

MINUTES
GPATS STUDY TEAM COMMITTEE

April 26, 2021

Suite 400 – County Square – with limited seating
Remote participation by Committee members

10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Brink, Keith Brockington, Tee Coker, David Dyrhaug, Lance Estep, Hesha Gamble, Greg Gordos, Sammy Grant, Steve Grant, Brennan Groel, Erica Hailey, Matt Hogan, Asangwua Ikein, Ashley Kaade, Jason Knudsen, Diane Lackey, Christina Lewis, Clint Link, Heather Lollis, Casey Lucas, Betsy McCall, Erin Porter, Renee Miller-Cotton, Matthew Rehnborg, Dyke Spencer, Todd Steadman, and Ryan Ward

OTHERS PRESENT: A. Alvarez, P. Butler, E. Dillon, C. Fisher, H. Hahn, M. Hertzberg, (inaudible), and T. Stone

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Keith Brockington called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Keith Brockington welcomed all in attendance. He asked for all in attendance to introduce themselves at this time.

Mr. Brockington announced Dwayne Cooper is no longer with the City of Greenville. Mr. Cooper's duties, for now, are being divided between Clink Link and Valerie Holmes.

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's bridge over Rocky Creek is completed with drainage and widening to continue
 - SC-146 Woodruff Road has experienced delays; storm drainage is completed with final grading for the curb and gutter to begin
 - Roper Mtn Rd/Roper Mtn Rd utilities are being relocated
 - Woodruff Rd Congestion Relief is in negotiations for right-of-way and construction plans with the consultant, expecting to be concluded in May 2021.
 - SC-153 Intersection Improvement
 - ◆ Old Pendleton Road final surface placed and turned over to final configuration. SCDOT is waiting for the loops to be installed to add final paint markings.

- ♦ River Road North leg paved and turned over to final configuration with the South leg waiting for culver replacement.
 - SC-107 Butler project SCDOT is continuing to review public involvement comments they received from January 5th to February 5, 2021.
- Bridge projects in the GPATS area were as follows:
 - S-154 over Huff Creek waiting on the consultant to submit preliminary design
 - S-384 over Brushy Creek preliminary plans completed with DFR set for April 19, 2021
 - S-125 over Saluda River in ROW
- TA Program were as follows:
 - Woodside Streetscape ROW complete with construction plans in QA review with ongoing utility coordination
 - Woodside Park Connector in ROW phase
 - Haywood Rd Sidewalks is the City of Greenville LPA project. A pre-bid meeting was held on March 17, 2021, and is being reviewed by SCDOT.
 - Riverside Middle School Sidewalk let date for August 2021 due to funding shortfall and are still working to secure funding shortfall.
 - West Georgia Rd preliminary plans are under review, and the DFR is set for May 3, 2021.

Ms. Lucas made herself available for any questions.

TRANSIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

Asangwua Ikein addressed members the Transit Coordinating Committee (TCC) has only received one application for the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA). The application was from Senior Solutions and had been previously evaluated by the TCC. Senior Solutions advised this project has been postponed. He stated the TCC will allow Senior Solutions to withdraw the application and resubmit.

Mr. Ikein made himself available for any questions.

Keith Brockington stated an email was received from Senior Solutions requesting for the application to be postponed. He advised the applications are evaluated when received. Senior Solutions was instructed to resubmit their application for the next Study Team and Policy Committee meetings.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT AC #4

Keith Brockington addressed members on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment AC #4. The amendment changes to the TIP were as follows:

- Addition of FY2021 State Mass Transit Funding (SMTF)

- \$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

Mr. Brockington made himself available for any questions.

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment AC #4 recommendations to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

GPATS PERFORMANCE MEASURES UPDATE:

Brennan Groel addressed members with amendment updates to the GPATS Horizon2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document. The Performance Measures were as follows:

- Transit Asset Management Targets (TAM)
- SCDOT TAMP System Performance Report

She stated the TAM is being updated to match Greenlink and Clemson Area Transit’s plans. FHWA requires MPOs to adopt or acknowledge these plans in their LRTP and TIP documents. She stated the SCDOT’s Transportation Management Plan System Performance Report, per SCDOT and FHWA, to include this amendment into the LRTP as an Appendix.

Ms. Groel made herself available for any questions.

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

Ms. Groel invited Erin Porter with SCDOT to speak regarding SCDOT’s TAMP System Performance Report.

Erin Porter advised this process is considered a housekeeping item with the SCDOT. SCDOT is two years into its ten-year TAMP Plan. This mid-performance report was submitted in October 2020. She advised this is an executive summary report and will be done annually due to yearly updating safety numbers. She stated pavement, reliability, and bridge performance measures are updated biannually.

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the Long-Range Transportation Plan Performance Measure amendment and the SCDOT Transportation Management Plan System Performance Report as an Appendix recommendation to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FY 2021 UPDATE:

Brennan Groel addressed members with the allocated amount of \$656,199 for FY2021, the same allocation as in previous fiscal years. She stated due to Transportation Alternative (TA) projects needing funding after unexpected lapses; the monies will be used for existing projects as needed, up to their awarded amount to ensure completion. She advised due to discrepancies between GPATS records and reports received from the SCDOT TA office, GPATS will not be doing a call for applications until this has been resolved with the SCDOT TA office.

