



*Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham • 1731 First Avenue North Suite 200 • Birmingham, Al 35203
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March 24, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Technical Committee

FROM: Mr. David Hunke, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2010**

A meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) was held on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, 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. Greg Dawkins, Vice-Chairman, City of Birmingham Traffic Engineer
Mr. Wallace McCord, At-Large
Mr. Lance Taylor, ALDOT Preconstruction Engineer – Birmingham
Mr. Chris Reeves, At-Large
Mr. Chris Hatcher, Operation New Birmingham
Ms. Denise Hornbuckle, Traffic Safety Representative
Ms. Sheila Chaffin, UAB Exec. Dir. Campus Planning and Facilities Programming
Mr. Randy Kemp, City of Birmingham
Mr. Doug Hale, Bicycle / Pedestrian Representative
Mr. Tom Magee, City of Birmingham Chief Planner
Mr. Fred Hawkins, EDT
Mr. Al Folcher, At-Large
Mr. Scott Holladay, Shelby County Highway Department Representative
Ms. Kim Fort, UAB Parking Services Dir. of Auxiliary Services
Mr. Eric Womack, Shelby County Development Services Representative
Mr. Jason Howanitz, Jeff. County Dept. of Health Chief Meteorologist - Air Division
Ms. Mary Margaret Nicholson, At-Large
Mr. John Tally, CLASTRAN Transportation Mobility Manager
Mr. Andrew Sullivan, At-Large

Mr. Fenn Church, Trucking Representative
Mr. Scott Cothron, Sain Associates
Mr. John Stewart, At-Large
Mr. Phillip Garratt, P.E., At-Large
Mr. Rod Long, City of Hoover Engineer
Ms. Nan Baldwin, Birmingham Business Alliance (Non-Voting Member)

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Mr. Richard Caudle, At-Large
 Represented by Mr. Chris Reeves
Mr. Charles Malone, ALDOT Maintenance Representative-Birmingham
 Represented by Mr. Jesse Miller
Ms. Rhonda Siserir, BJCTA Representative
 Represented by Mr. Dennis Dickey

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mr. Matthew Cobb, City of Homewood Engineer
Ms. Alfredo Acoff, ALDOT Environmental Coordinator – Montgomery
Mr. Richard Darden, At-Large
Mr. Ron Clement, Railroad Representative
Mr. Ken Boozer, Jefferson County Dept. of Roads and Transportation Representative
Dr. Emmanuel Oranika, ALDOT Metropolitan Planning Engineer - Montgomery
Mr. Ron Gore, ADEM (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Jeff Anoka, FTA (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Dave Harris, FHWA (Non-Voting Member)

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Bill Foisy, RPC
Mr. Charles Ball, RPC
Ms. Cynthia Barton, RPC
Mr. Darrell Howard, RPC
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, RPC
Mr. Harry He, RPC
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, RPC
Mr. Randy Sain, Sain Associates
Mr. Bob Portera, Neel-Schaffer
Ms. Ginny MacDonald, Birmingham News

Chairman David Hunke called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. With no additions or corrections, the February 24, 2010 minutes were approved as written.

Mr. Bill Foisy presented a report from the MPO Subcommittee. The MPO Subcommittee received information on the TIGER grant award for McCalla, the transit corridor studies for I-65, US 11, and US 280, Recovery Act project obligation, and the public involvement timeline for the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, Rebalanced Transportation Improvement Program, and Air Quality Conformity Determination.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski 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.

Mr. Doug Hale made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP modification. Ms. Denise Hornbuckle seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP)

Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe announced the call for public involvement for the 2035 Regional transportation Plan, Modified FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program and the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Report. All documents have gone through the Interagency Consultation Group review and are ready to go to public involvement. Upon the call for public involvement by the MPO Subcommittee, the Public Involvement meeting will be held on April 21, 2010 from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. in the RPC 1st Floor Conference Room located at 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham. There will be a 21-day comment period following the meeting.

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Darrell Howard announced the kick-off meeting for the new Congestion Management Committee that will be held March 31, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the RPC 1st Floor Conference Room. Functional committees will include:

- Data and Research (Transportation Data Center)
- Real-time System Operations (Arterial Management)
- Planning and Project Development
- Incident and Emergency Management
- Policy Development

Mr. Andy Sullivan, UAB Engineering Department, presented information on the Data Center function. Those wishing to serve on the Committee were asked to contact Darrell Howard at dhoward@rpcgb.org.

OTHER

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 |

Chairman David Hunke reviewed the list of meetings of interest to the committee that included:

- MPO Subcommittee, March 25th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.
- Congestion Management Committee, March 31st, 10:00 a.m., RPC
- MPO, April 14th, 1:30 p.m., RPC.

- Announcement of next Technical Committee meeting for Wednesday April 28th, 10:00 a.m., RPC.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

DH:cb

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APPROVED:

Mr. David Hunke, Chairman
Transportation Technical Committee

Date