

Montgomery MPO Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2009

Members

Mr. Robert Smith (MPO Staff)
Mr. Richie Beyer (Elmore County)
Mr. Patrick Dunson (City of Montgomery)
Mr. David Bollie (ALDOT)
Mr. Jerry Peters (City of Millbrook)
Mr. James Kelley (Montgomery County)
Mr. Kleob Loflin (City of Wetumpka)
Mr. David Bufkin (Autauga County)
Mr. Tommy Tyson (City of Montgomery)
Mr. Joel Duke (City of Prattville)
Ms. Rita Murchison (Town of Elmore)
Mr. Kelvin Miller (MATS)
Mr. Stuart Peters (Town of Coosada)

Guests

Ms. Barbara Hendrix (ALDOT)
Mr. Reginald Franklin (CARPDC)
Mr. Jim Meads (Sain Associates)
Mr. Shaun Capps (FHWA)

MPO Staff

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

At the regularly scheduled meeting of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) on August 11, 2009 at 10 a.m. at the City of Montgomery Intermodal Transfer Facility in the conference room, 495 Molton Street, Montgomery, AL 36106, the aforementioned members were present. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Robert Smith. Mr. Smith announced that a quorum was present. Ms. Rita Murchison was introduced as the new member representing the Town of Elmore.

Mr. Smith moved on to Agenda Item 4: approval of minutes. The Minutes passed unanimously and without discussion or correction.

Mr. Smith moved to Agenda Item 5: Consider Draft FY-2010 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mr. Smith discussed the Highlights as they were presented on the handout. A motion was made and seconded to approve and pass the Draft FY-2010 UPWP.

DRAFT FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2010 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)
HIGHLIGHTS

- \$465,101 in Federal Highway and Transit Administration Planning (PL) Funds Estimated for FY-2010, as compared to \$439,854 in FY-2009. \$180,000 in carryover (unspent funds from FY-2009).
- Total FY-2010 Draft UPWP budget is \$581,375, with Local Match being \$116,275, as compared to \$549,818 total in FY-2009 with match being \$109,964.
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5303 Planning Funds have been combined with Federal Highway Administration Planning Funds to be one (1) fund for better management.
- Funds pay for 5 full-time staff person's salaries, planning and programming work related to required documents, MPO administration and other Federal requirements, general operating costs for meetings, advertising for meetings, public hearings and various other activities.
- \$56,559 in Federal Highway Administration Planning (PL) Funds, with match of \$14,140 for continuation in the development of the year 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Other consulting assistance will be acquired for a transit ridership, passenger count and general opinion survey for the Montgomery Area Transit System for planning and modeling purposes for 2010 base year and 2040 LRTP.
- MPO Staff to perform work in continued updating of the 2035 LRTP with consulting assistance from Jacobs Engineering Group and JR Wilburn and Associates in the initial existing conditions assessment with MPO and Advisory Committees and general public, analysis of projects from previous plan, 2035 no build network, 2035 E+C network, 2035 Network with 2030 Plan Projects and 2035 Build Network, Multiple Scenario Testing, balancing of projects and financing, public hearings and final document preparation.
- Fiscal Years 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Maintenance as needed and annual rebalance in FY-2010 and start the development of the 2011-2014 TIP.
- Update of the MPO Area Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

- Various other transportation planning duties such as, prior year authorized projects list report and advertisement, overall GIS database update and maintenance, traffic count updates, report writing, grant writing, etc....

Mr. Smith moved on to Agenda Item 6: Consider Amendments to the FY 2008-2011 TIP. Mr. Smith reviewed the amendments.

Mr. Jerry Peters asked if the High Priority (HPP) funds on the Outer Loop Project listed on Page 4 is coming from ALDOT's regular allocation or special funds. Mr. Bollie commented that ALDOT may have the ability to choose if these are HIGH Priority Funds or not but he would have to ask to make sure. High Priority money is not stimulus money.

Page 5 should show it is ARRA Stimulus money and not HPP money. Mr. Peters stated for clarification that it is all State money so it does not impact what we try to balance here for local municipal or county sponsored projects. Mr. Smith agreed.

Mr. Beyer explained that the project on Page 6 and Page 9 are related. The project on the Alabama River Parkway (Page 9) has now been cut back from its original design which ran to the toll operated facility. It was not eligible for ARRA funds or any other federal funds. The Federal Funds portion on Page 9 should read \$619,000. The project on Page 6 uses the rest of the projects money and the Federal Funds part for Rifle Range Road is \$476,911. It is a safety project on Rifle Range Road to include shoulder widening. Both projects will now be ARRA funded. Mr. Capps stated that the ARRA funds operate the same as other Federal Funds and that neither could be fund the project leading to the toll operated road.

Mr. Smith explained that the projects on Pages 11, 12, and 13 would be deleted due to a new pavement grading system. They will be deleted until they reach a point when they need repaving based on the new grading system. The money would now go into the project on Page 10.

