

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
March 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order by LMPO Director Richard Rogalski at 10:00 A.M. in the 2nd 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, Planning Director, City of Lawton
Larry Wolcott, Public Works Director, City of Lawton
Braden Cale, ODOT MPO Coordinator
Tom Zigler, ASCOG
Jay Earp, ODOT Division VII Engineer
Barbara McNally, Lawton Fort Sill Regional Airport

MEMBERS ABSENT: George Hennessee, City Engineer, City of Lawton
Brenda Spencer-Ragland, Lawton Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce
Ryan Landers, General Manager, LATS
Randy Butler, Fort Sill Public Works
Tom Simpson, Hwy Engineer Anadarko Area, BIA*
Adrian Tehauno, Comanche Nation*
Ronald C. Ahtone, Apache Tribe*
Chuck Tsoodle, Kiowa Tribe*
Pearlie Tiggs, FTA Community Planner*
Isaac Akem, FHWA*

ALSO PRESENT: Debbie Dollarhite, Assistant LMPO Director
Travis Estep, Transportation Planner
Jonathan Stone, Transportation Planner
Tammy Anderson, Recording Secretary
Stanley Booker, Mayor

*Non-Voting

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2019 MEETING.

MOTION by Wolcott, SECOND by Zigler, to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting.

AYES: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIED.

3. CONSIDER RECOMMENDING TO THE LMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH EST, INC. FOR A CONCEPTUAL ALIGNMENT AND FEASIBILITY REPORT FOR AN EXTENSION OF GOODYEAR BOULEVARD FROM THE WEST LAWTON INDUSTRIAL PARK TO US HIGHWAY 62.

The LMPO Director and EST, Inc. have discussed and negotiated the scope of services and corresponding fees for the generation of an alignment connecting the West Lawton Industrial Park with US Highway 62.

This scope of services has been included in the exhibits and dictates the process by which EST proposes to complete this project for the LMPO. Their proposed fee reflects the level of effort EST feels is necessary to provide the prescribed services. The initial amount of the fee is higher than anticipated for this project.

Staff provided committee members with a revised version of the proposal from EST, and the following summarizes the changes for the latest scope and fee proposal:

- Link volume data was provided by LMPO from a past study. The traffic data collection and forecasting to 2045 was removed from this scope of work. The link volumes will be used to determine turning movement counts for 2017 base year and 2045 design year.
- The universe of alternatives was limited to 5; short term solutions were removed. This resulted in some reductions of other line items.
- Public Meeting 1 was removed.
- Meeting 2 will be conducted on the same day as the Council Meeting.
- Public Meeting 2 was removed and will be replaced with the Council Meeting presentation
- The phasing study was removed.
- The 10 bound copies of the report were removed. One bound copy and a digital copy of the report will be provided at both the draft and final report stages.

Upon approval of the scope of services and fee schedule, staff will begin the process to amend the PL Agreement and the Unified Planning Work Program to include this project.

Rogalski said Public Meeting 1 will still take place, but the MPO will now provide this meeting.

Gary Ridley with EST said they're excited about the opportunity to work in Lawton, and EST will do everything they can to increase public knowledge of this project.

Earp thanked staff for taking the time to examine and implement ways of saving money regarding the proposal.

MOTION by McNally, SECOND by Zigler, to recommend to the LMPO Transportation Policy Board approval of the scope of services and fee in the amount of \$298,558 proposed by EST, Inc.

AYES: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIED.

4. **CONSIDER RECOMMENDING TO THE LMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD APPROVAL OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE AUDIT OF THE LAWTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING JUNE 30TH 2020, 2021, AND 2022.**

As part of the Agreement between the LMPO and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), the LMPO agrees to provide ODOT with a Single Audit performed in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendment of 1996 and the revised OMB Circular A-133 to ensure compliance with federal and state laws, regulations and provisions of the Agreement. The current contract with Arledge & Associates ended with the audit of FY 2019.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for audit services is for a 3-year time period beginning with the FY 2020 audit and ending with the FY 2022 audit. Staff will send the RFP to certified public accountants with audit experience located within Oklahoma.

MOTION by McNally, SECOND by Wolcott, to recommend to the LMPO Transportation Policy Board approval of the RFP for audit services for fiscal years ending June 30th 2020, 2021, and 2022.

AYES: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIED.

5. DISCUSS PROJECTS FOR THE FY 2021 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM.

Staff has begun the process of selecting projects to be included in the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program. One particular area to discuss is projects to be funded with the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. Historically the LMPO has spent approximately half of the funds on the air quality awareness campaign and Try Transit Week and the other half on a particular project, i.e., bike trails, actuated traffic signals. For the past two years the LMPO has purchased and installed actuated traffic signals. It has been suggested that the LMPO increase the amount of funding toward the signals. Also, the contract for the extension of Goodyear Boulevard will have a major impact on the PL funding and projects.

Dollarhite said there is currently \$280,000 in carry over funding. Because of this, the Goodyear Boulevard extension project may not have as significant an impact on funding as initially thought. She said staff has been looking for projects they can get done themselves rather than generating direct costs to the MPO. Dollarhite said in the past staff has spent half of the CMAQ funding for air quality awareness and half for projects (the past few years the project has been the installation of actuated traffic signals in Lawton). Dollarhite said it has been suggested that staff put more money into signals. She asked for direction from committee members on how to redesignate CMAQ funding.

