

Spartanburg Area Transportation Study

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SPATS Policy Committee

Minutes

June 19, 2017

Present:

Lisa Scott

Jeff Horton

Mike Forrester

Julian Hankinson

Patricia Watson

Roger Nutt

Tom Arthur

Jared Wilson

Sterling Anderson

Larry Chappell

Buddy Harrelson

Also present:

Gregg Miller (Lyman Administrator), Emily Lawton (Federal Highway Administration).

Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Chair Jeff Horton called the meeting to order. Mr. Anderson moved to approve the minutes of the February 13th meeting as emailed, seconded by Mr. Nutt.

A moment of silence was given in memory of Mr. Tony Gene Gillispie, Sr., Mayor of Lyman. Larry Chappell, Mayor Pro Temp, was welcomed. The Town of Lyman election will be held on June 27th. Mr. Horton thanked Ms. Scott for her service on the SPATS Policy Committee during her tenure as the Mayor of Duncan. Clyde Rogers, Jr. will be Ms. Scott's successor. Although not present, Andrew Dixon was recognized as the new Mayor of Reidville.

Town of Central Pacolet Committee Appointment

Mr. Horton recognized Buddy Harrelson, Mayor of the Town of Central Pacolet. Mr. Forrester made the motion to amend the SPATS Bylaws to include the Mayor of the Town of Central Pacolet as a voting member of the SPATS Policy Committee, seconded by Mr. Nutt.

Spartanburg Regional/City of Spartanburg Area Regional Transit Agency (SPARTA) Funding Request/Title VI Update

Ms. Kelley Gilbert, Spartanburg County Transit Planner, presented the new funding requests from Spartanburg Regional and SPARTA. Mr. Forrester made a motion to amend the SPATS TIP to program additional 5307 funds allocated by SCDOT detailed below and approve the Title VI Update, seconded by Ms. Scott.

City of Spartanburg (increase of \$1,559,641 total, \$1,046,113 federal share)
Spartanburg Regional (increase of \$2,475,324, \$1,411,568 federal share)
Spartanburg County (increase of \$3,355,620, \$1,823,165 federal share)

The Title VI Update will bring up to date the race-based and income-based maps within the SPATS area. These maps will identify minority and low-income areas for continued engagement of these groups in the SPATS public participation process.

Unified Planning Work Program FY 2018-FY 2019

Ms. Bollinger gave an overview of the 2-year work program for July 2017-June 2019 (FY 2018 and FY 2019). This funding comes from organizational planning funding, or “PL” funding, to operate the transportation process in the Spartanburg area. The last update was in 2015, and the next update will be in 2019. Work program tasks include:

- 1) administration of the program, public outreach, and required documentation (this Unified Planning Work Program or UPWP, Long-Range Transportation Plan or LRTP (long-range “WISH” LIST), Transportation Improvement Program or TIP (short-range, funded, programmed projects pulled from the Long-Range LIST)
- 2) data development (including additional performance data and target setting),
- 3) short-range planning (traffic operations, safety and multi-modal transportation planning and coordination, with a new focus on freight) &
- 4) transportation plan maintenance including nonguideshare updates.

Ms. Bollinger requested a new amendment for the SPARTA Transit Route Study and Operational Assessment. The study will assist SPARTA with a review of their current transit generators, critical destinations and potential for enhanced transit service. More details will be developed at a later date, but the study will be a part of the revised UPWP if approved.

Mr. Anderson made the motion to approve the new 2-year UPWP by resolution, seconded by Mr. Forrester. Staff will submit the approved UPWP and resolution to SCDOT and FHWA.

Federal Freight and Rail Update

FREIGHT: Diane Lackey, SCDOT Freight Programs, reviewed the process to date for the SCDOT proposed corridor designation of important freight corridors that provide critical connectivity within the National Highway Freight Network (NHFN) to the USDOT/Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The newest version of the transportation bill, Fixing America’s Surface Transportation or FAST Act, requires USDOT/FHWA to establish this network to strategically direct Federal resources and policies toward improved performance of the network. This network has been refined over many years by these groups and consists of the following four subsystems:

1. Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS)
2. Portions of the Interstate System not part of the PHFS
3. Critical Rural Freight Corridors (CRFCs) (capped at 150 miles statewide)
4. Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs) (capped at 75 miles statewide)

CRFCs and CUFCs are important freight corridors that provide vital connectivity to the NHFN. The designation of CRFCs and CUFCs will increase the State's NHFN, allowing expanded use of NHFP formula funds and FASTLANE Grant Program funds for eligible projects.

SCDOT has been coordinating with MPO's and COG's in the designation process to submit to FHWA for their review. The selections took into account the designation criteria, new/planned intermodal or significant freight facilities, and the need to focus on key intermodal connectors or corridors rather than a more segmented/fragmented network.

Mr. Forrester was concerned that part of I-26 and the inland port was not on the NHFN map. Ms. Lackey explained that working together, we proposed to add these items critical to the freight network. The construction of the port was so new the USDOT/FHWA did not have the updated data.

RAIL: Rick Wyatt, SCDOT Rail, gave an update on the Rail initiatives. Within the state, we have 10 short-line Railroads and 2 major Railroads, Norfolk-Southern and CSX.

The Federal Rail Administration has a SE Rail Plan underway and memorandums of agreement are being signed by the states involved. The SE High Speed Rail initiative from Washington, D.C. to Atlanta, Georgia is being led by GADOT. There are alternative routes coming through the Upstate (referred to the maps), including a possible new route that could be constructed called the Greenfield Route.

The study will be focused on making it high speed and not so many stops in order to maintain that high speed.

Projects Status Report

Ms. Penny Phillips, SCDOT Program Manager, presented a project status report.

Old Furnace Road sidewalks from Hanging Rock Rd. to Mason Rd.:

PE and ROW are complete. Construction is 60% complete.

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 complete. ROW 99% complete. Let November 2016, but not awarded due to low bid. Relet in May 2017.

S-30 Fernwood/Clifton/Glendale Rd. and Zion Hill Rd. Intersection Improvements:

PE 90% complete. ROW 90% complete. Construction letting scheduled for Fall 2017.

I-85 Mile Marker 69-77: Reconstruct 10 lanes N bound and S bound of interstate 85 pavement from Mile Marker 69-Mile Marker 77: PE Complete. Let January 2017. Construction 10% complete.

SC 85 Bridges: Replace bridges over Southern RR and S-42-995 and S-2 (Howard Street) between Hearon Circle and New Cut Road. PE 75% Complete. ROW scheduled for Summer 2017. Construction letting scheduled for Fall 2019.

S-1557: Bridge Replacement on S-1557 over Fairforest Creek near S. Forest St. and Irwin Ave. Ext.:

PE 90% complete.

ROW 60% complete.

Construction letting scheduled for Fall 2017.

Other Business and Adjourn

Mr. Arthur reported that the Spartanburg Transportation Committee (CTC) receives about \$4.2 million and will receive about \$7.2 million because of the new gas tax. 100% of the new money must be used on state roads so leaders are aware there will be a transition period. Next year approx. \$400,000 is projected.

Motion was made by Mr. Nutt to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Forrester. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 14, 2017.