

Metropolitan Planning Organization
Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2007

Voting Members

Mayor Bobby Bright, MPO Chairman
Mayor Jim Byard, City of Prattville
Mr. Randall Estes, ALDOT Sixth Engineer
Mr. Joe Faulk, County Commission
Mayor Jo Glenn, City of Wetumpka
Mr. Ken Groves, Secretary
Mayor Frank Houston, Town of Coosada
Mayor Al Kelley, City of Millbrook
Mr. Todd Strange, County Commission

Guests

Ms. Barbara Hendricks, ALDOT
Mr. Jerry Peters, City of Millbrook
Mr. Stuart Peters, Landmark Engineering
Ms. Carla Kruger, City of Montgomery, Citizen
Mr. Joe Meads, Sain Associates
Mr. Bill Tulus, CARPDC
Mr. Kelvin Miller, MATS
Mr. Craig Tauton, ALDOT

MPO Staff

Mr. Robert Smith
Mr. James Askew
Ms. Diana Drummond
Ms. April Delchamps

At the regular scheduled meeting of the Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on June 21, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, Montgomery, Alabama, the aforementioned members were present. Mayor Bright asked Mr. Ken Groves if a quorum was present. Mr. Groves replied that we need one more. Mayor Bright said I think everybody got notice, didn't they? Mr. Groves said they did. Mayor Bright said congratulations on Super Wal-Mart in Millbrook. Mr. Groves said we have a quorum after one more member walked in. Mayor Bright said it is time to start the meeting on time so that we can get out here and get everybody back. He called the meeting to order. He asked do we have a

quorum. Mr. Groves replied we have a quorum. Mayor Bright asked do we have any guests that we want to introduce before we get started. Mr. Groves said before we introduce the guests, I would like to introduce the newest member of the MPO staff, April Delchamps has joined us. She comes here from the Mobile region, and she has at least five good years of transportation planning experience. She adds a lot to our staff capabilities. Mayor Bright asked what her name was, again. Mr. Groves replied April Delchamps. Mayor Bright said welcome April, we are glad to have you. Ms. Delchamps said thank you. Mr. Robert Smith said she is a native of Montgomery. Mayor Bright said is she really? We are glad to have you back then, and he asked if there any other guests that needed to be recognized. Mr. Groves said we can let the audience introduce themselves. Mr. Joe Meads with Sain Associates introduced himself. Mr. David Bollie with the Alabama Department of Transportation Sixth Division introduced himself. Ms. Karla Kruger a citizen of Montgomery introduced herself. Mayor Bright said Karla we glad to have all of you, anybody else in here that is a guest that we have not recognized before? Alright, we are good. Welcome everybody, and if you would, we will start with the agenda.

Mayor Bright moved on to agenda item No. 4 and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2007 MPO meeting and the minutes were adopted. They were unanimously approved.

Mayor Bright asked Mr. Groves to explain agenda item No.5 (draft FY-2008 UPWP). Mr. Groves said this is the plan for our work for the upcoming year to be performed by MPO staff and possible other entities. We do this annually, and it includes all of the tasks that staff does on an annual basis. It also includes continuation of our work with Dr. Clay at Auburn University on the Urban Model. This is basically our outline for what the staff does throughout the next year. Commissioner Todd Strange said question. Mr. Groves said yes, sir. Commissioner Strange said I am looking at Figure 1 on page 4, and I am assuming it says that is the MPO study area. Mr. Groves said that is correct. Commissioner Strange said the grey shaded area is that the municipal limits of the city, Prattville and whatever else is up there. Mr. Groves said no, the grey shade is outside the municipal boundary. Commissioner Strange said the light grey. The dark is outside. Mr. Groves said right. Mayor Jim Byard said but that is incorrect. I mean it may be but it is incorrect. Commissioner Strange said my real question centers around is over time, how do those lines get redrawn. Mr. Groves said we redraw them annually. It is one of the activities you do. That map is approved by you, and we make it official with the state. I guess

