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TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT  
{PRIVATE } COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD

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**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2008    **Start Time:** 2:07 p.m.    **Adjournment:** 3:27 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

Linda L. Koop (Chair), Sheffie Kadane (Vice Chair), Jerry R. Allen, Vonciel Jones Hill, Angela Hunt, Ron Natinsky, Pauline Medrano, Carolyn R. Davis

**Committee Members Absent:**

None

**Other Council Members Present:**

None

**City Executive Staff Present:**

Ramon Miguez, Assistant City Manager

**TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Minutes for June 23, 2008**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the June 23, 2008 meeting subject to corrections. No corrections were suggested and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Hill

Seconded by: Kadane

Passed unanimously

**2. 2008 Dallas County Major Capital Improvement Program (MCIP) Call for Projects**

**Presenters:** John Brunk, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation  
Keith Manoy, Program Manager, Public Works and Transportation

Mr. Brunk provided a follow-up to the Dallas County MCIP briefing given on June 23, 2008. He provided an alphabetized list of thirty-nine road and bicycle/pedestrian projects for Committee review. The deadline for project applications is August 29, 2008 with project selection due in the Spring 2009. Selected projects will be constructed in the 2013-2015 timeframe and be funded on a 50/50 basis with the County.

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Ms. Hunt requested that the Katy Trail bicycle/pedestrian bridge at Mockingbird be added to the list. She indicated that her priority at this time is to identify funding for a basic bridge design, but allow for the addition of architectural elements and other amenities at a later time.

Mr. Natinsky was pleased to see the inclusion of the northbound Dallas North Tollway service road project in the list. He asked staff to locate the city limit line relative to the southbound service road to help determine whether the City of Dallas should also submit this project. He also expressed an interest in the development of the Cotton Belt trail in coordination with the construction of rail passenger service in the corridor.

Ms. Medrano asked for assistance with sidewalks to provide access from the Senior Source, recently relocated to a building on Harry Hines, to DART transit. It was suggested that this type of project might best be addressed through City of Dallas funding mechanisms. Staff indicated that they would contact DART and management at the Senior Source to see what assistance could be provided.

A motion was made to approve the project list with consideration being given to the additional projects discussed by the Committee.

Made by: Natinsky

Seconded by: Hill

Passed unanimously

**3. Code Amendment to Provide an Extended Age Limit for Low Emission Taxicabs**

**Presenters:** John Brunk, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation  
Bob Titlow, Program Manager, Public Works and Transportation

Mr. Brunk introduced the Regional Green Taxicab program that is intended to encourage taxicab owners to use hybrid-electric and other low emission vehicles as taxicabs. In order to support this program, an amendment to the Dallas City Code is proposed to allow a service life extension from five to seven years for vehicles that qualify as alternative fuel vehicles.

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Mr. Natinsky asked if the definition of alternative fuel vehicles was clear enough to ensure that the vehicle is low emission and appropriate for use as a taxicab. Mr. Brunk stated that these vehicles had to meet the EPA Tier II Bin 1-3 emission standards.

A motion was made to move the Code amendment forward to full Council for consideration on August 27, 2008.

Made by: Natinsky      Seconded by: Kadane      Passed unanimously

#### **4. Neighborhood Traffic Management Policy Update – Status Report**

**Presenters:** John Brunk, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation  
Keith Manoy, Program Manager, Public Works and Transportation

Mr. Manoy gave an overview of the current Neighborhood Traffic Management Policy and gave definitions of new tools that are being used to address neighborhood traffic issues. He discussed road closures, Dynamic Speed Display Signs, and a pilot program for speed cushions.

##### **Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Mr. Natinsky asked for an example of a collector roadway. Mr. Manoy identified Preston Trails as a "collector" because it is a low volume street that collects traffic from other streets and delivers it to major arterials. Mr. Natinsky indicated that he had a neighborhood that wanted to purchase a dynamic speed display sign and asked staff to consider if this could be done. He also asked if other cities have identified any other tools that could calm traffic without causing issues for emergency responders. Mr. Manoy stated that he was not aware of any new tools at this time.

Mr. Kadane asked if neighborhoods have to maintain road closures. Mr. Manoy stated that it is the neighborhood's responsibility to maintain the closure. Mr. Kadane indicated that he agreed with staff that posting signs in a neighborhood during the road hump review process would not be helpful.

Ms. Davis asked about the process for requesting speed humps. Mr. Manoy explained that a citizen contacts the City to request the speed bumps, staff examines the street to see if it meets the program's basic eligibility requirements and making sure that it is not an emergency response route, then a petition is sent to the citizen to demonstrate community support for the request.

Ms. Koop asked if this will come back to the Committee or to the whole Council after the Plan Commission takes action. Mr. Brunk stated that it will come back to full Council unless there are major changes recommended by the Commission. If major changes are suggested, they would be brought back to the Committee for review.

#### **5. Items for Discussion**

##### **a. Bicycle-Friendly City**

The Committee discussed the need to update the City's 1985 Bicycle Plan. Ms. Koop stated that she would send a letter to the North Central Texas Council of

Governments requesting funding assistance to update the plan.

**b. Rail North Texas**

Ms. Koop and Mr. Natinsky discussed the regional efforts that are underway to fund a regional rail transit system. It was noted that there would be a Regional Town Hall Meeting at the end of the Transportation Summit on August 15, 2008 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Omni Mandalay Hotel.

*Linda L. Koop* (AK)

Linda L. Koop, Chair  
Transportation and Environment Committee

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