Dale Hollow RPO Technical & Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Upper Cumberland Development District, Cookeville, TN
December 17, 2020
Held virtually due to COVID-19

Technical Members Present: Bill Scruggs, Evan White, Chris Ballou, Sonya King (Chair), Shannon Cantrell, Dr. Doug Young, Leann Smith, Sam Edwards, Mary Turner, Lloyd Williams, Kurt Heischmidt, Mark Farley, Tommy Lee, Chuck Sutherland, Tara Wohlgemuth

Executive Members Present: Dale Reagan (Chair), Tonya Spears, Jimmy Johnson, Randy Heady, Lloyd Williams, Steve Jones, Carey Garner, Jeff Mason, Stephen Chambers

Others Present: Lloyd Williams, UCHRA; Ashley Hunter Mason, TDOT; John Zurkle, TDOT; Virginia Alexander, UCDD; Marcie Ackerman, UCDD

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 explained the virtual nature of this meeting and explained how everyone would have their lines muted. Mr. Dudney then asked Technical Committee Vice Chair, Sonya King to call 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. Sonya King, the Technical Committee Vice Chair, calls the Technical Committee to order. Mark Dudney conducts a roll call of the Technical Committed and announces that a quorum has been obtained.

Approval of May 28, 2020 Technical Committee Meeting minutes:

Ray Evans opens floor for the approval of the May 28, 2020, meeting minutes. Bill Scruggs 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 10:08 am Dale Reagan, the Executive Committee Chair, calls the Executive Committee to order. Mark Dudney conducts a roll call of the Executive Committed and announces that a quorum has been obtained.

Approval of May 28, 2020 Technical Committee Meeting minutes:

Dale Reagan opens floor for the approval of the May 28, 2020 meeting minutes. Carey Garner makes a motion to approve, the motion is seconded by Jimmy Johnson. The motion passes unanimously.

Presentation of TDOT updates:
MMAG--Multimodal Access Grants
We began preparing three multimodal access grant applications this cycle and ended up only submitting one. And that's OK, the ones we ended up not submitting--going through the process still enabled us to identify issues which we may be able to address in other ways--but the one we did submit was a sidewalk project for Hartsville/Trousdale County. That project proposes to re-build some existing sidewalk and construct new sidewalks from the intersection of Broadway (State Route 141) and White Oak Street, north to the intersection of SR 141 and SR 25.

CTPG--Community Transportation Planning Grants
All four that applied were funded! A corridor study in Byrdstown; a complete streets plan for Jamestown; and Community Mobility Studies for Gainesboro and Lafayette. We've recently held the scoping meetings with the consultants and expect a pretty quick turnaround on these, looking at completion about halfway through the coming year.

RUPI--Rural Planning Initiative (Pilot Project)
We were very pleased with the feedback we got with applications for these RUPI planning grants this first time around. Dale Hollow got six total applications and we were able to fund three: re-surfacing and striping plans for Gainesboro and Celina; and a corridor study for SR 56 in Jackson County. The timeline for these is roughly the same as the Community Transportation Planning Grants. And since Gainesboro is awarded two planning grants, we're going to make sure the consultants work in tandem so that there's no duplication and that both planning projects get the most bang for their buck.

National Scenic Byway Applications
This summer I worked with Mike McClanahan and Rachael Bergmann of TDOT on two applications for National Scenic Byways in the Upper Cumberland: the Walton Road Historic Byway (Smith, Putnam, Cumberland and Roane counties) and the Cumberland Historic Byway (Claiborne, Campbell, Scott, Morgan, Fentress, Pickett, Overton and Clay counties). Both of these are already state-recognized byways with existing corridor management plans. If the applications to get them recognized as National Scenic Byways are successful, it will give them (and the communities along them) national exposure, open up opportunities to develop them with more grants and heritage tourism opportunities, and so on. Virginia and I met with Mike McClanahan afterwards to plan how we could use the RPO's to create local steering committees to develop these byways. We're waiting for the word right now.

Project Prioritization Presentation—Rachael Bergmann, TDOT RPO Project Ranking
TDOT evaluates projects on an annual basis to determine funding priority for the next 3 fiscal years. For this cycle, TDOT is planning for the fiscal years 22-24. This draft list comes to you from Brian Hurst, he is the Assistant Director of TDOT's Programming and Administration Division. Brian oversees a database of all TDOT projects. He works with the Departments Executive Management Team in developing the Comprehensive Multimodal Program (better known as the Governors Highway Program or the 3-year Plan). In other words, that is the list of project phases with dedicated funding to move forward during that time period.

The link https://rpo-project-rankings-dv-prjrankings.hub.arcgis.com/pages/center-hill-rpo was provided to see updates.

Mrs. Alexander mentioned this year we have changed the process of our project prioritization due to the virtual format. The technical committee members were sent a survey to complete by December 10, 2020. We received 17 responses out of the 27 Technical Committee members.

Presented on the screen were the rankings for this year as well as how the projects were ranked in 2018 and 2019.

This year the construction projects were ranked the following:

1. Cumberland County Northwest Connector from near SR 24 to Near Sr 28(US 127).
2. Cumberland County from near Potato Farm Road to near Hollow Lane
3. Cumberland Putnam County from near mm 285 to near SR 299-Expansion at Rockwood Mountain
4. Cumberland County from near Hollow Lane to near Lowe Road.

The engineering projects were ranked the following:

1. Putnam County-North Willow Avenue from West Broad to West 12th Street.
2. Cannon County-West Main Street from West of Woodbury to new SR 1 East of Woodbury.
3. Warren County- From near SR 287 to near Dekalb County Line
4. Jackson/Putnam County-From SR 53 to US 70N
5. Cumberland County-Cumberland County Rest Area Renovation

There was only one question for Mrs. Bergmann came from Crossville Mayor James Mayberry. He asked why a portion of a road was not showing. After researching it, Mrs. Alexander noticed that portion had already been moved to the production stage.

With no other questions or comments for TDOT, Mark Farley made a motion to send to Executive Board. Shane Gannon seconded the motion. A vote of all ayes was cast and the motion to approve Technical Committee's recommendation was approved.

These were approved by the Executive Board after a motion made by Mayor Mayberry and a second from Mayor Haley.

UCHRA Public Transit Update
Lloyd Williams, UCHRA, gave an update on public transit. This will be a new update at future RPO meetings. In 2019, UCHRA Public Transit drove 3,000,000 miles and over 260,000 trips for members of the Upper Cumberland. Advised members of future grant opportunities that they could apply for as a joint venture. A few of the grants included Transit Fueling, Planning, Park and Ride.

Active Transportation Count
Ashley Hunter-Mason, TDOT, discussed the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan. This information can be used anywhere, not just cross walks. This information will also be beneficial to traffic patterns.

There was no additional discussion or public comments.

Adjourn Technical Committee:

With no other business to discuss both the Technical Committee and Executive Board meetings were adjourned at 2:04 p.m.