

MINUTES
GPATS POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
September 15, 2014
Suite 400 – County Square
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Butch Kirven, Vice Chairman Senator Martin, Representative Smith, Representative Burns, Councilor Norris, Councilor Meadows, Councilor Payne, Mayor Raines, Mayor Danner, Mayor Durham, Mayor Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Lawrence, Councilor Willis, Councilor Smith, Commissioner Willard, Trey Fouche and K. Brockington

OTHERS PRESENT: E. Vinson, P. Gucker, H. Hahn, M. Floyd, F. Curti, T. Elrod, S. Gwinn, P. Phillips, E. Dillon, J. Allison, J. Chasteen, R. Sloan, D. Cooper, J. Horton, H. Gamble and J. Wortkoetter

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 16, 2014 MINUTES

MOTION: By Councilor Payne, seconded by Representative Burns to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2014 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no individuals signed up to speak.

GPATS LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee members with an amendment to the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to include Clayton Drive. He stated at the March Policy Committee meeting, the town of Central requested the crucial road project be included in the Long Range Transportation Plan. Clayton Drive has been made into a “Federal-Aid Eligible” road and ranked for inclusion in the GPATS LRTP, with a score of 13 points. Mr. Brockington stated the project was ranked 81 out of 93 projects.

MOTION: By Senator Martin, seconded by Mayor Raines to approve the amendment to the GPATS LRTP to include Clayton Drive. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

GPATS TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT – AR7

Keith Brockington addressed the Committee with an amendment to the TIP (Transportation Improvement Program). He stated a list with the proposed changes was included in each member’s packet. The proposed changes were highlighted in blue. Mr. Brockington went over the various changes.

Senator Martin asked about the timeline change to the SC-153 Extension project.

Tommy Elrod, Project Manager with the SCDOT explained the change reflecting one fiscal year to another was done because of the time in which the bids would begin. He stated he thought the bids may begin at the end of FY15 and run over to the beginning of FY16. The change was only a two or three month change due to crossover of fiscal years.

Commissioner Willard noted the required Environmental permitting was causing major delays with all projects within the state. He suggested Mr. Elrod at some time; explain to the Committee just what the permitting process entails.

Chairman Kirven suggested Mr. Elrod give a presentation on the process at the next Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Elrod answered several questions regarding the Corp of Engineers and the permitting requirements. He stated on the SC-153 project there were basically drainage ditches which were Jurisdictional to the Corps of Engineers.

Chairman Kirven noted that the Greenville County Council recently approved a resolution in opposition to the proposed expansion of Federal Control under the Clean Water Act. He stated the resolution was sent on to Washington.

Paula Gucker, Assistant County Administrator updated the Committee with the news that the House of Representative did deny moving the bill forward.

Councilor Smith complimented staff on the increased font size for the attachments.

MOTION: By Senator Martin, seconded by Councilor Meadows to approve the TIP Amendment – AR7. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

SCDOT PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Tommy Elrod, Project Manager with the SCDOT updated the Committee members on various projects within the area as were included in the Committee’s agenda packets. Additionally, he provided each member with a preliminary design for the I-85 at I-385 Interchange Project. Mr. Elrod pointed out the interchange project would encompass two of the GPATS intersection projects (Woodruff at Garlinton-Miller and Wooruff at

the Shops of Greenridge). He stated there would be an adaptive signal system in place on Woodruff Road.

Mayor Danner asked how emergency repairs are handled, such as the loss of the bridge on Memorial Drive in Greer due to flooding. Additionally, he asked where the replacement was in the process.

Mr. Steve Gwinn with the SCDOT stated the pipe which washed out, was a ten foot diameter pipe and it has been determined the pipe will be replaced with a 10 x 10 box culvert. It is currently procured out for bidding. He stated he would have more information at the next Committee meeting and also offered to email the Mayor with updates on the project.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Kirven stated the first item was the meeting schedule for the GPATS Committee and the Study Team for 2015, which was included in all agenda packets. Without any objection the dates were accepted.

Councilor Payne stated there was a possibility the county may be qualified to apply for an FTA Grant. There will be a scoping meeting after the GPATS meeting to discuss the recently offered FTA Grant for a planning grant pilot program for transit oriented development. He welcomed anyone to be a part of the discussion.

Senator Martin introduced Neil Collins, who will be Representative Neil Collins in November. He will be replacing Representative Phillip Owens.

Chairman Kirven introduced and welcomed Mayor Pro Tem Lawrence representing Simpsonville.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Senator Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. Without objection the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.