

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

MINUTES

Regular Meeting - May 18, 2025 - 5 p.m.

**City Hall
Huntsville, Alabama**

Committee Members:

Mr. Russ McDonald
Mr. Houston Mathews
Mr. Todd Slyman

Chairman, City of Huntsville
Madison County
City of Huntsville

MPO Staff Members:

Mr. James Vandiver
Mr. Kevin Bernard
Mr. James Moore

Also Present:

Ms. Aliyah Riley

Planning Department,
City of Huntsville

Mr. Marcus Reed

Planning Department,
City of Huntsville

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on February 9, 2026, were approved as submitted.

JURISDICTION REPORTS

There were no jurisdiction reports.

ACTION ITEMS

HUNTSVILLE AREA MPO BICYCLE PLAN

Chairman McDonald recognized Mr. James Vandiver, MPO Staff.

(Mr. Vandiver made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Vandiver said Resolution No. 2026-08 adopted the Final Huntsville MPO Bike Plan, also known as "Bike the Rocket City." He said this was their first Bike Plan for the entire MPO, that it combined the bike plans that had been previously approved for the City of Huntsville, the City of Madison, and Madison County, that they all had something put in this plan, and it was connecting all those separate bike networks that had not been previously connected, that they were leveraging local streets and introducing more dedicated bicycle facilities, that it included more than 800 new recommendations for bicycle facilities, and it was also providing safer corridors and intersections.

Mr. Vandiver said some of the Goals of the MPO Bike Plan were to identify opportunities for bicycling, to establish recommendations for improvements, including easy, quick-win projects and long-term, visionary projects, and he said this would give them a set of implementation strategies the MPO jurisdictions could use.

Mr. Vandiver said that they had worked with ALDOT on this, to make sure they were okay with the plan before bringing it before the board for approval.

Mr. Vandiver said the plan was on the MPO website:
huntsvillempo.org/bike-rocket-city/.

Chairman McDonald asked if this was just a plan, individual projects.

Mr. Vandiver said that was correct. He said some of them would be

combined with other MPO projects that were in the works, and others would be more visionary projects.

Motion recommending approval of the FINAL Huntsville Area MPO Bicycle Plan ("Bike the Rocket City").

**Motion by Mathews/Second by Slyman/Unanimously
Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.**

2050 LRTP AMENDMENT

(Mr. Vandiver made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Vandiver said Resolution No. 2026-09 adopted and supported changes to the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan, the LRTP.

Mr. Vandiver said the LRTP was their 25-year plan that was updated every five years. He said in the prior year, they had approved the TRiP 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan, that it included funded and unfunded transportation projects, and that capacity projects must be included in the Long-Range Transportation Plan to obtain federal funding.

Mr. Vandiver said this had been adopted in March of 2025 and what they were doing with this amendment was amending it to add the recommended Bike Plan Projects and Environmental Mitigation Strategies, which was a corrective action from their last Transportation Management Area Certification Review by Federal Highway, that they had asked for more information on Environmental Mitigation Strategies, and he said they had also made some grammar and graphics changes to the document. He said more information concerning this could be found on the MPO website: huntsvillempo.org/2050-lrtp.

Chairman McDonald asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the LRTP.

Mr. Mathews asked if Mr. Vandiver could give just a very general example of what an "Environmental Mitigation Strategy" might be.

Mr. Vandiver said it would be things like if they were expecting a lot of noise from a road project, they wanted them to mention the kinds of things, the strategies, they would use to abate the noise, if they had a neighborhood next to a highway project, that they would have noise barriers, for example, or create some sort of abatement to keep the noise out of the neighborhood. He said they were just making this more detailed.

Motion recommending approval of Resolution No. 2026-09, adopting the Amended FINAL TRiP 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

**Motion by Mathews/Second by Slyman/Unanimously
Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.
DRAFT FY 2027 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)**

Chairman McDonald recognized Mr. Kevin Bernard, MPO Staff.

