

# HUNTSVILLE AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## MINUTES

### Public Zoom Virtual Meeting – April 22, 2020 - 4 p.m.

#### **Members Present:**

Mr. Dale Strong, Chairman	Chairman, Madison County Commission
Mayor Tommy Battle	City of Huntsville
Mayor Paul Finley	City of Madison
Ms. Frances Akridge	Huntsville City Council
Mr. Curtis W. Vincent	ALDOT/Guntersville
Mayor Mary Caudle	Town of Triana

#### **Members Absent:**

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

Mr. Shane Davis  
Mr. James Moore  
Ms. Shontrill Lowe  
Ms. Paige Colburn  
Mr. Dennis Madsen  
Mr. James Vandiver

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Strong at the time and place noted above.

Chairman Strong stated that ALDOT approved the meeting be conducted publicly via the Zoom App and that the meeting is being recorded.

Chairman Strong stated that in attendance at the meeting were himself, Mayor Battle, Mayor Caudle, Mayor Finley, Ms. Akridge, and Mr. Vincent.

Chairman Strong stated that the first item on the agenda was Approval of Minutes of the February 5, 2020, meeting of the MPO.

Ms. Akridge moved for approval of the Minutes of the MPO meeting on February 5, 2020, which motion was duly seconded by Mayor Battle.

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

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

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda was the Adoption of the Final TRiP2045 - Long-Range Transportation Plan. He stated that Resolution No. 14-20 adopted and supported the Final TRiP2045 Huntsville Area MPO 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Chairman Strong recognized Mr. Shane Davis, City of Huntsville Director of Urban and Economic Development.

(Mr. Davis made a PowerPoint presentation.)

(See Mr. Davis's PowerPoint presentation here:

<http://www.huntsvillempo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/LRTP-2045-Final-MPO-Presentation-April-2020.pdf> )

Mr. Davis stated that if any of the MPO members had any questions at this time, he would be happy to take them.

Chairman Strong asked if there were any questions for Mr. Davis.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Akridge.

Ms. Akridge referenced Mr. Davis's presentation slide numbers 15 and 16.

Mr. Davis had described these two slides as showing that our region's congestion is mostly people making single-person trips, because vehicle trips and person trips numbers are so similar. Mr. Davis had stated that the region can improve this source of congestion by encouraging transit ridership and other rides beside single occupancy.

Ms. Akridge asked Mr. Davis for any recommendations on how the MPO might promote those efforts?

Mr. Davis answered that much of that promotion is covered in the Multi-Modal Section of the TRiP2045 document.

Ms. Akridge asked for a definition of 'Financially Constrained' for the record, as this phrasing can be confusing. Are those projects funded or unfunded?

Mr. Davis answered that Financially Constrained projects are funded during the timeframe of the plan, from now to 2045.

Mr. Davis referred to individual projects on the Financially Constrained map on

slide number 22 and stated that the plan is only as good as the funding.

Ms. Akridge asked whether the Socio-Economic Section addresses telework, and if not, what can the MPO do to reward employers for increasing the amount of telework that our largest employers promote?

Ms. Akridge asked if the MPO can make 20% of the workforce teleworking a goal to adopt?

Mr. Davis responded that the plan's principle purpose is to help us determine how to spend future transportation funds and to track traffic counts. Working from home will change the congestion on the model and that could affect the future.

Mr. Akridge suggested that the MPO look for grants that incentivize large employers to promote telework.

Mr. Madsen responded that many innovative grants and other funding options are being pursued, citing the AV grant that the Arsenal recently pursued.

Mr. Finley stated there were some edits to be made in the document which were not made, after City of Madison pointed out the necessary changes.

Mr. Madsen responded that ALDOT has allowed the MPO to make those edits by Administrative Modification at the following meeting.

Chairman Strong asked if there were any further questions for Mr. Davis.

Chairman Strong thanked Mr. Davis for his presentation, noting that it was very informative.

Chairman Strong read and introduced a resolution adopting the Final TRiP2045 - Long Range Transportation Plan for the Huntsville Area MPO Region, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-20)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 14-20, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

**(Meeting adjourned on April 22, 2020, at 5:05 p.m.)**