

MINUTES
GPATS STUDY TEAM COMMITTEE
January 31, 2022
Suite 400 – County Square – limited seating
Remote participation by members
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Brink, Keith Brockington, Tee Coker, Hesha Gamble, Gregory Gordos, Steve Grant, Erica Hailey, Asangwua Ikein, Ashley Kaade, Jason Knudsen, Diane Lackey, Christina Lewis, Skip Limbaker, Heather Lollis, Casey Lucas, Betsy McCall, Liston Mehserle, Todd Steadman, Anna Stewart, Kayleigh Sullivan, and Kurt Walters

OTHERS PRESENT: Senator R. Rice, D. Beaty, Bollinger, P. Butler, J. Chasteen, B. Harrelson, F. Mansbach, D. Montgomery, J. Mustar, G. Sprague, and IS Staff

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Keith Brockington called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Keith Brockington welcomed all in attendance and introduced Anna Stewart as the new GPATS Transportation Planner. He asked each to introduce themselves.

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 moving close to completion. Construction began on the Pelham/SC-14/Batesville Road intersection.
 - SC-146 Woodruff Road Widening storm drainage on Scuffletown Road is ninety-five percent completed with placed curb and gutter on the right side. She advised Adam Mills Road is completed while the contractor continues placing storm drainage and preparing to place more curb and gutter along Woodruff Road. This project is on track towards May 2022 completion.
 - Roper Mtn Road/Roper Mtn Road Extension
 - ◆ Box culvert extension work began on Roper Mtn Road.
 - ◆ Drainage pipe installation continues on Roper Mtn Road Extension.
 - Woodruff Road Congestion Relief project surveying is nearing completion, with a tentative second public meeting for March 2022.
 - SC-153 Intersection Improvement consists of two intersections. Both are completed, and SCDOT is working through the punch items.
 - Butler Road project had a second public meeting in November 2021. She advised all comments received were formally responded to by mid-January 2022. The preferred design is moving forward towards right-of-way plans.

- Bridge projects were as follows:
 - S-75 Cherokee Rd over US-29 contract, located in Anderson, was awarded to Thrift Development Corporation. The preconstruction was held in January 2022, with an estimated completion date of July 2024.
 - S-154 over Huff Creek’s right-of-way plans were submitted ahead of March 2022 obligation.
 - S-140 over Shoal Creek and S-250 over Doddies Creek utilities are in progress of relocations. The estimated completion date is June 2023.
 - US-29 Church St, SCDOT has been securing a consultant to develop a rehab plan. A limited notice to proceed was issued in mid-January 2022 for the consultant to begin preliminary work while the contract negotiations continue. The consultant has contacted the City of Greenville and the SCDOT district office to coordinate inspections.
 - S-125 over Saluda River construction plans are still in development.
 - S-384 over Brushy Creek conceptual plans have been submitted for review with an estimated completion date of August 2023.

- TA Program were as follows:
 - Woodside Streetscape plans are complete. There is a utility coordination conflict with Duke. The let date has been changed to June 2022 to certify utilities.
 - Woodside Park Connector plans are in development. The let date has been changed to June 2022 to allow for the environmental permit acquisition.
 - Riverside Middle School Sidewalk needs additional funds.
 - West Georgia Road right-of-way plans have been submitted ahead of the March 2022 obligation.

Ms. Lucas made herself available for any questions.

Keith Brockington asked in regards to the design progressing for the Woodruff Road Congestion Relief (WRCR) project was this for the right-of-way plans.

Ms. Lucas replied the WRCR is still in preliminary plans. There are no right-of-way plans at this time. The WRCR small design changes occurred from discussions with property owners regarding the development around this area.

