

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE
HUNTSVILLE-AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

MINUTES

Regular Meeting - March 17, 2025 - 5 p.m.

Huntsville, Alabama

Committee Members:

Mr. Russ McDonald	Chairman, City of Huntsville
Mr. Eddie Hoff	City of Gurley
Mr. John Ofenloch	City of Huntsville
Mr. Todd Slyman	City of Huntsville
Mr. Gary Whitley	City of Huntsville
Mr. Houston Mathews	Madison County
Mr. Larry Mason	City of Madison

MPO Staff Members:

Mr. Dennis Madsen
Mr. James Vandiver
Mr. Kevin Bernard

Also Present:

Ms. Jo Beth Gleason	Planning Department, City of Huntsville
Mr. John Autry	Manager of Transportation, City of Huntsville

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

The minutes of the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on December 2, 2024, were approved as submitted.

Chairman McDonald said the next item on the agenda was Jurisdiction Reports, and he asked if anyone had a report.

Chairman McDonald said the next item was the Long-Range Transportation Plan Final.

(Mr. Vandiver made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Vandiver said this resolution would adopt the Final 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan, the LRTP. He said the LRTP was a roadmap of transportation projects, both funded and visionary, for the next 25 years in the Huntsville MPO Study Area. He said this was released by the MPO staff every five years and was amended as projects warranted.

Mr. Vandiver said any capacity projects must be included in the LRTP to obtain federal funding, and it included both funded and unfunded transportation projects.

Mr. Vandiver said the MPO Policy Board adopted the Draft 2050 LRTP in December of 2024, and since then, they had a public comment period, that they had comments both in-person and online, and they had incorporated those comments into the final LRTP. He continued that they had made some overall style and format changes to the LRTP, and they had also included a Legislative Compliance Checklist, to discuss how the LRTP document complied with 23 CFR 450, which was the Metropolitan Planning section of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Mr. Vandiver said the Final LRTP had been up since March 5th, and the CAC members should have received a link about it, and for more information about the LRTP, the members could go to the MPO website, at huntsvillempo.org/2050-lrtp.

Mr. Ofenloch recommended approval of Resolution No. 01-25, adopting the Final TRiP 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Said motion was seconded by Mr. Slyman and was unanimously approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

Chairman McDonald said the next item on the agenda was an

FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment, Resolution No. 02-25.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 02-25 adopted and supported updated Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Safety Performance Measurements for Huntsville Transit. He said these were the 2025 Performance Measurements the Transit Department had set, that they were updated annually.

Mr. Ofenloch asked what "Demand Response" meant.

Mr. Autry said this was the Paratransit service, a specialized service for individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Ofenloch asked if these were the actual numbers.

Mr. Autry said this was the targets for the next year.

Mr. Ofenloch asked if this would be tripping over steps or something like that.

Mr. Autry said it could be, but mostly they were taking about vehicular accidents, both preventable and non-preventable, and not necessarily a Transit employee but any safety event.

Mr. Ofenloch recommended approval of Resolution No. 02-25, concurring with the recommendation of the Technical Coordinating Committee and adopting and supporting the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Performance Measurements and Targets, as approved by Huntsville Transit.

Said motion was seconded by Mr. Mathews and was unanimously approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

Chairman McDonald said the next item on the agenda was an FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment, Resolution No. 03-25.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 03-25 adopted and supported updated Transit Asset Management Performance Measurements for Huntsville Transit. He said this Performance Measurement included the aging condition of the Transit fleet and facilities.

Mr. Ofenloch said he did not understand the Targets on the display.

Mr. Autry said on the Facility Condition, 3.0 was Satisfactory, 4 was Above Average, and 5 was the highest, the Best Condition.

Mr. Ofenloch asked if there were no events greater than 3.

Mr. Autry said this had to do with the inspection and condition of the Paratransit fleet, the Fixed Route bus fleet, and the Transit facilities.

A member asked who conducted the inspections.

Mr. Autry said it was the City of Huntsville's Facilities team that worked under General Services.

Mr. Ofenloch asked what the information concerning the Paratransit fleet meant.

Mr. Autry said it meant that 26 percent of the Paratransit fleet exceeded 200,000 miles.

Mr. Ofenloch asked if replacement standards had been set, that when a vehicle got up to so many thousand miles, it should be replaced.

Mr. Autry said with the Paratransit fleet, they had determined it was better to use mileage as the threshold, so 200,000 miles was the mileage threshold for that fleet.

Mr. Ofenloch asked if it was correct that 26 percent of the fleet was over 200,000 miles.

Mr. Autry said that was correct.

Mr. Ofenloch asked if they had talked to the City Council about this lately.

Mr. Autry said they replaced fleet annually, and the numbers did not vary much from year to year. He said the Paratransit fleet was a much more reliable and better supported fleet, that with the Fixed Route buses, there was quite a bit of difference, and that was why they went by years, as opposed to miles.

Mr. Ofenloch asked how many years it was on the Fixed Route buses.

Mr. Autry said on the Fixed Route 40-foot buses, it was 12 years, and on the smaller ones, the shuttle bus style, it was 7 years.

