

Spartanburg County Transportation Committee

MINUTES

Thursday, April 21, 2022
County Council Chambers
Spartanburg County Administration Building
366 North Church Street, Spartanburg, SC 29303

A public meeting of the Spartanburg County Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, April 21, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in County Council Chambers of the Spartanburg County Administration Building, 366 North Church Street, Spartanburg, S.C. Chairman John Throckmorton presided.

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notices of this meeting were mailed and emailed in advance to county officials, local news media, citizens and other interested parties.

The following members were present: John Throckmorton; Vic Bailey, IV; Trey Blackwood; Travis Brown; Will Gramling; Ed Humphries; Rubye Calhoun. The following members were absent: Dean Anderson; Doug Cobb; Chris Story; Kyle Owings-Excused.

1. **Call to Order – John Throckmorton, Chairman**
2. **Approval of Minutes for January 20, 2022**

Any questions or comments about the minutes, hearing none I will obtain a motion to approve. Motion was made by Will Gramling to approve minutes. Second was made by Ed Humphries. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

3. **Financial Report – Travis Brown**

Beginning Balance as of July 1, 2021:	\$2,608,865.70
Revenue:	
Gas Tax (received-July through July)	\$ 2,976,873.89
Closed Projects	\$ 421,906.48
Donor County Funds 2022 (received)	\$ 1,875,032.02
Uncommitted Returned Balances from SCDOT	-
Non-Recurring Funds 2022	\$ 2,287,460.25
Total Approved FY 22 Funding	(7,349,487.00)
FY 2022 Set-Aside Funding - \$523,570.00	
Total Unobligated Funds As Of March 31, 2022: (These funds can be applied to new projects)	\$ 2,820,651.34

FY Estimated Liabilities to be approved Upon receipt of Funding

SCDOT Paving
County Paving
City of Spartanburg Paving
Municipal Paving

Fund Balance		(500,000.00)
Phase 2 Apple Valley/Berry Shoals Intersection Improvement	\$	<u>(1,325,000.00)</u>
Funding Available After FY22 Liabilities –Negative Balance	\$	995,651.34

Estimated Revenue for FY2022:

Gas Tax for FY2022: \$5,041,000 (5 months @ 420,083/mo)	2,100,415.00
Donor County Funds -	-
Non-Recurring Earmark Funds	-

Total Estimated Revenue: \$2,100,415.00

Chairman Throckmorton also including a one (1) page CTC Budget YE 30 June 2022 Summary report in committee books.

4. Project Status Report – Billy Martin

Active Project Status Report as of April 14, 2022

1. 12018, 13010, 17006 Pacolet, River Gateway Roundabout. Construction complete. Finalizing paperwork. Staying on the list to drain some water from a sidewalk that ties into existing bridge. We are going to put it out for bid, maybe a couple of thousand dollars.
2. 15006 and 19002L 4th Street – Construction is in progress.
3. 19003S Belcher Road bridge replacement, Rep. Long set-a-side - Right of way acquisition complete. Two tracts have been condemned. We had two bidders, 2.8 million and 2.7 million. We will roll with the 2.7 million.
4. 20004L Spartanburg County, Clark Rd. /Bishop Rd. Roundabout - Design Underway. Ron Kirby states we have the designs on about all of them except the finale design for Seay Road. It is going well getting right away right now. There maybe two properties we may have to condemn, still negotiating with them.
5. *20011S SCDOT Paving. John Dodd and Bryant Roads. Under construction by SCDOT
6. 20020L Seay Road - Design and design review underway
7. 20021L Clark Road - Design and design review underway
8. 20022L Belcher Road Widening we have preliminary design and right of way acquisition is under way.
9. 20025S Victor Hill Road/Woods Chapel Road – Contracts are signed. We are waiting on construction to begin. Barrels on site. Pre-construction meeting scheduled for May 2.
10. 21006L Willis Road at US-29 Rep. Forrester Set Aside. Project complete.
11. 21007L FY21 City of Spartanburg Paving. Project is on hold due to possible loss of Road Fee. Travis Brown states they renegotiated the pricing with contractor. They are going to hold their pricing somewhat from when they went out a couple of years ago.
12. 21008S FY21 SCDOT Paving. SCDOT funds for Landrum and N. Blackstock Roads. SCDOT is handling this.