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 2026-10 was the FY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Budget, and he said the budgeted funding, for planning purposes of the MPO, included carryovers from previous years, for a total of \$2,020,694.

Mr. Bernard said a breakdown of the budget was shown on the displayed slide, where they had allocated funding for different tasks. He said a task greater than \$20,000 was shown in green, that if there was no color, it remained the same, and the yellow was a change of less than \$10,000. He said they had adjusted one category, which was Pre-Design Activities, that it was in the FY 2026 Budget, referred to as "Corridor Studies," and he said they had

since changed that to "Pre-Design Activities." He said they were undertaking pretty much the same type work, that this language would not restrict them from performing other activities.

Mr. Bernard said they had a decrease in Task funding for the Intercity Passenger Rail Study, which was currently under way.

Mr. Bernard said there was a comparison of the funds from previous years, how they had allocated funds. He said usually they anticipated that there would be different tasks that would require a lot more funding, and they would usually adjust it.

Mr. Mathews asked if the local match portion was divided among MPO members or if Huntsville paid all of it.

Mr. Bernard said the difference was all local match.

Mr. Mathews said the federal portion was a big increase from the year before, and he asked if that was limited, or if there was a maximum federal match that applied. He asked what would prevent them or why they would not say their budget was \$3 million and add to all the buckets. He asked if there was a net that they could not go higher than.

Mr. Bernard said MPOs were allotted budgets every year from the federal government, which the State managed, so their allotment, plus what they had left from the previous year, gave them their budget moving forward. He said they had a specific amount of money, but if they were efficient and saved money from previous years, then there was the carryover, that they could add it to the budget, that they could delay for future years and carry it forward.

Mr. Houston asked if their increase was primarily because there was a lot of carryover or if they had gotten an increase in their budget for some reason. He said from 2025 to 2026, there was not much of an increase, but there was a

pretty big one for 2027.

Mr. Bernard said it was because of carryover.

Chairman McDonald asked if it was correct that this would start in September.

Mr. Bernard said it would start in October.

Chairman McDonald asked if Congress did not pass a budget, what they would do.

Mr. Bernard said they had had adjustments the prior year, having to adjust their UPWP based on Executive memos that came out, and depending on what Congress did, or what the Administration did, they might have to adjust. He said there might be more money or less money, as funds were allocated for some specific tasks, and they could adjust, based on what they would be told.

Motion recommending approval of Resolution No. 2026-10, adopting the DRAFT FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

**Motion by Houston/Second by Slyman/Unanimously
Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.
FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment.**

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 2026-11 adopted and supported changes to projects #100061838, #100061839, and #100061840 to the NHS/Interstate Management/NHS/Bridge Projects section of the 2024-2027 TIP. He said this project included Access Management and Intersection Improvements along SR-53/US 231, South Parkway, from south of Veterans Drive to 0.2 miles north of Weatherly Road. He said this project had been in the system several years, and this was to reflect the current cost. He

said because the new estimate exceeded \$5 million, it had to come back to the board for resolution. He said the project was proposing to reduce the number of access points, to limit confusion and conflicts, and also to increase turning lanes, to reduce congestion at intersections.

Chairman McDonald asked if it added any lanes.

Mr. Bernard said it did not add any lanes, that it would just take away some of the crossover, to direct traffic more efficiently. He said the display on the screen provided a breakdown of Right-of-Way, Utility, and Construction, that the new cost estimates were in red, with the target start dates for each, in red, as well as there were the old cost estimates and target start dates.

Mr. Vandiver said this cost estimate was made 15 years prior, and construction costs had gone up significantly in the past 15 years, so this was revised, and they were getting ready to work on the Utility phase.

Motion to recommend approval of Resolution No. 2026-11, amending the NHS/Interstate Maintenance/NHS/Bridge Projects section of the FY2024-2027 TIP to amend projects #100061838 (UT), #100061839 (RW), and #100061840 (CN) of the “ACCESS MANAGEMENT AND INTERSTATE IMPROVEMENTS ON SR-53 (US-231) project.”

