



June 27, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Technical Committee

**FROM:** Mr. Greg Dawkins, Chairman /s/

**SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes  
June 27, 2012**

A meeting of the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) was held on Wednesday, June 27, 2012, 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. Greg Dawkins, Chairman, City of Birmingham Traffic Engineer  
Mr. Rod Long, Vice-Chairman, City of Hoover Representative  
Mr. David Hunke, At-Large  
Mr. Matthew Cobb, City of Homewood Engineer  
Mr. Tom Magee, City of Birmingham Chief Planner  
Mr. Richard Darden, At-Large  
Mr. Doug Hale, Bicycle / Pedestrian Representative  
Ms. Sheila Chaffin, UAB Exec. Dir. Campus Planning and Facilities Programming  
Mr. Blair Perry, At-Large  
Mr. Eric Womack, Shelby County Development Services Representative  
Mr. John Tally, CLASTRAN Transportation Mobility Manager  
Mr. Robert Portera, At-Large  
Mr. Chris Reeves, At-Large  
Mr. Randy Kemp, City of Birmingham  
Mr. Richard Caudle, At-Large  
Mr. Fenn Church, Trucking Representative  
Mr. Chris Leffert, BJCTA Representative  
Mr. Chris Hatcher, Operation New Birmingham  
Mr. Fred Hawkins, EDT  
Mr. Jason Howanitz, Jeff. County Dept. of Health Chief Meteorologist - Air Division

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY**

Mr. Scott Holladay, Shelby County Highway Department Representative  
Represented by Mr. Cody Long  
Ms. Alicia Rudolph, At-Large  
Represented by Mr. Rob Vermillion  
Mr. Charles Malone, ALDOT Maintenance Representative-Birmingham  
Represented by Mr. Jesse Miller  
Mr. Lance Taylor, ALDOT Preconstruction Engineer – Birmingham  
Represented by Ms. Cindy Hill

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Mr. George Henry, At-Large  
Mr. Scott Cothron, Sain Associates  
Ms. Denise Hornbuckle, Traffic Safety Representative  
Mr. Keith Strickland, At-Large  
Mr. Andrew Sullivan, At-Large  
Mr. Al Folcher, At-Large  
Mr. Wallace McCord, At-Large  
Ms. Alfredo Acoff, ALDOT Environmental Coordinator – Montgomery  
Mr. Ken Boozer, Jefferson County Dept. of Roads and Transportation Representative  
Dr. Emmanuel Oranika, ALDOT Metropolitan Planning Engineer - Montgomery  
Mr. Dave Harris, FHWA (Non-Voting Member)  
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. Charles Ball, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
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. Jeff Havercroft, Wiser Corporation  
Mr. Christopher Brady, Vestavia Hills  
Mr. Willie Osborne, Transportation Citizens Committee  
Ms. Elizabeth Lawlor, Norfolk Southern  
Mr. Doug Seagle, Kemp & Seagle Consulting Engineers  
Ms. Chandra Abesingha, CEAssociates, Inc.  
Mr. Antoine Hawkins, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
Ms. Franchesca Taylor, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
Mr. Ryan Parker, Conservation Alabama  
Mr. Ian Diament, Operation New Birmingham

Chairman Greg Dawkins called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

### **INTRODUCTORY ITEMS**

Attendees introduced themselves. Mr. Matthew Cobb made a motion to approve the May 23, 2012 minutes. Mr. Randy Kemp seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

### **UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

Mr. Darrell Howard gave a presentation on the FY 2013 Unified Planning Work Program. The UPWP lists the transportation planning program areas and projects to be conducted in FY 2013 by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham and the Alabama Department of Transportation, including third-party contractors. Information presented included the following:

#### **What is Required of the MPO Process?**

- All MPO's are required to develop and maintain:
  - Metropolitan Transportation Plan i.e. Long Range Transportation Plan
  - Transportation Improvement Program
  - Unified Planning Work Program
  - Congestion Management Process<sup>1</sup> metro areas of 200,000 people or greater
  - Air Quality Conformity Analysis<sup>2</sup> federally designated air quality non-attainment areas

#### **The Regulations**

- Federal regulations (23 CFR 450.314(a))
- "... MPO(s) in cooperation with the State and operators of publicly owned transit shall develop unified planning work programs (UPWPs) that meet the requirements of 23 CFR part 420, subpart A, and:
  - Discuss metropolitan planning priorities;
  - Describe all anticipated transportation and transportation-related air quality planning activities, regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities;
  - Document planning activities to be performed with funds provided under title 23, U.S.C., and the Federal Transit Act.

