

Minutes
MPO Meeting
Meeting Held---January 8, 2009

Meinrad Tabengwa	City of Gadsden
Kathy Ellzey	City of Gadsden
Chad Hare	City of Gadsden
Jeramy Ward	City of Gadsden
Houston Jenkins	JBW&T
Curtis Vincent	ALDOT – 1 st Division
Wiley McLain	City of Rainbow City
Johnny Harris	ALDOT – 1 st Division
Dave Hyatt	Gadsden State
Tim Choate	Etowah County
Willie Brown	Etowah County
Jane Phillips	City of Attalla
Gary Reeves	City of Hokes Bluff
Jeff Cheatwood	City of Hokes Bluff
Joey Millican	Alagasco
Terry John Calhoun	City of Rainbow City
Tim Graves	Etowah County
Jeff Stephenson	Sain Associates, Inc.
Gary Spradlin	Carr & Associates
Clint Andrews	FHWA
Charles Gilchrist	City of Glencoe
Jim Littleton	CDG Engineers
Joe Battles	City of Southside
Thomas Barnes	City of Gadsden
Andy Powell	Gadsden Times
Perry Gwin	Etowah County
Dorothy S. Robinson	Tourism
Alicia Rudolph	Volkert & Associates, Inc.

Chairman, Mayor Walley Burns called the meeting to order. Mayor Burns welcomed everyone attending the January MPO meeting. Special introductions were made of first time attendee; Mayor Gary Reeves representing the City of Hokes Bluff. Mrs. Kathy Ellzey conducted a roll call of voting members. A quorum was present. Minutes of the November 13, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved.

The Chairman then proceeded with the meeting agenda:

- 1) Replace bridge at Chestnut Street and Black Creek (Gadsden): Mr. Jenkins said on the last report from JBW&T the plans were almost complete. JBW&T has submitted plans for the utilities submittal report which reflected a possible conflict with a 16" high pressure gas main. JBW&T made plan modifications to avoid potential impact. The plans have been revised by JBW&T and are waiting on submittal to ALDOT. Mr. Vincent said the submittal is for a PS&E review and ALDOT hopes to schedule this next month. The March letting schedule will not be met and could possibly be July 2009. Mr. Hare said the Gadsden City

- Council passed the municipal resolution for the right-of-way at the January 6, 2009 meeting.
- 2) Extend Black Creek Parkway South to Steele Station Road (Rainbow City and Etowah County): Mr. Jenkins said the plans are at the printer and should be ready this afternoon to deliver to ALDOT for the design bureau. Mr. Vincent said that will be for the quality control review which is handled in Montgomery. This leaves one additional review which is the construction review. Once reviews are complete the project goes to letting. The March letting will not be met and ALDOT is possibly looking at May 2009 letting.
 - 3) Widen Steele Station from Sutton Bridge Road to SR-77 (Rainbow City and Etowah County): Mr. Vincent said this project is on hold due to funding. The consultant has not finished the right-of-way map and the right-of-way has not been authorized. The right-of-way is scheduled for March 2009 and construction for FY 2010.
 - 4) Replace Bridge on S. 11th Street: Mr. Jenkins said JBW&T received a request for additional surveying from the hydraulic consultant. JBW&T has completed the request and submitted it back to the hydraulic consultant and are waiting for a hydraulic review. Mr. Vincent said the construction letting is projected for the end of FY 2009.
 - 5) Resurface Rocky Ford Road: Mr. Graves said the contractor submitted a request to suspend time due to seasonal limitations on controlling item of work. That limitation goes to April and work is projected to begin around April 15, 2009.
 - 6) Resurface Steele Station Road from St Clair County Road to Pleasant Valley Road: Mr. Graves said there is no change due to the project being scheduled in FY 2011.
 - 7) Replace Bridge on CR-290 (Moon Road) over Black Creek: Mr. Graves said this project has been initiated.
 - 8) Resurface CR-211 (Duck Springs Road) from US 431 to CR-612 (Horton Gap Road): Mr. Graves said this project is approximately 95% complete. The final traffic stripping should be completed this week.
 - 9) Widen and Resurface South 11th Street from CR-203 (Black Creek Parkway) to near Piedmont Avenue: Mr. Hare said the City of Gadsden is still considering in-house funding for PE for this project and there is no change to report at this time.
 - 10) Widen and Resurface Brown Avenue from CR-203 (Sutton Bridge Road) to SR-25 (US 411): Mr. Vincent said there is no change due to the project being scheduled in FY 2011.
 - 11) Resurface CR-206 (Cleveland Avenue) from SR-1 (US 431) to eastern city limits of Attalla: Mr. Vincent said Mayor Phillips requested the use of a consultant for the plans for resurfacing and he delivered her a letter from the Director approving that request from ALDOT today. The next process will be for the City of Attalla to select a consultant and negotiate a contract.
 - 12) Resurface CR-206 (Forrest Avenue) from 7th Street to 12th Street: Mr. Hare said there is no change due to the project being scheduled in FY 2011.
 - 13) Replace Bridge at CR-159 (Steele Station Road) at Rook Creek: Mr. Graves said there is no change due to the project being scheduled in FY 2011.

