

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Monday, June 10, 2013

A regular meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee was held on Monday, June 10, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. on the 7th floor of the Administration Building located at 308 Fountain Circle.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Weaver  
Bob Delvin  
Curtis Potts  
Russ McDonald

STAFF PRESENT: Tanjie Kling  
Tracy Meshberg  
James Moore  
Dennis Madsen  
James Vandiver  
Connie Graham

OTHERS PRESENT: Keith Bedsole  
Jackie Reed  
Kim Smith  
Joey Ceci  
Houston Matthews  
Tom McAdams

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Weaver. Upon call for the ADOPTION OF MINUTES from the June 10, 2013 meeting, Mr. Devlin made a motion to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Potts and carried unanimously.

**2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM:** Resolution 8-13 was presented for consideration. Mr. Moore stated that this resolution amends the Draft Fiscal Year 2014 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Moore stated that the purpose of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is to outline transportation planning activities within a financially constrained budget to be conducted in the Huntsville MPO planning area for a one year period. The Federal definition of a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is “a statement of work identifying the planning priorities and activities to be carried out within a metropolitan planning area. At a minimum, a UPWP includes a description of the planning work and resulting products, who will perform the work, the cost of the work, and the sources of funds. Mr. Moore further stated that the final plan would be formally adopted at the September meeting, and is still available for any public comments and input.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 9-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that this resolution amends the Transit Projects Section of

the TIP to add Federal Transit Administration funding during 2013 for Ability Plus. This organization is a non-profit organization that has received FTA funds before. Ability Plus is to receive \$235,327 in federal monies, to be matched with their \$58,832 giving them a total available amount of \$294,159. The purpose of this grant is to provide for the replacement of 6 vehicles, with 3 of the vehicles being wheelchair lift equipped. Ability Plus uses these vehicles to transport their clients to doctors' appointments, work, and other activities. Ms. Kling remarked that Mr. Keith Bedsole, the Executive Director of Ability Plus, was in attendance if there were any questions pertaining to this item.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 9-13; which was duly seconded by Mr. Potts and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 10-13 was presented for consideration: Ms. Kling stated this resolution amends the Other Surface Transportation Projects Program in the TIP for the State of Alabama to allow the design and installation of curbs and ramps on State Routes at various locations in Madison County. The purpose of this project is to provide ADA accessible sidewalks to the public at areas that do not yet have curb ramps installed. The cost for design is \$44,000 with the State of Alabama paying the 20% match in 2013. The construction cost is \$450,000, with Federal share being \$360,000 and State share being \$90,000. Construction is scheduled for 2014.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 10-13 which was duly seconded by Ms. Potts and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 11-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated the City of Huntsville was awarded an ATRIP grant for the construction of Martin Road on Redstone Arsenal, from Zierdt Road to Rideout Road, in the amount of \$12 million. Due to funding eligibility issues, there funds could not be awarded. The City of Huntsville requested that the State transfer the \$12 million instead to construct Martin Road from Zierdt Road to Old Jim Williams Road, as it is adjacent to Redstone Arsenal. The cost share remains as originally intended, with the federal amount being \$9,000,000 and the City of Huntsville to pay the remaining \$2.4 million. Since the Martin Road project on Redstone Arsenal was deemed as ineligible for federal monies, the City of Huntsville will pay for the project through its capital plan. The project category to be modified is "Other Surface Transportation Projects Program." Funds are to be awarded in fiscal year 2013. Mr. Devlin requested the latest update to the Martin Road construction projects. Ms. Kling remarked that she would ask the City Engineer for the latest information the next morning, and would e-mail committee members with the most up to date project status.