we do it every time we do a long range plan update. We consider where those areas are? Commissioner Strange said and what drives that, population, transportation? Mr. Smith said really the dark grey study area boundary, or green on this map, is the actual area that is expected to be urbanized within the next 20 years. Commissioner Strange said so the whole study area is what we are looking at and the lighter is just the municipal. I got you. Mr. Smith said the actual municipalities are within the study area. Mayor Bright said the lighter is the municipality, but what is the dark line encircling it? Mr. Smith said the dark line is the urban area, the actual urban area. Mayor Bright said the actual MPO. Mr. Smith said the actual urbanized area. There is a difference between urban area and urbanized area. Mayor Bright said what I am asking for Robert is the actual MPO. Where the projects can be this year right now? Is that on here? Mr. Groves said the grey shaded area. Mr. Smith said that grey shaded. Now the actual urbanized area, which determines how much money we get, is within the City of Montgomery municipal limits. That is called the urbanized area. Commissioner Strange said but if there was a major project down US-231 that needed our attention, it would qualify under the MPO. Mr. Smith said yes, sir, just as long as it is in this grey shaded area. Mayor Byard said as long as it is in the grey shaded area? It has got to be in the grey shaded. Mayor Bright said now hold on, you said something that educated me a little bit. The money that we draw for this MPO is based on what? Mr. Groves said it is based on the population inside what the Census defines as the urbanized area, which currently is entirely within the Montgomery city corporate limits. That population is used as a multiplier to determine our budget for this entire area. Mayor Bright said why aren't they using the urbanized area of Prattville and Millbrook and Wetumpka. Mr. Groves said because in the 2000 Census, they fell out of the urbanized area. Mayor Byard asked because of the flood plain? Go back to that flood plain. Mr. Smith said it is based on I think about 1000 persons per square mile. The urbanized area population is 196,892, which is less than the City of Montgomery municipal limit population of 201,568. Mayor Houston said I had thought about bringing this up, and I think it probably fits later on, but since you are discussing this particular point at this time, you know we are approaching the 2010 Census. They have already started working and planning for it. It was back when they did the 2000 Census that is when they reduced this urbanized area, and we did not know about it at the time prior to it being done. I think we should have objected to it, and I wondered if it would be in order at this time for us to pass something to notify the proper authorities, whether the Census Bureau or whichever department it is in Washington, and ask our Senators for help in expanding that area back to the way it used to be and some additional areas to include Prattville, Millbrook and Coosada or close

to that area. There is a little but more of a break in Wetumpka, but of course I would like to see Wetumpka if it was reasonable included in it.

Mayor Byard said Mr. Chairman for the benefit of Chairman Strange because he was not here then. In the 2000 Census, they took those communities north of the river out. It affected two MPOs in Alabama, us and Mobile. They took Daphne out of Mobile's because of the Bay. Because it is based on 1000 citizens per square mile and you have that break because of the flood plain. It is the same way down there in Daphne. Like Mayor Houston, we did not object because we did not know to object. But I am like Mayor Houston, it would provide us more money because it would be more people, I would think. Mr. Groves said well the way the law is set up is so that Congress does not have any choice. The way the law reads is the Census Bureau and the Department of Commerce make the determination. Mayor Byard said and with all due respect, Mr. City Planner, the politicians, we work to change the laws, when they need to be changed, and this is one I agree needs to be changed. We need to look at it, at least, I would think. That is my opinion. Mr. Groves said I do not disagree. It is just that it is set up so we cannot lobby the Census Bureau. Mayor Byard said yes but I can lobby the Census Bureau. Mayor Bright said but is it made up though of the actual numbers reported from this area. Mr. Groves said it goes on the official count of the decennial Census. Mayor Bright said so how can you pass a law to modify that because if the numbers are there, then they are supposed to give us the. Mayor Byard said well they changed. Not to dredge up old history, but they changed the rules and we were not notified of the rule change because there was an objection period and we did not know about it, or we would have I think, might have objected. We would at least have had some discussion about it. Mayor Byard said I do not know if we lost money, but we lost, but if it is built on population, we lost some population. Mr. Groves said we lost money. Mayor Byard said yes and we should have objected to that. I do not know if we can solve it, but we could certainly look at it, get some points together, because we can all talk to the Congress. It can be changed back. There are areas where that rule makes sense. This is one that is does not. There is never going to people in that flood plain, but the people north of the river are certainly affected by south of the river and vice versa. Mr. Groves said it is an economic affinity. Mayor Bright said if we can get more money, we should always be alerted to it. Mayor Glenn said let me clarify one thing. You are saying the dark black line outlines the urban area, and that encompasses Prattville, Millbrook and Coosada. Yet you are saying that our dollars only come on Montgomery.