**Note:** Work must be described in sufficient detail to indicate who will perform the work, the schedule for completing it and the products that will be produced.

#### **In Plain Speak**

##### **FY 2013 Unified Planning Work Program**

- Annual Work Program for the Birmingham MPO
- Directs and Prioritizes MPO Staff Work
  - Required Activities
  - Information Management

- Regular Planning Functions
- Support for Partner Planning Agencies
- Special Studies
- New Activities

New to All Planning Activities

Federal Livability Principles

- Provide Transportation Choices
- Promote Equitable, Affordable Housing
- Enhance Economic Competitiveness
- Support Existing Communities
- Coordinate policies and leverage investment
- Value communities and neighborhoods

These **WILL** Coordinate with Federal Planning Factors.

Areas of Focus

- Information Sharing and Delivery
  - Task 2.3 - Geographic Information System
  - Online Dashboards
    - RTP Project Information
    - TIP Project Status Information
    - Data Sharing
  
- Task 5.0 - Regional Transportation Plan
  - 2040 RTP Development
    - Scenario Based Plan
  
- Active Transportation - Task 5.5
  - Activity and Program Focused
    - Walk and Roll
    - Bike Share Programs
    - Safe Routes to School

How Much

The Birmingham MPO Manages

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Local Match</b>
<b>FHWA - PL</b>	\$1,023,939	\$ 255,985
<b>FHWA - STP (Birmingham)</b>	\$2,050,000	\$ 212,500
<b>FTA - 5309</b>	\$1,676,497	\$ 419,124
<b>FTA - 5316/5317</b>	\$ 50,000	\$ 0
<b>FHWA - CMAQ</b>	\$1,500,000	\$ 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,500,436*</b>	<b>\$ 937,609</b>

\* Excludes \$200,000 in State Planning and Research (SPR) Used by ALDOT for Their Administrative Expenses

- \$3.9 million of \$6.5 million is programmed to 3<sup>rd</sup> Party for Projects and Programs.
- DBE Utilization is Currently at 14%
- DBE Participation Averages 12% over Previous 3 Quarters

Other Notable Expenditures Include:

- \$450k is Programmed for Local Planning Assistance (Building Communities)
- \$200k is Programmed for Local Planning Assistance for Transportation (APPLE)
- \$200k is Programmed for Congestion Management Activities

Questions/Comments included:

1. Most of this work program focuses on programming. Are any funds being utilized for road diets or pedestrian projects?
  - a. The Work Program will support the local governments in forming road diets.
2. Will funds be available for road striping, etc?
  - a. Not in the UPWP but there is funding available in the TIP and through the APPLE Program.
3. Any unused funds from the Work program, can they roll over?
  - a. Yes.
4. Does the figure in the memo include rollover?
  - a. No. Just the annual funds, but the rollover is included in the chart at the back of the UPWP in the meeting packet.
5. Traffic data, is it shared by others to the MPO?
  - a. Staff share when possible and do request local governments share their data.

Mr. Chris Reeves made a motion to approve the FY 2012 UPWP. Mr. Blair Perry 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>STPAA-0119.0</u>	100058699	SR-119 resurfacing from SR-3 (US-31) in Pelham to SR-38 (US-280)	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$1,600,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program
<u>NH-0075.0</u>	100056431	Resurfacing SR-75 from Huffman Road to Fox Hill Drive	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$1,120,752	Exempt	National Highway System Program
<u>STPAA-0149.0</u>	100056435	Resurfacing SR-149 from SR-38 (US-280) to CR-99 (Columbiana Road)	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$815,859	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program
<u>STPAA-0149.0</u>	100056438	Resurfacing SR-149 from CR-2303 (Lakeshore Parkway) to 8th Street South	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$1,322,451	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program

