

# *Spartanburg Area Transportation Study*

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## **SPATS Policy Committee**

### **Minutes**

*August 10, 2020*

#### **Present:**

Roger Nutt  
Julian Hankinson  
Whit Kennedy

Manning Lynch  
Larry Chappell  
Jared Wilson

Mike Forrester  
Woody Willard  
Rob Rain

#### **Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes (May 21, 2020)**

Chair Manning Lynch called the meeting to order. Mr. Lynch announced our new member, Ned Camby, who was recently elected as the new Mayor of Pacolet.

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of the May 21st meeting as emailed, seconded by Mr. Nutt. The minutes will now be made available online on the SPATS website.

#### **SPATS Program Process Update**

Ms. Kaitlyn Kong, SPATS Intern, presented the SPATS Funding Pots Update and Partnering Infographics. These public information tools will be used to educate and inform the public online and in community outreach campaigns.

The Funding Pots infographic depicts the sources of funding for SPATS transportation projects, project examples for federal, state and local funding categories, and a flowchart of the funding process.

The Partnering infographic defines the many partners who work with us to improve transportation infrastructure in the SPATS area. This tool shows the relationship between our organization and our partners from all levels and how they each offer a unique role in the transportation planning process, from providing funding, collaborating on policies and projects, offering valuable input, to helping us reach hard-to-reach populations.

#### **Appalachian Regional Freight Mobility Plan Update**

Lance Estep with the Appalachian Council of Governments presented an update on the progress of the Regional Freight Plan. The planning process with CDM Smith and partners TranSystems and Modern Mobility began in the Spring.

The Technical Committee (consisting of the staff representatives from the ACOG and the MPOs) have been meeting bi-weekly to discuss work products, project schedule, and project administration. The Steering Committee has representatives from the Upstate municipalities and counties, DOT, Federal Highways, inland port and the economic development community. This group meets monthly and will shape the plan through review of products and feedback. The Advisory Committee- consisting of representatives from BMW, Michelin, Clemson-CUICAR, Norfolk Southern, CSX, Inland Port, GSP International, SC Council on Competitiveness, SC Trucking Association, SCDOT, and multiple private sector freight providers-meet quarterly to give insight to supply chain issues, big picture concerns for the freight industry to be taken into consideration in the plan. The “Palmetto Freight Series Lunch and Learn” sessions are held after these meetings as we are conducting this study along with the Charleston area COG. We conduct our stand-alone area plans, but share an education session on such topics as Truck Platooning, Smart Cities, and Railroad Technology. Preliminary recommendations are expected in a couple months and a final plan is expected by the end of the year. For more information, please see the plan website at:

<https://www.scacog.org/acog-freight-plan>

### **Transit Funding TIP Request**

Megan Arthur with the Charles Lea Center presented a FY 2021 request for \$57,000 in FTA 5310 Small Urban Program funds for one new ADA accessible cut-a-way vehicle purchase estimated at \$67,650, with up to 15% match provided by Charles Lea Center. Mr. Wilson moved to approve the transit TIP Amendment, seconded by Mr. Nutt.

### **SPATS Signal Program Updates TIP Amendments**

Lisa Bollinger, SPATS Transportation Planning Manager, presented the proposed amendments to the signal projects. Thank you to Brandon Wilson and other SCDOT representatives who coordinated with the City of Spartanburg to update this important program. Mr. Chappell moved to approve the TIP Amendments, seconded by Mr. Hankinson.

### **City of Spartanburg Downtown Thoroughfare Plan Proposal and UPWP Amendment**

Chris Story, City Manager with the City of Spartanburg, presented the proposal for the City Thoroughfare Plan. This plan will compliment the City’s Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element and address the current and future demands on the transportation system in and through the downtown. Elements of the study include: an existing conditions review, multimodal short and long term project and funding recommendations, public involvement, alternatives analysis and cost estimates.

Lisa Bollinger, SPATS Transportation Planning Manager, recommended the study on behalf of the SPATS Study Team and asked for a motion to approve the project in concept as a UPWP Amendment. Mr. Wilson moved to approve the UPWP Amendment, seconded by Mr. Rain.

## **Projects' Status Report**

Ms. Penny Phillips presented a comprehensive project report sent out prior to the meeting by Ms. Bollinger. Detailed updates for SPATS projects and the corresponding SCDOT Project Viewer link include:

**Country Club Road Improvements:** operational and safety improvements on S-47 for 3.3 miles from Union St. (SC 56) to Clifton-Glendale Road (S-30). Project includes east-west trail connection along Country Club Road linking the Mary Black Foundation Rail Trail to the Glendale Shoals area. PE 85% complete. ROW acquisition began October 2019. Approximately 50% of tracts settled. Construction expected to begin late Spring 2021 depending on ROW acquisitions.

*Country Club Road Corridor Project link in SCDOT Project Viewer*

**SC 9 at Shoally Creek/4<sup>th</sup> Street Intersection Improvement:** includes widening of SC 9 to add third a travel lane in each direction, adding/lengthening turn lanes along with reconfiguring 4<sup>th</sup> St. at existing sharp curve, and installing a traffic signal at SC 9 and Candlenut Lane. PE 70% complete. ROW acquisition scheduled to begin Fall 2020. Project expected to be let for construction in Fall 2021.

*SC 9 and 4th St. Intersection Improvement Project link in SCDOT Project Viewer*

**Lyman Traffic Triangle:** improve traffic operations at three main intersections: US 29/Pine Ridge Road, SC 358 (Holly Springs Road)/Pine Ridge Road, and US 29/SC 129/SC 358 (Holly Springs Rd.)/SC 292. Preliminary Engineering 70% Complete. ROW Phase expected to begin Fall 2020. Project expected to be let for Construction in Fall 2021.

*Lyman Traffic Triangle Project Link in SCDOT Project Viewer*

Please see SCDOT Project Viewer for project status updates between SPATS meetings: <https://www.scdot.org/business/projectviewer.aspx>

## **Other Business and Adjourn**

There being no other business, motion was made by Mr. Nutt to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Chappell. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 9, 2020.