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# MINUTES OF THE PENNYRILE ADD REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM (CT)

# ATTENDING:

# **Voting Participants**

Mack McGehee Jenny Clark Stan Humphries Jerry Gilliam John Oliphant Ed DeArmond Jack Whitfield Brian Ahart Leslie Cornette Rachel McCubbin Arthur Green Karen Solise Perry Newcom Scott Marshall Jaime Green-Smitl Diane Ford-Benningfield Martha Joe Ray Matt Cartwright Amanda Crouch Michael Williams

# Advisory Members (Non-Voting)

Bill Corum JR Knight Jack Lingenfelter

Zach Madden Mike Ziarnek Jill Hall

Clint Anderson

# KYTC Staff

Austin Hart Nick Hall
Dustin Turner Ben Hunt

Sydney Gream Christopher Walden

Deneatra Henderson

# **Elected Officials**

Rep. Mary Beth Imes Morgan Alvey

# PeADD Staff

Amy Frogue Melissa Thompson Angela Herndon Jason Vincent

# **AGENDA**

# **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order by Judge Perry Newcom, at 10:07 AM (CDT).

#### INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Judge Newcom led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Angela Herndon reviewed the sign in sheet and a quorum was established.

#### RECOGNITION OF LEGISLATIVE LEADERS/ALLOW FOR COMMENT

Judge Newcom took a moment to recognize Morgan Alvey with Senator McConnell's office and Representative Imes. He offered them a moment to provide comments prior to moving forward with the agenda. Ms. Alvey spoke about Senator McConnell's recent local visits and legislative priorities for the upcoming session. Representative Imes expressed her pleasure of being able to attend the meeting.

# APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Judge Newcom asked everyone to review the minutes from April 30, 2025 of the RTC that were included in the packet. Mayor Arthur Green made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Jaime Smith. All Ayes. Motion carried.

# **OVERVIEW OF SHIFT SCORING RESULTS**

Angela Herndon reviewed the scoring results and indicated that the scoring sheets had been sent in email form. There were also printed versions of the scores provided at the tables. Each county grouping had a map with the proposed projects, a listing sorted by score of the projects in the PeADD, and a listing of just the county project scores. She explained that the scores provided in front of them were the most current that had been received as there had been several versions provided by KYTC.

#### OVERVIEW OF BOOST ALLOCATION FORMULA

Angela Herndon reviewed the Boost Allocation Formula. She explained that it followed a similar formula that they use for selecting the sponsorships earlier in the SHIFT process. She explained that due to a rounding issue that could not be corrected by a simple round up or round down, there would be a 17<sup>th</sup> project that would need to be proposed and approved by the entire RTC. She encouraged a project that had regional impact and a higher score. She reminded RTC members that in the last SHIFT process they had selected the I-24 planning project as the 17<sup>th</sup> project as it had a regional impact on multiple counties in the ADD.

#### SELECTION OF PROJECTS FOR BOOST POINTS

Caldwell: RTC Member Jenny Clark made the motion to apply boost points to the project 2-80308.00 for Caldwell County. Judge Whitfield seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Crittenden: Judge Newcom made the motion to apply boost points to the project 1-187.60 for Crittenden County. Judge Humphries seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Hopkins: Judge Whitfield made the motion to apply boost points to the projects 2-804.30, 2-384.00, 2-129.00 for Hopkins County. Judge Smith seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Livingston: Judge Williams made the motion to apply boost points to the project IP20250083 for Livingston County. Judge Newcom seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Lyon: Judge Smith made the motion to apply boost points to the project 1-187.50 for Lyon County. Judge Newcom seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Muhlenberg: Judge McGehee made the motion to apply boost points to the projects IP20060107 and 2-8802.00 for Muhlenberg County. RTC Member Brian Ahart seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Todd: Mayor Arthur Green made the motion to apply boost points to the project 3-80050.00 for Todd County. RTC Member Scott Marshall seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Trigg: Judge Humphries made the motion to apply boost points to the project 1-147.00 for Trigg County. Judge Gilliam seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Christian: Judge Gilliam made the motion to apply boost points to the projects IP20070041, IP20070045, IP20250060, IP20100034, and 2-80250.00 for Christian County. RTC Member Rachel McCubbin seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

17<sup>th</sup> Project: Judge McGehee made the motion to apply boost points to the project IP20250093 in Muhlenberg County. Judge Gilliam seconded the motion. There was discussion from a few present. All Ayes, motion carried.

# SHIFT SCHEDULE UPDATE

Angela Herndon explained the next steps and assured RTC members that she would keep them apprised of any developments or additional information throughout the remainder of the process.

# SS4A UPDATE

Angela Herndon reported to the RTC that the extension to the period of performance requested from the Department of Transportation on the grant award had been approved extending the end of the grant period to 2026. Angela noted this would provide them with more than enough time to complete the project.

