



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
November 22, 2019 – 12:00 p.m.
Rock Hill Operations Center**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Britt Blackwell; David O’Neal; Michael Johnson; Kathy Pender; Jim Reno; John Gettys (proxy); Bill Harris; Brian Carnes; Gary Simrill; Wes Climer; and Guynn Savage.

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Berry Mattox (SCDOT); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Kenny Larimore (SCDOT); Clifton Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Penelope Karagounis (Fort Mill); Diane Dil (York County); Vic Edwards (SCDOT); Steve Willis (Lancaster County); David Vehaun (City of Rock Hill); Jonathan Buono (York County); Bill Meyer (City of Rock Hill); Josh Meetze (SCDOT); Randy Imler (CRCOG); Cindi Howard (City of Rock Hill); Christopher Stephens (York County); Jessica Hekter (FHWA); Chris Herrmann (RFATS); and David Hooper (RFATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: Larry Huntley (Town of Fort Mill); Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Luther Dasher (CAC); Teresa Thomas (Senator Lindsay Graham’s Office); David Kerns (HDR); Amy Massey (Kimley Horn); Phil Conrad (Mobility Solutions); John Marks (Fort Mill Times); Joel Hamilton; Matthew Kreh (WRHI); and Scot Sibert (WSP).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. Welcome – Chairman Blackwell called the meeting to order at 12:03 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.

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

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Blackwell asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the September 27, 2019 meeting. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; this was seconded by Ms. Savage and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

a. SCDOT Project Status Report – Mr. Mattox provided a brief update on the following projects:

- US 521 / Marvin Road Intersection Improvement – ROW plans are complete and acquisition is ongoing; construction obligation is anticipated for June 2020. Mr. Mattox noted that construction costs are anticipated to increase as the project moves forward.
- Celanese Road / India Hook Road Intersection Improvement – Project scope has been finalized and ROW acquisition is anticipated for summer 2019. Construction is anticipated to begin in FY 2020.
- Celanese Road / Riverview Road / Riverchase Blvd Intersection Improvement – Construction is ongoing and completion is anticipated by early 2020. Mr. Mattox noted that excavation

work caused some unexpected delay in the project and some final asphalt work will be completed in the near future.

- Pleasant Road / Carowinds Blvd Intersection Improvement – ROW plans are being finalized so that this phase can be initiated in FY 2019. Construction is anticipated to begin in FY 2020; timeline is dependent upon completion of the Gold Hill Road Interchange Improvement. Cost estimates for construction will be updated prior to the letting of the project.
- E White Street / Firetower Road Intersection Improvement – Construction is ongoing with completion anticipated for late 2019.
- Clebourne Street / N White Street Intersection Improvement – bids were received that came in outside of the award criteria; therefore, the project will be re-let in March 2020. Mr. Mattox did note that additional CMAQ funding is required for the construction phase of this project.
- SC 160 Widening Project (Phase 2) – construction is ongoing with completion anticipated for summer 2020.
- Nation Ford High School Pedestrian Improvement – construction is complete.
- River Road Pedestrian Improvement – construction is complete.
- Dam Road Pedestrian Improvement – project was awarded in July 2019; construction is anticipated for completion in spring 2020.
- SC 160 / I-77 Interchange Reconfiguration – Kimley-Horn is the consultant selected to design the project; they are currently analyzing alternatives. ROW Acquisition phase is anticipated to begin in FY 2021 and construction obligation is anticipated to begin in FY 2023. Cost estimates for PE, ROW and construction will be updated as the process moves forward. Mr. Mattox then noted that a public information meeting will be held on January 30th, 2020 and information flyers about the meeting will be sent out in December.
- Exit 82 Interchange Reconfiguration – while there are related variables that remain active (York County SIB, etc); project activity has not been initiated.

Mr. Mattox then gave brief updates on Area Federal Aid Bridge Projects including: S-655 over Fishing Creek, US 21 BUS over Steele Creek, S-654 over Burgis Creek, SC 72 over Stony Fork, S-1069, S-55, S-560, and S-103.

