



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
June 28, 2019 – 12:00 p.m.
Rock Hill Operations Center**

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

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Berry Mattox (SCDOT); Kenny Larimore (SCDOT); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Clifton Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Penelope Karagounis (Fort Mill); Diane Dil (York County); David Harmon (York County); Yolanda Morris (FHWA); Jason Johnston (SCDOT); Rick Wyatt (SCDOT); Susan Britt (City of Tega Cay); Andy Merriman (York County); Dean Hendrix (York County); Robby Moody (CRCOG); Leah Drummeter (City of Rock Hill); Jonathan Buono (York County); Bill Meyer (City of Rock Hill); Jason Vance (City of Rock Hill); Terrence Nealy (City of Rock Hill); Christopher Stephens (York County); Chris Herrmann (RFATS); and David Hooper (RFATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Frieda Price (CAC); Larry Huntley (Town of Fort Mill); Trudie Heemsoth (Town of Fort Mill); David Buist (Fort Mill Economic Council); Jan Martin (Fort Mill Economic Council); Scot Woodward (Clear Springs); David Kerns (HDR); Hisham Abdelaziz (CDM Smith); Amy Massey (Kimley-Horn); John Marks (Fort Mill Times); Rachel Richardson (CN2); Matthew Kreh (WRHI); and Scot Sibert (WSP).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. Welcome – With both the Chair and Vice Chair not able to be in attendance, Mr. Carnes was selected to serve as Acting Chair for today’s meeting – which he called to order at 12:05 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 17, 2019 meeting. Mr. Gettys then made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; this was seconded by Mr. O’Neal 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 late 2019.
- 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 – Design and ROW obligation are being finalized. Construction obligation is anticipated by late 2019.
- SC 160 Widening Phase 2 Project – construction is ongoing with completion anticipated for FY 2020.
- Nation Ford High School Pedestrian Improvement Project – construction is near completion.
- River Road Pedestrian Improvement – project was let in March and a preconstruction meeting was completed on June 13th. Construction is anticipated for completion in late 2019.
- Dam Road Pedestrian Improvement – project is being developed using strip maps in order to expedite project implementation; project is anticipated for letting in July 2019.
- SC 160 / I-77 Interchange Reconfiguration – Kimley-Horn is the consultant selected to design the project; they are currently analyzing alternatives. ROW acquisition is anticipated to begin in FY 2021 and construction obligation is anticipated to begin in FY 2023. Cost estimates for PE, ROW and construction costs will be updated as the process moves forward. Mr. Mattox then reviewed interim improvements to access management along the SC 160 Corridor that are being implemented by SCDOT.
- Exit 82 Interchange Reconfiguration – while there are related variables that remain active (York County SIB, etc); project activity has not been initiated at this time.

Mr. Mattox then gave a brief update 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, S-166, and S-103.

Mr. Mattox then summarized project coordination among those improvements slated to occur at or near the I-77 Corridor – including the intersection project at 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. Mr. Gettys then asked when ROW is scheduled to be purchased for the US 21 Widening? Mr. Hamilton responded that ROW acquisition for US 21 from Gold Hill Road to SC 51 is currently underway and is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2019. Mr. Johnson then asked whether ROW acquisition includes what would be needed for the eventual incorporation of a rapid transit route along this corridor consistent with the MIS study completed in the late 2000's? In response, Mr. Hamilton noted that under state law, Pennies funding cannot be utilized for a non-Pennies project. With this in mind, no additional ROW is being sought at this time.

Mr. Gettys then asked if there would be anything prohibiting RFATS from funding ROW acquisition along US-21 for anticipated future transit improvements? Mr. Hooper then noted that the current study identifying the US 21 Corridor as the preferred alignment would need to be updated (i.e., given the amount of time that has passed since its initial completion); and assuming the US 21 Corridor is again identified as the preferred routing, then such an action could be revisited at that time. Lastly, Mr. Hooper noted that he would speak with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), regarding the update process and report back at the next meeting.

b. SC 160 Interchange Project – Mr. Hooper briefly noted that preliminary analysis is currently underway by Kimley-Horn and SCDOT examining design considerations, and the operational benefits of different interchange configurations. Mr. Mattox then reviewed the alternatives that are being analyzed – which include a diverging diamond interchange, a single point urban interchange, two separate versions of an offset ramp interchange, and a directional interchange. Mr. Mattox then noted that these alternatives are being reviewed to assess the operational benefit of more spacing between the traffic signal at the interchange and the traffic signals at nearby intersections, which impact traffic flow exiting the interstate. Mr. Mattox also explained that alternatives are being evaluated in terms of their ability to improve efficiency of access to I-77 as well as to provide additional storage on the exit ramp to SC 160 from I-77 in order to address safety concerns regarding backups on I-77 during the peak periods.

Mr. Climer then asked about the cost differences among the alternative configurations. Mr. Mattox responded that there is a cost range from \$40M and \$60M. As a point of reference Mr. Hooper highlighted the increasing shift from traditional improvement strategies to more innovative options and how the latter option is appearing more and more frequently as the necessary approach given the current as well as projected demand levels expected along our key corridors like SC 160, Celanese Road, and US 521, among others. Lastly, Mr. Hooper then noted that given the increasing cost range being discussed for the SC 160 Interchange Project, that both Governor McMaster and Secretary Hall (SCDOT) have indicated their support of advancing Guidesshare funding in order to expedite project implementation once preliminary analysis is completed – should the Policy Committee approve of such an approach.

Mr. Simrill then asked how the alternatives analysis corresponds with the revised SIB application that York County has been asked to submit on August 1, 2019. In response, Mr. Hooper noted that the latest cost estimates would need to be reflected at the SC 160 Interchange given that it was ranked as the top priority in the prior application. Lastly, Mr. Hooper noted that he would continue coordination with SCDOT and York County as this information continues to be developed so that it is properly reflected in the revised documentation.

4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

a. FY 19-20 CMAQ Funding Cycle – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the CMAQ application for the Adaptive Traffic Control Signalization Project on SC 160. Mr. Herrmann stated that a 21-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Mr. Herrmann then requested final approval for a TIP Amendment reflecting \$489,500 of CMAQ funding for this project. Mr. Gettys then made a motion to grant approval; seconded by Mr. Simrill and the motion was unanimously approved.

b. TIP Amendment – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the TIP Amendment reflecting the FY 19-20 FTA funding allocations. Mr. Herrmann noted that no RFATS funding was associated with this TIP Amendment but it is federal funding that must be reflected in the TIP. Mr. Herrmann then requested preliminary approval of this TIP Amendment and authorization to initiate a 21-day public comment period. Mr. Gettys then made a motion to grant approval; seconded by Mr. Harris and the motion was unanimously approved.

c. Public Participation Plan Update – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the update to the RFATS Public Participation Plan. Mr. Herrmann then requested preliminary approval of the PPP Update and authorization to initiate a 45-day public comment period. Mr. Harris then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved.

d. FY 19-21 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Mr. Hooper briefly summarized principal work activities outlined in the FY 19-21 UPWP, as well as ongoing administration of grant programs and support of the regional travel demand model. Mr. Hooper then noted that a 30-day public comment period has been completed and no comments have been received. Mr. Hooper then requested final

approval of the FY 19-21 UPWP. Mr. Climer then made a motion to grant approval; seconded by Mr. Harris and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Admin Report – Mr. Hoo per briefly reviewed the Administrative Report.

b. Next meeting – Mr. Carnes noted that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2019.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gettys and seconded by Mr. O’Neal; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 P.M.