

MINUTES OF THE
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION MEETING
HELD JUNE 25, 2014
AT 4 P.M.

The Metropolitan Planning Organization met on June 25, 2014, at 4 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, Huntsville, Alabama, there being present:

Metropolitan Planning Organization Members Present:

Mr. Dale Strong, Chairman	Chairman, Madison County Commission
Mayor Tommy Battle	City of Huntsville
Mayor Troy Trulock	City of Madison
Mayor Mary Caudle	Town of Triana
Mr. John Olshefski	Huntsville City Council
Mr. Johnny L. Harris	ALDOT/Guntersville

Metropolitan Planning Organization Members Absent:

Mayor Tony Craig	Town of Owens Cross Roads
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Staff Members Present:

Ms. Tanjie Kling	Huntsville Planning Division
Mr. James Moore	Huntsville Planning Division
Mr. James Vandiver	Huntsville Planning Division
Mr. Dennis Madsen	Huntsville Planning Division
Ms. Tracy Meshberg	Huntsville Planning Division

Chairman Strong called the meeting to order.

Chairman Strong stated that the first item on the agenda was approval of the minutes of the prior meeting.

The minutes of the MPO meeting held on April 23, 2014, were approved as submitted.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda was a resolution adopting the Draft Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program.

Chairman Strong recognized Mr. James Moore for a presentation concerning the above resolution.

Mr. Moore made a PowerPoint presentation. He stated that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) or Business Plan was updated every year to provide citizens and stakeholders the necessary transparency to see how Federal and State Transportation planning dollars were expended by the Huntsville MPO and the Alabama Department of Transportation in order to meet Federal Metropolitan Planning requirements.

Mr. Moore stated that the UPWP was developed by the MPO staff in consultation with partner agencies and input from local citizens and stakeholders, and that the documents might be amended to account for changes in funding or project needs.

Mr. Moore stated that the Huntsville MPO's current UPWP, adopted in September 2013, extended through September 30, 2014. He stated that, as adopted, the program funded nearly 500,000 dollars' worth of planning activities and studies for the Huntsville MPO region.

Mr. Moore stated that the UPWP listed the metropolitan area's annual program of over 20 planning tasks, including Data Collection, Bike/Pedestrian Planning, and Public Participation. He continued that it also identified sources of funding, schedules, and responsible agencies, such as FHWA and ALDOT. He stated that it coordinated the planning undertaken by all participants in the regional process and laid out the MPO's Strategic Plan for the upcoming Fiscal Year.

Chairman Strong asked if there were any questions concerning this resolution.

There was no response.

Mr. Olshefski read and introduced a resolution adopting the Draft Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 28-14)

Mr. Olshefski moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Mayor Caudle.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda concerned the Transportation Improvement Program and Comprehensive Project Management System. He stated that the resolution would amend the Transit Program Section in the adopted FY 2012-2015 TIP to add funds and program funds in the Comprehensive Project Management System for Huntsville Public

Transit's proposed grant allocations for Fiscal Years 2015-2017 for the City of Huntsville.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Tanjie Kling of the MPO staff.

Ms. Kling made a PowerPoint presentation. She stated that Huntsville Public Transit had requested that the grant allocations for Fiscal Year 2015 be added to the Transportation Improvement Program. She continued that this was for Capital and eligible Operating Expenses. She stated that the highlights of some of these expenditures for FY 2015 would be the purchase of two shuttle buses and three Handi-Ride vehicles, in the amount of \$710,000. She stated that there would be associated transit improvements to be used to replace and install five passenger shelters, with a total allocation of \$28,969.

Ms. Kling stated that the bottom-line grant allocation for FY 2015 was approximately \$4,345,669, with the FTA amount being approximately \$2.76 million and the City of Huntsville amount being \$1.5 million.

Ms. Kling stated that, additionally, Huntsville Public Transit wanted to add transit funds into the State's Comprehensive Project Management System for FY 2016 and 2017, also for Capital and eligible Operating Expenses. She stated that for FY 2016, the total amount for these grant allocations for all the programs was \$4.458 million, with the Federal Transit Administration's share being \$2.84 million and the City

of Huntsville's share being \$1.6 million. She stated that for FY 2017, the grand total amount of the Transit Grant expected was \$4.489 million, with an FTA allocation of \$2.85 million, and the City of Huntsville's share being \$1.6 million.

