



October 26, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Technical Committee

**FROM:** Mr. David Hunke, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes  
October 26, 2011**

A meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) was held on Wednesday, October 26, 2011, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, 1731 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. David Hunke, Chairman, At-Large  
Mr. Greg Dawkins, Vice-Chairman, City of Birmingham Traffic Engineer  
Mr. Eric Womack, Shelby County Development Services Representative  
Mr. Matthew Cobb, City of Homewood Engineer  
Mr. Tom Magee, City of Birmingham Chief Planner  
Mr. Richard Caudle, At-Large  
Mr. Richard Darden, At-Large  
Mr. Doug Hale, Bicycle / Pedestrian Representative  
Ms. Sheila Chaffin, UAB Exec. Dir. Campus Planning and Facilities Programming  
Mr. Chris Reeves, At-Large Mr. Rod Long, City of Hoover Engineer  
Mr. Al Folcher, At-Large  
Mr. George Henry, At-Large  
Ms. Alicia Rudolph, At-Large  
Mr. Wallace McCord, At-Large  
Mr. Martin Edwards-Clarke, BJCTA Representative  
Mr. Scott Holladay, Shelby County Highway Department Representative  
Mr. Lance Taylor, ALDOT Preconstruction Engineer – Birmingham  
Mr. Blair Perry, At-Large

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY**

Mr. Randy Kemp, City of Birmingham  
Represented by Mr. Mike Eddington  
Ms. Mary Margaret Nicholson, At-Large  
Represented by Mr. Wallace McCord  
Mr. Charles Malone, ALDOT Maintenance Representative-Birmingham  
Represented by Mr. Lionel Harbin  
Mr. Jason Howanitz, Jeff. County Dept. of Health Chief Meteorologist - Air Division  
Represented by Mr. Matt Lacke  
Mr. Dave Harris, FHWA (Non-Voting Member)  
Represented by Mr. Clint Andrews

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Ms. Virginia Williams, At-Large  
Mr. Fred Hawkins, EDT  
Mr. Chris Hatcher, Operation New Birmingham  
Mr. Andrew Sullivan, At-Large  
Mr. Fenn Church, Trucking Representative  
Mr. John Tally, CLASTRAN Transportation Mobility Manager  
Mr. Scott Cothron, Sain Associates  
Ms. Denise Hornbuckle, Traffic Safety Representative  
Mr. Ken Boozer, Jefferson County Dept. of Roads and Transportation Representative  
Mr. Robert Portera, 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)  
Ms. Nan Baldwin, Birmingham Business Alliance (Non-Voting Member)

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
Ms. Laurel Land, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
Mr. Keith Strickland, Gresham Smith and Partners

Chairman David Hunke called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

**INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

Attendees introduced themselves. With no additions or corrections, the August 24, 2011 minutes were approved as written. Mr. Kaczorowski gave a report from the MPO. The MPO approved the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work program, the FY 2012-2015 Transportation

Improvement Program, the Amended 2035 Regional transportation Plan and the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report.

### **NOMINATING / MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Richard Caudle gave a report from the Nominating / Membership Committee. The Nominating Committee met August 24, 2011 to discuss recommendations for Officers for 2012-2013 and recommendations for new membership. The Nominating Committee recommended Mr. Blair Perry of Gresham, Smith and Partners for membership as an At-Large member.

Mr. Richard Caudle made a motion to add Mr. Blair Perry to the TTC as an At-Large Member. Mr. Greg Cobb seconded the motion. Mr. Blair Perry introduced himself and gave a brief background history. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Caudle reported that Mr. Greg Dawkins was recommended for Chairman and Mr. Rod Long was recommended for Vice Chairman to serve 2012-2013. The nominations will stay on the table for a vote at the next TTC 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.

Ms. Laurel Land stated that three of the eight applications received were not eligible for funding under federal guidelines. One agency that received previous funding is currently under review due to documentation issues and possible wrongful use of previously received vehicles.

Mr. George Henry asked if there was an appeals process for those not chosen. Ms. Land stated that RPCGB staff often work with applicants that aren't selected to find alternatives. Currently staff is assisting Glenwood in utilizing the CommuteSmart program. If that program does not work for Glenwood's needs, the review committee will take another look at Glenwood's application.

Mr. Tom Magee asked if a determination was made that funds allocated were not utilized properly, can the recipient agency be made to reimburse the funds received. Ms. Land stated that it would be up to the BJCTA who is the grant holder for the JARC/NF funds to make that determination.

Mr. Rod Long made a motion to recommend approval of the three projects for funding. Mr. Chris Reeves 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**

SRTS- PE120	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. Lance Taylor noted that ALDOT will be doing the division-wide PE in-house. 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. Doug Hale made a motion to recommend approval of the requested TIP modification. Mr. Richard Caudle 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**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Total by Category</b>
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	<b>\$ 11,192,656,000</b>	
Transportation	Airport Improvement Program	\$ 5,378,750,000	
Transportation	Highway Planning and Construction Program	<b>\$ 70,414,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 86,985,406,000</b>
	<b>Total:</b>	\$ 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](http://www.nationapriorities.org) for additional information on federal funding and the federal budget.

Questions / Comments included:

- What does transit pay?
  - o Transit funding covers operating and some capital expenses.
- Is this match required?
  - o Most federal funds require either a 20% or 10% match. Some funds are covered at 100%, but most aren't.
- What do the gas tax expenditures cover?
  - o NationalPriorities.Org provides some of this information, and staff will include this item as a future agenda item.

### **OTHER**

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

- MPO Subcommittee meeting October 27, 2011, 1:30, RPCGB
- Building Communities Conference, November 3, 2011, 8:30 a.m., McWane Science Center
- US 280 Public Open House, November 9, 2011, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Grandview Marriott 280
- MPO, November 9, 2011, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB

- Announcement of next Technical Committee meeting for Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 10:00 a.m. (*Please note this is the 3rd Wednesday due to the holidays*)

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

**APPROVED:**

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Mr. David Hunke, Chairman  
Transportation Technical Committee

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Date

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