

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

**September 16, 2009**

**Voting Members**

Mayor Jim Byard, Chairman, City of Prattville  
Mayor Todd Strange, City of Montgomery  
Mr. Ken Groves, Secretary, City of Montgomery  
Mr. John Lorentson (ALDOT)  
Mayor Jon Chapman, Town of Coosada  
Mayor Jerry Willis, City of Wetumpka  
Commissioner Elton Dean, Montgomery County Commission  
Councilman Charles Jinright, Vice Chairman, City of Montgomery

**Non-Voting Members**

Mr. Kelvin Miller, MATS  
Mr. Bill Tucker, CARPDC

**Guests**

Ms. Barbara Hendricks, ALDOT  
Mr. David Bollie, ALDOT  
Mr. Kleob Loflin, City of Wetumpka  
Mr. Jon Broadway, CAC  
Ms. Becky White, Sain & Associates  
Ms. Greta Duckett, Citizen  
Mr. Clint Andrews, FHWA  
Mr. Stuart Peters, Town of Coosada  
Ms. Tricia Grier, Hudson International  
Former Mayor, Frank Houston, Town of Coosada

**MPO Staff**

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

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At the regularly scheduled meeting of the Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on September 16, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Intermodal Transfer Facility, Montgomery, Alabama, the aforementioned members were present. Mayor Byard asked Mr. Groves if a quorum was present. Mr. Groves stated that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order. Mayor Byard made several announcements and introductions of the guests present.

Mayor Byard moved to Agenda Item #4 Meeting minutes and resolutions from the last meeting. Mr. Smith noted that minutes from May 14<sup>th</sup> were included as there was a correction noted at the last meeting. Motion was made and seconded and carried.

Mayor Byard moved to Agenda Item #5. MPO Resolution recognizing Mayor Frank Houston for his service to the MPO. Mayor Byard noted that Mayor Houston was one of the original members of the MPO. Mayor Jon Chapman read and presented former Mayor Houston with the Resolution. Mayor Houston stated that he was grateful and it was a great pleasure to work with the MPO.

Mayor Byard moved to Agenda Item #6 Final FY-2010 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Groves explained that the UPWP is the document that details the work the staff will complete by cost item. Mr. Smith discussed the highlights of the UPWP. Motion was made and seconded. Mayor Strange asked whether or not the Rail planning project from Birmingham to Mobile was included in the FY-2010 UPWP. Mr. Smith stated it was within the document. Mayor Strange asked for a separate item to discuss the Rail issue. Mr. Smith stated that they could move that to Item #8 on the agenda. UPWP was voted on and adopted.

Mayor Byard moved to Agenda Item #7 Consider Proposed Amendments to the FY 2008-2011 TIP. Mayor Byard stated that there were some issues with the balancing of projects/financial constraint. Mr. Groves stated that there was one addition but FHWA has issued a finding about the regarding the Outer Loop projects. These projects are causing the STIP to be out of balance and thus the local TIP is out of balance. Mr. Smith stated the Outer Loop projects will be moved to out years in the TIP in order to bring the local and State TIP's back into balance at the ALDOT's and FHWA request and requirement. Mayor Strange asked if the funding becomes available tomorrow what would happen? Mr. Smith stated that the projects would then become live and they would need to be re-added to the TIP. Mayor Strange asked were these projects being removed? Mr. Smith stated that they were being moved out of the current 2008-2011 TIP into an out year of 2012 and 2013. Mr. Groves stated that it is still a viable project but as the funds are not available as of today then they must be moved. Mayor Strange asked about the arrangement between the Montgomery County Commission and Focus 2000 and with this new development if the privatized group wanted to do the road what would be the steps? Mr Groves answered that ALDOT would have to do the interchanges, and that if Focus 2000 wanted to start with private money that they could but there would have to be some state involvement. Mayor Strange stated that they are trying to clear any barriers so that the private group can start. Mr. Groves restated that interchanges would have to be done by ALDOT but as long as the road is built to current standards no issue should arise. TIP Amendment was approved to move the Outer Loop roadway projects previously amended into the TIP at the previous meeting out into the 2012/2013 time frame.

Mayor Byard moved to Agenda Item #8 Rail Planning. Mayor Strange stated that he wanted to discuss the rail transportation because he has made a commitment for funding on studies and the funding depends on the number of entities that participate and is asking to determine where support is going to come from. Mayor Byard asked about the entities, and Mayor Strange stated the entire project is \$400,000 with half coming from local match. Mayor Strange stated that the 3 entity option is Birmingham, Montgomery, and Mobile. Mr. Smith stated that the 6 entity option is Brewton, Birmingham Montgomery, Greenville, Atmore and Mobile. Mayor Byard asked if there was some type of planning money from the MPO that could fund the local match. Mr Smith stated that there is no money to fund the local portion but it could be used to fund the federal portion, Mr Smith stated that ADECA had submitted an application for a grant to fund the entire portion. Mayor Strange asked what would be any other option. Mr. Groves stated that asking SPR funds from ALDOT which would take a meeting and that they have been used for a Land Use and Travel Demand model. Mayor Strange asked that whatever is paid is on the planning stage be supported on a pro rata share based on population and include more jurisdictions. Mr. Smith stated that if ADECA is funded then they would hire the consultant and that Mobile has passed a resolution supporting any and all Amtrak transportation in the area. Mayor Strange requested a subcommittee be created to keep the communication flowing between the communities and that a resolution be passed supporting that as an MPO. A question was asked about how the cost estimate was developed for the rail study. Mr. Smith explained that the \$400,000 price tag came from similar ridership and revenue studies done at \$100,000 and a feasibility \$300,000 with the \$300,000 being a \$1,000 a mile fee and estimated to the nearest \$100,000. Mayor Byard asked for any further discussion there being none, motion carried to approve a resolution similar to Mobile MPO's supporting rail development planning and implementation.

Mayor Byard moved to Agenda Item #9 Transportation Status Project by Mr. David Bollie. Mr. Bollie stated that there would be a Right of Way/Uniform Relocation Act class in October. He also stated that the stimulus project plans for construction needed to be in to ALDOT and if they were not turned in then the ALDOT would spend those funds elsewhere. Mr Bollie stated that the engineers for each municipality should know where they are, and that they plan on having all funds obligated. Mayor Strange stated that he wanted to publicly wanted to thank John Lorentson for the work done to the interstate along Gateway Park.

There was no further discussion. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 11:38 am.

