

Spartanburg Area Transportation Study

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SPATS Policy Committee

Minutes

February 8, 2016

Present:

Junie White

Pat Watson

Whit Kennedy

Tom Arthur

Roger Nutt

Mike Forrester

Jeff Horton

Sterling Anderson

Julian Hankinson

Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Chairman Junie White called the meeting to order. The minutes of the November 9, 2015 meeting were approved as offered by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Arthur.

Election of Officers

Motion was made by Mr. Horton to elect Mike Forrester as Chair, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Motion was made by Junie White to elect Jeff Horton as Vice-Chair, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Motion was made by Mr. Horton to elect Junie White as Second Vice-Chair, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. Mr. Forrester continued the meeting as Chair.

TIP Updates, Transit

Kelley Shippey-Gilbert, Spartanburg County Transit Planner, presented the SPATS Urban Transit Needs Update. Updated request included additional funds allocated from SCDOT to allow for vehicle purchases and potentially expanding operating period. For the FTA 5307:

City of Spartanburg/SPARTA – total request increased from \$1,555,000 to \$2,525,000.

Spartanburg County TSB – total request increased from \$1,920,000 to \$2,930,000.

TIP Updates were approved as presented by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Nutt.

Long-Range Transportation Plan Update

Ms. Bollinger thanked the general public, stakeholders and partners for input during the LRTP Update process. She also thanked Stantec, lead consultant, and Toole Design Group, subconsultant, the SPATS LRTP Steering Committee, and the Intersection Subcommittee for their work. Scott Lane and Mike Rutkowski of Stantec presented an overview of the Long-Range Transportation Plan for final approval. A link to the full plan was emailed to the full Committee ahead of the Policy Committee meeting.

Main concerns identified throughout the Update process included road condition, safety, bicycle, pedestrian and transit connections, traffic and the cost of services. Strategic corridor planning and Multi-modal planning were main themes, especially opportunities along SC 101, SC 290, and US 29.

Roadway Element - recommendations for intersection improvements were mapped and conceptual designs for each intersection were presented to the Intersection Subcommittee and the Steering Committee.

Streetscaping/Complete Streets, access management and roadway widening project recommendations were also mapped. **Active Living Element** - Bicycle and pedestrian improvements were recommended and mapped, with a special consideration at intersections and crossings for the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians. Opportunities for connectivity in the transportation system and policy and programming suggestions were made. **Transit Element** - Public transit policy concepts and opportunities for inter-regional cooperation were recommended. Particular attention was given to new technology, coordinated resources, routes and transit stop locations, as well as land use. **Freight, EMS, and Aviation Element** - Opportunities for Freight, EMS, and Aviation cooperation and coordination were made with a mention to specific projects for Safety.

Ms. Bollinger asked for a motion to approve the Final LRTP and move forward with implementation. Motion was made by Mr. White to approve the Final LRTP, seconded by Mr. Horton.

UPWP Update

Ms. Bollinger gave an update on the UPWP, Data Collection element. She updated the Committee that the purchase of a trail counter system for the purpose of collecting ongoing bicycle and pedestrian user counts will be approximately 3-5K. Partners or a consultant will assist in the data collection. Ms. Bollinger asked for a motion to approve. Motion was made by Mr. White to approve the purchase of a user count system, seconded by Mr. Horton.

Country Club Corridor Study Update

Ernie Boughman of Toole Design presented the Country Club Road Corridor Study update, thanking everyone for participating in the process. The proposed conceptual designs focused on making the corridor safe and functional, accessible and connected, and attractive as well as appropriate given the character of the road. After 3 interactive public meetings and 10 stakeholder meetings, 300 participants were involved in the study. The WikiMap online tool was extensively used as a unique interactive public input tool, and the final Open House was held on December 7th at 6 pm at the Country Club of Spartanburg. Mr. Boughman reviewed the three conceptual designs and cross-sections for the 3 separate sections along the corridor, with before and after photo renderings, based on public review and technical analysis.

Mr. Boughman presented the estimated timing of implementation of the study concepts after approval. He also presented an opinion of probable cost for implementation. The question was asked if the cost estimate for construction was within the SPATS budget and Mr. Boughman produced a slide showing the estimates were within budget.

Mr. Kennedy asked Mr. Boughman if his team was aware of the percentage of property owners/homeowners associations who would be willing to maintain proposed trail sections, trees and any landscaping once completed.

Motion was made to endorse the study by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mr. White.

Projects Status Report

Ms. Penny Phillips of SCDOT presented a project status report.

SC 9 widening from 2 to 5 lanes from Rainbow Lake Road to River Oak Road Phase 2 and 3 is complete, well ahead of schedule.

US 176 Operational improvements from I-26 to I-585/SC 56 split with Intersection Improvements at John Dodd Rd., Belcher Rd., and Springfield Rd.: PE is approximately 75% complete. ROW obligation is underway and Construction letting is scheduled for Fall 2016.

S-30 Intersection improvements at Fernwood/Clifton/Glendale Rd. and Zion Hill Rd.: PE is 75% complete. ROW Obligation is underway. Construction letting is scheduled for late 2016.

Old Furnace Road sidewalks from Hanging Rock Rd. to Mason Rd.: PE is 75% complete. ROW acquisition is 90% complete. Utility coordination is underway. Construction letting is scheduled for Fall 2016.

S-41 Relocation (N. Blackstock Rd.) & S-525 (Fairforest Rd.) and Church St.: PE is approximately 25% complete. Traffic study was received this month and a public hearing is scheduled for the Spring.

Other Business

Mr. Anderson asked for an update on the Hayne St. bridge improvements. Ms. Stephanie Jackson-Amell from SCDOT reported that the replacement should be completed by the end of next month. Mr. Anderson also asked for an update on the Vanderbilt Road bridge improvements. The Briarwood Road detour is problematic and multiple accidents and congestion has resulted at the WO Ezell Drive and Briarwood Road intersection. Ms. Amell reported that the project will be let this month and will be complete in 6 months.

Mr. Forrester confirmed with the full committee that no one has a conflict with the regular meeting time as set (second Monday of February, June, August and November).

Mr. Arthur reminded the members that the CTC has no available funding for new projects at this time. Currently, the CTC receives approximately \$4 million annually and \$3.2 million goes to resurfacing. \$9 million is coming back to Spartanburg County from SCDOT as a one-time to complete resurfacing and widen to 24' sections on secondary roads including Anderson Mill Road, Pine Ridge Road, Parris Bridge Road, and New Cut Road. Costs include \$30-\$31 per square yard and \$400-\$450K per mile to rebuild these roads.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. White to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2016.