



CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY/NORTH GEORGIA
 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
 (CHCNGA TPO)

1250 MARKET STREET
 SUITE 2000
 CHATTANOOGA, TN 37402
 423-643-5900

MINUTES

OCTOBER 10, 2017 1:30-3:00 P.M. (EST)

MEETING CALLED BY	Vice Chairman Todd Leamon
TYPE OF MEETING	TPO Technical Coordinating Committee
FACILITATOR	Ms. Karen Rennich, Deputy Director, Regional Planning Agency (RPA)
NOTE TAKER	Ms. Rozanne Brown, RPA
QUORUM	N/A
ATTENDEES	See Attachment

ANNOUNCEMENTS	
PUBLIC COMMENTS	
OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE	Handouts: "How to" Webinar: Incorporating Performance Into Planning (10/10/17); CHCNGA TPO Member Guide, Sample TPO Executive Board Designee Letter, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), RPA TITLE VI Packet, and GDOT Georgia maps.

Agenda Topics

ITEM #1. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 25, 2017 TPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC) MEETING MINUTES

VICE CHAIRMAN TODD LEAMON

DISCUSSION	Vice Chairman Todd Leamon welcomed everyone, inquired if there were any questions/comments regarding Item #1, or entertained a motion to approve as presented.	
CONCLUSIONS	There being no questions/comments, a motion was made to approve as presented, seconded and the motion carried.	
TCC/BOARD ACTION/RESOLUTION	PERSON PRESENTED MOTION	PERSON SECONDED MOTION
APPROVAL OF THE JULY 25, 2017 TPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC) MEETING MINUTES	Mr. John Naylor Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport Authority	Ms. Amanda Miller City of East Ridge
STAFF FOLLOW-UP	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

**ITEM #2. OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE
BY RESOLUTION AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2017-2020 TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**MS. BETSY EVANS
RPA STAFF**

- 1733020 I-75 Interchange Modification
- Midtown Pathway
- Lakesite Multi-modal Project Phase II

DISCUSSION		
<p>Ms. Betsy Evans said that TDOT has requested to add the construction phase to project 33020 (I-75 & I-24 Interchange Modification project / design/build) with NHPP funds, the City of Chattanooga Department of Transportation requested to add the Midtown Pathway which is a bike/ped project along Brainerd Road with recently awarded Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) state funds, and the City of Lakesite was awarded a TAP state grant for a portion of their Highway 319/Hixson Pike Pedestrian Enhancement Project (see the old and new TIP pages contained in the meeting packet for details). Ms. Evans inquired if there were any questions or comments.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
<p>There being no questions/comments, Vice Chairman Leamon called for a motion which was made to open for public comment and recommendation to approve by resolution as presented and seconded. There being no further discussion, the vote was taken and the motion carried.</p>		
TCC/BOARD ACTION/RESOLUTION	PERSON PRESENTED MOTION	PERSON SECONDED MOTION
<p>OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE BY RESOLUTION AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2017-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1733020 I-75 Interchange Modification -Midtown Pathway -Lakesite Multi-modal Project Phase II 	Mr. John Naylor	Ms. Amanda Miller
STAFF FOLLOW-UP	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

**ITEM #3. GEORGIA TECH STRATEGIES AND TOOLS FOR
INVENTORYING SIDEWALKS AND DEVELOPING
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT TRANSITION PLANS**

**MS. CORTNEY GEARY
RPA STAFF
MESSRS. DAVID BOYER & DAN WALLS
GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIDEWALK LAB**

