

MINUTES
GPATS POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
May 17, 2021
Suite 400 – County Square – with limited seating
Remote participation by Committee members
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Butch Kirven, Vice Chairman Senator Rex Rice, Senator Turner, Senator Allen, Senator Loftis, Representative Burns, Representative Collins, Representative Smith, Councilor Norris, Councilor Tripp, Council Chair Meadows, Alex Saitta, Pickens Council, Commissioner Willard, Commissioner Christopher, Dick O’Neill, GTA, Mayor Danner, Mayor Halfacre, Mayor Womack, Mayor McLeer, Mayor Merritt, Mayor Petersen, Mayor Shewmaker, and Mayor Amidon

OTHERS PRESENT: P. Gucker, B. Groel, A. Ikein, H. Gamble, T. Stone, H. Hahn, T. Coker, K. Brockington, C. Lucas, S. Amell-Jackson, M. Pleasant, C. Lewis, R. O’Neill, E. Porter, and R. Pinckney

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Kirven called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 22, 2021 COMMITTEE MEETING

MOTION: By Representative Smith to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2021 Committee meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no individuals signed up for public comment.

SCDOT PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Casey Lucas addressed the Committee members with a brief update presentation of projects as were included in the agenda packets:

- Woodruff Road Parallel was in negotiations for Right-of-Way and construction plan development. The update to this was the contract negotiations were complete and the contract was being routed for execution.
- S-107 Butler Road had a public involvement meeting at the beginning of the year and currently were working through the comments received.
- Riverside Middle School Sidewalk was coordinating with ACSD 4 to secure additional funding for letting.
- Fountain Inn Woodside Streetscape plans are completed but was working through a potential conflict with utilities.
- Fountain Inn Woodside Connector was in ROW as of the beginning of the year.

- There are five Bridge projects in the GPATS area, they are as follows:
 - S-154 over Huff Creek, in preliminary design
 - S-140 over Shoal Creek
 - S-250 over Doodles Creek (both letting in 8/2021)
 - S-125 over Saluda River in ROW
 - S-384 over Brushy Creek in preliminary design.

- Projects in construction
 - Batesville Road
 - Bridge over Rocky Creek is completed
 - Drainage and widening continue
 - Anderson Ridge in final configuration with new traffic signal
 - Godfrey Road is closed
 - Woodruff Road curb and gutter is completed from Pawleys to Hemingway(on right) and Sunnydale to Scuffletown (on left)
 - Roper Mtn Road/Roper Mtn Road Extension awarded 4/2020 expected completion 11/2022
 - Old Pendleton Road final surface placed and turned over to final configuration
 - River Road North leg paved and turned over to final configuration and South leg is waiting culver replacement.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES UPDATE

Brennan Groel addressed the Committee members regarding an amendment update to the Performance Measures of the LRTP and TIP. She stated the SCDOT and Transportation Management Plan System Performance Report, per SCDOT and FHWA needed to be amended into the LRTP as an Appendix. Ms. Groel stated additionally, there would be an amendment to the GPATS Horizon 2020 LRTP.

Ms. Groel noted there would be an amendment to the GPATS FY 2020-2025 TIP Document to bridge TPM’s from the LRTP into project selection and implementation. The performance measures being amended are:

- Transit Asset management Targets
- SCDOT TAMP System performance Report.

Ms. Groel noted GPATS will be required to incorporate the amendments into the LRTP and TIP by July 20, 2021, in order to stay compliant with Federal Regulations.

MOTION: By Representative Smith, seconded by Representative Burns to approve the LRTP amendment and TIP Document amendment. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

GPATS TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT FY 2021 – 2026

AC#4

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members stating that included in their packets were the Draft Financial Statement for the GPATS Transportation Improvement Program, Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026. The proposed amendment would be known as AC#4.

