

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

MINUTES

Regular Meeting - March 19, 2025 - 4:00 p.m.

Huntsville, Alabama

Members Present:

Mr. Mac McCutcheon,
Chairman
Mayor Tommy Battle
Mayor Paul Finley
Mr. Robin Rhoden,
Proxy for Curtis Vincent

Chairman, Madison County
Commission
City of Huntsville
City of Madison
ALDOT

Members Absent:

Mayor Mary Caudle
Mayor Tony Craig
Ms. Michelle Watkins

Town of Triana
Town of Owens Cross Roads
Huntsville City Council

MPO Staff Present:

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McCutcheon.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the MPO Policy Board held on December 4, 2024, were approved as submitted.

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item on the agenda was the Long-Range Transportation Plan, and he recognized Mr. Vandiver.

(Mr. Vandiver made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Vandiver said Resolution No. 01-25 adopted the Final 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan, the LRTP. He said the LRTP was a roadmap of transportation projects, both funded and unfunded, for the next 25 years in the Huntsville MPO Study Area. He said for a transportation project to get

funded, it must be included in the LRTP.

Mr. Vandiver said a new LRTP was released by the MPO staff every five years and was amended as projects warranted. He said the draft of the LRTP was adopted by the MPO in December of 2024, and it was sent to ALDOT and FHWA for their review. He continued that some of the changes from the Draft to the Final LRTP included overall style and format changes.

Mr. Vandiver said they had a public comment period that began around the time of the MPO meeting in December, and they had several public open houses and meetings during January and February to discuss the changes in the LRTP, and he said a summary of that had been included in the document, and they had also included a Legislative Compliance Checklist which showed that the document was in compliance with the relevant sections of 23 CFR 450, which was the Metropolitan Planning portion of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Mr. Vandiver said for more information and to view a copy of the Final LRTP, the Policy Board members could go to their website, at huntsvillempo.org/2050-lrtp.

Mayor Battle moved for approval of Resolution No. 01-25, adopting the Final TRiP 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Said motion was seconded by Mayor Finley and was unanimously adopted by the MPO Policy Board members present.

(RESOLUTION NO. 01-25)

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item was an FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment, and he recognized Mr. Bernard.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 02-25 adopted and supported updated

Transit Safety Performance Measures for Huntsville Transit. He said the MPO approved Transit Safety Performance Measurements for Huntsville Transit on an annual basis. He said the Performance Measurements included fatalities, injury, safety events, and the distance between mechanical failures for Fixed Route and Demand Response Transit Service.

Mayor Finley moved for 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 Mayor Battle and was unanimously adopted by the MPO Policy Board members present.

(RESOLUTION NO. 02-25)

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item was an FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment.

(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 the MPO provided Transit Asset Management Performance Measurements for Huntsville Transit when their Plan was updated, and the Performance Measurements included age and condition of the Transit Fleet and the Facilities.

Mayor Battle moved for 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, approved by Huntsville Transit.

Said motion was seconded by Mayor Finley and was unanimously adopted by the MPO Policy Board members present.

(RESOLUTION NO. 03-25)

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item was an FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment.

(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 Plan.

Mayor Finley moved for 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 Mayor Battle.

Chairman McCutcheon asked if there were any questions concerning this resolution, noting that it was a little unusual.

Mr. Bernard said the Town of Gurley was awarded a Fiscal Year 2025 ATRIP grant, and this project would include the construction of left- and right-turn lanes and a new traffic signal and realigning a section of US 72 East and Little Cove Road. He said this would also serve as the first phase of a broader Little Cove Eastern Bypass project that would widen the road from McMullen Cove to US 72. He said the total cost of the project was \$9,407,300, with \$2 million of this coming from the ATRIP grant and the remainder from a local match, with no MPO funds attributed to this project.

Chairman McCutcheon said they were moving forward with some design work and work on the Eastern Bypass, but this work, the intersection for Little Cove and the highway, was already under way there, and with ATRIP putting it on the list for their grants, that moved it into a position where they could put it as Phase 1 of that total project.

Chairman McCutcheon called for the vote on Resolution No. 04-25, and it was unanimously adopted by the MPO Policy Board members present.

