle Carpenter will present on the MPO's recent creative community engagement activities, including a symposium held in March. The Creative Placemaking Symposium was the first hosted by the MPO. MPO staff and speakers provided an overview of the emerging practice of artistic/creative public engagement to plan transportation projects.

Rochelle has been the MPO's lead staffer on creative community engagement initiatives. She has facilitated "Envision Nolensville Pike," a process to creatively engage community members and business owners along the corridor to identify, design and build desired safety and roadway improvements along the BRT Lite route. She has also worked with artists to design robust public engagement tactics along Jefferson Street in North Nashville. And she has been part of conversations across the country to bring artistic practice into transportation planning for the past three years.

**5. INFORMATION: MPO/GNRC Joint Committee Update (attachment)**

During the February Executive Board meeting, the MPO/GNRC Joint Committee presented its recommendation that the Nashville Area MPO program integrate with the GNRC. The MPO Executive Committee endorsed the recommendation. The GNRC Board also endorsed the Joint Committee's recommendation. On April 11, the Joint Committee met to discuss specific issues related to the integration process and develop further guidance to the MPO and GNRC Boards. During this meeting, the committee voted to move forward, providing a timeline of proposed actions to accomplish integration and suggested steps for each of the boards to take.

Joint Committee Co-Chair Mayor Reed will present the committee's recommendations and timeline to the MPO Executive Board, highlight the specific efforts the MPO will need to address, beginning the discussion regarding bylaw changes and the development of an MOU with the GNRC Board. There is no specific action requested of the board at this time.

To review the FAQs and additional documents related to the Joint Committee's process to-date, visit [COG.nashvillempo.org](http://COG.nashvillempo.org).

**6. Director's Report**

- MPO Membership Dues
- FY 18 UPWP schedule

**7. Other Business**

**8. Adjourn until May 17, 2017**

**AGENDA ITEM 1 : Approve March 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

**MINUTES**  
**Of the**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**of the**  
**Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**March 22, 2017**

Attendees: Mr. KB Aboagye (for Gov. Bill Haslam), Mayor Rogers Anderson, Ms. Kim Ark (for Executive Anthony Holt), Mayor Bernie Ash, Mr. Steve Bland, Vice-Mayor David Briley, Mayor Paige Brown, Ms. Jill Burgin, Mayor Patti Carroll, Mayor Jamie Clary, Mayor John Coombs, Mayor Rick Graham, Mr. Gerald Herman (for Mayor Michael Arnold), Mayor Randall Hutto, Mr. Jim Kerr (for Mayor Shane McFarland), Ms. Pam Kordenbrock, Mr. Ken Martin (for Mayor Ed Hagerty), Mr. Ken McLawhon (for Mayor Jimmy Alexander), Ms. Caryn Miller (for Mayor Timothy Lassiter), Mayor Charlie Norman, Mayor Mary Esther Reed, Mayor Ann Schneider, Mayor Ken Wilber

**Approve February 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Randall Hutto, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Rick Graham moved to approve the February 15, 2017 meeting minutes. Mayor Patti Carroll seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Adopt Proposed Amendments to FY 2017-2020 TIP**

Ms. Michelle Lacewell, Interim MPO director, said that the following proposed amendments to the *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* have been out for the required 21-day public review and comment period. She said that the second of the two required public hearings prior to adoption by the Board held today.

Mayor Hutto opened the public hearing. There were no comments. Mayor Hutto closed the public hearing

Mayor Ken Wilber moved to adopt the proposed amendments to the FY 2017-2020 TIP with Mr. Jim Kerr seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

More information is available at [NashvilleMPO.org/plans\\_programs/tip/](http://NashvilleMPO.org/plans_programs/tip/).