Alabama Department of Transportation Briefing:

- A) I-759 Extension: Mr. Vincent said there are no changes to report. ALDOT, FHWA and the consultant are still addressing comments.
- B) SR-77, Steele Station Road to I-59: Mr. Vincent said ALDOT has completed the right-of-way acquisition. The consultant has been asked to update the final plans. Some utilities have requested to begin the relocation process. This project is possibly a candidate for the stimulus package.
- C) SR-77 (Sunset Drive to Green Valley Road): Mr. Vincent said there is no change due to the construction being scheduled in FY 2014.
- D) SR-77, I-59 to US 11 (Attalla): Mr. Vincent said the consultant continues to work on the plans. The construction for this project is scheduled several years in the future, so there is not a lot of change to report.
- E) US 411 (North Gadsden, Turkeytown to Cherokee County): Mr. Vincent said on the North Gadsden to Turkeytown section that work is proceeding and is approximately 30-40 % complete. The grade and drain portion of this project is projected to be complete by December 2009. Mr. Vincent said on the Turkeytown to Cherokee County section that the plans are being updated for time. An updated core permit is needed and a Phase II archeological study needs to be completed. This project is scheduled out in the future.

Other projects of interest:

- 1) Two Bridge Replacements on US-278 over the Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River: Complete
- 2) I-59 Pavement Rehab from .4 miles south of Attalla northern city limits to .7 miles south of Steven Gap Road Overpass: Mr. Vincent said this project is basically complete. In the spring an overlay will be applied to the concrete.
- 3) I-59 Pavement Rehab from south of Hwy 77 at milepost 181 to milepost 184 then jumps to milepost 194 to DeKalb County Line: Mr. Vincent said the project plans are in Montgomery for final review. The projected cost is \$60,000,000 for this project and funding is pending.
- 4) Resurfacing Hwy 411 from St. Clair County line to Weiss Creek Bridge: Mr. Vincent said this project is basically complete.
- 5) SR 77 Bridge, over the Coosa River: Mr. Vincent said field work has begun and the environmental work is proceeding.

Transportation Planning Updates:

Mr. Tabengwa said the contract for the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) has been received from Jacobs and is ready for the Gadsden City Council to approve. After approval it will be submitted to ALDOT for review, approval and a notice to proceed. Hopefully, the City of Gadsden will receive the notice to proceed by the end of the month and the preliminary work can begin.

Mr. Tabengwa said the City of Gadsden has negotiated a contract with Gresham, Smith & Partners which has been submitted to ALDOT for review, approval and notice to proceed. Hopefully the notice to proceed will be released in a couple of weeks.

Mr. Tabengwa said Mayor Guyton dedicated the three new transit buses and feedback from passengers has been good.

Urbanized Transit Program Report: Three new transit buses dedicated by Mayor Guyton.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Updated FY 2009 TIP approved.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): Final UPWP approved.

Resolutions: None

Other Business:

Mr. Tom Barnes discussed the possibility of including the Black Creek Trail in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) as alternative transportation.

Mr. Jeff Cheatwood representing the Citizen's Advisory Committee requested assistance in getting the railroad crossing at Goodyear repaired due to many vehicles being damaged. Mr. Harris said ALDOT can report the need for the railroad to repair the crossing but is unaware of their schedule for repairs. Mr. Harris said if the damage is inside the rails it is strictly off limits to ALDOT. Mr. Harris said he will definitely contact the railroad and ask for assistance for repairs. Mayor Burns said he will contact Mayor Guyton requesting a letter to the railroad to reflect the urgency for repairs.

Mr. Tom Barnes discussed the traffic flow problem at Mitchell School on Nocalula Road. Mr. Hare said he will follow-up on Mr. Barnes concerns and suggestions.

Mayor Burns said he would like to thank everyone for attending the January MPO meeting and the next meeting will be on March 12, 2009 at the Chamber of Commerce. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Wally Burns, Mayor of the City of Southside
MPO Chairman