

Dale Hollow RPO Technical Committee and Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
Upper Cumberland Development District, Cookeville, TN  
November 17, 2021  
Held virtually and in person

**Technical Members Present:** Mark Dudney, Evan White, Chris Ballou, Ray Evans (Vice Chair - Virtually), Dr. Doug Young, Tommy Lee, Chuck Sutherland, Hope Vargas (Virtually), Jacob Rosenbaum, Mary Turner (Virtually), Holly Montooth, Mark Farley, Tara Wohlgemuth and Sam Edwards

**Executive Members Present:** Dale Reagan (Chair), Mark Dudney, Jimmy Johnson, Randy Heady, Lloyd Williams, Curtis Hayes via proxy Ray Evans (Virtually), Jeff Mason, John Potts, Stephen Chambers via proxy (Sam Edwards), Carey Garner, Steve Jones and Jerry Wilmore

**Others Present:** Andrea Noel, Ian Preston, Tara Wohlgemuth, Jeff Harper, Sarah Murray, Kevin Layne, Rachael Bergmann, Robert Rodgers, Jonathan Wellemeyer, Garriss Bugg, Charly Lyons, Silas Stoddart, Matt Billings, Marcie Ackerman, Jonathan Russell (Virtually) and Lisa Cross (Virtually)

**Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, these committee meetings were held simultaneously.**

**Welcome & Introduction:**

Mark Dudney welcomes the Dale Hollow RPO Committee members at 10:03 a.m. Mr. Dudney outlines the contents of the packet provided and welcomed three new members. Mr. Dudney called the meeting to order and approve the minutes of the last meeting.

**Technical Committee Call to Order and Roll Call:**

At 10:04 a.m. Mr. Dudney calls the Technical Committee to order and conducts a roll call of the Technical Committee. It is announced that a quorum has been obtained.

**Approval of May 20, 2021 Technical Committee Meeting minutes:**

Mark Dudney opens floor for the approval of the May 20, 2021, meeting minutes. Dr. Doug Young makes a motion to approve, the motion is seconded by Evan White. The motion passes unanimously.

**Executive Committee Call to Order and Roll Call:**

At 10:10 a.m. Dale Reagan, the Executive Board Chair, calls the board to order. Mark Dudney conducts a roll call of the Executive Board and announces that a quorum has been obtained.

**Approval of May 20, 2021 Technical Committee Meeting minutes:**

Mark Dudney opens floor for the approval of the May 20, 2021, meeting minutes. Steve Jones makes a motion to approve, the motion is seconded by Carey Garner. The motion passes unanimously.

**Presentation of Dale Hollow RPO updates:  
Multimodal Access Grants (MMAG)**

The Dale Hollow RPO submitted a re-submittal application for Hartsville/Trousdale County. This proposed project was for sidewalk work/construction.

**Community Transportation Planning Grants (CTPG)**

All four submissions were funded.

Byrdstown working with Neel-Schaffer on a corridor study on SR 111 access points

Lafayette working with Neel-Schaffer on a community mobility study of the square and industrial access

Gainesboro working with Stantec on a community mobility study (waived match)

Jamestown working with Gresham Smith on a complete streets plan (waived match)

Mr. Dudney reminded the committees this year's round was open until the end of the year and there was a 10% match (waived for distressed and at-risk communities).

**Rural Planning Initiative (RuPI – Pilot Project)**

Three of the six applications submitted were funded and have been bundled together. Mattern and Craig is working with Jackson County, Gainesboro and Celina on re-surfacing and striping plans.

**National Scenic Byway Applications**

In February it was announced The Cumberland Historic Byway has been designated a National Scenic Byway now known as Cumberland National Scenic Byway. The byway is roughly 156 miles and has the new tagline of "From the Cumberland Gap to the Cumberland River." Mr. Dudney will be reaching out to various members about a steering committee soon.

**ADA Compliance**

TDOT is finalizing its annual ADA compliance report. Entities with more than 50 employees (full-time and part-time totaled together) are required to complete and maintain an ADA Transition plan.

**Project Prioritization with Andrea Noel**

Ms. Noel explained the importance and the process of prioritizing projects. Stressed that this was important because once funding was received and two communities had a project for the same amount, but one was prioritized higher, that would be the one to get funded.

**TC Survey Results**

Mr. Dudney listed the projects in the right-of-way or construction phases in the order they were ranked as:

- Fentress: SR-28/ US-127- (S. York Hwy) From Near Little Road in Clarkrange to North Kilby Road (IA). This project ranked 4th in 2019 and 1st in 2020.
- Fentress-Pickett: SR-28/ US-127 (S. York Hwy.) From North of Jamestown to SR-111 (Sport Improvements). This project ranked 2nd in 2019 and 2nd in 2020.
- Clay: SR 52 from near Kyle St. to existing SR 52 near Washington St. (Celina Bypass) This project ranked 6th in 2019 and 5th in 2020.
- Overton: SR 52 (Jamestown Hwy.) Intersections at Claude Smith Rd., and SR 85 and Bolestown Rd. (IA). This project ranked 5th in 2019 and 4th in 2020.

- Trousdale: SR-141 North of SR-10 to Near the intersection of Cedar Bluff Road (IA). This project ranked 3rd in 2019 and 3rd in 2020.
- Jackson-Putnam: SR 96. From SR 53 to US 70 N (SR 24). Spot improvements (IA). This project is too early in the design stage to add a rank.

The results of the Preliminary Engineering Projects (in order):

- Trousdale-Macon: SR 10 (Hartsville Rd.) Safety improvements from Hartsville to Lafayette (IA).
- Macon: SR 56 Various safety projects (IA).
- Smith: I-40 Caney Fork River Welcome Center renovation (IA).

Chuck Sutherland made a motion to recommend those rankings to the Executive Board and Mark Farley seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed with all ayes.

#### **EB Vote to approve TC prioritization rankings**

Jimmy Johnson made the motion to approve the ranking and Dale Reagan seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed with all ayes.

#### **UCHRA Updates**

Lloyd Williams let the committees know the Upper Cumberland was awarded a \$300,000 transportation planning grant to cover all fourteen (14) counties.

Smith County was awarded \$50,000 for a park and ride. The grant also provided another \$25,000 for an additional park and ride to be located somewhere in the Upper Cumberland.

Mr. Williams also mentioned twenty (20) bus shelters are planned to be constructed soon.

#### **RPO Program Survey Results**

Rachael Bergmann from TDOT discussed survey results from earlier in the year. There were nineteen (19) questions and Ms. Bergmann mentioned most of the results the state received came from the Dale Hollow RPO. She explained TDOT looks at the results as the RPO in general as a whole entity.

#### **Other Business/Public Comment**

Steve Jones asked about the 141 project. He had been told it was the most “shovel ready” project but nothing had been done. Ian Preston from TDOT apologized and said he did not have any new update. Jeff Mason said he would withdraw the Smith County Welcome Center if it would help get the exit ramp at Gordonsville on Interstate 40 fixed. Mr. Preston said that could be removed if the committee voted to remove it. No further action was taken.

There was a brief discussion regarding why votes were being cast on items that had already been funded. Following that was discussion on the safety issues where Highway 10 and Highway 25 merge. Mr. Dudley said a Road Safety Audit was something that could be done or a CTPG could be applied for to do a corridor study there. Ms. Noel mentioned they could put flashing lights or something to make people aware of the possible dangers.

Finally, Mr. Farley asked for an update on the transportation bill, but there was no real update to provide.

#### **Adjourn Meeting:**

With no other business to discuss both the Technical Committee and Executive Board meetings were adjourned at 11:19 a.m.