Mr. Mattox then summarized project coordination / applicable timelines for those projects impacting the I-77 Corridor including Carowinds / Pleasant, SC 160 Widening, Gold Hill / I-77 Interchange Improvement, US 21 Widening through Pennies for Progress, and the SC 160 / I-77 Interchange Improvement.

b. Congestion Management Process Update – Mr. Herrmann provided an overview of the Congestion Management Process, noting its purpose and function as a part of the larger MPO Planning Process. Mr. Herrmann then reviewed the Congestion Monitoring Network – which is a reflection of the planning area's principal and / or operationally significant corridors across the road network. With this in mind, Mr. Herrmann noted that a full update to the CMP has been completed, which involved updating all relevant reference points such as road widenings, newly emerged points of congestion, the latest traffic volume data, and newly developed priority projects and policies.

Mr. Herrmann then explained that this CMP Update highlights the role that alternative strategies play such as adaptive traffic control signals, access management, and transit availability in strengthening overall network operating efficiency. Lastly, Mr. Hooper then noted that the nature of improvement planning needs to be structured in a coordinated manner so that the full range of mobility options and

roadway connectivity is thoroughly considered during the front end of the planning process when critical land use decisions are being made.

4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

a. 2045 LRTP & Conformity Amendment – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the location of a new interchange between Exit 82 and Exit 79, as well as the planned collector facilities that will connect the interchange to Mt Gallant Road to the west and Paragon Way to the east. Mr. Hooper then noted that a 30-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received -- though a few agency comments from EPA have been received through the IAC process regarding some additional language that they would like included – largely related to agency legal action and its relationship to demonstrating air quality compliance as a general matter. Mr. Hooper then requested final approval for this LRTP & Conformity Amendment. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to grant approval; seconded by Mr. Reno and the motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion then followed regarding the latest on funding considerations. Mr. Hooper briefly referenced planning coordination that is occurring among the Panthers Organization, SCDOT and the Commerce Department, among others – as things continue to progress towards the finalization of a complete funding package. Mr. Hooper then transitioned to project planning and coordination efforts associated with the interchange improvements slated for Exit 85 and the new interstate access envisioned between Exit 82 and Exit 79. Specifically, Mr. Hooper noted a recent status meeting with area stakeholders who asked some questions regarding funding sources and how the coordination of implementation schedules are being monitored so that no delays will emerge. Mr. Hooper then stated that he had explained that the funding for the new interchange project is not associated with the funding source for the interchange project at Exit 85, nor does it change the prioritization placed on the SC 160 Interchange by the MPO.

Ms. Savage then noted the importance of perception, which is driving decisions regarding expansion by employers at Kingsley. Mr. Mattox then noted that the complexity of the interchange reconfiguration including the widening of SC 160 drives the schedule of this work; while the process of constructing a new interchange is less complex and involves fewer property owners at the other site – which affects the ROW acquisition phase. Mr. Simrill then explained the importance of the York County SIB Application and how it may favorably impact overall funding availability within the planning area. Mr. Simrill then acknowledged the importance of public perception involved with these two significant projects and noted that in no way is either project supplanting the other.

b. Metrolina Regional Model – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the latest socio-economic data; specifically housing, population and employment as well as school enrollment data. Mr. Hooper then requested endorsement from the Policy Committee to submit this data for use in the travel demand modeling process. Mr. Reno then made a motion to grant approval; seconded by Ms. Pender and the motion was unanimously approved.

c. TIP Amendment – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the TIP Amendment reflecting the removal of \$60,000 in CMAQ funding for the Heckle Blvd Sidewalk Improvement Project. Mr. Herrmann noted that a 21-day public comment period had been completed and no comments were received. Mr. Herrmann then requested final approval for this TIP Amendment and authorization for staff to send this to SCDOT for processing. Ms. Pender then made a motion for approval; seconded by Ms. Savage and the motion was unanimously approved.

d. TIP Amendment – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed a TIP Amendment reflecting \$600,000 in 5307 funding in support of the MyRide Fixed Route Transit Service for the City of Rock Hill. Mr. Herrmann then requested approval contingent upon any comments received during the 21-day public comment

period. Ms. Savage then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Carnes and the motion was unanimously approved.

e. Policy Committee Meeting Schedule – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2020 and then requested consideration of its approval. Ms. Savage then made a motion for approval; seconded by Ms. Pender and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Admin Report – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the Administrative Report.

b. Next meeting – Dr. Blackwell noted that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2020.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Reno and seconded by Ms. Savage; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 P.M.