



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, Al 35203
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March 11, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

FROM: Honorable Tom Henderson, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2009

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, 1:30 p.m., in the RPC 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Randy Cole, MPO Chairman, District 4, Shelby County
Honorable Doug Brewer, MPO Vice Chairman, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Thomas Henderson, MPO Secretary, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Ms. Renee Kemp-Rotan, District 1, City of Birmingham
Mr. Randall Kemp, District 1, City of Birmingham
Mr. Rod Long, District 4, Shelby County- City of Hoover
Mr. Andre Bittas, District 1, City of Birmingham
Mr. Tom Magee, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Steve Parsons, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Gene Melton, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Ray Hamilton, District 4, Shelby County
Honorable Maxine Herring Parker, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Melanie Bouyer, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Loxcil Tuck, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Bobby Humphryes, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Honorable Carol Duncan, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Larry Dillard, District 4, Shelby County

Mr. Mark Bartlett, FHWA, Non-Voting Member
Honorable Valerie Abbott, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Delor Baumann, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Mr. Chris Lewis, BJCTA, Remaining Voting Representative
Represented by Mr. William Copling
Mr. Chris Cook, District, 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Ms. Millie Diliberto
Mr. Wayne Sullivan, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Ken Boozer
Honorable Jerry Brasseale, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mayor Doug Brewer
Honorable Larry Langford, District 1, City of Birmingham
Represented by Ms. Renee Kemp-Rotan
Honorable Jim Lowery, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mr. Darryl Aldrich
Honorable Edward May, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mr. Camillo Fuller
Ms. Tracey Adams, District 1, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Andy Mayo
Honorable David Frings, District 4, Shelby County- City of Alabaster
Represented by Mr. Harry Still
Mr. Dan Voketz, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Evan Williams
Mr. Jesse Jowers, District 4, Shelby County- City of Pelham
Represented by Mr. Josh Osborne

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Honorable Roger McCondichie, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT, Remaining Voting Representative
Mr. Greg Dawkins, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Scott Beason, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Honorable Carol Smitherman, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Betty Fine Collins, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Honorable Tommy Alexander, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Jim Carns, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Honorable Steve French, Remaining Voting Representative
Honorable Mike Hill, Remaining Voting Representative
Honorable Barbara Hyche, District 4, Shelby County- City of Helena
Honorable Lawrence Oden, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Gary Richardson, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

Honorable Roderick Royal, District 1, City of Birmingham
Mr. Robert Jilla, ALDOT, Non-Voting Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Charles Ball, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Harry He, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Greg Wingo, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Ray Morris, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Yvonne Murray, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Tom Maxwell, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Randy Sain, Sain Associates
Mr. Pascal Caputo, Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce
Chief William Hewitt, City of Tarrant
Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Transportation Citizens Committee
Mr. Courtney Newton, United Way
Ms. Ginny MacDonald, Birmingham News
Mr. Forrest Davis, City of Bessemer
Ms. Doris Powell, Transportation Citizens Committee
Mr. Al Folcher, JCA Construction
Mr. Wayne Echols, Shelby County Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Terry Leesburg, City of Center Point
Mr. Brooks Baker, UAB
Ms. Pat Hall, Leeds Scenic Byways
Mr. Kevin Fouts, Leeds
Ms. Kellie Johnston, CAWACO
Ms. Kay Argo, Auburn Urban Studio
Mr. Fred Hawkins, EDT
Honorable Steve Zerkis, Town of Indian Springs Village
Mr. Chris Leffert, BJCTA
Mr. David Hunke, Shelby County
Mr. Doug Hale, City of Birmingham
Mr. Rich Nardechia, BJCTA
Mr. Greg Cobb, City of Homewood
Mr. Matt Lacke, JCDH
Mr. Sam Bell, JCDH
Ms. Melissa Hipp, City of Vestavia Hills
Mr. Anno Young, UAB
Mr. George Munchus, UAB
Mr. Charles Long, City of Birmingham

Mr. Fenn Church, CLASTRAN
 Honorable Rena Hudson, Town of Warrior
 Ms. Jackie Wesson, North Jefferson Library Foundation
 Dr. Samuel Addy, UAB
 Mr. Andy Benefield, ADECA
 Mr. David Perry, State of Alabama
 Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, ARCA
 Mr. John Stewart, Gresham Smith and Partners
 Honorable Eric Patterson, City of Leeds
 Honorable Johnathan Austin, City of Birmingham
 Honorable Othell Phillips, City of Gardendale
 Ms. Sheila Chaffin, UAB

Mr. Charles Ball, RPC Executive Director, welcomed attendees to the MPO and introduced the panel of speakers that would be presenting information under agenda item #3.

