



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, Al 35203
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September 24, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

FROM: Mayor Doug Brewer, Subcommittee Chairman/s/

**SUBJECT: MPO Subcommittee Minutes
September 24, 2009**

A meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Subcommittee was held on Thursday, September 24, 2009, 1:30 p.m., RPC 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT
Mr. Jesse Jowers, Shelby County – Pelham
Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Unincorporated Jefferson County

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Honorable Doug Brewer, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mr. Lance Taylor
Honorable Larry Dillard, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. Tim Westhoven
Mr. Chris Lewis, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
Represented by Ms. Doris Powell
Mr. Ray Hamilton, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. David Hunke
Honorable Bobby Humphries, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Wayne Sullivan

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mr. Randy Cole, Shelby County
Honorable Tom Henderson, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham
Honorable Jim Carns, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Honorable Carol Duncan, City of Birmingham
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. Charles Ball, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Ginny MacDonald, Birmingham News
Ms. Nan Baldwin, Birmingham Business Alliance
Ms. Melissa Hipp, City of Vestavia Hills
Mr. Cameron Buchina, EDT

Mr. Darrell Howard called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. A quorum was declared. The meeting preceded with the scheduled agenda items.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski presented a report from the TIP Subcommittee. The TIP Subcommittee met on September 21, 2009 to review the list of Recovery Act projects and solicit updates from the project sponsors. A total of \$16,705,000 has been obligated from the \$22,996,589 allocated for the project approved by the MPO. A table was included in the meeting packet that summarizes the status of each project. The table is referenced as attachment 1 in the minutes. Construction bids for three of the higher priced projects will be opened on Friday, September 25th. The TIP Sub-Committee will meet again following the October 14th MPO meeting to further monitor the process for obligation of the funds. The funds must be obligated by March 2, 2010.

Mr. Kaczorowski discussed a request from the ALDOT Transportation Planning Bureau in Montgomery requesting that the RPC plan for a potential rescission of CMAQ funds for fiscal years 2010 and 2011. This rescission would be in addition to the rescission incurred earlier this

summer. The amount of the potential rescission is unknown, but ALDOT is asking the RPC to be prepared. The TIP Sub-Committee reviewed the list of projects planned for CMAQ funding and identified the ones that could potentially be funded in a later year.

Mr. Kaczorowski then presented a request to modify the TIP to include the following:

ALDOT Request –Enhancement Projects

<u>SRTS</u> <u>RW10()</u>	100054271	Birmingham safe routes to school, acquire property as part of STPBH-CN07(906) a project to build sidewalks near Martha Gaskins School	10/14/2009	RW	10/1/2009	2010	\$88,500.00	Exempt	Safety Projects	11
<u>STPTE</u> <u>TE09(975)</u>	100054269	Sidewalks along AL-25 at the intersection with US 280 in the Town of Harpersville	10/14/2009	CN	12/15/2009	2010	\$214,607.25	Exempt	Enhancement Projects	8
<u>DEMO</u> <u>A188()</u>	100054137	Sidewalks & Landscaping along Cahaba Road between the Botanical Gardens & the Birmingham Zoo	10/14/2009	PE	11/21/2009	2010	\$107,500.00	Exempt	Enhancement Projects	8
<u>DEMO</u> <u>A188()</u>	100054138	Sidewalks & Landscaping along Cahaba Road between the Botanical Gardens & the Birmingham Zoo	10/14/2009	CN	7/30/2010	2010	\$967,500.00	Exempt	Enhancement Projects	8

This request is for sidewalks and landscaping and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

<u>STPAA</u> <u>PE09()</u>	100054259	Traffic study on McAshan Drive accessing Norfolk Southern Railroad yard freight corridor access from CR-18 (Eastern Valley Road) to I-59	10/14/2009	PE	10/1/2009	2010	\$150,000.00	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program	2
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This request is for a traffic study and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

A request was made to determine the project sponsor for the sidewalk and landscaping projects at the zoo. Another request was made to get a scope of the project.

Mr. Wayne Sullivan made a motion to send the amendment to the MPO. Mr. Tim Westhoven seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

U.S. DOT TIGER GRANT

Mr. Darrell Howard reported presented a report on the grant application that was submitted to the U. S. Department of Transportation on September 14, 2009. The grant request was for \$65 million in support of the In-Town Transit Partnership under the TIGER grant program. The application submission included 51 letters of support and resolutions. The RPC has received six letters of commitment of financial support for the project. These include Alabama Power Company, Alabama Gas Corporation, Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, Children’s Hospital, UAB and the Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center. Notice of award should be no later than February 2010. The U.S. DOT has issued a strict warning against lobbying for submitted projects.

Mr. David Hunke noted that ALDOT, Hoover, and Jefferson County are among other local agencies / governments that have submitted TIGER grant proposals.