GPATS PERFORMANCE MEASURES UPDATE

Asangwua Ikein addressed the members with Performance Target amendments to the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) documents for the Clemson Area Transit (CAT) Safety Targets. The following were reviewed:

- Mode of Transit Service for Fixed Route and Demand Response/Paratransit
 - Fatalities Total
 - Fatality Rate

- Injuries Total
- Injury Rate
- Safety Events Total
- Safety Even Rate
- System Reliability

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the Long-Range Transportation Plan document amendment recommendations to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

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

GPATS TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT AC #6

Keith Brockington addressed members on the proposed Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment AC #6 and advised the following changes:

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

- Guideshare Allocation increased starting in FY22, changing from \$18,078,000 to \$20,664,009
- Updated FY2022 Carryover Balance from SCDOT to \$7,783,381.03
- Batesville Road (S-164) Phase II Pelham Road to the Parkway
 - STIP Conformity
 - Add \$8.5 million to FY25 Advanced Construction
 - \$8.5 million FY26 Advanced Construction Conversion
- Butler Road (S-107) from Bridges Road to US-276
 - Shift of Right-of-Way
 - \$1 million from FY21 to FY23
 - Shift Construction
 - \$4.5 million from FY23 to FY25
 - \$10 million from FY24 to FY26 Advanced Construction Conversion
 - Add \$10 million to FY25 Advanced Construction
- Change in scope for Garlington Rd project to extend termini to Pelham Road for Feasibility Report purposes.
- Addition of SPATS project, SC-296 Reidville Road for purposes of Feasibility Report that may result in acceleration of GPATS SC-296 Bennetts Bridge Road Project. There are no GPATS Guideshare funds assigned to this project. He advised should the report findings extend to Woodruff Road, the GPATS project may need to be accelerated.
 - \$100k in FY22 of SPATS funding
- S-384 Bridge Replacement over Brushy Creek (Non-Guideshare)

- Shift of Right-of-Way
 - Move \$50,000 from FY22 to FY23
- Addition of FY22 SCDOT Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Projects
- Addition of Summary FY22 FTA Transit funding to include all amounts for inclusion of FY18 through FY22
 - Mauldin-Simpsonville Urbanize Area (CA) increase FY19 and FY22 to a total of \$2,489,055.00

Lisa Bollinger, Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS) Transportation Planning Manager, advised the Feasibility scope for the SPATS project will be SC-290 to SC-146. She stated the whole corridor will be included for this joint boundary area and looks forward to working with GPATS.

Mr. Brockington advised GPATS is waiting on a reply from SCDOT regarding submitting FY22 SCDOT Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program as a correction in-lieu of the amendment.

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the Transportation Improvement Program amendment AC #6 recommendations to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SECTION 5310 CALL FOR PROJECTS

Asangwua Ikein addressed members of the Call for Projects for Federal Transit Authority (FTA) Section 5310 funding for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities. There is \$879,553 available for applicants. Anyone interested in applying for these funds was asked to contact him or visit the link on www.gpats.org for the application. He advised the applicant match is twenty percent capital and fifty percent for operational expenses.

Mr. Ikein stated additional funds were received from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and American Rescue Plan (ARP). These funds totaling \$139,579 are for operational expenses, with no local match required.

Mr. Ikein made himself available for any questions

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM SPECIAL STUDIED CALL FOR PROJECTS

Keith Brockington advised members of a Call for Projects for the FY2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Special Studies for adoption by Policy Committee in May 2023. He stated the available funding is unknown at this time and will be made available when advised by SCDOT. A fillable form is available on the website for those interested. He stated the application deadline is March 18, 2022, and a minimum of twenty percent local match is required.

Mr. Brockington made himself available for questions.

Gaye Sprague, with the County of Anderson, wanted to clarify an agency cannot apply if they already have an application in progress.

Mr. Brockington replied this was correct unless it would be supplemental to the existing project.

BikeWalk Greenville Presentation

Frank Mansbach, with BikeWalk Greenville, presented to members results from a study by their Furman University Intern Loise Aleria on the Dangerous by Design report from Smart Growth America.

Mr. Mansbach stated the community is ranked fourteenth as the most dangerous in the country for pedestrians, which is well above the national average, recording 212 deaths from 2010 to 2019. He advised these deaths are concentrated in the poorest parts of the county. He gave an example of White Horse Road corridor design. He explained this corridor was designed to maximize the speed of motor vehicles without consideration for the needs of the people who live and work in the area, many of whom do not have vehicles.

