



*Heart of Alabama Rural Planning Organization
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January 24, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: HARPO Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Mr. William R. Foisy

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2007

An inaugural meeting of the Heart of Alabama Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, January 24, 2007, 1:30 p.m., Center for Regional Planning and Design, First Floor Conference Room, 1731 First Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

PRESENT

Mr. Pritesh Mehta, Alabama Department of Transportation - Montgomery
Mr. Matthew Rouse, Chilton County
Mr. Chris Green, Blount County
Honorable Richard Buckner, City of Springville
Mr. Gary Smith, Alabama Department of Transportation – District
Mr. Gene Cameron, Alabama Department of Transportation – District
Ms. Ashley Pittman, Middle Alabama Area on Aging
Mr. Randall Gammon, City of Cordova
Ms. Cynthia Hill, Alabama Department of Transportation – 3rd Division
Mr. Robert Hamill, Citizen
Mr. Dan Dahlke, St. Clair County
Mr. David Hand, Alabama Department of Transportation - 3rd Division
Mr. Virgil Clifton, Alabama Department of Transportation – 5th Division
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. William R. Foisy, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Foisy called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and everyone made their introductions. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled items.

HARPO OVERVIEW

Mr. Howard presented the Powerpoint document that was handed out at the introductory meetings in each County.

The purpose of the rural consultation process is as follows:

- Assist ALDOT in meeting requirements for consultation with rural elected officials on their transportation needs
- All Regional Planning Commissions in Alabama under contract with ALDOT
- Initial pilot project to be completed by 9/30/07
- RPC(Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham) contact for Blount, Chilton, St. Clair and Walker Counties

The Goals of the rural consultation process are as follows:

- Provide a venue for public officials to confer with ALDOT about transportation issues, especially the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and 5-Year Plan
- Provide comprehensive information about transportation projects and processes
- Provide an avenue for the public in rural areas to become involved in the transportation planning process
- Assist rural communities to develop a long-range vision for transportation based on identified issues and needs

The governing bodies will include:

- Rural Transportation Executive Committee (Governing Body/Policy Making)
- Rural Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (Technical Expertise)
- Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee (Citizen Participation)

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS

Mr. Howard presented the bylaws for this Committee to review and provide comments on any additions or deletions. These bylaws will be adopted at the next Technical Committee meeting.

TRANSPORTATION DATA INVENTORY REPORT

Mr. Foisy presented a Transportation Data Inventory report. The report included maps for each county in the areas of:

- Transportation infrastructure
- Population change
- County commuting patterns
- Employment
- Traffic accidents
- Programmed and planned transportation projects
- Traffic volumes
- Crashes
- Employment by place of work

The Committee reviewed the maps and made comments to better present the information.

PLANNING SESSIONS FOR EACH COUNTY

Mr. Foisy discussed the planning sessions that will be scheduled for each county. Planning sessions will be held in County to address the following:

- System Performance and Preservation including over capacity roadways, safety issues, highway access, transit services
- Mobility and access for people and goods will include freight movements (truck, rail, water and air and pedestrian and bicycle movements
- Environmental and quality of life including air quality issues

Public involvement lists are being developed and the Committee was asked to assist in providing contacts for the categories provided for in the Public Involvement Plan. The Committee recommended contacting the local Chambers of Commerce. These lists will be used to notify the public and the media for meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Edwards-Crowe stated that at this time no committee meetings or county meetings were scheduled. Everyone will receive sufficient notification when these meetings are scheduled. The Committee will probably meet again before the County meetings take place which are anticipated to take place in the spring.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.