(RESOLUTION NO. 04-25)

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item on the agenda was an FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment.

(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 Projects section of the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan. He said this was an intersection improvement, that Limestone County was awarded a Fiscal Year 2025 ATRIP grant as well, and the project would include the construction of left-turn lanes at the intersection, and the total cost of the project was estimated to be \$1,344,348, with all of it coming from the ATRIP grant that was awarded, and no MPO funds would be going toward this project.

Mayor Finley moved for 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 Mayor Battle and was unanimously

adopted by the MPO Policy Board members present.

(RESOLUTION NO. 05-25)

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item on the agenda was Non-Action Items.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said there was a list of the Administrative Modifications, and the details were listed. He said he would go through them, and then there could be any discussion or questions.

Mr. Bernard said items (a) and (b) were cost adjustments, decreases to resurfacing projects; (c) was a decrease to the railroad bridge project for the PARC project; (d) was two new resurfacing projects; (e) was a new Section 5310 transit project; (f) was a cost adjustment, a decrease, to sign replacement; (g) and (h) were decreases in project costs; (i) was a cost adjustment, an increase, to transit projects; (j) was a deletion of transit projects, and (k) was the Chairman's signature on the updated Functional Classification Maps for the MPO region.

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item on the agenda was Agency Reports and Rod Ellis would be providing the Huntsville MPO Projects Update.

(Mr. Ellis made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Northern Bypass from Pulaski Pike to US Hwy 231/431.

Mr. Ellis said this project was ongoing, that the Utility work was continuing to be completed, and grading and draining of the project was under way. He said his understanding was that the focus of the contractor's efforts was in and around the intersection of US 231 at this time, and he thought three of the four large drainage structures had been completed, and they were working on the fourth one. He said the project was approximately 25 percent

complete, and the budget for the project was approximately \$43 million.

Martin Road between Zierdt Road and Laracy Drive.

Mr. Ellis said this was improvements to Martin Road between Zierdt Road and Laracy Drive, and that Phase I, which was from Old Jim Williams Road to Zierdt Road, was completed, and Phase II was under construction, that Utility relocation was ongoing, and he believed the bridge contractor was onsite, working on the foundations for the new structure, and the roadway contractor was currently working on the grading and draining operation east of the new bridge. He said the project was approximately 20 percent complete, and the total project cost for both phases was approximately \$42 million.

North Parkway at Mastin Lake Road.

Mr. Ellis said this project was improvements on North Parkway at Mastin Lake Road, and it was a new overpass. He said this project was approximately 40 percent complete, that the service road work had been completed through the binder layer and traffic had been shifted out to those roadways, and the contractor was at this time focusing on the bridge construction for the overpass and the installation of new pavement, to increase the grade, and he believed the wall construction should begin soon. He said the project was approximately 40 percent complete, and the budget was a little over \$44 million.

Access management on US 231 between Weatherly Road and Hobbs Road.

Mr. Ellis said the plans were approximately 85 percent complete, and they hoped to begin purchasing right-of-way later in the current year. He said they had been working through some issues with some of the improvements they wanted to make and some costly Utility relocation work, that they were

trying to balance their improvements along with relocating utilities. He said the estimated budget was approximately \$15 million, and the project was scheduled for FY 2026.

Winchester Road from Dominion Circle to Naugher Road.

Mr. Ellis said the plans for the project were approximately 90 percent complete, that the right-of-way acquisition was ongoing, and the Utility relocation design work should begin soon. He said the estimated cost of the project was approximately \$28 million, and it was currently scheduled for FY 2026.

US 72 West between Providence Main and County Line Road.

Mr. Ellis said Phase I of this project was from Huntsville Memory Gardens to Providence Main. He said they were still working to get the environmental documents submitted from their consultant. He said they had worked through some issues over the last two months, and he believed they had those resolved. He said their current schedule was to submit the document in April. He continued that that would allow them to have a draft document and then move through finalizing that document, to allow them to start the right-of-way acquisition for that phase.

Mayor Finley asked when they would be able to see what was being designed.

Mr. Ellis said they could show that to them at any time.

Mayor Finley asked that they set up a meeting for that. He said he did not believe any of them had seen anything that was 90 percent completed.

