

**MINUTES**  
**GPATS STUDY TEAM COMMITTEE**  
**January 27, 2025**  
**County Square – Council Chambers**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**In-person and remote participation by Study Team members**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Keith Brockington, Trey Brown, Heshia Gamble, Megan Groves, Ty Houck, Asangwua Ikein, Jason Knudsen, Clint Link, Heather Lollis, Skip Limbaker, Berry Mattox, Ben Olson, Anna Stewart, and Jim Walden.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** P. Butler, G. Collins, E. Dillon, W. Flake, C. Hill, C. McGahhey, L. McGoogin, G. McMahan, L. Prunkl and Y. Zou.

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Keith Brockington welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Brockington then introduced Ms. Megan Groves, Program Manager with SCDOT. Ms. Groves is now working with Trey Brown, Assistant Program Manager with SCDOT, and will be presenting project updates.

**GPATS PROJECT STATUS UPDATE**

Megan Groves, Program Manager with SCDOT, addressed members with status updates on projects within the GPATS area.

- Guideshare projects in construction were as follows:
  - Roper Mountain Road and Roper Mountain Road Extension (RMRE) - There are still some utility conflicts at the intersection of Roper Mountain Road and Ponders Ray Lane causing delays. The completion date is now estimated to be June 2025.
  - Woodruff Road Congestion Relief - Right of Way acquisition is underway, approximately 50% complete.
  - S-107 Butler Road - Had to move letting date to June 2025 while Right of Way and utilities are being finalized.
  - Garlington Road - The Feasibility Study has been completed and now awaiting project funding.
  - S-164 Batesville Road – On hold due to the uncertainty of I-85 widening.
  - SC-183 & Jameson Road intersection – Preliminary design is underway.
  - Pelham Road & Haywood Road Intersection improvements – Awaiting funding.
  - Pleasantburg Drive & Rutherford Road Intersection improvements – Awaiting funding.
  - SC 183 Corridor Improvement – Project scope is being developed with the selected consultant.
  
- TA Programs were as follows:
  - Woodside Streetscape and Woodside Park Connector – Substantial work completed in December on both projects.
  - Town of Central Connector - Preliminary design is underway. Current let date is September of 2026.

- Federal Earmark project:
  - West Georgia Road – Project let on December 10, 2024 and contract awarded to Thrift Development Corporation with an expected completion date of October 31, 2025.
- Non-Guideshare project:
  - SC 183 Corridor Improvement – Pickens side of the project and is being developed with the Greenville County side that was mentioned earlier (under guideshare updates).
- SCDOT Bridges (non-guideshare) updates included:
  - S-154 over Huff Creek – Bridge is expected to be open to traffic by the end of January.
  - US-29 Church Street – Project let in December and contract awarded to Cekra, Inc. with completion expected in July of 2026.
  - S-125 over Saluda River - Proposed let date moved to 2032.
  - S-384 over Brushy Creek - Let date moved to December 2032 and construction plans have been reviewed.
  - S-80 (Hudson Street) over Reedy River – Project moved to oversight from the Office of Alternative Delivery to be included in emergency bridge package.
  - S-250 over Machine Creek - Right of Way acquisitions are underway and construction plans are being finalized. Expected let date is June 2025.
  - S-277 over Twelve Mile Creek - Preliminary design is underway with a current let date of FY 2027.
  - S-149 over Brushy Creek – Project is in preliminary engineering and expecting to move to Right of Way phase in April.

Ms. Groves made herself available for questions.

### **2024 STAMP System Performance Report and LRTP Amendment**

Anna Stewart, GPATS Transportation Planner, updated members on the STAMP System Performance Report. In November 2024, SCDOT released this report containing their progress towards statewide performance measures. Ms. Stewart said, per the request of SCDOT and FHWA, this item is to be amended into the LRTP as an Appendix. The STAMP System Performance Report can be found on the [GPATS Website](#).

Ms. Stewart made herself available for questions.

Keith Brockington, GPATS Transportation Manager, explained this is an annual report by SCDOT and GPATS is required to amend the report into the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mr. Brockington encouraged all to read through the report and contact GPATS on any feedback or questions.

**Recommendation:** Mr. Brockington asked for approval, or any objections, from the members to recommend Amendment to the GPATS Horizon 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), as discussed, to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

### **Transit Coordinated Committee (TCC) Report and Call for Projects**

Asangwua Ikein, GPATS Transit Planner/ Grants Manager, updated members on the TCC Report explaining that currently there are no FTA 5310 applicants. Mr. Ikein further explained as of 2025, FTA updated its policy on when lapsing funds must be allocated, March 3, 2025, to allow adequate time for

processing, instead of the usual end of the fiscal year which is September 30. In order to prevent funds from lapsing, the funds will be offered to the local transit providers: CATbus and Greenlink. The amounts are \$287,290 to CATbus and \$671,252 to Greenlink.

Mr. Ikein stated there is an additional \$179,308 available for the current year Call for Projects.

Mr. Ikein made himself available for questions.

Mr. Brockington re-iterated the amount available is \$179,308 for FTA 5310 projects (enhanced mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities) and encouraged those who are interested in applying to do so as soon as possible.

**Recommendation:** Mr. Brockington asked for approval, or any objections, from the members to recommend the applications for consideration of award, as discussed, to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

#### **GPATS 2025-2034 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment AC #4**

Keith Brockington, GPATS Transportation Manager, addressed members on the TIP Amendment AC#4.