**Motion by Mathews/Second by Slyman/Unanimously
Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.
FY 2024-2027 TIP AMENDMENT**

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 2026-12 adopted and supported the addition of projects #100081908 and #100081909 to the Other State and Federal Aid Projects section of the 2024-2027 TIP. He said this project

consisted of the widening of approximately 3.25 miles of Mooresville Road, from US Highway 72 to Greenbrier Parkway. He said the proposed typical section would be a continuous three-lane road, with one northbound lane, one southbound lane, and one two-way left-turn lane, as well as sidewalk infrastructure along the northern portion of the project, to connect existing residential subdivisions.

Motion recommending approval of Resolution No. 2026-12, amending the "Other State and Federal Aid Projects" section of the FY 2024-2027 TIP to add projects #100081908 and #100081909.

**Motion by Mathews/Second by Slyman/Unanimously
Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.
FY 2026-2027 TIP Amendment**

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 2026-13 adopted and supported the addition of project #100081922 to the Other State and Federal Aid Projects section of the 2024-2027 TIP. He said this was for additional lanes on Old Monrovia Road, from Hunting Trail, which was close to Providence Elementary, to Jeff Road. He said Madison County had received approximately \$5.5 million in appropriations to install additional lanes on this particular stretch. He said no MPO funds would be used on this project. He said at this time, they only had this one phase, in an amount of \$6,875,000, and \$5.5 million of it was from an appropriation by Representative Strong, and the local match would be coming from Madison County.

Mr. Slyman asked if the "CN" was for construction.

Mr. Bernard said this was the allocation for construction, that this project was not ready to go yet, but this money had been earmarked for

construction along this stretch of road.

Mr. Slyman asked when Mr. Bernard thought the actual project would start.

Mr. Bernard said it would be difficult to say exactly when, that all these were estimated times, and they changed frequently.

Mr. Slyman said this community had been pushing for this, and the CAC had sent several resolutions to the MPO requesting for this to happen, so he was happy to see it coming through, but he would like to know the timeline.

Mr. Bernard said the MPO considered this a priority, that they were trying to expedite it as best they could. He said the MPO had its limitations, but it was on the radar and high on the priority list.

Motion recommending approval of Resolution No. 2026-13, amending the "Other State and Federal Aid Projects" section of the FY 2024-2027 TIP to add project #100081922.

**Motion by Slyman/Second by Mathews/Unanimously
Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.
FY 2024-2027 TIP AMENDMENT**

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 2026-14 adopted and supported the addition of project #100081995 to the Carbon Reduction Attributable Projects section of the 2024-2027 TIP. He said this specific project was located within the city of Madison, Town Madison Boulevard where it intersected with the off ramp of I-565, for intersection improvements. He said the scope would include pedestrian crossing improvements, new turn lanes for vehicles, and a traffic signal replacement. He said this was to increase pedestrian safety and also to increase the efficiency of vehicle circulation, for those traveling around that

neighborhood and also for those going to the Toyota ball field.

Mr. Vandiver said the City of Madison had currently spent over \$91,000 on plan designs, and the MPO would contribute \$400,000 in Carbon Reduction funds for construction of the intersection improvements, with a \$250,000 local match from the City of Madison. He said the estimated cost was \$650,000.

Motion recommending approval of Resolution No. 2026-14, amending the Carbon Reduction Attributable Projects section of the FY 2024-2027 TIP to add project #100081995 (CN) for “PEDESTRIAN & INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ON TOWN MADISON BOULEVARD AT THE ENTRANCE & EXIT RAMPS FOR I-565 (EXIT 10) IN THE CITY OF MADISON.”

**Motion by Slyman/Second by Mathews/Unanimously
Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.
FY 2024-2027 TIP AMENDMENT**

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Resolution No. 2026-15 adopted and supported the addition of Project "Wall Triana Highway Additional Lanes in the City of Madison" to the Regionally Significant Projects section of the 2024-2027 TIP. He said the City of Madison was requesting that this project be added to the Regionally Significant Projects list of the TIP, to apply for federal funding. He said this project would include widening Wall Triana Highway to three lanes, from Midtown Elementary School to Gooch Lane, including a continuous center turn lane and right-turn lanes at major intersections and into residential and commercial developments as feasible. He said this project was only being added to the TIP at this time, that another resolution would be needed once

federal funding was awarded to the project.