Mr. Ellis said this was Phase I, that it was basically the bridge and the approaches.

Mr. Ellis said they would schedule something on that.

Chairman McCutcheon asked, concerning the environmental issue, what Mr. Ellis's best estimate was of when they would get that document, stamped and ready to go forward.

Mr. Ellis said if they could get a draft in April, they would have to work through allowing Federal Highway to review it, and there might be some comments on that. He said with an EA-level document, it should require an additional public involvement meeting, in the form of a Design hearing. He said for typical public involvement meetings, they used an open format, that they allowed people to come in and interact sort of casually, to ask questions and look at the proposed design. He said with a Design hearing, it allowed people to ask formal questions, that it had to be documented as part of the EA process. He said when they were in a higher-level federal document, there were some additional requirements. He said this project had started life as a lower-level document, but a few years ago, the Federal Highway's position, as to what level of document, was that it should be changed, so that had cost them some additional time in advancing the project through the environmental phase.

Chairman McCutcheon asked if it was correct that Mr. Ellis was saying they were going to have the document ready by April.

Mr. Ellis said the draft document would be ready, and there would be the public involvement. He said he was hopeful they could have a completed document sometime in the summer, for it to be signed and allow them to move into Right-of-Way, hopefully, by the end of the summer. He said he could not promise that.

Chairman McCutcheon said he understood. He said he was just looking at a timeline, because they had to move that so much.

Mr. Ellis said he was aware of that, and he appreciated their patience.

Chairman McCutcheon said he knew they were doing the best they could, that sometimes it was just coming from Washington.

Mr. Ellis said the next one was the Phase II portion of this project, which was from Walnut Street over to Huntsville Memory Gardens. He said the Design funding, the Preliminary Engineering, was authorized a couple of weeks prior, and they were actively working with their consultant to finalize a fee, and they should have them start finishing the design for Phase II, hopefully, in the next couple of months. He said the construction for this phase was scheduled for FY 2028, and the estimated cost was approximately \$36 million.

Mr. Ellis said the next one was the Phase III portion, which was from County Line Road to Walnut Street. He said the Preliminary Engineering was currently scheduled for later in the current fiscal year, but he felt like it would probably be FY 2026 before they started that design. He said the project was currently scheduled for FY 2030, with an estimated cost of a little over \$38 million.

SR-53 Widening from Taurus Drive to Harvest Road.

Mr. Ellis said the plans for this project were complete, that right-of-way acquisition was ongoing, that they had a handful of tracts they were trying to get finalized. He said those tracts had not affected their ability to begin the Utility relocation activities, so if they rode through this area, they would see what they considered construction activity under way in the form of the Utility relocation. He said he believed Huntsville Electric had been working, and they should have the Water Authority starting fairly soon on their work. He said the budget for this project was approximately \$10 million, and it was scheduled to bid later in the current fiscal year.

Madison Boulevard from Westchester Road to Flagstone Drive.

Mr. Ellis said this was improvements to Madison Boulevard from Westchester Road to Flagstone Drive, and the project was approximately 80 percent complete, that he believed all the paving work had been completed, and they were waiting for final striping. He continued that he believed some of the intersection improvements at Wall-Triana, in the form of some new signal equipment, and things like that, still had to be completed. He said the budget for this project was a little over \$4 million.

I-565 Additional Lanes from County Line Road to Wall-Triana Highway.

Mr. Ellis said the contractor's work effort had been focused on the west end of this project, advancing toward the east. He said if one had ridden through there, one could have seen where they had done some of the paving for the additional lanes, and they were continuing to work on the grading operation for the final drainage. He said barriers had been placed at the two bridges, in both directions, and the bridge contractor should begin soon working on the bridge widening for the proposed improvements. He said the project was approximately 10 percent complete, and the budget was approaching \$42 million.

Jeff Road Additional Lanes from south of Capshaw Road to North of Douglass Road.

Mr. Ellis said these plans were approximately 85 percent complete, and he said an update to the slide being displayed was that the environmental document had been approved the prior week, so this would allow the Right-of-Way acquisition phase to begin, once they had a finalized

Right-of-Way map. He said the project was currently scheduled for FY 2026, and the budget was approximately \$13.5 million.

