



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES**

November 19, 2021 – 12:00 p.m.

Rock Hill City Hall – Council Chambers / Zoom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: David O’Neal; John Gettys; Guynn Savage; Tom Audette (Zoom); Kathy Pender (Proxy); Joel Hamilton; Wes Climer (Zoom); Bill Harris (Proxy); and Brian Carnes.

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Berry Mattox (SCDOT); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Vic Edwards (SCDOT); Penelope Karagounis (Town of Fort Mill); Susan Britt (City of Tega Cay); Christopher Stevens (York County); Steve Allen (Catawba COG); Cliff Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Diane Dil (York County); Jason Vance (City of Rock Hill); Chris Herrmann (RFATS); and David Hooper (RFATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: Bill Jordan (AECOM); Mike Fry (CAMPCO); Hisham Abdelaziz (CDMSmith); John Marks (Herald); Luther Dasher (CAC); Dave Kerns (HDR); Aaron Barnes (CAC); Phil Conrad (Mobility Solutions); Jorge Luna (HDR); Cleopatra Allen (CAC); Scot Sibert (WSP); Liz Duda; David Keeley (CAC); Scott Woodland; and Steven Stone.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- a. **Welcome** – Chair O’Neal called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.
- b. **Citizen Comment Period** – No comments were made at this time.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. O’Neal asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the September 24th, 2021 meeting. Mr. O’Neal then made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; this was seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. REPORTS:

a. **SCDOT Project Status Report** – Mr. Mattox provided the latest information of project activity in the planning area for road widenings; interchange reconfigurations; bridge replacements as well as intersection improvements. In particular, completion of the Gold Hill Road / I-77 Interchange and related punch item work was discussed as well as the planned initiation of the evaluation study at the Celanese / I-77 Interchange – which is slated for QI in 2022.

b. **Congestion Management Process (Annual Evaluation Report)** – Mr. Herrmann provided an overview of operating conditions across the congestion monitoring network; significant project activity during the last year; as well as a targeted summary at key sections of the road network during morning and evening peak periods.

c. Beyond 77 Final Report – Mr Hooper briefly noted that the Beyond 77 Final Report continues to reflect RFATS, SCDOT and South Carolina jurisdictions as participating agencies in this work effort, even though our formal withdrawal was communicated approximately 5 months earlier back in July. As a point of reference, Mr. Hooper did note that there may be some constraints when utilizing federal funds applicable here regarding the retention of completed and/or partially completed work that may need to be referenced in an appendix or other similar approach.

Unfortunately, the Final Report is written in a manner that does not sufficiently acknowledge that there is no South Carolina component to the final work product. Discussion then followed with the understanding that a letter from RFATS to the Secretary of Transportation at SCDOT should be prepared outlining the withdrawal of RFATS in an effort to ensure that no misunderstandings needlessly emerge at a later point. This action was unanimously approved by the Policy Committee.

4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

a. Annual Update of Socio-Economic Data Projections – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the latest socio-economic data (i.e., population; employment, school enrollment, etc.). Mr. Hooper then requested approval from the Policy Committee to incorporate this information into the Metrolina Regional Travel Demand Model. Mr. O’Neal then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Carnes and unanimously approved.

b. Bicycle / Pedestrian Guideshare Allocation – Mr. Hooper reviewed the range of options discussed at the September meeting for initial programming action. Mr. Hooper then recommended that Guideshare funding be approved for the Dave Lyle Blvd Pedestrian Improvement Project; the US 21 Pedestrian Project from Spratt Street to Riverwalk; as well as two connection projects to the Carolina Thread Trail. As a point of reference, Mr. Hooper noted that the Carolina Thread Trail submitted comments in support of these project priorities. Lastly, Mr. Hooper noted that he would recommend that the cost estimates be updated and an amendment to the TIP be made at the January meeting. Mr. O’Neal then made a motion granting approval to this course of action; seconded by Ms. Savage and then the motion was unanimously approved.

c. CAC Reappointments – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the role of the Citizens Advisory Committee and then requested consideration to reappoint Mr. Frank Myers and Mr. Jim Van Blarcom for an additional 3 year term. A motion to grant approval was made by Mr. O’Neal; seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved.

d. 2022 Policy Committee Meeting Schedule – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2022 and then requested its approval. Mr. O’Neal then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

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

b. Recognition of Mayor O’Neal – Mr. Hooper presented a plaque recognizing Mayor O’Neal for his years of service to the RFATS Planning Area. Mayor O’Neal then thanked everyone involved in this planning process, and for his time on the RFATS Policy Committee.

c. Next Meeting – Mr. O’Neal noted that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2022.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. O'Neal and seconded by Ms. Savage; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.