

**Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**March 17, 2011**

**Voting Members**

Councilman C.C. Calhoun, City of Montgomery  
Commissioner Elton Dean (Montgomery County)  
Councilman Charles Jinright, City of Montgomery (MPO Vice Chairman)  
Mr. John Lorentson, ALDOT Sixth Division Engineer  
Commissioner Earl Reeves (Elmore County)  
Mr. Robert Smith, City of Montgomery (Director of Planning)  
Mayor Todd Strange, City of Montgomery

**Non-Voting Members**

Mr. Dave Harris (FHWA)  
Mr. Kelvin Miller (MATS)

**Guests**

Mr. Richie Beyer, Elmore County  
Mr. David Bollie, ALDOT Sixth Division  
Mr. Joel Duke, City of Prattville  
Mr. Jim Meads, Sain Associates  
Ms. Jill Nolin, Montgomery Advertiser  
Mr. Jerry Peters, City of Millbrook  
Mr. Stuart Peters, Landmark Engineering  
Mr. Harry Rice, PBS&J  
Ms. Elizabeth Sanford, Cambridge Systematics  
Mr. Bill Tucker, CARPDC

**MPO Staff**

Mr. James Askew  
Mr. Kindell Anderson  
Mrs. April Delchamps  
Mr. Robert Smith

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At the regularly scheduled meeting of the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on March 17, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Intermodal Transfer Facility, Montgomery, Alabama, the aforementioned members were present. MPO Chairman, Councilman Jinright stated that a quorum was not present. The committee decided to conduct the meeting agenda items which did not require action.

Mr. Jinright moved to Agenda Item 6: Census 2010 Update.

Mr. Smith commented that the MPO staff has received some 2010 Census information as provided in a handout. It gives a rundown of populations in the MPO area. It gives no information pertaining to having one or two MPO's at this point. We will not know that better until 2012 when they release the Urban Area Boundaries which determines the MPO's. Right now we only have basic population information for

municipalities and counties. We could get into the exercise and try to see where we think the urbanized area may be but it won't matter since they will have the final say. Mr. Jinright asked about the money for the bus transit system. Mr. Smith said it was also tied to that Urbanized Area population and we won't get that info until 2012. We should have funding that flows continually from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the operation of the bus system. That could change in 2012 pending the 100 bus rule which is before congress. We hope the bill will get passed. We have 48 buses and as long as we have fewer than 100 we will continue to get our \$3 million federal subsidy and the City will continue to pay half.

Mayor Strange asked if the subsidy was predicated on half of what the shortfall is or a defined number.

Mr. Smith stated it is a defined number based on Urban Area Population. We could get more than \$3 million assuming the funding stream is the same. If the funding stream gets less then we could get less even if the 100 bus rule passes.

Mr. Jinright commented that the city got cut about \$500,000 in 1995.

Mr. Jerry Peters asked if the law currently states that you don't really lose the money but you can't use it for operating expenses.

Mr. Smith replied that was correct but if the law changes we will be able to use it for operating as currently being used.

Mr. Peters also stated that the overall grant amount remains the same each year but that one can't use it for operating subsidy. You could still use it for Capital purchases.

Mr. Smith commented that Huntsville was in a similar situation but was able to get a technical correction from Senator Shelby. They had gone over 200,000 but got a correction so they could use their federal apportionment for operating expenses. They are scheduled to be allowed to use it until the Transportation Bill gets passed.

Mayor Strange changed the subject and asked about the inclusion of the Pike Road Mayor in an advisory position with the MPO as he and Mr. Smith had previously discussed. He also asked to take action and vote as soon as possible.

Mr. Smith replied that he could be a non-voting member like Mr. Bill Tucker of the CARPDC. The committee could vote on his inclusion as soon as there is a quorum.