Mr. Smith said was what was actually done just to appease everybody, urbanized area boundary line was redrawn and this was the area that everybody decided that possibly would be urban in 20-25 years. But the Census Bureau, even though we did that, it does not change our funding pool. It is still based on 196,892 persons which, is about 500-1000 persons per square mile. Commissioner Strange said most of us around this table have some people under contract to consult with us about Washington affairs. I would suggest that we contact those individuals and get an explanation as to what might be able to be done to impact changing the rules back to get us more money. That would be a suggestion that I have. Mr. Groves said one other thing that you could consider a possible short term alternative that would have more immediate affect would be to see if ALDOT could include that population in their calculation for their allocation of the funds. Mayor Bright said mister ALDOT (referring to Mr. Estes). Mayor Byard said you like it when it turns over. Mr. Groves said I think that would be above his pay grade. Mr. Estes said Mr. Chairman; I was not supposed to be here today. I would be delighted to pass this on, but we wind up in the same position that Ken is in and some others who are not only members of the MPO, but are prevented by law from getting into a lobbying position, that is not a constraint on some of the rest of you who are elected who may do that. I will get somebody to contact Ken, if that is okay with the Chair with this body. I need someone Ken, and let them work on the details of how we may best be able to help through the ALDOT. I do not know that there is anything we can do. It is not in my component, in my role with the division, but somebody in the central office. Mr. Smith said it comes from Metropolitan Planning. Mr. Groves said these questions will become increasingly important because the funding is just not there to do everything we all need to do. Mayor Bright said let me ask you. If we can get more money for this MPO, we need to do everything we possibly can to do it. What I am concerned with is I do not want there to be an avenue that we can appeal and us not take that appeal. I am concerned about if we had taken the appeal would the result have been different, or would the result have been changed? Probably not because I think the Census Bureau is basically strictly on the numbers reported to them as facts. And that may be why we did not appeal. Mr. Groves said I have never seen a Census Bureau determination appeal succeed. You know in Birmingham many years ago, we figured we had more people and we appealed the count. Mayor Bright said we certainly would not miss time if that happens. Okay. Mr. Estes said Mr. Chair, give me just a moment here, who do you think that is in the Central Office who covers the area. Mr. Smith said Mr. Jilla and Mr. Couch. Mr. Groves said David Bollie, our county transportation engineer, he may have been here and been introduced before, but he is with us today. He is on my staff in the

sixth division, and he works directly with MPO county transportation. For the committee, I am going to ask him to make a contact for someone to get in touch with Mr. Groves, and let the Central Office work on this. Mr. Smith said actually, there is a central office representative here. Mr. Estes said I am sorry I did not mean to overlook. Mr. Smith said Ms. Hendricks, she works in that section. Mr. Estes said I am sorry. Ok, but we will do our best through the sixth division to help with this.

Mr. Groves said well the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Citizens Advisory Committee have both recommended that we approve the draft UPWP for 2008. A motion was made and seconded to approve item number five and it was adopted. It passed unanimously.

The Chairman moved to agenda item No. 6, which is consider proposed amendment projects to the FY 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Groves said we have three projects that require amendment of the TIP in order to accommodate various circumstances. Robert would you like to give everybody a quick run down on what these projects are. Mr. Smith said yes, sir. I think everybody has that particular piece. It is the one that says FY06-08 Transportation Improvement Program amendment projects. The first project, this is an Elmore County project (Weoka Creek Bridge project). There has been one correction that ALDOT has actually specified in this particular project. The State is not the sponsor of this project; however, I did get a letter stating to me that the State was the sponsor. The sponsor will be the Elmore County Commission for this utility relocation project. Mayor Bright said what are you talking about Robert, number three. Mr. Smith said page number one. This is a bridge replacement project for County Road 29, Titus Road at Will Creek. The total dollar amount of the project, which is over a million dollars, included the utility relocation for the project, and I guess ALDOT did not recognize that and sent the letter out by mistake. What we are actually doing, is amending the 06 to 08 TIP. Mayor Bright said and adding this to the approved previous amount. Mr. Smith said to break down the previous amount to include this dollar amount, utility relocation for the bridge projects. Mayor Bright said this is utility relocation? Mr. Groves said yes. Mayor Bright said this particular project. Mr. Smith said yes, sir. Mayor Bright said so it is added to the other part, the project will be over a million dollars by the time they get this added. Mr. Smith said we will not be increasing funds or anything like that. This is just to break it down into two different scopes. Mayor Bright said is there any questions or discussion about this project. It is Elmore County isn't it. Mr. Smith said total cost is \$254,604, and the federal funds

there should be \$204,604. Mayor Bright said make that clerical modification before we approve it. Mr. Smith said yes, sir. And change that project scope from CN to UT. Mayor Bright said UT. Mayor Bright said before we sign off on this, make those changes on those clerical errors. Mayor Bright said any other discussion.

