



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
November 18, 2016 – 12:00 p.m. (NOON)
Manchester Meadows Conference Room**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: George Sheppard; Guynn Savage; Kathy Pender; Doug Echols; Bill Harris (Proxy); Ralph Norman; Britt Blackwell; Michael Johnson; and Wes Climer.

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Shaw (SCDOT); Susan Britt (City of Tega Cay); Steve Willis (Lancaster County); Brian Klauk (SCDOT); Steve Allen (York County); Cliff Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Keith Powell (SCDOT); Bill Shanahan (York County); Darlene Broughton (SCDOT); Jimmy Bagley (City of Rock Hill); Vic Edwards (SCDOT); Allison Love (York County); Yolanda Morris (FHWA); Audra Miller (York County); Bill Jordan (SCDOT); Ron Pompey (York County); Joe Cronin (Town of Fort Mill); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Penelope Karagounis (Lancaster County); Dean Hendrix (York County); Robby Moody (CRCOG); David Harmon (York County); Chris Herrmann (REATS); and David Hooper (REATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: Frank Myers (CAC); Luther Dasher (CAC); David Keely (CAC); Hisham Abdelaziz (HDR); Amy Massey (Kimley Horn); Larry Huntley (Fort Mill Town Council); Scot Sibert (Parsons-Brinckerhoff); John Cock (Alta Planning); David Yerty (Regal Manor HOA); Nicole Morgan (Fort Mill); and Lee May (Springfield HOA).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. Welcome ó Chairman Sheppard called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.

b. Citizen Comment Period ó Mr. Yerty voiced support for the re-scoping of the Nation Ford Sidewalk Project from the Town of Fort Mill. Mr. May then emphasized the importance of improving pedestrian access in the area of Nation Ford High School and the expected safety benefits that should result.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Sheppard asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the September 23, 2016 meeting. Mr. Sheppard then asked for a motion. Ms. Savage made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Ms. Pender seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

a. SCDOT Project Status Report ó Ms. Broughton presented an update on the following projects:

- US 521 / Marvin Road Intersection Improvement ó ROW is planned for FY 2017 and construction is planned for FY 2018.
- Celanese Road / India Hook Road Intersection Improvement ó ROW is anticipated for FY 2018 and construction obligation is anticipated for FY 2019.
- Celanese Road / Riverview / Riverchase Intersection Improvement ó ROW and Final Design are complete; construction obligation is anticipated for 2017.
- Pleasant Road / Carowinds Blvd Intersection Improvement ó ROW obligation anticipated for FY 2018 and construction obligation anticipated for FY 2019.

- E White St / Firetower Road / E Main St Intersection Improvement ó ROW acquisition is currently underway and a bid opening is anticipated for FY 2017.
- Clebourne St / N White St Intersection Improvement ó ROW is scheduled to begin in FY 2017 and construction is anticipated for FY 2018.
- SC 160 / Gold Hill Road Intersection Improvement ó project is currently under construction and anticipated for completion in late 2016.
- Cel-River Road Widening Phase I ó project is currently under construction and is anticipated for completion in 2017.
- SC 160 Phase 2 Widening Project ó construction obligation is anticipated in 2017.
- I-77 / US 21 (Cherry Road) / Celanese Road Interchange Reconfiguration ó ROW obligation anticipated for FY 2018 and construction obligation is anticipated for FY 2019.
- SC 160 / I-77 Interchange Reconfiguration ó ROW obligation is anticipated for FY 2018 and construction obligation is anticipated for FY 2019.
- Lake Ridge Trail ó project is currently under construction and completion is anticipated for late 2016.
- Springfield Parkway Bicycle / Pedestrian Improvements ó project is currently on hold pending re-scoping from the Town of Fort Mill.

Ms. Broughton then gave brief updates on SCDOT funded Bridge Projects including: SC 72, SC 5, S-81, S-50, S-654, S-655, US 21 BUS, and SC 72.

Mr. Climer then asked in which phase the Celanese Road / Riverview / Riverchase project was currently considered to be in? Ms. Broughton then responded that utility coordination for this project is currently being finalized. Ms. Pender then requested that the Policy Committee be updated when the utility coordination for this project is completed. Ms. Broughton affirmed that an update would be provided.