13. 21009L FY21 Spartanburg County Paving. Construction substantially complete. Working on revised punch list items.
14. 210011L, FY21 City of Greer Paving. 210012L FY21 Town of Cowpens Paving. 210013L FY21 Town of Duncan Paving Construction substantially complete. Working on punch list items.
15. 210014L Edwards Lane. Rep. Allison Set Aside. Complete.
16. 210015L Preston Street. Rep. Henderson-Myers Set Aside. City of Spartanburg.
17. 21016S Berry Shoals Road at SC-290. Engineering design is underway. A few changes, taking out a ditch, putting in a little extra curb and may it change the cost a little bit. The concern is people will pull off the road to go around cars as they get close to the light. They do it now, so if we put a curb down the side it will keep everyone in the road.
18. 21017S Berry Shoals Rd. at Apple Valley Rd. Preliminary design submitted to SCDOT for review. This is another roundabout. Want DOT to give a preliminary sign off before knocking on doors. There is not a lot of property.
19. 22002L Paving, City of Spartanburg
To get underway.
20. 22004L Spartanburg County Paving
To get underway.
21. 22005L City of Greer Paving, 22006L Town of Pacolet Paving, 22007L Town of Lyman Paving, 22008L Cowpens Paving
22. 22009L New Hope Drive Reclamation, Rep Nutt Set Aside.
23. 22010L Bryant Road Corridor Improvements, Rep Hyde Set Aside.
Gotten prices for surveying, one from an engineer \$81,000.00 and from some local surveyors got one back for \$97,000.00. We will get it done.
24. 22011L E. Broad St. Safety Project, Rep Henderson-Myers Set Aside.
Travis Brown states Jay Squires is working with the manufacture for products and getting that ordered.
25. 22012L Old Asheville Highway, Rep Magnuson.
This is up in Campobello. Project was out for bid, only one bidder. I understand a bid came in late. Council voted to accept the second bid. I informed Council they will not get any CTC money. They decided to put it out to bid again.
26. 22013L Hanging Rock Road, Rep Long Set aside.
Is in it's infancy.

Chairman Throckmorton informed on the latest Project Status report. He pointed out that there are four projects that are closed, Willis/Robinson Road, 2021 Greer/Duncan going to return \$110,000.00 of unspent money. 2020 and 2021 Administration cost and if those are closed and there is no surprise bills we haven't paid for those, we will be getting back about \$113,000.00 where the county did not spend as much money that we authorized to them for salary and whatever else that covers.

On the Pacolet roundabout, Billy said there will be a little money spent on the trench to get puddle removed, so if that is the case we will get back around \$230, 000.00 back. Pacolet lost their road fund money, if there is no bills put in munis at this time that is how much money we will get back. In total we had about \$18.5 million dollars for 35 projects in the works and we spent 66 percent of that we still have about 6.2 million dollars that have been allocated for open projects. Any questions. None.

5. New projects recommended for approval by the Advisory Committee- Travis Brown

- a. Apple Valley/Berry Shoals Intersection Improvements-\$1,600,000.00 to be added to Project No. 21017S for construction of a roundabout.

Last year CTC approved \$400,000.00 for Phase I, that got us started on engineering, design, and right away acquisition. We had several different Representatives set-a-sides go into this a little over \$81,000.00 total. So far, we have spent close to a \$100,000.00. We have an available budget a little over \$380,000.00. We have a new updated construction cost estimate that includes a 20 percent construction contingency, additional money for right-a-way, utility relocation, and testing during construction. With the existing funding we have we need about \$1.6 million to get this project to construction.

Motion was made by Travis Brown. Second was made by Will Gramling. Motion carried.

- b. 4th. Street Intersection Improvement-\$450,000.00 to be added to Project No. 15006L for Duke Energy utility relocation.

With relocation, we are trying to work with Duke Energy. Concerning power lines themselves, their stance is if they touch them they needed to be upgraded to certain type of wire. Some of these poles have to move to install the road. We are not sure if they want to upgrade their facility from a different type of wire if that should be our responsibility. We still have some conversations with them. They are out there today grating and we want to make sure we have enough funding to get these utility out of the way, get that project in and move on.

Motion was made by Travis Brown. Second was made by Will Gramling. Motion carried.

- c. Project Request 1184-CTC in the amount of \$420,000.00 for Berry Shoals (S-82)/Duncan Reidville Rd. (S-62) intersection.

Opportunity to partner with the SCDOT. This intersection is a four way stop currently, it has a level of service F, functions very poorly and is in a highly industrial area and more growth coming. That intersection is going to get worse and worse. Improvements are around a million dollars, this would be the signalization of intersection and also adding turn lanes. The DOT is willing to contribute the signalization to this project, which has a value over \$100,000.00. There is a local business and PAL Corporation is the owner of the business. They are going to contribute \$380,000.00 to project. The difference is \$420,000.00 for the completion of this intersection. This project will be managed by the CTC.

Motion was made by Travis Brown. Second was made by Ed Humphries. Motion carried.

