



August 17, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Citizens Committee (TCC)
FROM: Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman /s/
**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2011**

A meeting of the Transportation Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, 12:00 Noon, RPCGB 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Bruce Ludwig, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Peggy Cochran, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Lawrence Clark, Shelby County
Mrs. Nancy Clark, Shelby County
Mr. Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Mr. Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham
Ms. Pat Hall, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Judy Gordon, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Calvin Rumph, Shelby County
Mr. Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham
Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Mr. Thurman Robertson, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Mr. Nichalaus Sims, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Dr. Johnny Peebles, III, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Joanne Adcock, East / Northeast Jefferson County

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Jim Gunnin, East / Northeast Jefferson County

Ms. Anna Brown, City of Birmingham
Mr. Robert Smith, City of Birmingham
Mr. Butch Ferrell, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Barbara McKenna, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Courtney Newton, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jeff Havercroft, Shelby County
Mr. Steffen Waendelin, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Gilbert Klein, City of Birmingham
Mr. David Russell, City of Birmingham
Dr. John Springer, City of Birmingham

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Ray Morris, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cissy Crowe, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Greg Wingo, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Lindsey Gray, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Tom Maxwell, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Marva Douglas, Midfield
Mr. Martin Edwards-Clark, BJCTA
Ms. Elizabeth Denson, ILRGB
Ms. Peggy Gargis, Birmingham
Ms. Willa Dean Henson, Leeds Scenic Byways
Ms. Ruth Wright, League of Women Voters

Mr. Darrell Howard called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. A quorum was declared. The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. Dr. Johnny Peebles III made a motion to approve the June 15, 2011 minutes. Ms. Nancy Clark seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote. Mr. Darrell Howard noted that the MPO did not meet in August therefore no review of MPO actions was given.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT DOCUMENTATION REPORT

Ms. Cissy Crowe and Mr. Mike Kaczorowski presented the Public Involvement Documentation report from the July 20, 2011 Public Involvement Meeting for the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Air Quality Conformity Determination and amended 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The meeting documentation included outreach procedures, information presented at the meeting, as well as a summary of comments and questions received.

Mr. Kaczorowski reviewed the comments/responses received during the 21 day comment period. Forty-seven comments were received regarding the Northern Beltline. Seven comments were received in relation to carbon footprints, air modeling, Lakeshore Extension, transit funding, and support for the plans. Comments received during the comment period were included in the final document.

The report can be viewed on line at <http://rpcgb.org/events/2011/06/27/tip-public-involvement/>.

TCC members discussed funding and/or lack of funding to specific projects. Money allocated for projects through specific earmarks or programs cannot be moved to other projects/programs. It was suggested that those wanting specifically appropriated federal funds allocated to different programs would need to contact their legislators.

Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer made a motion to concur that the documentation report accurately reflected the results of the public involvement meeting and the report be forwarded to the MPO for adoption. Ms. Jackie Dye seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Mr. Darrell Howard gave a presentation on the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program. The UPWP lists the transportation planning program areas and projects to be conducted in FY 2012 by the Regional Planning Commission and the Alabama Department of Transportation, including third-party contractors.

Mr. Howard's presentation included the following:

What is required of the MPO process?

- Develop and maintain:
 - Metropolitan Transportation Plan i.e. Long Range Transportation Plan
 - Transportation Improvement Program
 - Unified Planning Work Program
 - Congestion Management Process (metro areas of 50,000 people or greater)
 - Air Quality Conformity Analysis (federally designated air quality non-attainment areas)

The Regulations

- Federal regulations (23 CFR 450.314(a))
- "... MPO(s) in cooperation with the State and operators of publicly owned transit shall develop unified planning work programs (UPWPs) that meet the requirements of 23 CFR part 420, subpart A, and:
 - Discuss the planning priorities facing the metropolitan planning area and describe all metropolitan transportation and transportation-related air quality planning activities (including the corridor and subarea studies discussed in Sec. 450.318) anticipated within the area during the next one or two year period, regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities, in sufficient detail to indicate who will perform the work, the schedule for completing it and the products that will be produced;
 - Document planning activities to be performed with funds provided under title 23, U.S.C., and the Federal Transit Act."

FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program is the Annual Work Program for the Birmingham MPO. It directs and prioritizes MPO staff work, including:

- Required Activities
- Information Management
- Regular Planning Functions
- Support for Partner Planning Agencies
- Special Studies
- New Activities

Highlights of the FY 2012 UPWP include:

- Planning Information - Task 2.0
 - Socio-economic Data
 - Economic Indicators
 - Traffic Data to include counts, travel times and incident response times
 - Infrastructure Inventory
 - Indicators Model
 - Sub-regional Transportation Model
- Environmental Consultation Process - Task 4.0
 - Advanced Planning, Programming and Logical Engineering (APPLE) is a Local Assistance Program Designed to assess a project's feasibility, define/articulate project scope, inform the environmental process, help manage uncertainties/reduce risks and educate Local Governments about ALDOT Process. Note: APPLE does not replace the PE/Environmental Process
- Transportation Systems - Task 5.0
 - Thoroughfare Planning
 - Continuation of Regional Thoroughfare Plan
 - Model Street Design Manual
 - Tailored for Birmingham

- Incorporate Complete Streets Concepts
 - Address Context Sensitivity
 - Identifies Realistic Safety Solutions and
 - Supports Community Health Initiatives
- Transportation Systems - Task 5.0
 - Public Transportation Planning
 - Support for BJCTA's Service Planning Efforts
 - Enhanced Data Collection
 - Transit Development Program
 - Active Transportation
 - Builds Upon Our One Mile, MPO Active Transportation Plan, and Individual Trail Planning Efforts
 - Task Activities Shift to:
 - Supports Non-Governmental Organizations and Advocacy Groups
 - Pushes Activities and Education
 - Promotes Existing Facilities
- Transportation Systems - Task 5.0
 - Logistics (Freight) Systems Planning
 - Freight Outlook Plan
 - Regional Freight Profile
 - Freight Forecasts/Freight Traffic Growth
 - Freight System Needs
 - Transportation Safety Planning
 - System Monitoring
 - Safety Education
 - Corridor Specific Crash Statistics and Safety Planning
- Corridor Planning and Special Projects - Task 7.0
 - U.S. 11/U.S. 78 East Corridor Alternatives Analysis
 - Phase 1: Downtown to BIA
 - Identify Mode and Alignment of Potential Transit Services
 - Assess Project Feasibility
 - Identify Corridor wide Land Use Improvements
 - U.S. 78 West Corridor Plan
 - Pratt City Bridge to Graysville
 - Reevaluate Feasibility of Widening
 - Reevaluate Land Uses to Balance Livability and Mobility
 - Identify Multimodal Transportation Solutions
- The UPWP Still Includes Popular Programs - Task 6.0
 - CommuteSmart
 - Assists Commuters to Carpool, Vanpool and Telework
 - Aids Employers
 - Helps Businesses Manage Parking and Transportation

- Coordinated Human Service
 - Helps Non-Governmental Agencies to Transport Elderly and Disabled
 - Assists Private Transportation Providers Who Help Meet Critical Needs
- Building Communities
 - Local Government Assistance Program that Supports Efforts to Link Transportation and Land Use Planning, Ordinances and Regulations, Economic Development and Community Health Initiatives

Why Not ALDOT or BJCTA?

- The RPCGB is Tasked Through the “3C Agreement” to carry out a Comprehensive, Cooperative, and Continuing Planning Process. The 3C Agreement is a formal agreement (Contract) that identifies the roles and responsibilities of the:
 - ALDOT
 - ADEM
 - Metropolitan Planning Organization
 - BJCTA and
 - Jefferson County Health Department (U.S. EPA designee)

The Birmingham MPO Manages:

Funding Source	Federal	Local Match
FHWA - PL	\$1,050,273	\$ 262,568
FHWA - STP (Birmingham)	\$2,185,000	\$ 246,250
FTA - 5309	\$2,493,929	\$ 623,482
FTA - 5316/5317	\$ 50,000	\$ 0
FHWA - CMAQ	\$1,500,000	\$ 0
Total	\$7,279,202*	\$1,132,300

* Excludes \$200,000 in State Planning and Research (SPR) Used by ALDOT for Their Administrative Expenses

\$5.3 million of \$7.3 million Programmed to 3rd Party for Projects and Programs. DBE Utilization is currently at 16%. DBE Participation Averages 12% over Previous 3 Quarters.

Other Notable Expenditures Include:

- \$150k of \$1 million is Programmed to Support BJCTA Planning Activities
- \$585k is Programmed for Local Planning Assistance (Building Communities)

- \$105k is Programmed for Local Planning Assistance for Transportation (APPLE)
- \$200k is Programmed for Congestion Management Activities

Dr. Johnny Peebles III made a motion to approve the FY 2012 UPWP. Mr. Calvin Rumph seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

OTHER

Mr. Darrell Howard reviewed the list of upcoming meetings, including the following:

- Transportation Technical Committee, August 24, 2011, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB
- MPO Subcommittee, August 25, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- MPO, September 14, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Active Transportation Committee, August 31, 2011, 3:00 p.m., RPCGB

Ms. Peggy Gargis requested an update on a January request for full accounting information for U.S. 280.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman
Transportation Citizens Committee

Date