MPO Chairman Randy Cole called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Commissioner Bobby Humphries made a motion to approve the January 14, 2009 meeting minutes. Mayor Doug Brewer seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Foisy reviewed a request by ALDOT and the TIP Subcommittee to modify the FY2008-2011 TIP. Projects include:

ALDOT

<u>BR</u>	100003804	Repair bridge #1502 over Shades Creek #1503 over CSX railroad on SR-150 BIN#001502 SR-66.2, BIN #001503 SR-32.5	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$10,134,084.96	Exempt	Bridge Program	6
<u>BR</u>	100053082	Bridge Retrofit SR 3 (US 31) from Shelby County Line to Columbiana Road BIN #4549	3/11/09	CN	3/27/2009	2009	\$69,273	Exempt	Bridge Program	6

This request is for a construction budget for bridge work and is exempt from regional emission analysis.

American Village Citizenship Trust

<u>TR</u>	100050130	American Village/Montevallo, AL construction of closed loop access road, bus lanes and parking facility	3/11/09	TR	2/15/2009	2009	\$108,680	Exempt	Transit Program	9
<u>TR</u>	100048290	Section 5309 American Village/Montevallo, AL construction of closed loop access road, bus lanes and parking	3/11/09	TR	2/15/2009	2009	\$96,140	Exempt	Transit Program	9

This request is for transit funds and is exempt from regional emission analysis.

Birmingham

<u>CMAQ</u>	100052764	City of Birmingham Traffic Management Center modifications and upgrade, phase 1	3/11/09	CN	3/27/2009	2009	\$370,000	Exempt	Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program	13
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This request covers a project description change and budget revision of an existing TIP project - #100033183 (see below) and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

<u>CMAQ</u>	100033183	City of Birmingham Arterial CCTV 41 Intersections with Fiber Optic Cable Installed and Arterial System Fiber Plan	3/11/09	CN	3/30/2012	2012	\$359,956	Exempt	Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program	13
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This request covers the change in the project schedule of an existing TIP project to a year outside of the current FY 2008-2011 TIP and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

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<u>STPBH</u>		Vehicle Acquisition	3/11/09	CN	3/16/2009	2009	\$833,805	Exempt	Surface Transportation Birmingham Attributable Program	1
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This request is for vehicle acquisition and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

The following projects were presented for information purposes only:

ALDOT

<u>STPAA</u>	100050634	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from Tutwiler Drive to north end of Cahaba River Bridge Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 9	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,000,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050631	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from 60 th Street to 83 rd Street Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 8	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,500,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050624	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from 34 th Street to 60 th Street Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 7	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,200,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050620	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from Lomb Avenue to Arkadelphia Road and SR-7 (US-11) from Arkadelphia Road to 9 th Street Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 6	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,000,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050628	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from Avenue K to Lomb Avenue Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 5	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,600,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100052387	Resurfacing, striping, shoulder SR-3 (US 31) from Shelby County Line to Columbiana Road	3/11/09	CN	3/27/2009	2009	\$3,000,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100052395	Resurfacing (Mill and Fill) SR-155 from Chilton County Line to SR-25, Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 13	3/11/09	CN	3/26/2009	2009	\$800,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>NHF</u>	100052388	Planning, resurfacing SR79 from Winewood Road to SR 151	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$2,000,000	Exempt	National Highway System Projects	3
	100052389	Resurface SR 150 from 2 miles west of CR 6 (Parkwood Road) to 0.24 miles west of Shades Creek	3/11/09	CN	3/26/2009	2009	\$1,000,000	Exempt	System Maintenance Projects	10

These requests are for resurfacing projects and are exempt from regional emission analysis.

