



March 23, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Technical Committee

FROM: Mr. David Hunke, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2011**

A meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) was held on Wednesday, March 23, 2011, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB 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. Matthew Cobb, City of Homewood Engineer
Mr. Tom Magee, City of Birmingham Chief Planner
Mr. Randy Kemp, City of Birmingham
Mr. John Tally, CLASTRAN Transportation Mobility Manager
Mr. Richard Caudle, At-Large
Mr. Wallace McCord, At-Large
Mr. Martin Edwards-Clarke, BJCTA Representative
Mr. Andrew Sullivan, At-Large
Ms. Virginia Williams, At-Large
Mr. Eric Womack, Shelby County Development Services Representative
Mr. Richard Darden, At-Large
Mr. Fred Hawkins, EDT
Mr. Rod Long, City of Hoover Engineer
Mr. Robert Portera, At-Large
Mr. Chris Reeves, At-Large
Mr. Doug Hale, Bicycle / Pedestrian Representative
Ms. Sheila Chaffin, UAB Exec. Dir. Campus Planning and Facilities Programming

Mr. Jason Howanitz, Jeff. County Dept. of Health Chief Meteorologist - Air Division
Ms. Denise Hornbuckle, Traffic Safety Representative
Ms. Mary Margaret Nicholson, At-Large
Mr. Lance Taylor, ALDOT Preconstruction Engineer – Birmingham
Mr. George Henry, At-Large
Ms. Alicia Rudolph, At-Large

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Mr. Ken Boozer, Jefferson County Dept. of Roads and Transportation Representative
Represented by Mr. Robert Shaw
Ms. Kim Fort, UAB Parking Services Dir. of Auxiliary Services
Represented by Ms. Sheila Chaffin
Mr. Fenn Church, Trucking Representative
Represented by Mr. John Tally
Mr. Charles Malone, ALDOT Maintenance Representative-Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Lionel Harbin

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mr. Scott Holladay, Shelby County Highway Department Representative
Mr. Scott Cothron, Sain Associates
Mr. Martin Edwards-Clark, BJCTA
Mr. Chris Hatcher, Operation New Birmingham
Mr. Al Folcher, At-Large
Ms. Alfredo Acoff, ALDOT Environmental Coordinator – Montgomery
Dr. Emmanuel Oranika, ALDOT Metropolitan Planning Engineer - Montgomery
Mr. Ron Gore, ADEM (Non-Voting Member)
Ms. Holly Peterson, FTA (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Dave Harris, FHWA (Non-Voting Member)
Ms. Nan Baldwin, Birmingham Business Alliance (Non-Voting Member)

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Darrell Howard, RPCGB
Mr. Charles Ball, RPCGB
Ms. Cynthia Barton, RPCGB
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, RPCGB
Mr. Scott Tillman, RPCGB
Mr. Harry He, RPCGB
Mr. Brett Isom, RPCGB
Ms. Cissy Edwards Crowe, RPCGB
Ms. Ouida Fritschi, TCC
Mr. Blair Perry, Gresham Smith and Partners

Ms. Christy Cahalan, AECOM

Chairman David Hunke called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. Mr. Tom Magee asked that the February 23, 2011 minutes be corrected to reflect the following changes:

Mr. Tom Magee requested the City of Birmingham be copied on the meeting notices for the Regional Thoroughfare Plan Steering Committee and a list of Steering Committee members be provided to the City of Birmingham.

