

JACKSON REGIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE UPDATE KICK-OFF MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: October 28, 2014

MEETING TIME: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

MEETING LOCATION: Ben Langford Meeting Room, Jackson City Hall

ATTENDEES:

- Keith Donaldson, Jackson Area MPO
- Jerry Gist, City of Jackson Mayor
- Scott Chandler, City of Jackson Engineering Department
- Brian Taylor, City of Jackson IT Department
- Aury Kangelos, TDOT Office of Community Transportation – Memphis
- Stanley Pilant, City of Jackson Planning Department
- Cindy Melton, Jackson-Madison County Airport Authority
- Tom Fowler, Kimley-Horn
- Beth Ostrowski, Kimley-Horn
- Dusty Mays, Kimley-Horn

SUBJECT: Jackson Regional ITS Architecture Update – Project Kick-Off Workshop

INTRODUCTIONS

Tom Fowler of Kimley-Horn welcomed everyone and thanked the stakeholders for their participation in the update of the Jackson Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture. The participants went around the room and introduced themselves.

PROJECT OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

Tom Fowler of Kimley-Horn gave a presentation on the Jackson Regional ITS Architecture Update project. The presentation included an overview of ITS, explanation of a regional ITS architecture, and a description of the steps that will be followed to update the Jackson Regional ITS Architecture.

The purpose of a regional ITS architecture is to provide a vision and framework for the deployment, integration, and operation of ITS. The regional ITS architecture is also necessary in order to meet the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) ITS architecture conformity guidelines, which require that any ITS projects funded with federal transportation funds conform to a regional ITS architecture. Although updating the regional ITS architecture does not guarantee funding for a region, it does allow the region to be eligible for federal funding of ITS projects.

In addition to the Kick-off Workshop, there will be a series of stakeholder interviews conducted in October and November. The purpose of the interviews will be to identify any changes that have occurred since the Jackson Regional ITS Architecture was completed in 2007, identify ITS needs, document any current and planned ITS projects, and develop a list of project needs. Once the interviews have been completed, a Draft Regional ITS Architecture and Deployment Plan Update report will be developed. A second workshop, to be held in January or February, will allow stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the document before it is finalized.

A list of stakeholder agencies that were invited to participate in the process was also presented. Tom asked those in attendance to identify any missing stakeholders from the list. Tom also encouraged everyone to extend an invitation to anyone else within their own agency that they thought might be interested in participating. The following is a list of additional individuals, agencies or organizations that the stakeholders in attendance agreed should be included in the update process:

- Christopher Wiser, City of Jackson Police Department, Interim Police Chief
- Ron Adams, City of Jackson Police Department
- Marty Clements, Jackson-Madison County Emergency Management Agency

EXISTING AND PLANNED ITS PROJECTS

Tom Fowler led a discussion to identify any new projects that have been deployed or planned in the Region since the completion of the Regional ITS Architecture in 2007. The inventory will assist the project team in preparing a Draft Regional ITS Architecture and Deployment Plan Update for the next workshop. The following is a summary of ITS deployments and projects identified by the stakeholders in attendance at the workshop:

Jackson

- An ITS Pilot Project is currently underway which will create a traffic operations center (TOC) for the City and will include seven (7) signals tied to the signal system and two (2) CCTV cameras along Highland Avenue in downtown Jackson.
- The City would like to include live video feeds from the CCTV cameras on their website and on a local cable television channel.
- The City has procured two (2) portable Dynamic Message Signs (DMS).
- The City installed four (4) red-light running cameras and multiple speed detection cameras; however, two (2) of the red-light running cameras and all of the speed detection cameras have since been removed.
- Major construction projects for the near future include the widening of Effie White Drive and the installation of a new roundabout at Highland Avenue / Deadrick Street. For these projects the City plans to utilize their portable DMS units.

TDOT

- TDOT is currently working on a widening project along Interstate 40 in Jackson. It has not yet been determined if there will be ITS components such as CCTV cameras or DMS units included as part of this project, although the City hopes they will consider the inclusion of these items.
- TDOT is currently work on a project along Casey Jones Lane in Jackson. It is not yet known if ITS components will be included as part of this project.

McKellar-Sipes Regional Airport

- The airport is pursuing the addition of traveler kiosks with real time information for airport travelers such as construction information, local road conditions, and weather conditions.

ITS NEEDS

Tom Fowler also led a discussion on the Region's ITS needs. The following general regional needs were identified:

- City of Jackson Staff, the Police Department and the Fire Department are interested in adding preemption to many of their traffic signals.
- The airport would like to see a CCTV camera installed along Interstate 40 at SR 223 / Miller Road.
- The City would like TDOT's HELP program to come to the area.
- The City is pursuing a more efficient way to share road closure notifications. Currently, this information is shared via an email distribution list and announcements over the radio.
- Generally, regional agencies are looking for a more efficient way to communicate important information with one another. They are looking to reduce miscommunications.
- There is a desire to have flood detection systems installed in a few locations. Some areas flood regularly, and the current solution is to send City staff out to place cones around the flooding.
- The City has considered the addition of blinking LED street lights which can illuminate paths in an emergency or be dimmed or brightened as deemed appropriate.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

Tom Fowler thanked everyone for their participation and reiterated that individual stakeholders will be interviewed in the following days and weeks. Stakeholders were encouraged to contact any of the project team members if they had any questions or if they would like to add additional items to the ITS inventory or needs. Contact information is included below:

Jackson Area MPO:

Keith Donaldson
kdonaldson@cityofjackson.net
(731) 425-8275

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.:

Tom Fowler
thomas.fowler@kimley-horn.com
(512) 418-4535

Beth Ostrowski
beth.ostrowski@kimley-horn.com
(615) 564-2717