

***Spartanburg County Transportation Committee***  
**MINUTES**  
**July 19, 2007**  
**County Council Chambers**  
**Spartanburg County Administration Office Building**

A public meeting of the Spartanburg County Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in County Council Chambers, Spartanburg County Administrative Office Building. Chairman Billy Painter presided. The following members were present: Tom Arthur, Sam Evatt, Mike Garrett, William Hamilton, Steve McAbee, Les Mitchell, Hal Murphy, John Throckmorton, Bud Workman.

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

Chairman Painter welcomed three new members: Steve McAbee, representing House District 36; William Hamilton, representing House District 31; and Les Mitchell, replacing Steve Grant from the City of Spartanburg.

**Item # 1 – Approval of April 19, 2007 meeting minutes**

William Hamilton made a motion to approve the April 19, 2007, meeting minutes with two corrections: 1) page 3 next to last paragraph – add the word “bridge” after Zimmerman Road; and, 2) change the word “fait” on page 6 in the third paragraph of section d) to “continuance.” Steve McAbee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Item # 2 – Financial Report – Mrs. Sabrina Mason**

The total unobligated funds as of June 30, 2007 were \$2,788,016.34. One more month of user fees will be collected before the end of the fiscal year. Donor funds have been received in the amount of \$1,255,273.86.

**Item # 3 – Update on active projects – Mr. Eddie Speed**

Mr. Jim Nelson reported intersection improvement at Highway 357 @ Gap Creek is completed and within budget.

The SC 295 @ Hayne Street is approximately 95% complete and should be within budget. The project has been paved and will be completed next week.

McMillian @ Highway 9 project will go out for bids within the next couple of weeks. The project is projected to be completed before school starts.

The Howard and Pearl Street project has been accepted by the SCDOT.

The Delegate set-aside project, Carlock Road, is now complete and within budget.

The right turn lane at Wood Lake Road will be under construction next week.

John Martin Road is 95% complete and will be grassed and complete next week.

#### **Item # 4 – Recommended projects from Advisory Committee – Mike Garrett**

The Advisory Committee has met over the last quarter and has recommended the following projects:

##### **a) SC 358 @ Hampton Road Intersection Improvement - \$175,000**

This intersection improvement project is located in the northern part of the Lyman area. This project came forward to the committee because two new schools are scheduled to open in the fall of this year. The proposal is to improve the intersection by reducing the congestion caused by the school traffic. Construction of left turn lanes and a traffic signal is to be installed.

School District 5 has agreed to allocate \$350,000; the County Road fee has agreed to allocate \$175,000; and the Advisory Committee is recommending the CTC approve \$175,000; for a total estimated cost of \$700,000. Right-of-way cost is included in the \$700,000 cost estimate.

Tom Arthur moved to approve \$175,000 for the intersection improvement. Steve McAbee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

##### **b) Improve Radius at the Intersection of Clark Road @ Bishop Road – Not to exceed \$60,000**

Clark Road and Bishop Road are both major county roads. Clark Road is a collector road that runs from Boiling Springs to Inman. There is heavy traffic at the narrow intersection creating problems with the turning radii. The Advisory Committee is recommending the turning radius be improved at each corner of the intersection. The estimated cost is not to exceed \$60,000. This project has been requested by a number of community groups in the area.

John Throckmorton moved to accept the recommendation to improve the intersection at a cost not to exceed \$60,000. Sam Evatt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

##### **c) Fairforest Road Widening - \$350,000**

The county section of Fairforest Road widening project runs from the Department of Motor Vehicles

to Asheville Highway. Fairforest Road has low shoulders, poor drainage, and heavy traffic. The widening portion measures over a mile long. It will be necessary to move utilities with the estimated cost of the entire project at a little over \$2M. Therefore, the committee is recommending all the preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition be completed in the first year with C Funds at \$350,000 and Road Fee funds of \$487,500. The construction portion is to begin in the second year primarily with the use of Road Fee funds.

Sam Evatt made a motion to approved C Funds not to exceed \$350,000. John Throckmorton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**d) Skylyn Drive – Withdrawal of funding - \$275,000**

Skylyn Drive is a road that is located in front of Mary Black Hospital from Floyd Road to Drayton Avenue. Efforts to secure additional funding to widen the roadway have not been successful.

A partnership arrangement had been made with CTC providing \$275,000 for engineering and designing of the project. The SPATS committee approved \$725,000 for right-of-way and acquisition and SCDOT agreed to contribute \$2M for construction. After the project was developed further, it was realized that the cost estimate had risen to \$5.5M.

