



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, Al 35203
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June 25, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

FROM: Mayor Doug Brewer, Subcommittee Chairman/s/

**SUBJECT: MPO Subcommittee Minutes
June 25, 2009**

A meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Subcommittee was held on Thursday, June 25, 2009, 1:30 p.m., RPC 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable Tom Henderson, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Jesse Jowers, Shelby County – Pelham
Honorable Carol Duncan, City of Birmingham
Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT

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. Wayne Sullivan, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Ken Boozer
Mr. Chris Lewis, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
Represented by Ms. Doris Powell
Mr. Ray Hamilton, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. Eric Womack

Mr. Robert Jilla, Alabama Department of Transportation (Non-Voting Member)
Represented by Mr. Victor Jordan

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Honorable Bobby Humphries, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Honorable Larry Dillard, Shelby County
Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham
Honorable Jim Carns, Unincorporated Jefferson County
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
VACANT, City of Birmingham

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Harry He, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Sean Saffle, CommuteSmart Rideshare
Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Greg Wingo, regional Planning Commission
Mr. Tim Westhoven, City of Hoover
Mr. Kevin Owens, City of Birmingham
Mr. Chris Leffert, BJCTA
Mr. Pascal Caputo, Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce
Ms. Allison Howell, Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce
Ms. Melissa Hipp, City of Vestavia Hills
Mr. George Munchus, UAB
Mr. William Parker, Birmingham Council Office
Mr. Mike Parker, Birmingham

MPO Secretary Mayor Tom Henderson called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. Ms. Cynthia Barton called roll. A quorum was declared. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

IN-TOWN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP

Mr. Darrell Howard presented a five-minute simulation video for the In-Town Transit Partnership that will be included as part of a discretionary grant request for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure. The simulation was officially unveiled at the Operation New Birmingham meeting held earlier in the morning.

Information was also presented on the grant application process for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. The In-Town Transit Partnership project will be submitted for consideration, with a total project cost of \$65 million being requested. The costs include the BRT system, 12 BRT vehicles, street improvements, maintenance facility and 20 connector buses. The project has the support of Senators Shelby and Sessions along with Congressman Davis, Alabama Power, UAB, Children’s Hospital and other local government representatives and businesses.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Darrell Howard presented an update on the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan.

Federal Funds Assumed for Future Use

- Overall Funding Split = 51% Capacity/Capital Projects and 49% Operations and Maintenance Activities
 * *Split differs by specific funding sources*
- Funding Assumptions are Based on Historic Authorizations i.e. How Money was Spent Previously

Funding Sources	25 Year Total	Capacity / Capital 25 Year Total	% of Total	Operations and Maintenance 25 Year Total	% of Total
STP-BH	\$354,775,000	\$155,362,000	44%	\$199,413,000	56%
CMAQ	\$248,800,000	\$ -	0%	\$248,800,000	100%
Non-Attributable	\$3,133,200,167	\$2,113,480,000	67%	\$ 1,019,720,000	33%
Transit	\$299,826,000	\$229,678,250	77%	\$ 70,147,750	23%
Total	\$4,036,601,167	\$2,451,578,250	61%	\$ 1,538,080,750	39%

Highway Capacity Projects

Capacity project funding for the total plan and the Surface Transportation Program Birmingham Attributable was then reviewed. Given that historical usage indicates that half of the funding is used for maintenance and operations, there is \$155 million available for highway capacity projects using Birmingham Attributable funds. Mr. Howard reviewed the steps taken to reduce the number of projects in the RTP with a total of \$13 million still over budgeted.

Proposed Capacity Projects (All)

Sponsor	All Capacity Projects	Amount Moved	Programmed Funds Remaining
ALDOT	35	\$ 1,065,027,059	\$ 2,112,758,061
Bessemer	0	\$ 613,692	\$ (0)
Birmingham	5	\$ 818,752	\$ 36,581,131
Homewood	2	\$ 1,817,088	\$ 6,752,043
Hoover	4	\$ 18,170,880	\$ 17,914,976
Jefferson County	7	\$ 39,456,768	\$ 43,648,169
Shelby County	10	\$ 100,845,921	\$ 47,808,275
Total	63	\$ 1,226,750,160	\$ 2,265,462,655
Change/Balance	31		\$ 3,379,345

Proposed Capacity Projects (Surface Transportation Program, Birmingham Attributable)

