

# *Spartanburg Area Transportation Study*

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## **SPATS Policy Committee**

### **Minutes**

*June 8, 2015*

### ***In Memory of Mayor Elaine O'Shields Harris***

July 19, 1946 - May 21, 2015 <http://www.floydmortuary.com/obituaries/Elaine-Harris-3/>

#### **Present:**

Jeff Horton

Junie White

Mike Forrester

Roger Nutt

Cornelius Huff

Woody Willard

Woody Willard

Lisa Scott

Lee Bright

#### **Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Junie White called the meeting to order. The minutes of the February 9, 2015 meeting were approved as offered. Ms. Bollinger expressed our sadness and appreciation for Mayor Elaine Harris who passed away after an illness on May 21. Mayor Harris was honored last Fall with the 2014 Planning Advocate award through the SC American Planning Association for her service to the planning profession and creating a better quality of life in her beloved town of Pacolet and across our state. Although only one of Mayor Harris' many accomplishments and contributions to our community, Ms. Bollinger was very thankful she and fellow planners organized her nomination as they had a chance to thank her for her leadership. Mayor Harris will always be remembered as someone who epitomizes the phrase "servant leader."

Mayor White recognized Sherry Dull as the new SPATS Senior Transportation Planner. He also recognized several SCDOT employees on their recent promotions, including Penny Phillips, Stephanie Jackson-Amell, and Emily Toler.

#### **SPATS Boundary Minor Adjustment**

Ms. Bollinger explained when she was hired as SPATS Manager, she noticed SPATS and GPATS had claimed the same small area near Lyman. She worked

closely with the GPATS Manager and SCDOT to confirm that the area bounded by SC 357, SC 358, Plemmons Road, and Hammett Store Road was overlapping. She proposed to GPATS staff and SCDOT that SPATS claim the area because of the current and future growth patterns in Lyman and out in the county in this area, including new schools and subdivision development following Holly Springs Road/SC 358.

SPATS Study Team approved this change in early June. GPATS Study Team and Policy Committees passed this change in May. As a recommendation from SPATS Study Team, this change is crucial to moving forward with our Long-Range Transportation Plan process.

Motion was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mr. Nutt to approve the minor boundary adjustment.

### **TIP Updates**

**Application for Mass Transit Funds:** Ms. Kelley Gilbert presented this year's request for Mass Transit Funds totaling \$5,720,000 for FY 2015 and \$1,679,000 for FY 2016.

#### **FTA 5307**

##### **City of Spartanburg (SPARTA)**

*FY 2015 Capital/Operating Total: \$1,574,000*

*(Capital:\$762,000/Operating:\$812,000/*

*Federal Share:\$1,016,000) -awaiting full apportionment*

##### **Spartanburg County TSB**

*FY 2015 Capital/Administration/Operating/Planning Total: \$3,226,000*

*(Capital:\$686,000/Operating:\$2,420,000/Planning:\$120,000/Federal Share:\$1,855,000)*

*FY 2016 Capital/Administration/Operating/Planning Total: \$1,613,000*

*(Capital \$343,000/Operating:\$1,210,000/Planning:\$60,000/Federal Share:\$927,000) to be adjusted after full appropriation/apportionment*

#### **FTA 5339**

**City of Spartanburg (SPARTA) – FY 2015 Vehicle Purchase Total: \$800,000**

**(Federal Share \$800,000)**

#### **FTA 5310**

##### **Charles Lea Center**

*FY 2015 Capital Purchase of Service Total: \$66,000 (Federal Share \$33,000)*

*FY 2016 Capital Purchase of Service Total: \$66,000 (Federal Share \$33,000)*

##### **New Day, Inc.**

*FY 2015 Capital Vehicle Purchase Total: \$54,000 (Federal Share \$43,000)*

Motion was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mr. Nutt to approve this TIP Update. Mr. Bright abstained.

**City of Spartanburg Traffic Signals Master Plan Update:** Ms. Carol Jones from SCDOT reviewed the following updates to the Master Plan:

FY 2015:

- SIGNAL SYSTEM RETIMING US 29 at I-26 (\$75,000)  
US 176 and I-85 (\$75,000)
- CITY OF SPARTANBURG SYSTEM AND SOFTWARE (\$150,000)  
*Ethernet Phase 1 of 3 (\$75,000)*

FY 2016:

- US 290 AT I-85 SYSTEM Response/Retime (\$125,000)
- CITY OF SPARTANBURG Ethernet Equip. Phase 2 of 3 (\$75,000)

FY 2017:

- SIGNAL SYSTEM RETIMING SC 101 AT I-85 SYSTEM (\$75,000)
- NORTH PINE ST. SYSTEM RETIMING (6 TO 10 INTERSECTIONS) (\$85,000)
- Ethernet Phase 3 of 3 (\$75,000)

FY 2018:

- NORTH CHURCH ST. SYSTEMS RETIMING (13 INTERSECTIONS) (\$120,000)

FY 2019:

- SC 290 AND SC 296 SYSTEM RETIMING (\$55,000)
- US 29 PINE STEET SYSTEM RETIMING (\$85,000)

FY 2020:

- SC 9 RETIMING (11 INTERSECTIONS) (\$175,000)
- SPARTANBURG CBD RETIMING UNION ST. FIBER AND ETHERNET (\$50,000/\$35,000)

FY 2021:

- SC 9 AT MUDCREEK, SC 9 AT SC292 TIMING, FIBER (\$70,000)
- US 29 (CITY) FIBER AND ETHERNET (\$85,000)

Motion was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mr. Nutt to approve this TIP Update.