Mayor Trulock read and introduced a resolution amending the Transit Projects Section in the Adopted TIP to add funds for Huntsville Public Transit, for FY 2015, in the amount of \$4,345,669, with an FTA amount of \$2,765,174, and a Local amount of \$1,581,495; for FY 2016, in an amount of \$4,458,658, with an FTA amount of \$2,840,318, and a Local amount of \$1,618,340; and FY 2017, in an amount of \$4,489,685, with an FTA amount of \$2,857,873, and a Local amount of \$1,631,812, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 29-14)

Mayor Trulock moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Mr. Olshefski.

Chairman Strong asked if there was any further discussion of this matter.

There was no response.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda concerned the Transportation Improvement Program and was a resolution amending the Transit Program Section in the adopted FY 2012-2015 TIP to add funds for Madison County Transit's

proposed grant allocations for Fiscal Year 2015 for Madison County.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Kling.

Ms. Kling stated that this resolution would modify the Federal Transit Allocation for Madison County's TRAM program for Fiscal Year 2015, as follows: Operating Assistance, at a total cost of \$344,890, with the Federal amount being \$137,956 and with Madison County and Other Revenues, obtained from fares and contracts, paying a majority of the cost, in the amount of \$206,934. She continued that for Administration Assistance, the grant allocation was \$60,135, and the Transit Capital Allocation was \$110,000, with the funds to be used to purchase two replacement vehicles for the County.

Councilman Olshefski read and introduced a resolution amending the Transit Projects Section in the adopted FY 2012-2015 TIP to add the following funding for Madison County Transit for Fiscal Year 2015: Project No. 100057034, Section 5311, Madison County Transit Operating Assistance, at a total cost of \$344,890, with a cost distribution of Federal, \$137,956, and Madison County and Other Revenue, \$206,934; Project No. 100057035, Section 5311, Madison County Transit Administration Assistance, at a total cost of \$60,135, with a cost distribution of Federal, \$48,108, and Madison County, \$12,027; and Project No. 100057033, Section 5311, Madison County Transit Capital, at a total cost of \$110,000, with a cost distribution of Federal, \$88,000, and Madison County,

\$22,000, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 30-14)

Mr. Olshefski moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Mayor Caudle.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda concerned the Comprehensive Project Management System and was a resolution deleting future funds in the Comprehensive Project Management System for the following project: Jeff Road from Capshaw Road to Alabama Highway 53 for Madison County.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Kling.

Ms. Kling stated that a few years prior, the MPO had requested and approved a project for Jeff Road from Capshaw Road to Alabama Highway 53 and that the project had been programmed into the State's Comprehensive Project Management System for completion. She continued that in the meantime, Madison County had applied for an ATRIP grant to construct the portion of that project on Jeff Road from Capshaw Road to Douglass Road. She stated that this grant had been awarded, and that the project was added to the TIP at the prior MPO meeting.

Ms. Kling stated that, additionally, at that meeting, the remaining phase of the Jeff Road project had been added, to complete the Jeff Road corridor from Douglass Road to Alabama

Highway 53. She stated that since the Jeff Road project had been split into two separate projects, two different phases, at the prior meeting, and they were added to the appropriate plans and appropriately scheduled, and the State still had the Jeff Road project from Capshaw Road to Alabama Highway 53 scheduled on their books, this would basically take away the right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation, and construction funds for the Jeff Road project from Capshaw Road to Alabama Highway 53, because there was some duplicative funding that was being shown at this time. She continued that this would straighten up the books on this matter.

Mr. Olshefski read and introduced a resolution requesting the Alabama Department of Transportation to delete the following project: Jeff Road (CR-19), additional lanes from 0.8 Mile South of CR-28 (Capshaw Road) to SR-53, as follows: to delete Project No. 100059741, Phase RW, at a total cost of \$1,800,000, for Fiscal Year 2025; to delete Project No. 100059742, Phase UT, at a total cost of \$759,000, for Fiscal Year 2025; and to delete 100059743, Phase CN, at a total cost of \$17,500,000, for Fiscal Year 2026, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 31-14)

Mr. Olshefski moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Mayor Trulock.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda concerned the Comprehensive Project Management System, a resolution to delete right-of-way funds in the Comprehensive Project Management System for the Blake Bottom Road overpass at Research Park Boulevard for the following Project: Blake Bottom Road Overpass at Research Park Boulevard for Madison County.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Kling.

