



Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization

County-City Building
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Lincoln MPO 2050 LRTP Update & Lincoln Mobility Plan Project Oversight & Planning Committee (POP-C) Meeting #7

August 27, 2026 at 10:00
Virtual meeting on Zoom

Attendees:

Rachel Christopher, Paul Barnes, Andrew Thierolf, Mia Haschenburger (Lincoln-Lancaster Planning); Thomas Shafer, Robert Partida, Danae Garfield (LTU); Stephanie Rouse (Lincoln Urban Development); Alex Duryea (Lincoln Parks & Recreation); Kim Morrow (Lincoln Sustainability); Gary Bergstrom (LLCHD); Curt Faust (Lincoln Fire & Rescue); John Linbo (Lancaster County), Jarrod Walker (Nebraska DOT); Carla Cosier (StarTran), Stephanie Fisher (City of Waverly)

Consultant Team: Greg Youell, Jenny Young

Notes:

1. LRTP Document

The Draft LRTP Document is available for review and comment, which is requested by September 11. Greg reviewed the Executive Summary and each of the chapters, noting the high points of each chapter. The Executive Summary, Chapters 7 and 8 have particularly salient information for the committee.

2. Funding Scenarios

Jenny reviewed the process of reviewing the various funding scenarios that were considered. Since the last meeting balanced approach was developed, reviewed and refined, resulting in a proposed funding scenario. This process included discussion with the Tri-Chairs (LTU Director, Planning Director, and the County Engineer). Federal funds are proposed to retain a 70/30 split between the City and County. The County projects can be funded fully, and \$90.7 million is allocated toward the East Beltway, which is estimated at \$775 million, but this represents a significant commitment as seed funding.

Kim Morrow asked how the funding scenarios relate to the engagement sessions. Jenny said that there are new commitments, such as new funding for bicycle-pedestrian projects, that reflect the public input, although it is not necessarily the exact percentages. The public input is shown multiple times

throughout the LRTP.

3. Air Quality & Environmental Review

Greg discussed the air quality review that was conducted as part of the LRTP process. Reviews were estimated for particulates (PM 2.5), ozone precursors (VOX and NOX), and greenhouse gases (CO-2). Future emissions are anticipated remain within attainment of air quality standards as the vehicle fleet turns over and older vehicles that emit more pollution are retired from the fleet and newer, cleaner vehicles comprise a larger share of the fleet in the future.

An environmental analysis is also underway that will comprise an appendix of the LRTP. Greg reviewed maps such as watershed map, stream map, and endangered species (Salt Creek Tiger Beetle) with the project map overlaid. This provides an indicator of issues that projects may encounter and need to plan for and mitigate.

Greg also reviewed the travel demand model (TDM) results. The model advisory committee met last week to review the results of the TDM, which showed anticipated congestion levels, VMT, VHT and other statistics. The transit scenario model results indicate the ridership increases along various transit routes that were included. The East Beltway had an impact on relieving congestion in East Lincoln.

4. Policy Recommendations

Greg reviewed the 16 policy areas where there are proposed action steps. A few of them were highlighted such as the complete streets 5-year action step with a 3% requirement for new multimodal infrastructure toward the cost of the overall total project. Transportation and managing growth highlighted the need for coordination between the City of Lincoln, the County and surrounding communities as well as access management policy for infrastructure that will eventually be annexed. Transportation and Economic Health includes an action step to consider conversion of one-way streets downtown to two-way streets. Active transportation area includes an action step that dedicates an annual funding pool for stand-alone bicycle-pedestrian projects. Table 32 lists the various agencies and their roles and responsibilities. Kim Morrow said that the policies sounded more like values statements than policies and suggested changing the term from policy.

Roberto said he agreed with Kim, and that the Vision Zero Action Plan included policies on eliminating fatality and serious injury crashes.

Rachel noted that the plan included specific strategies and action steps for each area. Greg noted that the LRTP policies were aligned with the Comprehensive Plan.

5. Public Engagement

Greg shared with the committee that the Open House #3 is scheduled for September 22 from 5-7pm at the Gere Branch Library. The virtual open house will feature materials on the website from September 22 – October 22. In October – December, public input will be reviewed and the final plan will be considered by the Planning Commission, the City Council will review Mobility Plan and hear about the LRTP as an info item, and the MPO Tech and Officials committees will consider adoption of the LRTP.

Rachel asked that the slides from the committee be shared on the Stakeholder Hub.