DISCUSSION
<p>Ms. Cortney Geary introduced Mr. David Boyer (Master of Science in Civil Engineering Candidate Class of 2018 and former Civil Engineering Coordinating Naval Officer), and Mr. Dan Walls (Civil Engineer in City Planning, dual-degree student, and formerly a congressional staffer for the Transportation Infrastructure Committee). Ms. Geary said that both gentlemen are currently with the Georgia Institute of Technology Sidewalk Lab (headed by Dr. Randall Guensler), and they were here to present information on tools for inventorying sidewalks and developing ADA Transition Plans and the work currently being done by the Sidewalk Lab. Ms. Geary said that she has previously seen this presentation and that this is very timely information for the TPO TCC Members, since the call for projects will be done for the next Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) approximately one year from now, and the current 2017-2020 TIP has a business rule that requires that all jurisdictions will have to show evidence of a completed ADA Transition Plan in order to program projects in the next 2020-2024 TIP (which includes rollover projects).</p> <p>Mr. David Boyer thanked everyone for the opportunity to present today's information and invited questions during the presentation. He said that the four key issues (pedestrian infrastructure values being looked at by the Sidewalk Lab to build a good ADA Transition Plan) include accessibility, mobility, safety and walkability. Mr. Boyer provided background on the ADA required steps for jurisdictions with over 50 employees including an ADA Coordinator and ADA Transition Plan which is intended to make society as a whole more accessible for those with disabilities. He discussed the ADA Transition Plan sidewalk requirements, possible liability, the additional resources on sidewalk ADA standards, and design requirements for meeting ADA sidewalk standards. Mr. Boyer presented an overview of the Georgia Tech Sidewalk Asset Management System which has been in development in the Sidewalk Lab for about ten years, and Georgia Tech Assessment Tools including Sidewalk Sentry and Sidewalk Scout. He said that the Sidewalk Lab is currently using Android based applications to collect sidewalk data (Sidewalk Sentry allows trained data collectors to use a tablet attached to a basic wheelchair to collect GPS-tagged rolling video and surface roughness data, and Sidewalk Scout [a hand held device] allows trained data collectors to use a tablet or smartphone to measure and record GPS-tagged ADA compliance data for sidewalks, driveways, curb cuts, curb ramps and sidewalks). Trained data collectors include contractors and volunteers and input from the general public including a Sidewalk Public Preference Survey. The data can produce right/wrong reports and feed into the database and Sidewalk Prioritization Index which is used to understand final priorities including safety/reducing liability, ensuring ADA compliance, improving connectivity/access and enhancing walkability.</p> <p>Mr. Dan Walls said that a digital Sidewalk Network (geo database with links in 50' segments and nodes) has been developed in the Lab and the collected data is merged in the Lab with the Sidewalk Network file allowing for outputs (identifying the network, compliant/non compliant ramps/curb cuts, no ramp locations, problems, rough surface, etc.). Mr. Walls said that this is very easily</p>

manipulated data which can be very important to people in a wheelchair, and the data can be focused around schools or perhaps bus routes, and focused on the priorities of the particular community. Mr. Walls said that public input regarding the community's priorities is very important resulting in a customizable prioritization sidewalk index for that community using established weighted factors. He said that the Georgia Tech tools are designed to get a jurisdiction from zero to an ADA Transition Plan, and the Sidewalk Lab will collect and aggregate data, create the network for the jurisdiction, conduct a public input survey, and come up with a customizable/structured method of prioritizing sidewalk repairs, and he called for questions/comments.

Responding to an inquiry from Ms. Jill Hindman, TCC member, Mr. Boyer said that individuals with an actual disability have not been used in the data collection process because the Lab is using instruments to collect the data to see if ADA guidelines are being met. Ms. Hindman said that individuals with an actual (24/7) disability need to be involved in the real-life process because the ADA is just a guide (a template) and their requirements do not necessarily work well for individuals with disabilities. Ms. Hindman said that individuals with disabilities want to be invited into the process, so that problems can be headed off before they start. Mr. Boyer said that this information was a great take-away and that this suggestion would be considered in selecting data collectors. Mr. Boyer said that the Sidewalk Lab system is currently set up to assess ADA compliance and that may be where jurisdictions are willing to go at this point, but it would be really good to find out what is actually being recommended. Mr. Walls said that it would be an easy change/fix on the backend to perhaps assess different slopes, etc. (ADA requirement vs. what the community wants the slope to be).

