

**MINUTES**  
**GPATS POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**June 21, 2010**

**Conference Room A – County Square**

**10:03 a.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Senator Thomas, Chairman; Senator Martin; Representative Cooper; Representative Loftis; Mayor Danner; Mayor Godbey; Mayor Long; Mayor McCall; Mayor Owens; Mayor Waldrop; Councilor Willis; Councilor Burns; Councilor Gilstrap; County Council Chair Kirven; Councilor Meadows; Councilor Payne; Commissioner Adams; Commissioner Edwards; T. Usher; M. Long; B. Knight; and M. Carter

**OTHERS PRESENT:** G. Baney; T. Ponder; T. Fouche'; E. Dillon; H. Gamble; J. Gardner; R. Hawes; W. Ravenhorst; F. Simons; B. West; D. Spencer; K. Laird; S. Yudice; J. Owings; D. McGee; K. Brockington; T. Wedmore; and H. Hahn

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Chairman Thomas welcomed Commissioner Johnny Edwards.

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 15, 2010 MINUTES**

**MOTION:** By Mayor Godbey, seconded by Mayor McCall to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2010 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATION OF FINAL FY2011 UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program)**

Dan McGee addressed the Committee members regarding an outline of planning activities, scheduling and funding for the Fiscal Year 2011.

**MOTION:** By Mr. Burns, seconded by Mayor Danner to approve the FY2011 UPWP. The motion carried unanimously.

**FY2010 - 2015 TIP AMENDMENT**

Greg Baney with Greenlink addressed the Committee regarding an amendment to the TIP for a funding grant that would enable the City of Greenville's Parks and Recreation Department to purchase a 15 passenger minibus to provide transportation to elderly and disabled individuals of low to moderate income who rely on public transportation.

**MOTION:** By Mayor Waldrop, seconded by Mayor Godbey to approve the amendment to the tip for the purchase of a bus. The motion carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM –Recommendation for application process**

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members on funding mechanisms for the Transportation Program for the upcoming Fiscal Year. He stated the Study Team had three options to consider:

Continue the current funding mechanism

1. To carryover previously unspent funds and jurisdictions not losing their previous allocations.
2. Population and allocation numbers to be updated as 2010 Census numbers are released.
4. Recommended removing future carryovers, unspent funds to revert to MPO for “projects of regional significance”.

Move to “Equitable Competitive Application” process

1. Carryover previously unspent funds; jurisdictions will not lose their previous allocations.
2. Funds are preserved for counties and their jurisdictions
  - Greenville County 70% (\$450,000 per year)
  - Pickens County 25% (\$160,910 per year)
  - Anderson County 5% (\$32,182 per year)
3. Project applications to be evaluated ranked and recommended by Study Team, and approved by Policy Committee.
4. Unspent funds revert to MOP for “projects of regional significance,” but are held to the preserved jurisdiction as much as possible.

Combine 1 and 2

1. Use both mechanisms on a 50/50 split of funding.
2. This would allow for jurisdictions to maintain regular funding, while allowing larger projects to compete for additional funds.

Following discussions, the following motion was made:

**MOTION:** By Mayor Danner, seconded by Mayor Godbey to have staff continue to develop the details for option two and return the details to the Committee at the September 2010 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time the Chairman moved the public comment item forward.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Virginia Barnette addressed the Committee members regarding the proposed Batesville Road widening project.

Mr. Harry Curtis addressed the Committee members regarding the proposed Highway 153 extension in Easley.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members with an update on the following projects.

