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**TPO Technical Committee  
February 9, 2010  
9 a.m.  
Small Assembly Room  
City/County Building  
Knoxville, Tennessee**

**AGENDA**

**Determination of Quorum**

**5 min.**

**1. Approval of January 12, 2010, Minutes**

Action     Possible Action     Discussion     Information

**Presenter:** John Lamb, Chair

**Item Summary:** Approval of January 12, 2010, TPO Technical Committee minutes.

**Attachment #1—January 12, 2010, minutes.**

**5 min.**

**2. Amendment to the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program**

Action     Possible Action     Discussion     Information

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Requested by TDOT

**a. Amend TIP Project #2008-004 SR-115/US-129 (Alcoa Bypass) with a new project description of Hall Road (SR-35)/Alcoa Highway (SR-115) south of Airport Road to Proposed Interchange Serving McGhee Tyson Airport, Construct New 8-Lane.**

**b. Add TIP Project #2008-152 SR-115/US-129 (Alcoa Bypass) with a project description of Interchange Serving McGhee Tyson Airport to Pellissippi Parkway (SR-162), Construct New 6-Lane w/Auxiliary Lanes.**

**Background:** The Alcoa Bypass project from Hall Road to Pellissippi Parkway needs to be split out into two segments in order to match the project descriptions contained in the updated 2009-2034 Long Range Mobility Plan and Air Quality Conformity Determination.

**Attachment #2a - TIP Pages**

**Attachment #2b – Conformity Determination Report**

10 min.

### 3. Revised FY 2010 Work Program Budget and Tasks

Action     Possible Action     Discussion     Information

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** Due to less than anticipated federal planning funds for FY 2010 the work program and budget needs to be amended. The federal planning funds were reduced by \$116,299. Staff is recommending eliminating the contingency line item reducing \$92,730 in federal funds. The remaining \$23,569 was eliminated among most other task items. In addition additional funds were moved around to reflect increased work efforts in a couple of task items.

**Staff seeks motion to recommend to the Board to amend the FY 2010 UPWP as presented in the attached table.**

**Attachment #3a - Memo**

**Attachment #3b - Revised UPWP Tables.**

15 min.

### 4. ARRA I update and discussion of possible ARRA II funds

Action     Possible Action     Discussion     Information

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Item Summary:** ARRA I fund allocation opportunities have come to a close for the TPO. There is discussion of a new round of economic stimulus funds coming available very soon and we need to be prepared with amending the TIP with shovel ready projects. We can expect up to \$12 million dollars that may need to be obligated very quickly.

**Attachment #4a - ARRA Memo**

**Attachment #4b - TPO ARRA I Table**

10 min.

### 5. CMAQ Projects Awarded by TDOT

Action     Possible Action     Discussion     Information

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Background:** On Tuesday, February 02, 2010, TDOT announced the selection of FY 2010 projects to be funded with CMAQ dollars. The projects selected for our area will be discussed and the importance of meeting the schedule will be emphasized.

**Attachments: #5a Letter from TDOT, Attachment #5b. CMAQ Project List and Attachment #5c. TDOT Project schedule form**

10 min.

### 6. Memos on CE and CEI

Action     Possible Action     Discussion     Information

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Background:** In July 2009, representatives from local governments and TPO staff met with TDOT officials to discuss regulatory barriers to getting greenways designed and built in a timely matter.

**Item Summary:** TPO staff has continued to gather information from TDOT about how the Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) and Categorical Exclusion (CE) processes can be streamlined for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

**Attachment #6—Memos on CE and CEI**

**10 min.**

**7. Development of the FY 2011-2014 TIP**

Action     Possible Action     Discussion     Information

**Presenter:** TPO Staff

**Background:** Staff will present a schedule that TDOT is requiring the TPO to follow in the development of the new TIP

**5 min.**

**8. Other Business**

- **Executive Board Meeting, February 24 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building**
- **Technical Committee Meeting, March 9 at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building**

**5 min.**

**9. Public Comment**

Members of the public may address the Technical Committee with a five-minute time limitation for each person.

**10. Adjournment**

## Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

TIP#	2008-004	TDOT PIN#	101651.01	PRIORITY		LEAD AGENCY	TDOT
COUNTY	Blount	LENGTH	2.3	LRTP#	218, 257, 258	CONFORMITY STATUS	Non-Exempt
ROUTE/PROJECT NAME	Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) bypass				TOTAL PROJECT COST	88139280	
TERMINI OR INTERSECTION	Hall Rd/Alcoa Hwy, south of Airport Rd to Pellissippi Pkwy						
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Hall Rd (SR-35)/Alcoa Hwy (SR-115) South of Airport Rd to near Pellissippi Parkway. Construct new 6 lane.						

