

**TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE
HUNTSVILLE AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
MINUTES**

Regular Meeting - August 29, 2018 - 3:30 p.m.

**City Council Chambers, Municipal Building
Huntsville, Alabama**

Committee Members Present:

Mr. Dennis Madsen	City of Huntsville, Manager of Urban and Long-Range Planning
Mr. James Moore	City of Huntsville Planning Division
Mr. Shane Davis	City of Huntsville, Director of Urban and Economic Development
Mr. Tommy Brown	City of Huntsville, Director of Parking and Public Transit
Mr. Mark Huber	City of Huntsville
Mr. Jacob Stephens	City of Huntsville
Ms. Mary Beth Broeren	City of Madison
Ms. Ruth Ghoja (Proxy, Anne Burkett)	Madison County Planning and Economic Development
Mr. Chuck Faulkner	Madison County Engineering
Ms. Kaela Hambry	Redstone Arsenal
Ms. Falguni Patel	TARCOG
Mr. Les Hopson	Alabama Department of Transportation
Ms. Karen Carr-Jones	Alabama Department of Transportation

MPO Staff Members Present:

Ms. Paige Colburn
Ms. Shontrill Lowe
Mr. James Vandiver
Mr. Steve Dinges

The meeting was called to order by Mr. James Moore at the time and place noted above.

Mr. Moore stated that the first item on the agenda was Approval of Minutes.

Mr. Madsen moved for approval of the minutes of the meeting on May 30, 2018.

Said motion was duly seconded by Mr. Brown.

Mr. Moore called for the vote on the above motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Technical Coordinating Committee members present.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was Jurisdiction Reports. He stated that this was a new item that had been added to the agenda, for reports to be given from members of the Technical Coordinating Committee if they had any comments or issues regarding their community.

Mr. Moore stated that Ms. Colburn would comment on this item.

Ms. Colburn stated that this was an opportunity for each one of the member jurisdictions to discuss transportation issues going on in their jurisdiction and to hear the jurisdiction reports from the Citizens Advisory Committee at this portion of the agenda, and to be able to answer some of these concerns from the point of view of the Technical Coordinating Committee, which she noted consisted of mostly engineers who could speak to some of these concerns.

Ms. Colburn stated that this item had been added to the agenda to encourage participation and attendance from a variety of the member jurisdictions.

Ms. Colburn stated that at the recent Citizens Advisory Committee

meeting, they had heard a variety of concerns from Madison County, that, specifically, a representative of Gurley had discussed Rock Cut Road and that project. She stated that person believed it was an MPO project, rerouting the Eastern Bypass project out of the City of Huntsville to Highway 72.

Ms. Colburn stated that there was also discussion from Madison County about the FBI headquarters coming to Redstone Arsenal and how they needed to have more of a concept of origin/destination data in the MPO model to determine which Arsenal gates these people would be using. She continued that it was stated there would be up to 4,000 new vehicles.

Ms. Colburn stated that, also, an updated MPO model for Madison County had been discussed.

Ms. Colburn asked if there were any representatives from Madison County at this meeting who would like to speak to ongoing concerns or issues transportationwise happening in Madison County at this time, to give them an update or to answer any of the CAC concerns.

Mr. Chuck Faulkner stated that he was with Madison County, and this was his first TCC meeting, so he did not have an update and did not plan to address any questions at this time, but he just wanted to say he was glad to be at the meeting.

Ms. Colburn stated that the city of Huntsville Jurisdiction Reports from the CAC included a lot of discussion about the Cecil Ashburn Road closure, and, later in the meeting, the repaving of Governors Drive.

Ms. Colburn asked if at this time any City of Huntsville representative would like to make a presentation about transportation-related projects going on in the city of Huntsville.

There was no response.

Ms. Colburn stated that a representative of the City of Madison would be doing a presentation during the MPO meeting immediately following this meeting.

Ms. Colburn stated that the city of Madison representatives at the CAC meeting had discussed connectivity of an MPO-wide bicycle network and had also discussed transit issues in the city of Madison, many of which were addressed by a City of Madison representative who had attended the CAC meeting and some of which were covered in the presentation that would be made at the MPO meeting.

Ms. Colburn stated that the town of Triana and the town of Owens Cross Roads had had no representatives present at the CAC meeting.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was Discussion of Upcoming PM₃ Performance Measures Tasks.

Mr. Moore recognized Ms. Colburn.

Ms. Colburn made a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Colburn stated that this was more Performance Measures information for this Committee, noting that they had seen information about Performance Measures coming down the pike from the Federal and ALDOT partners in prior meetings. She stated that the Technical Coordinating Committee had met in January and February, discussing the Safety Performance Measures. She continued that a speaker from ALDOT had made a specific presentation concerning the Safety Performance Measures, and then the Safety Performance Measures were reported to ALDOT, per the TCC making a recommendation to the MPO Board. She stated that they would be doing this again with the TCC for these PM₃ Performance Measures. She stated that PM₃ was not to be confused with the Safety Performance Measures,

that PM3 was the Travel Time Reliability Performance Targets. She continued that, basically, travel time reliability was the time it would take one to get from one exit to another on the National Highway System, as well as off the National Highway System, on major routes that were not on the National Highway System.

