



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, AL 35203
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July 21, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Citizens Committee

FROM: Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2010**

A meeting of the Transportation Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday, July 21, 2010, 12:00 Noon, RPC 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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. Anna Brown, City of Birmingham
Ms. Judy Gordon, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Barbara McKenna, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Dr. Johnny Peebles, III, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Dr. John Springer, City of Birmingham
Mr. Thurman Robertson, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. David Russell, City of Birmingham
Mr. Gilbert Klein, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jim Gunnin, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Pat Hall, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Bruce Ludwig, South / Southeast Jefferson County

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Mr. Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham
Ms. Joanne Adcock, East / Northeast Jefferson County

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Ms. Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham
Mr. Lawrence Clark, Shelby County
Mrs. Nancy Clark, Shelby County
Mr. Courtney Newton, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Mr. Jeff Hodgson, North / Northwest Jefferson County
Ms. Thelma Hodgson, North / Northwest Jefferson County
Mr. Steffen Waendelin, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Nichalaus Sims, West / Southwest Jefferson County

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, RPC
Mr. Charles Ball, RPC
Ms. Cynthia Barton, RPC
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, RPC
Ms. Cissy Crowe, RPC
Mr. Greg Wingo, RPC
Mr. Scott Tillman, RPC
Ms. Debra Anderson Burse, BJCTA
Ms. Ruth Wright, League of Women Voters
Ms. Sandra Bonner, ALDOT
Mr. Dale Hurst, ADEM
Ms. Amanda Carter, ADEM
Mr. Corey Masuca, JCDH
Ms. Willa Dean Hinson, Leeds Scenic Byways
Mr. Lou Willie, City of Birmingham
Ms. Cynthia Gould, CBS 42
Mr. Hugh Dye, Shelby County
Ms. Carolyn Wynn, League of Women Voters

Vice-Chairman Doris Powell called the meeting to order at 12:04 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 received a report from the TIP Subcommittee. The annual Rideshare program was authorized. The TIP Subcommittee is working to establish a resurfacing program for smaller governments to utilize. The MPO has received a request for funding from Norfolk Southern for the Intermodal Facility in McCalla. The RPC is currently determining eligibility before sending to the TIP Subcommittee and the MPO Committees. TIGER II planning grant information was presented to the MPO Subcommittee. The RPC will be pursuing money to complete a comprehensive plan for the McCalla area.

NOMINATING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Cynthia Barton presented a report from the Nominating / Membership Subcommittee. The Subcommittee met July 12, 2010 to discuss additions to the Transportation Citizens Committee. Members of the Committee include:

Ms. Doris Powell, Nominating Committee Chairman
Ms. Ouida Fritschi, TCC Chairman, ex-officio, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Mr. Butch Ferrell, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Mr. Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jeff Hodgson, North / Northwest Jefferson County
Mr. Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham
Mr. T.H. Robertson, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Peggy Cochran, South / Southeast Jefferson County

Two people were recommended for membership based on district vacancies and bylaws attendance criteria, including:

Mr. Nichalaus Sims, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Joanne Adcock, East / Northeast Jefferson County

Ms. Adcock introduced herself to the committee. Ms. Barton gave some background information on Mr. Sims as he was unable to attend due to a meeting conflict with his job.

Ms. Jackie Dye made a motion to add Ms. Adcock and Mr. Sims to the TCC as voting members. Dr. Johnny Peebles, III seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

Ms. Barton noted that one person was removed based on attendance requirements.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