City of Alabaster

TR	100052687	Section 5310 City of Alabaster vehicle procurement 1MV	3/11/09	CN	11/18/08	2008	\$43,617	Exempt	Transit Program	9
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This request is for vehicle acquisition and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

Shelby County Commission

TR	100052704	Section 5311 Shelby County Commission vehicle procurement	3/11/09	CN	11/18/08	2008	\$88,574	Exempt	Transit Program	9
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This request is for vehicle acquisition and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

Mayor Doug Brewer made a motion to approve the TIP modification. Councilor Valerie Abbott seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Dr. Samuel Addy, Mr. David Perry, Mr. Andy Benefield, and Mr. Mark Bartlett presented information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Dr. Addy began the discussion with a power point presentation entitled *The 2009 Alabama Economic Outlook*. Discussion points in the presentation included the following:

- Personal consumption share at high levels as government share declines
- Focus must be on both short-term (recovery) and long-term (investment) spending
- Strengths in the Alabama economy in 2009
 - Growing convention and tourism traffic
 - Population growth continuing
 - Economic development efforts at diversifying the economy and creating more and higher paying jobs
- Alabama attracting residents from other states
- State per capita income on upward trend
- Alabama unemployment rate below U.S.
 - Job growth will exceed population and labor force growth through 2025. Strategies to increase the labor force participation rate and encourage in-migration will be needed to address potential shortfalls of about 140,000 to 170,000 workers in 2016 and nearly 406,000 in 2025.
- Efforts to address the need for higher labor force participation or faster labor force growth or both to meet workforce demand must include:
 - Improving education and its funding
 - Focusing on hard-to-serve populations (e.g. out-of-school youth)

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- Programs to assess, retrain, and place dislocated workers—especially those affected by outsourcing and economic restructuring—should be continued and enhanced because they can improve the labor force participation rate
- Using economic opportunities to attract new residents
- Focus on optimality and sustainability Tax policy (education, infrastructure, health and safety, ...)

Dr. Addy recommended attendees visit the Business Leaders Confidence Index website at <https://www.blci.com> for more information.

Mr. David Perry, a member of Governor Riley's Stimulus Task Force, presented information on the potential funding for Alabama through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Governor's Task Force was formed to coordinate the stimulus spending, ensure regulatory compliance and transparency and coordinate outreach. An overview of the stimulus includes the following:

- Recovery
- Reinvestment
- Spending
- Tax incentives

Stabilization and recovery portion will include funding for programs like Medicaid, food stamps and insurance. The state will receive around \$3 billion (\$2 billion for stabilization and \$1 billion for education programs) in funds. For more information on the Alabama portion of the bill, go to www.stimulus.alabama.gov.

Mr. Andy Benefield of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) discussed the competitive grant program portion of the stimulus bill. ADECA is involved in programming grants for CDBG, economic development, ARC, and recreation. ADECA will be hosting a grant workshop March 25, 2009 at the 16th Street Baptist Church.

Mr. Mark Bartlett of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Alabama office discussed the portion of the bill for highways. All money will be distributed by formula. Obligation of funds will be required to be made within one year. Alabama will receive \$513 million to be dispersed as follows:

\$15.4 million for enhancements
\$43.1 million for urban areas greater than 200,000
\$97.8 million for areas less than 200,000
\$13.2 million for rural areas less than 5,000
\$344.2 million for state discretionary funding

Certification and reporting requirements are established to document expenditures. FHWA is creating a website with more information on the bill and how money will be used. Mr. Bartlett noted that an increased amount of scrutiny will be placed on how the money is to be spent. Jobs that are created through the bill will be tracked through special reporting forms. All FHWA funded projects with stimulus money will follow set guidelines already in place.

Mr. Bill Foisy reported on the impact of money in relation to the MPO. The MPO TIP Subcommittee has drafted a preliminary list of ready to go projects that can be obligated by March 2010. The TIP Subcommittee will revise the list further and present to the MPO next month.

Additional information given by the panel included the following:

- Transportation money will be obligated immediately. Other program dollars will be made available once new guidelines are in place.
- Anyone is eligible to participate in the competitive bidding for ADECA funded projects.
- Transportation dollars are 100%. Other programs may require a match, to be determined as guidelines are put in place.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

TH:cb
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APPROVED:

Honorable Thomas Henderson, MPO Secretary

Date