



POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

**Friday, January 22, 2010 - 12:00 p.m. (NOON)
Manchester Meadows Conference Room**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Echols; Jim Reno; Danny Funderburk; George Sheppard; Paul Lindemann; Buddy Motz; Kathy Pender; Donald Rodgers; Ralph Norman; and Sarah Nuckles

ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Phil Leazer (York County); Sarah Rayfield (York County); Allison Love (York County); Shane Belcher (FHWA); Brian Klauk (SCDOT); Kevin Sheppard (SCDOT); Greg Shaw (SCDOT); Stan Bland (SCDOT); Elizabeth Harris (CIN); Wendy Bell (CRCOG); Susan Britt (York County); Frances Thomas (CRH); and Leigh Welch (CRH).

CITIZENS/VISITORS PRESENT: Bob Runde (Former Mayor-Tega Cay); Denise Williams (CAC); Katrina Jones (BIA); Matt Riddell (PAIKI Engineers); Hisham Abdelaziz (HDR); Randy Ilmer (CRCOG); Barre Mitchell (CAC); Jim VanBlarcom (CAC); Frank Adams (Citizen); Marie Unal (Citizen); JoAnn Misiuda (Citizen); Mark Ulmer (Citizen) .

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- A. Welcome** – Chairman Echols called the meeting to order at 12:15 P.M and asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves. Chairman Echols, on behalf of the RFATS communities, presented Mr. Runde with a plaque in appreciation for his service to RFATS. Chairman Echols then introduced Mr. Sheppard (Mayor- Tega Cay) and Mr. Norman (SC House of Representatives) as two new members of the Policy Committee.
- B. Citizen Comment Period** – Chairman Echols invited visitors and/or citizens who had comments to address the Policy Committee at this time. Mr. Adams thanked the Committee for the CMAQ projects for Tega Cay.

2. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Echols asked if there were any changes, deletions or comments to the minutes of the November 20, 2009 meeting. Hearing no comments, Mr. Norman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Pender seconded and the minutes were then unanimously approved.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

- A. York County Sales Tax Projects** – Mr. Leazer provided a 1997 and 2003 Pennies for Progress report. Specifically, Mr. Leazer updated the Committee on the projects within the RFATS communities as follows:

1997 Pennies for Progress

Project	Status
97-005 – SC 161	Complete
97-006 – SC 274	70% Complete
97-007 – SC 901	68% Complete
97-009 – Cherry Rd	Rec'd bids; anticipate construction to begin in Apr/May after County Council approval
97-012 – SC Hwy 5	Last project on 1997 list to be completed; currently under construction

2003 Pennies for Progress

Project	Status
03-001 – Mt. Gallant Rd (Anderson to Celanese)	Bids rec'd lower than estimates; construction to begin in March
03-004 – Fort Mill Southern Bypass	Phase I- moving forward with accelerated construction; Phase II & III – currently working on environmental document
03-006 – Tega Cay / Gold Hill Road Connector	Currently in planning phase due to federal funding supplement; internal kickoff meeting with consultant scheduled followed with an update to Tega Cay staff
03-007 – SC 274 Intersection Corridor	Anticipated bid by Summer 2010 and under construction within this year
03-010 – White St Realignment and RR Crossing	Planning phase-coordinated effort between City and County; next steps include meeting with concerned citizens
03-011 – McConnells Highway	ROW acquisition to begin in the next six months

Mr. Funderburk inquired if a public meeting will be scheduled to update the citizens in Fort Mill on project 03-004 – Fort Mill Southern Bypass. Mr. Leazer stated York County would schedule, in coordination with the Town of Fort Mill, a public meeting to update citizens.

Mr. Reno made note of the need for additional safety measures on project 97-009 – SC 901. Chairman Echols requested staff to work with York County and SCDOT to review the possibility of additional signage in the project area.

Commissioner Nuckles inquired as to the representation of the red line on the 2003 Pennies for Progress report below project 03-012. Mr. Leazer indicated this represents the April 2009 funding limit presented to the York County Council by the Sales Tax Commission.

- B. SCDOT Report** – Mr. Klauk stated the US 21 Bridge Replacement and Roadway Improvements project had an estimated cost of 24 million dollars; low bid was received at 19.6 million dollars; and construction should begin in Spring 2010. Mr. Klauk also stated a

public hearing was held on January 12, 2010 for the SC 5 Catawba River Bridge project; ROW acquisition is set to begin in March; and has an estimated cost of 27.3 million dollars.

Mr. Klauk also noted the LPA process has been completed and all CMAQ projects are ready to move forward.

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Study** – Chairman Echols updated the Policy Committee on a regional transportation planning study initiated by the Centralina COG. Chairman Echols stated RFATS and the Catawba Regional COG were invited to participate in the meetings. Chairman Echols noted discussions regarding the importance of future transportation needs throughout the Charlotte Region and some discussion on the possibility of consolidating the regional MPOs. Chairman Echols indicated he and Frances Thomas attended a meeting at CCOG in early January; at which time, he stated that RFATS' position on the study was that of "observer" and not participant. He asked if the Policy Committee had any comments or concerns on taking this position.

