



June 20, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Citizens Committee (TCC)
FROM: Ms. Jackie Dye, Chairman /s/
SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2012

A meeting of the Transportation Citizens Committee was held on Wednesday, June 20, 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
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. Judy Gordon, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Pittman Owen, City of Birmingham
Ms. Ouida Fritschi, South / Southeast Jefferson County
Mr. Joel Gilbert, City of Birmingham
Ms. Pat Hall, East / Northeast Jefferson County

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
Mr. Nichalaus Sims, West / Southwest Jefferson County
Ms. Ruthie Royster, City of Birmingham

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Ms. Joanne Adcock, East / Northeast Jefferson County

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. Antoine Hawkins, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Ms. Franchesca Taylor, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Honorable Doug Brewer, City of Graysville
Ms. Sandra Bonner, ALDOT
Ms. Dannette Ratcliff, ALDOT
Ms. Marva Douglas, Birmingham
Ms. Ruth Wright, League of Women Voters
Mr. Paul Godbey, Birmingham
Mr. Richard Goldstein, BJCTA TAC

Chairman Jackie Dye called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. She reminded the committee that they are holding the meetings to one hour. The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled agenda items.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Attendees introduced themselves. Dr. Johnny Peebles, III made a motion to approve the May 16, 2012 minutes. Mr. Phillip Wiedmeyer 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 Process¹ metro areas of 200,000 people or greater
 - Air Quality Conformity Analysis² 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

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

* 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 3rd 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. Is funding guaranteed?
 - a. Funding is available by formula.
2. Are there plans to bring the bike share program to Birmingham?
 - a. CommuteSmart Program provides bike racks to existing businesses and is actively seeking new business partners for a bike share program in the area. There is already one at the University of Montevallo.
3. How about private contractors for transit?
 - a. The transit dollars in the UPWP are for capital expenses and cannot be used for operations or for private contracting.
4. There was no mention of the rail studies with Georgia or Montgomery.
 - a. These studies are being conducted by Georgia DOT and Montgomery and would be included in their UPWPs.

Ms. Nancy Clark made a motion to approve the FY 2012 UPWP. Dr. Johnny Peebles III 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()</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()</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()</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()</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()</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-0119.0</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-0003.0</u>	100058697	Resurfacing SR-3 (US-31) from the I-65 interchange bridge at Calera to the I-65 interchange bridge at Alabaster	7/11/2012	CN	1/25/2013	2013	\$1,800,000	Exempt	Other Surface Transportation Program
<u>STPAA-0119.0</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-PE12.0</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

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

Questions/comments included:

1. In relation to the access management study, the 1st Avenue ramp on the Red Mountain Expressway was closed some years ago. There is an egress coming off but no ingress. This is a vital access point to reopen. Was a study done to close this those years ago? This needs to be reopened.
 - a. This is what they will be studying. Once the study begins, the public will have a chance to offer suggestions.
2. Will the Access Management Study look at merging lanes at the I-59/65 junction?
3. Is this the total cost of the study?
4. Congestion issue is not just the result of Birmingham streets. There are two major state routes and the MPO shouldn't have to bear the entire cost. It should be a joint share of the cost.
5. Suggest the MPO gives \$150,000 towards the project and ALDOT gives the other \$150,000.

Mr. Willie Osborne made a motion to recommend to the MPO that the cost of the study should be split between the MPO and ALDOT 50/50. Dr. Johnny Peebles III seconded the motion. The motion passed by show of hands with 18 votes.

Dr. Johnny Peebles III made a motion to recommend approval of the remaining projects. Ms. Anna Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by a show of hands with 17 votes.

ALABAMA TRANSPORTATION REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (ATRIPS)

Mr. Edward Austin, Bureau Chief of the ALDOT Innovative Programs Bureau gave a presentation on the Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (ATRIP). Information presented included the following:

ATRIP BACKGROUND INFO

On February 7, 2012 Governor Robert Bentley outlined his initiative to address transportation improvements during the State of the State Address. On February 23, 2012 Governor Bentley formally announced ATRIP at the Annual Transportation Conference in Montgomery.

ATRIP – WHAT IS IT?

- Use the State's ability to sell GARVEE Bonds to advance construction costs for critically needed projects. GARVEE Bonds utilize the State's future Federal Aid funds as collateral to issue low-interest-rate bonds. The program is expected to continue for at least three years with at least two more rounds of project selection still to occur.
- ATRIP is an ALDOT-administered Federal Aid (FA) highway program that will provide up to 80% of eligible construction costs on selected projects. All local sponsors are expected to provide the necessary 20% matching funds for construction. Because it is a FA program, ALL federal criteria must be met in order to be eligible. Non-construction related expenses are not intended to be funded under the program at this time.

ATRIP – WHY IS IT A GOOD IDEA?