Mr. Smith commented on how \$3.264 million from the Madison Avenue and Perry Hill Road projects would be redistributed. He presented and explained the formularized spreadsheet that showed the distribution of the \$3.264 million in funds for the project. He said that the two projects would now be paid for through stimulus money at 100%. There were a number of questions concerning sub-allocated funds or whether these are sub-allocated funds could be distributed by formula. Mr. Smith said that they in fact could, based on what the federal

regulations said about being able to demonstrate a need to do it. He said that he would send a copy of the regulations and an email received from the FHWA explaining it.

Merit of different projects was also questioned and if it was still a consideration of project selection. Mr. Smith said that merits of the projects are still a consideration. He explained criteria about the projects proposed and related/compared each projects merits, and said that the City of Montgomery projects had the highest merit based on an objective criteria. He said that the formula distribution method was another way of solving the situation based on an equitable way.

Mr. Beyer asked what Mr. Smith wanted them to do with the other unfunded projects that were presented during stimulus project selection. Do you want us to put them in this list and ask for their approval now? Mr. Smith said he thought that would be fair. It was finally decided to add the other unfunded projects to be funded with regular TIP money. This will be using State Allocated STP funds allocated to Montgomery (regular MPO funds). Mr. Beyer said the projects on the list for Prattville, Elmore Co., and Wetumpka already include PE and CN estimates.

Mr. Smith then continued with the TIP Amendments. The members asked to have no more than what is shown here in federal money spent to construct the new roadway between Taylor Rd. and Ray Thorington Rd. (Page 17). Mr. Smith said that is reflected in the constraint table and will show that any remaining balance, over whatever the total cost is, will be paid by private funds only. No other federal funds beyond what the commitment is will be used. It was asked to write that into the description.

Mr. Beyer made the motion to adopt the TIP Amendment projects with the additional list of projects that were listed under the stimulus which were not funded and with the caveat that the project on Page 17 shows a total construction cost estimated at \$10-15 million and is a public/private partnership. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Smith moved to Agenda Item 7: Transportation Projects Status Report from ALDOT

Mr. Bollie commented that those entities with stimulus projects will have to get a Dun and Bradstreet number and then a CCR number. Your consultant and contractor should also have one. Government entities should already have a Dunn number.

ALDOT needs your stimulus projects in and ready with construction plans by October 2009. If it is a stimulus project which went to the MPO and it is not ready by then, the DOT will spend it elsewhere so all funds will be spent. It should be ready for the Construction Bureau by October 2009 for a January letting. This also applies to county projects.

ALDOT is offering a class about Relocation under the Uniform Act. The DOT is changing procedures about what needs to be turned in to acquire ROW. Cities and counties need to send their attorneys to the relocation class so they will know what the rules are as well due to attorneys generally handling all right of way legal matters.

ALDOT is also holding a class on Speed Management. Mr. Bollie said he had sent letters to officials about these topics.

Project Status:

- The Sportsplex roadway construction project (SR-14 in Wetumpka) preconstruction meeting will be tomorrow and construction should begin within two weeks. The project should be complete within 60 days.
- The US-80 (Atlanta Hwy) from Bell Road to near Walmart Super Center and bridge project at Oliver Creek is close to completion.
- I-65 construction is on schedule for the first part of it. The second portion near downtown and the Alabama River Bridge is scheduled for completion on May 15, 2010.
- The I-85 Bridge at the Eastern Blvd project is complete except for final striping and punch-list items.
- Taylor Road is scheduled for repaving with a November letting date. It is 3.15 miles.
- The resurfacing of McQueen Smith road from Cobbs Ford to SR 14 is set to begin in January.
- Ginn Shop Road is scheduled for resurfacing in January from Co. Road 206 to Hwy 82.

- Perry Hill Road widening and resurfacing is set for January 2010 for now. It has turned into a full stimulus funded project for the first portion from I-85 to Harrison Road.
- The Madison Avenue project is scheduled for January 2010. This will be done with stimulus money. Most of the utility work is underway.
- The bridge over Autauga Creek in Prattville is scheduled to start in November.
- Old Farm Lane in Prattville, near Lowe's, is scheduled for September. We are basically waiting on ROW.
- Widening and resurfacing of Ann Street is scheduled for January of 2010 but will not likely be that early.
- Contra Flow, which is the Hurricane Project, is basically at US 80 and I-65. The project has been moved to January but our provision is that he has to be built by June 1st which is the start of Hurricane season.
- SR 14 and SR 143 had to have environmental work done for the whole area and not just that small section. ROW is set up to be authorized for November, 2009.

Mr. Smith commented that he had sent out a notice that a representative from Amtrak would be at the MPO meeting on August 12, 2009 for those interested in attending to see his presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.