

MINUTES
GPATS POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
September 16, 2013
Conference Room A – County Square
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Kirven, Representative Loftis, Representative Burns, Representative Hamilton, County Council Chair Taylor, Councilor Norris, Councilor Meadows, Mayor Raines, Mayor Eichor, Mayor Bagwell, Mayor Durham, Mayor White, Mayor Owens, Pickens Council Chair Smith, Council Willis, Commissioner Edwards, and
J. Owings

OTHERS PRESENT: L. Estep, P. Gucker, K. Brockington, T. Wedmore, H. Hahn, J. Wortkoetter, H. Gamble, B. Joprnan, D. Dyrhaug, F. Simmons, J. Folz, J. Hekter, J. Chasteen, P. Phillips, R. Hawes, T. Elrod, E. Dillon and V. Holmes

Chairman Kirven called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. .

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 28, 2013 MINUTES

MOTION: By Mayor Raines, seconded by Councilor Meadows to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2013 regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Chairman Kirven announced Keith Brockington had just returned from leadership school in Virginia. He was pleased the University accepted him and gave him the opportunity for some beneficial training.

County Council Chair Taylor asked if any information had been obtained pertaining to the request at the prior meeting regarding Bates Bridge Road.

Chairman Kirven stated he would have staff check into the request.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. J. Hamilton with Hubble Lighting addressed the Committee in support of the Salters Road Bridge.

Mr. Mike Campbell with Hubble Lighting addressed the Committee in support of the Salters Road Bridge

Mr. John Boyett with CUICAR addressed the Committee in support of the Salters Road Bridge

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members with a request to delay the vote to approve the LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan). Mr. Brockington stated the delay would give the new members of the Committee an opportunity to peruse the material and this would allow the Committee members to be presented with the additional projects prior to approval. He stated the additional projects were listed in the agenda packets.

Mr. Brockington suggested a November 18, 2013 meeting date for the Committee to consider.

MOTION: Without objection, the Committee voted unanimously, by voice to have a called meeting on November 18, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF GPATS TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)
AMENDMENTS "AR1"**

Adjustment of Fiscal Year Spending

Keith Brockington addressed the GPATS Committee with a request to amend the TIP in order to shift the dates of certain projects approximately one year forward. The shift would not affect the overall monies. Mr. Brockington explained the adjustment would be of fiscal spending and he provided the Committee members with a list of projects which reflect the amendments.

Tommy Eldrod with the SCDOT addressed the Committee expressing the shift was money driven.

Chairman Kirven stated the Federal Highway Administrations Fiscal Year begins on September 1st, perhaps being one reason for the request of shifting dates.

Representative Loftis questioned the cost of bike lanes and requested the amount and also expressed concern over how the money is spent..

Mayor Durham stated he felt there was an advantage to having bike lanes.

Mayor Eichor asked how it was determined if bike traffic was recreational or work related traffic.

Mr. Brockington stated the figures were determined by the time of day in which the bike traffic occurs. Morning traffic would be considered work traffic verses mid day being recreational traffic.

Approval of Salters Road Scope Change

Mr. Brockington introduced Mr. Dwayne Cooper who gave a presentation illustrating the additional changes to the Salters Road Bridge which represents the request for an additional \$600,000. He stated the monies would go to aesthetic improvements for the I-85 Bridge along with lighting as illustrated in the photos provided in the agenda packets.

Representative Loftis asked had solar lighting been considered.

Mr. Cooper stated solar lighting had not been looked at and Hubble lighting was going to provide the light fixtures.

Mayor Bagwell expressed his concern over projects needing to come back for additional funding.

Ms. Willis additionally voiced her concern over having \$600,000 and not using it toward roads.

Mr. Cooper stated initially this was going to be an enhancement projects, however the enhancement funds have gone.

After further discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: By Councilor Meadows, seconded by Mayor Eichor to approve the adjustment of fiscal year spending.

MOTION: By Mayor White, seconded by Council Chair Taylor to hold the request for the Salters Road Scope Change until the November meeting. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION: By Mayor White, seconded by Council Chair Dr. Taylor to approve Salters Road Change.

Councilor Meadows withdrew his motion.

MOTION: By Representative Hamilton, seconded by Mayor Durham to hold the Salters Road Scope Change until November 18, 2013. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADOPTION OF THE GPATS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Tiffany Wedmore updated the Committee members on the new Participation Plan which would include measures of effectiveness and additional tools for public outreach, among other requirements. She stated the draft included in the packets outlines the use of tools, such as surveys, GPATS website social media applications, meetings and workshops and news media. Ms. Wedmore stated the new plan was part of the 2013 Federal Recertification review.

MOTION: By Mayor Durham, seconded by Mayor Raines to approve the GPATS Public Participation Plan. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

SCDOT PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Tommy Elrod with the SCDOT updated the Committee members regarding a status report on projects within the GPATS area. The update was also included in the Committee's agenda packets. Mr. Elrod made himself available after the meeting for any questions.

TAP APPLICATIONS UPDATE

Keith Brockington informed the Committee members of the cut of date for applications to the FY2013 Transportation Alternative Program. He stated September 30, 2013 would be the end of the Fiscal Year and any projects that have not received SCDOT Commission approval or at least have made headway in applying by then may find their approval has been rescinded. Mr. Brockington stated any projects that do not meet the application deadline will be removed from the GPATS TIP in an amendment at the November called meeting.

GPATS 2014 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Keith Brockington provided the members of the Committee with a schedule of meetings for 2014. In addition, Mr. Brockington noted a meeting location change, which would be moved from Conference Room A to Suite 400 in the County Square facility. The location was formerly the site of the Greenville County Planning Department and was currently being renovated into a conference room of sufficient size to house the Policy Committee and visitors.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Bates Bridge Road

John Owings informed the Committee members that the Bates Bridge Road issue would need to be discussed with the SCDOT. Mr. Owings received information which indicated there were no immediate plans to replace the bridge and there was not knowledge of prior commitment to the replacement.

Representative Burns stated he was concerned about an issue regarding safety becomes lost, and he felt it was an unacceptable way to do business. He would attempt to set up a meeting with the SCDOT to address the issue.

Hampton Avenue Bridge

Councilwoman Xanthe Norris requested the Hampton Avenue Bridge not be lost in the process.

New Business

Mr. Kirven stated the SCDOT was preparing to widen I-85 from Highway 25 in Greenville County to Hwy 129 in Spartanburg County. He stated before they can place the project on the State Improvement Plan, as a formality it has to appear on the GPATS Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Kirven stated it does not represent any dollar amount to GPATS.

MOTION: By Council Chair Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Edwards to accept the widening project into the GPATS LRTP. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: By Representative Loftis to adjourn. Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Submitted by Recording Secretary