



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

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Technical Committee

FROM: Mr. David Hunke, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2009**

A meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, 10:00 a.m., RPC 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. David Hunke, Chairman, At-Large
Mr. Richard Caudle, At-Large
Mr. Eric Womack, Shelby County Development Services Representative
Mr. Doug Hale, Bicycle / Pedestrian Representative
Mr. Scott Holladay, Shelby County Highway Department Representative
Mr. Richard Darden, At-Large
Mr. Jason Howanitz, Jeff. County Dept. of Health Chief Meteorologist - Air Division
Mr. Tom Magee, City of Birmingham Chief Planner
Mr. John Stewart, At-Large
Mr. Lance Taylor, ALDOT Preconstruction Engineer – Birmingham
Mr. Fenn Church, Trucking Representative
Ms. Denise Hornbuckle, Traffic Safety Representative
Mr. Greg Dawkins, Vice-Chairman, City of Birmingham Traffic Engineer
Ms. Kim Fort, UAB Parking Services Dir. of Auxiliary Services
Mr. Chris Reeves, At-Large

Ms. Mary Margaret Nicholson, At-Large
Mr. Matthew Cobb, City of Homewood Engineer
Mr. Andrew Sullivan, At-Large
Mr. Rod Long, City of Hoover Engineer
Mr. Al Folcher, City of Vestavia Hills Representative

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Mr. John Tally, CLASTRAN Transportation Mobility Manager
 Represented by Mr. Fenn Church
Ms. Sylvia Kennedy Jenkins, BJCTA Representative
 Represented by Ms. Wytangy Peak
Ms. Sheila Chaffin, UAB Exec. Dir. Campus Planning and Facilities Programming
 Represented by Ms. Kim Fort
Mr. Charles Malone, ALDOT Maintenance Engineer – Birmingham
 Represented by Mr. Lionel Harbin

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ms. Alfredo Acoff, ALDOT Environmental Coordinator – Montgomery
Mr. Chris Hatcher, Operation New Birmingham
Mr. Pascal Caputo, Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce (Non-Voting Member)
Ken Boozer, Jefferson County Dept. of Roads and Transportation Representative
Mr. Dave Harris, FHWA (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Joe Bearrentine, At-Large
Mr. Phillip Garratt, P.E., At-Large
Mr. Ron Clement, Railroad Representative
Dr. Emmanuel Oranika, ALDOT Metropolitan Planning Engineer - Montgomery
Mr. Ron Gore, ADEM (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Jeff Anoka, FTA (Non-Voting Member)
Ms. Carletta Singleton, At-Large

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, RPC
Mr. Harry He, RPC
Ms. Cynthia Barton, RPC
Mr. Darrell Howard, RPC
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, RPC
Mr. Steve Ostaseski, RPC
Ms. Mary Grace Lewandowski, RPC
Mr. Scott Tillman, RPC
Mr. Dennis Dickey, City of Birmingham

Mr. Wallace McCord, Bhate Geoscience
Mr. Courtney Newton, United Way
Mr. Fred Hawkins, EDT, Inc.
Mr. Phillip Holmes, ALDOT

Chairman David Hunke called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. With no corrections or additions, the meeting minutes for December 17, 2008 and January 27, 2009 were approved as written.

Mr. Bill Foisy presented a report on MPO actions. The MPO Subcommittee received an update on the stimulus bill that will be presented to the TTC in agenda item # 5. The Subcommittee also discussed the Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Foisy then discussed the Transit Means Growth Summit that was held February 2, 2009.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (2035)

Mr. Darrell Howard and Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe presented an interactive activity to the committee for assistance in the Regional Transportation Plan. The committee was asked to identify three projects that should be included in the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan based on the goals and objectives of the plan. Each attendee was asked to write each individual project on a post it note and place it on a board, where staff would group each project based on type. Results of the exercise were given later in the meeting.

GOAL 1: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY

Manage, maintain and enhance the existing system over time.

- 1A. Establish a financial management strategy to guide the MPO's federal funding investments.
- 1B. Encourage local governments to provide additional funding for projects.
- 1C. Support continuous transportation infrastructure preservation activities, including those that pursue permanent solutions and improve both facility and service operations.
- 1D. Improve the ability to monitor the region's roadways and public transit system for greater security.
- 1E. Pursue congesting mitigation strategies according to severity.

- 1F. Maintain and improve the existing levels of service for all modes of travel by optimizing system efficiency.
- 1G. Pursue transportation infrastructure improvements according to documented safety concerns i.e. crash history, pedestrian conflicts, lighting, signage, striping, etc.
- 1H. Develop alternative ways to access areas.
- 1I. Focus new transportation investments in identified transportation corridors and activity centers.

