



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
June 22, 2018 – 12:00 p.m. (NOON)
Rock Hill Operations Center**

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

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Berry Mattox (SCDOT); Cliff Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Patrick Hamilton (York County); David Burgess (SCDOT); Susan Britt (City of Tega Cay); Christopher Stephens (York County); Bill Meyer (City of Rock Hill); Vic Edwards (SCDOT); David Hudspeth (York County); Terrence Nealy (City of Rock Hill); Mike Sullivan (SCDOT); Steve Willis (Lancaster County); Jimmy Bagley (City of Rock Hill); Bill Shanahan (York County); Jason Johnston (SCDOT); Gabriella Lott (York County); Lisa Brown (City of Rock Hill); Robby Moody (CRCOG); Josh Meetze (SCDOT); Cindy Howard (City of Rock Hill); Jessica Hekter (FHWA); Chris Herrmann (RFATS); and David Hooper (RFATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: Larry Huntley (Fort Mill Town Council); Kenneth Johnson (AECOM); Cleopatra Allen (CAC); Luther Dasher (CAC); Frank Myers (CAC); Kit Persiani (CDM Smith); Tommy Thompson (CST); Mark Pleasant (WSP); and Scot Sibert (WSP).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. Welcome – Chairman Carnes called the meeting to order at 12:04 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.

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

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Carnes asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the May 18, 2018 meeting. Mr. Gettys then made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; this was seconded by Mr. Johnson and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

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

- US 521 / Marvin Road – ROW plans are being finalized so that the ROW acquisition phase can be initiated in FY 2019. Construction is anticipated to begin in FY 2020.

Mr. Mattox then stated that cost estimates for the project will be updated once the ROW plans are finalized. As a point of reference, Mr. Hooper noted that when funding was originally allocated for this project that it was recognized that additional funding would be needed for the construction phase once ROW acquisition was completed.

- Celanese Road / India Hook Road – Utility impacts are being identified to finalize the extent of the project, ROW obligation is anticipated to begin in FY 2019, and construction is anticipated for obligation in FY 2020.
- Celanese Road / Riverview / Riverchase – project was let on 6/12/2018 and the only bid received was over the construction estimate, project is likely to be rebid in September.

Mr. Mattox explained that due to Federal guidelines, SCDOT cannot accept a bid if it is the only bid for a project and the bid is higher than the internal construction estimate completed by SCDOT. Mr. Johnston clarified that before the project is rebid, the construction estimate will be recalculated and hopefully more than one bid will be received for the project in September. Discussion then followed regarding the bidding process and the federal regulations for procurement that must be adhered to by SCDOT.

- Pleasant Road / Carowinds Blvd – preliminary design is currently underway, ROW acquisition is anticipated to begin in FY 2019 and construction obligation is anticipated for FY 2020.
- East White St / Firetower Road / Main St – project is anticipated to be let in FY 2019 pending completion of utility coordination, ROW acquisition and final design are complete.
- Clebourne / N White St – project is currently in ROW acquisition phase; construction is scheduled to begin in FY 2019.
- Cel-River Road Widening Phase I – project is approximately 90% complete and the construction completion date is July 31, 2019.
- SC 160 Phase II Widening – project is currently under construction and is anticipated for completion in early 2020.
- SC 160 / I-77 Interchange Reconfiguration – a consultant has been selected to design this project and the scope and fee are currently being negotiated. ROW acquisition is scheduled for 2019.

As a point of reference, Mr. Hooper stated that there are two components to this project: the interchange reconfiguration and the widening of SC 160 from four lanes to six lanes from Sutton Road to US 21. Mr. Hooper then asked if SCDOT was examining these as separate components? Mr. Mattox affirmed this, clarifying that FHWA will evaluate the interchange reconfiguration first. Mr. Mattox further explained that a Diverging Diamond Interchange is the preferred alternative for this improvement and it will be noted in a report to FHWA that if this desired alternative is confirmed then the widening project will be required as the DDI will not operate correctly with four lanes. Mr. Mattox then added that currently \$16 M is shown as a placeholder for the interchange improvement and additional funding will be required once the widening component is authorized by FHWA.

- Exit 82 / I-77 Interchange Reconfiguration – while there are related variables pending resolution (York County SIB); and completion (I-77 Corridor Analysis) – project activity has not been initiated.
- Nation Ford High School Pedestrian Improvement – project will be let in August. Project has been developed through the use of a strip map process as no ROW acquisition is needed; this should expedite the project implementation.
- Dam Road Sidewalk Project – initial planning is underway to determine the best project delivery method. ROW is being verified to examine the potential to utilize the strip map process on this project as well.

Mr. Mattox then gave brief updates on Area Federal-Aid Bridge Projects including: S-81, SC-5, S-655, US-21 BUS, S-50, S-654, SC 72, S-1069, S-55, S-560, S-166, and S-103.