Ms. Sara Elmore (TDOT) inquired about surveys vs. actual data collection, and Mr. Boyer said that the survey has been done in eight cities across the southeast under a different program, and the actual physical data collection has been done in different areas. He said that the work is customizable to fit the community's needs, but to get a good ADA Transition Plan and prioritization plan, Mr. Boyer recommends the use of Sidewalk Sentry (data collectors), Sidewalk Scout (hand held devices), and a public survey.

Responding to an inquiry by Mr. John Naylor, Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport Authority, regarding the availability of funding for the City of Chattanooga to implement the ADA Transition Plan once it is done, Ms. Lezlie Rupert, Deputy Administrator, City of Chattanooga Department of Transportation, said that \$1M is allocated in 2018 for sidewalks, and as the Transition Plan is developed, the City of Chattanooga is looking toward building up the budget to address concerns. Vice Chairman Leamon said that the purpose of the ADA Transition Plan is to have a good inventory and prioritization plan in order to estimate the costs, and then budgeting can be planned over time. Ms. Jill Hindman stressed the importance of having individuals with disabilities involved in the upfront process, so that the right legitimate things can be planned to address concerns and costs estimated.

Mr. Boyer said that he does not see a reason for jurisdictions to delay starting to "fix" sidewalk issues until they get an ADA Transition Plan as long as they know the community's priorities which, in many cases, want to see sidewalks or sidewalk improvements in the areas of schools and bus stops. Curb cuts are extremely important too, especially for people with visual impairments.

Mr. Boyer said that the Sidewalk Lab tools are a work in progress and applying costs to the prioritization plan is still being developed. He said that, in a recent draft proposal submitted to Chattanooga, seven months is estimated for the whole process to be done (three months for data collection depending on how quickly and how many data collectors can be available). He said that robotic technology (video analysis / computer vision) may be an option in the future (Industrial Systems Engineering graduate students are working on automation). Ms. Hindman inquired if the Sidewalk Lab has considered partnering with the Shepherd Center in Atlanta because they work with individuals with disabilities. Mr. Boyer said that this was a really good idea, and that the Lab is currently partnering with a center in Atlanta who helps individuals with disabilities at Georgia Tech, and the Sidewalk Lab is feeding data to them. He said that the Sidewalk Lab staff has navigated the Georgia Tech campus in a wheel chair which was eye opening.

Responding to an inquiry regarding Sidewalk Quality Index standards by Mr. Matthew Snyder, Engineering Manager, City of Chattanooga, Mr. Boyer said that the Sidewalk Lab came up with this index, but that the Lab tools test sidewalk characteristics and hold them to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Guidelines (ADA rules are used to grade every sidewalk). Within a 50' link, he said that you can look at the number of defects per link, break it down to see how many defective ramps are in that link, and see how many problems each ramp has (one or many – results are a layer with all specific defects - a sum of all details), which is then weighted with the public input. The data is built in GIS and the attributes are exported in Excel – it is not "ready" software at this time. A jurisdiction would be hiring a consultant to do the sidewalk assessment (not buying software). The Sidewalk Lab will provide the SHAPE file and create the city map. The current website (application) is more for the public to provide input on specific observations, and is not intended for use by jurisdictions. A log-in can be provided for a more advanced application (the same as provided to data collectors), and Mr. Boyer will follow-up with Mr. Snyder on this, and answer any further questions.

Mr. Boyer said that he is available to anyone to answer questions (Phone: 803-727-7478; Email: boyer.dg@gatech.edu), Ms. Karen Rennich said that this full presentation will be emailed to TPO TCC Members following today's TCC meeting, and Vice Chairman Leamon thanked the gentlemen for their time and presentation.