Therefore, Tom Arthur made a motion to rescind the \$275,000 previously approved for the engineering and designing of the project. John Throckmorton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**e) Administrative Funds - \$2,000**

The state legislation that created the C Fund program permits the allocation of \$2,000 annually for administrative purposes. A motion was made to approve \$2,000 for administrative purposes. The motion was seconded and approved.

**f) Contract with County for new fiscal year - \$246,000**

John Throckmorton moved to approve a new fiscal year contract with Spartanburg County in the amount of \$246,000. Sam Evatt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**g) Right turn lanes on Woodburn Road @ Fernwood Drive**

This project is located within the City of Spartanburg on the east side. The intersection at Woodburn Road @ Fernwood Drive carries heavy traffic to the southside, Spartanburg High School, and East Main Street. Both of the roadways are state highways. The state highway department has, over the last several years, widened Fernwood Drive and installed a traffic signal at the intersection. This new request is to further improve the intersection by constructing a right turn lane on Woodburn Road. Representative Doug

Smith is sponsoring the project with his set-aside funding. Last year his commitment amounted to \$51,400 for the project. SCDOT has estimated the project cost to be \$144,500. Representative Smith is also asking approval for his 2008 set-aside funding in the amount of \$51,400 as well as \$41,700 from CTC in order to proceed with construction of the project. The CTC Advisory committee recommends proceeding with the project.

Sam Evatt moved to approve the \$51,400 set aside money and \$41,700 from CTC. William Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **Item # 5 – Projects NOT recommended from the Advisory Committee**

##### **a) Fairwinds Drive in Landrum requested by Jack Newton**

The CTC has been asked to consider a project on Fairwinds Road in Landrum. Fairwinds Road was widened to the BiLo when Highway 14 was widened. The remaining length of roadway is only sixteen (16) feet wide. About 4/10 of a mile down Fairwinds Road, a proposed Hospice of the Carolinas is to be constructed on the right side of the roadway just before the waste water treatment plant. The people who are developing Hospice requested the committee widen the roadway at an estimated cost of \$120,000. Property owners have agreed for the right-of-way to be donated. The committee listened to the request and decided not to recommend the project because it was a developer oriented project geared toward a specific request. The committee told Mr. Newton that the county would attempt to widen the roadway if property owners would provide the right-of-way. Mr. Newton is currently seeking right-of-way necessary to widen the roadway.

#### **Item # 6 – Proposed School Impact Study Policy**

Both the CTC and SPATS has been very concerned about the neighboring traffic impact created as a result of new school construction. It is something that the committees had not be able to get a good grasp on, therefore, a committee was implemented to propose a policy regarding the traffic impact new schools present to the neighboring traffic. A policy was presented several months ago stating the CTC would not consider funding of off-site improvements unless schools had completed a traffic impact analysis of the proposed new school area. The CTC was concerned the proposed policy was not open minded enough, therefore, the School Impact Study Committee was asked to revisit the proposed policy. The committee included Mike Garrett, Jim D'Amato, Ron Kirby. They met with Scott Mercer, District 2 Superintendent, to discuss the off-site traffic problems arising from construction in the area of a new school, draft a proposed CTC policy as a partnership of constructing off-site improvements.

After discussions and careful considerations, a motion was made by John Throckmorton to establish the following as a policy for the CTC:

**The CTC will consider funding road improvement projects arising from the building of new schools after a professional traffic impact analysis is performed prior to the initiation of a school's construction. The CTC will execute only one study per new school built. This analysis would detail impacts to the neighboring transportation system, and suggest necessary improvements to facilitate the movement of vehicles and pedestrians in the vicinity of the site. Once an analysis is complete, the CTC will consider funding up to 50% of the road improvement costs, not to exceed \$300,000 providing the CTC committee approves the project and funds are available. The CTC will not participate in improvements required by SCDOT to improve roads at entrances to schools.**

The motion was seconded by Sam Evatt and carried.

This CTC policy will establish communication between the County, CTC and the School Districts.

**Item # 7 – Elect new chairman and vice chairman (2 year term)**

Sam Evatt made a motion to re-elect the current chairman, Mr. Billy Painter. Tom Arthur seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sam Evatt made a motion to elect Mr. Tom Arthur as vice chairman. Hal Murphy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Item # 8 – New Business**

There was no new business to discuss.

**Item # 9 – Old Business**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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**Mr. Billy Painter, Chairman**

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**Carol Crowe, Attested**