Ms. Groel made herself available for any questions.

GPATS DRAFT UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FY2022-2023:

Keith Brockington addressed members with a draft of the FY 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He advised this document is biannual, which includes the three Special Studies to be approved by the Policy Committee and can be viewed on the GPATS' website. He stated FY2023 was currently illustrative in the costs, and carryovers are projected from FY2022. In May of 2022, GPATS will ratify the FY2023 UPWP financial or adopting changes as required.

Mr. Brockington made himself available for any questions.

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the draft Unified Planning Work Program FY2022-2023 recommendation to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

SPECIAL STUDIES APPLICATIONS FOR THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM:

Keith Brockington presented members with the four Unified Planning Work Program Special Studies applications GPATS received. He explained ranking, funding, and criteria were used in scoring each application. He advised the top three applications totaled more than available funding. Anderson County was notified their two applications were the lower ranked projects and advised there was not enough funding available for their highest ranked project. Anderson County agreed for GPATS to move forward with their SC-81 Corridor Study project. Anderson County felt this project was of higher priority.

Mr. Brockington wanted to clarify with the City of Easley regarding their application showing the local funding match over what is required. He stated they would confirm with the City of Easley before being finalized.

After further discussion, the following recommendation was made:

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to pass the City of Greenville, City of Easley, and SC-81 for Anderson County Special Studies Applications for the Unified Planning Work Program recommendation to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lance Estep with the Appalachian Council of Government (ACoG) gave a brief update on the Freight Mobility Plan. He advised this plan is to be completed in June 2021. ACoG has received the final plan document along with four technical memos, which are:

- National Best Practices
- Freight Network Assessment
- Land Use
- Freight Economics

Mr. Estep advised each MPO will have a freight-specific chapter to include with their LRTP update. He stated from this document there will be recommendations for projects along with a focus on corridor studies, policy, and education. He explained ACoG is reviewing the final draft and appendices then plans to meet with stakeholders and the advisory committee groups in May 2021 to represent the final document. The ACoG's board of directors will meet in June 2021; when approved, Mr. Estep will visit each MPO to give a presentation to their Study Team and Policy Committee.

Keith Brockington updated members of the Greenville County Laurens Rd Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) study. He advised this study could have far-reaching implications for the GPATS and other regions depending on the completion and implementation. More information can be found at <http://engagekh.co/realizing-laurens-road>. He announced the project to be completed at the end of 2021 and concluded in early 2022.

Keith Brockington advised members there will be an upcoming technical and stakeholder meeting scheduled for the Greenville County Mobility and Thoroughfare Plan (MTP). Recommendations and priority lists are being updated relating to infrastructure for the County of Greenville as they move forward.

Chris Brink, Planning Director with the County of Pickens, provided members with a brief update on the Pickens County Comprehensive Plan. He stated they finished the public participation in March 2021. The draft is almost completed, and they are actively working on developing the future development map with a rollout date for the end of May 2021. He advised the goal is for adoption by Pickens' Council by the end of summer or beginning of fall of 2021. He advised those who participate on their

stakeholder committee a meeting will be made to review the draft document before the rollout date.

Keith Brockington mentioned the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan update would meet the minimum requirements due to the 2020 Census Urbanized Area (UZA) Designation of the GPATS area. He advised it is unknown of any changes to come until the census has been completed.

Mr. Brockington made himself available for any questions from the members on the updates or anyone wanting to share their plans.

Christina Lewis inquired about the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) funds applied towards debt service were addressed.

Mr. Brockington asked if a decision was made on which projects these CRRSAA funds would be applied to.

Ms. Lewis advised the SCDOT received approximately \$149 million from the CRRSAA fund. She stated \$142 million to be applied to SCDOT debt, with \$16 million be divided among the TMAs. SCDOT has recommended the TMAs pay off the balance of 27&7 debt services with any remaining balance applied towards one project obligated by FY24 and spent by FY2029.

After a further discussion, GPATS will receive \$3.5 million, which will then be applied to the remaining monies owed for the 27&7 debt service for FY2022 and FY2023, totaling \$840 thousand. Mr. Brockington had prior conversations with Christina Lewis and Casey Lucas regarding which project to apply the remainder. A decision was made to apply the remaining funds towards the Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project.

Mr. Brockington wanted members to be aware these funds will make other Guideshare funds available to help other projects.

Recommendation: Mr. Brockington asked for approval or any objections from the members to include Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) funds towards the 27&7 debt service of \$840 thousand and remaining balance applied to the Woodruff Road Congestion Relief Project with the Transportation Improvement Program Amendment AC #4 recommendations to the Policy Committee for their approval. No verbal objections or questions by consensus.

NEW BUSINESS:

Keith Brockington addressed the members with an estimated 2020 Census Urbanized Area (UZA) Designation Schedule. He noted GPATS, SCDOT FHWA, and other regional partners would 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. He advised this schedule will better assist with what to expect before receiving new final urbanized areas, expected in the spring or summer of 2022, with the final criteria this fall or winter.

Mr. Brockington advised members the proposed criteria allows for public comments. He asks anyone wanting to leave a comment to reach out to him first; this way, a one-time consolidated comment can be sent from GPATS.

Mr. Brockington made himself available for any questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Mr. Brockington adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.


Submitted by Recording Secretary