<u>STPAA-0003 Q</u>	100056439	Resurfacing SR-3 (US-31) from CR-629 (Shades Crest Road) to Hollywood Boulevard	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$609,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program
<u>STPAA-0119 Q</u>	100058695	Resurfacing SR-119 from SR-25 in Montevallo to SR-3 (US-31) in Alabaster	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$1,716,551	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program
<u>STPAA-0003 Q</u>	100058697	Resurfacing SR-3 (US-31) from the 1-65 interchange bridge at Calera to the 1-65 interchange bridge at Alabaster	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$1,800,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program
<u>STPAA-0119 Q</u>	100058701	Resurfacing SR-119 from SR-38 (US-280) to Jefferson County Line	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$450,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program
<u>STPBH-PE12 Q</u>	100058794	Downtown Birmingham Interstate and Expressway Operational and Access Management Study	7/11/2012	PE	7/12/2012	2012	\$300,000	Exempt	Surface Transportation Program Attributable
<u>IM-059 Q</u>	100058104	Slide correction on the outside Southbound shoulder of I-59 near mp. 134.11 in the northeast Birmingham (Roebuck) area, near the SR-75/I-59 interchange	7/11/2012	PE	7/12/2012	2012	\$200,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects

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

Mr. Willie Osborne, TCC Vice-Chairman, stated that the Citizens Committee recommended the MPO split the cost of the Downtown Birmingham Access Management Study between the MPO and ALDOT 50/50.

Questions/comments included:

1. In relation to the access management study, where does this study terminate?
  - a. The study terminates at University Blvd exit of the Red Mountain Expressway.
2. One part of the study will check cross ramps and shifts.
3. This study has impetus with the UAB study.
4. This study is a good idea.
5. \$300,000 for the study would not put the TIP out of balance.
6. The City Center Master Plan suggested changes to the interstate. Were those changed?
7. The concept of lowering I-59/20 was dropped by ALDOT.
8. Now is the time to take the City of Birmingham Plan into consideration with this study.

Mr. Kaczorowski noted that the TCC did not have an opportunity to review the slide project requested by ALDOT.

Ms. Sheila Chaffin asked that a correction be made to the map that was included in the TIP for information purposes to change the boundaries of the Interstate Study. Staff noted the map was for information purposes only and was not a part of the TIP request. Ms. Chaffin asked that the correction request be noted in the motion and minutes.

Mr. Chris Reeves made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP modifications along with Ms. Chaffin's request to modify the map. Mr. Doug Hale seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote. Mr. Richard Caudle abstained from the vote on the Interstate Study.

**HOMEWOOD SIDEWALKS**

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski gave a presentation on a series of sidewalk projects in Homewood. Homewood requested RPCGB's assistance with developing a pedestrian plan. \$1 million was set aside by the city for sidewalks. Fifty projects were selected and prioritized based on the recommendations of the Homewood City Council and the City's planning staff. RPCGB staff helped identify the needs and gaps throughout the city. A list of projects was included in the meeting packet. A concept photo of Salter Road was included in the packet.

Questions / comments included:

1. The Salter Road picture does not look to comply with AASHTO.
2. It looks like the average cost is about \$86 per linear foot. Does this cover ADA costs?
  - a. There was a flat average cost computed to include ADA and other Federal guidelines.
  - b. The actual costs are averaging \$36 per foot as they have been built. Those already in process or complete have been done on flat level without sod. Two projects have already been completed and two are under way. None of the projects have been funded with federal dollars.

**OTHER**

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

- MPO Subcommittee, June 28, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- MPO, July 11, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Technical Committee Meeting, July 25, 2012, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB- **CANCELLED**

Mr. Darrell Howard announced the pending relocation of the RPCGB to the Two North Twentieth Building. The RPCGB will relocate offices at the end of July.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

**APPROVED:**

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Mr. Greg Dawkins, Chairman  
Transportation Technical Committee

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Date

GD:cb

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