

MINUTES
GPATS STUDY TEAM COMMITTEE
July 26, 2021
Suite 400 – County Square – with limited seating
Remote participation by members
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Keith Brockington, Jon Caime, Tee Coker, Lance Estep, Greg Gordos, Brennan Groel, Erica Hailey, Asangwua Ikein, Christina Lewis, Clint Link, Heather Lollis, Casey Lucas, Nicole McAden, Betsy McCall, Renee Miller-Cotton, Erin Porter, Mark Pleasant, Dyke Spencer, Kayleigh Sullivan, Todd Steadman, Ryan Ward, and Brennan Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: A. Alvarez, A. Hernandez, D. Montgomery, D. Falls, J. Chasteen, D. Lowery and R. Pickney

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Keith Brockington called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Keith Brockington welcomed all in attendance and asked for those in attendance to introduce themselves at this time.

SCDOT GPATS PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Casey Lucas, Program Manager with the SCDOT, addressed members with a brief status update on projects within the GPATS area.

- Projects in construction were as follows:
 - S-164 Batesville Road Widening is completed. The drainage, grading, and paving work continues with possible traffic switch alignment on the bridge over Rocky Creek.
 - SC-146 Woodruff Road completion date has moved to May 2022 due to utility delays.
 - Roper Mtn Road/Roper Mtn Road utilities are in various stages of relocating. The roadway construction is estimated to start in late August 2021.
 - Woodruff Road Congestion Relief's second phase of the contract was executed, with surveying finishing in the fall and right-of-way plan development to follow.
 - SC-153 Intersection Improvement
 - ◆ Old Pendleton Road still finishing concrete median, loops, and pavement markings.
 - ◆ River Road North southern section paving to start next week. The culvert has been replaced, and headwalls are to be installed this week.

- SC-107 Butler Road project continues with ongoing meetings between SCDOT and the City of Mauldin regarding relocation studies and planning additional public involvement meetings.
- Bridge projects were as follows:
 - S-75 over US-29 project letting date moved to November 2021 due to wetland permitting issues.
 - S-154 over Huff Creek public information set for August 26, 2021.
 - S-140 over Shoal Creek and S-250 over Doddies Creek are to be let together in August 2021.
 - US-29 Church Street is in the Preliminary Engineering phase.
- TA Program were as follows:
 - Woodside Streetscape has a letting date for November 2021.
 - Woodside Park Connector right-of-way phase is completed.
 - Haywood Rd Sidewalks contract was awarded to Palmetto Group Contracting, Inc.
 - West Georgia Road public information meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2021, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Brashier Middle College.

Ms. Lucas made herself available for any questions.

A question was asked if other public meetings are being scheduled for Butler Road.

Ms. Lucas stated a public meeting date has not been set. At the recent meeting with the City of Mauldin on July 9th, it was agreed to hold additional public meetings expecting it to occur in the fall of 2021. When the date has been selected, SCDOT will coordinate with the City of Mauldin for advertising through newspapers, postcards, and signs.

Clint Link, Planner with the City of Greenville, inquired if Woodside Streetscape is a City of Fountain Inn project. He advised the City of Greenville will be sending SCDOT updated information on the US-29 Church Street.

Ms. Lucas advised the Woodside Streetscape project began as a Local Project Agreement (LPA) was then turned over to SCDOT to let. SCDOT is managing the right-of-way in the construction phase.

Ms. Groel advised the Woodside Streetscape project was original funding in the Transportation Enhancement Program.

Clint Link asked for clarification regarding the vision plan and strategic plan for the City of Greenville handling land development applications regarding the Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project (WRCRP).

Ms. Lucas answered the right-of-way plan is being developed single phase for WRCRP. She stated SCDOT will continue to keep everyone involved with updates and provide assistance when needed.

Mr. Brockington stated the County of Greenville reached out to stakeholders within the City of Greenville and Mauldin. He advised the WRCRP is a multi-jurisdictional effort to land usage and access management along the corridor.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT AC #5

Keith Brockington addressed members on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment AC #5. The amendment changes to the TIP were as follows:

At the request of SCDOT, the following changes are being made to the TIP:

- Woodruff Road Widening – Scuffletown to Bennetts Bridge
 - STIP Conformity
 - ◆ \$9.5 million in FY2019 as AC
 - ◆ \$4.5 million in FY2020 as ACC (spending of AC)
 - ◆ \$5 million in FY2021 as ACC (spending of AC)
 - Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021
 - ◆ Addition of \$2.721 million from WRCRP to Widening, FY2022
- Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project (Woodruff Parallel)
 - Shift of ROW
 - ◆ Shift of ROW and AC to FY2023
 - ◆ Addition of ROW ACC to FY2026
 - Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021
 - ◆ Removal of CRRSAA funding from FY2022
- CATbus Planning Administration/Security
 - Extrapolation of \$10k per year in FY2023-2025
- American Rescue Plan Act 21
 - Addition of \$69,790.00 FY2021
 - Addition of \$533,200.00 FY2021
 - ◆ GTA Greenville UZA \$351,105.53
 - ◆ CAT Greenville UZA \$182,094.47

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment AC #5 recommendations to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT

Keith Brockington addressed members regarding an amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). In coordination with Greenville County Finance, a line item has been added to the FY2022 Element 403 Special Studies funding to generate a purchase order from GPATS PL Carryover funding. This allows payment of \$14,500 to the Appalachian Council of Governments (ACoG) for the annual maintenance Regional

Travel Demand Model. He advised this fee will appear in the annual budget as a line item in the upcoming fiscal years. This charge is twenty-five percent total cost. The remaining seventy-five percent is divided among ACoG, SPATS, and ANTS.

