



November 9, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

FROM: Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Secretary /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2011**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization was held on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, 1:30 p.m., in the RPCGB 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable Doug Brewer, MPO Chairman, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Wayne Sullivan, MPO Secretary, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Mr. Tom Magee, District 1, City of Birmingham
Mr. Harvey Henley, District, 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Mr. Randall Kemp, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Maxine Herring Parker, District 1, City of Birmingham
Honorable Kim Rafferty, District 1, City of Birmingham
Mr. Jesse Jowers, District 4, Shelby County- City of Pelham
Mr. Randy Cole, District 4, Shelby County
Honorable Alberto Zaragoza, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Roger McCondichie, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Loxcil Tuck, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Honorable Jerry Brasseale, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Mr. Andre Bittas, District 1, City of Birmingham

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Honorable Thomas Henderson, MPO Vice Chairman, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mayor Doug Brewer
Ms. Virginia Williams, District 1, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Tom Magee

Honorable Valerie Abbott, District 1, City of Birmingham
Represented by Ms. Martha Espy

Mr. Rod Long, District 4, Shelby County- City of Hoover
Represented by Mr. Tim Westhoven

Honorable Steve Parsons, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mayor Jerry Brasseale

Mr. Ray Hamilton, District 4, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. David Hunke

Mr. Mark Bartlett, FHWA, Non-Voting Member
Represented by Mr. Dave Harris

Honorable William Bell, District 1, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Andre Bittas

Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT, Remaining Voting Representative
Represented by Mr. Lance Taylor

Ms. Tracey Adams, District 1, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Andy Mayo

Mr. Greg Dawkins, District 1, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. Sedrick Rutledge

Honorable Larry Dillard, District 4, Shelby County
Represented by Mr. Randy Cole

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ms. Renee Kemp-Rotan, District 1, City of Birmingham

Honorable Tommy Alexander, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

Honorable Delor Baumann, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

Honorable Gene Melton, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

Honorable Joe Knight, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County

Mr. Walter Jackson, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County

Honorable George Bowman, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County

Honorable Gary Richardson, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

Honorable Jay Roberson, District 1, City of Birmingham

Honorable Sandra Little Brown, District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County

Honorable Ken Gulley, Jefferson County Municipalities

Mr. Patrick Sellers, BJCTA, Remaining Voting Representative

Honorable Tom Henderson, Sr., District 2, Unincorporated Jefferson County

Honorable Othell Phillips, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

Honorable Melanie Bouyer, District 3, Jefferson County Municipalities

Honorable David Frings, District 4, Shelby County- City of Alabaster

Mr. Robert Caliento, District 4, Shelby County- City of Helena

Mr. Robert Jilla, ALDOT, Non-Voting Member

VACANT, Remaining Voting Representative

VACANT, Remaining Voting Representative

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Scott Tillman, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Laurel Land, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Tom Maxwell, Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Greg Wingo, Regional Planning Commission
Ms. Janee' Vale, City of Birmingham
Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer, ARCA
Ms. Sadie Swyne, Conservation Alabama
Ms. Paige Coker, Greater Birmingham Transportation Services
Ms. Ouida Fritschi, Transportation Citizens Committee
Ms. Renee Carter, CRT
Chief William Hewitt, City of Tarrant
Mr. Kenny Clemons, Jefferson County Mayors Association
Mr. Preston Huddleston

MPO Chairman Doug Brewer called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Councilor Kim Rafferty made a motion to approve the September 14, 2011 meeting minutes. Councilor Maxine Herring Parker seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

JOBS ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) AND NEW FREEDOM GRANTS

Mr. J.D. Simpson of Three Hots and a Cot gave a presentation on his organization as part of a request for Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom funds. Information presented by Mr. Simpson included the following:

Mission Statement: Provide services for homeless veterans while transitioning into affordable housing. This will include; lodging, meals, access to medical, dental, counseling, job placement, and other social services as needed by the participant. Identify and provide services to veterans who are in danger of becoming homeless.

Why are there Homeless Veterans?

- Bad Habits, Bad Decisions, Bad Luck, Bad Economy, Bad ??????

Where does it begin?

- Young person is seeking....
 - o A job, a sense of stability in their lives, a career, a chance to “change” their lives, a chance for a “better tomorrow”
 - o A young person is seeking – something...

They FIND IT!!!!

- Department of Defense Recruits these young men and women. DOD provides training, housing, income, benefits, security
- DOD is “Home”
- Then comes a time to return to the “real world”

Homecoming... or not all the way

- Gap from DOD to VA
- Over 24 million veterans
- Less than 25% enrolled with VA
- Veteran returns to what they left (no jobs, no future, no.....)
- Most are able to transition to civilian world
- Some are not able to transition smoothly

Entering the “Homeless” world

- Mental illness (PTSD, depression, paranoia, etc.), Substance abuse, Alcohol abuse, Limited or no income, Family life – dysfunctional
- Looking for what cannot be found...

Elevator only goes down....

- Mental health deteriorates on the streets, abusive life-style exposure increases, self-abusive lifestyle disguises the pain
- No shower – no clean clothes – NO JOBS
- No phone – no address – NO JOB
- No phone – no address – limited access to social services
- How does the veteran get off the elevator?