Mr. Mansbach continued with the 2017 SCDOT's Road Safety Assessment for White Horse Road, which resulted in minimal pedestrian safety recommendations. He recommended a revised report be done to address the issue of equity and mobility in an underserved area of the community. He requests the Pedestrian Safety report include the following and would assist when applying for grant funding:

- Better lighting
- Improving existing crosswalks
- Additional crosswalks
- Increasing separation/barrier from the motor vehicles and sidewalks
- Revaluation of speed limits
- Potential traffic calming safety measures
 - Lane restriping
 - Elimination of slip lanes
 - Intersection updates or changes

Mr. Mansbach concluded pedestrian improvements to White Horse Road should be included in the GPATS Bike and Pedestrian priority list in the year 2022 update.

Keith Brockington advised he will contact Senator Rice to include the presentation at the March 2022 Policy Committee meeting. He advised Bike, Pedestrian, and Transit commuters are a priority for GPATS.

OLD BUSINESS

Keith Brockington advised members GPATS has passed the Transportation Management Area certification. He stated a few action items need to be reviewed with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Most items will be addressed through the Long-Range Transportation Plan process or SCDOTs programs.

Keith Brockington advised members the Freight Mobility Plan (FMP) was completed and available on the Appalachian Council of Governments (ACoG) website. He recommends all to view this plan. He stated information from the FMP will be incorporated into the Long-Range update.

Keith Brockington advised members the Laurens Road Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Study is entering the final phase. The consultants are finalizing interviews with area stakeholders and begin public engagement for late February to early March, with an estimated completion of the document in April 2022.

Keith Brockington stated the County of Greenville, City of Greenville, and City of Mauldin will be preparing a Woodruff Road Parallel area plan. He advised the planning effort will be accelerated and would include the Woodruff Road and Woodruff Road Congestion Relief project with the expectation of completion before SCDOT's right-of-way acquisition begins. He advised a meeting is expected for late February 2022 for those involved with the project.

Keith Brockington advised members the Greenville County Mobility and Thoroughfare Plan (MTP) is concluding to present to the policymakers for approval ahead of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

Chris Brink, Planning Director with the County of Pickens, advised members the County of Pickens Comprehensive Plan first draft is completed. The Pickens Planning Commission considered the draft at a public hearing on January 27, 2022, where changes and suggestions were received and are being included in the second draft for County Council to consider for adoption. He stated this draft is expected to be on the website by the end of business today. He advised the Pickens Planning Commission will review the document and consider the resolution for adoption to the Pickens County Council on February 14, 2022.

Keith Brockington advised members of the GPATS 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan update. He stated this is a five-year update, and the ACoG's Travel Modeling will be used. He explained due to the unknown results from the upcoming census and how this will affect the reorganization of MPOs. He stated the SCDOT and Federal Highway Administration have advised providing the minimum for the Long-Range Transportation update. He announced the Performance Measures will be implemented in this update and be used to rerank GPATS projects.

Gaye Sprague, with the County of Anderson, advised members their SC-81 Corridor Study scope budget is almost done.

NEW BUSINESS

Keith Brockington informed members there will be three new Policy Committee members to be announced at the March 2022 meeting.

- Greenville Transit Authority (GTA) Walker Smith as the GTA Chairperson replacing Dick O'Neill
- Representative West Cox replacing Senator Richard Cash
- Vacant County of Greenville seat replacing Council member Butch Kirven


Keith Brockington advised members there is no GPATS 101 Training scheduled for 2022. If there is enough interest, a one-on-one training session can be held. He stated the 2021 GPATS 101 Training presentation and audio is available for viewing on the website.

Keith Brockington reminded members the Policy Committee will be holding Officer Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair at the March 7, 2022 meeting.

Keith Brockington reviewed the approved GPATS Calendar Year 2022 scheduled meetings for Policy Committee and Study Team.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Mr. Brockington adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.


Submitted by Recording Secretary