<b>Amendment #</b>	<b>TIP #</b>	<b>RTP #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Action</b>
2017-002	2006-408	1062-160	SR-6/US-31/Franklin Road	TDOT	Add funds; clarify termini; update project length
2017-003	2009-72-036	1072-348	SR-109 Reconstruction & Widening	TDOT	Add funds; edit project length; clarify project description
2017-004	2016-82-230	1042-231	SR-96 Widening	TDOT	Add funds; edit project length; clarify project description
2017-005	2017-47-019	Consistent	Rutherford Boulevard Adaptive Signal Control	Murfreesboro	Add project
2017-006	2017-56-020	Consistent	Nashville Pike Sidewalk	Gallatin	Add project
2017-007	2017-59-021	Consistent	White House Cleaner Emissions Dump Trucks	White House	Add project
2017-008	2017-59-022	Consistent	Sumner County Cleaner Emissions Dump Trucks	Sumner County	Add project
2017-009	2017-59-023	Consistent	Gallatin Diesel Emissions Reduction	Gallatin	Add project
2017-010	2017-59-024	Consistent	Hendersonville Diesel Equipment Replacement	Hendersonville	Add project
2017-011	2017-77-025	Consistent	Lebanon ITS Phase 1	Lebanon	Add project
2017-012	2017-19-026	Consistent	Nashville Complete Trips: Transportation Demand Management Program	Metro Nashville	Add project
2017-013	2017-49-027	Consistent	Rutherford County Zero Emissions Vehicles	Rutherford County	Add project
2017-014	2017-19-028	Consistent	TDOT Region 3 Diesel Emissions Reduction Project	TDOT	Add project

## **SCHEDULE:**

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- *2/1 – TCC Endorsement for Public Comment and Review*
- *2/15 – XB Endorsement for Public Comment and Review*
- *2/16-3/15 – Public Review and Comment Period*
- *3/1 – First Public Hearing (TCC)*
- **3/15– Second Public Hearing / Adoption (XB)**

### **IMPROVE Act Presentation**

Ms. Lacewell thanked the board members for their flexibility with the last minute meeting date change from March 15<sup>th</sup> due to President Trump's Nashville visit. She said that due to the date change Commissioner Schroer was unable to attend to give the scheduled presentation. Mr. KB Aboagye requested that jurisdictions that have passed a resolution supporting the bill to please send him a copy and he will make sure that it gets to the right person.

### **Director's Report**

- Update on the MPO/GNRC Joint Committee Work  
Mayor Mary Esther Reed said that since the Board voted for the full integration of the MPO and the GNRC, the timeline for research on how this integration will work was extended two (2) months. The committee is working through the process to show how any challenges (staffing/HR/legal/fiscal/programming, etc.) would be handled. There have been two stakeholder meetings that raised several other questions on timeline, make-up of committees and processes, and need for significant lead-time to develop solutions related to contracting concerns. The joint committee will meet on March 29<sup>th</sup> to review the staff's drafted FAQs and timeline for action, and will be updating the board during the April meeting.

Mayor Hutto asked what the next steps are. Ms. Lacewell said that at the joint committee meeting the structure of the organization and the program management will be discussed, hopefully to have answers to the questions that have been raised. Mayor Hutto asked if there have been a lot of questions from the mayors. Ms. Lacewell said that most questions have been expressed in conversations with each mayor individually but documented to shape the committee's work.

Ms. Pam Kordenbrock said that FHWA has been involved with the joint committee and is looking forward to getting more information once the formal decision has been voted on.

Ms. Lacewell said that she, Mr. Michael Skipper, Ms. Shelly Hazle, and Mr. Sean Pfalzer went to the Weil Wright Symposium in Atlanta. She said that she and Mr. Skipper were members of a panel discussing regional governance.

- FY 2018 UPWP  
Ms. Lacewell said that the draft FY 2018 UPWP is at TDOT for review. Adoption will be in August.
- MPO Membership Dues  
Ms. Lacewell said that staff will present an increase in MPO dues for FY18. The increase will be presented to the Executive Committee next week for review prior to sending to the full board. She said the Board will receive this information within the coming week budgeting purposes. Vice-Mayor David Briley asked if the dues are based on population. Ms. Lacewell said yes. Vice-Mayor Briley said that someone needs to come to the Metro Budget hearing to explain this. Ms. Lacewell said she would be happy to.

### **Other Business**

Mayor Rogers Anderson said that the Governor's IMPROVE act which has been amended made it through the Senate committee yesterday by unanimous vote. He said that the attachment which allows major cities and the surrounding counties around Davidson County to have a referendum on how to raise dedicated transit funding. This attachment is getting positive feedback and is moving strongly through the process. Mr. Steve Bland agreed. Mayor Anderson said that the structure on the ability to create a funding mechanism on the local level – how to pay for transit long-term is very important. He said that this is about the entire state, not just about Davidson County.