The following changes are being made to the TIP:

- As provided by SCDOT, update of actual Guideshare Carryover to FY2025 to \$30,941,028.95 (decrease of \$1,226,405.15)
- Addition of RAISE Grant - Sans Souci Connector Greenway of \$20.3 mil
- Addition of SCRTP Grants
  - River Falls Access Trails - \$100k
  - Paris Mtn Hughes Tract Trail Expansion - \$100k
- Addition of US276 over North Saluda Bridge Replacement - \$14.9 mil
- Addition of Highway Safety Program Projects
  - Sulphur Springs @ Hunts Bridge - \$1.15 mil
  - Blue Ridge @ W. Parker - \$1.15 mil
  - White Horse @ Farris Bridge - \$1.15 mil
  - Verne Smith Pkwy @ Buncombe - \$2.4 mil
- Addition of FTA Section 5310 Funding
  - GTA/Greenlink - \$359k (Lapsing)
  - Non-Profit Set-Aside - \$379k
- Addition of FTA Section 5339 Funding to GTA/Greenlink - \$1.213 mil

Mr. Brockington said the TIP Amendment will be advertised through February 24 (GPATS Policy Committee Meeting) and asked anyone with comments or requested changes to alert the Staff as soon as possible.

Mr. Brockington made himself available for questions.

**Recommendation:** Mr. Brockington asked for approval, or any objections, from the members to recommend approve Amendment AC #4 to GPATS FY2025-2034 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Financial Statement, as discussed, to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

### **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Call for Projects**

Anna Stewart, GPATS Transportation Planner, announced GPATS is issuing a Call for Projects for the TA Program. She stated GPATS received an allocation of \$1,208,077 for FY 2025.

Ms. Stewart explained TAP funds transportation related bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects and applications are due March 14, 2025. The TAP application can be found on the [GPATS Website](#).

Ms. Stewart added if any Study Team Member is interested in serving on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinating Committee (BPCC) to please contact her, [AStewart@greenvillecounty.org](mailto:AStewart@greenvillecounty.org). She reminded everyone BPCC members are responsible for scoring TAP applications.

Ms. Stewart asked if anyone had any questions or comments.

Clint Link, Director of Engineering Services for the City of Greenville, asked if the weights for scoring had been changed and are the applications going to follow the usual steps.

Ms. Stewart replied yes, the applications will follow the usual process.

Mr. Brockington added that yes, the weights have been changed. He also stated GPATS has not yet received the actual letter from SCDOT for TAP projects so GPATS is not able to place the \$1.208 million into the TIP at this time. He explained it will be added into the TIP in May at the same time approved projects are added.

### **Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Update**

Anna Stewart stated for the past few months GPATS Staff has been working on developing a Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). The CRP is established by the IJJA (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) Bill, and funds projects that will reduce transportation emissions. The CRP funding is going to be primarily used for signal improvement priorities. She said Staff has met with SCDOT District 3, SCDOT District 2, and the City of Greenville to discuss potential projects. Staff continues to develop the CRP Document.

Ms. Stewart said some sample projects include the ramp metering @ I-85 SB/SC 14 on ramp and SC 86 at Hwy 14/Old Williamston Rd traffic signal rebuild. She also pointed out the presentation in the agenda packet showing other projects.

Mr. Curt McGahhey, Greenville County Councilman for District 21, asked about the metering and technology being used.

Mr. Ben Olson, District Traffic Engineer for SCDOT, explained the designing and specifics are still being worked out as this is the initial phase of this particular program.

Clint Link asked when the City of Greenville will know about the projects they submitted and if the CRP projects would be managed by SCDOT or subject to LPA (Local Public Agency) project administration.

Mr. Brockington replied that the status on projects submitted have not yet been decided. He added that the management of the projects, be it SCDOT or a Local Public Agency, is yet to be determined as well.

Mr. Link then asked if GPATS had any indication if funding was going to be cut by the current administration.

Mr. Brockington said no information regarding the existing IJJA Bill has been given yet. He added that as far as GPATS knows, the five years of funding that was promised (about \$2 million per year) plus GPATS approximate \$1.5 million per year for signal upgrades should still be intact. He stated what happens now will be dependent on continuing authorizations for the IJJA Bill or possibly a new bill could replace this one.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

Mr. Brockington announced changes to GPATS Policy Committee Members will include the removal of Mr. Butch Kirven, Mr. Henry Wilson, and Ms. Claiborne Linvill. The addition of Pickens County Representatives Mr. Alex Saitta (who has been on GPATS Committee in the past) and Mr. Dale Holloway. Another addition will be Mr. Garey Collins, Greenville County Councilman. There may be other changes from the Legislative Delegations and hopefully all that will be worked out before the next Policy Committee Meeting.

Mr. Brockington said a class will soon be scheduled for GPATS 101 Training. He added that GPATS will be reaching out to new members and others with details. He asked if members knew of anyone interested in learning more about GPATS. If so, contact Staff, and they will be included in the invitation to attend. Mr. Brockington is expecting the session to last five to six hours, and more details will be forthcoming.

With the departure of Mr. Butch Kirven, GPATS Policy Committee will hold an election for Vice-Chair at the February 24 meeting.

**ADJOURN**

Without objection, Mr. Brockington adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

*Cleo A. Hill*

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Submitted by Recording Secretary  
Cleo A. Hill