



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, Al 35203  
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March 25, 2010

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

**FROM:** Mayor Tom Henderson, Subcommittee Chairman/s/

**SUBJECT: MPO Subcommittee Minutes  
March 25, 2010**

A meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Subcommittee was held on Thursday, March 25, 2010, 1:30 p.m., RPC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, 1731 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Honorable Tom Henderson, Jefferson County Municipalities  
Honorable Doug Brewer, Jefferson County Municipalities  
Honorable Bobby Humphryes, Unincorporated Jefferson County  
Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Unincorporated Jefferson County  
Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham

## **MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY**

Mr. Jesse Jowers, Shelby County – Pelham  
Represented by Mr. Josh Osborne  
Mr. Randy Cole, Shelby County  
Represented by Mr. Scott Holladay  
Honorable Jim Carns, Unincorporated Jefferson County  
Represented by Ms. Jeanette Brabston

Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT  
    Represented by Mr. Lance Taylor  
Mr. Ray Hamilton, Shelby County  
    Represented by Mr. David Hunke  
Honorable William Bell, City of Birmingham  
    Represented by Mr. Kevin Owens  
Mr. Guin Robinson, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority  
    Represented by Ms. Doris Powell

### **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Honorable Kim Rafferty, City of Birmingham  
Honorable Delor Bauman, Jefferson County Municipalities  
Honorable Larry Dillard, Shelby 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

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Mr. Bill Foisy, Regional Planning Commission  
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission  
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission  
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission  
Mr. Tom Maxwell, Regional Planning Commission  
Cissy Edwards Crowe, Regional Planning Commission  
Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission  
Mr. Greg Wingo, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
Mr. Al Folcher, TTC  
Mr. Tim Westhoven, City of Hoover

MPO Subcommittee Chairman Tom Henderson called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

### **INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

Ms. Cynthia Barton called roll. A quorum was declared. Commissioner Bobby Humphries made a motion to approve the February 25, 2010 MPO Subcommittee minutes. Mayor Doug Brewer

seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

Mr. Scott Tillman presented a request from ALDOT to modify the FY 2008-2011 TIP to include the following projects:

**ALDOT Requests**

<u>STMFTA3</u> <u>C-53110</u>	100055017	Section 5311 ARRA Jefferson County Stimulus operating assistance	4/14/2010	TR	4/14/2010	2010	\$110,696.00	Exempt	Transit Projects	9
<u>STMFTA3</u> <u>C-53110</u>	100055041	Section 5311 ARRA Jefferson/Shelby Counties Stimulus Capital Bus Other Program Items (PM)	4/14/2010	TR	4/14/2010	2010	\$51,171.00	Exempt	Transit Projects	9
<u>SRTS-</u> <u>SR09 (915)</u>	100055092	Safe Routes to School FY2008 - construct sidewalks near Shades Cahaba Elementary (Devon & Windsor Drive) and Hall Kent Elementary (Hall Ave. & Oak Grove Rd.)	4/14/2010	CN	4/14/2010	2010	\$302,988	Exempt	Safety Program	11

**These projects are exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.**

Mayor Doug Brewer made a motion to move the request forward to the MPO for approval. Mr. Wayne Sullivan seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote. Mr. David Hunke noted that the Transportation Technical Committee recommended the TIP modification. Mr. Bill Foisy noted the Transportation Citizens Committee recommended the same.

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP)**

Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe asked the MPO Subcommittee to call a Public Involvement meeting for April 21, 2010 to include the 2035 Regional transportation Plan, the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program, and the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Report. The MPO approved the call by consensus. The proposed timeline for public involvement and adoption is as follows:

- February 17 2010      Transportation Citizens Committee meeting -- Distribution of information to be presented at the public involvement meeting.
- February 24, 2010      Transportation Technical Committee meeting -- Distribution of information to be presented at the public involvement meeting.
- February 25, 2010      MPO Subcommittee -- Distribution of information to be presented at the public involvement meeting and call for public involvement meeting.
- March 17, 2010      Public Involvement (PI) meeting at Citizen’s Committee meeting.

April 6, 2010	End of 21-day comment period.
April 21, 2010	Transportation Citizens Committee meeting – Public Involvement meeting documentation presented.
April 28, 2010	Transportation Citizens Committee -- Public Involvement meeting documentation presented.
April 29, 2010	MPO Subcommittee – Accept Public Involvement documentation and determination made to send PI document and RTP (2035) to MPO to adoption.
May 12, 2010	MPO meeting to adopt the PI document and RTP (2035).