### **I-85 Funding/Emma's Law/Pacolet Gateway and Hub City Connector Project Updates**

Mr. Larimore also reviewed the corrective TIP change in guideshare funding as a result of Emma's Law. This change in guideshare allotment (decrease of \$147,858 for SPATS) will automatically be reflected in the STIP and be allocated towards the State Highway Safety Program to support DUI reduction and enforcement initiatives. Emma's Law requires stricter DUI laws, including

ignition interlock devices on vehicles of DUI offenders. SCDOT does not comply with the existing federal law at this time and will be penalized every year until they comply with the law. Mr. Bright confirmed that “the fix” had been passed in the legislature. Mr. Larimore also reviewed the recent TIP corrections for the I-85 Interstate Program funds.

Ms. Bollinger reviewed the Pacolet Gateway new TIP Non-guideshare project from the former Enhancement program. The project includes a Roundabout and River Trail. Match funding is from Enhancement funds (\$250,000), Appalachian Regional Commission (\$388,000), Spartanburg County Transportation Committee (\$327,000), and local sources (\$67,000) for construction in 2017. Planning funding in FY 2015 was provided by local sources (\$88,000). Also, an update to the Hub City Connector (Palmetto Trail) project now includes the Mary Black Rail Trail extension/Skate Park connector. Match funding is from the City of Spartanburg.

Motion was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Ms. Scott to approve these TIP Updates.

## **SPATS UPWP and Public Participation Plan Update**

Ms. Bollinger outlined the new additions to the work program for 2016 and 2017. She explained that the UPWP can be amended at any point, but the goal is to approve by resolution the work program concept for the next 2 years. The main elements of the program are administration, data development, short-range planning and transportation plan maintenance. Ms. Bollinger outlined the program as follows:

### **A. Program Administration**

2016 and 2017 general activities include:

- Administering the work program which means providing the required documents (UPWP, LRTP (long-range LIST), TIP (short-range programmed projects pulled from the Long-Range LIST)
- Reporting of all committee activities inc. ad hoc if we establish temporary committees to get the job done and staff training including GIS.

New for 2016 only will be the TIP Documentation Update which will include a more information on the TIP process, including:

- An Introductions and Procedures section
- Listing of all Committees
- All Projects and their funding sources, and
- Record of all TIP Amendments

Also new for 2016 only will be the Long-Range Transportation Plan Update. The last update was in 2008, and newest update is scheduled to be complete in FY 2016 (March).

Program Administration also involves service to the public, including public outreach, public meetings, local committee coordination and regional collaborations.

New for 2016 will include:

- Title VI Process Update
- Spartanburg County Blueways Coalition
- Updated items to the PPP (presented by Ms. Caroline Parris) include:
  - use of social media and other updated technologies
  - aligning the local comment period with the statewide comment period and
  - the use of Google Translator

#### **B. Data Development and Monitoring**

SPATS will continue travel data collection with Freight data as a new emphasis. We will continue managing data, conducting studies, and providing staff training and equipment necessary for analysis and mapping.

#### **C. Short-Range Transportation Planning**

SPATS will continue to:

- provide short-range transportation planning and identify high traffic producers and coordinate transportation improvements as needed, being more vigilant with the unprecedented amount of growth coming to Spartanburg County;
- continue Short-Range Transit Planning and provide technical assistance to local transit providers, and
- continue Intermodal Transportation Planning, coordinating modes among the SPATS area, county-wide, within the municipalities and region as well as participate in statewide coordination. Continuing through 2016 will be the Country Club Road study and the Passenger Rail Consortium participation.

#### **D. Transportation Plan Maintenance**

SPATS will continue to coordinate with SCDOT on Travel Demand and Forecasting with a regional focus, continue TIP Plan Review to program projects from the Long-Range Transportation Plan, and provide technical assistance through the Transportation Alternatives Grant Program.

Motion was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mr. Willard to approve the Work Program and Public Participation Program for 2016-2017. A resolution signed by Chairman White will be submitted to SCDOT/FHWA along with the final plan.

## **SPATS Long-Range Transportation Plan Update**

Ms. Bollinger reviewed the following timeline for the Long-Range Plan:

- Proposals out and due in July; hire consultant over summer
- Consultant will rank intersections pursuant to Act 114
- Complete other elements and recommended multi-modal projects
- Update to SPATS Policy Committee in August
- Draft presented to Policy Committee in November
- Propose programming of projects
- Final Plan approval Feb. 2016 (due March 2016)

## **Projects Status Report**

Ms. Penny Phillips of SCDOT presented a project status report.

**SC 9** widening from 2 to 5 lanes from Rainbow Lake Road to River Oak Road Phase 2 and 3 is 87% complete, well ahead of schedule and should be complete in the summer. The new traffic signal at Farm Lake Road is complete.

**US 176 Operational Improvements:** PE is 65% complete. ROW obligation is scheduled for Fall 2015 and Construction should begin in Fall 2016.

**S-30:** PE is 30% complete. ROW Obligation is scheduled for late 2015. Construction should begin late 2016.

**Old Furnace Road sidewalks:** PE is 70% complete. ROW acquisition began in June. Utility coordination is underway. Construction should begin Fall 2016.

**I-585 Rehabilitation:** PE and ROW is complete. California Avenue bridge and SC 9 bridge have been completed. The SCDOT anticipates completion of the total project in the summer, including resurfacing.

Ms. Scott requested an update on the SC 290 project at the railroad crossing.

Mr. Dillon will contact the Safety office for an update.

Mr. Bright inquired on the I-85 timeframe. Ms. Jackson-Amell reported that there should be an August letting. The SCDOT crews should be able to work 10-11 months out of the year on the project, mostly at night. Construction should start in October but completion date is unknown at this time.

Mr. Willard commented that there have been problems with I-85 that are unprecedented across the state.

## **Other Business and Adjourn**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Huff to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Horton. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2015.