



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, AL 35203
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March 17, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Citizens Committee

FROM: Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2010**

A meeting of the Transportation Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, 12:00 Noon, RPC 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Doris Powell, Vice Chairman, City of Birmingham
Mr. Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham
Mr. Butch Ferrell, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Peggy Cochran, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Pat Hall, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Anna Brown, City of Birmingham
Ms. Barbara McKenna, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Bruce Ludwig, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Dr. Johnny Peebles, III, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Dr. John Springer, City of Birmingham
Mr. Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Mr. Thurman Robertson, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Lawrence Clark, Shelby County
Mrs. Nancy Clark, Shelby County
Mr. Courtney Newton, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Mr. David Russell, City of Birmingham

Mr. Gilbert Klein, City of Birmingham
Mr. Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jim Gunnin, East / Northeast Jefferson County

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ms. Judy Gordon, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Jeff Hodgson, North / Northwest Jefferson County
Ms. Thelma Hodgson, North / Northwest Jefferson County
Mr. Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jim Ketchersid, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham
Mr. Steffen Waendelin, South / Southeast Jefferson County

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, RPC
Mr. Charles Ball, RPC
Mr. Ray Morris, RPC
Ms. Cynthia Barton, RPC
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, RPC
Mr. Harry He, RPC
Ms. Yvonne Murray, RPC
Mr. Scott Tillman, RPC
Mr. Amos Wright, RPC
Ms. Ruth Wright, League of Women Voters
Ms. Sandra Bonner, ALDOT
Ms. Joanne Adcock, Morris
Ms. Willa Dean Hinson, Leeds
Ms. Wytangy Peak, BJCTA
Ms. Carolyn Wynn, League of Women Voters
Mr. Nichalaus Sims, Birmingham
Mr. John Wright, Jr., Birmingham

TCC Chairman Ouida Fritschi called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. Dr. Johnny Peebles III made a motion to approve the March 17, 2010 meeting minutes. Ms. Peggy Cochran seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Bill Foisy presented a report on MPO actions. The MPO Subcommittee, and subsequently the MPO, reviewed the components of 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, Alabama Senate Bill 121 (specifically transit targeted dollars), and TIGER II. Mr. Charles Ball spoke further on the competitive nature of TIGER II. Phased projects must be able to stand alone. Awarded projects will require a 20% local match as well as potentially have additional dollars to add to the project based on historical awarding of projects from TIGER I. The In-Town Transit Project (ITP) Committee will reconvene to discuss how to best resubmit the project for consideration.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski presented a request from ALDOT to modify the FY 2008-2011 TIP to include the following projects:

ALDOT Requests

<u>STPAA-00250</u>	100055156	Resurface SR-25 (US 411) from SR-4 (US 78) to St. Clair County Line	6/9/2010	FM	6/25/2010	2010	\$786,173	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program	2
<u>UMTAC 5310Q</u>	100055102	Section 5310 City of Hoover Transit Capital Vehicle Procurement	6/9/2010	TR	4/1/2010	2010	\$52,128	Exempt	Transit Projects	9
<u>UMTAC 5310Q</u>	100055168	Section 5310 Transit Kid One Transport Vehicle Capital	6/9/2010	TR	4/1/2010	2010	\$94,109	Exempt	Transit Projects	9
<u>UMTAC 5310Q</u>	100055175	Section 5310 Transit Glenwood, Inc. Vehicle Capital	6/9/2010	TR	4/1/2010	2010	\$322,543	Exempt	Transit Projects	9
<u>BR-1059Q</u>	100055163	Bridge painting various mainline and ramp bridges on I-59 at SR-79 (Tallapoosa Street) and on I-20 over Georgia Road	6/9/2010	PE	5/1/2010	2010	\$100,000	Exempt	Bridge Projects	6
<u>BR-1059Q</u>	100055163	Bridge painting various mainline and ramp bridges on I-59 at SR-79 (Tallapoosa Street) and on I-20 over Georgia Road	6/9/2010	CN	9/24/2010	2010	\$1,400,000	Exempt	Bridge Projects	6

These projects are exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

Questions asked in relation to the amendment request included:

1. What specifically is the Hoover funding for?
 - a. Since is it a request for 5310 funds, it is more than likely for a Senior Services / Elderly transport service.
2. Why is there a disparity in funding request between Kid One and Glenwood?
 - a. The funding is based on the requests made by Kid One and by Glenwood.
3. Why is the start date estimate prior to the MPO approval date?
 - a. The requests were received in March and included an estimated start date, but the requests were not brought to the TCC until May due to the RTP Public Involvement Meeting.

Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP modification. Mr. Willie Osborne seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT REPORT

A report was given on the RTP Public Involvement Meeting that was held April 21, 2010. The meeting documentation included outreach procedures, information presented at the meeting, as well as a summary of comments and questions received. All comments, questions, suggestions were compiled in a supplemental document available online at www.bhammpo.org. Questions and comments, in sum, included the following topics:

- Demographics
- Pollution increase
- Transit
- Land use / city planning
- U.S. 280
- Active Transportation Plan (Bicycle Pedestrian Plan)
- I-65 geometric improvements
- Capacity improvements

The majority of questions / comments received were in relation to the Northern Beltline. Mr. Bill Foisy addressed some of the questions / comments including what segments of the project are in the Fiscally Constrained section of the plan and what segments are in the Visionary section of the Plan. Mr. Foisy explained that those projects in the Visionary section of the plan can be moved into the Fiscally Constrained portion of the Plan as money is made available. Mr. Foisy also discussed the environmental document reevaluation, design considerations, project methodology, air quality impacts and economic impacts.

Questions and or comments made in relation to Mr. Foisy's address included:

1. Does anyone see obstacles to stopping progress of the Northern Beltline?
 - a. Design challenges still exist in the western area with active quarries, but ALDOT is working with consultants to find a solution.
2. A timeline should be put together to get this done.
3. Need to focus on smart growth and the core of the area, which is the City of Birmingham.
4. How long did it take to finish I-459 as opposed to Finley Blvd, the Northern Beltline, etc?
 - a. I-459 was a part of the Interstate System and therefore money was available to complete the project in a timelier manner.
5. Commend staff for not taking 25-years to do a public involvement process.

Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer made a motion to adopt the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and the associated documentation of the Public Involvement Process for the Plan, Rebalanced FY 2008-2011 TIP, and the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report with a recommendation for the

MPO to work begin work with the Alabama Department of Transportation to refine the cost estimate and projected federal funding for the entire Northern Beltline and to present a proposed amendment to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan that reflects the refined cost and federal funding numbers for the project.

OTHER

Chairman Ouida Fritschi reviewed the list of upcoming meetings. The new Executive Director of the BJCTA, Peter Behrman, will be invited to attend the next TCC meeting.

Dr. John Springer requested a status update on the rails projects from Atlanta to Birmingham and Mobile to Birmingham. The RPC is currently working to solicit the \$125,000 local match for the Birmingham to the Georgia state line portion of the study. To date, no organizations in Alabama have committed matching funds. The Montgomery MPO is working on soliciting the local match for the Mobile to Birmingham project.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman
Transportation Citizens Committee

Date