

**HUNTSVILLE-AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD**

MINUTES

Regular Meeting - December 1, 2021 - 4:10 p.m.

Huntsville, Alabama

Members Present:

Mr. Dale Strong, Chairman	Chairman, Madison County Commission
Mr. Shane Davis	City of Huntsville (Proxy for Mayor Battle)
Mayor Paul Finley	City of Madison
Mr. Curtis Vincent	ALDOT/Guntersville

Members Absent:

Ms. Frances Akridge	Huntsville City Council
Mayor Mary Caudle	Town of Triana
Mayor Tony Craig	Town of Owens Cross Roads

MPO Staff Present:

Mr. Dennis Madsen
Ms. Shontrill Lowe
Mr. James Moore
Mr. James Vandiver

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Strong.

Chairman Strong stated that in attendance at the meeting were Chairman Strong; Mayor Finley; Director Curtis Vincent; and Shane Davis, as proxy for Mayor Battle.

Chairman Strong stated the first item on the agenda was Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on September 22, 2021.

Mayor Finley moved for approval of the minutes of the meeting held on September 22, 2021, which motion was duly seconded by Mr. Vincent and was unanimously approved by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was an FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 26-21 adopted and supported the addition of TAP Project #100074119, Madison County Commission, ADA Improvements along Pulaski Pike at Bob Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center, Phase I, in the FY 2020-2023 TIP, as approved by ALDOT.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated that Resolution No. 26-21 was basically adding in a Transportation Alternatives Program grant. She stated that ALDOT had requested applications for this, and the Madison County Commission had applied, District 6 Commissioner Edwards, and was awarded the total cost of \$640,000, to start on Phase I of the Pulaski Pike-Bob Harrison ADA Improvements along Pulaski Pike.

Mayor Finley read and introduced a resolution amending the Transportation Alternatives Section in the adopted FY 2020-2023 TIP, to add TA Program Project #100074119 (CN) Madison Co. Commission - ADA Improvements along Pulaski Pike & Bob Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center - Phase I, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 26-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 26-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was an

FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 27-21, adopted and supported the addition of TAP Project #100074429, Madison County Commission, ADA Improvements along Pulaski Pike at Bob Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center, Phase II, in the FY 2020-2023 TIP, as approved by ALDOT.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated that Resolution No. 27-21 was the MPO pot of the Transportation Alternatives Program funding. She stated that the Madison County Commission was the only one to apply, and they were awarded \$400,000, total cost for Phase II of the same project as in the previous resolution, the Pulaski Pike/Bob Harrison Senior Center ADA and Sidewalk Improvements.

Mr. Davis read and introduced a resolution amending the Transportation Alternatives section in the adopted FY 2020-2023 TIP, to add TA program project #100074429 (CN) Madison Co. Commission - ADA Improvements along Pulaski Pike & Bob Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center - Phase II, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 27-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 27-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was an FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 28-21 adopted and

supported New Project #TBD (TR) AAMU FY2021 FTA 5339c Low-No Emissions Grant Award, as approved by ALDOT.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated, concerning Resolution No. 28-21, that Alabama A&M had applied for the FTA 5339c, which was the Low-No Emissions discretionary grant. She continued that they were awarded \$4.2 million, total cost, to purchase battery electric buses, construct a bus service bay, and install an electric storage system, and to also power the bus facility complex.

Mayor Finley read and introduced a resolution amending the Transit Projects section of the adopted FY 2020-2023 TIP, to add the Low-No Emissions Bus Program Grant (FTA Section 5339c) project for Alabama A&M University, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 28-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 28-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was an FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 29-21 adopted and supported the name change of Project #100066076, Corridor Study for widening of Wall-Triana Highway, from SR-2 (US-72) to 500 feet north of Nick Davis Road, in the FY 2020-2023 TIP, as approved by ALDOT.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated that Resolution No. 29-21 was a reduction in scope for the Madison County Commission. She stated this project was originally from 72 to north of Nick Davis, and they had requested that it now be from McCrary to 500 feet north of Nick Davis Road.

