



October 19, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Citizens Committee (TCC)
FROM: Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman /s/
**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2011**

A meeting of the Transportation Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 12:00 Noon, RPCGB 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Jim Gunnin, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Anna Brown, City of Birmingham
Mr. Bruce Ludwig, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Peggy Cochran, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Mr. Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham
Ms. Judy Gordon, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Butch Ferrell, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Barbara McKenna, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham
Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Mr. Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Mr. Nichalaus Sims, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Dr. Johnny Peebles, III, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Jeff Havercroft, Shelby County
Dr. John Springer, City of Birmingham

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mr. Lawrence Clark, Shelby County

Mrs. Nancy Clark, Shelby County
Mr. Robert Smith, City of Birmingham
Ms. Pat Hall, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Joanne Adcock, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Calvin Rumph, Shelby County
Mr. Thurman Robertson, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Courtney Newton, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham
Mr. Gilbert Klein, City of Birmingham
Mr. David Russell, City of Birmingham

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Laurel Land, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cissy Crowe, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Greg Wingo, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Tom Maxwell, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Elizabeth Denson, ILRGB
Ms. Ruth Wright, League of Women Voters
Mr. Graham Sisson, Alabama Governor's Office on Disability
Mr. Paul Godbey, Birmingham
Dr. Charles Hart, Clay

Chairman Ouida Fritschi called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. A quorum was declared. The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. Dr. Johnny Peebles III made a motion to approve the August 17, 2011 minutes. Ms. Anna Brown seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote. Mr. Scott Tillman gave an update on MPO actions. The MPO met September 14, 2011. The MPO adopted the FY2012-2015 TIP, the amended 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, Air Quality Conformity Report, and the FY 2012 UPWP as recommended by the TCC.

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski presented a request from ALDOT to modify the FY2012-2015 TIP to include the following:

ALDOT Requests

<u>SRTS- PE120</u>	100057814	Safe Routes to School FY2012 Division-wide Preliminary Engineering	11/9/2011	PE	11/10/2011	2012	\$150,000	Exempt	Safety Projects	11
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This project is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

A list of Safe Routes to School projects is included in the FY 2012-2015 TIP and covers projects in Jefferson and Shelby counties.

Dr. Johnny Peebles III made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP modification. Mr. Willie Osborne seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

NOMINATING / MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Ouida Fritschi presented the recommendations from Nominating / Membership Committee for officers for 2012-2013. The Nominating Committee met September 9, 2011 and recommended Ms. Jackie Dye for Chairman and Mr. Willie Osborne for Vice Chairman. The recommendation will stay on the table for 30 days and a vote will be taken at the November TCC meeting.

JOBS ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) AND NEW FREEDOM GRANTS

Ms. Laurel Land presented a recommendation of projects to be funded in FY 2012 under the JARC and New Freedom Programs. A Request for Proposals (RFP) for funding under the Federal Transit Administration’s Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom programs was publicized by the RPCGB in July 2011. Responses were due by noon on August 26, 2011. Funding is limited to projects in the urbanized areas of Jefferson and Shelby County.

JARC projects must support transportation services to and from jobs and job-related activities. New Freedom projects must provide transportation options for individuals with disabilities. The RPCGB received eight applications in response to this RFP.

The Human Service Transportation Committee met on September 28, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Committee members reviewed and discussed each of the eight proposals received and voted to approve the following projects for funding:

- The Village - \$28,000 for one vehicle (JARC)
- Three Hots and a Cot - \$45,500 (\$28,000 for one van; \$17,500 for operations) (JARC)
- Aletheia House - \$250,000 for operating expenses (JARC)

A summary of the recommended proposals was included in the meeting packet. The BJCTA is responsible for the financial oversight of these grant programs. All proposals are available for review upon request. The RPCGB estimates the balance after funding these projects will be approximately \$900,000 for JARC and \$600,000 for New Freedom. Unspent funds are rolled into future years. Future funding for these programs has not been designated.

Questions presented by the TCC included:

- Why was Three Hots and a Cot only approved for one van when they requested two?
 - o The agency is new and currently only has 21 residents.
- Are any of the requested vehicles being considered as alternative fueled vehicles?
 - o Vehicles being purchased are flex-fuel.
- Will these vans be equipped with lifts?
 - o The requirement is that at least one in ten vehicles must be lift equipped.
- What type of facility is The Village?
 - o It is a reentry program for former prison inmates or former drug addicts.
- Are emergency phones installed in the vans?
 - o No, but the drivers typically have radios or cell phones that allow for emergency contact if needed.
- How can Citizens Committee members be added to the review committee?
 - o Next year, a call will be made for volunteers to serve on the review committee.

Dr. Johnny Peebles III made a motion to recommend approval of the three projects for JARC funding. Ms. Judy Gordon seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

FEDERAL FUNDING SUMMARY

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski gave a presentation on federal funding allocations, both local and national. Information presented included the following:

\$3.7 Trillion (or \$3,700 billion) is the Total Federal Budget for one year. Of that money, \$513 billion goes to states for aid. From the \$513 billion, \$87 billion is used for transportation nationwide. Congress controls all three of these allocations.

ALDOT receives \$1.4 billion of the \$87 billion to be dispersed throughout the state for all transportation related projects / programs. ALDOT receives about \$270 million for the Birmingham MPO area of which the Birmingham MPO oversees the spending of around \$23 million for STPBH and CMAQ projects.