Mr. Mattox then summarized project coordination regarding projects impacting the I-77 Corridor including Carowinds / Pleasant, SC 160 Widening, Gold Hill / I-77 Interchange Improvement, and the SC 160 / I-77 Interchange Improvement.

4. REPORTS:

a. Regional Transit Summit – Mr. Hooper provided a summary of the Regional Transit Summit that took place at UNC Charlotte on May 17th. Mr. Hooper then provided an overview of how regional level transit became a summit topic as a priority recommendation from the multi-year planning effort known as CONNECT. It was noted that principal points of discussion at the summit included the key variables to a region's long term success; specifically, its quality of life; its ability to attract and retain the type of workforce that highly sought after employers are looking for; and whether the supporting transportation infrastructure is structured in such a way that appeal and serve both key groups – as well as a host of other supporting conditions (i.e., land use types, green space, etc.).

Mr. Hooper then noted that the next steps identified during the summit include the development of a Regional Transit Plan. This plan will feature long-term corridor planning, near-term mobility options, funding considerations, land use practices, and examples of appropriate coordination. Mr. Hooper then noted that Centralina COG is currently working on a draft scope for the development of this plan for the various planning partners to consider. Mr. Hooper then stated that where this plan is probably leading to is discussion of the development of a multi-county taxing authority that would fund the implementation of transit projects in the Greater Charlotte Region.

5. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

a. 2045 LRTP Amendment – Mr. Hooper briefly explained that an amendment to the LRTP reflecting the inclusion of the Dam Road Sidewalk Project is required due to the allocation of Guideshare funding to this project. Mr. Hooper then requested preliminary approval to amend the 2045 LRTP and authorization to initiate a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Johnson then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved.

b. TIP Amendment – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the Transportation Alternatives Program and the application submitted by Lancaster County for the River Road Sidewalk Project; noting that a 21-day public comment period had been completed. Mr. Herrmann then summarized the 43 comments received from the public; highlighting that all but two of the comments were in support of the project. Mr. Herrmann then requested final approval to amend the TIP to reflect \$192,838 in TAP funding from FY 18-19 and FY 19-20; also requesting authorization for staff to forward to SCDOT for processing. Mr. Gettys then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Johnson and the motion was unanimously approved.

c. TIP Amendment – Mr. Herrmann briefly summarized the TIP Amendment for the York County Disability and Special Needs Board to receive \$55,000 in FTA Section 5310 funding and the City of Rock Hill to receive \$1,012,000 in FTA Section 5307 funding for the Express Bus Route, York County Access, and the Fixed Route Transit Service. Mr. Herrmann noted that while there is no RFATS funding included, it would need to be reflected in the RFATS TIP. Mr. Herrmann then requested preliminary approval to amend the TIP and authorization to initiate a 21-day public comment period. Mr. Gettys then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Johnson and the motion was unanimously approved. As a point of reference, Mr. Reno noted that the City of Rock Hill has received several complaints from citizens utilizing the Demand Response Service regarding wait times and issues with pick-up.

d. Resolution of Support – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the request made by the Policy Committee regarding the development of a resolution encouraging school districts to construct sidewalks and other supporting pedestrian facilities at all new school locations during initial construction (by the sponsoring

agency), in order to best ensure the safety, convenience and range of mobility choices for all system users within the region. Mr. Hooper then reviewed the Resolution of Support that was drafted by staff.

Mr. Reno then asked if a new school is being planned in any jurisdiction within RFATS, how will the school district be made aware of this resolution? Mr. Hooper noted that the responsibility will be on the relevant jurisdiction (i.e., city, town, county – in coordination with SCDOT as appropriate) as they complete their review of such requests. Essentially, this type of resolution supports the wisdom of proactively planning for these types of facilities before they develop into safety concerns at a later point. Mr. Gettys then made a motion for the resolution to be approved as presented; seconded by Ms. Savage and the motion was unanimously approved.

e. CRAFT Memorandum of Agreement – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the CRAFT MOA which has been updated to reflect the new requirements associated with Transportation Performance Management. Mr. Hooper then requested approval of the amended MOA. Ms. Savage then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Admin Report – Mr. Hooper briefly summarized a lawsuit by the South Coast Air Quality Management District against the EPA regarding the continued application of a prior standard. Mr. Hooper noted that while air quality standards have continued to be raised over time, that the petitioner successfully argued that a prior standard that had previously been revoked by EPA should still apply. As such, a new transportation conformity determination reflecting the prior standard will need to be prepared for the September meeting before any projects changes can be made. This will require close coordination between RFATS, Pennies for Progress, SCDOT, and FHWA in order to be certain that all proper procedures are followed.

b. Next meeting – Mr. Carnes noted that the next Policy Committee meeting will be held on September 28, 2018.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

The motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Savage and seconded by Mr. Climer; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 P.M.