

REGULAR MEETING
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
April 6, 2021

The meeting was called to order by LMPO Director Richard Rogalski at 10:00 A.M. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 212 SW 9th Street, Lawton, Oklahoma. Meeting notice and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by State Law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Rogalski, LMPO Director
Larry Wolcott, Public Works Director, City of Lawton
Tom Zigler, ASCOG
Jay Earp, ODOT Division VII Engineer
Barbara McNally, Lawton Fort Sill Regional Airport
Ryan Landers, General Manager, LATS
Krista Ratliff, Lawton Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce
Laura Chaney, Planning & Performance Branch Manager**
Randy Butler, Fort Sill Public Works

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Simpson, Hwy Engineer Anadarko Area, BIA*
Adrian Tehauno, Comanche Nation*
Ronald C. Ahtone, Apache Tribe*
Chuck Tsoodle, Kiowa Tribe*
Joseph Painter, City Engineer, City of Lawton
Sarah McElroy, ODOT MPO Coordinator
Isaac Akem, FHWA*

ALSO PRESENT: Tammy Anderson, Recording Secretary
Jonathan Stone, Transportation Planner**

*Non-Voting **attended via conference call

**CONSIDER RECOMMENDING TO THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE FISCAL
YEAR 2021 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR THE LAWTON
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS TO INCLUDE
HIRING A CONSULTANT FOR A TRANSIT MASTER PLAN.**

The Transportation Policy Board has authorized the issuing of a Request for Qualifications for a Transit Master Plan for the Lawton Metropolitan area. This will be the first master plan since the transit system began in 2002.

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) outlines the objectives to be achieved and the products resulting from each work task as well as anticipated funding. The FY 2021 UPWP was approved on June 9, 2020.

Staff is recommending the FY 2021 UPWP be amended to include \$100,000 for the contract for a Transit Master Plan.

MOTION by McNally, SECOND by Zigler, to recommend that the Transportation Policy Board approve a resolution adopting Amendment No. 1 to the Fiscal Year 2021 Unified Planning Work Program for the Lawton Metropolitan Planning Process to include hiring a consultant for a transit master plan.

AYES: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDING THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH HENDRICKSON TRANSPORTATION GROUP FOR A TRANSIT MASTER PLAN.

Fixed route public transportation service in Lawton is provided by the Lawton Area Transit System (LATS). This service started in 2004, and currently operates 9 fixed route buses, complimentary paratransit, and a Fort Sill Shuttle that services Fort Sill.

On February 2, 2021 the Transportation Policy Board authorized the issuing of a Request for Qualifications for a Transit Master Plan that will provide short and long-term recommendations to address public transit needs, such as route structure, infrastructure, and overall improvements in service, in the Lawton Metropolitan Area. A committee of staff and members of the Transportation Technical Committee reviewed and rated the five responses received. The LMPO Director was authorized by the Transportation Policy Board to negotiate with the highest rated firm and bring a contract for approval.

Rogalski said this would be a short-term, 5-year plan.

A copy of the contact and rating form was provided to Committee members. Hendrickson Transportation Group was the highest rated firm.

The fees for the scope of service are \$98,000. This project is included in the budget.

MOTION by Earp, SECOND by Zigler, to recommend that the Transportation Policy Board approve the contract with Hendrickson Transportation Group for a Transit Master Plan.
AYES: Unanimous, with one ABSTENTION from Landers. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS

Butler said it's anticipated that construction will start this summer on Currie Road. Ferguson Road will also be upgraded this summer.

Butler said his department will also be making improvements to Dodge Hill Road in 2022.

Butler said their project budget has been cut back by 50%.

Butler said right now their main focus has been on 220 buildings and 330 homes that are in need of repairs due to the recent winter storm. The largest issue has been fire suppression systems freezing and flooding buildings. Butler said the deadline to complete repairs for these homes and buildings is May 1st. He said Ft Sill has hired three contractors to help with this project, and they're working 12-14 hour days.

Rogalski asked if they're facing issues obtaining supplies.

Bulter said supply is a major concern right now.

McNally said the runway project is complete and the runway is now open.

McNally said the terminal project is still on-going, but it should be wrapping up in mid-April.

Landers said LATS is still operating at reduced service. This is largely due staffing shortages. However, Landers said LATS recently increased their wages in an attempt to gain more employees.

Landers said LATS will soon receive funding from the American Rescue Plan, and they will use this funding to help fund projects for the next fiscal year.

Landers said LATS is still following the Federal requirements for wearing masks. Masks must be worn at all times on buses.

Earp said a corridor safety study is underway on Rogers Lane from 82nd Street to I-44. The goal of the safety study is to eliminate left-hand turns at unsignalized intersections. Recommendations will also be made regarding lighting.

Earp said they will be widening State Highway 58 near Lake Lawtonka.

Earp said a third turning lane will be constructed in the Elgin area just East of the I-44 Elgin exit near the first stop light.

Earp said their 8-year work plan includes adding turn lanes on the highway in the Geronimo area.

Earp said State Highway 17 from Elgin to Sterling will also be receiving upgrades. He said more people are building in this area.

Bulter said if any safety improvements need to be made on Rogers Lane at the 52nd Street gate Ft Sill could probably help with funding. Butler said it would be beneficial to study traffic signal timing at this intersection.

Zigler said ASCOG is currently in their CDBG grant writing cycle.

Zigler said ASCOG will be conducting a freight survey through the 16 counties they represent.

Zigler said ASCOG helped with redistricting for the House and Senate.

Rogalski said ASCOG has also assisted the City in obtaining grant funding for the Lee Boulevard roadway improvement project.

Wolcott said 4 new traffic actuated signals will soon be installed.

Wolcott said the timing of traffic signals on Gore Boulevard is being studied to see if improvements can be made.

Stone said Planning staff will be bringing annual transportation documents to the June 1st meeting.

Rogalski said the Goodyear Boulevard extension project has been narrowed down to three alternatives. He said there will soon be a stakeholder meeting to gather feedback.

COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

RICHARD ROGALSKI, CHAIRMAN

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