Mr. Brockington explained the following changes being made to the TIP:

- Addition of \$3,561,147.00 funding from Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), allocated to GPATS by SCDOT out of Statewide funding. Requested to be placed to Debt Service and then to single phase of work as soon as possible.
 - \$420,000 to offset FY2022 Debt Service Payment
 - \$420,000 to offset FY2023 Debt Service Payment
 - \$2,721,147 towards Woodruff Road Congestion Relief ROW phase, per discussion with SCDOT.

- Addition of FY2021 State Mass Transit Funding
 - \$510,995.00
 - Greenville Transit Authority
 - ❖ \$216, 482.37 – Greenville UZA split
 - ❖ \$182,238.00 – Mauldin-Simpsonville UZA
 - Clemson Area Transit
 - ❖ \$112,274.63 Greenville UZA split

MOTION: By Representative Smith, seconded by Senator Turner to approve the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment FY2021-2026, AC#4. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

FY 2022 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM SPECIAL STUDIES

Brennan Groel addressed the Committee members with the three studies the Study Team was recommending for approval to use GPATS PL fund carryover. The three project chosen are as follows:

- City of Greenville, Downtown Transportation Master Plan – Phase II
\$40,000
- City of Easley, Corridor and Intersection Study
\$150,000
- Anderson County, SC-81 Corridor Study
\$100,000

MOTION: By Mayor McLeer, seconded by Representative Smith to approve City of Greenville, City of Easley, and Anderson County to receive carryover funding for projects. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

GPATS FY 2022 – 2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Keith Brockington addressed the Commission members with the biennial FY 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program as was included in the agenda packets. Included in the Work Program are the three Special Studies approved by the Committee, as the prior agenda item. He stated FY 2023 was currently illustrative in that the costs and carryovers are projected from FY 2022. In May of 2022, GPATS will ratify the FY 2023 UPWP financial or adopting changes as required.

MOTION: By Mayor Womack, seconded by Senator Turner to approve the 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2021 UPDATE – NO CALL FOR PROJECTS YET

Brennan Groel addressed the Committee members with the allocated amount of \$656,199 for FY2021, the same allocated as in previous fiscal years. She stated due to Transportation Alternative (TA) projects in need of funding after unexpected lapses, the monies will be kept and provided to existing projects as needed, up to their awarded amount to insure completion. Ms. Groel stated due to discrepancies between GPATS records and reports received from the SCDOT TA office, GPATS will be deferring any call for applications until information is reconciled.

2020 CENSUS URBANIZED AREA DELINEATION SCHEDULE

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members with an estimated schedule of the 2020 Census Urbanized Area Designation Schedule. He also noted GPATS, SCDOT, FHWA and other regional partners will be coordinating over the next year to determine the impacts of the changes. Mr. Brockington provided a link to the Census Bureau publication which has proposed criteria and changes in the Federal Register.

SCDOT Commissioner Willard stated on the document provided, about half way down it states “ existing MPO”s must expand their Metropolitan Planning Areas (MPA’s) to include all territory in urban areas with populations of 50,000 or more, as determined by the Census Bureau and the results of the 2020 Decennial Census (if necessary).” He stated it was a trigger point that kind of points for the expansion. With all the growth that the state has had, it will be interesting where those lines will be drawn. If it continues the trends from 2000, 2010 and 2020, the Appalachian Council of Governments is continuing to decrease in its size and more than likely will be in the very northern part and possibly in some of the southern counties.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Kirven recognized the new additions to the GPATS Committee, and Ms. Christopher, SCDOT Commissioner.

SCDOT Commissioner Willard noted the latest traffic reports indicate the state was back to pre-pandemic level and some areas exceeded that. That was good for the gas tax revenue. He also noted the next Commission meeting would be on Thursday; during the meeting they would receive some information on the paving, bridges, interstates and safety road project. He believed the Secretary will report being on target, finishing up the fourth year of the ten year program and on target to meet the goals that were set in 2017. An item that will be approved at this Commission meeting will be the allocation of \$642 million worth of paving projects. He stated those were allocated by counties based on a formula primarily driven by the number of state roads you have in each county. Next year it will move from \$642 million to \$720 million.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Without objection Chairman Kirven adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.


Submitted by Recording Secretary