Ms. Colburn stated that this concerned if it took, for example, 25 minutes every day, seven days a week, to get from exit 1 to exit 2, with there being no grade as to whether or not 25 minutes was too long for it to take to get from exit 1 to exit 2. She continued that this was a measure of reliability. She stated that if 25 minutes was consistent every single time, they got an A+ for travel time reliability, but if it was 55 minutes Monday through Friday at peak time and 25 minutes all the rest of the time, then the travel time reliability was poor.

Ms. Colburn stated that they would be learning a lot more about this and either adopting the State's Travel Time Reliability Performance Targets or coming up with their own by November 16, 2018.

Ms. Colburn reiterated that they would have a speaker for the TCC to learn more about this and stated that at the December MPO meeting, they would have resolutions for the MPO to adopt on both PM2 and PM3 Performance Measures.

Ms. Colburn stated that PM2 would not be discussed in this presentation, noting that it concerned a lot of things the TCC and the MPO would not have much to do with, that it was a lot of things that fell within the purview of ALDOT.

Ms. Colburn stated that both of these would be resolutions for the MPO to adopt at its December meeting.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was Adoption of the Final FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He stated that Resolution No. 08-18 would adopt the Final FY 2019 UPWP.

Mr. Moore made a PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Moore stated that the purpose of the UPWP, basically, was to outline multimodal transportation planning activities, within a financially constrained budget, to be conducted in the Huntsville MPO Planning Area.

Mr. Moore stated that the UPWP 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.

Mr. Moore stated that examples of tasks performed in the UPWP were as follows: Task I, Administration, covering the administrative support activities, such as financial management, contract management, public outreach, and the general management of the MPO; Task II, Data Development and Maintenance, covering the collection, maintenance, and analysis of transportation data, including the development of socioeconomic forecasts and travel demand models to determine where future transportation investments would be; Tasks III and IV, Short and Long-Range Planning, addressing planning for activities taking place within a 3 to 5-year time frame, including the management of the Transportation Improvement Program, the TIP; the Unified Planning Work Program, the UPWP; and covering planning activities for the long term, including the development of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan, air quality planning, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit, and the promotion of sustainable development; and Task V, Special Studies, covering other planning issues and studies, including major corridor

studies, planning, freight planning, congestion management, and safety management, as well as environmental justice mitigation and climate change.

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

Mr. Moore stated, concerning the 2018-2019 Budget, that the Huntsville MPO's current UPWP, adopted in September 2017 extended through September 30, 2018. He stated that the Final FY 2018 UPWP total was \$745,816. He stated that as adopted, the 2019 program funded over \$651,000 worth of planning activities and studies for the Huntsville MPO region.

Ms. Colburn stated, concerning the Edits from Draft to the Final UPWP, that the TCC had seen the Draft UPWP in May, and they had made the following edits: FHWA and ALDOT edits were made throughout; Performance Measures language was added throughout; new employees were added to the membership pages; and Appendix E, a Summary of Public Outreach Activities, was included.

Mr. Madsen moved to recommend approval of Resolution No. 08-18, adopting the Final FY 2019 UPWP.

Said motion was duly seconded by Mr. Brown.

Mr. Moore asked if there was any discussion of the above motion.

Mr. Moore called for the vote on the above motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Technical Coordinating Committee members present.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was an Amendment to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Mr. Moore recognized Ms. Colburn.

Ms. Colburn made a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Colburn stated that this was where the City of Huntsville's comments that she had mentioned previously had come up. She stated that this was an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program that included Federal maintenance projects on I-565 and US 431. She stated that these were resurfacing projects that had Federal and State funds in them but no local funds and none of the MPO's Federal funds.

Ms. Colburn stated that the I-565 resurfacing project would be from I-65 to mile marker 5.63, as she was indicating on the displayed map.

Ms. Colburn stated that the US 431 resurfacing project would be from Old Big Cove Road to Bassett Street, SE. She stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee's comments about this project were concerns that the timing of this project, which was currently set to commence construction in January, would interfere with the timing of the closing of Cecil Ashburn Boulevard and cause further delays because this was one of the primary alternate routes from the Hampton Cove area and Big Cove area over the mountain.

Ms. Colburn stated, concerning the I-565 project, that preliminary engineering would be starting in the fall of the current year, and construction would commence in the upcoming year. She stated that on the display the cost was shown to the left. She reiterated that no MPO Federal money and no local money was involved in either of these projects. She stated that they did not yet have the cost sheet from the STIP for the US 431 project.

Mr. Madsen moved to recommend approval of Resolution No. 09-18, amending the National Highway System/Interstate Management section of the 2016-2019 TIP to add two resurfacing projects, for I-565 and US 431.