The second project, Robert. Mr. Smith said page number two. This is a State of Alabama project, National Highway System. It is for the bridge widening and interchange improvements on Perry Hill Road at I-85. This is for Preliminary Engineering. The total cost of the project is \$125,000. This project will complement the widening that is going on from this particular section onto Atlanta Highway. Commissioner Strange said that is the next piece. Mr. Smith said yes, sir. This is probably the most critical point in the project, I do believe. Commissioner Strange what is, on the existing project that is underway right now, what is the completion date for that? Mr. Smith said the completion date to my knowledge is about 18 to 24 months. Mayor Bright said are we talking about the widening over the interstate. Eighteen to 24 months, that's a long time. Mr. Estes said that is not the interstate, it is Perry Hill Road. Mr. Smith said that is just the widening project. The estimated construction time is 18 to 24 months. Commissioner Strange said for what? Mr. Smith said no, for Perry Hill, for the widening project. Commissioner Strange said where does the existing project, it goes from the interstate to where? Mr. Smith said from the interstate to Atlanta Highway. Commissioner Strange said well what does this do then? Mr. Smith said this is just to widen the bridge. Mr. Groves said over the interstate. Mr. Estes said you know the loop ramp in the northeast quadrant; we will duplicate and mirror that in the southwest quadrant. Mayor Bright said will that be for the people going south on Perry Hill? They will be able to loop around and go north. It will put a loop on the southwest corner like you have on the northeast corner. That will help quite a bit. Commissioner Strange said say you are coming from Vaughn on Perry Hill and you are going downtown, you just loop around. Mr. Estes said we have that fixed. Mayor Bright said they are going to put the same type loop, identical, but it is going to be in the corner over behind Montgomery Academy. It is going to be in that corner for people coming from Atlanta Highway to loop around. Commissioner Strange said cut across. Okay. Got you. Mayor Bright said that is going to be very helpful. Mr. Estes said and that is what this is for. Mr. Smith said yes, sir, just for the bridge widening and interchange improvements.

Mayor Bright said project number 3, Robert. Mr. Smith said project number three is a highway safety project. We do not necessarily have to have any approval on this one, but it did come to me in the form of a letter, so we try to let everyone know what is going on. Mayor Bright said if we do not need approval, then why do we have to vote on. Mr. Groves said it needs to be in the plan. Mr. Smith said it does have to be in the document itself, and it is just for railroad safety improvements right there on County Road 65, or Sprague Junction Road, at CSX Railroad east of State Route 9 and Sprague in south Montgomery County. Mayor Bright asked if there are any questions or discussion about these projects going into the amended TIP. Alright, do I hear a vote to adopt it. Mr. Groves said I move we consider all three in a single motion. A motion was made and seconded to approve item number six and it was adopted.

Item No. 7 is the opportunity we give to ALDOT to discuss our local projects, and where they may be. Mr. Groves said we understand you may not be ready for that today. Mayor Bright said do you have a report you want to present or any discussion. Mr. Bollie said I am going to deliver a report and if you have any questions. Right now the I-65 project on the Alabama River is about 95% complete. It involves widening in the median, an additional lane in each direction and it is slated to be completed in December of this year. The State Troopers are doing a very good job of making sure everybody slows down in there. Mayor Bright said is it true what I heard that you were not going to open it until you improve all the way down to Highway 80. Is that right? Mr. Craig Taunton said that the inside lane southbound will not be open. Mayor Bright asked is there a reason? Mr. Tauton said there is no reason for not opening the northbound side; just the southbound cannot open because we don't have the additional widening on the southern end of the bridge. Mayor Bright said alright. Mr. Bollie said the next project I was going to talk about is the one we just let out there where there were two projects together. It was the additional lanes on I-65 from north end of the Catoma Creek Bridge to the south end of the Mill Street Bridge, and then the other project was bridge widening on I-65 from north of Fairview Avenue to the Alabama River Bridge, which is approximately 4.5 miles long. It was let on May 18th in the amount of 79 million dollars. It should be completed, or scheduled to be completed in October of 2009. We have, I do believe, that the notice to proceed is probably in process right now. Mr. Tauton said they already got the start date as July 7th. You will see signs going up July 7th. Mr. Bollie said we have another project coming up in that same area, I-65 with the additional lanes and the existing concrete pavement rehab from the north end of the Middle Street Bridge to the Alabama River Bridge. It is scheduled for the November 2008

letting. Right now the estimated cost is 45 million. Commissioner Strange I am sorry, we were talking over here about why in the world you would start Friday of the 4th of July weekend. Why would you not start on Monday? Mr. Estes said well we are talking to the contractor. Commissioner Strange said the 7th is like Friday. The 4th of July is on Wednesday, 5th is Thursday, 6th is Friday, 7th is Saturday. They are going to be coming home on Sunday. Mr. Tauton said well it is only for signs. Mr. Estes said would you like for us to hold this job up. Commissioner Strange said no because I am coming back Monday. Mayor Bright said I came back on that stretch last night, and I am telling you there is a major problem there. Mr. Bollie said the next project was I-65 additional lanes and existing concrete pavement rehab from the north end of the Middle Street Bridge to the Alabama River Bridge and that is scheduled for the November 2008 letting. Right now its estimated cost is 45 million that is subject to change. Another project that we are working on is the I-85 pavement rehab from I-65 to near Hall Street that is scheduled for this month's letting, I believe. It is to rehab the existing concrete pavement and place a thin overlay in that area. It is just a little less than two miles long. Commissioner Strange said what is your estimate? Mr. Bollie said the estimate on that one, oh I am sorry, is 7.8 million. Then we have the I-85 extending the southbound outside acceleration lane from the Eastern Boulevard to Perry Hill Road. Everybody sees that out there right now. They are coming along with it fairly well. The project was let in January of this year, and the low bid amount was 2.3 million dollars. Construction is 25% complete, and we are expecting it to have a completion date in late '07 and at the worst early '08. We also have the I-85 at the Eastern Boulevard interchange improvements. The project will widen the bridges on the Eastern Boulevard over I-85. The preliminary engineering was authorized in May of 2006. The consultant has been selected and right now, they are performing a survey of work to get this done. It is currently scheduled for the May 2009 letting. I do not have an estimate on that because we have not developed plans. I-85. The next project is the I-85 at the Mitylene interchange project. Goodwin, Mills and Cawood is currently working on the corridor study to modify the existing interchange and surrounding intersecting streets and add lanes on I-85 to the Outer Loop. They have completed a congestion management survey on this. The first initial phase, the plans have been completed to add right turn lanes from US-80 eastbound to I-85 southbound entrance ramp, a right turn lane from US-80 westbound to Chantilly Parkway, and to extend the acceleration lane on I-85 southbound. This phase should be let this month at a cost of a million dollars. The consultant is currently developing traffic models for proposed modifications in that area. The next project I am going to talk about....Commissioner Strange