- d. Project 22004L (Annual County resurfacing 2022). No additional funding being requested. Addition of Old Petrie Extension and Phillips Drive. Removal of Bishop Rd. from Compton Rd. to Asheville Hwy. and from Clark to Compton Bridge Rd.

Project bids were higher than anticipated, removing some portion of road and adding in some smaller portions to be within budget number.

Motion was made by Travis Brown. Second was made by Trey Blackwood. Motion carried.

6. Projects denied by the Advisory Committee- Presented for informational purposes only Travis Brown.

- a. Project Request 1170- \$500,000.00 for drainage repair and resurfacing to Norfolk Southern railroad underpass on Hayne St.

Had a CTC score of a 7. We were not sure exactly what was being asked here. We reached out to the engineer and they could not provide a lot of direction either. Project was brought to a vote and it failed by a vote of 5 to 4.

- b. Project Request 1171- \$3,000,000.00 for a new pedestrian bridge over Norfolk Southern railroad tracks on Sibley St.

Based on the information that we could find there was one recorded accident within five years, no fatalities, and no injuries. Had a CTC score of a 4. With the CTC policies, we interpreted this to fall under the streetscape and sidewalk policy, under that policy 80% of the project request has to be funded by the person that is applying for the request only 20% of it could be funded by the CTC and that had to be Delegation set-a-side. This request was denied because this did not fit under the CTC policies.

- c. Project Request 1172- \$1,500,000.00 to add lighting to the intersection of SC-85 and New Cut Rd., resurface off ramps at intersection of SC-85 and New Cut Rd. and install sidewalks to New Cut Rd. from Stephen Grove Rd. to Caldwell Rd.

The lighting and sidewalk are covered under the CTC street scape and sidewalk policy, under that policy 80% of the project request has to be funded by the person that is applying for the request only 20% of it could be funded by the CTC and that had to be Delegation set-a-side. We did reach out to the DOT representative regard to the resurfacing of the off ramps and that project is on their radar. If DOT sees that is a priority for them then they could come back to this committee. This project was denied because this did not fit under the CTC policies in regards to streetscape and sidewalks.

- d. Project Request 1173- \$5,000,000.00 to widen Seminole Dr. from Arcadia St. to Habitat Way. Request includes the installation of sidewalks.

There were 7 accidents along this stretch of road within 5 years, no injuries and no fatalities. This did have a CTC score of 9. We had a fairly lengthy discussion at the advisory committee just about the level of funding that the CTC has available.

This request was for 5 million dollars that was well beyond any funding that we have, so historically the CTC does not approve projects unless they have the money in the bank to do it. This request was denied based on the amount requested.

- e. Project Request 1174- \$8,000,000.00 to install a new two-lane underpass beneath Norfolk Southern railroad crossing on New Cut Rd.

There were 18 crashes within 5 years, one injury and no reported fatalities. This fit in with the level of funding available and the level of projects we wanted to complete as a CTC. Eight million dollars is well beyond any available funding that we had. Even if the CTC wanted this would to fund this it would take multiple years in order to do so. There is also questions about the feasibility of this project, there is current a live railroad that runs over this underpass. We are not exactly sure how you would reconstruct to keep this railroad open. So, this project failed.

7. New Business

- a. Approval of CTC and Spartanburg County Annual Agreement- \$335,000.00

Travis Brown states this is the annual agreement between CTC and Spartanburg County. All of the language is the same as in previous years. The only change is the increase in requested funding. There has been some increases in fuel, S.C. retirement and health insurance. Also, the county is hoping to include a cost of living adjustment for the three positions in the CTC department and this includes \$5,000.00 for overtime. We have some large construction projects coming up, so if our people needed to work overtime we would have a way to compensate them.

Motion was made by Travis Brown. Second was made by Vic Bailey. Motion carried.

Chairman Throckmorton states the county creates an account with this amount of money in it and they charge against that account. If their cost is less than \$335,000 the CTC will get back the funds that are not spent. Any questions or comments? Hearing none, went to a vote. No objections. Motion carries.

- b. CTC Project Prioritization Discussion.

Travis Brown informed on the Project Ranking Analysis. This is a way to prioritize projects. We looked at injury and fatality history, crash rate, cost, level of service (congestion) and a way to evaluate projects from a geometry standpoint as funding becomes available.

8. Old Business

None.

Chairman Throckmorton at this time recognized Vic Bailey and Will Gramling, their term of service is up June 30 of this year. Both have decided not to sign up for another term, they will use their resources and abilities elsewhere to help the community. On behalf of Me and the committee, Thank you for your service.

9. Adjourn

Chairman John Throckmorton moved to Adjourn. Second by Travis Brown. No objections. Meeting was adjourn.

John Throckmorton, Chairman

Date

Attested: Debbie Culbreth

Date