



May 24, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

FROM: Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Subcommittee Chairman/s/

**SUBJECT: MPO Subcommittee Minutes
May 24, 2012**

A meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Subcommittee was held on Thursday, May 24, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB 1st Floor Conference Room, 1731 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Wayne Sullivan, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Mr. David Hunke, Shelby County
Mr. Randy Cole, Shelby County
Honorable Othell Phillips, City of Gardendale
Mr. Walter Jackson, Unincorporated Jefferson County

MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY PROXY

Honorable Delor Bauman, Jefferson County Municipalities
Represented by Mr. Jim Byram

Honorable Kim Rafferty, City of Birmingham
Represented by Mr. David Ricker

Honorable Sandra Little Brown, Unincorporated Jefferson County
Represented by Mr. Walter Jackson

Honorable William Bell, City of Birmingham
Represented by Ms. Virginia Williams

Mr. Brian Davis, ALDOT
Represented by Mr. Lance Taylor

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

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Honorable Tommy Alexander, City of Irondale
Mr. Andre Bittas, City of Birmingham
Mr. Patrick Sellers, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
Honorable Stan Batemon, ex-officio, St. Clair County Commission
Honorable Bruce Hamrick, ex-officio, Walker County Commission
Honorable Tim Mims, ex-officio, Chilton County Commission
Honorable David Standridge, ex-officio, Blount County Commission

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Darrell Howard, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Mike Kaczorowski, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Cynthia Barton, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Mr. Scott Holladay, Shelby County
Ms. Jackie Dye, Transportation Citizens Committee
Mr. Willie Osborne, Transportation Citizens Committee
Mr. Rod Long, Transportation Technical Committee
Ms. Nan Baldwin, BBA

MPO Subcommittee Chairman Mr. Wayne Sullivan called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. The meeting proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Mr. Randy Cole made a motion to approve the April 26, 2012 MPO Subcommittee minutes. Mr. Harvey Henley 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>UMTAC</u> <u>TR12 ()</u>	100058283	Section 5310 Transit Glenwood, INC Capital Bus Support Equipment (3 GPS)	6/12/2012	TR	6/13/2012	2012	\$1,500	Exempt	Transit Projects
<u>FTA3C</u> <u>TR12 ()</u>	100058293	Section 5309 Transit City of Kimberly Capital Bus (IMV)	6/12/2012	TR	6/13/2012	2012	\$47,372	Exempt	Transit Projects
<u>IM-I065 ()</u>	100058058	Repair and cleaning concrete flumes and repair sinkholes on backslope benches to prevent future sinkholes in roadway – I-65 from Valleydale Rd to SR-119	6/12/2012	PE	6/13/2012	2012	\$100,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects

IM-I065 ()	100058059	Repair and cleaning concrete flumes and repair sinkholes on backslope benches to prevent future sinkholes in roadway – I-65 from Valledale Rd to SR-119	6/12/2012	CN	6/13/2012	2012	\$500,000	Exempt	Interstate System Projects
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These projects are exempt from regional emission analysis under 40 CFR 93.126. Table 2.

Questions/comments included:

1. Who awards the projects like the Kimberly one?
 - a. ALDOT awards those projects.
2. Were sinkholes found first?
 - a. No. The project was underway and this is a preventative measure to prevent future sinkholes.

Ms. Virginia Williams made a motion to recommend approval of the first four TIP project requests. Mr. Harvey Henley seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

Mr. Mike Kaczorowski then presented requests from ALDOT on behalf of Governor Robert Bentley. The projects are a part of the new Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (ATRIPS) initiative created by Governor Bentley to assist governments with their urgent transportation infrastructure needs. The program will be funded through the GARVEE program for \$200-\$300 million. This money will be borrowed against future federal funding. A separate bureau called Innovative Programs Bureau will be responsible for oversight and consists of the Governor, members of his staff, and outside professionals. Projects will not go through the 3rd Division office. It was noted that none of the projects have been selected yet, but ALDOT has requested they be included in the TIP so that they will be ready to go when specific projects are selected by the governing committee.

These projects if selected would be funded with state money and would not affect Birmingham Attributable funds. State projects are required to be included in the TIP by federal rule and any project not selected will be removed from the TIP.

