



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SUMMARY MINUTES  
November 20, 2015 - 12:00 p.m. (NOON)  
Manchester Meadows Conference Room**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Danny Funderburk; Kathy Pender; Doug Echols (by proxy); Ralph Norman (by proxy); Brian Carnes; Britt Blackwell; William Harris; and Michael Johnson

**ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:**  
Mark Pleasant (SCDOT); Vic Edwards (SCDOT); Susan Britt (City of Tega Cay); Ivan McCorkle (City of Rock Hill); Joe Cronin (Town of Fort Mill); David Vehaun (City of Rock Hill); Kati Price (SCDOT); Leslie Coolidge (SCDHEC-AQ); Audra Miller (York County); Steve Willis (Lancaster County); Bill Meyer (City of Rock Hill); Randall Young (SCDOT); Steve Allen (York County); Clifton Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Ryan Blancke (York County); Darlene Broughton (SCDOT); Allison Love (York County); Ron Pompey (York County); Chris Herrmann (RFATS); and David Hooper (RFATS)

**CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT:** Frank Myers (CAC); Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Luther Dasher (CAC); Jeremy Winkler (City of Rock Hill); Scot Sibert (Parsons-Brinckerhoff); Marie Sugar (STV, Inc.); John Delfausse (Indian Land); Lynda Bowen (Tega Cay); Jim Bowen (Tega Cay); Chris Moody (Town of Fort Mill); and Amy Massey (Kimley-Horn)

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

**a. Welcome** – Chairman Funderburk called the meeting to order at 12:15 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.

**b. Citizen Comment Period** – No comments were made at this time.

**2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Funderburk asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the September 25, 2015 meeting. Hearing none, Mr. Funderburk asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Norman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Carnes seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

**3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:**

**a. York County Local Option Sales Tax Program & State Infrastructure Bank Application** – Mr. Pompey presented an update on the following projects:

- Fort Mill Parkway / Spratt Street Intersection Improvements – project is currently in the design phase with construction bids currently estimated for September 2016.
- Fort Mill Southern Bypass Phase II – project is currently under construction with opening for traffic currently scheduled for early 2016.
- Gold Hill Road / I-77 – ROW plans have been submitted to SCDOT for review and a bid date is expected in late 2016. Mr. Pompey briefly noted that there are 17 parcels involved in the ROW plans.

- Tega Cay Gold Hill Connector – project is currently under construction and is anticipated for completion in early 2017.
- McConnell’s Highway (Heckle Blvd to Falls Road) – ROW acquisition has been completed and final plans have been submitted to SCDOT for approval; a bid date is anticipated for early 2016 once final approval from SCDOT is received.
- Mt. Gallant Road (Dave Lyle Blvd. to Anderson Road) – ROW acquisition is being completed; Mr. Pompey noted that there are some remaining hurdles regarding utility relocation that may push the anticipated bid date back to summer of 2016.
- SC Highway 160 West (Zoar Road to NC State Line) – project is nearing 70% design with ROW Design / Environmental Documents in progress; a bid date is estimated for late 2016.
- US 21 / Hwy 51 (Springfield Parkway to State Line) – preliminary design for this project is underway; ROW acquisition is currently scheduled to begin in late 2016 and a bid date is anticipated for summer 2018.

Ms. Pender then asked about the status of the Pennies project on Ebinport Road? Mr. Pompey noted that this project is part of the Pennies 2 referendum that has not been completed due to funding challenges. That said, Mr. Pompey stated that SCDOT has repaved the road and that staff are evaluating the potential for sidewalk construction on one side. Ms. Pender noted that while the repaving work does address citizen concerns about potholes, that the voter approval granted with the Pennies 2 referendum included expansion from 2 to 3 lanes and the incorporation of sidewalks. As a point of reference, Ms. Pender noted that it is her understanding that design has been completed; and that, ROW plans are 70% complete as well. Ms. Pender then stated that the operating conditions and area traffic needs that originally lead to the prioritization of this roadway have not lessen, but have actually increased since voter approval in 2003. Mr. Blackwell then noted that the evaluation / discussion for how best to advance this project does remain active. Lastly, Ms. Pender noted that she would welcome the opportunity to be a part of any discussions about the next steps for this project.