Said motion was duly seconded by Mr. Hopson.

Mr. Moore asked if there was any discussion of the above motion.

Mr. Moore called for the vote on the above motion, and it was unanimously adopted by the Technical Coordinating Committee members present.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was an Amendment to the FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Colburn made a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Colburn stated that this was for Transportation Alternatives grant projects. She stated that there were two different types of Transportation Alternatives grants, one that came from local MPO funds and one that came from State Transportation Alternatives funds. She stated that this item was in relation to the local MPO funds. She continued that two projects had been chosen during this grant cycle, for the City of Madison and the City of Huntsville. She stated that these projects would be added to the 2016-2019 TIP, per Federal regulations, for these funds to be used and construction to begin for these projects.

Ms. Colburn stated that the first project was a sidewalk improvement project at Bradford Farms in the city of Madison, going from Hughes Road to the elementary school. She stated that the second project was the Spring Branch Greenway project that connected from Johnson Road to Brahan Spring Park, noting that this would connect John Hunt Park to Brahan Spring Park with a greenway along Brahan Spring Creek.

Mr. Madsen moved for approval of Resolution No. 10-18, amending the Transportation Alternatives Section of the 2016-2019 TIP to add two FY 2018 Transportation Alternatives grant projects for the City of Madison and City of

Huntsville.

Said motion was duly seconded by Ms. Broeren.

Mr. Moore asked if there was any discussion of the above motion.

Mr. Moore called for the vote on the above motion, and it was unanimously adopted by the Technical Coordinating Committee members present.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was MPO, TCC, and CAC Schedule Dates.

Mr. Moore recognized Ms. Colburn.

Ms. Colburn stated that the TCC members might recall that around this time in the prior year, they had received approximately seven calendar invite emails in a row. She stated that that would again be happening within the next week or so, that they would receive all their MPO and TCC and CAC meeting date invites for all of calendar year 2019. She stated that the biggest difference between the scheduled meetings in 2019 and 2018 was that they had tried to make sure they had three months between meetings in 2019, noting that there had been two meetings in 2018 that were exactly eight weeks apart, and they had tried not to do that again.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was Review of Administrative Modifications to MPO documents since the last MPO meeting.

Mr. Moore recognized Ms. Colburn.

Ms. Colburn made a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Colburn stated that, as the TCC members might recall, Administrative Modifications were routine edits to MPO documents. She continued that this included Highway Safety Improvement Program projects, the Safety projects that were automatically added to the State's TIP. She stated

that the staff now reported these Administrative Modifications to the CAC, TCC, and the MPO every quarter.

Ms. Colburn stated that the two Administrative Modifications for this month were an increase in the cost of construction of the Zierdt Road and Church Street projects and some Transit FY 18 and FY 19 budget adjustments. She stated that Church Street, Phase 1, had increased from \$9.8 million to \$10.9 million when it was let in July, and Zierdt Road had increased from \$16.8 million to \$17.9 million when it was let in July. She stated that neither of these increases was large enough to trigger the requirements of public review and amendments and resolutions, et cetera, so no voting was required on either of these items. She stated that both projects had been let, and that construction should be beginning soon.

Ms. Colburn stated there were City of Huntsville Public Transit changes to FTA funds for the project numbers as displayed on the screen. She stated that they would be moving funds from two of the project numbers, the first two, that were in FY 2018 to the project numbers for FY 2019. She stated that this resulted in a net zero change of funding in the TIP, so it could be done as an Administrative Modification. She stated that, also, the changes to the FY 2019 dollars were less than 10 percent or \$5 million, so there was no need to do a resolution and amendment and public review, et cetera.

Ms. Colburn stated that they would be adding to the TCC's agenda Communications and Reports, noting that this would be part of creating a more cohesive body of the MPO, so that each of the subcommittees, the TCC and the CAC, functioned as a flow of information up to the MPO more visibly. She stated that part of this would be a CAC report from the Chairperson or a representative. She stated that she did not believe there was anyone in

attendance at this meeting who had attended the CAC meeting, other than the staff. She stated that they had spoken about a lot of the CAC comments already, but this was something to be prepared for at the meeting in December, that they would be adding Communications and Reports, just like the Jurisdiction Reports at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. Moore stated that the next item on the agenda was Opportunity for Public Comment. He asked if there was anyone from the general public in the audience who would like to comment at this time.

There was no response.

Mr. Madsen stated that he had a very quick but important item. He stated that rather than describe the new position, he would simply say that he would like to introduce the new "Tanjie," Ms. Shontrill Lowe, whom they had managed to steal from Nashville to join the MPO staff. He stated that if persons had not met her, to please introduce themselves. He stated that Ms. Lowe had worked with and for DOTs and transportation organizations throughout the Southeast, that she had an incredible depth of experience, and she spoke "ALDOT." He stated that they were very excited to have her on board.

Mr. Moore stated that if there was nothing more to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

(Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.)