Widening Blake Bottom Road from Jeff Road to SR 255.

Mr. Ellis said the plans and Right-of-Way acquisition for this project were complete, that the Utility work was ongoing, and the project was scheduled to be bid later in the current year, that he believed the County would bid the project locally. He said the budget for this project was approaching \$21 million.

Intersection Improvements on SR 53 at Harvest, McKee, and Old Railroad Bed roads.

Mr. Ellis said the contractor was working on this project, that all the pavement, the widening, had been completed, and he believed the new signals had been installed, and they were in flash mode. He said they were currently working on completing some drainage structures, and then there would be some final paving, to allow for the new striping for the turn lanes. He said the project was approximately 65 percent complete, and the budget was approximately \$3.7 million.

Arsenal East Connector.

Mr. Ellis said this project was in the Preliminary Engineering phase, and the budget was approximately \$30 million, and it was currently scheduled for FY 2028.

Mr. Ellis said the total funding was approaching \$389 million.

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

Mayor Battle asked if the engineering on 565 and the Parkway that Director Cooper had talked to them about, and committed money to, for a preliminary route on that, should be included in this.

Mr. Ellis said he could add it. He said he could give an update, that they had actually had discussions earlier in the day with the design consultant about submitting the fee, and he was hopeful they would begin that work very soon.

Mayor Battle asked if they would have that one on the list at the next MPO meeting.

Mr. Ellis replied in the affirmative.

Mayor Battle said he noticed they were at 20 percent, 20 percent, 20 percent, that he did not see any of them they were ready to cross home base on anywhere near in the future. He asked if they were moving as quickly as they could or if they were being constrained because of workforce, et cetera.

Mr. Ellis asked if Mayor Battle was asking concerning active construction projects.

Mayor Battle replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Ellis said that would be hard for him to say. He said for their major construction projects in this area, it seemed like they had three contractors that tended to be in play on the larger projects, so that could affect things to some degree. He said some of the projects, like the 565 widening, once they got into the winter months, progress started to slow down with what they were doing. He said on that widening, a lot of the initial work was the grading operation, to get everything ready to start placing the asphalt. He said the percent complete was based on money, really, contract amounts. He said once they really got into the paving, they were getting into the more expensive items, and they would see that percent complete start to accelerate some on some of these projects.

Mayor Battle asked if Mr. Ellis thought if they got through this spring, summer, and fall, and had good paving weather, they would bump some of

these up pretty quickly.

Mr. Ellis replied in the affirmative.

Chairman McCutcheon said that was what he was thinking, that if they could get through some good weather, these percentages would jump, and by the time of the next meeting, there would be a drastic change on some of these percentages.

Mr. Ellis said he hoped so.

Chairman McCutcheon said he just hoped they could get the environmental done on 72. He said they would have probably been better off if they had started on the other side and went east rather than trying to start there and go over.

Mr. Ellis said they were making them do the whole document, for all the corridor, so it would not have mattered, that they had to do the whole thing.

Chairman McCutcheon said when Mr. Ellis was talking about the Jeff Road project and extending it farther north, he remembered the federal government had stepped in at one point, and they wanted them to look at all those intersections. He said at one point, they were about ready to move forward with that project, but then they had come back and said because of those intersections, and the makeup of those intersections, they had to do a reassessment of that. He asked if it was correct they were not having to worry about that at this time, with where they were with it.

Mr. Ellis said they would have to forgive him, that he was aware that was looked at, and he was trying to remember the specific intersection.

Chairman McCutcheon said he wanted to say it was the Old Monrovia/Capshaw intersection.

Mr. Ellis said that sounded right. He said there were some

improvements, based on the traffic volumes and level of service, that there were some things that were added, that Federal Highway wanted to see. He said they might not be part of the initial project, but they might be part of an overall scope, in what the document covered. He said he thought the County's consultant might be able to answer that better than he could.

Chairman McCutcheon asked if it was correct that at this time, Mr. Ellis did not see any hiccups with where they were on that.

Mr. Ellis said he did not, that he thought they were to a point, with the environmental being approved, that they could move forward with the Right-of-Way acquisition, that that was the next phase for that project.

Chairman McCutcheon asked if there were any other questions for Mr. Ellis.

