

**West Tennessee Rural Planning Organization (WTRPO)**  
**Technical Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**

University of Memphis-Millington Campus  
Millington, Tennessee

December 10, 2019  
10:10 A.M. CST

**Technical Committee Voting Members Present**

Mr. Derek Kissell, Road Superintendent, Lauderdale County  
Mr. Robert Turner, Chairman, Town Administrator, Town of Somerville  
Mr. William Veazey, Vice Chairman, Director of Planning for Tipton County, Tipton County  
Ms. Mendi Donnelly, Community Development Director, Town of Somerville  
Mr. Danny Hartsfield, Director of Maintenance Lauderdale County, Lauderdale County  
Mr. Lin Thompson, Ripley, TN Representative, City of Ripley  
Mr. Glen Stringfellow, Building Inspector, City of Munford  
Mr. Ralph Moore, MAAG Executive Director

**Technical Committee Voting Members Absent**

Mr. Shannon Reed, Public Works Director, Tipton County  
Mr. Wayne Dowdy, Fayette County Public Works Director, Fayette County  
Ms. Pragati Srivastava, MPO Representative  
Mr. Hugh Davis Jr., Citizen Representative, Commissioner of Piperton

**Executive Board Voting Members Present**

Hon. Rhea "Skip" Taylor, Mayor of Fayette County, Chairman  
Hon. Maurice Gaines Jr., Mayor of Lauderdale County, Vice Chairman  
Mr. William Veazey, Director of Planning for Tipton County (Proxy Executive Jeff Huffman, County Executive of Tipton)  
Mr. Glen Stringfellow, Building Inspector, City of Munford (Proxy Hon. Dwayne Cole, Mayor of Munford)  
Hon. Eugene Pugh, Mayor of Halls  
Mr. Robert Turner, Town Administrator, City of Somerville (Proxy Hon. Ronnie Neil, Mayor of Somerville)

**Executive Board Voting Members Absent**

Hon. Dwayne Cole, Mayor of Munford  
Executive Jeff Huffman, Mayor of Tipton County  
Hon. Ronnie Neil, Mayor of Somerville  
Senator Paul Rose, District 32  
Representative Chris Hurt, District 82

**Also Present**

Ms. Kamillah Kelly, MAAG-WTRPO Coordinator  
Mr. Mark Herbison, HTL Advantage  
Mr. Gary Scruggs, TDOT Region 4  
Mr. Brian Hurst, TDOT Transportation Manager II  
Mr. David Gray, Public Works Director, Covington, TN  
Mr. Shelton Merrell, SWTDD-RPO Coordinator  
Ms. Dana Rose, Ripley Gas & Water, Ripley, TN  
Mr. Ed Hargraves, A2H  
Mr. Chris Armstrong, TDOT Transportation Manager I, Region 4

Mr. Calvin Abram, Community Transportation Planning Supervisor, OCT Region 4, TDOT  
Ms. Ashley Owens, Community Transportation Planner OCT Region 4, TDOT  
Mr. Antoine Hawkins, Senior Community Transportation Planner, OCT Region 4, TDOT  
Mr. George Watson, Public Works Director, Munford, TN  
Mr. Rich Ali, Developer  
Mr. Alan Cherry, Public Works Director, Halls, TN  
Mr. Ben Bradberry, NWTDD-RPO Coordinator  
Hon. Jon Pavletic, Mayor of Ripley  
Mr. Kwabena Aboagye (KB), Assistant Director, TDOT

1. **Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

Technical Committee Chair Mr. Robert Turner called the meeting to order at 10:10AM.

2. **Roll Call**

Mr. Robert Turner asked everyone for introductions as Mr. Robert Turner and Ms. Kamillah Kelly (WTRPO Coordinator) marked off the roll. **Establish Quorum Meeting.**

3. **Ranking of TDOT Year Plan**

- Mr. Brian Hurst, TDOT, presented information about TDOT project rankings; Mr. Hurst spoke on project's budgets and the IMPROVE Act, and he stressed that elected officials should vote on/rank the projects that interest them
- Mayor Gaines raised concerning questions about SR 19
- Mr. Hurst spoke about how ranking from the RPO is weighted
- Mr. Gary Scruggs stated that SR19 is being designed
- Mr. Hurst discussed the redesign elements based on traffic and ready-for-construction projects
- Mr. Kwabena Aboagye stressed the importance of the RPO, ranking, and CTPRs
- Mayor Gaines stated that the RPO process is not needed because he had not seen positive results with ranking projects
- Mr. Hurst spoke on the projection of the projects, balancing projects statewide, and distressed counties
- Committee discussed I-69's effect on Tipton County
- Committee raised traffic light timing concerns
- Mr. Ralph Moore and Mr. Kwabena Aboagye discussed the West Tennessee Rural Regional Transportation Plan connection to the ranking of projects concerns
- Mr. Kwabena Aboagye spoke about the Rural Planning Initiative (RuPI)
- Mr. Antoine Hawkins explained the ranking process
- WTRPO Technical Committee voting members ranked the projects 1–8 and the 1 PE project
- Ms. Kelly asked everyone to verify the contact information while she tallied up the ranking votes