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 11-13; which was duly seconded by Mr. Potts.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 12-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that the City of Madison received ATRIP funds for improvements to County Line Road from Madison Boulevard to US 72. This specific allocation amends the Other Surface Transportation Projects Program in the TIP to provide \$5.26 million in ATRIP money to complete this project. The cost share is State of Alabama: \$4,208,000 and City of Madison: \$1,052,000. The project is scheduled for bidding in 2014.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 12-13; which was duly seconded by Mr. Potts and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 13-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that this resolution amends the High Priority and Congressional Earmarks Project section of the TIP to add utility relocation during 2013 for Holmes Avenue Bridge Replacement at Pinhook Creek. Many years ago, the City of Huntsville received a total of \$975,000 in Congressional earmarks for the replacement of this bridge, needed for flood mitigation efforts. Those funds were directed towards preliminary engineering design, with any remaining funds being directed towards construction. During the first round of ATRIP, the City of Huntsville was notified that it received a grant to complete this construction. Ms. Kling stated that since we are moving closer to the construction date, it was determined that utilities still need to be relocated. This amendment basically takes some of the remaining Congressional earmark and applies it to the utility relocation phase of the project. The total cost for utility relocation is \$250,000 and it is 100% federal funds.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 13-12; which was duly seconded by Mr. Potts and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 14-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that this resolution amends the Surface Transportation Attributable Projects Section in the TIP to add utility relocation for the Widening and Realignment of Church Street, Phase 1 from Monroe Street to Oakwood Avenue and realignment of Pratt Avenue including Bridge Replacement at Pinhook Creek in the City of Huntsville. The Church Street Phase 1 project has been in process for a very long time. In the past, utility relocation was something that was never formally designated as a separate phase for a project. In recent years, the Alabama Department of Transportation has required that a separate phase for utility relocation be added for each project. The addition of this utility relocation project for fiscal year 2013 will enable the Church Street widening and realignment project to remain on schedule. The total cost for utility relocation is \$2,338,000, with the federal amount being \$1,870,400 and the City of Huntsville's cost share being \$467,600.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 14-13; which was duly seconded by Mr. Potts and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 15-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that this resolution adds Huntsville Public Transit's future estimated grant allocation for buses, improvements, maintenance, support facilities, enhancements, and operating assistance for fiscal years 2014 and 2015. The estimated amounts are listed within the resolutions. It is expected that Huntsville Public Transit will receive over \$4 million total in fiscal year 2014 and \$4.3 million during 2015 for these activities. Approving this resolution adds these estimated amounts to the TIP for future receipt of federal revenues.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 15-13; which was duly seconded by Mr. Potts and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 16-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that this amendment solidifies Madison County's fiscal year 2014 grant request for its TRAM Program. The County receives rural transportation funds through the State of Alabama for its operation, administration, and capital expenditures. The total amount expected to be received by the County for operating assistance is \$320,712 with the federal share being \$128,285 and the County's share of money and in-kind services of \$192,427. Transit Administrative Assistance is expected to be \$64,313 with the federal share being \$51,451 and the County providing in-kind services equal to \$12,862. The capital budget is expected to be \$120,000 with the federal share being \$96,000 and the County providing \$24,000 match.

Mr. Potts made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 16-13; which was duly seconded by Mr. Devlin and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 17-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that this action takes care of a little bit of housekeeping for TARCOCG by adding the fiscal year 2011 apportionment for the JARC and New Freedom transit programs. TARCOCG administers these programs and will be administering these grant awards. The successful grant recipient of JARC and New Freedom funds are required to pay a 50% match. The total allocation for the JARC program is \$233,152 and the total allocation for the New Freedom program is \$137,536.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolution 17-13; which was duly seconded by Me. Potts and carried unanimously.

**TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:** Resolution 18-13 was presented for consideration. Ms. Kling stated that this resolution increases the right of way acquisition for Winchester Road from Naugher Road to Bell Factory Road from \$500,000 to \$655,000. Madison County received ATRIP grants for the improvement of several sections of Winchester Road within this stretch of roadway. Currently, right of way acquisition is in the

process of being authorized for the section at the Flint River Bridge. The cost share for right of way is: \$524,000 federal funds, and \$131,000 Madison County funds.

Mr. Devlin made a motion to recommend approval of Resolutions 18-13; which was duly seconded by Mr. Potts and carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The Chair recognized Mr. James Vandiver of the MPO staff. Mr. Vandiver stated that during the recent TMA Certification Review, the Huntsville MPO staff was encouraged to expand outreach to the general public. One way the staff is working to meet that need is by creating a new website and designing a logo for the Huntsville MPO. The website will provide convenient access to meeting notices, transportation plans, demographics and more. The logo will help increase the public's knowledge of the MPO and its purpose. The logo is a simple representation of the diverse transportation modes that are utilized in the Huntsville Metro Area. The ways that people in our area travel are characterized by five symbols—car, bus, train, walking, and biking. The sixth symbol -- a Saturn V rocket-- may not be a viable commuting option, but thousands of residents in the MPO area were involved in its development. Because of this, the Saturn V may be the important transportation vehicle in our area's history. This logo reflects the MPO's primary purpose: to plan a comprehensive transportation system for our study area.

Mr. Vandiver continued that the new MPO website is currently under construction, and showed one of the twelve possible designs. He said the overall goal is to have a simple, yet elegant interface that is straightforward and makes it easy to find information. The home page will have links to meeting agendas and recently unveiled plans, as well as links on the sidebar to the websites of each of the MPO entities. Some of the proposed features of the site include a "meetings and events" page, a staff directory, a library of past and present transportation plans, a page with demographic information, and a "Transportation Planning 101" site, where the public can learn more about what the MPO staff does on a daily basis.

Mr. Vandiver stated he hopes to have the website up and running by the end of this summer. In the meantime, persons can view the website as it is being built by going to [cityofhuntsville.wordpress.com](http://cityofhuntsville.wordpress.com).

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.