



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SUMMARY MINUTES**

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

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Danny Funderburk; Wes Hayes; Jim Reno; David Bowman; Sarah Nuckles; and Kathy Pender

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

Joe Cronin (Fort Mill); Kevin Sheppard (SCDOT); Randall Young (SCDOT); Jessica Hekter (FHWA); John McCarter (SCDOT); Greg Shaw (SCDOT); Roger Sears (SCDOT); Joy Shealy (SCDOT); David Vahaun (CRH); Jimmy Bagley (CRH); Melinda Mathias (SCDHEC); Leslie Coolidge (SCDHEC); Wendy Bell (CRCOG); Frances Thomas (CRH); David Hooper (CRH); and Leigh Welch (CRH).

**CITIZENS/VISITORS PRESENT:** Amy Massey (Kimley-Horn); Hisham Abdelaziz (HDR); Debbie Hayworth (CAC); Fred Glickman (CAC); Frank Myers (CAC); Jim VanBlarcom (CAC); Larry Huntley (Citizen); and Mark Ullmer (Citizen)

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

**A. Welcome** – Chairman Funderburk called the meeting to order at 12:20 P.M.

**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 February 25, 2011 meeting. Hearing no comments, Sen. Hayes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Pender seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS:**

**A. York County Sales Tax Projects** – In Mr. Leazer's absence, Chairman Funderburk noted the inclusion of the Pennies for Progress updates in the agenda packet and called for any questions or comments. Mr. Bowman noted a correction regarding a portion of project 03-009; specifically, gravel road paving on Bookout Road is not complete at this time.

**B. CMAQ and Transportation Enhancements Projects Quarterly Report** – Mr. Hooper presented information on the TEP and CMAQ projects. Specifically, there are 7 TEP projects- 5 active and 2 pending SCDOT technical review.

Mr. Hooper then provided an update on the 13 CMAQ projects – 2 pending contract issuance and 11 active.

Ms. Pender noted her concern with the schedule of the Mt. Gallant / Celanese Intersection Improvement project.

**C. CATS Express Bus Services Quarterly Report** – Mr. Hooper presented an update on the 82X and 78X bus services. Specifically, Mr. Hooper stated the 82X is experiencing a positive trend in ridership; in February, ridership increased 70%. Mr. Hooper then noted a struggle to maintain a dedicated ridership for the 78X route and stated staff continues the planning efforts of a proposed restructure of the route along the US 21 corridor. Mr. Hooper noted coordination with CATS and the upcoming proposed schedule of public notices/ meetings required for a possible start-up date of June 6, 2011.

Commissioner Nuckles commented on both the relationship of gas prices to increased use of transit services and planning for a BRT corridor in Charlotte along Hwy 74.

**D. SCDOT Managed Projects Report** – Mr. Randall Young, SCDOT Regional Production Manager for the RFATS area, gave the report. Mr. Young first introduced Mr. Sears with the SCDOT Transportation Enhancement Program office. Mr. Young then provided an update on several projects in the RFATS area. Specifically, Mr. Young noted the construction of the new US 21 bridge is moving forward and the lighting plan has been tentatively approved as part of the bridge enhancements. Mr. Young also stated the SC 5 bridge project is moving forward and erosion control measures are being established in the area.

Mr. Young then provided updates to CMAQ projects. Specifically, the ROW acquisition for the Springhill Farm Rd. project is scheduled for the summer of 2011. A safety project on Zoar Rd. has been added to the SC160 / Gold Hill Rd project. Mr. Young then noted the project's progression; the use of consultants for the design phase; and the addition of safety funds to this project. Commissioner Nuckles requested the public be updated on the progress of this project.

Mr. Young then stated the ROW plans for the Mt. Gallant/ Celanese Rd. intersection project have been received and the review has been completed. The project is scheduled to be out for bid in the summer of 2011. Mr. Young also noted that along with the Mt. Gallant / Celanese project, the Anderson / Springsteen / Princeton Rd. project is following the same progression. Specifically, surveys are complete; preliminary design has been initiated; ROW is scheduled for Fall 2011; and construction is scheduled to begin in early 2012. Ms. Pender again expressed concern with the project schedule / progress and requested the Mt. Gallant / Celanese Rd. project be expedited if possible. Mr. Reno also commented on the public's concern with the extended schedule of this project. Mr. Young stated projects can be expedited during the ROW and design phase and then noted SCDOT is available to speak to the concerns of the public if needed.

Ms. Pender then inquired about the status of the Riverview / Riverchase intersection project. Ms. Shealy stated Phase I and II were combined to expedite the project; Phase II has been added to the TIP; and the City of Rock Hill will act as LPA on the design element only. Mr. Young again noted SCDOT is actively progressing projects in the RFATS area . Commissioner Nuckles thanked Mr. Young and staff for their work.

#### **4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

**A. 1997 Ozone Standard Redesignation Request / Maintenance Plan**- Ms. Melinda Mathias with SC-DHEC updated the Policy Committee on the 1997 Ozone Standard Redesignation Demonstration and Maintenance Plan. Specifically, Ms. Mathias reviewed the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS and the nonattainment designation of a portion of York County (RFATS MPO) based on the monitoring data from 2001-2003. Ms. Mathias noted the York County monitor did not exceed the standard (0.084 ppm) but several monitors in the NC portion of the Metrolina area exceeded the standard. Ms. Mathias went on to state the 2008-2010 design values at all monitors in the Metrolina Nonattainment Area demonstrate compliance with the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. The projected emissions inventories are currently being reviewed and projected emissions through 2022 are lower. This projection of maintenance demonstration will allow for the submission of Redesignation Demonstration and Maintenance Plan. It was also noted that the nonattainment designation subjected the RFATS MPO to Transportation Conformity.