Mr. Smith continued with the census information about cities, towns, and counties. On page 1 of the handout it showed the City of Montgomery's population in 2000 was 201,568. The latest numbers for the 2010 census shows 205,764 which is a 2.08% increase. Please take notice that the county population numbers are for an entire county and not just the MPO study boundary portion. Montgomery County's population for the year 2000 was 223,510 compared to the year 2010 number which is 229,363 and is a 2.62% increase. In 2000 we had one Census Designated Place and it was the Blue Ridge area of Elmore County. In 2010 we have 4 additional areas and they are Emerald Mountain, Holtville, Pine Level, and

Redland. These areas are now reaching densities which are significant to the Census Bureau. Page 2 of the handout is more demographics of the cities, counties, and towns in those Census Designated Places. Now, we do have the Block Group and Tract totals and we'll start delineating down to the Council District level to see what those population levels are. Our official time won't start until the Census Bureau makes it official.

Mr. Smith moved to Agenda Item 7: 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment Highway Corridor Study Presentation.

He stated in his overview that the study will give the potential roadway alignments cost estimates for various alternates which connects Augusta, Macon, and Columbus GA., Montgomery, AL., and Natchez, MS. with existing highways and interstates. This corridor study is required to be done based on the current transportation law. Liz Sanford represents Cambridge Systematics which was hired by FHWA for the study and Harry Rice represents PBS&J as a sub-consultant doing cost estimation for alternatives and final preferred route.

Ms. Sanford commented that the study came out a congressional mandate tacked onto SAFETEA-LU in 2005. Today's comments are just to provide an overview of the study, some finding thus far, to hear any questions or comments and discuss the next steps. The project website is associated with the FHWA website. Section 19-27 refers to the law which commissions this study. A companion to this study is called The Third Infantry Division Highway and it runs from Savannah, GA up to Knoxville, TN. It is important to know that the study may not lead to construction of a highway. It has been referred to as I-14 but it's not in the books as ready to build. It does not commit the MPO's or states to any further analysis nor does it recommend any particular alignment.

Mayor Strange commented on the concept of the Old Federal Road which essentially came through Montgomery and went on to New Orleans. It came from Columbus, GA to here as an old federal trail which has federal designation and, basically, it parallels some of I-85 and US-80. There is an effort by some legislators to get some additional designation.

Mr. Jinright asked about the difference between this study and the one a few years ago dealing with the extension of I-85 to the west. That study cost over one million dollars. How does it relate to this study today?

Mr. Rice commented that it is part of our alignment and you will see that I-85 extension in some of our alignments we are recommending. He commented that PBS&J was hired to do the engineering aspect of it and coming up with alignments and coming up with preliminary cost estimates. He stated that the mandate required they study four types of alignments. One is an all-interstate route. Another mandate was that we use existing highways as they exist today. We also have 2-3 others which use some combination of both. He added that they stuck with four standards. One is an interstate level where we'll use existing interstates or build new ones. Mayor Strange asked and Mr. Rice confirmed that the Outer Loop would be a part of the alternatives recommended. The proposed I-85 extension would also be recommended. There

will be an alternative all the way from Natchez to Augusta and that is interstate. You will be amazed to see the cost to build an interstate these days. Another alternative is a highway standard which is more of a bottom line or level. And an arterial standard which is more like a four lane divided highway but not an interstate.

The interstate version would run from Natchez to Jackson MS., tie into the I-85 extension in west Alabama then connect with the Outer Loop and I-85 over to Opelika-Auburn. It would then use Highway 280 over to Columbus then a new interstate over to Augusta. The cost would be about \$6 billion for new interstates in MS, AL, and GA. This cost does not include the Outer Loop since we presume those are projects already underway and programmed. If we used the alternate plan of existing routes the cost would be about \$600 million. The other alternatives of a combination of roadways would still be some improvement even though not interstate all the way. We also have different scenarios of routes which may have a bypass here and there and we came up with about 60 pages of cost estimates for these. If the project goes forward then we'll already have these estimates for various routes.

Mr. Jinright announced that a quorum had been reached and they could conduct official business. Mr. Jinright moved to Agenda Item #4. Minutes from the Previous MPO Meeting. Mayor Strange made a motion to approve it was properly seconded and approved.

Mr. Jinright moved to Agenda Item #5: FY2008-11 TIP Amendments. The MPO voted to approve each project or set of projects separately. Mr. Smith discussed the TIP Amendment projects.