Projected Federal Aid to States for FY2012 (in millions)

- | | |
|------------------|----------|
| - Transportation | \$86,985 |
| - Education | \$57,142 |
| - Energy | \$2,924 |

- Food \$27,807
- Health \$285,871
- Housing \$52,618

Projected Federal Funding to States

Category	Program	Amount	Total by Category
Education	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	\$ 11,705,212,000	
Education	Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	\$ 2,926,756,000	
Education	Child Care and Development Mandatory Fund	\$ 1,252,097,000	
Education	Effective Teachers and Leaders	\$ 2,500,000,000	
Education	Title I	\$ 14,792,401,000	
Education	Foster Care Title IV-E	\$ 4,087,999,000	
Education	Child Care and Development Matching Fund	\$ 2,164,822,000	
Education	Head Start	\$ 8,099,782,000	
Education	Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants	\$ 3,140,978,000	
Education	Child Support Enforcement	\$ 3,977,036,000	
Education	Adoption Assistance	\$ 2,494,999,000	\$ 57,142,082,000
Energy	Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons (WAP)	\$ 320,000,000	
Energy	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	\$ 990,000,000	
Energy	State Energy Program (SEP)	\$ 63,798,000	
Energy	Clean Water State Revolving Fund	\$ 1,550,000,000	\$ 2,923,798,000
Food	Child and Adult Care Food Program	\$ 2,822,791,000	
Food	SNAP Administrative Matching Grants	\$ 3,332,000,000	
Food	School Breakfast Program	\$ 3,337,699,000	
Food	WIC	\$ 7,373,249,000	
Food	National School Lunch Program	\$ 10,941,113,000	\$ 27,806,852,000
Health	State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	\$ 14,982,001,000	
Health	Medicaid	\$ 270,889,399,000	\$ 285,871,400,000
Housing	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$ 3,954,930,000	
Housing	Public Housing Operating Fund	\$ 3,961,850,000	
Housing	Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers	\$ 19,238,005,000	
Housing	Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	\$ 1,979,999,000	
Housing	Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	\$ 1,699,998,000	
Housing	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	\$ 17,670,625,000	
Housing	Public Housing Capital Fund	\$ 2,440,000,000	
Housing	Home Investment Partnership Program	\$ 1,672,705,000	\$ 52,618,112,000
Transportation	Federal Transit Formula Grants Program	\$ 11,192,656,000	
Transportation	Airport Improvement Program	\$ 5,378,750,000	
Transportation	Highway Planning and Construction Program	\$ 70,414,000,000	\$ 86,985,406,000
	Total:	\$ 513,347,650,000	

Source: NationalPriorities.org website - Dollar amounts are estimated.

Federal Aid to Alabama

- Transportation	\$ 1,405,876,000
- Education	\$ 833,162,000
- Energy	\$ 31,785,000
- Food	\$ 471,729,000
- Health	\$ 4,367,169,000
- Housing	\$ 608,432,000

Birmingham Dollars by Funding Category

Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality	\$10
High Priority & Earmark	\$12
STP-Birmingham Attributable	\$13
Other STP (Any Area)	\$16
National Highway System	\$15
Appalachian Highway System	\$110
Interstate System	\$36
Bridges	\$12
State	\$12
Enhancement	\$2
Transit	\$18
Maintenance	\$3
Safety	\$3
Other Federal & State	\$16

Funding Categories – Annual Funds for Birmingham Area

- Surface Transportation Birmingham Attributable - \$13 mil/yr
- Other Surface Transportation – \$16 mil/yr
- National Highway Systems - \$15 mil/yr
- Appalachian Highway System - \$110 mil/yr
- Interstate System - \$36 mil/yr
- Bridge Projects - \$12 mil/yr
- State Funds - \$3 mil/yr
- Enhancement - \$2 mil/yr
- Transit System - \$18 mil/yr
- System Maintenance - \$3 mil/yr
- Safety Projects - \$3 mil/yr
- Other Federal and State Funds - \$16 mil/yr
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) - \$10 mil/yr
- High Priority & Congressional Earmark - \$12 mil/yr

Chapter 6 of the Birmingham 2035 Regional Transportation Plan contains more information

Federal Funding Aid Summary

\$3,700 billion Total Federal Budget

- \$513 billion All Federal Aid to All States
- \$87 billion for Transportation to All States
- \$1.4 billion for Transportation in Alabama
 - \$270 million for Transportation projects in Birmingham Area (Jefferson and Shelby Counties)
 - \$21 million to Public Transportation Programs in Birmingham Area
 - \$23 million controlled by Metropolitan Planning Organization (STPBH and CMAQ)

Mr. Kaczorowski explained that funds allocated for the Appalachian Highway System apply to projects such as Corridor X and the Northern Beltline. Congress is responsible for the funds allocated for these types of projects. "Other federal and state funds" refers to funds like the TIGER grants. CMAQ funding currently only applies to the Birmingham MPO area.

Mr. Kaczorowski referred the committee to www.nationapriorities.org for additional information on federal funding and the federal budget.

OTHER

Chairman Ouida Fritschi reviewed the list of upcoming meetings, including the following:

- US 280 Public Open House, November 9, 2011, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Birmingham Marriott
- Transportation Technical Committee, October 26, 2011, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB
- MPO Subcommittee, October 27, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Building Communities Conference, November 3, 2011, 8:30 a.m., McWane Science Center
- MPO, November 9, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB

Anyone interested in attending the Building Communities Conference were asked to complete the registration form included in the meeting packet and return to the RPCGB with payment no later than October 26, 2011.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Chairman
Transportation Citizens Committee
OF:cb

Date