Mr. Pompey then outlined progress on the State Infrastructure Bank Application that York County is currently preparing to submit for consideration. As a point of reference, Mr. Pompey noted that the application covers proposed improvements at five interchanges along the I-77 Corridor; specifically, Carowinds Boulevard (Exit 90), Gold Hill Road (Exit 88), SC 160 (Exit 85), Sutton Road (Exit 83); and Celanese Road (Exit 82C). Mr. Pompey then stated that they are in the process of finalizing the cost estimates and design concepts as well as relevant economic development data and environmental considerations. Looking Ahead, Mr. Pompey noted that STV, Inc. will be providing a draft of the application to York County by December 14, 2015 and the final application will be submitted on or before January 22, 2016.

Ms. Pender then asked why the Cherry Road component of the Interchange Reconfiguration at I-77 / Celanese Road is not currently reflected in the application? In response, Mr. Pompey noted that the consultant remains in the early stages of developing the improvement concept at this location and that the consultant’s scope is to evaluate all of the interchange area. Recognizing the operational impact and functional connection of all components of Exit 82, Ms. Pender then re-confirmed that all sections could be added to the application prior to finalization? Mr. Pompey then stated that once the consultant is complete with their work, all components of Exit 82 could be added into the application at that time. Lastly, Mr. Pompey briefly noted that the initial work to establish the new Sales Tax Commission has begun and that, the next step will involve hearing from area stakeholders and agencies regarding the identification of project needs.

**4. Proposed Policy Committee Action Items:**

- a. Amendment to Transportation Conformity Report** – Mr. Hooper stated that an amendment to the 2013 Transportation Conformity Determination is being proposed to reflect updated horizon year classifications for six Pennies projects based on the latest project completion schedules; and that, documentation of this change is required. With this in mind, Mr. Hooper then requested preliminary approval of the amendment and authorization of a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Carnes made a motion to approve; Ms. Pender seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- b. Collector Road Plan / Network Analysis** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed prior discussions of the Policy and Technical Committees regarding traffic congestion along major arterial roadways (i.e., Gold Hill Road, SC 160, US 521, and Celanese Road, among many others). Mr. Hooper then talked about the different types of roads within the transportation network and the primary function each is expected to serve (i.e., mobility, connectivity, land access, etc).

With this in mind, Mr. Hooper described the importance of increasing the focus on collector roads for potential improvements to address existing conditions, but more particularly in an effort to reduce long term traffic congestion as additional development occurs, by putting some “lines on the map now,” where collector roads should be positioned so that arterial roads are not carrying a disproportionate amount of regional travel demand unnecessarily.

Mr. Hooper then noted that the Technical Committee is recommending that a collector road study be completed for this purpose. Mr. Hooper then requested authorization to execute a contract to initiate this work effort. Mr. Harris then asked about the best approach for taking the output of this type of study and applying it at the local level. In response Mr. Hooper noted that at the completion of this study, it would be appropriate for the Policy Committee to consider adoption of the study’s recommendations and to strongly encourage local governing bodies to incorporate the recommendations into their respective development review and approval process. Mr. Blackwell then made a motion to approve; Mr. Harris seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

- c. TIP Amendment** – Mr. Herrmann stated that FHWA and SCDOT have completed their review of the FY 15-16 CMAQ projects, and they are now clear to be incorporated into the Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Herrmann then requested preliminary approval to amend the FY 14-19 TIP to reflect \$800,000 in CMAQ funding for the Carowinds / Pleasant Road Intersection Improvement Project and \$1,200,000 in CMAQ funding for the India Hook / Celanese Road Intersection Improvement Project; authorization for a 15 day public comment period was also requested.. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Pender; the motion was unanimously approved.
- d. Resolution of Support for York County State Infrastructure Bank Application** – Mr. Pompey requested a resolution of support from the Policy Committee for the State Infrastructure Bank Application to undertake a series of interchange improvements along the I-77 Corridor. As a follow-up to the earlier conversation about incorporating all components (i.e., interplay of Cherry Road demand affecting the functionality of the I-77 / Celanese Interchange), Ms. Pender asked whether the resolution is appropriate at this point given the continuation of the consultant’s evaluation.