Page 2. Elmore County project. Widen, level, resurface, traffic stripe, and Shoulder paving on Coosada Parkway from Alabama River Parkway to Coosada Road. This project is a cost increase from \$599,000 to \$798,000 to cover increased construction costs. Federal funds \$638,400, State funds \$159,600 for the total of \$798,000.

Page 3-7. Outer Loop Road projects. MGM Outer Loop from I-85 Interchange to SR-110. Distance is 2.79 miles. Total Cost is \$130,261,421 with Federal funds equaling \$104,209,137 and State funds equaling \$26,052,284.

Page 8. State of Alabama project. Resurfacing on SR-6 (US-82) from SR-3 (US-31) to CR-875 (Cobbs Ford Rd). Distance 2.19 miles, total cost \$1,717,000; Federal funds \$1,373,600, State funds \$343,400.

All projects were approved.

Mayor Strange motioned that the Mayor of Pike Road be added to the MPO as a non-voting member. Motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Jinright moved to Agenda Item # 8: Transportation Projects Status (ALDOT). David Bollie stated all projects were on schedule and near completion: The Madison Avenue project will be completed this summer; Perry Hill Road will also be completed this summer; Prattville's bridge work is near completion;

Atlanta Highway stripes are being done; The I-65/ I-85 Ramps are finished, waiting on the overhead signs; Highway 231/ Charles Avenue is punch list items being done. No update for Maxwell Blvd.

There were no other Issues/ Business Concerns: The Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

# Montgomery MPO Resolution

To Amend the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

To Add the Following Projects by Addendum

Project Number	Type Work	Project Description/Location	Total Cost	Fiscal Year	County
1. E-18-AM STPOA() 100055825	CN	Widen, level, resurface, traffic stripe and shoulder paving on Coosada Pkwy from Al. River Pkwy to Coosada Rd. (Distance 3.2 miles )	\$ 798,000	FY-2011	Elmore
Funding Source: Surface Transportation Program Other Area (STPOA) Funds					
Total Funds:			\$ 798,000		
Federal (80%):			\$ 638,400		
Sponsor – (20% Elmore Co Match)			\$ 159,600		
Functional Classification – Collector					
*This project is proposed to be increased from \$599,000 to \$798,000, a total increase of \$199,000, to cover increased construction costs. Federal increase of \$159,200 and a \$39,800 match increase*					
2. HPP-9-AM HPP 0035(510) 100016434	CN	MGM Outer Loop North of I-85 Interchange Phase 3, GD, DR, B, P, BRG on relocation of SR-126 Widen I-85 Southbound Bridge over Millies Creek ,and GDR portions of ramps 1 and 2. (Distance .11 miles)	\$ 15,873,145	FY-2011	Montgomery
Funding Source: High Priority Program (HPP) Funds					
Total Funds:			\$ 15,873,145		
Federal (80%):			\$ 12,689,516		
Sponsor – (20% State Match)			\$ 3,174,629		
Functional Classification – Principal Arterial (New Road)					
3. HPP-10-AM HPP 0035 (511) 100016431	CN	MGM Outer Loop from South of SR-110 thru I-85. Phase 5 BSP Outer Loop, service road ramps at SR-110 and I-85 interchanges (Distance 2.90)	\$ 17,576,913	FY-2011	Montgomery
Funding Source: High Priority Program (HPP) Funds					
Total Funds:			\$ 17,576,913		
Federal (80%):			\$ 14,061,530		
Sponsor – (20% State Match)			\$ 3,515,382		
Functional Classification – Principal Arterial (New Road)					
4. HPP-11-AM HPP 0035(513) 100016433	CN	MGM Outer Loop from SR-110 to I-85 (Phase II) Bridge on US-80 Relocation, widen I-85 Northbound Bridge, GDP I-85 Northbound, GDR portions of ramps 3 and 4, GDP US-80 relocation (GPB) grade, drain, base, pave & BRG (Distance 2.79 miles)	\$ 20,642,194	FY-2011	Montgomery
Funding Source: High Priority Program (HPP) Funds					
Total Funds:			\$ 20,642,194		
Federal (80%):			\$ 16,513,755		
Sponsor – (20% State match)			\$ 4,128,438		
Functional Classification – Principal Arterial (New Road)					
5. HPP-12-AM HPP 0035(512) 100043346	CN	MGM Outer Loop (SR-108) at I-85 interchange ramp bridges. Phase 4, Ramp Bridges 1, 2, 3, and 4 substructure; SR-110; Millies (Distance .43)	\$ 26,733,821	FY-2011	Montgomery