### **Interstate**

I-385 Rehabilitation: I-26 to near SC 101, Laurens County, Aug. 15, 2010 completion date, McCarthy Improvement Company, \$44 million

I-385 Rehabilitation: Laurens Co. line to north of Fairview St., Greenville County, July 31, 2011 completion date, Eagle Const., \$14 million, raise SC 418 and Fairview Street bridges, rehabilitate pavement, add concrete median barrier wall, extend Fairview Street northbound on ramp

I-385 Widening: south of I-185/US 276 to south of Woodruff Road, Greenville County, design-build project to widen to 6 lanes and rehabilitate the mainline and ramp pavement anticipate selecting a design-build team in July, with construction occurring fall 2010 to mid-2012, any work requiring lane closures will be performed at night, approx \$50 million budget

I-85/I-385 Interchange Upgrade: interchange improvement project will include completing the 6-laning of I-385 from south of Woodruff Road to north of I-85; the initial construction will occur in 2012 and will involve connecting the I-85 ramps between Pelham Road and I-385; the reconstruction of the interchange will begin in 2013 and is expected to take about 3 years to complete; any work requiring lane closures will be performed at night, approximately \$200 million budget

### **ARRA**

US 123 in Easley: raise US 123 about 10-ft. to match the grade of the new Prince Perry bridge; Eagle Construction was low bidder; contract completion date is 9/30/10

Fairforest Way in Greenville: reconstruct Fairforest Way from Mauldin Road to Ridge Road; opened bids April 2010, with Morgan Corp. low bidder; anticipate construction beginning in July and the contract completion date is 8/31/11

Church Street in Greenville: reconstruct Church Street from Reedy River to Augusta Street; SCDOT to open bids July 13, 2010; contract completion date is 12/15/11; SCDOT is providing up to \$5.1 million funds (federal + state match) for this project

Total ARRA funds obligated within GPATS boundary is approx. \$52.6 million. This includes approx. \$23 million for the I-385 Design-Build widening project.

### **GPATS TIP**

Salters Road in Greenville: widen Salters Road from Verdae to Millennium Blvd., including new bridge over I-85; the design contract with Transystems is expected to be approved by the SCDOT Commission in July with design work beginning in August, with a PE budget of about \$1.2 million; ground surveys have been completed by SCDOT; anticipate completing R/W plans in 12 months and construction plans in 18 months

SC 153 Extension in Easley: extend SC 153 to Prince Perry Road, including a new bridge over the railroad; the environmental studies will have to evaluate to Saluda Dam Road and possibly beyond; the design contract with CECS is expected to be approved by the SCDOT Commission in July with design work beginning in August; the total PE budget is anticipated to be in the \$2 million range so it will be necessary to increase PE funding in the TIP in the future; anticipate having a public information meeting in late 2010; anticipate completing R/W plans in 12 months and construction plans in 18 months

Brushy Creek Road @ Pearson/Nancy Streets in Easley: R/W acquisitions are underway; anticipate opening construction bids in January, with construction beginning spring 2011

US 25 White Horse Road in Greenville County: bids were opened April 2010 with Eagle Const. the low bidder at \$17.6 million; anticipate construction beginning in July with a contract completion date of 9/30/12

Batesville Road in Greenville County: widen Batesville Road from near SC 14 to Anderson Ridge Road; current traffic count is 10,000-11,000 vehicles per day with the model predicting 20,000+ vehicles per day by 2030; local input received to date has been mostly opposed to 5 lanes and more in favor of 3 lanes; continuing to coordinate with Ebenezer UMC representatives concerning widening through the cemetery (and relocating approx. 100 graves) vs. relocating Batesville Road to the opposite side of the church; anticipate having a public information meeting within next 2 months to gather additional public input

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Transit Vision and Master Plan**

#### **Rail Corridor Alternatives and Feasibility Study**

Jim Brown with URA in Atlanta addressed the Committee members regarding the Transit vision and Master Plan. He stated the plan had received much public input and was available for review on the website [www.ridegreenville.com](http://www.ridegreenville.com).

John Owings addressed the Committee members in regard to the study recently completed by the GCEDC (Greenville County Economic Development Corporation) concerning the reuse of the rail corridor. The approval of GPATS would allow the GCEDC to apply for whatever Federal Grants are available.

**MOTION:** By Mr. Kirven, seconded by Ms. Willis to hold the item until the next Committee meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

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Submitted by Recording Secretary