



March 21, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Citizens Committee (TCC)
FROM: Ms. Jackie Dye, Chairman /s/
**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2012**

A meeting of the Transportation Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, 12:00 Noon, RPCGB 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Jackie Dye, Chairman, Shelby County
Mr. Willie Osborne, Vice Chairman, City of Birmingham
Mr. Bruce Ludwig, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Barbara McKenna, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Dr. Johnny Peebles, III, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ms. Joanne Adcock, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Calvin Rumph, Shelby County
Ms. Anna Brown, City of Birmingham
Mr. Lawrence Clark, Shelby County
Mrs. Nancy Clark, Shelby County
Ms. Peggy Cochran, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Harry Giddens, City of Birmingham
Mr. Butch Ferrell, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Mr. Thurman Robertson, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Dr. John Springer, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jeff Havercroft, Shelby County
Ms. Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mr. Robert Smith, City of Birmingham

Mr. Courtney Newton, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Mr. Gilbert Klein, City of Birmingham
Mr. David Russell, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jim Gunnin, East / Northeast Jefferson County
Ms. Pat Hall, East / Northeast Jefferson County

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Ms. Judy Gordon, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Mr. Nichalaus Sims, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Ouida Fritschi, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Harry He, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Andrew Sullivan, UAB
Mr. Paul Godbey, Birmingham
Ms. Elizabeth Denson, ILRGB
Ms. Dannette Ratcliff, ALDOT
Ms. Selena Rodgers, SARCOR

Chairman Jackie Dye called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. She reminded the committee that they are charged with protecting the public dollars. The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. Dr. Johnny Peebles, III made a motion to approve the January 18, 2012 minutes. Ms. Anna Brown seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

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

ALDOT Requests

<u>STPBH-PE120</u>	100058186	CR-1498 (Ensley Avenue) from SR-269 (20 th Street) to Warrior Road - sidewalks, curb & gutter, storm drain, State Support Services	4/11/2012	PE	4/12/2012	2012	\$75,000	Exempt	Surface Transportation Program – Birmingham Attributable	1
<u>STPBH-PE120</u>	100058187	19 th Street from I-59 to Tuxedo Junction - sidewalks, curb & gutter, storm drain, State Support Services	4/11/2012	PE	4/12/2012	2012	\$75,000	Exempt	Surface Transportation Program – Birmingham Attributable	1
<u>STPBH-PE120</u>	100058188	12 th Street from SR-7 (US-11) to Baptist Princeton Hospital - sidewalks, curb & gutter, storm drain, State Support Services	4/11/2012	PE	4/12/2012	2012	\$75,000	Exempt	Surface Transportation Program – Birmingham Attributable	1

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

ALDOT Request

<u>NH-1065()</u>	100058158	I-65 add lanes from SR-3 (US-31) to CR-52 (8-lanes)	4/11/2012	RW	7/1/2012	2012	\$600,000	Non-Exempt	National Highway System	3
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This project is non-exempt from regional emission analysis. This project is included in the adopted and approved regional emissions analysis. See Appendix 5C of the Birmingham 2035 Regional Transportation Plan.

Questions /Comments included:

1. Is there a requirement for the City of Birmingham to manage funds?
2. When is the start/finish date on these projects?
 - a. As soon as possible.
3. On the I-65 project, is the schedule changing? Are they changing years?
 - a. Years will not change or cross conformity.
4. Why did they move funds to STPBH?
 - a. Earmarks were rescinded.
5. Since ALDOT didn't advance projects, why doesn't ALDOT pay instead of STPBH?
6. Does anyone have a clue how much money is lost by projects not moving forward?
7. There needs to be accountability for lost funds.
8. Can the TCC request information on the lost funds allocated and write a letter? Who would be the receiver for the letter?
9. Raise this issue with the MPO and let them take action.

Ms. Nancy Clarke made a motion to recommend approval of the ALDOT requested TIP modifications. Dr. Johnny Peebles seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

Dr. John Springer made a motion to write a letter in regards to the lost funds and have an accountability of the lost funds and actions to be taken. Mr. Calvin Rumph seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was amended to include asking the MPO to send a letter to ALDOT

requesting an accounting of lost federal funds and the untimely movement of funds. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Kaczorowski then presented two additional TIP requests.