4. **Other Business**

No other business

5. **Ranking results**

The WTRPO Technical Committee Ranking results are as follows:

Seq.	Region	13 Distressed Counties	29 At-Risk Counties	RPO	County	PIN	Route	Description	Length	Phase	Est.	Notes	2018 Rank	2019 Rank	Comments
179	4			WT	Fayette	101607.02	SR-460 PROP US-64	(Somerville Beltway), From Near SR-76 South of Somerville to Near SR-15(US-64) East of Somerville (IA)	2.6	Construction	13.5		2	3	* Fayette County Bypass due to all the unintended consequences of a bypass./ * I ranked this project #1 for three reasons. 1) The project is construction ready or virtually construction ready. 2) The other half of this project is currently in last year's three year plan and is supposed to be bid in June 2020. This would be the continuation of that project. 3) Affordability
487	4			WT	Tipton	102242.00	SR-14	From North of SR-384 to SR-59 (IA)	3.7	Construction	24.8		4	2	* Work has been done with road sections close to Memphis and Covington but need to be done in the middle areas./ * SR -14 Project should have been number one./ * The completion of the 3.7 miles to SR-59 would complete the current SR-14 corridor./ * SR-14 in Tipton to complete the next leg./ * I ranked this project #3 for two reasons: 1) This project is construction ready or almost construction ready. 2) Affordability
314	4	1		WT	Lauderdale	102251.01	SR-19	From East of Eastland Ave. to Haywood County Line (***) (IA)	3.1	Construction	11.8		8	1	* Dangerous points in that road (numerous bumps, potholes, and narrow lane sections)/ * The road needs significant widening and even some passing lanes in the busy sections./ * Haywood and Lauderdale counties are bound to work closer with one another to advance the joint job and industrial markets in the future. * Putting a road between the two will certainly help this effort since a 20 minute drive to work isn't all that far. This request has been 17+ years in the making without TDOT doing anything./ * I ranked this project #2 for three reasons: 1) This project has been on the books for almost 20 years. 2) This project is construction ready or almost construction ready. 3) Affordability
304	4	1		WT	Lauderdale, Tipton	100329.06	I-69	From Leigh's Chapel Road to South of SR-87 (IA)	3.3	Right-of-Way	15.0		3	5	* Routes labeled I-69 are a little misleading./ Linear fashion from Tipton County moving north through Lauderdale County into Dyer County./ * I ranked the remainder of the projects randomly, based on cost.
306	4	1		WT	Lauderdale	100329.07	I-69	From South of SR-87 to South of SR-19 (IA)	5.4	Right-of-Way	24.8		5	4	* Routes labeled I-69 are a little misleading. Linear fashion from Tipton County moving north through Lauderdale County into Dyer County./ * I ranked the remainder of the projects randomly, based on cost.
308	4	1		WT	Lauderdale	100329.08	I-69	From South of SR-19 to South of Coffee Shop Road (IA)	4.1	Right-of-Way	10.5		7	7	* Routes labeled I-69 are a little misleading. Linear fashion from Tipton County moving north through Lauderdale County into Dyer County./ * I ranked the remainder of the projects randomly, based on cost.
310	4	1		WT	Lauderdale	100329.09	I-69	From South of Coffee Shop Road to South of Dry Hill Road (IA)	5.1	Right-of-Way	23.1		6	6	* Routes labeled I-69 are a little misleading. Linear fashion from Tipton County moving north through Lauderdale County into Dyer County./ * I ranked the remainder of the projects randomly, based on cost.
312	4	1		WT	Lauderdale	100329.10	I-69	From South of Dry Hill Road to North of SR-88 (IA)	5.6	Right-of-Way	9.3		9	8	* Routes labeled I-69 are a little misleading. Linear fashion from Tipton County moving north through Lauderdale County into Dyer County./ * I ranked the remainder of the projects randomly, based on cost.
313	4	1		WT	Lauderdale	126982.00	I-69 Prop	Ripley By-Pass, From SR-3 south of S.R. 209 to SR-3 north of Chipman Rd. (Not IA)	12.5	PE	7.6		NR	1	* Confusion in the PE Phase of a project, not particular this project./ * I did not rank this project. It was explained to us that a PE project is ready to go and it would be ranked #1 in the PE category since there were no other PE projects listed.
								Yellow notes same phase ranked last year							
								NOTE							
								Blue notes ranking new phase this year							
								BLUE							
								Green notes new project ranking or broken out phase							
								GREEN							

Ms. Kelly presented the scoring and ranking results listed above.

6. **Public Comment**

Committee requested 384 labeling to be checked and the labeling was found to be correct.

7. **Adjournment**

Chairman Turner adjourned meeting by acclamation.

DRAFT