

MINUTES
GPATS POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
June 16, 2014
Suite 400 – County Square
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chairman Senator Martin, Representative Loftis, Representative Smith, Representative Burns, Representative Hamilton, Councilor Norris, Councilor Meadows, Councilor Payne, Council Chair Taylor, Mayor Raines, Mayor Bagwell, Mayor Long, Mayor Durham, Mayor Owens, Mayor McCall, Mayor Durham, Commissioner Willard, Trey Fouche, Curtis Burgess and K. Brockington

OTHERS PRESENT: L. Estep, P. Gucker, H. Hahn, M. Floyd, F. Curti, J. Gardner, T. Elrod, B. West, S. Gwinn, P. Phillips, E. Dillon, J. Allison, D. Cooper, C. Link, J. Horton, H. Gamble, K. Walters and B. Jarrett

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 17, 2014 MINUTES

MOTION: By Councilor Norris to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2014 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no individuals signed up to speak.

GPATS GUIDESHARE ALLOCATION UPDATE

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members concerning the over \$3.2 Million increase per year to GPATS. He stated the increase was the largest of any MPO, except the initial allocation for the new Lowcountry Area Transportation Study (Beaufort/Hilton Head). Mr. Brockington provided a listing of all the MPO's and their Guidshare allocations. He stated the increase from \$14.835 million per year, to \$18.078 million per year would be for FY15 and onward. The TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan) would be adjusted to reflect the change.

SCDOT Commissioner Woody Willard informed the Committee at the last Commission Meeting a vote was taken to resend the obligation of the MPO's to use a certain amount of their dollars for re-pavement. He stated the Commission felt the money was allocated to the MPO's and they should be responsible and use the money as they see fit and not told how to spend it.

GPATS TIP AMENDMENT – AR6

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee with an amendment to the TIP (Transportation Improvement Program). He stated he provided each member with an updated list at their seats, which was updated since the Committee members received their packets. The amendment was made after GPATS Guideshare was increased. Mr. Brockington stated SCDOT had requested increases and shifting due to funding shortages. He explained the amendments to the various projects.

MOTION: By Mayor Long, seconded by Representative Smith to approve the TIP Amendment – AR6. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE UPWP PL-FUNDED SPECIAL STUDY APPLICATIONS

Monica Floyd addressed the Committee members explaining the ranking and funding of special studies. She stated the FY2015 UPWP PL carryover, to be made available to jurisdictions for local planning efforts, totals \$108,915.00. The total of the five projects submitted exceeds this amount by \$50,085.00. Ms. Floyd stated as was done last year, staff requested the GPATS Study Team make a recommendation on how to reconcile the funding of the projects. She stated there were four options considered by the Study Team. One, to fund all projects at 50%, option two, fund all projects equally, option three fund at 100% until funding runs out and option four, fund the top three at 100% and divide the remainder equally. Ms. Floyd stated this year an additional 5 points was awarded if an application was submitted on time. She stated the Study Team recommended Option three, fully funding Williamston, Greer and Anderson County studies and providing the remainder to Travelers Rest. She gave the total rankings of each project submitted.

Mayor McCall stated the City of Travelers Rest was not notified as to when the application period ended. Additionally, he noted if the five additional points were omitted from the scoring, Travelers Rest would be tied for being the top project. He stated he felt projects should be ranked by merit. Mayor McCall stated the project was noteworthy. He suggested doing away with the five points for on time submittal and rank on merit. Mayor McCall read an email received stating an oversight was made and Travelers Rest was omitted from the Study Team mailing. Had notification been received of a deadline, the deadline he felt certain would have been met.

Representative Burns stated he would like the five points removed, or for the Committee to chose a different option for determining funding.

MOTION: By Representative Burns, seconded by Mayor McCall to recommit to the Committee and the five points be reallocated to Travelers Rest and come up with a recommendation.

After some discussion Representative Burns withdrew his motion.

MOTION: By Representative Smith, seconded by Representative Hamilton to choose Option 2 for funding, this would fund all projects equally.

Several members voiced their concerns over the additional points for on time submittal. Councilor Meadows stated he would like to see that eliminated in the future.

County Council Chair Taylor stated he would like to see the funding go where the most could be achieved for the dollars.

After additional discussion, the motion carried with a show of hands. Twelve members in favor and five in opposition.

APPROVAL OF THE FY 2015 UPWP

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members requesting the FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program be adopted. The UPWP will provide funding, staffing and programs for GPATS in the coming Fiscal Year. He stated the projects voted on today will be added to the list of projects that still have funding.

MOTION: By Representative Smith, seconded by Mayor Long to approve the FY2015 UPWP. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE CLAYTON DRIVE (CENTRAL) RECLASSIFICATION

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee with a request for endorsement of the reclassification of Clayton Drive. He stated early in the year, the Policy Committee received a request from the City of Central to have Clayton Drive, an increasingly important network link for them, included in the Long-Range Transportation Plan for an upgrade. Mr. Brockington stated Clayton Drive was not on the Federal Aid Eligible list and not eligible to be included in the Long Range Transportation Plan. Since the original request, the SCDOT has assessed Clayton Drive and have concluded there were no impediments to bring it onto the Federal-Aid Eligible network as a "Collector" classification. He stated SCDOT requires endorsement of the reclassification by the Policy Committee. Endorsement and reclassification of Clayton Drive will allow staff and study team to propose an amendment to the LRTP at the September Policy Committee meeting.

MOTION: By Mayor Durham, seconded by Representative Burns to approve the endorsement of Clayton Drive reclassification. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

SCDOT PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Tommy Elrod, Project Manager with the SCDOT updated the Committee members on various projects within the area as were included in the Committee's agenda packets. Mr. Elrod made himself available after the meeting for any questions.

The Policy Committee recognized Mr. Elrod for various projects he had been involved in. The Committee expressed their appreciation for his time and willingness to work with citizens within the area.

OLD BUSINESS

Woodruff Road parallel and SC-153 Project

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee regarding the acceleration of the Woodruff Road Parallel and SC-153 Project. He stated the proposal had been placed on hold as possible funding from the Woodruff Road Parallel was identified as part of the Greenville County's possible Sales Tax Referendum effort. Mr. Brockington stated Greenville County Council passed the ordinance which would establish the Referendum, extending the uncertainty of the project funding until the election in November. Staff was recommending the Policy Committee continue to hold the proposal until the January 2015 Policy Committee meeting, at which time the result of the Referendum vote would be known.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Long updated the Committee on the fundraiser held for Dan Powell. He stated over \$11,000.00 was raised and currently Dan was gaining weight and his hair was growing back. He thanked all for their donations and would continue accepting donations for Dan.

County Councilwoman Norris stated funding was still needed for the Hampton Avenue pedestrian bridge.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Submitted by Recording Secretary