



April 28, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

FROM: Mayor Thomas Henderson, Subcommittee Chairman/s/

**SUBJECT: MPO Subcommittee Minutes
April 28, 2011**

A meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Subcommittee was held on Thursday, April 28, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable Doug Brewer, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Jesse Jowers, Shelby County – Pelham
Mr. Walter Jackson, Unincorporated Jefferson County

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Honorable Thomas Henderson, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Doug Brewer
Mr. Ray Hamilton, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. David Hunke
Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT
Represented by Ms. Cindy Hill
Honorable William Bell, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Kevin Owens
Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Ken Boozer
Mr. Randy Cole, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. Scott Holladay
Honorable Sandra Little Brown, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Walter Mitchell

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Honorable Delor Bauman, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham
Mr. Peter Sellers, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
Honorable Kim Rafferty, 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

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Charles Ball, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. George Henry, City of Alabaster
Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Transportation Citizens Committee
Mr. William Parker, Birmingham

MPO Chairman Mayor Doug Brewer called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Mayor Brewer then called for a moment of silence in respect for those people who suffered injury and loss, and especially for those who lost their lives, as well as for those communities that were devastated by the April 27, 2011 tornadoes that ravaged Alabama. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Ms. Cynthia Barton called roll. A quorum was declared. Mr. Walter Jackson made a motion to approve the March 24, 2011 MPO Subcommittee minutes. Mr. David Hunke seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Darrell Howard presented a request from ALDOT to modify the FY2008-2011 TIP to include the following:

ALDOT Requests

<u>IM-10590</u>	100055633	I-59 Paverlaid Surface Treatment, concrete slab and concrete pavement lug replacement, thermoplastic striping, markings and raised reflective pavement markers from north SR-3 (US-31 EB Stephens Exp) to north of SR-79 (Tallapoosa St.)	5/11/2011	PE	5/12/2011	2011	\$250,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects	5
<u>STPBH-0</u>	100056169	Interstate lighting upgrade from north of SR-4 (Corridor X, I-22 Exit) to north of CR-120 (Walkers Chapel Rd. Exit)	5/11/2011	PE	5/12/2011	2011	\$150,000	Exempt	Surface Transportation Program – Birmingham Attributable	1

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

Mr. David Hunke noted that the TTC recommended approval of the TIP modification, but requested more information on paverlaid surface treatment. Ms. Cindy Hill explained that it is a protective sealant for concrete. Mr. Hunke also noted that the TTC inquired about the reasoning that Birmingham attributable funding was being used for an interstate lighting project instead of other ALDOT controlled funding such as Interstate Maintenance. Ms. Ouida Fritchi stated that the TCC also recommended approval.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Scott Tillman presented a request by the RPCGB to modify the FY2011 UPWP to incur PL expenses of \$4,975.07 for implementation of the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and in progressively maintaining the State of Alabama Information Technology Security Standard 670-08S1: Secure System Maintenance.

This request is applicable to FY2011 UPWP Task 1.0, Administration, Subtask E, COOP Implementation and COOP-IT. The purpose is to allow the current disaster recovery system room for growth for RPCGB transportation GIS Data and digital documentation backup in a secure location.

The specific software and hardware is the first required step in the implementation of the COOP in relation to disaster recovery, backup, and retention.

Mr. David Hunke noted that the TTC recommended approval of the UPWP modification. Ms. Ouida Fritchi stated that the TCC also recommended approval.

TIP SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Darrell Howard gave a report on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee meetings held March 9 and March 23, 2011. The TIP Subcommittee report including the following information:

March 9th TIP Subcommittee Meeting

The TIP Subcommittee met on March 9th and reviewed the list of projects requested for Surface Transportation Program – Birmingham Attributable (STPBH) or Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding in the Fiscal Year 2012-2015 TIP. Over 90 projects were submitted which totaled over \$200 million in requests. The TIP Subcommittee also reviewed existing projects that were once funded in the FY2008-2011 TIP, but moved into FY2012 in order to balance. The resulting amount of funding available for new projects was approximately \$18 million of STPBH funds and \$22 million of CMAQ funds. The TIP Subcommittee asked the RPCGB staff to evaluate the new requests and develop a draft list of recommended projects that the TIP Subcommittee would review at the March 23rd meeting.