Motion recommending approval of Resolution No. 2026-15, amending the "Regionally Significant Projects" section of the FY 2024-2027 TIP to add the "WALL TRIANA HIGHWAY ADDITIONAL LANES project."

Motion by Houston/Second by Slyman/Unanimously Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

FY 2024-2027 TIP ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS

(Mr. Bernard made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Bernard said Administrative Modification (a) was a decrease in cost to project #100080568, that this was the engineering scope, and the original cost estimate was \$315,679.00 and the new cost estimate was \$312,554.00, a difference of \$3,125.00. He said this was for intersection improvements at SR-1 (US-231/431) and Walker Lane/Grimwood Road, that the project had been started and no MPO or Local funds were to be spent on it.

Mr. Bernard said Administrative Modification (b) was a cost increase to project #100081473, and this was the construction scope. He said this was for a Sparkman Drive bridge replacement. He said they had seen this at the last meeting, and he said the old project estimate was \$2,000,000, and the new project estimate was \$2,500,000, with the difference being the local match. He said the City was awarded \$2,000,000 in FY 2026, for State Transportation and Housing Development Appropriations, so when they had last seen this, it was estimated at \$2,000,000, and that was given without them knowing what the match would be, hence the change.

Mr. Bernard said Administrative Modification (c) was for funding

clarification for project #100062255, and this was the construction scope, that it was Intersection Improvements at Slaughter Road and Madison Boulevard, with a target start date of March 26, 2027. He said the clarification was the funding source, and he said as shown on the displayed table, the MPO was providing the majority of the funding for this project, but there had been an appropriation by Representative Strong, in the amount of \$2.7 million, and that would reduce the MPO contribution. He said after applying this Congressional appropriation, this was the new cost structure.

Mr. Bernard said Administrative Modification (d) was a decrease in cost for project #100071157, the construction scope. He said this was intersection safety improvements at SR-2 (US-72) and Cambridge Lane. He said the old cost estimate was \$2,550,250.00, and the new cost estimate was \$2,147,385.54, a savings of \$402,864.46.

AGENCY REPORTS

Alabama Department of Transportation

(Mr. Vandiver made a PowerPoint presentation.)

Mr. Vandiver said he would present the Huntsville MPO Project Update.

Northern Bypass from Pulaski Pike to US Highway 231/431

Mr. Vandiver said the Utility work was close to completion, and the contractor was continuing to work on the new roadway, that the project was approximately 75 percent complete, and they hoped it would be completed by the end of the current year, and the project cost was approximately \$43,000,000.

Martin Road Between Zierdt Road and Laracy Drive

Mr. Vandiver said Phase I had been complete for several years, and

they were working on Phase II. He said there was a bridge over Bradford Creek that was essentially complete, and the roadway was now open to traffic from Wall-Triana Highway and Zierdt Road, with the outside lanes closed, and the project was approximately 75 percent complete. He said the estimated project cost was approximately \$42,000,000, for both phases.

North Parkway at Mastin Lake Road

Mr. Vandiver said the contractor was working on the southern approach and the bridge structure, that the project was approximately 75 percent complete, and the project cost was \$44,000,000.

Access Management on US 231 between Weatherly Road and Hobbs Road

Mr. Vandiver said the plans were 85 percent complete, and the right-of-way acquisition was to begin soon. He said this was one Mr. Bernard had mentioned earlier, with a resolution concerning it. He said the estimated cost was actually close to \$30 million, that the slide needed to be updated, and the anticipated start date was FY 2028.

