



Spartanburg Area Transportation Study

SPATS Policy Committee

Special Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2022

Present:

Glenn Greer, II
Roger Nutt
Steve Bolin
Patrick Kay

John Throckmorton
Julian Hankinson
Cameron Fant

Bob Walker
Jerome Rice
Manning Lynch

1. Welcome and Introductions

First Vice-Chair Manning Lynch called the meeting to order. First Vice-Chair Lynch acknowledged the recent loss of Clyde “Rog” Rogers, Mayor of Duncan.

2. Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Minor Update 2045 Amendment-Financial Element

Ms. Lisa Bollinger and Ms. Sherry Dull gave an overview of the LRTP Minor Update 2045 Amendment-Financial Element as recommended by Study Team on September 15th. Hard copies of the LRTP report were provided to all members present. 2045 Updates were approved at the August Policy Committee meeting. Amendments to these updates were sent to the committee prior to the meeting through the shared file materials.

A high level planning funding scenario throughout the life of the plan, through 2045, is required for the Long-Range Transportation Plan Financial Element. This scenario is based on what projects we believe we can construct with the amount of funding we expect to receive in that period of time. Funding is kept constant within the FAST Act extension TIP window 2022-2027, with an increase through the New Regional Mobility Program in 2023-2025 and then most likely an increase with the new transportation bill in 2028. During the course of consulting with FHWA and SCDOT on the Financial Element, SCDOT confirmed that SPATS’ Guideshare allocation will increase in FY2023 to \$8,186,556. Further out in the future, a 3% inflation rate is assumed every 5 years.

In 2030 and 2040, we can expect Guideshare increases due to population increases. Previously committed TIP project funding through 2031 totaled to \$73,157,000. Projects were slated for each horizon time period.

Mr. Nutt reinforced the need to complete the Reidville Road Corridor Improvement Project as soon as possible. Ms. Bollinger explained grant opportunities and other funding options could present themselves in the near future and that would give

the option to move projects up as the committee sees fit. Christina Lewis of the SCDOT Planning office reiterated the importance of taking advantage of grant opportunities and reminded the committee that the Reidville Road Corridor Improvement Project feasibility phase should be underway soon and the details from this report will help us decide the best scope forward.

Ms. Bollinger and Ms. Dull reviewed the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) expected funding through 2045 totals to \$12,646,747.37. The SPATS area plans to apply for these grants every four years, taking into account the length of time projects take to construct and match funding sources to accumulate for some entities.

Ms. Bollinger and Ms. Dull also reviewed the Transit funding expected through 2045 for the SPATS area. The SPATS area plans to utilize grant funding in the amount of \$90,350,605.31. SPATS acknowledges that match funding continues to be challenging for our transit agencies.

The Financial Element also includes the identification of possible funding sources to supplement SPATS Guideshare. Some of these include: C-funds, sales tax, transportation bonds, impact fees, developer contributions, and grants. SPATS will continue to pursue these types of funding strategies as well as public-private partnership opportunities for funding projects.

First Vice-Chair Lynch asked for a motion to approve the LRTP Minor Update 2045 Amendment – Financial Element, contingent upon the incorporation of public comment through October 8th. Mr. Hankinson moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Nutt.

3. Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Minor Update 2045 Amendments-including Financial Element

Ms. Lisa Bollinger and Ms. Sherry Dull gave an overview of the overall LRTP updates, incorporating all element updates previously sent to the committee prior to the meeting through the shared file materials, including the Financial Element.

Section 1 (Background and History) includes a SPATS process overview, purpose of the Long-Range Plan, and overview of the LRTP.

Section 2 (Introduction and Vision) includes the LRTP planning, public outreach and visioning process, performance and data analysis, and previous planning efforts reviewed.

Section 3 (Social and Environmental Context) includes the updated Title VI and Environmental Justice plan and environmental considerations.

Section 4 (Roadways and Automobile Travel) includes intersection priorities and the Conceptual Projects List broken down into the main categories of Access Management and Corridor Improvement projects.

Section 5 (Active Transportation Element) includes the new Complete Streets Policy and coordination of plans from multiple partners. Mr. Kay asked for more information on the local bike rental program. Mayor Rice gave information on the Spartanburg bike rental program and the blue duck scooter program. Mr. Hankinson complimented the county and Ms. Dull's work on the updated GIS Spartanburg County Parks and Trails Online Map.

Section 6 (Transit Element) includes the 2020 SPARTA Comprehensive Operational Analysis, new van pool program, and coordination with the transit agencies on Transit Safety Targets. Second Vice-Chair Rice announced that a van pool program update will be presented tonight at the Spartanburg City Council meeting at 5:30 pm. The program includes five employers at this time.

Section 7 (Freight, Emergency Response and Aviation Element) includes recommendation from the 2021 Regional Freight Plan as well as future plans for EMS and Aviation.

Section 8 (Financing and Implementation) includes a high level financial planning scenario to identify funding available through the life of the LRTP (2045) and projects slated for time horizons 2022-2031 (after identifying the current TIP funding committed), 2032-2039, and 2040-2045. The fiscally constrained LRTP helps us acknowledge the near-term investment commitments while planning for future investment opportunities.

The LRTP Appendix includes a list of Transportation Acronyms, Public Engagement Results, and the SCDOT System Performance Report.

Second Vice-Chair Rice asked for a motion to approve the LRTP Minor Update 2045 including the Financial Element, contingent upon the incorporation of public comment through October 8th. Mr. Hankinson moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Greer.

4. Other Business and Adjourn

There being no other business, Second Vice-Chair Rice requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Walker moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Throckmorton. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2022, 10 am in Council Chambers.