



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES**

**February 27, 2026 – 12:00 p.m.
Rock Hill Operations Center – Room 132**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: John Gettys; Tom Audette; Jose Luis; Heath Sessions; Carmen Miller, Watts Huckabee; Derrick Lindsay; Brian Carnes; Christi Cox ; Guynn Savage; and Ben Hudgins.

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Pleasant (FHWA); Penelope Karagounis (Town of Fort Mill); Jim Walden (SCDOT); Leah Youngblood (City of Rock Hill); Tommy Feemster (SCDOT); Chris Herrmann (City of Rock Hill); Corey Barnes (Lancaster County); David Vehaun (City of Rock Hill); Cary Vargo (Town of Fort Mill); Stephen Allen (CRCOG); Jonathan Buono (York County); Nick Cauthen (City of Tega Cay); Angela Sims (City of Rock Hill); Rিকে Gennie (FHWA); Lindsay Sherbert (FHWA); and David Hooper (REATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Elizabeth Harris (HNTB); Heather Jones; Dr. David Keely (CAC); David Speer (HDR); Stephen Comer; Phil Leazer (KCI); Scot Sibert (STV, Inc); and Scott Couchenour.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- a. **Welcome** – Chair Gettys called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.
- b. **Citizen Comment Period** – Mr. Couchenour noted the need for infrastructure improvements at / near Fort Mill High School; and then stated his intention to run for the York County Council this election cycle..

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gettys asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the January 23, 2026 meeting. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to approve; this was seconded by Ms. Savage and unanimously approved.

3. REPORTS:

- a. **Federal Reauthorization (The BASICS Act)** – Mr. Hooper provided a brief overview of the federal reauthorization process and the emergence of a proposed bill; specifically, the Bridges and Safety Infrastructure for Community Success Act. Discussion then followed regarding the expected timeline to finalization as well as priority emphasis points being considered.

4 PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

- a. **2055 LRTP Amendment (Annual Safety Targets)** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the latest state and planning area safety information. Mr. Hooper then requested adoption of the 2026 Annual Safety Performance Targets for the planning area contingent on any comments received during a 30-day public

comment period. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Savage and unanimously approved.

b. FY 26 – 27 TAP & CMAQ Funding Cycle – Mr. Hooper requested that the Policy Committee consider approval of the Transportation Alternatives and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Funds program schedule and project selection criteria for the FY 2026-2027 funding cycle. Mr. Hooper then outlined the application format, program criteria and schedule and requested the Policy Committee’s approval. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Audette; seconded by Ms. Savage and was unanimously approved.

c. FY 25 - 27 UPWP Amendment – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed a request to amend the UPWP to reflect updated FTA funding amounts. Mr. Hooper then noted that a 30-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Mr. Hooper then requested final approval of this action. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to approve; seconded by Mr. Audette and was unanimously approved.

d. FY 24 - 33 TIP Amendment (Removal of Dave Lyle Blvd Pedestrian Flyover Bridge) – Mr. Hooper briefly noted that a 21-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Mr. Hooper then requested final approval of this action and authorization to submit to SCDOT for processing. Mr. Audette made a motion to approve; seconded by Mr. Luis and unanimously approved

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Administrative Report – Mr. Hooper briefly noted continuing concerns being raised regarding the evaluation process examining potential options for the incorporation of toll lanes from Charlotte to the state line. As a point of reference, it was noted that one consistent group has filed a formal “restraining order” against NCDOT for a designated period of time so that additional discussion can occur.

b. Policy Committee Meeting – Mr. Gettys noted that the next Policy Committee Meeting is slated for Friday, March 27, 2026.

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 12:34 P.M.