



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES**

**Friday, February 25, 2011 - 12:00 p.m. (NOON)
Manchester Meadows Conference Room**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Danny Funderburk; George Sheppard; Ralph Norman; Britt Blackwell; Wes Hayes; Doug Echols; Sarah Nuckles; Kathy Pender; and Donald Rodgers

ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL/MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:

Phil Leazer (York County); Allison Love (York County); Joe Cronin (Fort Mill); Elizabeth Harris (CIN); Mark Lester (SCDOT); Kevin Sheppard (SCDOT); Jessica Hekter (FHWA); John McCarter (SCDOT); Greg Shaw (SCDOT); Brian Klauk (SCDOT); Joy Shealy (SCDOT); Cathy Rice (SCDOT); Jimmy Bagley (CRH); Bill Meyer (CRH); Frances Thomas (CRH); David Hooper (CRH); and Leigh Welch (CRH).

CITIZENS/VISITORS PRESENT: Denise Williams (CAC); Amy Massey (Kimley-Horn); Benjamin Taylor (Kimley-Horn); Hisham Abdelaziz (HDR); Debbie Hayworth (CAC); Frank Myers (CAC); Jim VanBlarcom (CAC); and Mike Fry (CAMPCO)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- A. **Welcome** – Chairman Funderburk called the meeting to order at 12:20 P.M. and asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.
- B. **Citizen Comment Period** – Chairman Funderburk invited visitors and/or citizens who had comments to address the Policy Committee at this time. There were no comments.

2. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Funderburk asked if there were any changes, deletions or comments to the minutes of the January 28, 2011 meeting. Mr. G. Sheppard requested the minutes identify each Mr. Sheppard by first initial and last name. Following note of correction, Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Norman seconded and the minutes were then unanimously approved.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

- A. **York County Sales Tax Projects** – Mr. Leazer noted no significant updates or changes to the Pennies for Progress projects since the January meeting.

Commissioner Nuckles commented on the Pennies for Progress program and SCDOT funding.

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

A. Review of new Catawba River bridge crossing project and RFATS Guideshare- Ms.

Thomas presented information on the proposed new Catawba River bridge crossing. Specifically, Ms. Thomas stated the new crossing is a top priority in the RFATS Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for Guideshare funding. Ms. Thomas then provided an overview of the LRTP process and requirements such as public participation, local and regional coordination with transportation agencies, and project analysis. Additionally, Ms. Thomas stated the Policy Committee approved the RFATS 2035 LRTP in April 2009 which includes a Financially Feasible Plan that identifies revenue projections and key projects for completion during the 25 year horizon period. The financial plan also identifies how Guideshare funding will be spent. Ms. Thomas then identified the projects currently listed in the LRTP and explained that as funding becomes available, these projects could be programmed into the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

Ms. Thomas noted the Guideshare annual allocation will increase from \$2.819 million to \$4.390 million in FY 2011. Commissioner Nuckles then commented on the current formula for funding which is based on the 2000 Census data and an anticipated increase in funding with the release of the 2010 Census data. Ms. Thomas continued with a review of the projected Guideshare funds availability over the next 25 years in the amount of \$95.431 million following the completion of debt service in 2022. Additionally, it was noted that the Catawba River bridge crossing project (\$42.5 million) represents 45% of the projected Guideshare funding. The other projects listed in the Financially Feasible Plan include Intersection / Congestion Management projects (\$10.5 million) and SC 5 Ped / Safety Improvements (\$2.5 million); Unobligated funds totaled \$39.9 million. Commissioner Nuckles commented on the Transportation Bill (SAFETEA –LU) in Congress. Mr. Funderburk inquired about the unobligated funds and the possibility of funding additional projects or debt service. Ms. Thomas explained as the LRTP is updated in 2012-13, other projects can be identified for Guideshare funding.

Ms. Thomas stated the Policy Committee will be asked to consider the approval to move ahead with the feasibility study, previously approved in the TIP, in the amount of \$250,000 as an essential next step for the new Catawba River bridge crossing project. Ms. Thomas also reviewed the purposes and justifications for the new bridge crossing; linkage to other road projects in the area; the preliminary cost estimates of \$42.5 million for the entire project; and possible funding scenarios.

Commissioner Nuckles expressed concern with approaching roads in the project area and inquired if the widening of these roads is included in the feasibility study. Mr. Leazer stated the study will help identify the termini, or end points, of the project that would adequately disperse traffic in the area in addition to identifying the purpose and need of the project.

Mr. Echols thanked staff for the presentation. Mr. Norman requested the proposed scope of service for the feasibility study be distributed to the Policy Committee. Sen. Hayes then spoke in favor of moving forward with the Feasibility Study. Ms. Pender inquired about the timeframe of the update to the guideshare funding formula with the 2010 Census data. Commissioner Nuckles stated a possible timeframe of 1 ½ years. Ms. Pender then requested staff inform the Policy Committee of any changes to widening projects that may affect the area

moving forward. Mr. Blackwell then expressed his concern with the project and future commercial growth in the area.