CONCLUSIONS		
No Formal Action Required		
TCC/BOARD ACTION/RESOLUTION	PERSON PRESENTED MOTION	PERSON SECONDED MOTION

STAFF FOLLOW-UP	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
TPO Staff will email the Georgia Tech Sidewalk Lab full sidewalk/ADA Transition Plan presentation to TPO TCC Members following today's TCC meeting.	Ms. Karen Rennich	Done 10/10/2017

ITEM #4. STAFF REPORTS

**MS. KAREN RENNICH
RPA STAFF**

DISCUSSION		
<p>Staff Reports are discussed verbally as appropriate, or if there are questions. Staff Reports contain the details regarding each item including contact information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of 2017-2020 TIP Adjustments/Modifications • Congestion Management Process Update • International Walk to School Day • Grants and Grant Awards • Notifications: Training, Education and Funding <p>Ms. Cortney Geary reminded everyone of the open grant opportunity for TDOT IMPROVE Act Capital Grants for transit projects in Tennessee. She said that this grant is specifically for capital assistance, is open to designated recipients of 5307 or 5311 program funds, and open only to the Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority (CARTA) in this area. The maximum annual project award is \$3M with a minimum local match of 25% required.</p> <p>Ms. Geary reviewed four TDOT 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program grant awards (City of Chattanooga, Town of Lookout Mountain, City of East Ridge, and City of Lakesite). The City of Chattanooga and City of Lakesite projects were opened for public comment and recommended for approval in today's TIP amendment (Item #2 of this agenda).</p> <p>Ms. Geary said that the Town of Signal Mountain submitted an application for the TDOT 2018 Transportation Alternatives Program, and Ms. Amanda Miller, City of East Ridge, said that the City of East Ridge also submitted an application.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
No Formal Action Required		
TCC/BOARD ACTION/RESOLUTION	PERSON PRESENTED MOTION	PERSON SECONDED MOTION
STAFF FOLLOW-UP	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

ITEM # 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

**MS. KAREN RENNICH
RPA STAFF**

DISCUSSION		
<p>Referring to a meeting handout, Ms. Karen Rennich invited everyone to attend the "How To" Webinar: Incorporating Safety Performance into Planning which she said would begin immediately following this TCC meeting (DRC / 3A).</p> <p>Vice Chairman Leamon said that the next TPO Executive Board meeting is Wednesday, October 25, 2017 @ DRC / 1A, the next TPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meeting is Tuesday, November 14, 2017, and hearing no further questions/comments, adjourned the meeting.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
No Formal Action Required		
TCC/BOARD ACTION/RESOLUTION	PERSON PRESENTED MOTION	PERSON SECONDED MOTION
STAFF FOLLOW-UP	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE



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TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC) MEETING

OCTOBER 10, 2017 (1:30 – 3:00 P.M. Eastern – DRC/1A)

NAME	REPRESENTATION	PLEASE CHECK IF VOTING:
Karen Remick	RPA/TPO	
Jill Dykes	Harrison Co Comm	✓
Reganne Brown	RPA/TPO	
John Daylor	CMMA	✓
Cortney Geary	RPA/TPO	
Betty Evans	RPA/TPO	
ANDREW RAY	RPA / TPO	
David Boyer	Georgia Tech	
Daniel Wells	Georgia Tech	
Amanda Miller	City of East Ridge	✓
Jeremy Byrden	Carroll County A/C	✓
Sara Elmore	TDOT	✓

Scan Date _____



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 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC) MEETING

OCTOBER 10, 2017 (1:30 – 3:00 P.M. Eastern – DRC/1A)

NAME	REPRESENTATION	PLEASE CHECK IF VOTING:
Annie Powell	CARTA	X
Joseph Davidson	NHGRC	
Phil: P. Pugh	CARTA	
TODD E. LEAMON	HAMILTON Co.	✓
Chad Reese	SETDD / SE TN RPO	✓
Lezlie Rupert	CDOT	✓
Abubakr Ziedan	CARTA	X
Heather Barry	CARTA	✓
John Agan	HAMILTON COUNTY	✓
Mark Heinzer	CDOT	
MATTHEW J. JUREK	CDOT	✓

Scan Date _____