

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE
HUNTSVILLE AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

MINUTES

**Public Zoom Virtual Meeting –
April 20, 2020 - 5 p.m.**

Committee Members Present:

Mr. Turan Thrope	Chairman, CAC, rep City of Huntsville
Mr. Larry Mason	Secretary, CAC, rep. City of Madison
Mr. Trent Griffin	Representing City of Huntsville
Mr. Russ MacDonald	Representing Madison County
Mr. John Ofenloch	Representing City of Huntsville
Mr. Thomas Nunez	Representing City of Huntsville
Mr. Todd Slyman	Representing City of Huntsville
Mr. Gary Whitley	Representing City of Huntsville

MPO Staff Members Present:

Ms. Shontrill Lowe
Ms. Paige Colburn
Mr. Dennis Madsen
Mr. James Moore

Community Guests Present:

Mr. Houston Matthews- Croy Engineering
Mr. Andy Somers- Croy Engineering

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Turan Thrope at the time and place noted above.

Mr. Thrope stated that the first order of business was the Approval of the Minutes of the prior meeting.

Mr. Griffin moved for approval of the Minutes of the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting held on January 27, 2020, which motion was duly seconded by

Mr. Whitley.

Mr. Thrope called for the vote on the above motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

Mr. Thrope stated that the next item on the agenda was the adoption of the FINAL TRiP2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). He stated that Resolution No. 14-20 adopted and supported the FINAL TRiP2045 Huntsville Area MPO's 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and that action was requested.

Mr. Thrope recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation)

Ms. Lowe described changes between the 2040 LRTP document and the TRiP2045 update including traffic modeling updates to the TRiP2045. Ms. Lowe discussed changes between the Draft TRiP 2045 which the CAC saw in January and this final document.

Ms. Lowe noted a slide which described where the membership could find the new project lists within the document; that the financially-constrained project list was in chapter 9 and the visionary project list was in Appendix J.

Mr. Olfenloch moved to recommend approval of that Resolution No. 14-20 to adopt and support the FINAL TRiP2045 Huntsville Area MPO's 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Said motion was duly seconded by Todd Slyman.

Mr. Thrope asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Olfenloch complimented the plan's look and appearance, appreciated that it is much shorter, and said it could still be even shorter, still, next time. He commented there's a lot of good data, plus, it looks very good.

Mr. Olfenloch asked about the Arsenal East Connector interchange question he had at the last meeting- where is the Arsenal East Connector interchange with I565?

Mr. Madsen responded that a corridor study is currently underway to determine the location, looking at several options.

Mr. Madsen responded to John Olfenloch's question from the January CAC meeting about HWY 53 projects in the TRiP2045. There will be several projects, they are not multi-state projects. HWY 53 will be widened, from Research Park Boulevard

to Pinedale Rd. in Limestone County. From there, a new 4-lane road will be built to link up with I-65 at Exit 365 and provide a bypass to Ardmore. Only the segment near I-65 is outside of the MPO study area, and the project never reaches Tennessee.

Mr. Mason commented that on page 42 and 43 the road improvement projects are listed and it discusses the widening of roads, but the bicycle projects and pedestrian improvements on these projects could be listed on the same table, or in the same chapter. For example, Old Madison Pike: you can't see the planned bicycle infrastructure on this road widening project without going to page 70. To see the bicycle projects for Old Madison Pike, they're in a completely different section, different pages, so you're flipping back and forth. And it would be easier to find if all of that information were together.

Ms. Colburn responded that having the list in Chapter 5 rather than somewhere else in the document is a hold-over from the 2040 LRTP, meaning the bike/ped projects were a separate list in that prior document, primarily because it makes it easier for FHWA and FTA to find bicycle and pedestrian projects. The feds have preferred them listed separately in the past, and during TMA certification review it was easier to check that box that they've seen the projects list.

Ms. Lowe said it is something the MPO staff can take a look at in the future, with the upcoming TMA certification review.

General agreement among several commenters that the document is streamlined and easier to read than the prior version and an upgrade.

Mr. Thrope conducted a role call for the vote on Resolution No. 14-20, and it was unanimously approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

(Meeting adjourned at 540pm.)