#### District 3 Highway Project Update

District 2 was moved up in the agenda to allow for the KYTC personnel to leave for another meeting. Ben Hunt, representing KYTC District 3, provided an update on the US-79 widening project, also known as project 3-8001.1. This project will widen the roadway to three lanes and improve intersections along the commercial portion of Guthrie, beginning at the Tennessee state line. Construction is expected to begin in the next few weeks and is scheduled for completion in the fall of next year.

#### District 1 Highway Project Update

Infrastructure Updates for Lyon and Crittenden Counties

Austin Hart, from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) District 1, provided updates on several ongoing projects. He reported that two bridge projects in Lyon and Crittenden counties, specifically on KY-387/Dam 50 Road and Kentucky 295, are nearing completion. According to the section office, the bridge on Kentucky 295 is expected to open within the next few weeks, with the Dam 50 Road bridge to follow shortly after.

# I-24 Study and Rehabilitation Project

Hart also discussed the I-24 study, which was made possible by state legislature funding. The study covers I-24 from the Illinois state line to the Tennessee state line, with both District 1 and District 2 reviewing different

sections of the highway. Hart noted that preliminary traffic volume data suggests there is not an immediate need for a four-lane expansion, which was an unexpected finding for District 1.

He advised officials, including Judge Green and Judge Humphries, to review both the District 1 and District 2 reports once they are released, as the reports will provide different perspectives due to the varying travel patterns of residents in the eastern and western parts of the region. Information from the study is expected to be released throughout the fall, with a final report due in the spring.

Regarding the planned I-24 rehabilitation project, Hart explained that a decision to include an alternate bid for either concrete or asphalt pavement caused a delay in the project. It was rescheduled from an August letting to October. The work is still expected to begin next spring and is anticipated to be a two to three-year project, which will involve replacing the westbound pavement from exit 56 to exit 45.

# Addressing Mowing and Pavement Issues

A participant raised a question about the confusing "merge left" signs on I-24 in Lyon County. Hart acknowledged the issue and explained that the signs were put in place due to rough pavement. Following recent maintenance patching, he plans to recommend removing the signs to see how the patches hold up through the winter. He noted that the maintenance patches are a temporary fix and the road will undergo a full restoration as part of the I-24 rehabilitation project.

Another participant brought concerns about roadside mowing on state highways. Hart stated that a new contracting company in the Smithland section (which includes Lyon, Crittenden, and Livingston counties) has not met the expected standards. He noted that a combination of the new contractor's poor performance and a very wet spring led to the issues. Hart confirmed that the district is aware of the problems and is considering returning to using internal crews for mowing next year to ensure better quality.

# District 2 Highway Project Update

Deneatra Henderson, with KYTC District 2, began by discussing the district's balanced approach to roadside mowing, which is currently split 50-50 between contract and in-house crews. This strategy, she explained, helps the district maintain control over costs and prevents contractors from raising prices. She noted that this year's mowing was particularly challenging due to a very wet spring, which affected both mowing quality and the use of chemical sprays.

Henderson provided updates on several projects in Hopkins County. The Newell Road (US 41A) widening project, which had been delayed by utility relocation, has resumed and is expected to be completed in late 2026. On I-69 in Madisonville, a pavement rehabilitation project is being done at night to reduce traffic impact, a strategy the district is considering for future high-traffic areas. The North Main Street at US 41 project is quickly advancing through the right-of-way phase, with construction targeted for the end of next year. Design projects are also underway for both Whittington Drive and Island Ford Road (KY 281) to accommodate new development and improve safety. Furthermore, an issue with a roadway on I-69 south of Madisonville was found to be caused by an abandoned mine, and geotechnical teams are working to fill the voids to repair the road.

# Other District 2 Projects

Henderson concluded by sharing updates on other projects across the district. Along the Western Kentucky Parkway in Muhlenberg County, the district is clearing right-of-ways and plans to plant wildflowers. A project to widen KY 181 is scheduled for a November letting, and the design for the Exit 58 interchange is

progressing. In Christian County, a rehab project is planned for the westbound lanes of I-24, and the KY 1682 Eagle Way Bypass project is scheduled for a September letting. Finally, she mentioned that to accommodate a new Buc-ee's, the district is reviewing plans for a triple roundabout system and has scheduled a December letting to widen the I-24-115 interchange structure in advance of the project. All of these projects are in various stages of design and right-of-way acquisition.

# Public Comment

During the public comment section, Judge Newcom addressed Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) member Bill Corum regarding an update on the I-69 bridge. However, due to a scheduling conflict with another meeting set to begin at 11:30 a.m., the RTC was unable to hear the full update. He apologized to Mr. Corum for cutting him off and stated that the committee would hear the update at the next meeting. Judge Newcom briefly noted that the I-69 bridge project appears to be progressing well. Angela Herndon also offered to disseminate an update on the project to the RTC members if Mr. Corum would provide an update.

# Adjournment

Judge Newcom asked if there was a call for adjournment, Scott Marshall made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mayor Green. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes Drafted & Submitted By:

Anale Henden

angela Herndon	<u>December 1,2025</u>
Angela Herndon, Regional Planner	Date
Minutes Approved By The Transportation Committee:	
Fung A Clem	12-1-2025
Judge Perry Newcom, Chair	Date