Mr. Echols made a motion to approve the request for \$250,000 to conduct the feasibility study for the new Catawba River bridge crossing project and requested the addition of the Policy Committee to the distribution list to receive notification / information regarding updates / deliverables of the feasibility study. Mr. G. Sheppard seconded. Commissioner Nuckles then commented on possible future funding options for the Dave Lyle Boulevard extension project. Sen. Hayes inquired about the three funding scenarios provided in the powerpoint presentation. These included:

Scenario One – Fund river crossing feasibility study

Scenario Two – Fund river crossing feasibility study and SC 5 ped/safety improvements

Scenario Three – Fund feasibility study, SC 5 ped/safety improvements and congestion management projects (TBD)

Commissioner Nuckles then proposed an amendment to the motion on the floor to approve the request for \$250,000 to conduct the feasibility study and fund the SC 5 ped/safety improvements; amend the TIP to reduce the amount reflected for the feasibility study from \$1,000,000 to \$250,000; and provide notification to the Policy Committee with information related to the updates/ deliverables of the feasibility study. Sen. Hayes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

5. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:

A. FY 10-11 CMAQ Projects – Mr. Hooper presented a request for final approval to amend the FY 09-15 TIP to add \$1,642,000 in federal funds for the following FY 10-11 CMAQ projects:

- 1) City of Rock Hill – Dave Lyle Blvd / 177 SB Exit Ramp / Chamberside Dr (Phase II) - \$500,000.00
- 2) City of Rock Hill – Riverview / Riverchase Intersection Area (Phase II) - \$400,000.00
- 3) City of Rock Hill - Traffic Signal System Upgrades (Phase III) - \$742,000.00

Mr. Hooper noted one public comment was received in support of the amendment.

Ms. Pender made a motion for final approval to amend the FY 09-15 TIP to add \$1,642,000 in federal funds for the FY 10-11 CMAQ projects. Mr. Norman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B. CMAQ and Transportation Enhancement Programs (TEP) – Mr. Hooper noted the availability of \$165,000 in TEP funds and \$1.2 million in CMAQ funds for the RFATS area. That said, Mr. Hooper then presented a request for endorsement of FY 11-12 CMAQ and Transportation Enhancement grant schedules, application process and program criteria. Mr. Hooper also requested the appointment of a York County representative to the sub-committee which reviews the submitted TEP and CMAQ applications.

Mr. G. Sheppard made a motion to endorse the FY 11-12 CMAQ and TEP grant schedules, application process and program criteria. Sen. Hayes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- C. Transportation Conformity Determination Report Amendment** - Ms. Thomas presented background information regarding the 2009 Transportation Conformity Determination report and stated the Tega Cay Gold Hill Connector was omitted during the initial modeling and emissions analysis. Ms. Thomas then presented a request for consideration of an amendment to the 2009 Transportation Conformity Determination to include the Tega Cay Gold Hill Connector and authorize a 30-day public comment period.

Mr. G. Sheppard made a motion to amend the 2009 Transportation Conformity Determination to add the Tega Cay Gold Hill Connector and authorize a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Rodgers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Other Business:

- A.** Charlotte Regional Alliance for Transportation Executive Committee Meeting – Ms. Thomas stated RFATS will host the annual CRAFT Executive Committee Meeting scheduled on March 31, 2011 at the Baxter Hood Center with a dinner following the program. All members of the Policy Committee are invited to attend. Ms. Thomas went on to note the speakers as Delania Hardy, Executive Director – AMPO; Michael Covington, Director – SCDOT Office of Administration; and Susan Howard, Federal Legislative Programs Coordinator – NCDOT and stated invitations will be mailed in the following two weeks.
- B.** Mr. Echols requested clarification regarding the enhancements to the US 21 bridge. Specifically, Mr. Echols requested a status update on the delay regarding the guidelines / specifications for enhancements. Mr. Klauk noted the enhancements are not in jeopardy and SCDOT is working to accommodate the designs in the safest manner possible. Additionally, Mr. Klauk noted the coordination between SCDOT and the City of Rock Hill staff on the lighting design which incorporates the lighting pedestals. Mr. Echols stated the City of Rock Hill will continue to work in conjunction with SCDOT to move this project forward.
- C.** Commissioner Nuckles commented on the improvements to Gold Hill Road / Hwy 160 and expressed concern regarding the delays of the project. Mr. Klauk stated SCDOT administers the project and noted surveys are now complete; ROW acquisition is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2012; and construction is scheduled to begin in the fourth quarter of 2012. Commissioner Nuckles requested SCDOT review the project schedule for the possibility of an earlier completion date.

Ms. Pender also expressed continued concern for the Mt Gallant / Hwy 161 intersection improvement project delays and requested SCDOT review the project schedule for the possibility of an earlier completion date.

- C.** Next regular meeting – March 25, 2011

7. Adjournment:

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M.