



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SUMMARY MINUTES  
September 22, 2023 – 12:00 p.m.  
Rock Hill Operations Center – Room 132**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:**

Patrick Hamilton (York County); Josh Meetze (SCDOT); Penelope Karagounis (Town of Fort Mill); Christopher Stephens (York County); David Vehaun (City of Rock Hill); Michael Moore (York County); Jimmy Bagley (City of Rock Hill); Jason Johnston (SCDOT); Leah Youngblood (City of Rock Hill); Jonathan Buono (York County); Chris Herrmann (City of Rock Hill); Cliff Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Stephen Allen (CRCOG); Scot Sibert (WSP); Bradley Reynolds (WSP); Katie Compton (City of Rock Hill); and David Hooper (RFATS).

**CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT:** John Marks (Herald); Cleopatra Allen (CAC); Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Brett Harrelson (Consultant); Frieda Price (CAC); Zack Zapack (Pennies Sales Tax Commission); Frank Myers (CAC); Liz Duda (City of Tega Cay); Stephen Comer (Lancaster County); Phil Leazer (KCI); Tyler Cupp (WRHI); Eric Dickey (KCI); Merritt King (Consultant); Teresa Thomas (Office of Senator L. Graham); David Kearns (HDR); Chelsea Beauchamp (Fort Mill Resident); Gretchen Benner (Fort Mill Resident); and Dr. David Keeley (CAC).

**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. Benner outlined pedestrian safety concerns between residential developments and school locations, and the need to prioritize supporting infrastructure improvements. Ms. Duda then provided follow-up comments to a presentation she made earlier this year about live streaming meetings. Discussion then followed regarding the range of approaches to public participation and the recognition of how the work of MPOs differs from city / town / county council meetings. Dr. Keeley then provided an overview of the relationship of transportation decision-making and public health; and specifically cited important work being advanced by Wholespire York County.

**2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Audette asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the May 19, 2023 meeting. Mr. Audetter then made a motion to approve; this was seconded by Ms. Pender and unanimously approved.

**3. REPORTS:**

**a. Pennies For Progress Report** – Mr. Hamilton provided a brief overview of existing project priorities and work to prepare thorough cost estimates for those projects selected for the working “short list” as the development of the Pennies V referendum continues towards completion. Ms Savage then asked about the approach to identify regional priorities for the Sales Tax Commission to consider. Discussion then

followed about augmenting the technical and policy review prior to submission for subsequent referendums.

**b. Tega Cay Pedestrian Safety Study** – Mr. Hooper provided an overview of this work effort. Mr. Reynolds then walked through the sources of data; relevant federal and state guidance; and a comprehensive list of site specific recommendations. Discussion then followed regarding the range of applicable variables under different operating conditions that would enhance pedestrian safety; driver awareness; as well as the needs of all users of the transportation system.

**c. Land Use / Transit Sub-Committee Report** – Ms. Youngblood provided an overview of the work of the sub-committee (i.e., coordination partners; concurrent work activity; etc); and then highlighted focus areas advanced this year; specifically, proactively identifying / protecting public right-of-way along key corridors; land use coordination among jurisdictional members supportive of further transit development as well as multi-modal safety. Discussion then briefly followed on next steps and related decision points for subsequent action.

#### **4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Annual Socio-Economic Data Update** – Mr. Sibert reviewed the latest changes in population, employment and school enrollments as well as the trend line of business types across the planning area. Discussion then followed with Mr. Hooper requesting endorsement from the Policy Committee to submit this data for use in the travel demand modeling process. Mr. Audette then made a motion for approval; second provided by Ms. Savage and the motion was unanimously approved.

**b. CAC Reappointment** – Mr. Hooper provided a brief overview of the CAC and requested the reappointment of Mr. Aaron Barnes to a new three year term. A motion was made by Mr. Audette; seconded by Ms. Pender and unanimously approved.

#### **5. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**a. Next Meeting** – Mr. Audette noted that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2023.

#### **6. ADJOURNMENT:**

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Audette and seconded by Ms. Savage; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 P.M.