ALDOT Requests

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

<u>IM-1065()</u>	100055414	Concrete pavement rehab, underseal, grinding, paverlaid surface treatment, underdrain, shoulder pavement, guardrail on I-65 from I-459 to Raleigh Ave. Overpass	8/11/2010	PE	10/1/2010	2010	\$250,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5
<u>IM-1065()</u>	100055415	Concrete pavement rehab, underseal, grinding, paverlaid surface treatment, underdrain, shoulder pavement, guardrail on I-65 from I-459 to Raleigh Ave. Overpass	8/11/2010	CN	5/27/2011	2011	\$7,520,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5
<u>HSIP-0003()</u>	100055331	Resurface (2 foot safety widening) SR-3 (US-31) from 52 nd Avenue to 0.4 miles north of Black Creek, Phase I.	8/11/2010	CN	8/15/2010	2010	\$125,000	Exempt	Safety Projects	11
<u>BR-1065()</u>	100055324	Bridge widening on I-65, South of SR-3 (US-31) in Alabaster over L&N RR, and over CR-26, and over CR-87	8/11/2010	PE	5/1/2011	2011	\$1,170,907	Non-Exempt	Bridge Projects	6
<u>BR-1065()</u>	100055332	Bridge widening on I-65 over L&N RR – 0.8 miles North of SR-3 (US-31) in Calera	8/11/2010	PE	11/1/2012	2011	\$360,144	Non-Exempt	Bridge Projects	6

These are preliminary engineering studies for widening projects that are non-exempt from regional emission analysis. These projects are part of a larger project which was included in the adopted and approved regional emissions analysis. See Map ID 162 on page 5C-17 of the Birmingham 2035 Regional Transportation Plan.

<u>DEMO-A016()</u>	100055406	Demolition and structure removal at 2 locations along the Northern Beltline (SR-959)	8/11/2010	CN	9/24/2010	2010	\$13,500	Non-Exempt	High Priority and Congressional Earmark	14
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This project is non-exempt from regional emission analysis. This project is part of the Northern Beltline which was included in the adopted and approved regional emissions analysis. See Map ID 172 on page 5C-17 of the Birmingham 2035 Regional Transportation Plan.

<u>IM-1459()</u>	100055279	Pvt rehab, mill, patch, resurface, PATB, binder, wearing layer, underdrain, shoulder treatment and guardrail on I-459 from just north of SR-150 to the South end of SR-3 (US-31) overpass	8/11/2010	PE	8/15/2010	2010	\$250,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5
<u>IM-1459()</u>	100055280	Pvt rehab, mill, patch, resurface, PATB, binder, wearing layer, underdrain, shoulder treatment and guardrail on I-459 from just north of SR-150 to the South end of SR-3 (US-31) overpass	8/11/2010	CN	12/3/2010	2011	\$4,300,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5
<u>IM-1459()</u>	100054988	I-459 pvt rehab, mill, patch, resurface with binder and wearing layers,	8/11/2010	PE	8/15/2010	2010	\$250,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5

		shoulder treatment and guardrail from SR-38 (US-280) to CR-143 (Grants Mill Rd.)								
<u>IM-1459()</u>	100054990	I-459 pvt rehab, mill, patch, resurface with binder and wearing layers, shoulder treatment and guardrail from SR-38 (US-280) to CR-143 (Grants Mill Rd.)	8/11/2010	CN	9/24/2010	2010	\$12,390,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5
<u>IM-1459()</u>	100054989	I-459 pvt rehab, mill, patch, resurface with binder and wearing layers, shoulder treatment and guardrail from CR-143 (Grants Mill Rd.) to SR-7 (US-11)	8/11/2010	PE	8/15/2010	2010	\$250,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5
<u>IM-1459()</u>	100054991	I-459 pvt rehab, mill, patch, resurface with binder and wearing layers, shoulder treatment and guardrail from CR-143 (Grants Mill Rd.) to SR-7 (US-11)	8/11/2010	CN	9/24/2010	2010	\$6,750,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5

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

Questions asked in relation to the projects included the following:

Is the I-65 rehabilitation in the northbound direction or the southbound direction?

If the estimates go higher, will the projects have to be revisited?

What is the grade of the concrete?

Can the jobs be monitored to determine that there are no illegals performing work?

Will rehabilitation be done on 459 due to unsatisfactory previous work?

Will I-65 work be continuous to the Shelby County portion?

A request was made for a copy of the 40CFR 93.126 Table 2, referenced in the tables.

Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP modification. Dr. Johnny Peebles III seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Foisy presented a request to modify the 2010 Unified Planning Work Program to incur PL expenses of approximately \$13,600 federal for strategic planning activities in support of the development of the Transit Development Program (TDP).

The adopted FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program includes the following task:

- Task 6.3, Public Transit Planning, Including Transit Development Program Task A., Short-Range Transit Planning – Transit Authority Planning Assistance; Conduct continuing planning assistance to the BJCTA concerning the TDP update, program maintenance, and program implementation.