Ms. Kling stated that this action would take care of some financial housekeeping for the Blake Bottom Road project. She continued that several years prior, the Blake Bottom Road project had been added to the TIP and that the State had programmed its right-of-way for Fiscal Year 2018. She stated that in the meantime, Madison County had been awarded an ATRIP grant for the construction of the Blake Bottom Road project, with a construction schedule before FY 2018. She stated that at the present time, there was not enough MPO-controlled money or Surface Transportation Attributable Funds to move the right-of-way acquisition up within the next three years.

Ms. Kling stated that the County had indicated that they would like to pay for the right-of-way cost for this ATRIP project so that it could progress without delay. She stated that the resolution before the MPO would delete the Federal funds for the right-of-way phase scheduled for FY 2018, as construction was currently scheduled for FY 2015. She continued that this would allow the County to pay for the

right-of-way for this project.

Mr. Olshefski read and introduced a resolution requesting the Alabama Department of Transportation to delete the project phase: Blake Bottom Road overpass at Research Park Boulevard, Right-of-Way, in its Comprehensive Project Management System, as follows: to delete Project No. 100009061, Phase RW, at a total cost of \$1,646,772, for Fiscal Year 2018, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 32-14)

Mr. Olshefski moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Mayor Battle.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda concerned Huntsville Public Transit and was a resolution designating the City of Huntsville as the Designated Recipient of FTA Section 5307 Grant Funds, Urbanized Area Formulas Program, for the Huntsville Urbanized Area.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Kling.

Ms. Kling stated that Mr. Tommy Brown of Huntsville Public Transit was present at the meeting and would address this issue.

Mr. Brown stated that the resolution would authorize them to submit to the Governor that the City of Huntsville be designated as the recipient of the funds. He stated that the City had been the designated recipient since 1981. He

continued that the paperwork concerning this at the FTA had been misplaced, and that this would authorize a request to the Governor to re-designate the City of Huntsville as the recipient so that these funds could be received.

Mr. Olshefski read and introduced a resolution recommending the City of Huntsville, Alabama, to the Governor of the State of Alabama, as the Designated Recipient of the FTA Section 5307 Program Funds for the Huntsville Urbanized Area, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 33-14)

Mr. Olshefski moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Mayor Trulock.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda concerned the status of the Year 2040 Transportation Plan.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Kling.

Ms. Kling stated that the staff was working toward the completion of the development of the Year 2040 Transportation Plan update, which she noted would be due to the State and the Federal Highway Administration by March of 2015. She stated that they had developed a final list of projects and the cost estimates for the projects. She stated that they were in the process of working with Atkins North America, who would be performing all the modeling for the plan. She continued that

Atkins was currently working on the Auburn/Opelika MPO's Long-Range Transportation Plan and that they had also been working for the Birmingham MPO, to get them ready for their Long-Range Transportation Plan, as well.

Ms. Kling stated that they would be contacting all the jurisdictions and all the staff members during the Plan update for any other needed information.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda was Public Comments. He asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to address the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

There was no response.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda was Other Business. He asked Ms. Kling if she had any comment at this time.

Ms. Kling replied in the negative.

Mayor Trulock stated that he would like to recognize the young people in attendance at the meeting and welcomed them.

Chairman Strong introduced Whitney Strong, Harrison Strong, and Braeden Twilley.

Chairman Strong asked that the record reflect that members of the MPO in attendance at the meeting were Mr. Olshefski, Mayor Caudle, Mayor Trulock, Mayor Battle, Mr. Harris, and himself.

Chairman Strong asked if there was any other business to come before the MPO.

There was no response.

Chairman Strong stated that the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman,
Metropolitan Planning Organization

ATTEST:

Secretary,
Metropolitan Planning Organization