Mr. Davis read and introduced a resolution amending the National Highway System/Interstate Maintenance Section of the FY 2020-2023 TIP with the name/limits change of project #100066076, "CORRIDOR STUDY FOR WIDENING OF WALL-TRIANA HIGHWAY FROM SR-2 (US-72) TO 500 NORTH OF NICK DAVIS ROAD," as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 29-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 29-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was an FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 30-21 adopted and supported the Fiscal Year Change of Project #100046745, 2 feet safety widening and resurfacing of CR-17 (Balch Road), from .53 mile south of CR-21 (Browns Ferry Road), to north of CR-27 (Gooch Lane) in the city of Madison.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated that Resolution No. 30-21 was basically pushing this project out a year. She stated the City of Madison foresaw the project still being done at the same cost as was seen on the display.

Mayor Finley read and introduced a resolution amending the Surface

Transportation Attributable Projects section of the FY 2020-2023 TIP, with the fiscal year change on project #100046745,” 2 FT SAFETY WIDENING AND RESURFACING OF CR-17 (BALCH ROAD) FROM .53 MILE SOUTH OF CR-21 (BROWNS FERRY ROAD) TO NORTH OF CR- 27 (GOOCH LANE) IN THE CITY OF MADISON,” as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 30-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 30-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was an FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 31-21 adopted and supported the increase in funding for Project #100061850, Huntsville Northern Bypass from 1.2 miles east of CR-86 (Pulaski Pike) to 1500 feet east of SR-1 (US-231/431) intersection, in the FY 2020-2023 TIP, as approved by ALDOT.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated that Resolution No. 31-21 was basically an increase in funding for the Northern Bypass. She stated that on this particular phase, which was the Utility Phase, they foresaw it being a little bit more than what the 10-year prior cost estimates were.

Mr. Davis read and introduced a resolution amending the Other Surface Transportation Program Projects section of the FY 2020-2023 TIP, with the requested increase in funding for project #100061850, “(UT) HUNTSVILLE

NORTHERN BYPASS FROM 1.2 MILES EAST OF CR-86 (PULASKI PIKE) TO 1500 FT EAST OF SR-1 (US-231/431) INTERSECTION,” as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 31-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Mayor Finley asked where this funding was coming from.

Ms. Lowe stated that these particular funds were added-in MPO funds, STPHV.

Mayor Finley asked what they were taking the money from.

Ms. Lowe stated this was apportionment funding, noting they had kind of stacked it up per years, and they were taking that funding and utilizing it for this particular phase.

Mr. Davis stated to Mayor Finley that this was part of "Restore Our Roads." He stated one of the reasons for this addition was that originally, when the project was scoped, the thought was that utilities would not be federally reimbursed, and now they had gotten direction they were required to be federally reimbursed, so they were taking what would have been construction funding in the next phase and moving it forward to the Utility Phase, and then the City was picking up the construction overruns on the back end.

Chairman Strong stated there was a motion and a second, and he asked if there was any further discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 31-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was an

FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 32-21 adopted and supported the additional funding source for Project #100055286, Martin Road Phase II from Old Jim Williams Road to Laracy Drive, in the FY 2020-2023 TIP, as approved by ALDOT.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated that Resolution No. 32-21 was the additional funding source, the COVID Relief Funds. She stated they had come to them back in April to write a support letter. She stated this particular resolution was just to make sure this project was in the TIP and the State's TIP.

Mayor Finley read and introduced a resolution amending the Other Surface Transportation Program Projects section of the FY 2020-2023 TIP, with additional funding source for Project #100055286, "MARTIN RD PHASE II FROM OLD JIM WILLIAMS ROAD TO LARACY DRIVE CN," as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 32-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 32-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated that the next item on the agenda was an FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment, that Resolution No. 33-21 adopted and supported New Project UT Phase of CR-93 (Winchester Road), to add lanes from CR-983 (Dominion Circle) to CR-406 (Naugher Road), in the FY 2020-2023 TIP, as approved by ALDOT.