Vestavia Hills Request

<u>STPBH- CN10(908)</u>	100048391	Sidewalks in Vestavia Hills along Canyon Road, Vista View Lane & Merryvale Road	4/11/2012	CN	9/1/2012	2012	\$607,000	Exempt	Surface Transportation Program – Birmingham Attributable	1
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This project is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

Helena Request

<u>CMAQ- 9802(126)</u>	100032383	Helena Buck Creek/Tococa Rail Trail System	4/11/2012	CN	4/12/2012	2012	\$2,414,075	Exempt	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality	13
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This project is exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

Mr. Bruce Ludwig made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP requests by Vestavia Hills and Helena. Dr. Johnny Peebles III seconded the motion. Questions presented during discussion included:

1. Were the Homewood sidewalks checked for ADA accessibility?
2. Why did the estimate on the Helena project go from \$400,000 to \$2.4 million?
 - a. The original estimate for the Helena project was done 15 years prior and prices/technology have changed.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS REPORT

Mr. Andrew Sullivan gave an update on the Congestion Management Process. Data was collected in 2010 and processed in 2011 for a report that was completed at the end of 2011. Report information presented included:

Purpose of the Report

- Provide an overview of travel time indices on major routes in Birmingham
- Develop baseline measurements of speeds and travel times for future comparison
- Present findings in a simple report suitable for the general public

This report will serve as a guideline for future reports.

The Study network included major US and state arteries in Jefferson and Shelby counties.

Process of data collection

- Probe vehicles
- Fleet Data GPS
 - o Improved Data Quality

Previous data was collected by people in single vehicles driving and collecting information that only accounted for about three data points. New data collected for this report was from fleet data, giving a larger sampling of data and will be used as a starting point for determining congestion.

Travel Time Index = Measured travel time over Free-flow travel time.

For Freeways:

- TTI > 1.1 indicates the onset of congestion
- TTI > 1.5 indicates significant congestion
- TTI > 2.0 indicates severe congestion

For Arterials:

- TTI > 1.5 indicates congestion
- TTI > 2.0 indicates significant congestion
- TTI > 2.5 indicates severe congestion

Maps of AM Peak Congestion and AM Peak Travel Times to Downtown were included in the presentation.

Lane Miles of Congested Facilities

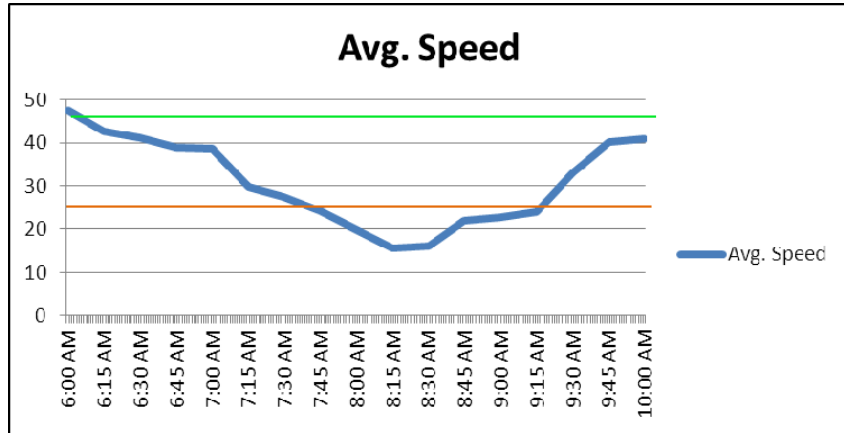
Table 3. Lane-Miles of Congested Interstates

Route	From/To	AM Peak		PM Peak	
		NB/EB	SB/WB	NB/EB	SB/WB
I-65	Chilton Co. Line to Blount Co. Line	73.5	20.3	62.9	68.9
I20/59	Tuscaloosa Co. Line to I-20/59 Split	22.7	25.1	23.0	12.9
I-20	I-20/59 Split to St. Clair Co. Line	4.3	7.6	4.3	2.8
I-59	I-20/59 Split to St. Clair Co. Line	-	24.1	17.7	0.9
I-459	I-20/59 to I-59	40.3	19.5	42.0	30.7
I-22	Walker Co. Line to Coalburg Road	-	-	-	-
Totals (by direction)		140.7	96.6	149.9	116.2
Total (both directions)		237.4		266.1	
% of Total Interstate Lane-Miles		27%		31%	