There is a light in the distance.

- Saint Benedict’s Veterans Center
- Clay Veterans Center

Three Hots & A Cot

- When the veteran is READY to help themselves...
- 3HAC offers a program to help them change the future
- 3HAC offers a program to recapture their independence
- 3HAC is not a solution to the problem – but a tool available for the veteran to help themselves.

RESPECT - not only a song , but a way of life

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- RESPECT yourself, others, the 3HAC program, the 3HAC house

A few simple rules....

- Zero tolerance for alcohol, drugs or fighting
- 2200 Curfew
- 0600 Wake-up Call
- You eat it – you help cook it
- You live here –you clean here
- Work on improving “Your” life

How does 3HAC do it?

- 3HAC is a 501c3 non profit
- Takes \$\$\$ from organizations & individuals, takes lots of food & product drives, takes a community that is willing to serve those who have served our nation, and takes a few people who are willing to commit to make a difference in others’ lives.

Ways YOU can help

- **Financial** – **Our monthly expenses are \$12,180.00 \$580.00 a month per veteran.** Consider helping by sponsoring a veteran.
- **Product/Food Drive** – always needed.
- **Perishable Items** – Cheese, Milk, Eggs, Meat, Hot dogs, Bacon, Sausage, Fresh veggies or fruit.
- **Shout out** – tell others about what we are doing. **Share with your company what we are doing – maybe they can help in some way.**
- **Volunteer** – Great way for church groups and work groups to socialize with our veterans

Contact Three Hots & A Cot:

Three Hots and A Cot
300 81st Street South
Birmingham, AL 35206
Phone: (205) 202-5124
FAX: (205) 202-5172

Clay Veterans Center
2124 Old Springville Road
Center Point, AL 35215
Phone: (205) 520-2356
FAX (205) 520-2366

Saint Benedict’s Veterans Center
5704 1st Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35212
Phone: (205) 202-5755
FAX: (205) 202-5756

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.

Chairman Brewer noted that the MPO Subcommittee recommended approval of the three projects and then called for recommendations of the TCC and TTC. TTC Chairman David Hunke stated that the TTC recommended approval of the three recommended projects. TCC Chairman Ouida Fritschi stated that the TCC also recommended approval.

Councilor Kim Rafferty made a motion to approve the recommended projects for funding. Mayor Butch Zaragoza seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski presented a request by ALDOT to modify the FY 2012-2015 TIP with 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.

Mr. Kaczorowski noted that Safe Routes to School Projects are 100% funded. There are around 14 projects for around \$1 million in the TIP for Jefferson and Shelby Counties. A list of Safe Routes to School projects is included in the FY 2012-2015 TIP and covers projects in Jefferson and Shelby counties.

Mr. Randy Cole asked if the Safe Routes to School Program only applies to state routes. Mr. Kaczorowski stated that the program is applicable anywhere.

Mr. Tim Westhoven made a motion to approve the TIP modification. Councilor Maxine Herring Parker seconded the motion. MPO Chairman Brewer, TTC Chairman David Hunke and TCC

Chairman Ouida Fritschi noted that their committees recommended approval of TIP modification. The motion passed on a voice vote.

JEFFERSON COUNTY MAYORS ASSOCIATION TRANSIT ADVOCATE PRESENTATION

Councilor Kimberly Rafferty spoke to the committee about her efforts to address the area's transit deficiencies in relation to economy, environment, energy and quality of life. Councilor Rafferty spoke of four needs:

- Need to look at bringing transit to the region
- Need to connect people to places
- Need to attack the issue at the state level
- Need to make this work on a practical sense

Transit is a benefit to the region that allows people to get from point A to point B. Public transit fills a void in urban, suburban and rural areas. Councilor Rafferty pointed out that a metro transit system would bring about better livable sustainability, more disposable income for riders, improved air quality and increase tourism. 296,000 gallons of gas per year are saved annually thanks to transit. She also noted the need for the region to work together on transit.

MPO NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Doug Brewer gave a report from the Nominating. The Nominating Committee met September 14, 2011 to make recommendations for MPO Officers for 2012-2013. The committee made the following recommendations:

Mayor Thomas Henderson	MPO Chairman
Mr. Wayne Sullivan	MPO Vice Chairman
Councilor Maxine Herring Parker	MPO Secretary

Chairman Doug Brewer opened the floor for additional nominations. With no additional nominations being made, Chairman Brewer closed the nominations. A vote will be taken at the December meeting.

OTHER

Chairman Brewer reviewed a list of upcoming meetings including:

- US 280 Public Open House, November 9, 2011, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Birmingham Marriott
- Transportation Citizens Committee Meeting, November 15, 2011, 12 noon, RPCGB (3rd Tuesday)

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- Transportation Technical Committee Meeting, November 16, 2011, 10 a.m., RPCGB (3rd Wednesday)
- MPO Subcommittee Meeting, November 17, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB (3rd Thursday)
- Announcement of next MPO Meeting, December 14, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- RPCGB Annual Meeting, January 25, 2011, The Club

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

WS:cb

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APPROVED:

Wayne Sullivan, MPO Secretary

Date