Chairman Strong recognized Ms. Lowe.

(Ms. Lowe made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Ms. Lowe stated that Resolution No. 33-21 was the addition of the Utility Phase, noting that for some reason, the Utility Phase was not added in when this project originally hit the books. She stated they were adding it in, with \$3 million cost, federal funds.

Ms. Lowe stated that what was displayed at this time was a location map, depicting where the project actually was.

Mr. Davis read and introduced a resolution amending the Other Surface Transportation Program Projects section of the FY 2020-2023 TIP, with the new UT Phase of “CR-93 (WINCHESTER ROAD) ADD LANES FROM CR-983 (DOMINION CIRCLE) TO CR-406 (NAUGHER RD) project,” as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 33-21)

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

Chairman Strong asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Davis stated they would be handling the construction funding of this much like the Northern Bypass. He stated that, again, it had to be federally funded for utility location, from the various utilities, so they were moving some of the Construction funding into the Utility Phase. He stated this was a City matched/sponsored MPO project, so they would handle any overruns when they got to the construction phase.

Chairman Strong stated there was a motion and a second, and he asked if there was any further discussion.

Chairman Strong called for the vote on Resolution No. 33-21, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO members present.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was

Agency Reports.

Chairman Strong recognized Mr. Rod Ellis.

Mr. Ellis stated the first project was Church Street, Phase I, between Pratt Avenue and Monroe Street. He stated this project was approximately 90 percent complete, that the project cost was in excess of \$15.5 million, and it was estimated to be completed sometime in the spring of 2022.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was the Northern Bypass, from Pulaski Pike to US Highway 231. He stated the plans for this project were approximately 85 percent complete, and the right-of-way acquisition should be completed very soon. He stated the MPO had just voted on the Utility funding, to move that part of this project forward. He stated it was estimated that the contract would be let sometime later in this fiscal year, at a cost of approximately \$40 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was Martin Road, between Zierdt Road and Laracy Drive. He stated this project was being constructed in two separate phases, that Phase I was approximately 80 percent complete and was expected to be completed in the spring of 2022, and that Phase II was currently scheduled for Fiscal Year 2023. He stated that the project cost for both phases was approximately \$25 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was the North Parkway overpass, to be constructed at Mastin Lake Road, with improvements up to Winchester Road. He stated these plans were approximately 90 percent complete, that they had finished the right-of-way acquisition, and the structures that were in conflict with the construction had been removed, and utility relocation, the water, should get under way soon. He stated gas and sewer had already been moved, and the electric relocations and telecom would follow that. He stated the

construction project was expected to be let late in Fiscal Year 2022, at an estimated cost in excess of \$42.5 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was the Access Management on US 231, between Weatherly Road and Hobbs Road. He stated these plans were approximately 50 percent complete. He stated they had recently completed a virtual public involvement process, and they were in the process of editing the comments and determining how to address those. He stated this would hopefully move into the right-of-way phase sometime after the first of the year, and the construction project would likely be let sometime in Fiscal Year 2023, with an estimated cost of approximately \$15 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was Winchester Road Improvements, from Dominion Circle to Naugher Road. He stated these plans were approximately 90 percent complete, that right-of-way acquisition was ongoing, and utilities would follow that. He stated the estimated cost was approximately \$15.5 million, and it was currently estimated that the contract would be let in Fiscal Year 2023.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was improvements to Balch Road, from south of Browns Ferry Road to north of Gooch Road. He stated these plans were approximately 65 percent complete, that the estimated cost was approximately \$1.7 million, and it was currently scheduled for Fiscal Year 2022. He continued that, of course, it had just been moved to Fiscal Year 2023.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was Improvements to State Route 255, from US 72 to south of Old Madison Pike. He stated this project was approximately 75 percent complete, that the project cost was approaching \$23.5 million, and it was estimated to be completed sometime in the spring of

2022.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was US 72 West, between Providence Main and County Line Road. He stated these plans were approximately 30 percent complete. He stated they were working on some revised intersection concepts they hoped to show to the public sometime after the first of the year. He stated that once he had those in hand, he wanted to probably try to set something up to meet with the individual municipalities and partners and let them take a look at that part of the public involvement process.