said before you do that can I ask a question. I heard you say something about some lanes from I-85 to the Outer Loop, what was that? Mr. Bollie said that Goodwin, Mills and Cawood are looking at a corridor study to modify the existing interchange and the intersecting streets around it because that also because anything we do there will have an impact on it and they are adding lanes on I-85 to extend to the Outer Loop. Mr. Estes said David let me just add another note here. US-80 at the Mitylene interchange is at the wrong place. Chantilly Parkway is being loaded up with permits and businesses as it develops down through there. We are asking Goodwin, Mills, and Cawood to look at the possibility of how we might relocate 80 further away from the Mitylene interchange. What will do with Technacenter Drive, which is a problem how it now ties in with Atlanta Highway? We could go in and solve any one of these problems which would have unintended consequences on the other, so we are asking the consultant to look at the big picture of this and to consider additional lanes from the Mitylene interchange, which when it was built was rural, to go from where the three lanes end now through Mitylene out to the outer loop. Commissioner Strange said I got you. Mr. Estes said that is all we are asking them to do. No plans. We do not know. It is being studied. Mayor Bright asked does this Mitylene all the way out to the outer loop? Commissioner Strange said yes, I was going to say, how are you going to get there because that goes down Chantilly to 110. Mr. Estes said we are not doing anything down Chantilly to 110. We are scoping this from the end of the three lanes on northbound and southbound I-85 to the Mitylene interchange toward Vaughn but only out to the outer loop. Mr. Smith said they are talking widening it from where it ends to the outer loop. Commissioner Strange said add to I-85 not at Vaughn Road. Mr. Estes said it has nothing to do with the Outer Loop or Chantilly or 110. Commissioner Strange asked does that also include this Wares Ferry interchange. Mr. Estes said I do not know, Craig. Mr. Tauton said that is part of that. Commissioner Strange said what does fast track mean? Mr. Tauton said fast track means they approved \$150,000 for the consultant to go to work, and that will be converted into a lump sum contract at some point in the future. Mr. Estes said I have not introduced Craig but for those of you who do not know this is Craig Tauton. He is our design section chief in the 6th Division, and works generally in the early part of planning development for our projects. Commissioner Strange said the only reason I did not know anything about it was that we were asked to write a letter of support for the fast track. Mr. Tauton said it is just a way to get the consultant paid. Just a fast track contract is a way to pay the consultant. Commissioner Strange said thanks.

Mr. Bollie said the next project is basically adding lanes to Vaughn Road from Chantilly Parkway to the proposed Vaughn Road outer loop interchange. The preliminary engineering for this project is currently scheduled to be authorized next month, and no work will be performed until we get authorization. Right now Montgomery County does have a project in front of us to basically it was a county road project. It was a permit project to, I believe, provide some access to Walgreens. We realized this was going to impact this project, we went ahead and had them make it as if they were going to go ahead and prepare for the upcoming project. Commissioner Strange said we appreciate that too. Mr. Bollie said the next project is adding lanes on Bell Street from Washington Ferry Road to CSX Railroad bridge. This project involves widening Bell Street to a four lane parkway type facility with a 25 foot median. The city is currently purchasing the right-of-way. The state is coordinating with the utility relocation, and the 95% plan review is scheduled for next week. And it is scheduled for the 2007 September letting. Mayor Bright asked what year? Mr. Groves said September of this year. Mayor Bright said can we expedite that. Mr. Estes said no, sir. Mayor Bright said the reason I say that is because Bell Street is so important to every community around this table. This is Maxwell. We are trying to give them some attention. Mr. Estes said Mr. Chairman I am helping to protect some other people who are still working on it desperately right now. Mayor Bright said I understand. Mr. Estes said September is still good. Mr. Bollie said next project is CR-231 widening from Charles Avenue to Main Street in Wetumpka. This project will widen US-231 to six lanes, three lanes in each direction, and relocate Old Montgomery Highway to intersect River Oaks Boulevard. Right-of-way is currently being purchased, and the letting is scheduled for September 2007. I do believe a couple of days ago, there was a monument that they were already up there moving. Mayor Bright asked where is this now. Mr. Bollie said this is right near the casinos, US-231, Wetumpka. Mayor Bright said from downtown Montgomery on up to the Tallapoosa, not the Tallapoosa, but the Coosa where they are building that nice hotel and so. Then they are going to turn around and go into Prattville and let people off to play the Trent Jones Golf course. This is a long range plan. Mayor Byard said it sounds good but that is a long trip. Sounds good, but it is a long trip. Mayor Bright said an overnight trip. You are dying if you do not have vision. Mayor Byard said that is right.

