MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Policy and Technical Coordinating Committee Members

FROM: Amanda Spencer, P.E.
Transportation Division Director

DATE: June 3, 2020

SUBJECT: Summary of Current KIPDA MPO Activities

KIPDA would like to share with our MPO Committees the following summary of current activities in the interest of maintaining effective communications during this unprecedented time with the COVID-19 global pandemic. Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping us to maintain critical operations during this time.

**July Committee Meetings**
There will be committee meetings in July by videoconference; action items to be addressed are outlined in this memo. TTTC will be held on July 8, 2020 at 1:00pm and TPC will be held on July 23rd at 12:30pm. Additional details will follow.

**KY MPO Dedicated Funds – Call for Projects**
The Kentucky Call for Projects ended on May 29th. KIPDA received 32 applications for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG-MPO) funds totaling approximately $48.7M (federal share). Six applications were received for Transportation Alternatives (TA-MPO) funds totaling approximately $6.03M (federal share). Applications exceed available funds and a working group will develop award recommendations for TPC consideration in July. For more information, check out the flyer that was published in April.

**Connecting Kentuckiana (CK) 2040 and FY 2020-2025 TIP Amendment 1**
The 1st Amendment to the CK 2040 MTP and FY 2020 - 2025 TIP is well underway. There are eight projects included in Amendment 1; five of those are new projects. The Interagency Consultation (IAC) group has met to discuss the potential air quality impacts of these projects and the formal air quality analysis is coming to end. The public comment period will be from June 12-26, 2020. Staff plans to request committee approval in July with Federal review wrapping up by September.

**MPO Dedicated Funds Project Management Process (PMP) Update**
In January 2020, TTCC approved the formation of a Working Group to review and update KIPDA’s Project Management Process (PMP). The PMP provides the rules and structure for how the MPO Dedicated Funding Programs are managed. The Working Group has met multiple times with one final meeting planned and KIPDA staff has begun to draft updated guidance for future Committee consideration.

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**Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Update Surveys**
The update of the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP) is underway. The CHSTP analyzes gaps in transportation service for the identified populations and provides guidance for the use of funds from Federal Transit Administration’s Section 5310 Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Program. Current efforts focus on sharing the opportunity to complete the 2020 Transportation User Survey and Transportation Provider Survey. The surveys will be available through June 17, 2020. When possible, please share the survey opportunities. For more information, please visit the CHSTP page on KIPDA’s website.

**Transportation Planning Portal Application Guidance and Resource Additions**
Earlier this year KIPDA staff shared improved ePIF application tools for amending existing and adding new projects to Connecting Kentuckiana (CK) 2040 and FY 2020-2025 TIP Amendment 1. KIPDA staff has also developed guidance and resources to assist sponsors with these tools and to make important information, such as amendment schedules, easily accessible. As always, KIPDA staff is available and glad to assist as well.

**Every Commute Counts & COVID 19**
*Every Commute Counts* began March 2020 with 65 active vanpools, and by the end of March, all but 13 vanpools were placed in temporary suspension as many of the area’s commuters moved to telework due to COVID-19. With the states of Indiana and Kentucky taking steps to guide people back to work, the vanpool program has begun to work with members to bring vans back in operation.

During the COVID-19 pandemic there has been an increase in the overall Every Commute Counts registrants and commute logging activity from existing registrants due to promotion of telework and commute challenges to help keep employees engaged and aware of how their commute benefits the community. Over 1600 commutes were logged in April 2020 with telecommuting accounting for almost half of those trips.

**Estimated Regional Transportation Impacts Due to COVID-19**
KIPDA staff continues to monitor impacts to regional travel associated with the recent widespread closures of schools and retail businesses due to COVID-19. KIPDA currently maintains a subscription to the StreetLight Insight platform which allows for monitoring of local travel impacts and trends down to the roadway segment level. Staff recently analyzed 50 segments regionwide to assess changes to regional travel over time. With the most recent update of the Streetlight data, which includes travel data through the end of April, *travel in the KIPDA Region is estimated to be approximately 58% of the pre-shutdown levels of early March*. Travel in Jefferson County in late April remains at levels that are approximately half of the early March levels, while travel in the four suburban counties rebounded in late April to approximately 65-70% of the early March levels.

Crash data and trends have been monitored as well. Preliminary data from the two statewide crash databases show that *crashes per day in the five MPO counties have decreased by about 71% post-shutdown beginning in mid-March, as compared to the first two and a half months of 2020.*

Staff will continue to monitor these trends through the summer and will continue to partner with LPAs to provide information upon request.
KIPDA would also like to share the following information regarding partner agencies:

**KYTC I-65 / I-264 Planning Study Public Outreach**
The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has undertaken a planning study for the I-65 / I-264 interchange in Jefferson County, Kentucky. The goals of the planning study are to identify short-term and long-term solutions to the interchange to reduce congestion, improve safety and access, ensure reliable freight movement, and mitigate environmental impacts. The community is encouraged to share their feedback concerning the I-65 / I-264 Planning Study and can do so by visiting the planning study website. When possible, please share the feedback opportunity. The project questionnaire will be available until June 20th.

**Louisville Metro Bronze Award**
Congratulations to Louisville Metro for its re-designation as a [Bronze Community by the Walk Friendly Communities organization](http://www.walkfriendly.org). According to the Walk Friendly Community website, “A Walk Friendly Community is a city or town that has shown a commitment to improving and sustaining walkability and pedestrian safety through comprehensive programs, plans, and policies.”