



City of Bay
City of Bono
City of Brookland
City of Jonesboro
Craighead County
Jonesboro Economical Transportation System
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
Federal Highway Administration
Federal Transit Administration

July 21, 2017

RE: Active Transportation Committee Meeting of July 28th, 2017

Dear Committee Members:

The agenda for the upcoming meeting of the Jonesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Active Transportation Committee is attached. The meeting will be held **at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, July 28th, 2017 in Suite A of the Craighead County Extension Office (611 E. Washington Ave.).**

The main purpose of this meeting is to review map drafts of prospective catalyst projects, and develop suggestions for potential points of connectivity for the proposed priority routes identified in the Active Transportation Plan. As always, all stakeholders to the regional transportation planning process are welcome to attend this meeting.

Please call the MPO staff office at (870) 933-4623 if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Erica Tait', is written in a cursive style.

Erica Tait
MPO Director



MPO ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Craighead County Extension Office
July 28, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to speak at the conclusion of the meeting, or as otherwise specified by the MPO Study Director. It is requested that presentations be limited to three minutes, and that members of the audience identify themselves, give their address, and state their point as briefly as possible when addressing the Committee.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services are requested to contact the Metropolitan Planning Organization office (Tel # (870) 933-4623) 48 hours in advance of the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

- 1. Committee Chair to call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Welcome and Introductions**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
- 4. Staff Updates**
 - A. My Healthy Jonesboro Coalition (Technical Memo-Aggie Road Walk Audit)
 - i. Aggie Road Pop Up Event
 - ii. Alternative Funding (Safety Lights)
- 5. Old Business**
 - A. Mapping
- 6. New Business**
 - A. Public Meeting Schedule
- 7. Public Comments**
- 8. Adjournment**

Contact Lists (Emails, Faxes, and Postal Mail Addresses): Please update your information and give us the addresses of those you would like to be on the MPO mailing list.

Active Transportation Committee (ATC) Meeting Minutes

Date June 23, 2017

Location Conference Room
NEA United Way
407 Union Street
Jonesboro, AR 72403

Time 10:00 a.m.

Opening Bill Smith called the Active Transportation Committee (ATC) meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. on June 23, 2017 in the conference room of the NEA United Way.

Roll Call Those in attendance are listed below.

Active Transportation Committee Members (ATC)

Bill Smith, <i>Chair</i>	Northeast Arkansas Bicycle Coalition (NEABC)
Tyler Brown, <i>Vice Chair</i>	University of Arkansas Extension Office
Michael Black	Jonesboro Economical Transportation Systems (JETS), Transit Director
Jeff Mansker	Jonesboro Economical Transportation Systems (JETS), Transportation Options Coordinator
Danny Kapales	Jonesboro Parks & Recreation
Jeff Griffin	Arkansas Department of Health
Brandon Haley	St. Bernard's Health & Wellness, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator
Holly Stuart	Northeast Arkansas Trails Organization (NEATO) Representative

Staff

Erica Tait	MPO Director
Cecelie Cochran	MPO Assistant Planner
Cade Howard	MPO Intern

Others

Harold Carter	City of Jonesboro, Resident
Pamela Alexander	City of Jonesboro, Resident

Welcome and Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

Tyler Brown made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the Active Transportation Committee (ATC) meeting on May 26, 2017; the motion was seconded by Danny Kapales. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Staff UpdatesTechnical Memo (Aggie Road Walk Audit)I. *Aggie Road Pop Up Event*

Jeff Griffin of the Arkansas Department of Health reminded the committee that he presented a technical report of the findings from the Aggie Road Walk Audit to both local stakeholders and members of the My Healthy Jonesboro Coalition in March of 2017. He stated that Aggie Road was originally selected for the walk audit due to a pressing need within the community to identify a pedestrian corridor in the area that could potentially connect Downtown Jonesboro to ASU campus. Jeff Griffin explained that, in addition to the walk audit, he also reviewed a number of existing area plans along with city regulations/guidelines in order to produce a set of short, mid, and long-term recommendations that would help improve the overall safety and enhancement of Aggie Road. He stated that the report contains suggestions of low cost projects and standards that could be highly impactful to the surrounding region of the Aggie Road corridor. Jeff Griffin asserted that these efforts could help boost the city's eligibility to receive grant funding for certain improvement projects within the area.

Tyler Brown informed the committee that the My Healthy Jonesboro Coalition will be meeting on July 25, 2017 at 10:00 am to discuss potential dates for the pop up event, which will help local citizens visualize proposed changes to the existing area. He notified members that there has been expressed interest in hosting the pop up event on the day of an ASU football game to garner maximum citizen awareness/participation. Tyler Brown stated that all members of the committee are welcome to attend the upcoming meeting of the My Healthy Jonesboro Coalition.

Alternative Funding (Safety Lights)

Tyler Brown stated that he and Erica will present the idea for alternative funding for the purchase of safety lights at the upcoming meeting of the My Healthy Jonesboro Coalition on June 25, 2017. Bill Smith proposed that the safety lights be distributed during the pop up event should funding be awarded. Tyler Brown responded by stating that he would need to confirm with Erica her preferred quantity of the lights and determine an estimated timeframe of receiving from both the funding source and the light manufacturer before any confirmation can be given on that proposal.

New Business

Mapping

Cecelie and Cade displayed several maps of the MPO region to the committee, along with two maps of the Preliminary Bicycle Network/Route for the state of Arkansas. Erica explained to members that the maps of the MPO region show the functional classification of major roads/arterials in conjunction with proposed Greenway trails throughout the MPO jurisdiction. She added that the map collection also includes the 2016 Strava user data of highly active bicycle/pedestrian routes within the region, as well as an existing Stakeholder Composite Map of previously recommended road treatments for the accommodation of cyclists and pedestrians. Erica asked members to review the information presented in the given maps, and identify/mark potential points of connection for cyclists and pedestrians to access within the MPO region that are reasonably relative to the state bicycle network. She advised the committee to take into account the traffic volume and probability of safety on all roads before choosing potential baseline routes. Erica stated that next step in the mapping process will involve the selection of specific sites or clusters, such as schools, hospitals, trails, etc., in which to prioritize the proposed points of connection.

Jeff Griffin stated that more clarification is needed regarding the exact location of where the Arkansas Bicycle Trail Network stops just south of the MPO boundary before potential routing options can be agreed on. Committee members identified three possible alternative route options for connectivity, and asked Erica to create a map containing an overlay of the 2016 Strava user data with the proposed path options. Jeff Griffin and Bill Smith agreed that members should schedule a working session in order to review the map and visualize how the potential options for connectivity correlate with the main routes displayed on the 2016 Strava user data to determine feasibility. Committee members decided on the date of July 14, 2017 at 10:00 am for the working meeting. Erica stated that she would email the maps to the committee for review prior to the date of working meeting. Jeff Griffin stated that he would email MPO staff a PDF copy of a close up version of the map containing the statewide bicycle trail network as soon as one is made available to him.

Public Comments

Harold Carter inquired about the city's enforcement of the proposed strategy for the creation of design standards for bike/ped facilities and/or trails, which is presented under Goal 2 of the ATP. Erica responded by clarifying that, although both federal and state transportation agencies may set a range of design parameters for road treatments/accommodations, it is ultimately up to local jurisdictions to adopt and/or define their own standards within the state of Arkansas. She reiterated that the MPO has no authority to force local jurisdictions to adopt and/or enforce the recommendations that will be presented in the ATP.

Adjournment

Tyler Brown made a motion to adjourn the ATC meeting; the motion was seconded by Michael Black. The meeting adjourned at 11:56 am.