Task A would be modified to read as follows:

Update Transit Development Plan. Update the existing Transit Development Plan and Operations Analysis to refine maps, evaluate transit routes, and identify both passenger and system-wide needs. The plan update will consist of multiple phases to be accomplished over the course of two fiscal years. The plan update will also standardize the plan horizon to more closely match with the metropolitan transportation plan horizon as well as adjustments to better coordinate TDP recommendations with regional transportation plan recommendations. Phase 1 activities will occur in FY 2010 and are described below:

Vision and Goal Setting – Transit Board of Directors

The Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority's Board of Directors will be engaged in a strategic planning session in order to develop an updated vision for the transit system's future given the existing and expected financial constraints, as well as the desired condition of the Authority. This will be followed by the establishment of specific goals and SMART (Specific, Measurable, Agree-Upon, Realistic, and Time-Bound) objectives for achieving the articulated vision.

Deliverable: Strategic Plan and Action Report for input to Chapter 1 of the TDP.

Vision and Goal Setting – Key Stakeholders (Funding Partners)

The Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority's funding partners (i.e. participating municipalities and contract agencies) will be engaged through stakeholder interviews and/or focus groups in order to obtain information about their perspective of the transit authority's existing operations, their vision/desires for public transit services as it relates to the region, and their desires for transit system funding. Stakeholder inputs will be used to inform the development of specific goals and SMART objectives for achieving the articulated vision.

Deliverable: Stakeholder Interview Summary Report for input to Chapter 1 of the TDP.

Vision and Goal Setting – Partnering Agencies/Committees

The Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority's partnering agencies and committees (i.e. the BJCTA Transit Advisory Committee, BJCTA VIP Advisory Committee, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham/Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization, Jefferson County Department of Public Health, Birmingham Business Alliance, Blue Ribbon Transit Committee, etc). will be engaged through one on one stakeholder interviews in order to obtain perspectives about the transit authority 's existing operations, and to gather their vision/desires for public transit services as it relates to the region. Stakeholder inputs will be used to inform the development of specific goals and SMART objectives for achieving the articulated vision.

Deliverable: Partnering Agency/Committees Summary Report for input to Chapter 1 of the TDP.

Vision and Goal Setting – Riders

The Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority’s riders will be engaged through public outreach activities in order to obtain input to the development of the BJCTA’s vision for the provision of public transit services. Rider input also will be used to inform the development of specific goals and SMART objectives for achieving the vision.

Deliverable: Rider Input Summary Report for input to Chapter 1 of the TDP.

Staffing for Task A will include the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority, the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham and a contract employee.

Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer made a motion to recommend modification of the UPWP. Dr. Johnny Peebles II seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

PROPOSED NEW OZONE STANDARDS BY THE EPA

Mr. Dale Hurst presented information on the new proposed ozone standards that are expected to be announced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in August. Information presented included the following:

Ground level Ozone – What is it?

- Ground level ozone - not stratospheric ozone.
- Colorless gas formed on dry, sunny, hot, stagnant days April - October
- Primarily a problem in and near metropolitan areas
- Not directly emitted
- Pollutants which form ozone come from many sources

Revised Ozone NAAQS

- On January 6, 2010, EPA proposed to strengthen the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone. EPA is proposing to tighten the 8-hour “primary” ozone standard, designed to protect public health, to a level within the range of 60 - 70 ppb.

Previous Ozone NAAQS

1975 to 1998	100 units
1998 to 2008	85 units
2008 to 2010	75 units
Future	60 to 70 units

2000-2009 Air Monitor Data (parts per billion)

	2007-2009	2006-2008	2005-2007	2004-2006	2003-2005	2002-2004	2001-2003	2000-2002
Fairfield	68	82	84	78	75	76	79	82
McAdory	71	83	86	80	77	75	79	86
Hoover	80	87	89	83	79	80	83	88
Pinson	71	79	77	72	73	75	79	82
Tarrant	72	86	89	80	75	75	79	82
Corner	76	82	82	75	74	76	80	83
Providence	69	80	82	76	73	76	81	87
North Bham	79	85	86	78	72	73	76	82
Leeds	69	76	75	73	71	73	72	
Helena	81	87	88	85	84	85	87	92