Rogalski said staff is currently working on a sidewalk master plan. He asked committee members if there are any other projects they would like to see added to the UPWP.

Wolcott asked if staff has been working on bike trail projects.

Rogalski said bike trails will be an element of the sidewalk master plan. He said the City received a grant in 2012 for more trail funding, but this process has to be worked out through engineering.

Dollarhite asked Cale when the City would be eligible to receive additional funding from ODOT through their Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Cale said he's not sure when the next round of funding will be available, but he will find out.

Zigler inquired about the Gore Boulevard pedestrian bridge project.

Rogalski said engineering faced some challenges with this project, and they are still working on it.

Earp said one idea for the Gore Boulevard pedestrian bridge was to build a stand alone truss style bridge. He said the City paid design fees for this concept but ultimately the decision was made to work with the existing Gore Boulevard bridge.

Rogalski said the City approved \$5 million of funding for sidewalks with the CIP.

Ron Peel with ASCOG asked what staff is doing to push the 2020 census.

Estep said tonight he will be giving a presentation on the 2020 census to the Republican Party of Comanche County. Estep said he is the Complete Count Committee chairperson, and this committee will be meeting at 5:30 p.m. tomorrow night. Estep said he's also coordinating with Tiffany Vrska, Public Information Director for the City, in an effort to designate the Lawton Public Library as a site for citizens to access computers to submit their census data.

Rogalski said advertistment (e.g. brochures) for the census will be placed at City Hall in high-traffic areas such as the Revenue Services office.

Mr. Peel asked if the Lawton Constiution and KSWO will aid in getting the word out about the census.

Estep said yes.

Rogalski asked committee members for suggestions on how to designate future CMAQ funding.

Wolcott said the Public Works Department has plans to install eight actuated traffic signals this year.

Booker said he appreciates the effort put forth by staff to increase publicity regarding air quality, but installing acutated traffic signals really makes a difference in air quality by increasing traffic flow.

Zigler asked how much funding should be taken from air quality awareness efforts.

According to the last quote received by staff, Wolcott said equipment for actuated traffic signals is approximately \$14,500 per intersection.

Rogalski asked how much additional funding would be required for the installation of these signals.

Wolcott said installation would cost another \$4,000 - \$5,000 per intersection.

Rogalski asked how much funding does the LMPO receive.

Dollarhite said \$150,000.

Rogalski suggested using \$50,000 in funding for the air quality campaign and \$100,000 towards installation of additional signals, but he said ultimately it's the MPOs decision on how these funds will be allocated.

Zigler asked how much the air quality campaign costs.

Rogalski said funding for this campaign is used to cover advertisement costs, so it depends on how much money the MPO wants to allocate for advertising the campaign.

Booker asked what sort of return is generated from the clean air campaign.

Rogalski said the return from actuated traffic signals is more measureable, but it's difficult to measure the return from the clean air campaign. Rogalski asked staff how much participation they've received in the past for the clean air campaign.

Stone said the overall participation has been low.

Rogalski said there were only 2 air alert days last year, so air quality in Lawton hasn't been a huge issue for citizens. He believes this could be the reason for low participation in the campaign. However, Rogalski said the air quality campaign should not be eliminated completely.

Zigler asked how much funding the air quality campaign would need to make the campaign worthwhile.

Stone said there is a requirement to do a campaign, but he's unsure if there's a requirement for how much money is spent on the campaign.

Earp asked if there is a funding source (e.g. the ODEQ Air Quality Division) that could help pay for the air quality campaign.

Rogalski said he's unsure, but staff will look into this.

Dollarhite said ODEQ staff has commended the Lawton air quality campaign in the past.

6. REPORTS

Earp said construction will be underway in approximately 3 weeks for a bridge on I-44 just north of Key Gate. He said Howitzer Road runs underneath this bridge. Earp said traffic flow will be interrupted for a maximum of 25 days. He said ODOT will pay the contractor up to ten days of incentives to finish the project earlier than the allotted 25 days. With this project, Earp said the

southbound ramp will be closed from 10:00 a.m. until sometime in the afternoon. Earp said the ramp going north out of Key Gate will also need to close at some point. However, the ramp will open by 4:00 p.m..

Earp said the SE 45th Street project is near completion. The final punch list is being addressed.

Earp said the Rogers Lane interchange project is now complete.

McNally said the terminal project is underway.

McNally said the fire station is complete, but the firefighters have yet to move in.

McNally said a casino charter flight will be coming in this weekend from Wendover, Nevada. She said these charter flights are typically very successful.

Zigler introduced Ron Peel, who is a new planner for ASCOG.

Wolcott said staff will continue to work on installation of actuated traffic signals. He said 8 of these signals are scheduled to be installed by the end of June.

Wolcott said a traffic signal is being installed at the intersection of NE Flower Mound and NE Cache Road. This project is also scheduled to be completed by the end of June.

7. COMMENTS

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

RICHARD ROGALSKI, CHAIRMAN

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