Ms. Jo Ann Graves said that in the House the votes for the IMPROVE Act are tighter than in the Senate and we need to contact our legislators to show support. She said that most of the public only sees this as a tax increase even though it is a tax decrease given the cuts that Governor has requested. The Legislators need to hear from those who support this bill. Ms. Lacewell said that the local options need to be open to as many ways to raise revenue as possible. Mr. Gerald Herman said that the noting that the gas tax increase needs to also promote that there will be a tax decrease on other items.

Mayor Graham said that the meetings on the Hill are live-streamed so you don't have to go to the meeting to see what is going on.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Honorable Randall Hutto  
Chairman, MPO Executive Board

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Michelle Lacewell, Interim MPO Director  
Secretary, Executive Board

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Joint Committee Recommendation and Proposed Actions**

# MPO/GNRC Joint Committee Recommendation and Proposed Action by Boards

## Updated April 11, 2017

### Joint Committee Recommendation to MPO and GNRC Boards

After considering the goals established by the MPO/GNRC Memorandum of Agreement, the Joint Committee recommends that the Nashville Area MPO program be integrated into the GNRC. Doing so would help streamline and improve regional coordination among local governments across Middle Tennessee, align infrastructure planning with economic development initiatives, and bring Middle Tennessee in line with the state of practice in peer regions.

### Requested Actions of the MPO and GNRC Boards in April/ May

1. **Formal adoption of recommendation through a joint resolution** which signifies a commitment of each organization to integrate the MPO program into the Regional Council and calls upon TDOT to begin the process to reassign the federal planning grant contracts which fund MPO operations and studies from Metro Nashville to GNRC. (**MAY**)
2. **Execution of a newly drafted Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)** that identifies the roles of the respective boards in implementing the recommendation, to include the subsequent actions detailed in the sections below. (**MAY**)

### Subsequent Actions of the MPO Board - May through October

1. **Adopt or amend federally-required documents** including the *Prospectus*, *Unified Planning Work Program*, and *Public Participation Plan* to reflect the integration of the MPO program into GNRC.
  - a. Identify role of GNRC as the staffing support, contracting authority, and fiscal agent to the federally-required transportation policy board for Davidson, Maury, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, and Wilson counties (known now as the Nashville Area MPO),
  - b. Update the MPO Sponsorship Policy contained in the *Prospectus* to reflect the change in sponsor from Metro Nashville to GNRC,
  - c. Update the organization structure of the MPO board and committees and relate their functions to the organizational structure of the Regional Council.
2. **Amend the organizational bylaws** to reflect changes resulting from integration:
  - a. Update changes in board composition (remove GNRC as a voting member) and address the recent elimination of population-proportionate voting weights of local governments,
  - b. Rename the MPO executive director position to MPO coordinator (to be consistent with other MPOs in TN),
  - c. Address any changes in the duties of the board, chairman, and finance and audit committee.
3. **Execute a “Transportation Policy and Planning Agreement”** with the GNRC to formalize the relationship between the MPO board and the Regional Council in the development, adoption, and amendment of federally-required MPO plans and programs including the Regional Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the Unified Planning Work Program.

## Subsequent Actions of the GNRC Board – May through October

1. **Amend the Regional Council bylaws** to reflect changes resulting from integration:
  - a. Delineate regional transportation planning as a role of the GNRC,
  - b. Establish/ recognize the MPO/ Transportation Policy Board, its ability to establish its own set of organizational bylaws, and its authority to act independently in order to adopt/ amend federally-required transportation plans and program.
2. **Delineate a process with Metro Nashville** to transfer MPO program staff, consultant contracts, capital assets/ equipment, and financial books from Metropolitan Planning Commission to Regional Council.
3. **Review and update agency policies and procedures** related to personnel and procurement, as necessary.
4. **Execute a “Transportation Policy and Planning Agreement”** with the MPO board to formalize the relationship between the MPO and the Regional Council in the development, adoption, and amendment of federally-required MPO plans and programs including the Regional Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the Unified Planning Work Program.
5. **Incorporate MPO activities into the GNRC Annual Work Program and Budget.**
6. **Execute federal planning grant contracts with TDOT** to begin administering the MPO program.

## Additional Considerations for the GNRC Board related to Transportation Planning

1. **Work with the RPO Board, TDOT, and Mid-Cumberland HRA** to evaluate the integration of the rural transportation planning functions into the Regional Council.
2. **Work with the Clarksville Urbanized Area MPO and TDOT** to identify the preferred method to coordinate on the development of a regional transportation plan and regional funding strategies.