



POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

**November 21, 2025 – 12:00 p.m.
Rock Hill Operations Center – Room 132**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Guynn Savage; Chris Gray; John Gettys; Jose Luis; Michael Johnson(P); Watts Huckabee (P); Derrick Lindsay; Brian Carnes; Christi Cox (P); Kevin Sutton (P); Tom Audette; Ben Hudgins; Jim Reno and Heath Sessions (P).

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Patrick Hamilton (York County); Jim Walden (SCDOT); Tony Edwards (SCDOT); Penelope Karagounis (Town of Fort Mill); Corey Barnes (Lancaster County); Chris Herrman (City of Rock Hill); Josh Meetze (SCDOT); Cary Vargo (Town of Fort Mill); Jimmy Bagley (City of Rock Hill); Josh Edwards (York County); David Vehanu (City of Rock Hill); Shamika Peterson (SCDOT); Jason Johnston (SCDOT); Terrence Nealy (City of Rock Hill); Brian Klauk (SCDOT); Jason Vance (City of Rock Hill); Rob Ruth (City of Rock Hill); Justin Powell (SCDOT - SOT); Leah Quattlebaum (SCDOT) and David Hooper (RFATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: John Marks (Herald); Tyler Cupp (WRHI); Liz Duda (resident); Cleopatra Allen (CAC); Frank Myers (CAC); Scot Sibert (STV, Inc); Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Will Hogarth (WFH); Frieda Price (CAC); Gavia McMaleg; Chris Gossett; Joey Adams; Heather Jones; Dr. David Keely (CAC); Elizabeth Harris (HNTB); David Kerns (HDR); and Phil Leazer (KCI).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

a. Welcome – Chair Savage called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.

b. Citizen Comment Period – Ms. Duda noted her continued interest in an alternative format versus the existing “in person” format as the preferred approach to meeting organization. As a point of reference – it should be noted that the Policy Committee has previously voted on the benefits of “in-person” participation for all.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Savage asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the September 26, 2025 meeting. Mr. Gettys then made a motion to approve; this was seconded by Mr. Audette and unanimously approved.

3. REPORTS:

a. SCDOT Project Status Report – Mr. Edwards provided the latest information on existing project priorities across the planning area. Projects of particular note included the US 521 / Marvin Road & Dave Lyle Blvd Intersection Improvement Projects as well as the SC 160 / I-77 Interchange Reconfiguration Project.

4 PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

- a. FY 24-33 TIP Amendment (I-77 Coordination Project)** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed principal points of discussion regarding planning for the Carowinds Blvd Interchange, and area operating considerations associated with adjacent project planning. Mr. Powell then outlined specific tasks that SCDOT will be focused on in preserving / protecting South Carolina interests as NCDOT looks to incorporate toll lanes along I-77 in Charlotte extending down to the stateline. Discussion then followed regarding timeline, key milestones; and a clear understanding that this type of project coordination is being done only for assessing operational needs and not broader NC objectives regarding the promotion of “regionalism” either in voting, structure or focus.
- b. Resolution of Support** – Mr. Hooper briefly noted the latest information on the Interchange Alternatives Analysis currently under review by FHWA and York County’s continuing work with SCDOT and the State Infrastructure Bank to aid in expediting the implementation of needed upgrades at the Celanese / I-77 Interchange. Discussion then followed regarding the appropriate language to properly reflect expectations, timeline, and agency obligations regarding the different funding components associated with this work effort. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Carnes; seconded by Mr. Audette and unanimously approved.
- c. Annual SE Data Update** – Mr. Sibert provided an overview of the latest data on changes in population and employment across the planning area, as well as the applicable NAICS codes utilized for commercial developments. Mr. Hooper then requested endorsement from the Policy Committee. Mr. Carnes then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Reno and the motion was unanimously approved.
- d. 2055 LRTP Amendment** – Mr. Hooper briefly summarized an LRTP Amendment to incorporate a multi-use path along Clebourne Street. Mr. Hooper then noted that a 30-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Motion to approve made by Mr. Gettys; seconded by Ms. Savage and unanimously approved.
- e. FY 25-26 CMAQ Funding Recommendation** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the amended project recommendation this funding cycle; and then noted that a 21-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Audette; seconded by Mr. Reno and unanimously approved.
- f. FY 24-33 TIP Amendment (FTA 5339 Funding)** – Mr. Hooper briefly noted that the City of Rock Hill has been awarded FTA 5339 funding support vehicle acquisition. Mr. Hooper then noted that the 21-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Motion to approve made by Mr. Carnes; seconded by Mr. Gettys and unanimously approved.
- g. 2026 Policy Committee Meeting Schedule & Chair / Vice Chair Selection** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the proposed schedule for 2026 and then requested its approval. Mr. Audette then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved. Additionally, Ms. Savage then asked to confirm Chair / Vice Chair responsibilities in 2026. Mr. Hooper noted that Mayor Gettys is slated to serve as Chair and Mr. Audette to serve as Vice-Chair

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. Administrative Report** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed administrative adjustments to project funding / implementation schedules that occurred between meetings.

b. Policy Committee Meeting – Ms. Savage noted that the next Policy Committee Meeting is slated for Friday, January 23, 2026.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Savage and seconded by Mr. Carnes; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:28 P.M.