



August 25, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

FROM: Mayor Thomas Henderson, Subcommittee Chairman/s/

**SUBJECT: MPO Subcommittee Minutes
August 25, 2011**

A meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Subcommittee was held on Thursday, August 25, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Mr. Jesse Jowers, Shelby County – Pelham
Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Honorable Thomas Henderson, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mayor Gene Melton

Mr. Ray Hamilton, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. David Hunke

Mr. Randy Cole, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. Scott Holladay

Honorable William Bell, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Randy Kemp

Honorable Sandra Little Brown, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Walter Mitchell

Honorable Kim Rafferty, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. David Ricker

Mr. Walter Jackson, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Ms. Karen Waddington

Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT
Represented by Ms. Cynthia Hill

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Honorable Doug Brewer, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Delor Bauman, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Patrick Sellers, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
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 of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Tim Westhoven, City of Hoover
Mr. Keith Strickland, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood
Mr. George Henry, City of Alabaster
Mr. William Parker, Birmingham

MPO Subcommittee Secretary Mr. Wayne Sullivan called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

A quorum was declared. Mr. David Hunke made a motion to approve the June 23, 2011 MPO Subcommittee minutes. Mr. David Ricker seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT DOCUMENTATION REPORT

Ms. Cissy Crowe and Mr. Mike Kaczorowski presented the Public Involvement Documentation report from the July 20, 2011 Public Involvement Meeting for the FY 2012-2015 Transportation

Improvement Program (TIP), Air Quality Conformity Determination and amended 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The meeting documentation included outreach procedures, information presented at the meeting, as well as a summary of comments and questions received.

Mr. Kaczorowski reviewed the comments/responses received during the 21-day comment period. Forty-seven comments were received regarding the Northern Beltline. Seven comments were received in relation to carbon footprints, air modeling, Lakeshore Extension, transit funding, and support for the plans. Comments received during the comment period were included in the final document.

The report can be viewed on line at <http://rpcgb.org/events/2011/06/27/tip-public-involvement/>.

Mr. Kaczorowski noted that money allocated for projects through specific earmarks or programs cannot be moved to other projects/programs. Any requests by the public for funding changes would need to be submitted to their Congressman. Mr. Kaczorowski also noted that all Northern Beltline comments were sent to ALDOT for consideration as they move forward to public involvement in the future months.

Mr. Darrell Howard informed the Subcommittee of the Transportation Citizens Committee's recommendation for approval and concurrence. Mr. David Hunke noted that the Transportation Technical Committee also recommended approval and concurrence and stated the public involvement process is very inclusive and extensive.

Mayor Gene Melton made a motion to concur that the documentation report accurately reflected the results of the public involvement meeting and the report be forwarded to the MPO for adoption along with the supporting resolutions for the FY2012-2015 TIP, AQ Determination and amended 2035 RTP. Mr. David Ricker seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Mr. Darrell Howard gave a presentation on the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program. The UPWP lists the transportation planning program areas and projects to be conducted in FY 2012 by the Regional Planning Commission and the Alabama Department of Transportation, including third-party contractors.

Mr. Howard's presentation included the following:

What is required of the MPO process?

- Develop and maintain:
 - Metropolitan Transportation Plan i.e. Long Range Transportation Plan
 - Transportation Improvement Program
 - Unified Planning Work Program

- Congestion Management Process (metro areas of 50,000 people or greater)
- Air Quality Conformity Analysis (federally designated air quality non-attainment areas)

The Regulations

- Federal regulations (23 CFR 450.314(a))
- "... MPO(s) in cooperation with the State and operators of publicly owned transit shall develop unified planning work programs (UPWPs) that meet the requirements of 23 CFR part 420, subpart A, and:
 - Discuss the planning priorities facing the metropolitan planning area and describe all metropolitan transportation and transportation-related air quality planning activities (including the corridor and subarea studies discussed in Sec. 450.318) anticipated within the area during the next one or two year period, regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities, in sufficient detail to indicate who will perform the work, the schedule for completing it and the products that will be produced;
 - Document planning activities to be performed with funds provided under title 23, U.S.C., and the Federal Transit Act."

FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program is the Annual Work Program for the Birmingham MPO. It directs and prioritizes MPO staff work, including:

- Required Activities
- Information Management
- Regular Planning Functions
- Support for Partner Planning Agencies
- Special Studies
- New Activities

Highlights of the FY 2012 UPWP include:

- Planning Information - Task 2.0
 - Socio-economic Data
 - Economic Indicators
 - Traffic Data to include counts, travel times and incident response times
 - Infrastructure Inventory
 - Indicators Model
 - Sub-regional Transportation Model
- Environmental Consultation Process - Task 4.0
 - Advanced Planning, Programming and Logical Engineering (APPLE) is a Local Assistance Program Designed to assess a project's feasibility, define/articulate project scope, inform the environmental process, help manage uncertainties/reduce risks and educate Local Governments about ALDOT Process. Note: APPLE does not replace the PE/Environmental Process
- Transportation Systems - Task 5.0
 - Thoroughfare Planning
 - Continuation of Regional Thoroughfare Plan