Chairman McCutcheon thanked Mr. Ellis for the presentation.

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item on the agenda was a Regional Development Review, and he recognized Mr. Vandiver.

Mr. Vandiver said he would be providing a brief update on the 2024 Regional Development Review. He said this was the third annual report for the MPO area, and it was based off a report the City of Huntsville had done for the past 40 years. He said this report primarily focused on residential construction and real estate data for the MPO region. He said there were 4,992 residential new construction building permits issued in the MPO area in 2024, compared to 7,161 in 2023, and while the number of multifamily apartments permitted decreased year over year, the number of single family, detached, and attached, units permitted increased by 6 percent.

Mr. Vandiver said the area with the most residential building permits issued was downtown Huntsville, followed by 72 West and Meridianville. He

said that in terms of Certificates of Occupancy, there were 10,642 residential new construction COs issued the prior year, and while this was the third year they had compiled this report, they believed it was the first time the MPO had ever gone over 10,000 units added in a single year, so that was a pretty incredible number. He said it was an increase of 33 percent over 2023, which had about 8,000 units. He said they had more than 1,000 units issued COs in the census tract that included Town Madison and Triana. He said that tract included both of those fast-growing areas. He said some other areas with high numbers of COs included the East Limestone area and Providence.

Mr. Vandiver said on the real estate side, they had 6,891 single-family residential units sold in the prior year, which was largely unchanged from 2023. He said the area with the highest number of homes sold was Meridianville, and the average sales price for a single-family home in the MPO area increased by 1.7 percent, to \$387,900.

Mr. Vandiver said the total number of housing units in the MPO Study Area as of December 31st was 221,275, that the housing stock had grown by more than 4 percent annually since 2020.

Mr. Vandiver said the population of the MPO Study Area was estimated to be 501,487 as of December 31, and this was the first time the MPO had gone over half a million people, as far as they were aware.

Mr. Vandiver thanked the City of Madison and Madison County for their assistance in getting the data for this report. He said they would have a full report on the MPO website, huntsvillempo.org, in the next few days.

Chairman McCutcheon thanked Mr. Vandiver for the report.

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item on the agenda was Nominations/Elections.

Chairman McCutcheon said nominations were open for Chair of the MPO Policy Board.

Mayor Battle moved that Mac McCutcheon be re-elected as Chair of the MPO Policy Board, which motion was seconded by Mayor Finley, and he moved that nominations be closed.

Chairman McCutcheon called for the vote on Mac McCutcheon as Chair of the MPO Policy Board, and the motion was unanimously approved by the MPO Policy Board members present.

Chairman McCutcheon said the floor was open for nominations for Vice Chair of the MPO Policy Board.

Mayor Battle moved that Paul Finley be re-elected as Vice Chair of the MPO Policy Board, which motion was seconded by Chairman McCutcheon, and he moved that nominations be closed.

Chairman McCutcheon called for the vote on Paul Finley as Vice Chair of the MPO Policy Board, and the motion was unanimously approved by the MPO Policy Board members present.

Chairman McCutcheon said Mayor Paul Finley had been re-elected as Vice Chair of the MPO Policy Board.

Mayor Finley moved that Tommy Battle be re-elected as Secretary of the MPO Policy Board, which motion was seconded by Chairman McCutcheon, and he moved that nominations be closed.

Chairman McCutcheon called for the vote on Tommy Battle as Secretary of the MPO Policy Board, and the motion was unanimously approved by the MPO Policy Board members present.

Chairman McCutcheon said Mayor Tommy Battle had been re-elected as Secretary of the MPO Policy Board.

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

Chairman McCutcheon asked Ms. Michelle Jordan if she would like to give them a report on TARCOG.

Ms. Jordan said she was happy to share that TARCOG was doing well. She said they had broken ground the prior month on a new building, and they had an update meeting earlier in the day, and things were moving fast and on schedule, that there had been no rain days so far, and they were looking toward completing construction in about a year.

Ms. Jordan said their numbers in all their programs were up at this time, that they were at about 950 clients in their program that assisted their senior population that was homebound, and she was happy to report that, again, they were saving the State about \$60 million a year with that program, so they were excited about offering those services to seniors so they could remain as independent as possible. She said they had a little challenge with their Meals programs, having more requests for meals than their money was matching up, but they had started taking donations from their member governments and the public, and they hoped to fill those gaps over the next year.

