

To: Parker Collins, Montgomery Area MPO
From: Steve Cote, Day Wilburn Associates, Inc.
c.c.: Rod Wilburn, Marta Rosen
Date: February 23, 2005 (updated with corrections March 29, 2005)
Subject: Montgomery Area Long Range Transportation Plan

The following is a summary of the public outreach activities and results for:

Event: Public Open House Meetings

Dates/Locations/Times:

Prattville Tuesday, February 8 th City Hall (Address) 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Wetumpka Tuesday, February 8 th Post Office (Address) 4 – 6 p.m.	Montgomery Wednesday, February 9 th Business Incubator (Address) 11 – 1:00 p.m. 4 – 6 p.m.
--	--	---

Media Outreach:

Press Release: Approved for release January 11th, 2005 (see attached)
Newspapers: Released by Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to local media.
Display Ads: Approved for release January 11th, 2005 (see attached)
Newspapers: *Montgomery Independent, Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery-Tuskegee Times, Prattville Progress, Millbrook Independent, and the Wetumpka Herald*
Radio: Press release and public service announcement sent by Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to local media.

Stakeholder Outreach:

Notification letters were sent to over 170 citizens and stakeholders, as well as federal, state and local agencies on the study mailing list.

Public Meeting Results:

A total of 28 people signed in for the meetings (see attached sign-in sheets).

Location	No. of Participants
Montgomery (AM)	10
Montgomery (PM)	5
Prattville	2
Wetumpka	11

- To date, 40 comment forms have been submitted and 15 citizens have provided comments by email.

A letter has been prepared to respond to all comments and a summary of public comments is also underway. Copies of the comment forms received to date are attached. Copies of the responses and comment forms will also be forwarded to the Montgomery Area MPO once the letters are finalized.

Information Presented:

Attendees were provided an overview of the study. Display information also included potential transportation goals, study area demographics, travel patterns, and existing transportation system conditions and future congestion levels. Study fact sheets and comment forms were distributed to attendees (see attached).

Project Team Comments:

To date, media responses have been positive and public input very helpful to supplement the technical analysis. The study team is pleased to be receiving comments on all modes of transportation including bike, pedestrian and transit needs in addition to roadway capacity needs. Overall, the overwhelming majority of those completing comment forms ranked transportation “very high” among overall community needs. Specific comments included:

Greatest Transportation Need or Concern by Mode Type:

A. Roadway

- Operational needs on Atlanta Highway from around Bell Road all the way back to Faulkner University
- Congestion along Bell Road from the Troy Highway to the Vaughn Road
- Increased truck traffic from the Atlanta Highway to the Troy Highway
- Improve traffic flow along the US Highway 231 corridor between Montgomery - Wetumpka.
- Congestion and pedestrian safety concerns on Carter Hill Road, between Narrow Lane Road, Hazel Hedge Lane, and College Street
- Congestion and safety concerns at the intersection of Highway 14 and Highway 143 in Elmore County



- Congestion on Interstate 65, especially south of Interstate 85
- Constructing a new bypass from Troy to tie into I-65 and I-85
- Need for increased capacity along Highway 14 from Millbrook to Wetumpka
- Congestion on Politic Road and Mercer Road
- Congestion on Highway 14 from Wetumpka Airport to Calloway Creek
- I-65 Prattville to Hopeville
- PM congestion MacGhee Road from Woodley Road to Montgomery Mall
- Major bottlenecks at Eastern Blvd. and I-85 bridge; bridge southbound needs widening
- Widen Perry Hill Rd. (Vaughn to Atlanta) to minimize congestion and design area for pedestrian and bicycle friendly traffic
- Move the Outer Loop (East/South Connector between I-85 and I-65) up as the top priority for the Montgomery area.
- Congestion at the intersection of I-85 and Perry Hill Road going south
- Realignment of River Oak with Old Montgomery Highway
- Tallassee, in the 6th Division, needs a bridge over a narrow part of the Tallapoosa River from Hwy 229 S. to E. Tallassee
- Noise barriers along the Taylor Road truck route to protect homeowners from all the noise
- Traffic congestion on 14 and I-65 from 14 to Montgomery
- Congestion on Jackson Road & Wilson Road; stripe these roads and make it easier to get on Highway 14 from Jackson & Politic Roads
- Widen US 231 in Elmore County & add lanes to river bridges
- Safety concerns along Highway 14 from Main Street in Millbrook to the Canal near Wetumpka
- Traffic lights at the following intersections Highway 14 & 143, MacGhee Road at Southern Bypass going South onto US 231, Hwy 231 South/Troy Highway
- Widen the bridges/I-85 overpasses on East Blvd.
- Resurface, widen, and install a traffic light Highway 14 and Wilson Road
- In addition to a bridge from Highway 229S to E. Tallassee, a route should be developed from Highway 229, westward to County Road 8 (Friendship Road)
- Enforcement of traffic laws on truckers, who routinely speed all hours of the night through their favorite short cut

B. Transit

- Need for more mass transit
- Develop the abandoned rail bed from downtown out to the Montgomery Mall into a multi-use trail or a transit corridor
- Transportation for the senior citizens in the surrounding area into Prattville to Montgomery

C. Bicycle and Pedestrian

- Bike lanes or routes in the Tri-County area especially in newly developed areas, i.e. Chantilly Parkway



Day Wilburn Associates, Inc.

- Place more emphasis on alternative transportation options, such as pedestrian facilities and bike lanes
- Congestion and pedestrian safety concerns on Carter Hill Road, between Narrow Lane Road, Hazel Hedge Lane, and College Street
- Need for crosswalks and improved pedestrian signalization at major intersections
- Bike lanes on Highway 231 and 14, as called for in the Elmore County Trail Plan

D. Natural and Community Features for Protection

- Northern area just above River North development to Bass Road area
- Rivers and lakes
- Mt. Zion Church (Hwy 143) and Elmore Fire Dept. on Hwy 14
- Preserve historic neighborhoods and buildings; preserve water & tree resources
- Environmentally sensitive areas and historic sites
- Preserve greenspace and natural areas
- More landscaping along streets - too much
- Preserve the residential and historic integrity of Jordan Avenue
- Protect Mortar Creek

E. Other Comments

- Low sign ordinance in newly developed areas