



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
February 24, 2023 – 12:00 p.m.
Rock Hill Operations Center – Room 132**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Audette; Brian Carnes; Kathy Pender; Heath Sessions; Christi Cox; Jim Reno; Michael Johnson; Guynn Savage; Bill Harris (P); and John Gettys (P).

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Berry Mattox (SCDOT); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Vic Edwards (SCDOT); Penelope Karagounis (Town of Fort Mill); Josh Meetze (SCDOT); Dennis Marstall (Lancaster County); Jason Johnston (SCDOT); Jimmy Bagley (City of Rock Hill); Leah Youngblood (City of Rock Hill); Chris Stephens (York County); Chris Herrmann (City of Rock Hill); Jim Walden (SCDOT); Cliff Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Steve Allen (CRCOG); Jonathan Buono (York County); Katie Compton (City of Rock Hill); and David Hooper (REATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: John Marks (Herald); Cleopatra Allen (CAC); Frank Myers (CAC); Frieda Price (CAC); Liz Duda (Tega Cay); Luther Dasher (CAC); Stephen Comer (Lancaster County); Dr. David Keely (CAC); Brett Harrelson; Sierra Haynes (WSP); and Bradley Reynolds (WSP).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- a. **Welcome** – Chair Audette called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.
- b. **Citizen Comment Period** – Ms Duda requested consideration of either live streaming meetings or perhaps recording and posting a meeting video for those who would like supplemental material beyond the distribution of meeting minutes.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Audette asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the January 27, 2023 meeting. Mr. Audette then made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; this was seconded by Mr. Carnes and unanimously approved.

3. REPORTS:

- a. **US 521 Corridor Evaluation (Presentation of Draft Final Report)** – Mr. Hooper provided a brief review of the November meeting where progress on this work effort was presented, and then stated that Mr. Reynolds would be reviewing additional refinements to the identified alternative configurations; their individual variables and considerations; supporting cost bands – followed by questions. Mr. Reynolds then summarized key data inputs, and a detailed depiction of expected changes in driver demand across the transportation network. Discussion then followed regarding the expected pedestrian demand level along this corridor and related considerations. Discussion then focused on the comprehensive evaluation and ranking results for the alternative configurations. Discussion concluded with the Hybrid 6 lane widening concept emerging as the most beneficial alternative for augmenting capacity; improving safety and positioning the corridor for an expanded transit presence in future years.

b. 2020 Census (Urbanized Area Designations) – Mr. Hooper summarized key outputs from the 2020 Census; specifically, the latest Urbanized Area Designation; the independent TMA status of RFATS; as well as specific adjustments to the configuration of the designated urbanized areas. Discussion then followed regarding the distribution of the UZA population; and the expected release of more detailed information from the Census Bureau. A follow-up presentation is expected at the March meeting.

4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

a. 2050 LRTP Amendment – Mr. Hooper provided a brief overview of the latest safety information from SCDOT as well as the recommended performance targets for 2023. As a point of reference, Mr. Hooper summarized Transportation Performance Management requirements and the important coordination between the State DOT; MPOs and COGs – in demonstrating progress in a number of National Goal areas as identified by Washington. Mr. Hooper then requested approval for the amendment (contingent on any comments being received) to the LRTP to reflect adoption of the State Safety Targets and authorization of a 30-day public comment period. Ms. Savage then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Carnes and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Administrative Report – Ms. Pender requested that an update on the Celanese / I-77 Interchange Evaluation Study would be useful at the March meeting.

b. Next Meeting – Mr. Audette noted that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2023.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Audette and seconded by Mr. Carnes; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 P.M.