### **U.S. 280 CORRIDOR TRANSIT STUDY**

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski reviewed the project fact sheet for the U.S. 280 Corridor Transit Study. Information reviewed included the following:

#### **What is the purpose of the U.S. 280 Corridor Transit Study?**

The U.S. 280 Corridor has developed rapidly over the past 20 years, and in some places, it is the most congested roadway in the entire Birmingham metropolitan planning area. The study will examine a range of public transportation alternatives to improve travel along U.S. 280.

Additionally, the study will also consider expanding roadway capacity in some key locations, making the corridor more bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly in appropriate places, and improving safety and access in the corridor. The study will also provide an opportunity for local planners and decision-makers to work together on land development and redevelopment strategies to preserve the unique character of their communities, while improving transportation operations along U.S. 280.

#### **Why is this study being performed, and what is the relationship with ALDOT's proposed elevated roadway project?**

This corridor is being studied as a result of the *2004 – Birmingham Regional Transportation Alternatives Analysis*, which recommended that a detailed analysis of the US 280 Corridor be performed to identify feasible transit options. This Study is funded through a grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and it is a completely separate effort from the Governor's plan to widen U.S. 280 and construct an elevated roadway. However, the U.S. 280 project team will be coordinating with ALDOT on the highway expansion project. ALDOT's highway project may be studied as one of the alternatives in this transit study.

**What local jurisdictions are included in the U.S. 280 Corridor Transit Study?**

- City of Birmingham
- City of Homewood
- City of Mountain Brook
- City of Vestavia Hills
- City of Hoover
- Town of Chelsea
- Town of Westover
- Town of Harpersville
- Jefferson County
- Shelby County

**How will this effort benefit the Greater Birmingham Region and local communities?**

Citizens, community stakeholders, and local officials are invited to participate in creating opportunities to more closely coordinate local and regional transportation, land use, and development plans. The primary benefit of the study is to enable the Greater Birmingham region and its local jurisdictions to develop an overall corridor plan that can be implemented. This corridor plan will bring together transportation and land use concepts to improve mobility along U.S. 280 in the short- and long-term. This approach will help local communities and state and regional agencies manage the land use and development aspects of the corridor more effectively with planned transportation improvements.

**How will the views of citizens and communities influence the study?**

A Project Stakeholder Committee with representatives of each local community as well as Jefferson and Shelby Counties, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and other key stakeholders has been formed. This group will help guide the study process and provide statewide and local input into the study's findings and recommendations. Additionally, two public workshops are planned for residents, business owners, and other interested people to ask questions and provide comments on the Plan. Project presentations will also be given to local governments during city council and county commission meetings.

**What is the time frame for development of the Plan?**

The planned time frames for key activities and decision points are:

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| • Planning Process Starts                                 | February 2010            |
| • Assessment of Existing and Future Conditions            | March - September 2010   |
| • First Set of Public Workshops (two locations)           | September 2010           |
| • Transportation/Land Use Scenarios Developed/Evaluated   | September – January 2010 |
| • Draft Integrated Transportation/Land Use Plan Developed | April 2011               |
| • Second Set of Public Workshops (two locations)          | April 2011               |
| • U.S. 280 Corridor Transit Study Completed               | June 2011                |

**MPO MEETING AGENDA (APRIL 14, 2010)**

Mayor Doug Brewer made a motion to add Agenda items #2 (TIP), #3 (RTP) and #4 (U.S. 280 Corridor transit Study) to the April 14, 2010 MPO meeting agenda. Commissioner Bobby Humphries seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

**OTHER**

MPO Subcommittee Chairman Tom Henderson announced a series of upcoming meetings, including:

- Congestion Management Committee, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 a.m., RPC.
- RTP/TIP/Air Quality Public Involvement Meeting, April 21, 2010, 12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m., RPC.
- Transportation Technical Committee meeting, April 28, 2010, 10:00 a.m., RPC.
- MPO Subcommittee meeting April 29, 2010, 1:30 p.m., RPC.

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski reviewed the I-65 Mobility Matters project newsletter that will be mailed to the MPO public involvement list. Mr. Kaczorowski also reviewed the project schedule.

With no other business, the Subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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Honorable Tom Henderson  
MPO Subcommittee Chairman

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Date