FISCAL YEAR	TYPE OF WORK	FUNDING TYPE	TOTAL FUNDS	FED FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	LOCAL FUNDS
2011	ROW	STATE	\$5,867,856	\$0	\$5,867,856	\$0
2011	ROW	STP	\$23,471,424	\$23,471,424	\$0	\$0
TOTAL			\$29,339,280	\$23,471,424	\$5,867,856	\$0

AMENDMENT#	EIS	ADJUSTMENT#	STP	REMARKS
PREVIOUS TIP #	2006-001, 2002-0			Conformity status: Regionally Significant, included in the 2005-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan Air Quality Conformity Determination. Adjusted in 11/08 from 2010 to 2011.

## Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

TIP#	2008-004	TDOT PIN#	101651.01	PRIORITY		LEAD AGENCY	TDOT
COUNTY	Blount	LENGTH	1.3	L RTP#	218	CONFORMITY STATUS	Non-Exempt
ROUTE/PROJECT NAME	Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) bypass				TOTAL PROJECT COST	10308396	
TERMINI OR INTERSECTION	Hall Rd (SR-35)/Alcoa Hwy (SR-115) South of Airport Rd to proposed interchange serving McGhee Tyson Airport						
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Construct new 8 lanes						

FISCAL YEAR	TYPE OF WORK	FUNDING TYPE	TOTAL FUNDS	FED FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	LOCAL FUNDS
2011	ROW	STATE	\$2,061,679	\$0	\$2,061,679	\$0
2011	ROW	STP	\$8,246,717	\$8,246,717	\$0	\$0
TOTAL			\$10,308,396	\$8,246,717	\$2,061,679	\$0

AMENDMENT#	EIS	ADJUSTMENT#	STP	REMARKS
PREVIOUS TIP #	2006-001, 2002-0			

NEW PROJECT

## Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

TIP#	2008-152	TDOT PIN#	101651.02	PRIORITY		LEAD AGENCY	TDOT
COUNTY	Blount	LENGTH	2.4	L RTP#	257	CONFORMITY STATUS	Non-Exempt
ROUTE/PROJECT NAME	SR-115 / US-129					TOTAL PROJECT COST	19030884
TERMINI OR INTERSECTION	Interchange serving McGhee Tyson Airport to Pellissippi Pkwy (SR-162)						
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Construct new 6-lane w/auxillary lanes						

FISCAL YEAR	TYPE OF WORK	FUNDING TYPE	TOTAL FUNDS	FED FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	LOCAL FUNDS
2011	ROW	STATE	\$3,806,177	\$0	\$3,806,177	\$0
2011	ROW	STP	\$15,224,707	\$15,224,707	\$0	\$0
TOTAL			\$19,030,884	\$15,224,707	\$3,806,177	\$0

AMENDMENT#		ADJUSTMENT#		REMARKS
PREVIOUS TIP #				

# **AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY DETERMINATION REPORT**

**For**

**February 2010 Amendments  
to  
The FY 2008 – 2011  
Knoxville Regional TPO  
Transportation Improvement Program**

**Prepared by:**



**February 9, 2010**

## **Introduction**

This report constitutes a conformity determination being made on air quality non-exempt project amendments to the FY 2008 – 2011 Knoxville Regional TPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is the federally required short-range document that is a subset of, and implements the Long Range Transportation Plan – currently known as the Knoxville Regional Mobility Plan 2009 – 2034 (KRMP).

## **Transportation Air Quality Conformity Background**

The Knoxville Region has been designated as an Air Quality Nonattainment Area for failing to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) under the Clean Air Act for the pollutants of Ozone and Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). Transportation conformity is a mechanism to ensure that federal funding is not used on transportation programs or projects that are not consistent with the air quality goals of the Tennessee State Implementation Plan for bringing the Knoxville Region back into attainment with the NAAQS.

## **Current Conformity Status**

The KRMP was adopted by the TPO Executive Board on May 27, 2009 and the Air Quality Conformity Determination was approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation on May 29, 2009. The conformity determination covered the following pollutants and associated geographic areas:

- Ozone – Counties of Anderson, Blount, Cocke (partial), Jefferson, Knox, Loudon and Sevier
- PM<sub>2.5</sub> – Counties of Anderson, Blount, Knox, Loudon and Roane (partial)

Copies of the full 2009 – 2034 KRMP, 2008 – 2011 TIP and Air Quality Conformity Determination Report can be found at: <http://www.knoxtrans.org/plans/lrtp.htm>

## **Project Amendment Recommendations**

Periodically, as needs and conditions change, it becomes necessary to modify the Plans described above. During the course of preparation of a PM<sub>2.5</sub> project-level conformity determination for the proposed Alcoa Highway Bypass project in Blount County it was discovered that the project descriptions included in the KRMP and the project's NEPA document did not exactly match the description included in the 2008-2011 TIP, which is a requirement for project-level conformity. Therefore the following amendments are being made in order to bring the 2008-2011 TIP project descriptions in line with both the KRMP and the NEPA document.