Sponsor	Capacity Projects (STP-BH)	Amount Moved	Programmed Funds Remaining
ALDOT *	2	\$ -	\$ 16,123,505
Bessemer	0	\$ 613,692	\$ 0
Birmingham	5	\$ 818,752	\$ 36,581,131
Homewood	2	\$ -	\$ 6,752,043
Hoover	3	\$ 18,170,880	\$ 17,914,976
Jefferson County	7	\$ 26,910,208	\$ 43,648,169
Shelby County	8	\$ 100,845,921	\$ 47,808,274
Total	27	\$ 147,359,453	\$ 168,828,000
Change/Balance	10		\$ (13,466,099)

RTP Operations & Maintenance Funding

25-Year Federal Forecast vs. Proposed RTP Funding			
Federal Funding			
Funding Sources	Forecast O&M Funding	Proposed (RTP) O&M Program	Balance
Attributable Funds			
STP-BH	\$199,413,000	\$38,293,728	\$161,119,272
CMAQ	\$248,800,000	\$209,842,137	\$38,957,863
Non-Attributable	\$1,019,720,167	\$239,357,640	\$780,362,527
Total	\$1,467,933,167	\$2,487,493,504	\$980,439,662

RTP Adoption Schedule

The preliminary adoption schedule was reviewed. It is subject to change dependent upon completion of the air quality conformity report and review and concurrence by the Interagency Air Group.

- June 30, 2009 - TIP Subcommittee
Review and concur with capacity project recommendations and financial assumptions
- July 8, 2009 - Interagency Consultation (IAC) Call
IAC group to review both RTP conformity documentation and financial plan and approve MPO to conduct public involvement
- July 15, 2009 - TCC meeting
Distribution of information to be presented at the public involvement meeting
- July 22, 2009 - TTC meeting
Distribution of information to be presented at the public involvement meeting
- July 23, 2009 - MPO Subcommittee
Distribution of information to be presented at the public involvement meeting and call for public involvement meeting
- August 19, 2009 - TTC meeting
RTP Public Involvement Meeting @ Citizen's Committee meeting
- September 8, 2009 - End of 21 day comment period
- September 16, 2009 - TCC meeting
Public Involvement documentation presented
- September 23, 2009 - TTC meeting
Public Involvement documentation presented
- September 24, 2009 - MPO Subcommittee
Accept Public Involvement documentation and send PI, RTP (2035), and Functional Plan Documents to MPO for adoption
- October 14, 2009 - MPO meeting
Formal adoption of PI, RTP (2035), and Functional Plan Documents

At the request of Councilor Maxine Herring Parker, a documentary video titled "Trained In" was shown to the Subcommittee. The video discusses the Collegeville neighborhood and the hardships of being surrounded by railroad tracks on all sides. The Finley Boulevard Extension project is designed to bridge over the tracks and give residents and others a way in and out of the neighborhood.

MPO staff is currently working to assist the City of Birmingham to secure funding for the completion of the Finley Boulevard extension. Phase I of the project is included in the financially constrained element of the Plan while Phases II and III are included in the visionary element of the Plan. This is due to the increased costs of the project (\$80 million total) and the limited amount of Surface Transportation Program funds attributable to the Birmingham Area for new highway capacity projects (\$155 million). Projects in the visionary element can still obtain funding with earmarks, additional MPO allocations, or local funds. There are currently adequate funds in the Transportation Improvement Program to progress the project to construction.

MPO MEETING AGENDA (JULY 8, 2009)

Mayor Gene Melton made a motion to include Agenda Item #1 (In-Town Transit Partnership (ITP) video and grant), Agenda Item #2 (Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) schedule) and “Trained In” video of the Collegeville Neighborhood on the July 9, 2009 MPO meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

OTHER MEETINGS

MPO Secretary Mayor Tom Henderson announced a series of upcoming meetings, including:

- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee, June 30th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.
- Transportation Citizens Committee, July 15th, 12:00 Noon, RPC.
- Transportation Technical Committee, July 22nd, 10:00 a.m., RPC.
- Announcement of next MPO Subcommittee Meeting, July 23rd, 1:30 p.m., RPC.

Information concerning a public involvement meeting for the Finley Boulevard Extension was also included in the package. This meeting will be held on July 23rd at 4:00 p.m. at Bethel Baptist Church.

Information was also distributed on the Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009 from the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. This information is dated June 18, 2009 and addresses the need for fundamental reform and increased investment, the crisis in the highway trust fund, transformational reforms in the Surface Transportation Authorization Act, and future transportation investment needs.

With no other business, the Subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

APPROVED:

Honorable Doug Brewer
MPO Subcommittee Chairman

Date