

Spartanburg Area Transportation Study

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SPATS Policy Committee Minutes

February 12, 2018

Present:

Jeff Horton

Tom Arthur

Woody Willard

Mike Forrester

Whit Kennedy

Pat Watson

Jared Wilson

Sterling Anderson

Roger Nutt

Larry Chappell

Bob Walker

Dewey Harrellson

Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Chair Jeff Horton called the meeting to order. Mr. Chappell moved to approve the minutes of the August 14th meeting as emailed, seconded by Mr. Forrester. Mr. Horton recognized Mr. Bob Walker as the new member of SPATS from the Spartanburg County Council due to the resignation of Mr. Justin Bradley.

Election of Officers

Deferred to June meeting.

4th Street Improvements Update

(Mr. Ron Kirby) 4th Street Improvements Project has been the priority project for the CTC. This project includes road realignment/widening beginning at and including the intersection of Valley Falls Road/Hanging Rock Road and continuing west, approximately to the intersection with Wilson Court. Plans are complete and will be going to ROW soon.

The SPATS/SCDOT intersection improvement on the SC 9 side of 4th Street has been approved for an on-call consultant.

SPATS Data Collection Update – Trail Counter Program and User Count Report

Ms. Sherry Dull, SPATS Senior Transportation Planner and Mr. Ned Barrett, Trails Coordinator with Partners for Active Living:

Trail amenities are a source of livability and quality of life, as well as support for economic development and tourism. This contributes to the overall Spartanburg County vision - for our County to be “a preferred destination for individuals, families, and businesses to live, learn, play and invest.” Multiple partners work

together to complete trail connections to neighborhoods, parks, schools, work and activity centers.

Some examples of trail connections include:

- North Spartanburg Sports Complex path to Hanging Rock subdivision
- Tyger River Park path to Reidville Crossing subdivision

Other potential trail connections to neighborhoods, schools, and trails in the master plan have been identified.

The most recent completed trails include:

- Butterfly Creek Greenway - safely connecting the Northside neighborhood to the Farmer's Market, nearby colleges and downtown Spartanburg.
- Clifton Park – new park and put-in access to the Pacolet River Blueway.
- Glendale Bridge Renovation will be completed by the summer, and serve as an anchor between downtown Spartanburg and the Glendale community.

Data Collection Program: Part of our SPATS program includes data collection and inventory of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. We maintain a trails inventory in spreadsheet form but also in the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as a map layer. When a new trail is completed, we walk it and record it with our handheld Geographic Positioning System (GPS) unit and bring it into the mapping system so we can keep our maps updated. We GPS trails throughout the county regardless of what entity maintains the trail.

Partners for Active Living maintains the TrafX trail counters. Daily averages and Hourly Averages are recorded. Reports are found on the PAL website at: active-living.org

Trail counts provide data to:

- Show demand for grants and trail section sponsorships
- Allow for targeted maintenance and programming
- Allow for planning for travel management
- Provide traffic patterns for economic development recruitment.

Trail partners in the Trail Counter Program include:

- SPATS
- SPACE (Spartanburg Area Conservancy)
- Downtown Development Partnership (Spartanburg)
- City of Spartanburg
- Spartanburg County
- Wofford College
- Town of Lyman
- Partners for Active Living

Selected Data Points **as of January 1, 2018:**

- *Mary Black Foundation Rail-Trail* (opened 2006)-counter installed Apr. 2017

Annual Av. Number of users: 94,206
(almost four times the number of users or approx. a 380% increase from 2006 and approx. 144% increase from 2012)

- *Wadsworth Trail* (opened 2006) – counter installed Feb. 2017
Annual Average number of users: 19,454
(almost triple the number of users since opening, approx. 294% increase, and over 2.5 times the number of users from 2012, approx. 253% increase)
- *Drayton Trail* (opened 2015) – counter installed March 2017
Annual Av. Number of users: 14,162

Partnering Activity:

- The Town of Lyman will soon install their counters on the Lyman Rail-Trail Phase 1
- City of Spartanburg will install their counter on the Butterfly Creek Greenway
- Partners for Active Living (PAL) will install their new counter at the new Rail Yard Park on the Mary Black Foundation Rail-Trail, and well as SPATS counters at Glendale Shoals, Duncan Park, Adams/Beaumont Park, and replace a counter on the Cottonwood Trail.

We all have finite resources and will continue to work together to make connections towards completion of the master planned network of trails (from the 2009 SPATS Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and 2012 Spartanburg Urban Area Greenway and Trails Plan).

Projects Status Report

Ms. Penny Phillips, SCDOT Program Manager, presented a project status report. Project status pages can be found at the following link:

<https://scdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=ca1cd69fc88945f4bb465e16765d761c>

US 176: Operational improvements from I-26 to I-585/SC 56 split with Intersection Improvements at John Dodd Rd., Belcher Rd., and Springfield Rd.: Construction 75% complete, one month ahead of schedule.

I-85 69-77 35% complete. Spring 2019 anticipated completion date.

S-30 Fernwood/Clifton/Glendale Rd. and Zion Hill Rd. Intersection Improvements: Construction letting scheduled for this week.

SC 9 and 4th Street/Shoally Creek Rd. Intersection Improvement and US 29 and SC 129/US 29 and SC 358/SC 358 and Pine Ridge Rd. Intersections Improvements

Approved for an on-call consultant for all 4 projects.

Country Club Road Corridor Improvements:

The SCDOT public portal page direct link:

<http://scdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=b0797125b41b4c6e931d576595c1205b&folderid=0875c7bba78e45c0b1c7c5fab49fd747>

Other Business and Adjourn

There being no other business, motion was made by Mr. Arthur to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Hankinson. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 11, 2018.