- Model Street Design Manual
 - Tailored for Birmingham
 - Incorporate Complete Streets Concepts
 - Address Context Sensitivity
 - Identifies Realistic Safety Solutions and
 - Supports Community Health Initiatives
- Transportation Systems - Task 5.0
 - Public Transportation Planning
 - Support for BJCTA's Service Planning Efforts
 - Enhanced Data Collection
 - Transit Development Program
 - Active Transportation
 - Builds Upon Our One Mile, MPO Active Transportation Plan, and Individual Trail Planning Efforts
 - Task Activities Shift to:
 - Supports Non-Governmental Organizations and Advocacy Groups
 - Pushes Activities and Education
 - Promotes Existing Facilities
- Transportation Systems - Task 5.0
 - Logistics (Freight) Systems Planning
 - Freight Outlook Plan
 - Regional Freight Profile
 - Freight Forecasts/Freight Traffic Growth
 - Freight System Needs
 - Transportation Safety Planning
 - System Monitoring
 - Safety Education
 - Corridor Specific Crash Statistics and Safety Planning
- Corridor Planning and Special Projects - Task 7.0
 - U.S. 11/U.S. 78 East Corridor Alternatives Analysis
 - Phase 1: Downtown to BIA
 - Identify Mode and Alignment of Potential Transit Services
 - Assess Project Feasibility
 - Identify Corridor wide Land Use Improvements
 - U.S. 78 West Corridor Plan
 - Pratt City Bridge to Graysville
 - Reevaluate Feasibility of Widening
 - Reevaluate Land Uses to Balance Livability and Mobility
 - Identify Multimodal Transportation Solutions
- The UPWP Still Includes Popular Programs - Task 6.0
 - CommuteSmart
 - Assists Commuters to Carpool, Vanpool and Telework
 - Aids Employers
 - Helps Businesses Manage Parking and Transportation

- Coordinated Human Service
 - Helps Non-Governmental Agencies to Transport Elderly and Disabled
 - Assists Private Transportation Providers Who Help Meet Critical Needs
- Building Communities
 - Local Government Assistance Program that Supports Efforts to Link Transportation and Land Use Planning, Ordinances and Regulations, Economic Development and Community Health Initiatives

Why Not ALDOT or BJCTA?

- The RPCGB is Tasked Through the “3C Agreement” to carry out a Comprehensive, Cooperative, and Continuing Planning Process. The 3C Agreement is a formal agreement (Contract) that identifies the roles and responsibilities of the:
 - ALDOT
 - ADEM
 - Metropolitan Planning Organization
 - BJCTA and
 - Jefferson County Health Department (U.S. EPA designee)

The Birmingham MPO Manages:

Funding Source	Federal	Local Match
FHWA - PL	\$1,050,273	\$ 262,568
FHWA - STP (Birmingham)	\$2,185,000	\$ 246,250
FTA - 5309	\$2,493,929	\$ 623,482
FTA - 5316/5317	\$ 50,000	\$ 0
FHWA - CMAQ	\$1,500,000	\$ 0
Total	\$7,279,202*	\$1,132,300

* Excludes \$200,000 in State Planning and Research (SPR) Used by ALDOT for Their Administrative Expenses

\$5.3 million of \$7.3 million Programmed to 3rd Party for Projects and Programs. DBE Utilization is currently at 16%. DBE Participation Averages 12% over Previous 3 Quarters.

Other Notable Expenditures Include:

- \$150k of \$1 million is Programmed to Support Transit Planning Activities
- \$585k is Programmed for Local Planning Assistance (Building Communities)
- \$105k is Programmed for Local Planning Assistance for Transportation (APPLE)
- \$200k is Programmed for Congestion Management Activities

Mr. Scott Tillman reviewed funding set aside in the UPWP for CMAQ projects, including the Alabama Partners for Clean Air program and the CommuteSmart program. Mr. Tillman also reviewed Tables 1 and 2 of the UPWP.

Mr. Darrell Howard and Mr. David Hunke gave the recommendations of the TCC and TTC. Both committees recommended approval of the FY 2012 UPWP.

Mayor Gene Melton made a motion to recommend approval of the FY 2012 UPWP to the full MPO. Ms. Karen Waddlington seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

MPO MEETING AGENDA (SEPTEMBER 14, 2011)

Mr. Wayne Sullivan noted that Agenda Item #2 (TIP Public Involvement Documentation) and Agenda Item #3 (FY 2012 UPWP) will be included on the September 14, 2011 MPO meeting agenda per the votes of the Subcommittee.

OTHER

Upcoming meetings listed on the agenda include:

- MPO Meeting September 14, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB.

With no other business, the Subcommittee meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

APPROVED:

Honorable Thomas Henderson
MPO Subcommittee Chairman

Date