

MINUTES
GPATS POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
January 9, 2012
DunBurks Banquet Hall, Easley, South Carolina
12:00 noon

MEMBERS PRESENT: Senator Thomas, Chairman; Representative Dwight Loftis; Representative Owens; Senator Phillip Shoopman; Senator Verdin; Senator Martin; Greenville Council Chair Kirven; Councilor Payne; Councilor Norris; Councilor Meadows; Pickens Council Chair Willis; Mayor Long; Mayor Danner; Mayor Sherriff; Mayor Owens; Mayor Raines; Mayor Eichor; Mayor Bagwell; Commissioner Adams; Commissioner Edwards; M. Long; D. Mitchell; P. Bowers

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Owings; K. Brockington; T. Wedmore; H. Hahn; T. Elrod; E. Dillon; G. Sprague; M. Sullivan; S. Gwinn; G. Ryan; H. Gamble; K. Waters; J. Heckter; J. Chasteen and J. Gardner

Mayor Bagwell welcomed all in attendance to Easley.

The Chair welcomed all to Easley, invited each to continue with lunch and he would shortly call the meeting to order.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Chairman Thomas welcomed all new members to the GPATS Committee.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2011 MINUTES

MOTION: By Councilor Norris, seconded by Commissioner Edwards to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2011 regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Thomas moved the item regarding the Butler Road Project to the end of the meeting in order to allow for public comment.

GPATS/SPATS/ACOG MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Chip Bentley with the Appalachian Council of Governments addressed the Committee members regarding a memorandum of understanding as was included in the agenda packets. He stated he had addressed the Committee members previously regarding a cooperative effort between the three agencies to collaborate on future projects that involve crossing boundaries.

MOTION: By Councilor Payne, seconded by Mayor Long to approve the memorandum of understanding. The motion carried unanimously.

TIP (TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN) AMENDMENT – GTA ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT FOR FY2011

Greg Baney addressed the Committee members regarding an amendment to the TIP to include the total allotted to GTA in the amount of \$2,123,657.00. The funds would allow GTA to provide fixed routes and demand response service throughout Greenville County by covering replacement, vehicle maintenance and non-vehicle maintenance.

MOTION: By Commissioner Adams, seconded by Mayor Danner to approve the presented amendment to the TIP. The motion carried unanimously.

TIP AMENDMENT – MAULDIN – SIMPSONVILLE 5307 FUNDING FOR FY2010 AND FY2011

Greg Baney addressed the Committee members regarding an amendment to the TIP to include the total apportionment allotted to the Mauldin/Simpsonville Urbanized Area for a combined total of \$1,818,196.00. The funds will be used for the previously approved Mauldin/Simpsonville route schedule for implementation in FY2012.

MOTION: By Greenville Council Chair Kirven, seconded by Mayor Long to approve the presented amendment to the TIP. The motion carried unanimously.

TIP AMENDMENT – JARC/NEWFREEDOM GRANT FUNDING CYCLE

Greg Baney addressed the Committee members regarding an amendment to the TIP to include FY2010 and FY2011 Annual 5316 and 5317 discretionary funding with a combined total of \$637,282.00 to be awarded to GTA for transit-related projects. The projects will be submitted to the GTA JARC/New Freedom Selection Committee for vetting in mid-January, and will be brought to the GTA Board of Directors for formal approval and use of the funding.

MOTION: By Council Norris, seconded by Senator Martin to approve the presented amendment to the TIP. The motion carried unanimously.

CALL FOR LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECTS

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members regarding road projects that have not yet been brought to the GPATS attention. He stated staff would be working on a project list for 2035 and would like to submit the list to the Policy Committee at the March meeting. Mr. Brockington stated staff would be available for contact if anyone has a project they would like placed on the list. In addition, Mr. Brockington also announced an initial call for Transportation Enhancement projects that will be scheduled in the LRTP. He provided the members of the Committee with a list of current funded and unfunded projects from the adopted 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan as well as the FY2010-2017 Transportation Improvement Program for their reference.

GPATS WEBSITE AND SURVEY UPDATE

Tiffany Wedmore provided the Committee members with an update on the GPATS website. She provided a sample of what the homepage of the website would look like and projected the site to be operational by some time in March. She stated the website

would be much more user friendly and would provided detailed projects maps and information.

Ms. Wedmore also stated staff had received more than 700 responses to its online LRTP update transportation survey and mailings have begun with a scientific survey. She stated surveys would be mailed to approximately 2000 households within the GPATS region and staff expects to have survey results in late spring.

DISCUSSION OF DATE CHANGE FOR FUTURE GPATS JANUARY MEETINGS

Keith Brockington brought to the Committee's attention the January meeting coming shortly after the holiday season and conflicting with the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. He stated previously, the fourth Monday had been discussed, but at that time SPATS (Spartanburg Area Transportation Study) held their meeting. This is no longer an issue with SPATS, and Mr. Brockington suggested the Committee may wish to change their 2013 January meeting to the fourth Monday.

Without objection Chairman Thomas stated the January 2013 meeting would be on the fourth Monday of the month.

BUTLER ROAD PROJECT DISCUSSION

Tommy Elrod presented an overview to the Committee on the plans the SCDOT had for the GPATS project on Butler Road from Mauldin High School to Bridges/Corn Road. He in addition answered questions from the Committee members on a section of property belonging to Ms. Joel Ann Chandler. The question was in regards to a triangular section of property. Mr. Elrod stated the section of Ms. Chandler's property was needed in order to achieve a safe intersection according to the ARMS manual. In addition, Mr. Elrod stated the SCDOT had attempted to work with Ms. Chandler in making different access points into her business and also grading and paving a parking area where her trucks could enter and exit safely.

Ms. Joel Ann Chandler addressed the Committee members with her concerns regarding the intersection project on Butler Road. She stated she had concerns regarding the negative effect the changes would have on her business.

After discussions between the Committee members the following motion was made.

MOTION: By Senator Verdin, seconded by Mayor Eichor to hold the project on Butler Road pending information obtained in Columbia regarding the ARMS manual. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Freeman addressed the Committee members regarding the Butler Road project.

Ms. Chancey Lindsey-Peake addressed the Committee members regarding the Butler Road project.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

Submitted by Recording Secretary