ATRIP will allow the State to address overwhelming transportation infrastructure deficiencies. The cost of inflation for construction is currently higher than the interest rate on the GARVEE bonds. Transportation improvements can help attract new businesses which in turn creates jobs. \$500 million in transportation spending supports about 15,000 jobs, and those transportation dollars turn throughout the economy many times over.

ATRIP – WHAT IS ELIGIBLE?

Any roadway or bridge project that is otherwise eligible for FA funding is eligible for consideration to receive ATRIP funding. Projects will be accepted, reviewed and analyzed by ALDOT. Projects ALDOT determines meet FA requirements and program guidelines will be presented to the committee appointed by Governor Bentley, and in conjuncture with the Governor, will make final project decisions.

All roadway projects must meet federal roadway Functional Classification requirements. A road must be classified as a "Collector" or greater to be eligible for consideration (See ATRIP website). A bridge structure must have a sufficiency rating less than 50 and be classified as either "Structurally Deficient" or "Functionally Obsolete" (See ATRIP website).

The website can be found at: <http://www.dot.state.al.us/adweb/ATRIP.html>

ATRIP SELECTION COMMITTEE

ALDOT Director John Cooper – Chairman

Lt. Governor Kay Ivey
Agriculture & Industries Commissioner John McMillan
Senator Paul Bussman (R – District 4)
Representative Mac McCutcheon (R – District 25)
Retired County Engineer Herb Huner
Retired County Engineer Henry Hawkins

ATRIP PROJECT SELECTION

1st Round Selection occurred on May 31, 2012
Target Letting Deadline is December 7, 2012
****ALL PROJECTS MUST BE LET BY ALDOT****

2nd Round Application Deadline is October 5, 2012
Project Selection Currently Set for November 16, 2012
Target Letting Deadline is December 2, 2013

3rd Round application Deadline is March 29, 2013
Project Selection Currently Set for May 15, 2013
Target Letting Deadline is September 30, 2014

1st ROUND PROJECT SELECTION

On May 31, 2012, Governor Bentley formally announced the selection of 105 projects. Round 1 Project List is Posted on ALDOT Website.

Total Estimated Cost: \$138,462,750.00

Of the 105 projects, 36 are bridge replacements. Of the 105 projects, 58 were sponsored by a County, 45 by a city and 2 projects had a public/private partnership sponsor. A city or county sponsored project was approved representing 61 of the 67 counties.

ATRIP SELECTED PROJECTS IN RPCGB

City of Bessemer – Traffic Signalization on 18th Street N and 19th Street N
City of Birmingham – Additional Lanes on Cotton Ave from 7th Street SW to Lomb Ave
City of Gardendale – Resurfacing Fieldstown Rd from Jew Hollow Rd to I-65
City of Hoover – Resurfacing Patton Chapel Rd and Lorna Rd and Intersection Improvements
City of Trussville – Turn Lanes on Trussville-Clay Rd and Signalization on Husky Parkway
Shelby County – Bridge Replacement on CR12 over Dry Creek
Total Estimated Amount: \$10,489,276.00

Questions / comments included:

1. Projects for resurfacing and bridges are in vain if weigh stations aren't put back into operation.
 - a. Cities and counties are responsible for legal load limits for those bridges and are responsible for enforcement.
2. The TCC approved all of the projects but had a question about conformity of one of the projects that was requested and selected. What did staff find out about the conformity on the Cotton Avenue project?
 - a. Staff spoke with FHWA and ALDOT. The Cotton Avenue project is required to go through the conformity process and will be included in the new Conformity Analysis report that is being produced for the Fall. Since the TIP will be complete before the left date of the project, FHWA gave approval for the project to be included.

HOMEWOOD SIDEWALKS

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

OTHER

Chairman Jackie Dye announced the new transportation automobile exhibit by Andy Warhol at the Birmingham Museum of Art. The Chairman also announced the receipt of TIGER money for Pratt City that was announced in the Birmingham news.

Mr. Darrell Howard discussed a new report by the OCHS Center out of Chattanooga regarding the Northern Beltline. The report was discussed in a news article by the Birmingham News and outlines the economic impact of the Northern Beltline. Cynthia Barton will send out a link to the news report to the TCC for those interested in seeing the report. The report can be found at www.al.com.

RPCGB Executive Director Charles Ball announced the relocation of the RPCGB to the old Bank for Savings Building. The RPCGB will be relocating July 23-24, 2012. The new address will be Two North Twentieth 2 20th Street North, Suite 1200 Birmingham, AL 35203. All other staff contact information will remain the same.

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

- Transportation Technical Committee, June 27, 2012, 10:00 a.m., RPCGB
- MPO Subcommittee, June 28, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- MPO, July 11, 2012, 1:30 p.m., RPCGB
- Citizens Committee Meeting, July 18, 2012, 12:00 noon, RPCGB

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With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ms. Jackie Dye, Chairman
Transportation Citizens Committee

Date

JD:cb
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