



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SUMMARY MINUTES  
April 26, 2013 - 12:00 p.m. (NOON)  
Rock Hill Operations Center – Room 132**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Doug Echols; Bill Harris; Danny Funderburk; George Sheppard; Ralph Norman; Wes Hayes; Brian Carnes; Britt Blackwell; Michael Johnson

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

Vic Edwards (SCDOT); Phil Leazer (York County); Allison Love (York County); David Vehaun (Rock Hill); Steve Willis (Lancaster County); Jessica Hekter (FHWA); Bill Meyer (Rock Hill); Elizabeth Harris (Catawba Nation); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Wendy Bell (CRCOG); Kevin Sheppard (SCDOT); Brian Klauk (SCDOT); Jimmy Bagley (Rock Hill); Penelope Karagounis (Lancaster County); Joy Shealy (SCDOT); Susan Britt (Tega Cay); Joe Cronin (Fort Mill); Patrick Hamilton (York County); Jim Frierson (SCDOT); Chuck Chorak (Rock Hill); William Long (REATS); and David Hooper (REATS).

**CITIZENS/VISITORS PRESENT:** Jonathan Guy (Kimley-Horn); Frank Myers (CAC); Luther Dasher (CAC); Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Mike Fry (CAMPO)

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

- a. **Welcome** – Chairman Echols called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M. and welcomed everyone in attendance.
- b. **Citizen Comment Period** – Mr. Echols asked if there were any citizen comments. There were no comments.

**2. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Echols asked for any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the March 22, 2013 meeting. Hearing no comments, Mr. Sheppard made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Blackwell seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**3. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS:**

- a. **Long Range Transportation Plan Update** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the core components of the LRTP & TIP Update as well as the conformity analysis process. Items specifically noted included a review of network performance, air quality testing results, the new 20% road resurfacing requirement (which includes SCDOT's announced flexibility to undertake intersection improvements) as well as the six projects incorporated into the Cost Constrained section of the LRTP. Mr. Guy then reviewed each project in detail; and then Mr. Hooper summarized the cumulative cost range for completion of all the projects at \$49.9 million to \$62.4 million.

With this in mind, Mr. Hooper then requested that the Policy Committee review and grant preliminary approval to the draft 2035 LRTP Update, FY 14-19 TIP and Conformity Analysis Report; authorize a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing, which will occur on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> in preparation for our next meeting. Mr. Norman then asked a question about the process for addressing unexpected and/or newly emerged needs that might warrant consideration after a long range plan has been adopted. In response, Mr. Hooper noted that the ability to amend our plan to accommodate such circumstances is something that is available, but that such an action would involve meeting all applicable federal and state requirements.

Mr. Echols then mentioned that the continuing development on the eastern side of I-77 at Dave Lyle Boulevard, does represent an ongoing area of concern as we take account of the growth pressures around the Galleria Area; and that, the identified but currently unfunded flyover project from John Ross Parkway, is one project that does warrant active monitoring and planning. As a point of reference, it was noted that this project is currently estimated at \$15 million. Mr. Echols then asked about the potential for funding availability, based on the identified cost bands for the projects in the Cost Constrained Plan (i.e., if they came in closer to the lower end of the total range at \$49.9 million), then might there be some funding flexibility available?

Ms. Hekter then mentioned that when fiscal constraint with cost bands is utilized, FHWA does require that the projects be constrained to the 70<sup>th</sup> percent of that band. Mr. Echols asked about the possibility of an extension of the Pennies for Progress program as one option that could help fund some portion of these projects. In response, Mr. Leazer stated that there has been some discussion to this effect ó that a fourth Pennies round might be able to cover 50% to 60% of these projects ó thus freeing up funds for additional projects like the flyover bridge. Mr. Leazer added that there have been discussions of a flyover at John Ross Parkway and that it is considered a project that would be well-received by the public.