Funding Source: High Priority Program (HPP) Funds  
Total Funds: \$ 26,733,821  
Federal (80%): \$ 21,387,056  
Sponsor – (20% State match): \$ 5,346,764  
Functional Classification – Principal Arterial (New Road)

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6. **HPP-13-AM** CN MGM Outer Loop (SR-108) at I-85 interchange \$49,435,348 FY-2011 Montgomery  
HPP-TRIMPF-0035(521) ramp bridges. Phase 4A, Ramp bridges 1, 2, 3,  
100054089 and 4 superstructure  
(Distance .43)

Funding Source: High Priority Program (HPP) Funds  
Total Funds: \$49,435,348  
Federal (80%): \$39,548,278  
Sponsor – (20% State Match) \$ 9,887,069  
Functional Classification – Principal Arterial (New Road)

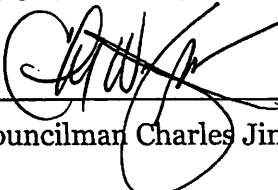
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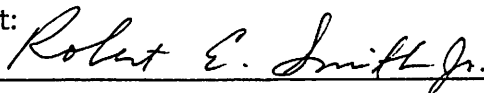
7. **NHS-21-AM** CN Resurface SR-6(US-82) from SR-3 (US-31) to \$ 1,717,000 FY-2011 Montgomery  
NHF-0006() CR-875 (Cobbs Ford Rd)  
100054110 (Distance 2.19 )

Funding Source: National Highway System (NHS) Funds  
Total Funds: \$ 1,717,000  
Federal (80%): \$ 1,373,600  
Sponsor – (20% State Match) \$ 343,000  
Functional Classification – Principal Arterial

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ADOPTED THIS THE 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF March, 2011

  
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Councilman Charles Jinright, MPO Chairman

Attest:   
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Mr. Robert E. Smith Jr., MPO Secretary

RES-25-2008-2011 – 18<sup>TH</sup> in FY 2008-2011 TIP

# Montgomery MPO Resolution

## To Add The Town of Pike Road Mayor as a Non-Voting MPO Member

WHEREAS, the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has deliberated the need for the Town of Pike Road to be added to the Montgomery MPO policy board as a non-voting MPO member;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Montgomery MPO has approved by a majority The Town of Pike Road to the position of Non-Voting membership to the Montgomery MPO policy board.

ADOPTED THIS THE 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2011

  
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City Councilman Charles Jinright, MPO Chairman

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Robert E. Smith Jr. (Director of Planning/MPO Secretary)

RES-20-FY-2011

# Montgomery MPO Resolution

## To Elect a New MPO Chairman and Vice Chairman

WHEREAS, the Montgomery Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) have deliberated the position of MPO Chairman and MPO Vice Chairman of the Montgomery MPO.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Montgomery MPO has elected by majority City Councilman Charles Jinright (City of Montgomery City Councilman) to the position of MPO Chairman and Mayor Jerry Willis (City of Wetumpka) to the position of MPO Vice Chairman of and for the Montgomery MPO, due to the resignation of former MPO Chairman Jim Byard (City of Prattville) from elected office and the need for an MPO Vice Chairman to be filled, formerly held by City Councilman Charles Jinright (City of Montgomery).

ADOPTED THIS THE 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2011

  
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City Councilman Charles Jinright, MPO Chairman

Attest:

  
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Mr. Jeff Downes (Acting Director of Planning and Development, MPO Secretary)

**RES-19-FY-2011**