Mr. Bollie said the next project is State Road 14 and State Road 143, intersection improvements in Elmore. This is where Main Street in Millbrook hits 14. The preliminary engineering study on different alternates to realign the current intersection configuration is complete. We held a

public involvement meeting in January of this year. The replacement of the railroad and Mortar Creek bridges has been added to the scope of the project, and currently the project is being surveyed right now. Mayor Byard said needed project. Ms. Glenn said it is very needed. Mayor Bright said are you talking about that old bridge over. Mayor Byard said right there at Elmore, where it turns in, that is a lot of traffic, carrying a lot of traffic. Ms. Glenn said you cannot get in and out. Mr. Bollie said State Route 14 widening from Calloway Creek to the junction of State Route 212 basically where the bypass of Wetumpka comes in. This project will widen State Route 14 to a five lane roadway project within the project limits. Plans are complete. The right-of-way has not been purchased. The project is currently scheduled for February 2013 letting. Mr. Estes said Mayor Glenn and I have talked about this on several occasions. She and I understand what the difficulty is, and it really is a little bit out of the hands of state employees to appropriately deal with this but Mayor Glenn understands the situation, does not agree with 2013. Mayor Glenn said I do not like it, but I understand. Mr. Estes said Mr. Chairman. Mr. Tauton said we have come up with several alternatives that have been shot down at this point I still have one additional proposal, if I could bring that up. My proposal is to leave the four lane as it is and shorten the project from the end of the four lane to the canal and eliminate that four lane section. That's the hang-up? Mayor Glenn said well that is where all wrecks are and the fatalities. That is the dangerous part that needs to be fixed. Mr. Estes said we have not been productive or found much agreement with any other offer of revising this project. Mayor Bright said where is this location again? Mr. Tauton said in front of the Russell building basically from the areas down to the Russell to Wetumpka Bypass, and the existing four lane section is the snag. You have four lanes so if we shorten providing the additional five lane through the canal is an option and handle the four lane section at a later date. Mayor Glenn said well that would be a help but it certainly does not handle the big safety issue. Mr. Estes said Mr. Chairman the problem in this area that they are talking about is it is substandard lane width. It was inherited from an old two lane project that was widened. In order to do it at that time, it needed to leave what we call some reverse super elevation in there. As you normally make a turn to the left, the roadway picks you up to assist you in turning. That side of the roadway actually drops off, and it may contribute, although the ALDOT would never admit to this, it may contribute under some conditions of weather to some possible difficulties with some drivers. But we have a difficulty with a property owner there that has appealed to the director, so we got a little bit of an issue there, but Mayor Glenn knows and understands and is working on it.

Mr. Bollie said the last project is US-82 four lane from US-41 to west of State Route 14. This project will add two additional lanes to the north with a divided median. The right-of-way is currently scheduled to be authorized next month and the project is scheduled for construction in November of 2008. I apologize to everyone on State Route 14 and State Route 143, I said Main Street when I started reading it off. Mr. Smith asked if that last project was in Autauga County? Mr. Bollie said no it is Elmore. Mr. Estes said it is in Elmore County. Mayor Kelley said what is the status of that Main Street intersection project? I know we have seen the plans. Mr. Estes said he said he just corrected that from when he was talking. It is the actual project, we are working on it, that is what you interested in that we have talked about. It is going to be done. It is on the books. Mayor Bright said Main Street and 14 intersection. Mayor Glenn said we need that. Mr. Estes said we are going to take care of it. Mr. Smith said that is what I thought. That is in Autauga County. Mayor Bright said David thanks for the report. We appreciate it.

Mayor Byard said that last project was not in Elmore. That was US-82 to from US-31 to Highway 14. Mr. Smith said that is in Autauga County.

Commissioner Strange said Mr. Chairman, I want to commend David for that report. That is absolutely critical for our understanding, for our constituents' understanding, and I heard things this morning that I had not heard before. Good report. Mayor Glenn said I understand it now. Mayor Bright said now what we will be looking for will be those dates you gave us, any other discussion or items from ALDOT.

