

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD

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The Transportation and Environment Committee (TEC) meetings are recorded. Agenda materials and audiotapes may be reviewed/copied by contacting the Public Works and Transportation TEC Staff Coordinator at 214.670.4147.

Meeting Date: August 25, 2009 **Start Time:** 2:04 p.m. **Adjournment:** 3:13 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

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

Committee Members Absent:

None

Other Council Members Present:

None

City Executive Staff Present:

Jill Jordan, Assistant City Manager

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. **Approval of Minutes for August 11, 2009**

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the August 11, 2009 meeting subject to corrections. No corrections were suggested and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Kadane

Seconded by: Allen

Passed unanimously

2. **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Presenter: Eric Griffin, Interim Director, Office of Environmental Quality

Mr. Griffin's presentation covered the following: (1) greenhouse gases and CO2; (2) projected impacts/trends of greenhouse gases and climate change; (3) City of Dallas emissions inventory; and, (4) the next steps and pending federal legislation.

Ralph Garboushian, Legislative Associate with McCall Associates joined the meeting by conference call. He provided a handout that summarized the pending legislation that is currently before Congress including HR 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act and SB 1462, the American Clean Energy Leadership Act.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Koop asked staff to provide a copy of the Carper Bill, SB 575. This bill will allocate money to Metropolitan areas. Mr. Griffin will provide this document.

Ms. Hill stated that she will be going to Washington, September 29, 2009, for a three day trip to talk with various legislators about the House Bill that will impose mandates on local governments, but not direct resources to those governments. She will also be discussing funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program.

Ms. Jasso indicated that the City will be receiving money in the stimulus package for weatherization and asked Mr. Garboushian when he believes that money will be released to local governments. Mr. Garboushian stated that the government doesn't have the capacity to get that money out fast enough. Releasing this money is a responsibility of the state and will vary from state-to-state. Mr. Griffin stated that the City is still waiting for our award notification of the funds from the Block Grant Program. We should receive that notification within the next few weeks.

No action was taken on this item.

3. Truck Lane Restriction Pilot Study

Presenter: Michael Morris, Director, North Central Texas Council of Governments

Mr. Morris briefed the Committee on the Truck Lane Restriction Expansion Pilot Study conducted by the North Texas Council of Governments. He reported that truck lane restrictions were accepted by the public, that they have positive impacts on crash rates, air quality and travel speed, and that they are obeyed by a majority of drivers with or without active enforcement.

The study recommendations were to: (1) develop a regional system based on facilities; and, (2) work with the state and local communities to perform site specific analysis, implement a complete system of truck lane restrictions, and document air quality credit.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Mr. Natinsky expressed his support for the truck lane restriction plan. He asked why only a small part of I-635 was on the current plan. Mr. Morris stated that the parts of I-635 that were not on the current plan were either under construction or will be shortly.

Ms. Davis asked about adding a section of roadway on I-30 heading towards Mesquite. Mr. Morris explained that staff was careful to plan truck restrictions on highways that did not have complications such as left exits or specific traffic hazards

such as construction. However, this section of I-30 could be considered in the future.

Mr. Atkins asked if truck turn lanes on Bonnie View would still go into effect. Mr. Morris stated that they would.

Ms. Jasso asked about enforcement. Mr. Morris stated that as a part of the study, police were paid to provide additional enforcement of the lane restrictions. However, the study found that the compliance rate remained the same with or without the additional police presence.

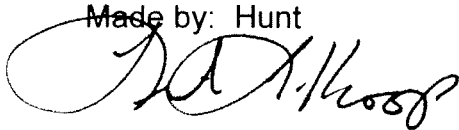
Ms. Medrano asked if this program was similar to the one done in Houston in the late 1990's. Mr. Morris stated that it was similar to the Houston program.

Motion was made to provide the NCTCOG with a letter of support that recommends this effort be moved forward.

Made by: Hunt

Seconded by: Atkins

Passed unanimously



Linda L. Koop, Chair
Transportation and Environment Committee