Mr. Norman agreed with Mr. Echols that this is important because there is \$20 to \$50 million of development within the upcoming 24 to 36 months. Mr. Echols then asked Mr. Hooper to communicate with our federal and state partners about what is needed; and that, a summary report at the September meeting would be helpful. Mr. Echols then asked for a motion. Mr. Hayes made a motion to give preliminary approval to the 2035 LRTP Update, the FY 2014-2019 TIP, and the Conformity Analysis report, to initiate a 30-day public comment period, and to authorize a public hearing. Mr. Sheppard seconded and all elements were unanimously approved.

**b. TIP Amendment** ó Ms. Love stated that RFATS has received notice that the FY 2012-2013 CMAQ projects have been reviewed by FHWA and SCDOT, and are ready to be added to the FY 13-18 TIP. The projects include the Gold Hill Road / I-77 interchange area improvements, the Side Track Extension project, and the Clebourne / N. White Street intersection improvement project. Ms. Love said that final approval of the amendment to the TIP to reflect these projects is needed. Mr. Echols noted that a committee, composed of neighborhood residents, downtown business representatives, and Council of Neighborhood Association representatives, studied the Side Track Extension project for a year and supports this project. Mr. Echols asked for a motion. Mr. Funderburk made a motion to approve the TIP amendment. Mr. Sheppard seconded and the amendment was unanimously approved.

**c. TIP Amendment** – Ms. Love indicated that York County Disability and Special Needs as well as York Tech have been awarded federal grant funding from the Federal Transit Administration; and that, these funds do need to be reflected in the FY 13-18 TIP.

Specifically, these funds come from FTA's Section 5310 and 5316 programs. In particular, it was noted that YCDSN (\$50,000) will be acquiring a service vehicle and that York Tech (\$28,800) will be utilizing these funds for operating assistance in FY 13-14. With this in mind, Ms. Love requested that the Policy Committee grant preliminary approval and authorize a 15-day public comment period. Mr. Echols asked for a motion. Mr. Funderburk made a motion to approve the TIP amendment. Mr. Carnes seconded and it was unanimously approved.

**d. FY 13-14 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** – Mr. Hooper highlighted major tasks to be initiated in the next fiscal year; specifically, implementation of the 2035 LRTP, a feasibility study assessing the basis for a new interchange at Coltharp Road, continuing work to implement the new 20% road resurfacing requirement, the Transportation Alternatives Program, as well as the CMAQ Program. Mr. Hooper asked for preliminary approval of the draft UPWP and authorization of a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Echols then asked for a motion. Mr. Sheppard made a motion to grant preliminary approval of the UPWP and initiation of a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Funderburk seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

**e. PL Intergovernmental Agreement** – Mr. Hooper briefly summarized the intergovernmental agreement between RFATS and SCDOT that outlines each agency's respective roles and responsibilities. Mr. Hooper noted that an existing agreement is in place that outlines the City of Rock Hill's role as Administrative and Fiscal Agent for RFATS; and that, along with the passage of MAP-21 (i.e., the new federal transportation bill which took effect on October 1, 2012), the agreement is being updated to reflect new requirements. In response to a question from Mr. Blackwell regarding notable changes, Mr. Hooper mentioned as one example, the increased emphasis on performance monitoring and some of the specific work activities associated with this aspect of the transportation planning process. Mr. Hooper then asked for approval of the updated PL Agreement and authorization to submit to SCDOT. Mr. Echols asked for a motion. Mr. Sheppard made a motion to approve the new PL Agreement. Mr. Hayes seconded and it was unanimously approved.

#### **4. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**b. Next Regular Meeting** – Mr. Echols announced that the next regular meeting will be May 31, 2013

**b. Other Items** – Mr. Hooper briefly summarized the work of the regional CONNECT initiative, which is a 14-county effort being led by the Centralina and Catawba Regional Councils of Government. With this in mind, Mr. Hooper noted that there is an upcoming meeting titled "Reality Check" that is slated for Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> in Charlotte that will include elected officials, staff, and the general public in completing a regional growth exercise. Mr. Hooper stated that if you have an interest in participating, to please visit the Connect website for more information and be sure to submit your request no later than May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Hooper also noted that the May 31st meeting will include video footage of peak-period traffic conditions on Gold Hill Road for consideration when discussing the LRTP and the I-77 interchange project.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:46 P.M.