With no additional corrections, the February 23, 2011 minutes were approved as corrected. Mr. Darrell Howard noted that the MPO did not meet in March, therefore no actions were reported.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

ALDOT Requests

<u>BR-1065Q</u>	100055334	Bridge widening on I-65 south of SR-3 (US-31) in Alabaster – Bridges over L&N RR, CR-26, and L&N RR/CR-87	4/13/2011	PE	5/1/2011	2011	\$1,170,907	Exempt	Bridge Projects	6
<u>DE-A194Q</u>	100054895	SR-75 revitalization from 13 th Ave to CR-1824 (26 th Ave NE) 11 intersections and equipment installation in 40-50 City/County vehicles and landscaping at various locations in Centerpoint	4/13/2011	CN	5/27/2011	2011	\$219,000	Exempt	High Priority and Congressional Earmark Projects	14
<u>STPTE-TE12Q</u>	100056144	Landscaping along Ball Park Road from CR-105 (Bearden Road) to SR-3 (US-31) in the City of Pelham	4/13/2011	CN	12/15/2011	2011	\$70,000	Exempt	Enhancement Projects	8

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

<u>NH-HHP-1065(354)</u>	100044672	I-65 add lanes from SR-3 (US-31) to CR-52 (8-LN) (Phase 2)	4/13/2011	CN	6/24/2011	2011	\$64,896,000	Non-Exempt	National Highway System and High Priority and Congressional Earmark Projects	3 and 14
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This project is non-exempt from regional emission analysis. This project is part of a larger project which is included in the adopted and approved regional emissions analysis. See Appendix 5C of the Birmingham 2035 Regional Transportation Plan.

Ms. Virginia Williams asked if New Starts money could be used to fund the I-65 additional lanes Phase 2 project. Mr. Darrell Howard noted that the New Starts money could only be spent on transit study portion.

Ms. Virginia Williams made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP modification. Mr. Chris Reeves seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Mr. Darrell Howard presented a request by the RPCGB to modify the FY2011 UPWP to add Task 7.5 and incur 5309 (FTA) expenses of approximately \$1,994,819 federal for the U.S. 11 East / U.S. 78 East Alternatives Analysis. The task would be completed by RPCGB staff and a 3rd Party Contractor.

The proposed FY 2011 UPWP Task 7.5 reads as follows:

7.5 U.S. 11 East /U.S. 78 East Alternatives Analysis

Objectives: Provide public transportation alternatives to improve travel in the U.S. 11 East travel corridor. This would include alternatives that augment, support, and complement previous recommendations to improve non-motorized travel, expand roadway capacity, and manage access to U.S. 11 East and U.S. 78 East. This will also include exploration of public transportation alternatives to improve travel from downtown Birmingham to the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport.

Anticipated work activities will consider alternatives that augment, support, and complement recommendations to improve existing transit services, non-motorized travel, and roadway operations and management. The study will also provide land development/redevelopment scenarios for the proposed travel corridor between downtown Birmingham and the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport. Alternatives for connecting the airport with the City of Trussville and the City of Leeds along U.S. 11 East and U.S. 78 respectively will also be explored along with potential land development/redevelopment scenarios within each of these corridors as they both enter and exit the airport property.

Land use scenarios shall be supportive of the potential alternatives for transportation system improvements, influencing the character of the transportation system where appropriate, and likewise responding to the needs of the transportation system.

The study should consider and build upon the preliminary recommendations identified in the Birmingham Regional Alternatives Analysis of 2004, the plan that developed the basis of the regional transit system plan.

Previous Work:

City of Leeds Master Plan and Major Street Plan

City of Irondale Crestwood Boulevard/U.S. 78 Corridor Study

Five Mile Creek Partnership
Route level planning by BJCTA for Airport Shuttle
BJCTA Transit Development Program

Proposed Work:

Proposed work for FY 2011 includes:

- Establishment of the project study area boundaries
- Data compilations and analysis
- Develop agency and contractor work programs
- Develop Request for Proposal for 3rd Party Services

End Products

Corridor Data Files
Procurement Process

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham and 3rd party contractor.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- A. Project Administrative Processes (Spring/Summer 2011)
- B. Procurement Process (Summer 2011)

Financial Responsibility:

Total	\$2,493,524
5309 (FTA)	\$1,994,819
Local	\$ 498,705

Mr. Howard noted that funds allocated for this project cannot be used for other types of projects. Any funds not utilized will be sent back to Washington DC for use by other states.