Lance Estep, Planner with ACoG, advised most MPOs and COGs in the region will be updating their Long-Range Transportation Plan this year. He stated it would be beneficial to wait until receiving the final census numbers to update the Travel Model.

Mr. Brockington made himself available for any questions.

Dyke Spencer, Executive Director with Powdersville Water District, asked the following to be on record. He had several conversations with Mr. Brockington and other individuals within Anderson County regarding the Anderson Corridor Study listed in 403 Special Studies. He is not in favor of this study and felt it was not the best use of these funds.

Mr. Brockington explained from conversations with Anderson County it was decided to fund SC-81 versus SC-86 due to the limitation of funding. He stated Powdersville area needs more than a transportation study. He suggested comprehensive and land-use studies are required for this area.

After further discussion, Mr. Brockington advised GPATS would be available for conversations with Anderson County on behalf of the City of Powdersville.

Mark Pleasant, Planner with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), wanted to remind subrecipients receiving funds for new projects from Special Studies 403 funding need to coordinate with GPATS when signing the Local Project Agreement (LPA).

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the Unified Planning Work Program Amendment recommendations to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FY 2021 CYCLE UPDATE

Brennan Groel addressed the members with an update for the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program. She advised at the last meeting, TA Program was short estimated \$83 thousand. After receiving the latest financial status report from SCDOT, the TA Program balance would be short by approximately \$42,000 thousand and advised possible alternatives from SCDOT:

- 1) Haywood Road Sidewalk closing at \$278 would create a positive TA Program balance of \$79,000 thousand.
- 2) Woodside Streetscape may qualify for Transportation Enhancement (TE) funding. If TE funds are applied to this project, this will release TA Program funding, creating a positive balance of \$149,671.30.

Ms. Groel stated any TA Program funding leftover from a project can only be released after a project has been closed out. She advised there is no call for projects and will continue to update members of all changes.

Ms. Lucas asked the City of Greenville if there was an estimated completion date for Haywood Sidewalk.

Clint Link, Planner with the City of Greenville, advised the project began last week. Per the contract, it is to be completed in ninety days. He estimates late October.

Keith Brockington expects to have an answer at the next Study Team meeting regarding the balance for this calendar year. He stated the future of the TA Program process will be revisited and asks for any input from members to contact GPATS.

Brennan Groel advised members the Bike and Pedestrian Committee had not met in over a year; she would contact these individuals to confirm any member changes.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM SPECIAL STUDIES UPDATE

Brennan Groel addressed members regarding Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Special Studies funding. She stated in May 2021, the Policy Committee approved the UPWP 403 Special Studies funding. An email will be sent to those recipients with a fillable version of the Local Project Agreement (LPA) form and asked the completed LPA form be sent back to GPATS. She advised the process includes the recipient submit a draft scope of work and a request for proposal.

Mr. Brockington advised a sample of this form is located in the back of the UPWP document for viewing. He stated PL funds are Federal funds and must follow the Federal procurement process steps to be released.

Ms. Groel made himself available for any questions.

OLD BUSINESS

Lance Estep, Planner with the Appalachian Council of Government (ACoG), gave a brief update on the Freight Mobility Plan (FMP). ACoG will hold a Stakeholders Committee meeting on July 29, 2021, to present the final FMP. He advised this final plan will then be presented at the next Study Team and Policy Committee meetings. He stated recommendations from the FMP are not limited to projects; it will also provide recommendations for policies and education. He noted the FMP final draft document

can be seen on www.scacog.org. He offered anyone wishing to attend the presentation on Thursday to send him an email.

Keith Brockington updated members on the Greenville County Laurens Rd Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Study. He advised the next phase will be public engagement. The link <http://engagekh.co/realizing-laurens-road> provided in the agenda will be live when updating has been completed. This link will then be distributed to the public. He stated TOD plan recommendations be concluded by the holidays with final recommendations at the beginning of 2022.

Keith Brockington advised members a virtual/in-person technical and stakeholder meeting for the Greenville County Mobility and Thoroughfare Plan (MTP) will be held on July 30, 2021, in Suite 400 at County Square. He stated the completion of the MTP is estimated for the end of 2021.

Keith Brockington asked Lance Estep, Planner with the Appalachian Council of Government (ACoG), to update members on the Pickens County Comprehensive Plan in the absence of Chris Brink from Pickens County.

Lance Estep advised a staff member with the ACoG is on the Steering Committee for the Pickens County's Comprehensive Plan. He stated they had not met recently.

Keith Brockington mentioned invitations will be coming to individuals to gather additional information for the five-year update to the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). He stated the goal is to complete the five-year LRTP update by this time next year before the census of new Urbanized Areas is revealed.

Keith Brockington was asked, by Christina Lewis with SCDOT, to mention projects will be reviewed in the GPATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that have the new planning phase scheduled for FY2022. This evaluation will determine if these projects need a feasibility report and the actual funding cost.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clint Link, Planner with the City of Greenville, stated the city is moving forward with a road safety audit between Church Street and Mauldin Road. He announced a Stakeholder Team is being formed to include GPATS and SCDOT.

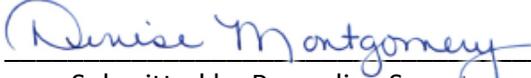
Keith Brockington stated road safety audits initiated by SCDOT for the GPATS area released safety funds for these projects needing easy solutions. He is unaware if a process lead by a city is given the same funding considerations as SCDOT efforts.

Casey Lucas, Program Manager with SCDOT, advised contacting the SCDOT Safety Office for assistance.

Mr. Brockington made himself available for any questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Mr. Brockington adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.


Submitted by Recording Secretary