4. REPORTS:

a. Bicycle / Pedestrian Connectivity Study ó Mr. Hooper provided a brief overview of the various components of an effective multi-modal transportation network and the different users of the transportation system that it serves. Mr. Hooper then noted that during prior discussions, staff had highlighted the importance of maximizing the efficiency of the overall network (i.e., capacity improvements, operations and maintenance, safety, congestion management, etc.); and that completing an evaluation of options for strategically augmenting the region's bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure represents one element for advancing this broader objective. Mr. Hooper then introduced Mr. Cock (principal from Alta Planning and Design) who reviewed the specific steps undertaken during this evaluation.

Mr. Cock then provided a summary of the key points of input and evaluation; specifically, functional opportunities and constraints within the transportation network, location of town centers, parks, schools, as well as existing and emerging commercial centers. Following a review of existing bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure, Mr. Cock then reviewed the safety data for the last five years within the region and noted that there have been over 350 bicycle / pedestrian crashes, with 95% involving either a fatality or an injury. Mr. Cock then transitioned to a suggested regional priority network for making bicycle & pedestrian improvements that would result in a more integrated and connected network.

Mr. Hooper then briefly expanded on the role of the highlighted regional priority network as representing logical points for making strategic improvements that would favorably impact safety and connectivity as well as overall operational effectiveness. Mr. Johnson then briefly referenced the overall regional network and the beneficial role of these types of improvements, and then asked about the long term maintenance costs that would be associated with making these types of transportation investments. As a

point of reference, Mr. Johnson noted current challenges in maintaining the existing transportation system, taking account of both budgetary constraints and other operational needs. In response, Mr. Hooper noted that among the suggested projects identified, that some of the costs associated with these types of improvements can be largely incorporated within general maintenance work that will be performed on the existing road network (i.e., completing restriping for bike lanes while undertaking regularly scheduled road repaving), and others will involve targeted investments within the network where resulting maintenance costs (which are generally on the lower end of the budgetary scale), would become part of overall system maintenance over a planning horizon of roughly 40 years ó concurrent with the amount of funding for capacity improvements moderating over time as õbuild outö within the region is realized.

Notwithstanding the importance of strategic planning and constructing a more complete functional transportation network for all users, Mr. Blackwell then shared his concern about budgetary constraints and the operational needs of the road network given the difficult traffic flow conditions. Mr. Norman then noted his concern with budgetary challenges and meeting existing needs and noted that this type of planning is one where the private sector ought to be involved (i.e., the construction of a proportional share of a sidewalk) associated with a new development. Mr. Hooper then noted that the private sector certainly does contribute to undertaking these types of improvements and this is certainly expected to continue.

Ms. Savage then noted the value of strengthening this part of the transportation network, but with a strategic focus that would reduce the number of vehicles on the road and therefore benefit everyone. In particular, Ms. Savage noted that if we're looking towards mass transit in any way, shape or form, we're doing the future a favor. Ms. Pender then asked if there were any RFATS funding resources that can be specifically used for these types of bicycle/pedestrian improvements. Mr. Hooper then noted that the Transportation Alternatives Program is specifically designated for making these improvements. Additionally, some measure of CMAQ and Guidesshare funding are also potential funding sources as well. Ms. Pender then noted that while financial constraints are real and very important, that an appropriate focus should be kept on the type of community we want to result on a longer term basis as well.

5. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

a. TIP Amendment ó Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed a TIP Amendment that would reflect previously authorized earmarking funding in the amount of \$1.6M which was approved by SCDOT to be utilized on the Gold Hill Road / I-77 Interchange Reconfiguration project. Mr. Hooper then requested that the Policy Committee approve this TIP Amendment and authorize a 21 day public comment period. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Savage; the motion was unanimously approved.

b. CMAQ Program – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the re-scoping application for the Nation Ford Pedestrian Connectivity Project submitted by the Town of Fort Mill. Mr. Herrmann noted that an updated Air Quality Benefit Analysis has been completed for the project; also highlighting that no additional funding was being requested. Mr. Herrmann then requested that the Policy Committee grant approval and authorize staff to forward to SCDOT for processing. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Savage and seconded by Mr. Johnson; the motion was unanimously approved.

c. 2017 Policy Committee Meeting Schedule ó Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2017 and then requested consideration of its approval. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Pender and seconded by Mr. Echols; the motion was unanimously approved.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Administrative Report ó Mr. Sheppard asked if there were any questions about the items covered in the administrative report? No comments or questions were raised.

b. Next Meeting ó Mr. Hooper noted that the next Policy Committee meeting will be held on January 27, 2017 at Manchester Meadows Conference Room.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Savage and seconded by Mr. Johnson; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 P.M.