GOAL 2: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM INTEGRATION AND CONNECTIVITY
Develop a regional transportation system that improves the ability to move around and provides access to services and opportunities.

- 2A1. Develop an interconnected network of roadways, sidewalks and transit services that connect with other transportation facilities, important land uses, and activity centers.
- 2A2. Improve access to intermodal freight facilities, the Birmingham airports and in-land ports.
- 2B. Build additional roadways to provide increased access and cross-regional mobility.
- 2C. Develop public transit services that serve more of the region and include different service types such as those that target suburban commuters.
- 2D. Develop public transit services that provide a variety of different service types including commuter services that target suburban commuters, services that support secondary and post-secondary students, and specialized transportation services for both the elderly and disabled.
- 2E. Support programs that encourage travelers to use alternative commuting programs and strategies such as those offered by CommuteSmart.
- 2F. Develop a network of bike paths and trails to establish a regional system.
- 2G. Eliminate and / or minimize physical barriers, such as rail crossings, for motorized and non-motorized travel.

GOAL 3: COMMUNITY DRIVEN RTP
Develop a regional transportation system that involves the community in the decision-making process, reflecting their vision and values.

OBJECTIVES:

- 3A. Give preference to transportation infrastructure projects that originate from and/or are identified in locally developed and adopted planning documents (i.e. comprehensive plans) that have demonstrated adequate public involvement and public education, to include environmental justice populations, in the plan's development of mobility concepts, projects, and decision-making.
- 3B. Improve the inclusion of low-income, minority, elderly, disable and traditionally underserved (Environmental Justice) populations in the planning and decision-making process.
- 3C. Give preference to projects that avoid and / or minimize negative environmental impacts, historical and cultural impacts, and are sensitive to the local character.
- 3D. Encourage state and local transportation agencies and local elected officials to provide written support for transportation infrastructure projects.
- 3E. Give higher consideration to transportation infrastructure projects that are identified in locally endorsed regional or agency developed plan documents.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Ms. Mary Grace Lewandowski reviewed a request by ALDOT and the TIP Subcommittee to modify the FY2008-2011 TIP. Projects include:

ALDOT

<u>BR</u>	100003804	Repair bridge #1502 over Shades Creek #1503 over CSX railroad on SR-150 BIN#001502 SR-66.2, BIN #001503 SR-32.5	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$10,134,084.96	Exempt	Bridge Program	6
<u>BR</u>	100053082	Bridge Retrofit SR 3 (US 31) from Shelby County Line to Columbiana Road BIN #4549	3/11/09	CN	3/27/2009	2009	\$69,273	Exempt	Bridge Program	6

This request is for a construction budget for bridge work and is exempt from regional emission analysis.

American Village Citizenship Trust

<u>TR</u>	100050130	American Village/Montevallo, AL construction of closed loop access road, bus lanes and parking facility	3/11/09	TR	2/15/2009	2009	\$108,680	Exempt	Transit Program	9
<u>TR</u>	100048290	Section 5309 American Village/Montevallo, AL construction of closed loop access road, bus lanes and parking	3/11/09	TR	2/15/2009	2009	\$96,140	Exempt	Transit Program	9

This request is for transit funds and is exempt from regional emission analysis.

Birmingham

<u>CMAQ</u>	100052764	City of Birmingham Traffic Management Center modifications and upgrade, phase 1	3/11/09	CN	3/27/2009	2009	\$370,000	Exempt	Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program	13
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This request covers a project description change and budget revision of an existing TIP project - #100033183 (see below) and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

<u>CMAQ</u>	100033183	City of Birmingham Arterial CCTV 41 Intersections with Fiber Optic Cable Installed and Arterial System Fiber Plan	3/11/09	CN	3/30/2012	2012	\$359,956	Exempt	Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program	13
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This request covers the change in the project schedule of an existing TIP project to a year outside of the current FY 2008-2011 TIP and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

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<u>STPBH</u>		Vehicle Acquisition	3/11/09	CN	3/16/2009	2009	\$833,805	Exempt	Surface Transportation Birmingham Attributable Program	1
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This request is for vehicle acquisition and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2

The following projects were presented for information purposes only:

ALDOT

<u>STPAA</u>	100050634	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from Tutwiler Drive to north end of Cahaba River Bridge Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 9	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,000,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050631	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from 60 th Street to 83 rd Street Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 8	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,500,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050624	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from 34 th Street to 60 th Street Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 7	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,200,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050620	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from Lomb Avenue to Arkadelphia Road and SR-7 (US-11) from Arkadelphia Road to 9 th Street Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 6	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,000,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100050628	Resurfacing SR-7 (US-11) from Avenue K to Lomb Avenue Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 5	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$1,600,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100052387	Resurfacing, striping, shoulder SR-3 (US 31) from Shelby County Line to Columbiana Road	3/11/09	CN	3/27/2009	2009	\$3,000,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>STPAA</u>	100052395	Resurfacing (Mill and Fill) SR-155 from Chilton County Line to SR-25, Phase 2, FY 2009 Priority Number 13	3/11/09	CN	3/26/2009	2009	\$800,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program Projects	2
<u>NHF</u>	100052388	Planning, resurfacing SR79 from Winewood Road to SR 151	3/11/09	CN	6/26/2009	2009	\$2,000,000	Exempt	National Highway System Projects	3
	100052389	Resurface SR 150 from 2 miles west of CR 6 (Parkwood Road) to 0.24 miles west of Shades Creek	3/11/09	CN	3/26/2009	2009	\$1,000,000	Exempt	System Maintenance Projects	10

These requests are for resurfacing projects and are exempt from regional emission analysis.

City of Alabaster

<u>TR</u>	100052687	Section 5310 City of Alabaster vehicle procurement 1MV	3/11/09	CN	11/18/08	2008	\$43,617	Exempt	Transit Program	9
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**This request is for vehicle acquisition and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126.
 Table 2**

Shelby County Commission

<u>TR</u>	100052704	Section 5311 Shelby County Commission vehicle procurement	3/11/09	CN	11/18/08	2008	\$88,574	Exempt	Transit Program	9
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**This request is for vehicle acquisition and is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126.
 Table 2**

Mr. Doug Hale made a motion to approve the TIP modification. Mr. Rod Long seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Howard reviewed the Executive Summary for the final Congestion Management Plan included in the distribution materials. The full report is available upon request in print or on CD.

FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Foisy presented information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill of 2009. Included in the meeting packet was a summary HR-1 Conference report on the American Recovery and Reinvestment from the Committee on Appropriations, dated February 13, 2009, as well as a breakdown of the House, Senate and Final Bill for each section of the FY 2009 Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Supplemental.

Mr. Foisy then reviewed the provisions of the bill as included in a handout from the National Association of Regional Councils. Money set aside for transportation will be allocated through the Surface Transportation Program, including Birmingham Attributable, and projects funded will be required to be included in the State Transportation Improvement Program and must be obligated by September 30, 2009. Mr. Foisy noted that all money is 100% with no local match. Money set aside for transit properties will be disbursed based on a set formula in which Section 5307 funds will come to the BJCTA.

Mr. Darrell Howard presented the results of the interactive activity under agenda item # 2. Results were as follows:

TRANSIT	NON-MOTORIZED	OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT	OTHER
Clastran	Prepare bike plan that includes recommended roadway modifications, i.e. pavement markings plus sign as bike route	Shared car program	Building rehap for homeless - ONB
3rd Avenue West - AA	Hwy 119 sidewalk project - City of Pelham	Maintain and improve current infrastructure	Plug in grid
Jefferson County thoroughfare study/plan	Five Mile Creek Greenway - rails to trails project, Jefferson County	US 31 Access management	
BJCTA	US 31 sidewalks between I-65-I-459	US 280 Access management	
Develop regional light rail system	Rail trail - CSX/Fair park to Midfield	Inventory roadways to assess pavement width and sidewalks existence (database)	
New buses	Shades Creek Greenway (Homewood) Phase 2		
Develop rapid transit system: connect suburbs and city of B'ham neighborhoods	Birmingham city-wide bike route map with on street signage and stripping as appropriate		
Expanded bus schedules	Complete Lakeshore Parkway from Hwy 150 west to I-459		
BJCTA - new buses			
Light rail - intermodal Morris Ave to Birmingham Airport			
Superstops			
US 280 corridor study AA			
BJCTA - 100 new 30' buses			
WHEELS- mobility management project			
Upgrade transit fleet			
Clastran vehicle acquisition			
Transit fleet and rout expansion			
New transportation facility			
BRT			
Park-ride transit/express service			
Regional transit system			
Develop public transit system that focuses on a regional scale as well as B'ham			

OTHER

Chairman Hunke reviewed a list of upcoming meetings of importance to the Committee, including:

- MPO Subcommittee, February 26th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.
- MPO, March 11th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.
- National Transit Institute Course: Introduction to Metropolitan Planning Workshop, March 3-5, 2009, RPC.
- NCI Charrette System Training, April 14-16, 2009, RPC
- Announcement of next Technical Committee meeting for March 25th, 2009, 10:00 a.m., RPC.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

DH:cb

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APPROVED:

Mr. David Hunke, Chairman
Transportation Technical Committee

Date