



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, Al 35203
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February 26, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
FROM: Mayor Doug Brewer, Subcommittee Chairman/s/
**SUBJECT: MPO Subcommittee Minutes
February 26, 2009**

A meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Subcommittee was held on Thursday, February 26, 2009, 1:30 p.m., RPC 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable Tom Henderson, Jefferson County Municipalities (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Mr. Jesse Jowers, Shelby County - Pelham
Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham
Mr. Ray Hamilton, Shelby County

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Honorable Doug Brewer, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mayor Tom Henderson
Mr. Randy Cole, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. Scott Holladay
Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT
Represented by Mr. Lance Taylor
Mr. Chris Lewis, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
Represented by Mr. Chris Leffert
Honorable Larry Langford, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Kevin Owens
Honorable Larry Dillard, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. Ray Hamilton

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Honorable Bobby Humphries, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Honorable Carol Duncan, City of Birmingham
Honorable Gene Melton, City of Trussville
Honorable Jim Carns, Unincorporated Jefferson County
VACANT, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Robert Jilla, Alabama Department of Transportation (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Mark Bartlett, Federal Highway Administration (Non-Voting Member)
Honorable Stan Batemon, ex-officio, St. Clair County Commission
Honorable Bruce Hamrick, ex-officio, Walker County Commission
Honorable Tim Mims, ex-officio, Chilton County Commission
Honorable David Standridge, ex-officio, Blount County Commission

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Mary Grace Lewandowski, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Tom Maxwell, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Greg Wingo, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Tim Westhoven, City of Hoover
Mr. David Hunke, Shelby County
Mr. Josh Osborne, City of Pelham
Mr. John Stewart, Gresham Smith and Partners
Mr. Stephen Beard, HDR
Mr. Kevin Fouts, City of Leeds

MPO Secretary Mayor Tom Henderson called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Ms. Cynthia Barton called roll. A quorum was declared. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Ms. Mary Grace Lewandowski reviewed a request by ALDOT and the TIP Subcommittee to modify the FY2008-2011 TIP. Projects include:

ALDOT

<u>BR</u>	10003804	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

ClasTran

<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

<u>TR</u>	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

<u>TR</u>	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

Mr. Bill Foisy noted that the Transportation Citizens Committee approved the request to amend the TIP. Mr. David Hunke gave a report from the Transportation Technical Committee. The TTC approved the request to amend the TIP after receiving more information on the CLASTRAN vehicle acquisition. The vehicle acquisition would save approximately \$14,000 per vehicle in costs.

Mr. Ray Hamilton made a motion to send the TIP request to the MPO for a vote. Mr. Wayne Sullivan seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. Bill Foisy and Ms. Mary Grace Lewandowski presented information from the TIP Subcommittee on the latest, as of February 5, 2009, U.S. House and U.S. Senate economic recovery bills. The TIP Subcommittee met on February 5, 2009 to review and discuss the economic recovery bills. The group also reviewed projects in the Surface Transportation Program Birmingham Attributable (STPBH) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) programs with construction budgets in FY 2009 in order to determine which ones could take advantage of the 100% federal funds expected to be available in the economic recovery bill.

In addition, the Subcommittee discussed the need to include funds for ClasTran vehicle acquisition and inclusion of a budget for such an acquisition in the current TIP to be eligible for economic recovery funds.

Included in the meeting packet was a list of projects expected to be ready within 180 days and within one year.

Economic Recovery Prioritization					
TIP - STPBH & CMAQ - FY2009 Construction Budgets					
Sponsor	Project Description	Total Cost	Funding Program	<u>Readiness</u>	
				180 Days	One Year
ALDOT	ITS Fiber Audit of Regional ITS System	\$416,000	CMAQ	X	
Birmingham	Coalburg Road	\$13,966,649	STPBH		X
Birmingham	East Lake Blvd	\$361,306	STPBH	X	
Birmingham	Jefferson Ave. Phase 1	\$3,159,829	CMAQ	X	
Birmingham	Tarrant-Huffman Phase 1	\$4,343,484	STPBH	X	
Birmingham	Tarrant-Huffman Phase 2	\$7,892,801	STPBH		X
Birmingham	14th Street Corridor Streetscape Improvements	\$1,406,080	CMAQ		X
Birmingham	TMC Modifications and Upgrade Phase 1	\$370,000	CMAQ	X	
BJCTA	Bus and Bus Related Capital FY 2009	\$755,000	CMAQ	X	
BJCTA	Bus and Bus Related Capital Paratransit Vehicles	\$1,125,000	CMAQ	X	
ClasTran	Vehicle Acquisition*	\$833,805	STPBH	X	