Projects Recommended for FY2012 to 2015 TIP

The RPCGB presented a draft list of projects recommended for funding in the FY2012 to 2015 TIP for STPBH and CMAQ categories to the TIP Subcommittee. Staff explained that several factors were involved in the development of the draft list including the priorities of the project sponsor and consistency with the goals and objectives of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. Some members of the TIP Subcommittee expressed concern over the ability of project sponsors to manage federally funded projects. Other members were concerned about the ability of sponsors to provide the required local match.

The TIP Subcommittee reached a consensus on the list of projects. The TIP Subcommittee reviewed tables showing the resulting STPBH and CMAQ projects recommended by the TIP Subcommittee for the FY2012 to 2015 TIP. The tables listed all projects including the new project requests. The tables also showed the proposed fiscal year for each phase of the projects. It was noted that the fiscal years could be adjusted based on project readiness.

Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility – Request for CMAQ Funding

Norfolk Southern requested \$3.35 million and \$3.22 million of CMAQ funds for FY2012 and 2013 respectively (\$6.57 million total) to purchase an automated gate system and lift machines for the Intermodal Facility planned in McCalla. One TIP Subcommittee member asked for some specific information about the gate system and the lift machines. The RPCGB described the systems and confirmed that an official air quality conformity determination had been approved. During the discussion, ALDOT supported the request and stated that project has regional significance and the CMAQ funds could be spent in a timely fashion which could reduce some of the balance in the program. One member reminded the Subcommittee that Norfolk Southern had already received over \$52 million of federal funds from the TIGER grant. The discussion concluded after another Subcommittee member suggested to ALDOT that they could find funding in one of the other programs that they control if they wanted to offer additional financial support for the intermodal facility.

Updated Timeline to Adopt the FY2012-2015 TIP

The timeline for the adoption of the FY2012-2015 TIP was reviewed. The RPCGB has been working with ALDOT to ensure the TIP is adopted before the end of the federal fiscal year (September 30th). The timeline shows that the draft TIP and the subsequent Air Quality Conformity Report will be sent to the Interagency Consultation for review and posted to the

website before the planned public involvement meeting tentatively scheduled for July 20th.

Mr. Howard reviewed three attachments that had been presented to the TIP Subcommittee during the March 9, 2011 and March 23, 2011 TIP Subcommittee meetings. Those attachments were also included in the MPO Subcommittee meeting packet. The attachments included:

- Attachment 1 – STPBH Recommended Projects – FY2012-2015 TIP
- Attachment 2 – CMAQ Recommended Projects – FY2012-2015 TIP
- Attachment 3 – Timeline to Adopt the FY2012-2015 TIP

ALABAMA CHAPTER – AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

Mr. Darrell Howard gave a report on awards presented by the Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association during its spring 2011 conference. Of the ten awards presented at the March 28, 2011 ceremony, four were awarded to RPCGB/MPO related projects, programs or members. The following awards were received:

- **Outstanding Planning Award for a Project/Program Tool**
RPCGB Building Communities Program
- **Outstanding Planning Award for a Plan**
Highland Park Neighborhood Association for the "Highland Park Neighborhood Plan"
This plan was funded through the RPCGB Building Communities Program.
- **Distinguished Leadership Award for an Elected Public Official**
Mayor Doug Brewer, City of Graysville, MPO Chairman
- **Kenneth J. Groves, Jr. Distinguished Leadership Award for a Planning Professional**
RPCGB Executive Director, Charles Ball
City of Mountain Brook Planning Director, Dana Hazen

MPO MEETING AGENDA (MAY 11, 2011)

MPO Chairman Mayor Doug Brewer presented a resolution in honor of Ms. Doris Powell who passed away on April 13, 2011. Ms. Powell served as Vice Chairman of the Transportation Citizens Committee and also served as a proxy for the BJCTA Board on the MPO.

Mr. Walter Jackson made a motion to include Agenda Item #2 (TIP), Agenda Item #3 (UPWP), Agenda Item # 5 (ALAPA Awards), a presentation from the Health Action Partnership and a special resolution in honor of Ms. Doris Powell on the May 11, 2011 MPO meeting agenda. Mr. Kevin Owens seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

OTHER

MPO Chairman Mayor Doug Brewer reviewed the meetings listed on the agenda for May, including:

- MPO Meeting May 11, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Transportation Citizens Committee, May 18, 2011, 12:00 p.m., RPCGB
- Transportation Technical Committee Meeting, May 25, 2011, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB
- MPO Subcommittee Meeting, May 26, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB

With no other business, the Subcommittee meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

APPROVED:

Honorable Thomas Henderson
MPO Subcommittee Chairman

Date

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