



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
May 29, 2020 – 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting – Zoom Webinar**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Guynn Savage; David O’Neal; Michael Johnson; Kathy Pender; Jim Reno; John Gettys; Bill Harris; Wes Climer; and Brian Carnes.

ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Jerome Pearson (SCDOT); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Clifton Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Berry Mattox (SCDOT); Diane Dil (York County); Yolanda Morris (FHWA); Susan Britt (City of Tega Cay); Vic Edwards (SCDOT); Penelope Karagounis (Town of Fort Mill); Diane Lackey (SCDOT); Jonathan Buono (York County); Bill Meyer (City of Rock Hill); Steve Allen (Catawba COG); David Hudspeth (York County); Allison Love (SCDOT); Christopher Stephens (York County); Josh Meetze (SCDOT); Dean Hendrix (York County); Chris Herrmann (RFATS); and David Hooper (RFATS).

CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT: Jonathan Guy (Kimley-Horn); Dr. David Keely (CAC); Cleopatra Allen (CAC); Liz Duda (Eat Smart Move More York County); Amy Massey (Kimley-Horn); Phil Leazer (KCI); John Marks (The Herald); Matthew Kreh (WRHI); Al Rogat; Calvin Clifton; Brandon Murr; Dustin Silbereisen; Lisa Cook; Tim Bumfield; David Kerns (HDR); Bill Jordan (AECOM); and Chris Moody (Town of Fort Mill).

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- a. **Welcome** – Chair Savage called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.
- b. **Citizen Comment Period** – Mr. Rogat asked about the status of requested re-striping of I-77 at Gold Hill Road which has been impacted due to ongoing construction for the interchange. Mr. Hooper noted that this item will be brought up with SCDOT.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Savage asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the February 28, 2020 meeting. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; this was seconded by Mr. Harris and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

a. **Pennies for Progress Project Status Report** – Mr. Hamilton provided a brief update on the following projects:

- SC 160 West (Zoar Road to NC State Line) – construction is currently underway. Completion is anticipated for fall 2020. Mr. Hooper explained that NCDOT has identified a widening project for NC 160 (Steele Creek Rd) from the State line to Tryon St – but due to tremendous funding challenges this project has been delayed.
- Hwy 274 / Pole Branch Road – construction is currently underway. Bridge replacements are anticipated to be completed in summer 2020.

- Anderson Road / Cowan Farm Intersection – construction is largely complete and overall project completion is anticipated for summer 2020.
- Gold Hill / I-77 Interchange – construction is currently underway. Mr. Hamilton noted that while work has continued the pace has been slowed due to heavy rain this spring. Completion is anticipated for 2021.
- US 21 / Hwy 51 – ROW acquisition is currently underway. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2021.
- Riverview Road – ROW acquisition is currently underway. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2021.
- Hwy 72 – ROW acquisition is currently underway.
- Hubert Graham Way Ext. – ROW acquisition is currently underway. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2021.
- SC 557 – ROW acquisition is currently underway. Final design plans are being submitted to SCDOT.
- SC 160 East Widening (Springfield Parkway to York County Line) – ROW acquisition is currently underway. Final design plans are being submitted to SCDOT.
- Fort Mill Parkway / Spratt Street Intersection – Final design plans are being submitted to SCDOT. Mr. Hamilton noted that once final plans are approved, the project can be advertised for bid; adding that a bid date is anticipated for fall 2020.
- Galleria Blvd – Final design plans are being submitted to SCDOT. Mr. Hamilton noted that this project has been separated from the Cel-River Phase II Widening project in an effort to expedite.
- Whites Road – resurfacing is planned for 2021. Mr. Hamilton noted that this project was placed on-hold so that construction could be completed on new schools in the area, as well as new capacity improvements could be made to accommodate the school traffic.

Mr. Hamilton then provided a brief update on the York County SIB Application, noting that the revised application was submitted on September 3rd, 2019. The request for funding reflected 3 interchanges: Exit 85, Exit 90, and Exits 82A, B, & C. The total amount of funding requested is \$125.5M. County officials provided clarification on the scope, budget, & funding noted in the application in responses provided to the SIB Board in April and are now awaiting further direction from the SIB Board.

b. SC 160 Interchange Project Update – Mr. Mattox very briefly reviewed the public outreach meeting for this project which was held on January 30th. Mr. Mattox noted there was overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding the project at the meeting; also highlighting that the majority of comments received were concerning the bicycle and pedestrian component of the project and the overall project timeline.

Mr. Mattox then briefly reviewed the alternatives for the project which include a Diverging Diamond Interchange, a SPUI, and a Directional Interchange. The Directional Interchange was overwhelmingly the favorite amongst the public feedback received. Mr. Mattox next reviewed a recommendation that resulted from traffic analysis, which calls for an extension to the project limits to further the widening component past US 21 where lanes would taper off near Horse Road. This extension would reduce delays in both the AM & PM, as well as reducing queues for eastbound travel in the PM peak.