Mayor Bright moved to Agenda item 8, the proposal to implement a Commute Smart Program for the Montgomery Area. Mr. Groves asked Robert to give an introduction to that topic. Mr. Smith said just a quick introduction to the proposal to implement a Commute Smart program for the Montgomery area. We were contacted probably a little over a year ago initially by the previous agency that April used to work for the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission to ask us if we knew about the proposal that the Department of Economic and Community Affairs, the RFP that the Department of Economic and Community Affairs had put out to implement a carpool/vanpool type service for Montgomery. At the time we were not and we were also contacted by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham to see if we could actually partner in on doing this project for the area, and I took it to Mr. Groves and he said go for it. A proposal was actually developed were the Montgomery MPO and the Regional

Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham partner on this project, and that is what you have here before you. Mayor Bright so what is the bottom line? What do we need to do? What action do we need to take? Mr. Smith said no necessary action, I would say, it is not going to cost us anything. The Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) will provide all of the money, but I would like to let Ms. April Delchamps actually explain it. She has had more experience with it, working in Mobile. Mayor Bright said I think it is kind of self explanatory. It is just the development of a plan for people to promote. Mr. Groves said it is a ridesharing service, and Birmingham Regional already has it up and running, and that can be easily expanded. Mayor Bright said it was music to my ears when you said it was not going to cost us any money. So we need to move forward, any discussion, any further discussion about this, April if you want to discuss it and tell us about it. Commissioner Strange asked is it a marketing plan or do you do dedicated lanes or what is all of it? Mr. Smith said she can explain it in greater detail. Ms. April Delchamps said the RPC, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham actually operates a CommuteSmart Birmingham program. The basic of it is it is an online ridematching program. The database is kept online and the software is kept online. You would as an individual if you choose to do carpooling or vanpooling actually sign yourself up online. There are different parameters you could actually do. You could I do not want to ride with a smoker, I have children, do not want to ride with children, want to ride with children, anything along those lines. It is a two-tiered, two element program. The first part of the proposal they gave is actually for the actual development of the program, and that includes, the first task would be the actual policies and procedures of the program. That includes the expectations for a commuter and also it protects the supporting agencies liability in the actual program. Also part of that is the actual maintenance and development of the software and the database for the Montgomery area itself, and the RPC would also be responsible for that part of the program. Two other parts are vanpooling. Currently the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham actually runs vanpools within the Montgomery area to Birmingham. Part of their efforts is going to be actually developing a program in to order to grow both that element from Montgomery to Birmingham, but also to grow vanpools within the Montgomery area itself, and also if it was going to say Hyundai Plant or people who go to Greenville, anything along those lines either originating or ending in Montgomery. The fourth part is actually one of the most important for any successful rideshare or carpooling/vanpooling program and that is the Emergency Ride Home. One of the major reasons people will not share there car and will not ride with somebody else is they are scared they are going to get stuck. No one relishes the idea

of actually being stuck and not being able to get home if someone is sick or even if it is not an emergency. You may have to work late. In these instances the actual program will pay to get you home. Depending on what was decided on it being, it could be a taxi, it could be someone actually coming to pick you up, and in Birmingham they actually have a provision where they rent you rent a car to get home. The second part of the program is going to be the actual marketing part. For that part, the Regional Planning Commission is planning on developing a marketing plan and marketing materials, and anything associated with it, whether it is pamphlets or a 1-800 number or anything along those lines and also associated goals for those. One of their bigger responsibilities is actually going to be reporting back to us, back to ADECA, and also back to the transit agency for Montgomery. Also part of that, another important part of the whole program to make it work is outreach to employers and encourage them to have their people use carpools or vanpools because a lot of times the carpools and vanpools originate from people that work together. It is not necessarily work down the block from each other. If we can get the employers on board, then the program is going to be a lot more successful. Any associated outreach material; they are going to provide the templates for that. If you have any questions feel free to ask them.

Commissioner Strange said I do. What are the parameters of the geography of this pooling? Is it all the MPO? Is it the MSA? Mr. Groves said all of the MPO. Ms. Delchamps said the entire green area is applicable, and all it has to do is bisect, originate or end in. Commissioner Strange said one of the major issues we have, not telling anybody, is this transportation between Autauga, Elmore and Montgomery County. If you are in the City, you can get around pretty good. But is this under the Birmingham Regional Planning or Central Alabama Regional Planning? Mr. Smith said Birmingham has actually developed the software that they are trying to expand statewide for everybody else to actually use. They actually have the software. They manage it, the whole nine yards. It is like one of those things where why go and reinvent the wheel. All we are doing is just helping the RPC in Birmingham with particulars about this area. Mr. Groves said signing on to their service. Mr. Smith said signing on to their service. Mayor Byard said but it could allow an area say in Prattville where a person works in Downtown Montgomery, they could park in a parking lot and then vanpool. I really like the idea of the Emergency Ride Home. People think well I can ride down there, but if my child needs something or I have to get something. That way there would be signed lots that this is a ...or that is what I would like. That is what interests us, signed lots up there near Prattville and