ALDOT Requests - ATRIPS Projects

ACATRIPA AI00058379	100058379	Turn lanes on CR-153 (Trussville-Clay Road) & signalization Husky Parkway At CR-2133 (Deerfoot Pkwy) in the City of Trussville	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$922,875	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058367	100058367	Resurface Mt. Olive Road from CR-118 (Fieldstown Road) to CR-112 (Mount Olive Boulevard)	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$431,250	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058369	100058369	Resurface CR-94 (Queenstown Road) from CR-10 (Roper Rd) To 2nd Street in the City of Trussville	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$488,750	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058370	100058370	CR-1523 (Shady Grove Road), resurface from CR-118 (Fieldstown Road) to (Carrington Drive)	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$161,000	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058371	100058371	Resurface CR-77, CR-118 (Fieldstown Road) from CR-1497 (Jew Hollow Road) to I-65 in Gardendale, AL	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$1,092,500	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058372	100058372	Patton Chapel Rd and Lorna Rd resurfacing and intersection Improvements in Hoover	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$2,122,259	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058373	100058373	Resurface CR-2123 (Camp Coleman Road) from SR-7 (US-11) To CR-2124 (Windsong Drive) in the City of Trussville	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$373,750	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects

ACATRIPA AI00058374	100058374	Resurface CR-353 (Hugh Daniel Drive from SR-38 (US-280) to CR-41 (Duavant Road) in Hoover	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$839,646	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058376	100058376	Resurface CR-1151 (Old Rocky Ridge Road) from CR-115 (Lorna Road) to CR-1220 (Rocky Ridge Lane) in Hoover	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$813,511	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058378	100058378	Resurface and realign SR-150 at Galleria Boulevard, in Hoover	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$633,854	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058380	100058380	Riverchase Parkway East Roadway Lighting in Hoover	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$1,193,813	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058381	100058381	Turn Lanes on CR-2133 (Deerfoot Parkway) at Jonathans Way in the City of Trussville	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$250,125	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058382	100058382	Replace Bridge on CR-12 over Dry Creek BIN # 6952 Suff Rating 39.3 In Shelby County	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$1,713,760	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058383	100058383	Resurface CR-29 (Caldwell Mill Rd) & CR-14 (Cahaba Valley Trace) in Shelby County	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$559,550	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058384	100058384	Resurface CR-61 from SR-145 to SR-25 (Carison Road) in Shelby County	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$754,982	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058375	100058375	Traffic signalization on CR-19 (Chalkville Mountain Road) from Norrel Drive to CR-155 (Tyler Loop Road) in the City of Trussville	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$254,750	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058377	100058377	Interchange Lighting on I-59 at CR-2133 (Deerfoot Parkway) City of Trussville	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$621,600	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058366	100058366	Replace Bridge over Watkins Brook on Mountain Brook Parkway BIN # 2850 Suff Rating 58.3 in the City of Mountain Brook	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$957,619	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058688	100058688	Traffic signalization upgrade on 18 th Street North (5 locations) and on 19 th Street North (17 locations) in the City of Birmingham	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$1,442,986	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
ACATRIPA AI00058368	100058368	CR-118 (Fieldstown Road) install traffic signals from I-65 north to US-31 (SR-3) in the City of Gardendale	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$349,600	Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects

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

ACATRIPA AI00058363	100058363	Widen Cotton Avenue from 7th Street SW to Lomb Avenue in Birmingham	6/12/2012	CN	8/31/2012	2012	\$3,194,897	Non-Exempt	Other Federal and State Aid Projects
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This project is non-exempt from regional emission analysis. If selected for funding, this project will be included in an update to the regional emissions analysis and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan.

Questions/comments included:

1. Thought May 16 was the award date for these projects.
2. Some Shelby County projects are not on this list.
 - a. Only the projects received by staff are included in this list.
3. The first round of projects received.
 - a. Some project requests have not been received yet.
4. Jefferson County received an email from Tony Harris.
5. Rather than blessing part of the list, do a motion for all received.
6. Conformity status of Cotton Avenue. This is not adding capacity. It is replacing road that is being closed.
7. That is an issue for FHWA to decide.
8. Staff is in agreement but FHWA will have to make the determination.

9. The TCC felt that blanket stamping is not the way to do this. The TCC did vote to approve with the understanding that this would be clarified.
10. Projects cannot move forward unless they are included in the TIP even if they are not STPBH or CMAQ funded.
11. This is new money from the Governor that is paid back by ALDOT apportionment.
12. TCC also had an issue with the Cotton Avenue conformity.
13. Project can be taken away if conformity is not met Project would have to be ready to go before any money can be spent. There is no letting of projects before federal review.
14. Environmental document will have to be completed before the money is given for the project.
15. Any time federal money is spent it has to be included in the TIP.
16. Request an ALDOT representative attend the next TCC meeting and explain.
17. Staff will resolve the conformity issue on the Cotton Avenue project before the MPO meeting.
18. The City of Birmingham's position is that the Cotton Avenue project does not add capacity.

Mr. Randy Cole made a motion to recommend approval of all submitted ATRIPS TIP requests by ALDOT. Mayor Othell Phillips seconded the motion. Mr. Rod Long noted the TTC recommended approval contingent on the projects being selected and the conformity issue with the Cotton Avenue project be resolved. The motion passed on a voice vote.