Ms. Mathias then explained the MVEB (Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget) is the portion of total allowable emissions in the SIP (State Implementation Plan) that is allocated to on-road mobile sources and is further noted as the level of on-road emissions that an area can have and still meet the air quality goals. Ms. Mathias went on to note the Interagency Consultation process and the establishment of a MVEB for 2013 and 2022.

Ms. Mathias discussed the timeline for the completion of the redesignation of the RFATS area to attainment for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS which is expected to occur in December 2012. Furthermore, Ms. Mathias stated in 2008, the EPA strengthened the 8-hour Ozone NAAQS to 0.075 ppm. Then, in January 2010, a new standard of 0.060-0.070 ppm was proposed which has been delayed. Finally, an announcement of the final 8-hour ozone standard is expected by EPA in July 2011. Given this timeline, RFATS can submit proposed nonattainment boundaries in 2012 and EPA will designate areas in 2013.

Commissioner Nuckles inquired about the change in standards / timeline and RFATS redesignation of attainment and its impact on CMAQ funding. Ms. Mathias commented on implementation rules. Ms. Hekter stated RFATS will still be designated as a maintenance area and still be eligible for CMAQ funding. Ms. Mathias added areas must show maintenance for 10 years and 10 years past the redesignation of attainment. Also discussed were the proposed boundaries for York County only and the request for a separate from Charlotte, NC nonattainment area for RFATS. Ms. Thomas noted no action was taken on this 2008 request due to the delay of the announcement of the new standard.

## **5. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. Transportation Conformity Determination Report Amendment** - Ms. Thomas presented a request for final approval of an amendment to the 2009 Transportation Conformity Determination to include the Tega Cay- Gold Hill Connector and to affirm the LRTP and TIP meet the SAFETEA-LU and Clean Air Act requirements. Ms. Thomas stated no public comments were received.

Sen. Hayes made a motion to approve the amendment to the 2009 Transportation Conformity Determination to add the Tega Cay Gold Hill Connector and conforming LRTP resolution. Commissioner Nuckles seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- B. TIP Amendment** – Ms. Thomas presented a request for approval to amend the FY 09-15 TIP to add federal earmark funding in the amount of \$666,900 to the Tega Cay-Gold Hill Connector project and authorize a 15-day public comment period. Ms. Thomas also noted the request for final approval contingent upon the public comment period.

Mr. Bowman made a motion to amend the TIP to add \$666,900 in federal earmark funding; authorize a 15-day public comment period; and for final approval contingent upon the public comment period. Ms. Pender seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- C. TIP Amendment** – Ms. Thomas presented a request to amend the FY 09-15 TIP to change Guideshare funding for the Catawba River crossing feasibility study to \$250,000; add SC5 Ped/Bike Safety improvements project funding in the amount of \$2.5 million; and authorize a 15-day public comment period.

Commissioner Nuckles made a motion to amend the TIP to change the Guideshare funding to \$250,000 for the Catawba River crossing feasibility study; add the \$2.5 million SC 5 Ped/Bike Safety improvements project; and authorize a 15-day public comment period. Sen. Hayes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bowman inquired if the \$2.5 million for the SC 5 Ped/Bike Safety improvements project reflected the estimated cost or the actual expenditures of the project. Ms. Thomas stated the amount reflects the estimated project cost.

- D. TIP Amendment** – Mr. Hooper presented a request to consider approval to amend the FY 09-15 TIP to reallocate FY 10-11 CMAQ funds for the Exit 90 improvements projects in the amount of \$945,000 to the Springhill Farm road project and authorize a 15-day public comment period.

Mr. Bowman made a motion for preliminary approval to amend the TIP to reallocate \$945,000 from the Exit 90 intersection improvements project to the Springhill Farm Rd. project and authorize a 15-day public comment period. Sen. Hayes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- E. FY 11-12 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** - Ms. Thomas stated the four areas of focus for the FY 11-12 UPWP are :

- 1) 10 year major update to the Metrolina Regional Model
- 2) Managing the Catawba River crossing feasibility study
- 3) Initiating the LRTP update in early 2012
- 4) Work associated with new air quality standards

Ms. Thomas then requested preliminary approval of the draft FY 11-12 UPWP and authorize a 30-day public comment period.

Commissioner Nuckles made a motion for preliminary approval of the FY 11-12 UPWP and authorize a 30-day public comment period. Sen. Hayes 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 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 that RSVPs are requested by March 28, 2011.

- B. Ms. Thomas stated the next meeting is scheduled during the Memorial Day holiday weekend and inquired if the meeting should be rescheduled or remain on May 27, 2011. Ms. Pender noted her unavailability for the meeting. Hearing no other responses or objections, Mr. Funderburk stated the meeting will be held as scheduled.
- C. Mr. Bowman inquired if an electronic copy of the agenda packet is available. Ms. Thomas stated the agenda packet is available electronically and distributed to the Study Team and CAC for printing and reference at the meetings. Ms. Thomas noted that any Policy Committee member interested in receiving the agenda packet electronically can be added to the distribution list.
- D. Next regular meeting – May 27, 2011

7. **Adjournment:**

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