Winchester Road from Dominion Circle to Naugher Road

Mr. Vandiver said the plans were 90 percent complete, that the right-of-way acquisition was almost complete, and he said the City of Huntsville had just gotten from the Council some increased cost due to Utility relocation, and that was approximately \$3 million, the increased cost. He said the estimated cost would probably be about \$30 million for this project. He said the anticipated start date was FY 2027, with the Utility relocation being done in the next few months.

Chairman McDonald asked if the city limits went out that far.

Mr. Vandiver said this was an interesting project. He said the City of

Huntsville was working on this project, but it was mostly in the county, that it was kind of a swap between the City and the County, but it was mostly the County.

US 72 West between Providence Main and County Line Road

Mr. Vandiver said this was Phase I. He said the final draft of the EA had either been approved or it was close to approval. He said the plans were 90 percent complete, that they were waiting for the environmental document to be completed to start work on Phase I. He said the environmental document would cover Phases I, II, and III, so they did not have to worry about another environmental document. He said the estimated cost for Phase I was \$18,000,000.

US 72 West between Providence Main and County Line Road

Mr. Vandiver said Phase II was from Walnut Street to Huntsville Memory Gardens, and he said Walnut Street was between Hughes and Wall-Triana, on US 72, and Huntsville Memory Gardens was to the west of Paramount Drive. He said the consultant was working toward a 65 percent review, and construction was scheduled for FY 2029 for this section, at an estimated cost of \$36,000,000.

US 72 West between Providence Main and County Line Road

Mr. Vandiver said the final phase was from County Line Road to Walnut Street, and they expected the Preliminary Engineering to start in the current fiscal year, with construction planned for FY 2030. He said the estimated cost for this section was \$38,200,000.

SR-53 Widening from Taurus Drive to Harvest Road

Mr. Vandiver said this work should begin any day, that the bids had been received, and the estimated cost was just under \$10 million, which was a

decrease, mostly because ALDOT had already worked on some improvements there at the Harvest Road intersection.

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

Mr. Vandiver said the contractor was working west to east on this project, and working on bridges over Bradford Creek. He said the project was approximately 35 percent complete, and the estimated cost was \$41,800,000.

Jeff Road Additional Lanes from South of Capshaw Road to North of Douglass Road

Mr. Vandiver said the plans were 85 percent complete, and the right-of-way acquisition was anticipated to begin in the current fiscal year, and it would be led by the County. He said the projected start date was FY 2027.

Widening Blake Bottom Road from Jeff Road to SR 255

Mr. Vandiver said the Utility work was under way, and they were looking to get the project bid by the County in the current year. He said the estimated cost was just over \$20 million.

Arsenal East Connector

Mr. Vandiver said the design was still under way for this project, at an estimated cost of \$30,000,0000, with an anticipated start date of FY 2028.

I-565/Memorial Parkway Interchange Modification Study

Mr. Vandiver said they were working on a simulation model for different concepts, and the model would be submitted to ALDOT and FHWA for review and approval. He said the estimated cost for this study was \$1,500,000.

I-565 /Madison Boulevard Interchange, Phase I

Mr. Vandiver said this was the Resolute Way project, and Phase I, the design, was now under way, that it had been authorized, funded by the MPO,

that the surveys were wrapping up and plan development should begin soon. He said the estimated cost was approximately \$10 million, and construction would probably start in the next year. He said the cost of Phase II, creating the full interchange, would be about \$50 million.

Mr. Vandiver said the total amount of work in Design and Construction was \$393,255,000.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CAC MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Slyman said he had some comments about the widening of Highway 72, starting at Providence and going past Huntsville Memory Gardens, that first phase. He said there had been some meetings, and there were a lot of signatures in favor of a deceleration lane on the bridge, so he would like to make a motion.

Motion to add a deceleration lane on the Highway 72 Bridge over Indian Creek during the widening project, to allow for a right-in and a right-out at the Hillcrest Avenue/Highway 72 intersection.

Motion by Slyman/Second by Mathews/Unanimously Approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee members present.

Chairman McDonald asked when the next meeting would be.

Mr. Bernard said the next meeting date for the CAC was August 24, 2026.

ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m. on May 18, 2026.