

Center Hill RPO Technical & Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Upper Cumberland Development District, Cookeville, TN
November 17, 2021
Held virtually and in person

Technical Members Present: James Mills (Chair), Tim Begley, Tim Stribling via proxy Tommy Lee, Tara Wohlgemuth, Kevin Rush, Dean Selby, Mark Farley, Holly Montooth, Tommy Lee, Katie Kemezis, Kevin Robinson, Silas Stoddart

Executive Members Present: Denny Wayne Robinson (Chair), Tim Stribling via proxy Tommy Lee, Allen Foster, James Mayberry via proxy Tim Begley, Josh Miller via proxy Kevin Robinson, Randy Porter via proxy Kevin Rush, Ricky Shelton via proxy James Mills, Silas Stoddart

Others Present: Jim Herrin, Jon Ward, Angela Regittco, Robert Rodgers, Ian Preston, Sarah Murray, Jonathan Wellemeier, Rachael Bergmann, Garriss Bugg, Stacy Morrison, Mark Dudney, Chuck Sutherland, Matt Billings, Marcie Ackerman

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

Welcome & Introduction:

Silas Stoddart welcomed the Center Hill RPO Committee members at 1:01 p.m. Mr. Stoddart outlined the contents of the packet provided via email, and then asked Technical Committee Chair, James Mills to call the meeting to order and approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Technical Committee Call to Order and Roll Call:

At 1:03 p.m. Chairman Mills, the Technical Committee Chair called the Technical Committee to order. Ms. Alexander conducted a roll call of the Technical Committee and announced that a quorum was obtained.

Approval of May 20, 2021 Technical Committee Meeting minutes:

Silas Stoddart opened the floor for the approval of the May 20, 2021 meeting minutes. Tim Begley made a motion to approve, the motion was seconded by Kevin Rush. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Call to Order and Roll Call:

At 1:06 p.m. Denny Wayne Robinson, the Executive Committee Chair called the Executive Committee to order. Silas Stoddart conducted a roll call of the Executive Committee and announced that a quorum was obtained.

Approval of May 20, 2021 Technical Committee Meeting minutes:

Chairman Robinson opened the floor for the approval of the May 20, 2021 meeting minutes. James Mills made a motion to approve, and the motion was seconded by Allen Foster. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Presentation of Center Hill RPO updates:

Community Transportation Planning Grants (CTPG)

The Center Hill RPO has submitted two applications for Multi-Modal Access grants, one for the city of Smithville for sidewalk extensions and crosswalk improvements and one for the city of Crossville for pedestrian street lights through the historic downtown. These applications are still under review.

CTPG--Community Transportation Planning Grants

The new round of CTPG applications is now open through the end of the year. The funds can be used for community mobility plans, corridor studies, complete streets plans, bike/ped plans, road diet analysis, Transportation systems management and operations, and Road Surfacing Plan. The application is open to both counties and municipalities.

Rural Planning Initiative (RuPI – Pilot Project)

Last year the cities of Spencer and McMinnville were awarded and completed Rural Planning Initiative (RuPI) transportation plans. Spencer completed a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan while McMinnville completed a Safe Street to School Plan. This was a pilot program through TDOT no decision has been made if it will be offered again next year.

Transportation Alternatives Program

The deadline has been extended to December 1st. A community can request up to \$1 million with only a 20% match on construction funds. Eligible projects include pedestrian and bicycle facilities and safe routes for non-drivers, the Conversion of abandoned railway corridors to trails, scenic turnouts and overlooks historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities, and archaeological activities.

Additional Updates

Currently working with UCDD I.T. Department to update the RPO webpage. This will be a centralized location for all information going forward.

Planning a Road Supervisor Training for the spring. More information on that will come at a later date. Two vacancies on the Technical Committee – a freight and rail representative.

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

- No. 1-- Cumberland: SR-462 PROP- (Northwest Connector) From Near SR-24 (US- 70N) to Near SR-28 (US-127) in Crossville
- No. 2-- Cumberland: SR-28/ US-127- From Near Potato Farm Road to near Hollow Lane

- No. 3-- Cumberland-Putnam: I-40- ITS (Cumberland Plateau) From Near MM 285 to Near SR-299 (Exit 338) (Expansion at Rockwood Mountain
- No. 4-- Putnam: SR-135- (N. Willow Ave.) From West Broad Street to West 12th Street (IA) [Previously in PE]
- No. 5-- Cumberland: SR-28/ US-127- From Near Hollow Lane to Near Lowe Road (IA) [2019 ranking 5th] [2020 ranking 4th]

The Technical Committee ranked the Preliminary Engineering Projects in the following order:

- PE-1--Cannon: SR-28/ US- 70S- (W. Main St.) From West of Woodbury to New SR-1 (US- 70 S) East of Woodbury
- PE-2--Warren: SR-56 From near SR-287 to near DeKalb County Line
- PE-3--Cumberland: I-40- Cumberland County Rest Area Renovation

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

EB Vote to approve TC prioritization rankings

James Mills made the motion to approve the ranking and Tim Begley seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed with all ayes.

UCHRA Updates

Lloyd Williams let the committees know that 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 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. She explained that TDOT looks at the results as the RPO in general as a whole entity.

Other Business and Public Comment

Chairman Mills mentioned he would be stepping down as Chairman at the next meeting. There will be a vote at that time to see who would replace him.

Adjournment:

With no other business to discuss both the Technical Committee and Executive Board meetings were adjourned at 1:38 p.m.