MPO CERTIFICATION REPORT

Mr. Darrell Howard presented an update on the MPO Certification held March 15-16, 2012 by the FHWA and FTA. The Birmingham Urbanized Area TMA's planning process has been certified. The FHWA/FTA certification will remain in effect for a maximum of four years from the issuance date of the report. The purpose of the MPO certification is to ensure the metropolitan planning process for the Birmingham MPO meets the requirements of 23 USC 134 and 23 CFR 450.334. Three areas of comments by FTA and FHWA were received in the certification, including Corrective Actions, Recommendations and Noteworthy Practices.

Corrective Actions

None: There were No Corrective Actions for this Certification Cycle.

Recommendations

- **Project-level Public Involvement**
The ALDOT (Central Office and Third Division) should strive to address the project-level (e.g. NEPA) public comments received during the certification review.
- **Financial Plans**
As part of the next round of LRTP updates, the ALDOT, MPOs and public transportation operators must cooperatively develop and document the financial plans that support the LRTPs and TIPs, including forecasts of revenues, cost estimates and operations and maintenance expenditures.

- **2010 Census**
The MPO should begin the process of analyzing needed changes to the urbanized and study areas based on the release of the 2010 Census data.
- **Obligation of Attributable Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funds**
The MPO and ALDOT are encouraged to continue coordinating with project sponsors and monitor the project development process to ensure that the unobligated balances of STP and CMAQ funds are obligated in a timely manner.

Noteworthy Practices

- **Air Quality**
The MPO continues to implement programs and partnership activities aimed at improving air quality levels in the Birmingham area; the Alabama Partners for Clean Air, CommuteSmart Rideshare program and construction of park-and-ride lots are notable examples.
- **Project Development Process**
The MPO's Advanced Planning, Programming and Logical Engineering (APPLE) program designed to educate local governments about the project development process, assist them in their decision-making process and provide resources to help develop and advance transportation projects is a promising new tool which may prove useful in drawing down the MPO's unobligated balance of STP- attributable funds.
- **Organizational Structure**
The MPO's organizational structure and efficient use of its committees is an effective mechanism for managing the transportation planning process.
- **Public Involvement**
The MPO's use of visualization techniques and other techniques such as electronic voting and touch-table technologies are elements of a proactive and effective public involvement process.
- **Transit Funding**
BJCTA and the City of Birmingham utilize all of the 5307, 5309, 5316 and 5317 funds.

Subsequent FHWA and/or FTA actions on future products of the TMA planning process partially will be based on the progress made by the TMA's planning process partners in addressing the aforementioned review findings.

Mr. Howard noted that the new urbanized area will affect the Functionally Classified Roadways. Staff is working on this item now for review at a future meeting.

2040 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP)

Mr. Darrell Howard presented information on the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan. Information presented included:

What is a Regional Transportation Plan?

1. Metropolitan Transportation Plan
2. Long Range Transportation Plan
3. Regional Transportation Plan

The Regional Transportation Plan is a long-term blueprint of a region's transportation system that...

- Identifies and analyzes transportation needs of the metropolitan region
- Creates a framework for project priorities
- Considers the reality of future funding availability

Plan Considerations

Livability Principles

- Provide more transportation choices.
- Promote equitable, affordable housing.
- Enhance economic competitiveness.
- Support existing communities.
- Coordinate policies and leverage investment.
- Value communities and neighborhoods.

What's In the Plan?

Five Major Themes of the Birmingham 2035 RTP

1. Fix It First
Emphasis on Maintenance and Preservation
2. Make What We Have Work Better
Manage Congestion through Better Technology and Programs
3. Develop Alternative Travel Modes
Emphasis on Public Transit, Non-motorized Travel, and Commute Options
4. Prioritization of Resources
Focusing Investments
Getting the Most "Bang for the Buck"
5. Financing
Additional funding sources are needed

Are These Themes Still Valid?

1. Yes
2. No

Plan 2040 Key Outputs

- Regional Transportation Plan
 - Solidifies MPO Policies
 - Functional Area Plans

- Preservation, Maintenance, and Management Strategy
- Performance Metrics
- Demonstrates Favorable Return on Investment (ROI)
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
 - Geographically Targeted Recruitment
 - Multimodal Corridor Planning
- Advisory Growth Strategy
 - Visualize Growth
 - Transportation Infrastructure/Service Needs
 - Supporting Infrastructure Needs

MPO MEETING AGENDA (JUNE 13, 2012)

Mr. Randy Cole made a motion to include Agenda Item #2 (TIP) and Agenda Item #3 (MPO Certification) to the June 13, 2012 MPO meeting agenda. Mr. Harvey Henley seconded the motion that passed on a voice vote.

OTHER

MPO Subcommittee Chairman Wayne Sullivan reviewed the list of upcoming meetings listed on the agenda, including:

- MPO Meeting, June 13, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Citizens Committee Meeting June 20, 2012, 12 noon, RPCGB
- Technical Committee Meeting, June 27, 2012, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB
- MPO Subcommittee Meeting, June 28, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB

With no other business, the Subcommittee meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

APPROVED:

Mr. Wayne Sullivan
MPO Subcommittee Chairman

Date

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