Having attended a similar event on York County's behalf, Mr. Motz agreed with Chairman Echols' summary and analysis of the meetings and stated he was in favor of observing and continuing to have dialogue and a relationship with the other MPOs involved in the study.

Mr. Imer noted the Catawba Regional COG has taken the position of an observer to the discussions at this time.

Commissioner Nuckles also commented on the possible impact of Federal funding to RFATS if regional MPOs are consolidated. Mr. Belcher noted the funding allocation is based on population.

- B. Potential Second Round of Stimulus Funding**– Commissioner Nuckles presented information on a potential second round of Stimulus funding (ARRA II) that could be passed by Congress in mid-February and noted the provisions are similar to ARRA I.

Commissioner Nuckles went on to state Phase I of ARRA II will require projects to be contract executed within 90 days and the balance of funds to be under contract a year after the Stimulus bill (ARRA II) is signed. A potential list of projects was approved by the SC Highway Commission on January 21, 2010. Commissioner Nuckles noted no projects from York County were recommended as they would not meet the timeframe and federal project development requirements.

Ms. Thomas inquired if other projects could be submitted for consideration for the second phase of funding. Commissioner Nuckles noted there is a possibility of adding other projects should the initial projects not meet the eligibility requirements at the time of funding notification.

Commissioner Nuckles then commented on the required public comment period for review of actions by MPOs and SCDOT; and respectively requested RFATS to consider a 15-day public comment period instead of the current 30-day period in order to meet the timeframe requirements for the ARRA II funding. However, Commissioner Nuckles asked that the scope of notification be broadened with the shorter time period. Chairman Echols inquired if

this was a possibility. Ms. Thomas noted the public participation process for RFATS and stated a change in the by-laws would be required.

Mr. Norman inquired as to the outlets used for notifying the public. Ms. Thomas stated legal ads were placed in The Herald along with information posted on the RFATS website.

Chairman Echols requested staff to research and develop a list of inexpensive ways to broaden the distribution to the public in addition to reviewing the bylaws in relationship to the public participation process and how any change may impact RFATS public outreach efforts and provide a report at a future meeting.

- C. Rivercrest Road Improvements-** Ms. Williams presented information on the Rivercrest Road Improvements project noting the project consists of three phases which are federally funded through the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Catawba Indian Nation. Ms. Williams stated a request was presented to the York County Council to modify and pave a 1.1 mile section of Rivercrest Road to Church Road that lies outside of tribal boundaries. Ms. Williams also noted Rivercrest Road will intersect with the future Dave Lyle Blvd Extension.

Chief Rodgers noted the cost of the project is between 1.2 and 1.5 million and sees this as an investment not only for the Catawba Indian Nation but for York County and the State of South Carolina.

Ms. Jones stated construction is anticipated to begin in May 2010.

5. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

- A. TIP Amendment –** Ms. Thomas presented a request for final approval of an amendment to the FY 09-15 TIP to shift \$410,000 in FTA ARRA transit funds to Rock Hill's Enhanced Demand Response Service. Ms. Thomas also noted the funding will provide one year's operating assistance and allow the purchase of six vehicles.

Mr. Reno made a motion to approve the request for final approval. Ms. Pender seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- B. TIP Amendment-** Ms. Thomas presented a request for approval of an amendment to the FY 09-15 TIP to add FY 09-10 CMAQ projects in the amount of \$2,775,500 in Federal funds and authorize a 30-day comment period. SCDOT and FHWA have approved the projects to move forward.

Ms. Pender made a motion to approve the request to amend the TIP and authorize a 30-day comment period. Mr. Reno seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- C. Citizens Advisory Committee Reappointment of Members –** Ms. Thomas presented a request to re-appoint the following CAC members: Mike Burgess- York County, Jim VanBlarcom – City of Tega Cay, Debbie Hayworth – Transportation Disadvantaged, Barre Mitchell- Member-at-Large and Lynn Campbell – City of Rock Hill. Both the members and respective jurisdictions have been contacted and confirmed a willingness to serve. Members will serve a three year term effective February 1, 2010. Ms. Thomas also stated the Study Team is actively seeking proposed candidates to fill the other vacant positions and will return with recommendations at a future meeting.

Ms. Pender made a motion to approve the re-appointment of members. Mr. Reno seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

D. Election of 2010 Officers – Following the rotation schedule, Mr. Norman made a motion to recommended Mr. Motz as Chairman and Mr. Funderburk as Vice-chairman. Ms. Pender seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Other Business:

A. Citizens Advisory Committee Annual Report- Ms. Thomas stated the Annual CAC report summarizes the core activities of the CAC which include review and recommendation on a number of RFATS' grant programs and planning activities. Chairman Echols thanked the CAC on behalf of the Policy Committee for their work.

B. Next regular meeting – February 26, 2010

7. Adjournment:

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 P.M.