Hoover	Hoover Topics Phase 6	\$1,378,335	CMAQ	X	
Hoover	Hoover Topics Phase 7	\$1,401,920	CMAQ	X	
Hoover	Chapel Lane Extension Sidewalks along Rockview Ln and Cloudland	\$4,183,920	STPBH		X
Hoover	Sidewalks along Park Ave	\$137,024	STPBH	X	
Hoover		\$396,574	STPBH	X	
Jefferson County	Patton Chapel Road from Crayrich Dr. to US31	\$1,462,323	STPBH	X	
Jefferson County	Rex Lake Road	\$7,541,671	STPBH	X	
Jefferson County	High Line Rail Trail**	\$908,544	CMAQ	X	
RPCGB	Rideshare Program for FY 2009 Building Communities	\$1,081,600	STPBH		X
RPCGB	Implementation	\$1,644,032	STPBH		X
Total Federal Funds		\$54,765,897		\$24,590,815	\$30,175,082

* TIP Modification Required **STPBH \$15,076,187 \$28,769,002**
 ** Right-of-way Budget **CMAQ \$9,514,628 \$1,406,080**

The meeting packet included information on the breakdown of funds in the economic recovery plan by state to include:

1. \$513,692,083 for the State of Alabama/Alabama Department of Transportation for highways and bridges.
 2. \$22,996,589 for the Birmingham Urbanized Area. These funds would be programmed by the MPO through the Transportation Improvement Program.
 3. \$8,694,931 for the Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority under transit capital assistance.
- Mr. Bill Foisy announced a panel discussion to be held during the MPO meeting on March 11th to address the economic recovery package and the impact on Alabama and the MPO area. Mr. Foisy then reviewed the provisions of the bill as included in a handout from the National Association of Regional Councils. Mr. Foisy also reviewed the original list of ALDOT projects as included in the Birmingham News and on AL.com as part of the economic recovery request.

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Additional T&I Commitment Provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

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AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO URBANIZED AREAS

(The total available to each urbanized area is shown in the table below.)

URBANIZED AREA/STATE

Amounts Apportioned to Urbanized Areas in 2009, 2010, and 2011 in Population

Aguadilla--Isabela--San Sete

Akron, OH

Albany, NY

Albuquerque, NM

Allentown--Bethlehem, PA--NJ

Anchorage, AK

Ann Arbor, MI

Antioch, CA

Asheville, NC

Atlantic City, NJ

Augusta-Richmond County, GA

Austin, TX

Bakersfield, CA

Barnstable Town, MA

Baton Rouge, LA

→ Birmingham, AL

Boise City, ID

Bonita Springs--Naples, FL

Bridgeport--Stamford, CT--NJ

Buffalo, NY

Canton, OH

Cape Coral, FL

Charleston--North Charleston, SC

Charlotte, NC--SC

Chattanooga, TN--GA

Colorado Springs, CO

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REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (2035)

Mr. Darrell Howard presented an update on the activities of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Information included:

Activities undertaken as part of the RTP update include:

- Confirmation of regional vision.
- Identification of specific objectives.
- Population and employment forecasts to 2035.
- Completion of the Birmingham Congestion Management Process.
- Completion of the Heart of Alabama Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan.
- Revisions to the Regional Transit Investment Strategy (RTIS), the long range transit plan for the Birmingham region.
- Update of the regional travel demand model including a full conversion of the model from TranPlan to Cube Voyager.

Other related activities that have been completed and/or are underway which are expected to provide input to the RTP update process include:

- Completion of the Transit Development Program along with the many federally funded transit corridor Alternatives Analyses, feed the transit component of the RTP.
- Revision of the project review and prioritization methodology to reflect (a) changes in the Birmingham MPO's priorities as reflected by the RTP's goals, and (b) to reflect changes in federal planning factors.
- Development of the initial environmental screening and consultation processes that provides the Birmingham MPO with a screening tool that enables potential environmental conflicts to be identified so that further detailed analysis might be performed during the project development process.
- Development of the RTP's financial plan to reflect revisions in forecast revenue and expenditure numbers, project cost inflation as represented by year of expenditure dollars, and funding allocations for both capital projects and operations and maintenance costs. It is expected that the financial plan will be presented as a funding gap analysis, and begin a discussion on alternative funding sources for the Birmingham region.

At present, staff is completing a technical needs analysis using readily available and derived data. Such information includes an analysis of population and employment growth trends; consideration of the Congestion Management Process and regional travel demand model identify system-wide deficiencies as well as individual transportation facility needs; reviews of all RTP projects and programs in order to determine their effectiveness, and; modal analysis.

The needs analysis described previously will be followed by the development of system improvement scenarios. The major assumption that MPO staff is making in the development of the RTP is that, with the exception of committed projects, all projects identified in the current plan will need to be reevaluated for entry into the RTP vs. being evaluated for removal from the

plan. This is a major shift from previous plans where identified projects were continued from the previous plan.