Counties over an 8-hour Ozone NAAQS of 70 ppb 2007-2009

Madison, Jefferson, Shelby, Montgomery, Mobile, Baldwin

Counties over an 8-hour Ozone NAAQS of 65 ppb 2007-2009

Madison, Morgan, Colbert, Etowah, Jefferson, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, Elmore, Montgomery, Russell, Mobile, Baldwin

Counties over an 8-hour Ozone NAAQS of 60 ppb 2007-2009

Madison, Morgan, Colbert, Etowah, Jefferson, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, Sumter, Elmore, Montgomery, Russell, Houston, Mobile, Baldwin

Nonattainment: Formal designation by EPA that an area does not meet a standard or that it contributes to an area not meeting the standard.

By State and Federal law, EPA has total authority over the standards and for setting boundaries of non-attainment areas.

Consequences of Nonattainment

- Considered to have unhealthy air
- Transportation planning must consider air quality impacts
- Obstacles to growth of large new industries

Determining Nonattainment Area Boundaries

- EPA's presumptive ozone nonattainment area boundaries can include:

- all counties in a consolidated metropolitan statistical area (CMSA) with a violating ozone monitor, and
- all counties in a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) with a violating ozone monitor.

Revised Ozone NAAQS

Most areas will rely on nationally mandated control measures to achieve the revised ozone NAAQS.

Proposed Schedule for New Standard (Expected Schedule)

Proposed Reconsidered NAAQS	December 2009
Finals Reconsidered NAAQS	August 2010
Final Designations	August 2011
State Implementation Plans (SIPs) Due	December 2013

SCHOOL AIR TOXICS SAMPLING IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Mr. Corey Masuca of the Jefferson County Department of Health presented a report on the school air toxics sampling that was conducted in 2009 in relation to a USA Today report. Information presented included the following:

- November 2008 - USA Today completed a study ranking the relative exposures of students (128,000 schools) to air toxic pollutants
- EPA and JCDH initiative
 - 4 schools in Jefferson County
 - Birmingham - Lewis Elementary, North Birmingham, and Riggins Elementary
 - Tarrant - Tarrant Elementary
 - Selection based on proximity to risk driver - Coke Oven Emissions
- What is an air toxic pollutant?
 - Not a criteria pollutant (NO_x, SO₂, CO, particulate matter, ozone)
 - Carcinogenic in nature
 - USEPA Clean Air Act – 187 different pollutants
 - Sources
 - Combustion of fuels
 - Cigarette smoke
 - Factories, plants
 - Autobody shops
 - Gasoline stations
 - Chemical processes
 - Etc.

- Examples
 - Perchloroethylene
 - Benzene
 - Toluene
 - Carbon Tetrachloride
 - Acrolein
 - Chromium
 - Etc.
- Why children?
 - Greater exposure - Children spend more time outside
 - Sensitive group - Less-developed respiratory system
- Sampling Specifics
 - Approx. 100 different pollutants
 - Sampled every six days
 - Sampled submitted for analysis
 - Sampling Initiation - August 2009
 - Sampling Conclusion - November 2009
- Outreach
 - Meetings with school officials
 - Letters to parents of students in schools
 - Attendance at community meetings
- Results
 - Sampled concentration comparisons with health-based screening levels
 - Both acute (short-term) and chronic (long-term)
 - Tentative exceedances of
 - Acrolein (long-term)
 - Several combustion sources
 - Present in numerous locations
- Next Steps
 - Continued met data sampling for extrapolation
 - Comprehensive evaluation with EPA
 - Potential additional monitoring for problem areas/pollutants
 - Potential remedial actions
 - Anti-idling
 - Indoor Air Quality School kits (i.e., cleaning product alternatives, etc.)
 - Etc.

For more information on the School Testing program within the region or to reach Mr. Masuca, please contact:

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www.epa.gov/schoolair

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OTHER

Vice-Chairman Doris Powell announced the Railroad Grade Crossing meeting to be held August 12, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in the RPC 1st Floor Conference Room co-hosted by the MPO and HARPO.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman
Transportation Citizens Committee

Date

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