MPO MEETING AGENDA (SEPTEMBER 2009)

Mr. David Hunke made a motion to include Agenda Items #1 (TIP), #2 (U.S. DOT Tiger Grant) and the TIP Subcommittee report from the August MPO Subcommittee meeting that addresses SAFETEA-LU rescissions to the October 14, 2009 MPO meeting. Mr. Wayne Sullivan seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

OTHER MEETINGS

Mr. Darrell Howard announced a series of upcoming meetings, including:

- MPO, October 14th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.
- I-65 Mobility Matters Steering Committee, October 1st, 10:00 a.m., RPC.
- Transportation Citizens Committee, October 21st, 12:00 Noon, RPC.
- Transportation Technical Committee, October 28th, 10:00 a.m., RPC.
- Announcement of next MPO Subcommittee Meeting, October 29th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.

Mr. Howard announced the upcoming Building Communities Conference to be held November 5, 2009 at the McWane Center. Brochures and registration information will be mailed in October.

With no other business, the Subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

APPROVED:

Honorable Doug Brewer
MPO Subcommittee Chairman

Date

ATTACHMENT 1

Recovery Act STMBH (Stimulus Birmingham) Project Status Summary

Birmingham MPO - Transportation Improvement Program
FY 2009

Project Number	Sponsor	Project Description	FY 2009 Project Recovery Act at 100%	Funding Agreements Signed?	Environmental Clear?	Funds Authorized?	Project has been Bid?	Project Status (as of September 21st)
100007607	Birmingham	East Lake Blvd (turn lanes)	\$339,737	Yes				Air Quality Hot Spot analysis is done - Funding agreement is signed - Categorical Exclusion reevaluation is required - FHWA Environmental approval is pending - Plan to bid in December
100029491	Birmingham	Jefferson Ave. Phase 1 (intersection improvements)	\$2,971,198	Yes	Yes	Yes	Sept. 25	Funding agreement is signed - Categorical Exclusion has been cleared by FHWA - Plan to bid on September 25th
100007610	Birmingham	Tarrant-Huffman Rd. Phase 1 (intersection improvements)	\$3,706,164		Yes		Sept. 25	Funding agreement at City (as of July 14th) - Utility relocations still need to be completed - Environmental Assessment is clear with a Finding of No Significant Impact - Plan to bid on September 25th
100052764	Birmingham	Traffic Management Center Upgrade Phase 1	\$726,426		Yes			Agreement at ALDOT-Div 3 and is pending - Cost increased to \$726,426 as per Birmingham's request - Environmental is clear with a Programmatic CatEx
100050646	BJCTA	Bus and Bus Related Capital FY 2009	\$709,929	n/a	Yes			RPC submitted a request to Flex the funds to ALDOT Multi-Modal on July 20th.
100052169	BJCTA	Bus and Bus Related Capital Paratransit Vehicles	\$1,057,841	n/a	Yes			RPC submitted a request to Flex the funds to ALDOT Multi-Modal on July 20th.
100053532	RPC/ClasTran	Vehicle Acquisition (16 vehicles)	\$784,030	Yes	Yes			Agreement signed on August 12th - RPC has submitted orders for new vehicles to ALDOT - funds should be authorized by November
100029509	Hoover	Hoover Topics Phase 6 (Lorna Rd.) (signals/intersection improvements)	\$1,296,053	Yes	Yes			Funding Agreement and Environmental are clear - Relocating utilities
100007545	Hoover	Hoover Topics Phase 7 (Shades Crest Road) (intersection improvements)	\$2,298,891	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bids came in at about \$1.6 million (20% lower than estimate)
100048387	Hoover	Sidewalks along Rockview Lane and Cloudland Drive	\$161,055		Yes			Agreement in Multi-Modal's office in Montgomery - Environmental is clear
100048388	Hoover	Sidewalks along Park Ave	\$466,125		Yes			Agreement in Multi-Modal's office in Montgomery - Environmental is clear
100007554	Jefferson County	Patton Chapel Road from Crayrich Dr. to US31 (additional lanes)	\$1,375,027	Yes				Funding Agreement is signed - Categorical Exclusion reevaluation is required - Utilities have started relocation
100042381	Leeds/Jefferson Co.	Rex Lake Road (additional lanes)	\$7,091,459	Yes	Yes	Yes	Sept. 25	Funding Agreement and Environmental are clear - ROW is recorded - Utility agreements signed - Plan to bid on September 25th
FY 09 construction projects from TIP Subcommittee "hit list" of projects to obligate Recovery Act projects computed at .9403034 of total cost to balance to total available			\$22,983,937					
			\$22,996,589					
			\$12,652					

Note: Funding from ITS Fiber Audit of Regional ITS System project has been used to fund the additional costs for the Traffic Management Center Upgrade Phase 1.