



Call to Order/Opening Business

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes for January 25th, 2024
3. Public Comment

Presentations/Action Items

1. Presentation of the Safe-Routes-to-School Plan (501 Elementary Schools) (Sent out) **Toole Design Group**

Toole will present the Final Draft of the SRTS Plan, at which time they will take questions. Upon completion of presentation and Q&A, the MTPO will request final approval, pending any significant amendments that may be warranted.

Quick Updates

None

Adjourn



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CITY OF TOPEKA
METROPOLITAN TOPEKA PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY BOARD

MINUTES

January 25, 2024

Voting Members present: Sylvia Ortiz, Corey Dehn, Marcus Miller, Mike Moriarty, Bob Nugent, Bill Riphahn (6)
(via video conference)

Voting Members absent: Brett Kell (1)

City Staff present: Rhiannon Friedman, Planning & Development Director; Carlton Scroggins, Transportation Planning Manager; Taylor Ricketts-Wolfe, Transportation Planner; Amanda Tituana-Feijoo, Administration Officer

Welcome – Mrs. Ortiz called the meeting to order with 5 members logged in for a quorum.

Approval of Minutes for October 26, 2023 - Motion by Mr. Miller to approve, second by Ms. Ortiz
Approved 5-0-0

Public Comments – NA

Election of 2024 Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Scroggins explained that there is typically a rotation for the Chair and in the past, it has been common for the KDOT representative to serve as Vice Chair. A representative of KDOT is always required to attend so they would always be available to fill in if the Chair is absent.

It was noted that the Planning Commission Representative would be next in line in the rotation, however, Mr. Dehn stated that his term as the representative would be up at the February Planning Commission meeting. The next representative in line would be a city council representative. Ms. Ortiz asked for a nomination from the floor between the three city council members. Ms. Ortiz nominated herself as the 2024 Chair and Mr. Moriarty as the 2024 Vice Chair. This was seconded by Mr. Miller. Approved 5-0.

Ms. Ortiz took the gavel.

Action Items:

Mitch Coffman with Toole, presented on the Bikeways Circulation Study

The purpose of the “Bikeways Circulation Study” is to advance the network recommendations while refreshing the bike plan goals to guide future project selection. This study is a part of the Fast –Track Bike plan. There is a short list of “grant -ready” projects to be completed by 2030 using already committed sales tax funds. Changes will be made to current routes and facilities, as well as new routes and trails, so that all levels of cyclists can feel comfortable.

Councilman Miller asked about timelines regarding some of the projects, along with the responsibility for the projects.

Mr. Scroggins stated these were a part of the Bikeways Master Plan, that was originally adopted in 2011. It is made up of several different phases, and there is some tax money set aside for projects such as these. The money is basically set aside to help leverage grants.

Councilwoman Hiller asked about the map on Adams and if it could indicate more detail regarding the access points to Downtown, as well as the ones to East Topeka. Ms. Hiller stated that connecting the trails through East Topeka is important.

Councilwoman Hiller asked about the different cultural things going on, and why they haven't been considered in the transportation. There is art installation project going on, and if there would be an intent to have that displayed on First or Fourth Street.

Councilwoman Hiller raised the issue of signage throughout Topeka while riding bikes. Washburn University has access to 17th street as a high priority.

Mr. Scroggins stated he received the comments from Councilwoman Hiller, and they were forwarded on. Mr. Scroggins also stated that some of the suggestions were more high level, and planned on making some of the suggestions as addendums to the plan. Staff will have access to the maps and plans as well.

Councilwoman Hiller asked if the city trails have been synched up with the county trail plans. Ms. Ricketts-Wolfe stated that everything has been synched up. Staff has talked to everyone, but all plans were in the initial stages.

Mr. Riphahn agrees that the 17th Corridor can be enhanced and has long been overlooked. It could be a major corridor for the city.

Councilwoman Ortiz brought up the "rough ride" going under the railroad bridge by 25th street. Mr. Scroggins stated that they are having a similar issue with 15th street under the railroad bridge as you approach Adams.

Motion by Mr. Dehn, seconded by Mr. Miller to accept this plan of the Bikeways Master Plan. Approved 6-0

2024-2027 TIP-Amendment 1

Mr. Scroggins reviewed the amendment projects and took questions as they were asked.

- a. **7-24-01-4: (New Project) TMTA:** Upgrade 2023 Low or No-Emission (Low-No) Grant Program. Topeka Metro will replace four diesel fixed route buses with four electric buses, replace three gasoline paratransit buses with three electric vans, and add four additional electric vans to operate microtransit service. Topeka Metro will also be adding the charging infrastructure to support these eleven new vehicles.
- b. **KA-6480-01: (Revision) KDOT:** Bridge Replacements. U.S. 24: bridges #104 and #105 (over U.S. 24 highway) at the east U.S. 24/Old U.S. 75 highway junction (southbound and northbound)
- c. **KA-6930-01: (Revision) KDOT:** Bridge repair. US-75: Bridge #162 (north and south lanes of I-70 and ramp from I-70 to northbound US-75) located at the east junction of I-70 and US-75 south end with gate in Topeka.
- d. **KA-6932-01: (Revision) KDOT:** Bridge repair. I-70: Bridge #039 (on California Avenue over I-70) located at the Junction of California Avenue and I-70 in Topeka

- e. **KA-7316-03: (New Project) KDOT: K-4: North End Kansas River Br., N and NE to SN/JF Co Line.** Preliminary Engineering for grading, bridges and surfacing to construct 2-Lanes on a 4-Lane freeway section, including the addition of 2 loop ramps at US-24 and a future proposed interchange at 35th St. This project includes re-evaluation of the Environmental Assessment (EA), ROW acquisition and Public Involvement. *****PE & ROW phases active ONLY*****

Amendment has been out for Public comment: No comments were received.

(Request approval to submit to OneDot for including into STIP)

Motion by Mr. Nugent to approve so that the amendment can forwarded to OneDot; **Second** by Mr. Dehn.

APPROVED 6-0-0

Updates:

Safe-Routes-To-School phase Study I

Ms. Ricketts- Wolfe stated that Toole should have something ready for review around February 9, 2024, and the final presentation will be held at via zoom on February 22, 2024.

2024 Studies

Mr. Scroggins stated that this includes updating the pedestrian master plan, and possibly a “Safe- Routes- to - School” study for middle schools.

Councilwoman Ortiz stated that Shaner is now an Early HeadStart Program, and asked how the “Safe- Routes To – School” study would affect them.

Ms. Ricketts-Wolfe stated that “WSP” is starting to look at drop off and pickup times, but they weren’t included in the first study. There will be information provided that an “In-House” study might be able to look at yet.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35PM