KTMPO
KILLEEN-TEMPLE
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Killeen-Temple Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (KTMPO)
Active Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 13, 2025
9:30 AM

Regular Meeting
2180 North Main Street
Belton, TX 76513

VOTING MEMBERS Y= Attended | Y/A= Alternate Attended | N=Did not attend | *denotes online attendance *Quorum 50%+1*			
Representing	**Member**	**Attended**	**Alternate Member Attended**
Sun Country Cycling	Chair Geary McCabe	Y	
Cycling Representative	Keller Matthews	Y	
Cycling Representative	Chad Welch		Mike Anderson Y/A
Pedestrian Representative	Kara Escajeda	Y	
Running Representative	KD Hill	*	
Economic Development	Holly Owens	*	
Pedestrian	Vacant		
Equestrian	Vacant		
Youth	Lauren Morrell	Y	
City of Belton	Joe Dyer	Y	
City of Copperas Cove	Jeff Stoddard	N	
City of Harker Heights	Amy Atkins	*	Kailie Gomez Y/A *
Municipality	Vacant		
City of Temple	Jason Deckman	N	
City of Nolanville	Teresa Chandler	N	
TxDOT – Waco	Rachael Perry	*	
Fort Hood	Gene Roberts	*	
HCTD	James Wickham	*	
County	Vacant		
Other	Vacant		
NON-VOTING ATTENDEES			
Shelly Parrish	Citizen	Y	N/A
Jolie Person	TxDOT – Presenter	Y	N/A

Mahir S	Consultant	*	N/A
Greg Reininger	TxDOT – Presenter	*	N/A
Ray Payne	Citizen	*	N/A
Uryan Nelson	KTMPO	Y	N/A
Callie Tullos	KTMPO	Y	N/A
Kendra Coufal	KTMPO	Y	N/A
Ashlynn Ushek	KTMPO	Y	N/A
David Lopez	KTMPO	Y	N/A
David Rodriguez	CTCOG	Y	N/A
Anita Janke	KTMPO	Y	N/A

Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to Order: Geary McCabe called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment: There were no public comments.

3. Action Item: Regarding approval of minutes from the May 14, 2025 meeting.

Kara Escajeda made a motion to approve May 14, 2025, minutes, seconded by Mike Anderson; the motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding the Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for FY26

Geary McCabe noted that both the Chair and Vice Chair serve one-year terms and may not serve more than two consecutive terms. Mr. McCabe noted he has completed two consecutive terms as Chair and is no longer eligible for the role. In addition, Joe Dyer was elected as Vice Chair in June 2024 and is eligible to be elected again.

Kara Escajeda nominated herself for the position of Chair.

Keller Matthews made a motion to approve Kara Escajeda as Chair, seconded by Mike Anderson; the motion passed unanimously.

Joe Dyer nominated himself to serve as Vice Chair for a second term.

Lauren Morrell made a motion to approve Joe Dyer as Vice Chairperson, seconded by Mike Anderson; the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding recommending approval of Resolution 2025-11 proclaiming October 2025 as National Pedestrian Safety Month and authorizing the addition of supporting activities.

Geary McCabe noted that prior to 2024, the Killeen-Temple MPO designated October as International Walk to School Month. Following insights gained during the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) public engagement process, the MPO shifted its focus to align with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in recognizing October as National Pedestrian Safety Month.

Anita Janke reported that between 2020 and 2023, there were 39 pedestrian fatalities and 88 serious injury crashes in the KTMPO region. Ms. Janke emphasized a shift to prioritizing overall pedestrian safety, expressing interest in partnering with jurisdictions that can provide opportunities for public education. In addition, Keller Matthews, whether ATAC has the capacity to provide direct training on walking and cycling routes, with a focus on Safe Routes to School. Ms. Janke noted that there are challenges associated with safely walking to school in rural areas of Texas and that is the primary reason the shift was made to promoting education over "Walk to School" events. Ms. Janke mentioned that Jolie Person with TxDOT would be presenting on the resources available to equip the school districts and municipalities on pedestrian education. Mr. Keller followed up with a question, asking whether any of the cities within the region have modal programs in place to educate pedestrians. Ms. Janke could not answer the question – but offered to research it. Mr. Keller agreed to this approach. Ms. Janke asked if Joe Dyer with the City of Belton had a pedestrian safety education program. Mr. Dyer responded that they do not currently have one, but with the expansion of the hike and bike trail, it has been a topic of discussion. Mr. Keller mentioned that the Village of Salado is getting close to a modal program, it is obvious where people should walk. Kara Escajeda asked if National Play Day, sponsored by the Texas Recreation and Park Society (TRAPS), could be incorporated into the resolution. The purpose is to get people off of their devices and out into nature. Ms. Janke agreed to add National Play Day to the resolution. Mr. McCabe asked if KTMPO would be planning any events and Ms. Janke noted it would be the resolution with an emphasis on education and collaboration with school districts and municipalities.

Keller Matthews made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mike Anderson; the motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion Item: Regarding a Presentation on TxDOT's Statewide Active Transportation Plan by Greg Reininger, Planning Lead for TxDOT's Public Transportation Division.