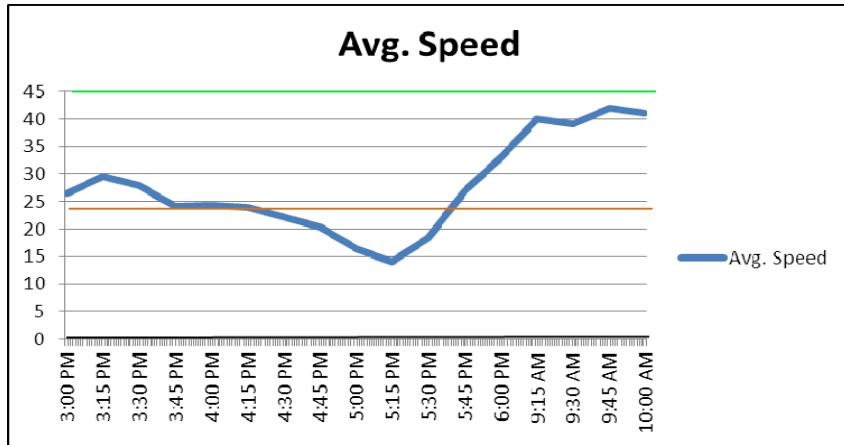
Table 4. Lane-Miles of Congested Arterials

Route	From/To	AM Peak		PM Peak	
		NB/EB	SB/WB	NB/EB	SB/WB
U.S. 31	Chilton Co. Line to Blount Co. Line	11.2	7.4	8.0	18.0
U.S. 280	Shelby Co. Line to Red Mt. Expwy.	0.6	17.9	22.3	11.0
U.S. 78	Walker Co. Line to St. Clair Co. Line	7.7	11.0	8.1	10.0
U.S. 11	Tuscaloosa Co. Line to St. Clair Co. Line	6.3	6.5	5.2	6.8
Totals (by direction)		25.8	42.8	43.7	45.7
Total (both directions)		68.6		89.4	
% of Total Arterial Lane-Miles		10%		13%	

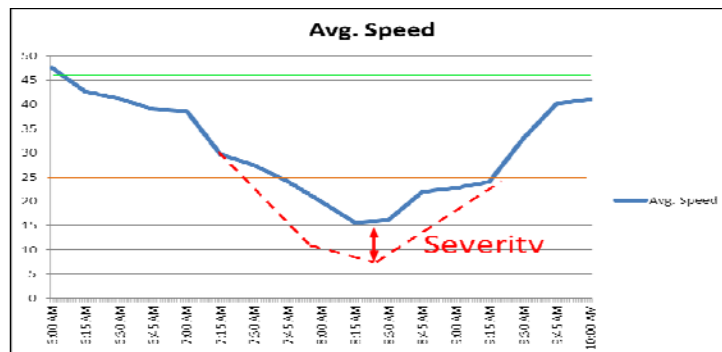
Speed Profiles (US 280 at Rocky Ridge)
- Westbound 280 (AM Peak)



- Eastbound 280 (PM peak)



Speed Profiles



The Report will be updated yearly and will show where congestion is growing / shrinking and will show how new projects have changed congestion patterns. The next report will present data collected during October 2011.

Questions / Comments included:

1. How long between data purchases?
 - a. Purchases will be made annually
2. How is this information going to be presented to the public?
 - a. This report will be on the MPO website and the Texas transportation Institute publishes congestion information annually that is available to the public. MPO staff is hoping to publish reports annually for the MPO area in the future.
3. Is there a reason why only two counties were included since we need to look at the region?
 - a. Staff is working with ALDOT to get regional information
4. Do you have traffic counts?
 - a. Traffic counts are available on the MPO website
5. Does ALDOT request the same information statewide?
 - a. ALDOT does receive some of the same data for the state as a whole, but at the time of this report, ALDOT was only receiving information on federal highways.

ADVANCE PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND LOGICAL ENGINEERING (APPLE)

Due to time constraints, this item was held until the next TCC meeting.

OTHER

Chairman Jackie Dye reviewed the list of upcoming meetings, including the following:

- Clean Fuels Conference, April 26, 2012, 9:00 a.m., Birmingham-Southern College

- MPO Certification 30-Day Comment Period Began March 15, 2012
- Transportation Technical Committee, March 28, 2012, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB
- MPO Subcommittee, March 29, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- MPO, April 11, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Citizens Committee Meeting, April 18, 2012, 12:00 noon, RPCGB

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ms. Jackie Dye, Chairman
Transportation Citizens Committee

Date

JD:cb
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