

MINUTES
LAWTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
3RD Floor Conference Room
October 15, 2024

Minutes of the Transportation Technical Committee special meeting held October 15, 2024 in the 3RD Floor Conference Room, 212 SW 9th Street, Lawton, Oklahoma 73501.

The agenda for the meeting was posted on the bulletin board in City Hall in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Christine James.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christine James, City of Lawton Planning Director
Mike Woodhams, ODOT Transit Programs Division
Bryce Lawson, ODOT Division VII
Ryan Landers, LATS Director
Devon Westbrook, ODOT, MPO Coordinator
Barbara McNally, Lawton-Fort Sill Regional Airport Manager
Cindy Bateman, Fort Sill Public Works Department
Michael Watrous, City of Lawton Acting Traffic Engineer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Jones, City of Lawton City Engineer
John Michael Montgomery, Lawton-Ft Sill Chamber of Commerce
Tom Zigler, ASCOG
Julie Sanders, SORTPO *
Isaac Akem, FHWA*
FTA Region VI*
Comanche Tribe, Transportation Director*
Apache Tribe, Transportation Director*
Kiowa Tribe, Transportation Director*

ALSO PRESENT: Christina Ryans-Huffer, Recording Secretary
Jonathan Stone, Transportation Planner
Hope Davis, Transportation Planner
Allison Fluitt, Kimley-Horn Consultant

*Nonvoting member

Verify posting of meeting.

The meeting was posted on October 9, 2024 at 9:00 am by Ashton Wall, City Clerk's Office.

All attendees gave introductions.

- 1. Consider approving minutes from the regular scheduled meeting held on August 6, 2024.**

Motion by McNally. Second by Lawson to approve the minutes from the regular scheduled meeting held on August 6, 2024 as written **Aye:** Woodhams, Lawson, Landers, McNally, Watrous, Bateman, James **Nay:** None **Motion Passed 8-0**

BUSINESS

- 2. Provide comments regarding the draft 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).**

The FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program focused on developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) with the help of consultant Kimley-Horn, who was contracted on January 5, 2024. Kimley-Horn outlined their plan and public involvement strategy at the February 6, 2024, meetings. By May 7, 2024, staff had provided an update on the MTP and Travel Demand Model and shared initial public feedback from goal and objective surveys reaching 358 individuals. Kimley-Horn delivered an additional update on June 4, 2024.

In late July 2024, Kimley-Horn conducted a second public survey to rank project priorities, which concluded on August 5, 2024, with 159 responses reflecting diverse demographics. This feedback helped prioritize projects within the MTP, aligning with the approved project prioritization from the July 17 meeting. To date, more than 575 public responses have been collected, surpassing the February 6, 2024, goal of 500 responses. Further public engagement opportunities will continue in the upcoming month.

The public comment period is running from Monday, September 23, 2024, through Friday, November 1, 2024. During this time, staff will host three public meetings to review the MTP and gather feedback.

Emailed to the Committee and available at the meeting is the draft 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Staff is requesting feedback from the Committee regarding the draft plan. Kimley Horn will also be attending virtually to answer any questions the Committee may have.

Fluitt from Kimley-Horn provided an overview of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and detailed the process up to this point. She summarized each chapter of the plan and outlined the next steps toward its final approval.

Watrous raised a concern regarding page 22 of the LATS Transit Master Plan, noting a typographical error where it states "Transit Mater Plan." He also pointed out that the wording on page 58 is unclear. The SORTPO Policy Board identified several corridors within the LMATS area as significant statewide and regional highway freight corridors, but the phrasing needs clarification.

Additionally, on page 74, Watrous inquired whether the content would be updated to reflect the current reality by the time of publication. He noted that the City Council, in its most recent meeting, approved changing the project on 38th Street between Lee and Gore from reconstruction to a mill and overlay program, meaning that modernization will not occur in the next five years.

Reports or Comments.

Stone announced that the LMPO is working on an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program and it will be presented at the next meeting, which will include the purchase of transit vehicles for LATS funded by the recently awarded grant.

Lawson stated the Rogers Lane Safety Improvement Project on track to be completed by late winter or early spring 2025. The Contactor has been moving from 52nd Street to 38th Street.

Additionally, the Gore Pedestrian Bridge is expected to be completed by the end of January or February 2025. The team is finishing the bridge foundations this week and next. The prefabricated superstructure is scheduled for delivery this Thursday, although installation will occur in about 2 to 3 weeks. The goal is to complete this project by January or February 2025, and the lane closure on Gore should reopen next week.

Landers mentioned that the first public meeting for the LATS Route Change is scheduled for tomorrow, and all meetings will be live-streamed. There will be 5 or 6 public meetings followed by a public hearing on the 12th. The aim is to implement the route changes by mid-March 2025. The route configuration was completed about two years ago, and feedback on any further changes is welcome.

Audience Participation.

None

Adjournment.

Motion by Westbrook. **Second** by Landers to adjourn the meeting **Aye:** Lawson, Landers, Westbrook, McNally, Watrous, Bateman, Woodhams, James, **Nay:** None
Motion Passed 8-0.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am.

These meeting minutes were approved by TTC members at their meeting on

11.5.24.



Christine James
Chairman