Upcoming Events and Milestones include:

Needs Assessment	March 6, 2009 Completion Deadline
Project Prioritization	March 6, 2009 Completion Deadline
Strategies Work Group	March 10, 2009 1:30pm
Draft Financial Plan	March 20, 2009 Completion Deadline
Scenario Evaluations	March 27, 2009 Completion Deadline
Strategies Work Group	TBD - April 2009

The RTP's Technical Advisory Work Group will provide a "reasonableness" check of the evaluated projects during the March 10th meeting. In addition, the Work Group will offer comments to staff in order that they might revise the project evaluation and prioritization methodology. Guidance provided at previous meetings informed modifications to the questioning and/or general approach to the evaluation of projects. It is also staff's intention to present the results of the needs assessment at the March 10th meeting and present the Work Group with drafts of the transportation system development scenarios.

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Howard reviewed the Executive Summary for the final Congestion Management Plan included in the distribution materials. The full report is available upon request in print or on CD.

MPO MEETING AGENDA (MARCH 11, 2009)

Mr. Bill Foisy noted that there was an error in the TIP request table. The CLASTRAN request should be a STPBH project, not CMAQ. Mr. Ray Hamilton made a motion to make the change from CMAQ to STPBH for the CLASTRAN project. Mr. Kevin Owens seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Scott Holladay made a motion to include Agenda Item #1 (Transportation Improvement Program) and Agenda Item #2 (Panel Discussion: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) to the March 11, 2009 MPO meeting agenda. Mr. Ray Hamilton seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

OTHER MEETINGS

Mayor Tom Henderson reviewed a list of upcoming meetings of importance to the MPO, including:

National Transit Institute Course, Introduction to Transportation Planning, March 3-5, RPC.

- Mary Grace Lewandowski farewell event, March 6th, 2:00 p.m., RPC.
- Regional Transportation Plan Strategies Group, March 10th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.
- Transportation Citizens Committee, March 18th, 12:00 Noon, RPC.
- Transportation Technical Committee, March 25th, 10:00 a.m., RPC.
- Announcement of next MPO Subcommittee Meeting, March 26th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.

With no other business, the Subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

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APPROVED:

Honorable Doug Brewer
MPO Subcommittee Chairman

Date

elow are three charts outlining funds for the state and the urbanized area of Birmingham:

**Additional T&I Committee Infrastructure Investment Formula Funding
Provided under the Conference Report on H.R. 1,
the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

Highways and Bridges

State	Total Investment
Alabama	\$513,692,083
Alaska	\$175,461,487
Arizona	\$521,958,401
Arkansas	\$351,544,468
California	\$2,569,568,320
Colorado	\$403,924,130
Connecticut	\$302,053,956

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**Conference Report on H.R. 1,
the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
Distribution of Highway Infrastructure Funds to Large Urbanized Areas
with Populations Greater than 200,000**

Large Urbanized Area	Total Investment
Alabama	
Birmingham	\$22,996,589
Columbus (<i>see also GA</i>)	\$1,696,463
Huntsville	\$7,389,965
Mobile	\$11,006,128
Pensacola (<i>see also FL</i>)	\$66,119
Large Urbanized Area Total	\$43,155,264

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
TABLE 2

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 - TRANSIT CAPITAL
ASSISTANCE AND SECTION 5340 URBANIZED AREA APPORTIONMENTS

*(The total available amount for a program is based on funding made available under the
ARRA for Public Transit, 2009 - P.L. 111-xxx)*

URBANIZED AREA/STATE	APPORTIONMENT
<i>Amounts Apportioned to Urbanized Areas 200,000 to 999,999 in Population</i>	
Aguadilla--Isabela--San Sebastian, PR	\$5,525,702
Akron, OH	8,778,597
Albany, NY	14,685,875
Albuquerque, NM	11,388,245
Allentown--Bethlehem, PA--NJ	10,487,606
Anchorage, AK	31,785,578
Ann Arbor, MI	6,450,056
Antioch, CA	8,607,799
Asheville, NC	2,590,439
Atlantic City, NJ	14,404,210
Augusta-Richmond County, GA--SC	3,318,716
Austin, TX	26,107,448
Bakersfield, CA	8,129,407
Barnstable Town, MA	7,563,363
Baton Rouge, LA	6,630,292
→ Birmingham, AL	8,694,931
Boise City, ID	3,616,444
Bonita Springs--Naples, FL	3,367,342
Bridgeport--Stamford, CT--NY	35,284,547
Buffalo, NY	24,430,788
Canton, OH	5,145,273
Cape Coral, FL	5,802,600
Charleston--North Charleston, SC	6,478,887
Charlotte, NC--SC	20,766,306
Chattanooga, TN--GA	4,672,108
Colorado Springs, CO	8,788,893

preliminary