Mr. Slyman recommended approval of Resolution No. 03-25, concurring with the recommendation of the Technical Coordinating Committee and adopting and supporting the Transit Asset Management (TAM) Performance Measurements and Targets, as approved by Huntsville Transit.

Said motion was seconded by Mr. Mason and was unanimously approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

Chairman McDonald said the next item was an FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment, Resolution No. 04-25.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 04-25 adopted and supported the addition of Projects #100080217 and #100079768 to the Other State and Federal Aid Section of the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. He said this was construction of an Alabama "Green T" intersection at US 72 East for the realignment of Little Cove Road. He said the Town of Gurley was awarded an FY 2025 ATRIP grant, and the project would include construction of left- and right-turn lanes and a new traffic signal at a realigned intersection

of US 72 and Little Cove Road. He said this was the first phase of a broader project, which was the Eastern Bypass, expanding Little Cove Road to create that bypass, which would widen the road all the way down to McMullen Cove from US 72. He said the total cost of the project was \$9,407,300, with \$2 million coming from the ATRIP grant program and the remainder from a local match, that no MPO funds would be used for this project.

Mr. Hoff recommended approval of Resolution No. 04-25, amending the Other State and Federal Aid Projects Section of the FY 2024-2027 TIP to add Projects #100080217 (CN) and #100079768 (PE) for "CONSTRUCTION OF ALABAMA 'GREEN T' INTERSECTION AT SR-2 (US-72) FOR THE REALIGNMENT OF LITTLE COVE ROAD, INCLUDING LEFT/RIGHT TURN LANES ON SR-2 (US-72) & A NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL."

Said motion was seconded by Mr. Ofenloch and was unanimously approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

Chairman McDonald said the next item on the agenda was an FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment, Resolution No. 05-25.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 05-25 adopted and supported the addition of Projects #100079791 and #100080243 to the Other State and Federal Aid section of the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. He said this was essentially an intersection improvement at the intersection of State Road 53 and Pinedale Road. He said Limestone County was awarded an FY 2025 ATRIP grant, and this project included the construction of left-turn lanes at the intersection of State Road 53 and Pinedale Road. He said the total cost of the project was \$1,344,348, all coming from the ATRIP grant, that no MPO funds would be used on this project.

Mr. Slyman recommended approval of Resolution No. 05-25, amending the Other State and Federal Aid Projects Section of the FY 2024-2027 TIP to add Projects #100080243 (CN) and #100079791 (PE) for "INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT SR-53 AND PINEDALE ROAD, INCLUDING LEFT TURN LANES."

Said motion was seconded by Mr. Mathews and was unanimously approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

Chairman McDonald said the next item was FY 2024-2027 TIP Administrative Modifications.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard asked if the members would like for him to go through these briefly or allow some time for the members to review the displayed modifications. He said most of these were resurfacing projects, either cost increases or cost decreases.

There was a request that Mr. Bernard comment on item (g) of the Administrative Modifications.

Mr. Bernard said the first phase of Highway 72 widening started at Providence Main, over the bridge, and to the crest of the hill, at the entrance of Memory Gardens, the cemetery; and the second phase started where Phase 1 ended and went all the way to Walnut. He said this was Phase 2, the Preliminary Engineering phase.

Mr. Vandiver said the Right-of-Way would probably start later in the current year.

Mr. Slyman asked if they had any designs yet.

Mr. Vandiver said they could check with ALDOT on that, but if they were doing Rights-of-Way, they would be at some level of design.

Mr. Bernard said item (j) on the Administrative Modifications was the deletion of projects for the Transit Department, for housekeeping, projects that had been completed and had used their funding.

Mr. Bernard said item (k) was for the Chairman's signature on the updated Functional Classification Maps.

Mr. Bernard said usually at this time, they had an Agency Report, presenting ALDOT's information, but in light of this evening's proceedings, at 5:30 having a public hearing with the Federal Highway Administration, they would just direct everyone to the MPO website, where the presentation was online.

Chairman McDonald said the next item on the agenda was the Opportunity for Public Comment.

There was no response.

Chairman McDonald asked if there were any CAC comments.

Mr. Slyman asked if there was any update of the widening of Capshaw and Old Monrovia.

Mr. Bernard said there was not at this time, that the City was planning to conduct intersection studies, in terms of circulation.

Mr. Ofenloch asked about Resolute Way, noting that the Mayor had been talking about Resolute Way, and he did not remember seeing anything about Resolute Way.

Mr. Bernard said Resolute Way was still part of the discussion.

Mr. Ofenloch said was not according to the Mayor, that when he talked about it, it was happening.

Mr. Madsen said they had a lot of work to do on it, who was paying for it and when it was happening.

Mr. Mason said he just wanted to let everyone know he had enjoyed working with the CAC for several years, and he was going to be stepping down.

Chairman McDonald said the next item on the agenda was 2025 CAC Officer Elections.

Chairman McDonald asked if there were nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Whitley moved to re-elect the current officers:

Chair: Russ McDonald; and Vice Chair: Trent Griffin.

Chairman McDonald asked if there were any other nominations.

Chairman McDonald called for the vote on the above motion, to re-elect the current officers, and it was unanimously approved by the CAC members present, with Russ McDonald to serve as Chair and Trent Griffin to serve as Vice Chair.

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned.

(Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. on March 17, 2025.)