Millbrook where folks can see where to go and park and use them. Commissioner Strange said but it sounds too good to be true. The Mayor said it earlier that is it is not going to cost anything. How is this not going to cost anything? Mr. Smith said well the Department of Economic and Community Affairs, they have initially allocated \$10,000 towards this project. Commissioner Strange said \$10,000 is one van. Mr. Smith said initially. We have been told that they are willing to give more money depending on the success of the project. Their overall goal is to reduce energy consumption of people that drive cars, you know one person per car. Mayor Bright said if we can do it, fine. Mr. Groves said you do not need to buy a lot of vans to do these things. There are vans out there that can be coordinated through this service that are already in operation and that is the.... the idea is to use as much of the private vehicle fleet that is out there as possible. Mr. Smith said it will be combination vanpool and carpool. People in their actual own cars. Mayor Bright said alright. What do we need to do on this? Mr. Groves said nothing, just for your information. Mayor Bright said alright, be aware of this and take a chance to read it and be able to ask some more questions and discuss it when the time prevails.

Mayor Bright said any other item we have today. Mr. Groves said we have one item for general session. I would like to furnish each of you with a copy of all the projects that are desired in our new TIP. That is everything that has been submitted in the plan that would cover the next four years. The jurisdiction that submitted it, estimated cost, and right now our wants exceed our abilities by about 50%. Mayor Byard said that is hard to believe. Mr. Groves said we will be working with the Technical Coordinating Committee trying to sort this out and figure out what we can do. We are all going to have to deal with it. It is a combination of factors. We got a lot of growth in this region. Our needs are growing faster than the funds available to meet them. Mayor Bright asked when are the feds and the state going to recognize that and start giving us more money in this area. Mr. Groves said well we tried with that Transportation Means Business Conference to get everybody talking about it in a serious way. We think those conversations need to be carried on as the state updates its Long Range Transportation Plan. When you get notified of the meeting, please do go to them. Let's let our needs be known this time. Mayor Byard said there is one coming up July 12th. Mr. Groves said right and I encourage each and every one of you to attend. Mayor Bright said that is in your calendar, the very last sheet, gives you some transportation meeting to go to, and voice your opinion and desires for priorities. Mr. Groves said and how to raise additional revenue for meeting some of these needs. Mayor Bright said small business resource center on July the 12th, down Court Street. Mr. Groves said it is

probably time the state considers maybe an additional gasoline tax to help us deal with this backlog of projects. Mayor Bright asked do I hear a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Joe Faulk said we needed to talk about the next scheduled meeting. I am not going to be able to attend the next scheduled meeting for August 23rd I am going to be out of town at a county commissioner's annual meeting. Commissioner Strange said I am out of town in Europe. Mayor Bright asked are we going to have a quorum. Mr. Smith said no, we are probably going to have to reschedule. Commissioner Strange asked can we pick a date, September 13th. Mr. Smith said what we will do is we will do a quick poll like we always do. You say September. Commissioner Strange said well I know I am gone from the 15th to the 30th. Mr. Smith said ok, so early September. We will try to schedule a meeting and make sure everybody can attend.

Mayor Bright said okay, Mayor Houston got a new item. Mayor Houston said one other thing. I think we have had a vacancy in the Vice-Chairmanship of this organization for some time, and it has not been addressed. It is sort of a housekeeping thing. But I feel like we probably should go ahead and fill that with the idea of getting that done, I would like to nominate Mayor Jim Byard to be Vice-Chairman. I mean he is known as a fair man. He has a good understanding of these issues and is most always here. I just wanted to. Mayor Bright asked do we want to do that here, and I am not against the vote, do we want to address that at this meeting or let that be on the agenda for next agenda for the next meeting. I have a problem with nominating, because it has happened to me on a number of occasions, and I respect everybody around this table including Mayor Byard, but I want to make sure everybody has an opportunity to evaluate, investigate and then convey. Have another notice of this issue because there might be somebody else around this table. Commissioner Strange asked if it was in our bylaws for a position of Vice-Chairman? I know I have never heard of it. Mayor Bright said I do not know if there is. If there is, that will give us the time to answer that question. Mr. Smith and Mr. Groves both replied that it was in the bylaws. Mayor Bright said that at the next meeting we will have that as the number one item on the agenda, we will have that item. I just hate, and I have had it happen to me and I do not have my opportunity to evaluate and investigate. Mayor Bright asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made and seconded to conclude the meeting at 11:15 a.m.