

RFATS

Rock Hill-Fort Mill Area Transportation Study

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

Friday, March 28, 2008 - 12:00 p.m. (NOON)
City Hall – Room 373

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bob Runde; Doug Echols; Jim Reno; Paul Lindemann; Buddy Motz; Sarah Nuckles; Donald Rodgers; Wes Hayes and Danny Funderburk.

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT: Carey F. Smith (CRH); Dianne Janicki (SCDOT); Phil Leazer (York County); Allison Love (York County); Stan Bland (SCDOT); Greg Shaw (SCDOT); John Eililoch (SCDOT); Brenda Perryman (SCDOT); Jennifer Hasting (SCDOT); Leslie Coolidge (SCDHEC); Michael Juras (SCDHEC); Sherron Marshall (CRCOG); Susan Britt (YC); Frances Thomas (CRH); and David Hooper (CRH).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT:

Jim Van Blarcom (CAC Chairman); Bayles Mack (Past SCDOT Commissioner).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A. Welcome – Chairman Runde called the meeting to order at 12:14 PM. Mayor Runde welcomed everyone in attendance and recognized members of the Citizens Advisory Committee as well as all other visitors attending the meeting.

B. Citizen Comment Period – Chairman Runde invited citizens in attendance to address the Policy Committee. There were no comments.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Runde asked if there were any changes, deletions or comments to the minutes of the January 25, 2008 meeting. Hearing no comments, the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

A. York County Capital Projects – Staff provided copies of the Pennies for Progress Program report for the RFATS Area to everyone. Mr. Leazer asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, Mr. Leazer then went on to provide a brief summary about the increased role that York County will now play with respect to the administration of the Pennies for Progress Program. Mr. Leazer also indicated that the County is in the process of securing additional staff support and will update the Policy Committee on these actions as appropriate.

B. SCDOT Report – Ms. Hasting provided a report on the US 21 bridge replacement project. Ms. Hasting stated that SCDOT is currently working on the engineering design as well as completing a review of the prioritized enhancement list. Ms. Hasting then provided a summary on the I-77 / US 21 Interchange Exit; specifically, that construction plans are complete – but that this project is still undergoing a prioritization review that should be complete in May. Ms. Hasting then briefly discussed the status of the Dave Lyle Traffic Study and alternative fuel vehicles project (both funded under the CMAQ program).

C. 82X Bus Service – Mr. Hooper provided a ridership report on the CATS 82X Commuter Bus Service for the 1st quarter of 2008. Mr. Hooper stated that ridership has declined approximately 5% in February from the previous year’s monthly total and that on a year-over-year basis ridership is down approximately 1.4%. Mr. Hooper then stated that it appears a few riders (approximately 9 to 12 a day) are opting to utilize the Lynx Blue Line as an alternative to the 82X. Mr. Hooper also noted that CATS is currently conducting a survey to determine whether riders would prefer that the service terminate at the Scaleybark Station (I-485). Mr. Hooper then asked if there were any questions and/or comments.

D. Long Range Transportation Plan Update – Ms. Thomas indicated that this report is a new item that will appear under the current projects section on the agenda for the next 15 to 16 months during the 2035 LRTP update. Ms. Thomas then provided a summary of staff activities to date; specifically, the kick-off of the public involvement / participation process. In particular, Ms. Thomas noted the comprehensive nature of the stakeholder mailing as well as the types of comments received thus far. Additionally, Ms. Thomas briefly discussed the results of two community meetings held during the past few months (Rock Hill & Fort Mill Locations). Ms. Thomas then asked if there were any comments and/or questions.

4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

A. Consider appointment to Citizens Advisory Committee – Ms. Thomas requested that the Policy Committee consider a new recommendation from the Study Team for appointment to the Citizens Advisory Committee. Ms. Thomas reported that Mr. Jose Brito has submitted an application to fill a recent vacancy. Discussion was held – with the appointment being unanimously approved (motion – Echols; seconded – Motz).

B. Consider amendment to FY 07-12 TIP to add Saluda Street Gateway – Ms. Thomas requested that the Policy Committee give final approval to the re-allocation of \$86, 947.00 in TEP funds that had been previously programmed for work elsewhere on Saluda Street and amend the TIP to reflect the addition of this project and authorize a 30-day public comment period. Ms. Thomas then asked if there were any questions and/or comments. Mr. Motz asked a clarifying question regarding overall funding on the Saluda Street Revitalization Effort. In response, Mr. Smith indicated that approval of this request would not reduce the net amount of TEP funds assigned to Saluda Street. Hearing no further comments – this request received unanimous approval (motion – Motz; seconded – Reno).

C. Consider approval of FY 08-09 TEP Schedule, Project Criteria and Sub-Committee –

Mr. Hooper requested that the Policy Committee consider approval of the Transportation Enhancement program schedule and project selection criteria for the FY 2008-2009 funding cycle. Mr. Hooper then indicated that the Study Team has reviewed the application format, program criteria and schedule and are requesting the Policy Committee's approval. Mr. Hooper also requested that the Policy Committee re-appoint the sub-committee members that will complete the initial review of this year's project applications. This item was passed unanimously (motion – Runde; seconded – Funderburk).

D. Consider approval of FY 08-09 CMAQ Schedule, Project Criteria and Sub-Committee

– Mr. Hooper requested that the Policy Committee consider approval of the Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement program schedule and project selection criteria for the FY 2008-2009 funding cycle. Mr. Hooper then indicated that the Study Team has reviewed the application format, program criteria and schedule and are requesting the Policy Committee's approval. Mr. Hooper also requested that the Policy Committee re-appoint the sub-committee members that will complete the initial review of this year's project applications. This item received unanimous approval (motion – Lindemann; seconded – Reno).

E. Consider use/approval of LRTP consultant and authorize contract execution –

Ms. Thomas stated that RFATS staff have reviewed the results of the RFQ and have identified a consultant that could provide needed assistance with the 2035 LRTP update. Therefore, Ms. Thomas requested that the Policy Committee authorize staff to enter into negotiations with Charles Sells regarding a scope of work and expected timeline for completion of all necessary activities. Ms. Thomas asked for comments and/or questions. Discussion was held – and this item was unanimously approved (motion – Motz; seconded – Echols).

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Consider April 25th Workshop to discuss LRTP process and projects – Ms. Thomas stated that she thought it would be useful to conduct a workshop for the Policy Committee regarding the work completed thus far as well as to secure their input and ideas about potential projects for the RFATS Area. Discussion was held and the Policy Committee agreed upon April 25th as the preferred date. Ms. Thomas then asked if there were any questions or comments. Ms. Britt requested that the Policy Committee keep in mind the work of the Master Greenway Trail during the development of the 2035 draft LRTP project list.

B. Next meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2008.

6. ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David F. Hooper

