



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, AL 35203
Phone (205) 251-8139 • Fax (205) 328-3304 • www.rpcgb.org • www.bhammipo.org*

September 15, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Citizens Committee (TCC)

FROM: Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2010**

A meeting of the Transportation Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday, September 15, 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
Ms. Peggy Cochran, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Anna Brown, City of Birmingham
Ms. Judy Gordon, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Dr. Johnny Peebles, III, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Mr. Thurman Robertson, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. David Russell, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jim Gunnin, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Bruce Ludwig, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Ms. Joanne Adcock, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Pat Hall, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham
Mr. Steffen Waendelin, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Barbara McKenna, East / Northeast Jefferson County

Mr. Nichalaus Sims, West / Southwest Jefferson County

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Butch Ferrell, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Mr. Lawrence Clark, Shelby County
Mrs. Nancy Clark, Shelby County
Mr. Jeff Hodgson, North / Northwest Jefferson County
Ms. Thelma Hodgson, North / Northwest Jefferson County
Dr. John Springer, City of Birmingham
Mr. Gilbert Klein, City of Birmingham
Mr. Courtney Newton, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, RPC
Mr. Charles Ball, RPC
Ms. Cynthia Barton, RPC
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, RPC
Ms. Laurel Land, RPC
Mr. Harry He, RPC
Mr. Darrell Howard, RPC
Ms. Cissy Crowe, RPC
Mr. Greg Wingo, RPC
Mr. Scott Tillman, RPC
Mr. Tom Maxwell, RPC
Mr. Sean Walsh, RPC
Ms. Sandra Bonner, ALDOT
Mr. Jeff Havercroft, Shelby County
Ms. Willa Dean Hinson, Leeds Scenic Byways
Mr. Matt Lacke, JCDH
Ms. Francesca Gross, CAWACO
Ms. Carolyn Wynn, League of Women Voters

Vice-Chairman Doris Powell called the meeting to order at 12:03 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 August 18, 2010 meeting minutes. Ms. Judy Gordon seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Bill Foisy presented a report on Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) actions. The MPO approved the Transportation Improvement Program and 2011 Unified Planning Work Program. The MPO also received a report on the Building Communities Program that provides grants to local entities for planning projects that integrate land use and transportation.

LIVEABLE CITIES SIDEWALKS PROGRAM

Mr. Tom Maxwell presented information on the Livable Cities Sidewalks Program, including 35 bicycle, pedestrian and greenway projects that are included in the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program. Some of the projects reviewed included the following:

- Birmingham City Center Bicycle Railroad Reservation Park
14th Street Streetscape Project
- City of Birmingham Accessibility Improvement Project
- Trussville Greenway and Walkway
- Irondale Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects
- Homewood Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects
Shades Creek Greenway
- Birmingham Village Creek Greenway – Phase I

Mr. Maxwell addressed the use of “sharrows” or shared lane markings as a potential for bicycle striping on local streets. Mr. Maxwell also addressed the \$100,000 in MPO funds that were used as part of the City of Birmingham Accessibility Improvement Project for curb ramps at intersections.

Consideration will be made to include a category of funds for bicycle, pedestrian greenway projects in the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. David Russell requested information be presented to the committee on bicycle, pedestrian and greenway projects in the Woodlawn, Eastlake and North Birmingham areas.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

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

ALDOT Request

NH-00050	100055424	Resurface and seal, SR-5 (US-78) from I-59 to CR-105 (Cherry Ave.)	10/13/2010	FM	11/5/2010	2011	\$2,861,568	Exempt	National Highway System	3
----------	-----------	--	------------	----	-----------	------	-------------	--------	-------------------------	---

This project will not add capacity and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

Mr. David Russell made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP modification. Mr. Bruce Ludwig seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

RESURFACING PROGRAM

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski presented information on the proposed Resurfacing Program that was discussed by the TIP Subcommittee. The 2035 Regional Transportation Plan adopted by the MPO proposes that the Birmingham MPO set aside resources to assist with transportation system maintenance. The Resurfacing Program would utilize funds from the Surface Transportation Program – Birmingham Attributable (STPBH) funding category in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Program requirements would include the following:

- The amount of funding for the Program will be approved by the MPO with the understanding that the MPO may choose not to provide funds for the program in any given year.
- The amount of funding approved for the Program must not result in a negative balance in STPBH funds for any year within the adopted TIP.
- Projects funded by the program must be on federal aid routes. All roadways that are functionally classified are federal aid routes.
- Funds will be distributed to the following jurisdictions based on the percentages of lane miles of functionally classified Minor Arterials and Collectors (excludes Interstates, Expressways, and Principal Arterials):

	Lane Miles of Functionally Classified - Minor Arterials and Collectors*	%
Jefferson County (excluding Birmingham and Hoover)	1,684	47.1%
Shelby County (excluding Birmingham and Hoover)	855	23.9%
Birmingham	847	23.7%
Hoover	189	5.3%
Total:		3,576 100%

Sources: Based on the Highway Functional Classification and Federal Aid Map, June 2010, produced by the ALDOT Bureau of Transportation Planning in conjunction with the MPO. City and County boundaries are from the Census Bureau. And number of lanes from the RPCGB's Year 2009 Regional Travel Demand Model

* Note the number of lane miles and the resulting percentages will be reviewed and refined by the Cities and Counties based on maintenance boundaries

- The Transportation Technical Committee suggested that the funds be distributed to Jefferson County, Shelby County, Birmingham, and Hoover based on size, their experience with federally funded projects, and their knowledge of federal requirements. This suggestion is also based on the fact that these four jurisdictions would be doing the majority of the work for projects funded by the program including those projects located within other cities.
- The jurisdictions will determine which federal aid routes within the cities and unincorporated regions of their area receive funds.
- These funds are intended to be used on non-State roadways. However, it is understood that there may be special circumstances in which the jurisdictions could use some of the funds on the State system.
- Projects funded through this program must follow FHWA requirements for resurfacing projects (for example – if sidewalks exist on the roadway then the sidewalk ramps at intersections must meet ADA requirements).
- ALDOT will review plans and bid projects funded by the Program. The preliminary engineering and plan review process will be reviewed and refined for this Program.

The current dollar amount to be programmed would be \$10 million for FY 2011. Municipalities would need to request money directly from the county (except Birmingham and Hoover) and provide a 20% match. Money allocated would go directly to the city or county to which it was allocated.

Mr. Bruce Ludwig made a motion to recommend approval of the resurfacing program. Dr. Johnny Peebles III seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

JOBS ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) / NEW FREEDOM REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Ms. Laurel Land announced the call for projects for the Jobs Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) / New Freedom funding. RFP's are due no later than October 4, 2010 and are for projects that improve access to transportation services, to employment, and employment related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals (JARC) and/or for projects that provide additional tools to overcome existing transportation barriers facing Americans with disabilities (New Freedom).

Anyone with questions was asked to contact Laurel at lland@rpcgb.org.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING

Ms. Cissy Crowe presented the timeline for public involvement for the 24-hour particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) standard for the 2035 Long-Range transportation Plan and Rebalanced FY2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program. The proposed date for the public involvement meeting is October 20, 2010. Additional information will be mailed to the committee.

OTHER

Mr. Stephen Waendelin asked about getting lights on the interstate at Lakeshore near Alford Avenue. Staff advised that ALDOT is responsible for placing the lights and the local jurisdictional municipality is responsible for maintenance.

Mr. Nichalaus Sims asked if bicycle lane striping can be added as a provision to the resurfacing project funding. This issue will be a responsibility of the local jurisdiction as the requirements for resurfacing will follow Federal Highway Administration guidelines.

Ms. Jackie Dye requested information be sent to the committee via mail or email explaining the bill that is going to a vote on the Trust Fund. Mr. Foisy noted that staff will prepare a fact sheet to send to the committee before October 20, 2010.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Page 7
September 15, 2010

APPROVED:

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman
Transportation Citizens Committee

Date

OF:cb
K:\TRA\Production\01-Clt-Adm\Adm-CIT\10258cb Sept Minutes 10.doc