Mr. Mattox then transitioned to review the multi-modal component of the design thus far; noting that a Shared-Use Path has emerged as the preferred approach. Mr. Mattox shared the initial design which shows the Shared-Use Path on the south side of SC 160 connecting to Assembly Drive, a crossing at the interchange, and then the Shared-Use Path continues on the north side of SC 160 to Kingsley and on to US 21. As a point of reference – it was noted that this does reflect the recommendation made for this area in the RFATS Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Plan.

Mr. Mattox next transitioned to discuss the bridge component of this project; noting that the existing bridge on SC 160 will need to be widened to accommodate the directional interchange. Mr. Mattox explained that analysis is being completed on whether or not the existing bridge can be widened or if the bridge will need to be replaced.

Mr. Mattox then reviewed preliminary project cost estimates including bridge modifications; noting that the cost for the Diverging Diamond Interchange has risen to approximately \$45M and the cost for the Directional Interchange has increased to approximately \$73M. Mr. Mattox also reviewed the current project schedule noting that ROW acquisition is anticipated to begin in fall 2020; construction is anticipated to begin in 2022 and end in 2024.

Mr. Hooper then noted that a decision from the Policy Committee will be needed on how they would like to proceed regarding both the configuration and associated budgetary commitment. As a point of reference, Mr Hooper noted the ongoing evaluation of the York County SIB Application and the prioritization of Exit 85 as the highest priority project contained in that application. Lastly, it was noted that hopefully the SIB Board will arrive at a decision point in the near future – given its relationship to this project’s implementation schedule and MPO funding availability more broadly.

Discussion then followed regarding the difficulty of making a decision on this project at this time, without knowing the result of the evaluation of the SIB Application. Mr. Hooper again reiterated that the project management team at SCDOT can remain on the existing project schedule if a decision by the SIB Board has been made by the June Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Johnson then stated that he will contact Mr. Simrill to discuss the possibility of a decision being made by the SIB Board in June.

4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

a. TIP Amendment – Mr. Hooper briefly summarized a TIP amendment reflecting new construction funding in the amount of \$2.28M for the US 521 / Marvin Road intersection improvement project. Mr. Hooper stated that a 21-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Mr. Carnes then made a motion for final approval; seconded by Mr. Johnson and the motion was unanimously approved.

b. TIP Amendment – Mr. Herrmann briefly summarized a TIP amendment reflecting \$830,458 in FTA 5339 funding awarded to the City of Rock Hill in support of the My Ride Transit Service. Mr. Herrmann noted that although no RFATS funding is involved with this change, all federal funding is required to be reflected in the TIP. Mr. Herrmann then stated that a 21-day public comment period has been completed and no comments were received. Mr. Gettys then made a motion to grant final approval; seconded by Mr. Johnson and the motion was unanimously approved.

c. TIP Amendment – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed a TIP amendment reflecting \$100,000 in SCPRT Recreational Trails Program funding awarded to the City of Rock Hill in support of Phase IV of the Catawba River Trail Extension project. Mr. Herrmann noted that although no RFATS funding is involved with this change, all federal funding is required to be reflected in the TIP. Mr. Herrmann then requested preliminary approval and authorization to initiate a 21-day public comment period. Mr. Gettys then made a motion for approval; seconded by Ms. Pender and the motion was unanimously approved.

d. Transportation Alternatives Program – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed the Transportation Alternatives Program and the application submitted by the City of Tega Cay for an improvement at the intersection of Tega Cay Drive and Heron Harbor Drive to implement a Flush Mounted, Pedestrian Activated In-Roadway Warning Light System. Mr. Herrmann highlighted that the application is requesting \$48,400 of TAP funds for FY 20-21. Mr. Herrmann then noted that since the application did not utilize the entire TAP allocation for FY 20-21, the TAP Sub-Committee has recommended that the

remaining \$64,587 be allocated to an application received from the City of Rock Hill. Mr. Herrmann then reviewed the Oakland Ave Streetscape Project, which is an existing project currently reflected in the TIP. Mr. Herrmann then requested that the Policy Committee accept the Sub-Committee's recommendation and authorize a 21-day public comment period to amend the TIP to reflect the FY 20-21 TAP funding. Mr. Carnes then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Johnson and the motion was unanimously approved.

e. TIP Update – Mr. Herrmann briefly reviewed a recommendation from SCDOT to update the Transportation Improvement Program to reflect the same planning period as the State Transportation Improvement Program to cover FY 21-27. Mr. Herrmann then asked the Policy Committee to grant approval to a TIP update, contingent on any comments received during the completion of a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Gettys then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Johnson and the motion was unanimously approved.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

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

b. Next meeting – Ms. Savage noted that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2020. Mr. Hooper then noted that the meeting date may need to be advanced depending on external agency action; Lastly, it was noted that the next meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Pender and seconded by Mr. O'Neal; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 P.M.