1. Amend TIP Project #2008-004, which has a current description of “Alcoa Hwy (SR-115,US-129) bypass from Hall Rd/Alcoa Hwy, south of Airport Rd to Pellissippi Pkwy – Construct new 6 lane to the following:
  - Alcoa Hwy (SR-115,US-129) bypass from Hall Rd(SR-35)/Alcoa Hwy (SR-115) South of Airport Rd to proposed interchange serving McGhee Tyson Airport – Construct new 8 lanes.
  - This project is included in the 2009 – 2034 KRMP as project #218.
  
2. Add TIP Project #2008-152 with project description as follows:
  - Alcoa Hwy (SR-115,US-129) bypass from Interchange serving McGhee Tyson Airport to Pellissippi Pkwy (SR-162) – Construct new 6-lane w/auxiliary lanes.
  - This project is included in the 2009 – 2034 KRMP as project #257.

In summary, the existing TIP Project #2008-004 needs to be split out into two (2) separate segments in order to account for the difference in the number of lanes that are proposed with the improvement as reflected in both the NEPA document and the 2009 – 2034 KRMP.

### **Statement of Conformity**

The Knoxville Regional TPO reaffirms the applicable conformity findings with the above described amendments based on the ability to rely on a previous emissions analysis under federal Transportation Conformity Rule found at: 40 CFR 93.122(g).

Following are the requirements from 40 CFR 93.122(g) for relying on a previous regional emissions analysis and findings for how such have been met for these amendments:

- i.) The new plan and/or TIP contains all projects which must be started in the plan and TIP’s timeframes in order to achieve the highway and transit system envisioned in the transportation plan.

**Finding:** The February 2010 amendments to the TIP are consistent with the 2009 – 2034 KRMP in terms of the implementation timeframes in that both projects are included in the first analysis horizon year of 2024. The right-of-way phase is currently scheduled for FY 2011 however these projects involve major new roadway and interchange construction that will require several years to build and will not be open to traffic prior to the KRMP’s first horizon year of 2014.

- ii.) All plan and TIP projects which are regionally significant are included in the transportation plan with design concept and scope adequate to determine their contribution to the transportation plan’s and/or TIP’s regional emissions at the time of the previous conformity determination.

**Finding:** The February 2010 amendments are adequately described in order to determine their contribution to the regional emissions through the use of the Knoxville Regional TPO's travel demand forecasting model.

- iii.) The design concept and scope of each regionally significant project in the new plan and/or TIP are not significantly different from that described in the previous transportation plan.

**Finding:** The February 2010 amendments are all consistent with the descriptions of work and scope with those found in the project list for the 2009 – 2034 KRMP.

- iv.) The previous regional emissions analysis is consistent with the requirements of 40 CFR 93.118 (including that conformity to all currently applicable budgets is demonstrated) and/or 40 CFR 93.119, as applicable.

**Finding:** The previous regional emissions analysis followed the requirements of 40 CFR 93.119 (Interim emissions in areas with motor vehicle emissions budgets). As noted previously, the previous regional emissions analysis was completed recently (adopted in May 2009) and therefore all of the planning, socioeconomic and model assumptions that were used are still applicable. The February 2010 amendments were modeled and formally included as currently described within the previous regional emissions analysis, which was demonstrated to pass the applicable interim emissions tests for Ozone and PM2.5.

### **Timely Implementation of TCMs**

The applicable State Implementation Plans for the Knoxville Region do not contain any Transportation Control Measures; therefore, nothing in the amended TIP would interfere with their implementation.

### **Fiscal Constraint Analysis**

The February 2010 TIP amendments did not affect the proposed costs of these projects and therefore the most recent financial plan for the FY 2008 – 2011 TIP demonstrates financial constraint for all fiscal years.

### **Interagency Consultation and Public Involvement Analysis**

The prior regional emissions analysis leading to U.S. DOT's approval on May 29, 2009 complied with all federal and state requirements for interagency consultation and public involvement. The February 2010 amendments underwent a 14-day public comment period as per the Knoxville Regional TPO Public Involvement Plan and no comments were received. The amendments were also reviewed by the Knoxville Area Air Quality Interagency Consultation Group for a 14-day period.