Greg Reininger began the presentation sharing the vision statement, *A safe accessible, connected and fully integrated pedestrian and bicycle network that increases active mobility and supports health, economic vitality, and resiliency within communities and across Texas.* Mr. Reininger reviewed the plan processes and recommendations, round three outreach results, and plan implementation. Mr. Reininger noted that the SATP goals focus on improving safety, comfort, and accessibility, enhancing connectivity, and addressing community needs, making sure TxDOT talks to people statewide, rather than relying solely

on data. He also highlighted three main challenges: rapid regional growth, insufficient funding for active transportation, and the disproportionate number of roadway fatalities involving pedestrians and bicyclists. Mr. Reininger highlighted the importance of integrating active transportation early in project planning, considering other travel modes, and maintaining and repairing infrastructure to improve conditions. Mr. Reininger noted five priority actions that the public weighed in on to include a Priority Investment Network, where to make investments first, lead an active transportation education campaign through collaborative efforts with local governments and non-profits, develop design training that includes prototypes for local and regional governments, enhance data collection and improve flexibility of existing funding sources, in addition to identifying new and innovative funding sources. Private sectors around the state voiced the need for consistent design standards across the state. Lauren Morrell asked about outreach in rural communities like Gatesville and Copperas Cove, where retrofitting might be necessary. Mr. Reininger provided a brief overview of virtual public engagement locations. He emphasized the value of developing a Priority Investment Network for a growing community versus one that will be retrofitted. He noted that these require two different approaches and said he would make a note to ensure this information is available. Ms. Janke asked about getting involved in the next steps for the Priority Investment Networks. Mr. Reininger shared that signing up for the listserv is the best way to receive updates and opportunities to participate. He acknowledged the many needs across the state and noted MPOs will receive communication from either the consultant or him. Geary McCabe asked about how data is collected for bicycle and pedestrian injuries that do not involve a vehicle, using the example of a dog chasing a bicyclist and causing a crash requiring hospitalization. Mr. Reininger confirmed that the data is sourced from CRIS, with hospitals providing their own reports, and noted that they are always looking for ways to improve.

7. Discussion Item: Regarding a Presentation on TxDOT's "Be Safe Drive Smart" Campaign by Jolie Person, Traffic Safety Specialist and Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician.

Jolie Person shared information on pedestrian safety resources available through TxDOT to help support National Pedestrian Safety Month. Ms. Person mentioned toolkits are available for every campaign. Ms. Person noted that the Fatality Review Board meets monthly and explained that her role focuses on the behavioral aspects. She added that it is difficult to see the same patterns occurring repeatedly. For example, at one in the morning, a person might be dressed entirely in black with no reflective material, which underscores the importance of reinforcing our safety messages. Ms. Person also mentioned that CRIS has a help desk that can analyze crash data and provide requested details to better understand patterns.

8. Discussion Item: Regarding an update to KTMPO's Regional Active Transportation Plan.

Anita Janke noted that plan development began in December 2024 and that the original goal of completing it by September 2025 was ambitious. The timeline became unrealistic due to

GIS limitations, mapping challenges, and data interpretation issues. Ms. Janke reviewed the revised schedule, and tentative plan adoption for February 2026. In addition, she highlighted the progress of the digital map, showing the initial public feedback and SS4A bicycling and pedestrian icons, and then invited Tay Floyd to give a detailed explanation of the legend and its meaning. Mr. Floyd explained that the survey questions were open to interpretation, so he analyzed each one and linked it to a corresponding goal. Kara Escajeda asked about the public comment process. Ms. Janke explained that the Public Comment Period ran from June 23 to July 21, 2025. Comments received outside of that timeframe would be added to the Public Comment Summary Log. These comments would be reviewed to determine if they are addressed in MTP 2050, submitted to the appropriate jurisdictions, and both the TAC and PB would be informed. Additionally, the citizen submitting the comment would be notified of the process. Ms. Escajeda appreciated the approach to public comments. Geary McCabe asked if the public comments could be used in scoring projects. Kendra Coufal noted that it was valuable feedback, as it shows a way to strengthen the role of public input in project scoring. Ms. Janke also reviewed the legend goals, noting that they were drawn from the 2050 MTP and are aligned with TxDOT's SATP.

9. **Discussion Item:** Regarding public input received through July 2025.

Anita Janke highlighted the public comment from Christopher Turner who proposed hosting a skateboard park event with pro skater Bam Margera. Ms. Janke suggested inviting Bam to present at the November ATAC meeting; stakeholders agreed with the idea. Ms. Janke reviewed the Public Comments by the Numbers, Topics – highlighting the 2-in-1 Survey.

10. Staff Update:
Callie Tullos reported on the Air Quality for both Killeen and Temple were below the standard.

11. Member Comments and Updates on Upcoming Community Activities and Request for ATAC Support.

Matthew Keller mentioned that he had heard about a cyclist fatality in Temple last month. Geary McCabe noted that he did not hear about that fatality, but there was a severe injury on Monday night. Mr. Keller mentioned that he forwarded Anita Janke a link to the Trauma Council and would like to know if they can routinely provide our committee with reports about bicycle and pedestrian injuries / accidents. Ms. Janke was agreeable. Kara Escajeda raised concerns about the Prairie Haynes Ranch, noting that it is at risk of a private sale and that losing it would be a significant loss to the region. Ms. Escajeda recommended supporting the fundraising event on August 29-31, 2025 and efforts to preserve it for outdoor recreational use. Keller Matthews sought clarification on the relationship between Texas Parks and Wildlife and Parrie Haynes Ranch. Ms. Escajeda noted that it was leased to Texas Parks and Wildlife between 2008 -2013 and they had to end the lease. She also informed the

group that it may have a future as a State Park and to make comments wherever you can, to your state representatives and Texas Park and Wildlife Commissioners. It is an important asset to the city and our region.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

These meeting minutes were approved by the ATAC members at their meeting on 11/12/2025.

ATTEST:

Kara Escajeda, Chair

Uryan Nelson, KTMPO Director