Mr. Doug Hale asked if this project would study just US 11 or the corridor. The study encompasses the corridor and will include the use of in-kind match for the local financial responsibility.

Mr. Richard Caudle made a motion to recommend approval of the UPWP modification as requested. Ms. Virginia Williams seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

NOMINATING / MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Richard Caudle presented a report from the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee recommends the following people for membership as At-Large members:

Mr. George Henry, City of Alabaster
Ms. Alicia Rudolph, David Volkert and Associates

Mr. Phillip Garratt and Mr. John Stewart resigned from the committee. Both held At-Large positions.

Mr. Henry and Ms. Rudolph introduced themselves to the committee. Mr. Henry serves as the City Administrator for Alabaster and Ms. Rudolph, who has served as proxy for Mr. Phillip Garratt for several years, is the Vice President of Volker and Associates.

Ms. Sheila Chaffin announced that Ms. Kim Fort, UAB Parking Services Dir. of Auxiliary Services, has been promoted and will no longer be able to serve on the TTC. UAB is in the process of recruiting a replacement for Ms. Fort.

Mr. Richard Caudle made a motion to add Mr. Henry and Ms. Rudolph to the TTC as At-Large members. Ms. Sheila Chaffin seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Caudle then noted that there are a few remaining At-Large positions vacant and anyone interested in serving on the TTC should notify staff.

U.S CENSUS DATA

Mr. Brett Isom gave an update on the 2010 Census. The Public Law portion of 2010 Census Data has been released. Information presented included:

- Total population by County
- Percent change in population by County 2000 to 2010
- Population estimates of Alabama Counties 1960-2010
- Population and Housing Units in Alabama Counties, 2010
- Alabama Population Characteristics by City
 - White
 - Black
 - Asian
 - Two-Plus
 - Hispanic
 - Non-Hispanic
 - Minority
 - Population Change by number and percent

The population of Alabama increased by 7 ½%. The Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) population increased by 7% and includes Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, Bibb, Walker, Chilton and Blount Counties. The MPO area saw a 6% increase with a Shelby County population increase of 36% and a Jefferson County decrease of 0.5%. The urbanized area population increased by 17,000 people. The City of Calera saw population increase by 268%. Chelsea increased by 245%. The Town of Cardiff population saw a 33% decrease or 27 people and Brighton had a 19% decrease in population since the 2000 Census. Birmingham saw a 12 ½% decrease in population. The Birmingham area housing vacancy rate was 15-16%.

Summary File Data 1 comes out in the summer of 2011. There will be no Summary File Data 3 (Socioeconomic Data) released this time. This information will now be collected using the American Community Survey data for the last 5 years and averaging the information.

Mr. Isom addressed questions asked during the presentation as follows:

- Two-plus refers to those individuals that consider themselves of more than one race. In the 2010 Census additional information was included concerning the Hispanic population since that is an ethnicity rather than a race.
- The population total for the MSA is roughly 1.1 millions
- The greatest MSA percentage growth would be Huntsville or Montgomery
- The Birmingham MSA is the largest in the state at this time
- Four (4) Birmingham MSA counties are in the top for 20 largest growth in Alabama
- All information presented at the meeting is available online through the US Census Bureau or a request can be made to the RPCGB Staff

Chairman David Hunke noted that the urbanized area boundaries will be reviewed in the next couple of years that could possibly bring St. Clair County into the MPO and could also impact funds. Chairman Hunke also noted that the numbers released from the American Community Survey are posted every 1-5 years based on population. Populations greater than 65,000 receive an annual update. Populations of 20,000 to 65,000 receive an update every three (3) years and populations less than 20,000 receive updates every five (5) years.

OTHER

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

- MPO TIP Subcommittee meeting, March 23, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- MPO Subcommittee meeting March 24, 2011, 1:30, RPCGB
- MPO meeting, April 13, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Announcement of next Technical Committee meeting for Wednesday, April 27, 2011, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

APPROVED:

Mr. David Hunke, Chairman
Transportation Technical Committee

Date

DH:cb

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