Ms. Jordan said they were getting their plans in place for their Senior Fun Fest, which would be on May 13th, at the Alabama A&M Agribition Center. She said the prior year they were hosts and hostesses for about 1200 seniors from across the five-county region, and they were looking forward to doing the same, if not more, this year. She continued that they had a great meeting earlier in the day with Commissioner Brandon, and they were excited about those plans.

Ms. Jordan said there was a lot of work going on in Planning and

Economic Development, and they had recently found out that they had another JAG grant, so their oldest employee was still cranking out a lot of positive work, with "oldest" meaning he had been with them almost 50 years, that Del Schafer would celebrate 50 years with TARCOG. She said TARCOG was 57 years old, so Del knew all the work that had been done throughout the region. She said they were excited about that, and they would have a big celebration, celebrating his milestone.

Ms. Jordan said that was a quick report, and she would be happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Battle said Ms. Jordan had mentioned that their income was not matching up with their expenditures on Senior Meals, and he asked what the shortfall was, how much they would have to come up with.

Ms. Jordan said she would say there were about 50 seniors across the region they might have an opportunity to serve. She said the meals were about five to seven dollars per meal. She said they had a form they had circulated throughout the region, through their Councils on Aging, and they had had great response, that many of their partners had stepped up to the plate, but that number was just growing, showing that there was a need for food. She continued that she believed they were aware that the program referred to as "Meals on Wheels," the home-delivered meals, were at times the one hot meal the senior population got, so they were making sure they were keeping track of that, and when the opportunity presented itself to shore up those requests, they were doing that. She said the State was aware of this, noting that it was a statewide issue, and they believed it would be met in the next budget.

Mayor Battle asked if that number would be around 20 or 25 thousand dollars.

Ms. Jordan said that sounded about right.

Mayor Battle said if Ms. Jordan decided to do any faith-based asking for funds, he thought they would all be glad to join in.

Ms. Jordan expressed appreciation for that, noting that the faith-based community had been their partner. She said they would let them know, that they were not ringing the alarm yet because they had had great success with that, but they were seeing that trend, and they were keeping track of it.

Mayor Battle thanked Ms. Jordan.

Chairman McCutcheon asked if there were any other public comments.

Chairman McCutcheon said the next item on the agenda was MPO Policy Board Member Comments, and he asked if any of the members had any comments.

Mayor Finley said he was excited that on Friday, at 1 p.m., they would open the full interchange at Town Madison. He congratulated the team that had helped them with this, and he thanked ALDOT for all they had done to help support the City of Madison in accomplishing this. He said ALDOT had kept that program going, that it had been done differently than anything else had been done, and ALDOT had helped them work through it, to actually get it open before April 4th, noting they had made it before the Trash Panda's first game.

Chairman McCutcheon said that in looking at this whole process, of the City of Madison and Town Madison, all that development, the City of Madison and the Council had really stepped up on that overpass, and he was very appreciative of their working with ALDOT, that ALDOT had been right there to be a partner with it and all the work that had gone into it.

Chairman McCutcheon said he had the opportunity to go through a

meeting with the Policy Board members, and Mayor Battle had been there, and they had been asked questions, and they had talked about training and Transportation 101 and had gone through the process. He said during the time they were answering some of those questions for the Policy Board members, he had realized that sometimes they just moved through the process. He said Mr. Madsen, Mr. Vandiver, and Mr. Bernard did a tremendous amount of work, and he thanked them for the work they did, the data, the preparation, and all the work that went into this. He said that in that meeting, some ALDOT folks were in attendance, and it was a very good meeting, that good questions were asked. He said as Chair of the MPO, he just wanted to thank them for their work, coming together and trying to do the best they could for the transportation issues in the state.

Mr. Bernard thanked Chairman McCutcheon, on behalf of the Department, for his compliment.

Chairman McCutcheon said the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman, Metropolitan
Planning Organization

ATTEST:

Secretary, Metropolitan
Planning Organization

(Meeting adjourned on March 19, 2025, at 4:45 p.m.)