Mr. Blackwell then noted relevant scheduling variables and the need to finalize the application for submittal early in January 2016. In response, Ms. Pender noted her understanding and agreement that the interest and demand for State Infrastructure Bank funding is competitive and timely, but that she wants to be clear about the need to incorporate the Cherry Road component to the work description that will be reflected in the application materials. Mr. Johnson then re-emphasized that the resolution is needed at this time since the Policy Committee is not slated to meet again prior to the application submittal date.

As a point of reference, Mr. Hooper noted that it would be preferable to have a specific reference to all elements of the I-77 / Celanese Road Interchange Area (i.e., Cherry Road, etc.) reflected in the application. That said, Mr. Hooper also noted a practical consideration associated with recommended changes to an interchange – that whenever such changes are proposed to an interchange, that the Federal Highway Administration will undertake a thorough review of all relevant operational characteristics to ensure that a comprehensive solution is being properly developed – this being particularly important at an interchange with two principal arterial roadways in such close proximity that they are effectively sharing a single interchange such as at I-77 / Celanese / Cherry Road.

Lastly, Mr. Hooper stated that it would be helpful to increase the project cost estimates to accommodate additional work at Exit 82 to ensure that sufficient budgetary latitude is available to fully address all aspects of the interchange. Mr. Pompey then pointed out that the Resolution of Support that is being requested from the Policy Committee covers interchange improvements from Exit 90 to Exit 82, covering the entirety of the interchange and not one specific component. A motion to approve was then made by Mr. Blackwell and seconded by Mr. Johnson; the motion was unanimously approved.

- e. **CAC Appointments** – Mr. Herrmann briefly summarized the role of the Citizens Advisory Committee and then requested consideration to reappoint Mr. Jim Van Blarcom and Mr. Frank Myers for additional terms. A motion to approve these re-appointments was made by Ms. Pender and seconded by Mr. Harris; the motion was unanimously approved.
- f. **2016 Policy Committee Meeting Schedule** – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2016 and then requested consideration of its approval. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Carnes and seconded by Mr. Blackwell; the motion was unanimously approved.

5. **Other Business:**

- a. **Administrative Report** – Mr. Hooper provided a brief follow-up regarding the transit recommendation to establish a base level of demand response service north of the Catawba River so that transit availability would then be an option throughout York County. With this in mind, Mr. Hooper noted that he did have an opportunity to present to the York County Council in late October and he noted that they provided a favorable review to initiating service and bearing a proportional share of the costs, provided that the City of Tega Cay and the Town of Fort Mill similarly put forward a proportional amount as well. Looking ahead, Mr. Hooper noted that he is slated to present to the Tega Cay City Council in late December; and that, he is in the process of finalizing a date to present to the Fort Mill Town Council. Lastly, Mr. Hooper noted that a new representative from SCDOT was in attendance today and asked Mr. Young if he would like to offer a few comments.

**b. SCDOT Program Manager Announcement** – Mr. Young introduced Ms. Kati Price who will be replacing Mr. Brian Klauk as the designated Program Manager for RFATS. Mr. Young noted that although Brian will continue to have involvement with Pennies projects, that Ms. Price has assumed responsibility as RFATS’ principal point of contact in the Project Management Office at SCDOT.

**c. Recognition of Mr. Funderburk** – Mr. Blackwell presented a plaque recognizing Chairman Funderburk for his 8 years of service. Mr. Funderburk then thanked all associated with this process and noted the importance of the work that RFATS carries out.

**d. Next Regular Meeting – January 22, 2016**

**6. Adjournment**

With no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Carnes and seconded by Mr. Harris; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 12:56 P.M.