Mr. Ellis stated that this project was currently scheduled for Fiscal Year 2025, with an estimated cost of approximately \$60 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was Zierdt Road, between Madison Boulevard and Martin Road. He stated this project was constructed in four phases, and the final phase was under construction. He stated it was approximately 95 percent complete, and it should be completed sometime early in the next calendar year. He stated the estimated cost for all phases was \$27 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was Bridge Replacements on Old Highway 431. He stated this project was approximately 75 percent complete, and it was estimated to be completed in the summer of 2022, at a cost of approximately \$13.5 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was I-565 Additional Lanes from I-65 to County Line Road. He stated this was a section from Mile Post 0 at 65 over to just west of County Line Road. He stated this was essentially complete, that the contractor was working through punch list items and doing cleanup work. He stated they would probably take this slide out of the presentation at the next meeting. He stated the cost of this project was approximately

\$18.7 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was I-565 Additional Lanes from County Line Road to Wall-Triana Highway. He stated this was the next phase, to add the third lane in each direction. He stated it would pick up where the previous project ended, just west of County Line Road, and would go just east of Wall-Triana, to add a third lane in each direction. He stated that their design team in Montgomery was working on the design. He stated this was scheduled for Fiscal Year 2024, and the cost was estimated at approximately \$47 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was improvements to Jeff Road from south of Capshaw Road to north of Douglass Road. He stated the plans were approximately 50 percent complete, and the virtual public involvement process was concluded in the spring of 2021. He stated the construction phase was currently scheduled for Fiscal Year 2023, with an estimated cost of \$13.5 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was Intersection Improvements on Wall-Triana Highway at Graphics Drive. He stated this project was currently scheduled for their January bidding, and the estimated cost was approximately \$1.9 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was the widening of Blake Bottom Road from Jeff Road to State Route 255. He stated the plans were approximately 90 percent complete, that the County was working on purchasing the right-of-way and beginning the utility work to relocate those. He stated the construction phase was currently scheduled for later in the current fiscal year, at an approximate cost of \$9 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was Intersection Improvements on

State Route 53 at Harvest, McKee, and Old Railroad Bed Roads.

Mr. Ellis stated this project was in the preliminary engineering phase, and the construction phase was currently scheduled for Fiscal Year 2023, and the estimated cost was approximately \$5 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the next project was the Arsenal East Connector, that this project was in the preliminary engineering phase, and they were currently doing studies to determine the appropriate route. He stated the construction phase was currently scheduled for Fiscal Year 2024, at an estimated cost of \$30 million.

Mr. Ellis stated the total amount of work that had been discussed was in excess of \$400 million.

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

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was Public Comment.

Chairman Strong asked anyone who wished to address the MPO to come to a microphone and state their name and address, and he stated they would be allowed three minutes to speak.

Chairman Strong stated the next item on the agenda was MPO Policy Board Member Comments.

Mayor Finley stated they had a couple of members who had not been in attendance in a few meetings, and he asked what they could do to engage these persons a little better.

Ms. Lowe stated she had sent out the calendar invite a couple of times, and she could definitely try to phone them as well.

Mr. Davis stated that a meeting invite might be the week of, like, on a Monday.

Chairman Strong asked Ms. Lowe if there was anything else to come before the MPO.

Ms. Lowe replied in the negative.

Chairman Strong stated that with no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman, Metropolitan
Planning Organization

ATTEST:

Secretary, Metropolitan
Planning Organization

(Meeting adjourned on December 1, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.)