

Spartanburg County Transportation Committee
MINUTES
July 20, 2006
County Council Chambers
Spartanburg County Administration Office Building

A public meeting of the Spartanburg County Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, July 20, 2006, 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, Mike Garrett, Sam Evatt, Hal Murphy, John Throckmorton, and Hugh Waldrop.

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.

Item # 1 – Approval of April 20, 2006 meeting minutes

John Throckmorton made a motion to approve the April 20, 2006, meeting minutes as printed. Sam Evatt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Item # 2 – Financial Report – Mrs. Sabrina Mason

The total unobligated funds as of June 30, 2006 were \$2,147,529.16 which includes the donor county funds received. The gas tax for June, 2006 has not been received.

Item # 3 – Update of projects – Mr. Eddie Speed

Eddie Speed reported the Overall Condition Index (OCI) rating inspections are an ongoing process.

The C Fund county and municipal resurfacing has been completed.

Caldwell Road is completed and the punch list has been taken care of.

Eddie Speed has a meeting with Transystems on Monday regarding the preliminary plans

for the Highway 357 @ Gap Creek Road and Highway 296 @ S 62 intersection improvement projects.

Willis Road is under construction. Storm drainage is about 60% complete. Clearing and grubbing is about 65% complete. The culvert has been replaced and backfilled. The pavement is down from the culvert to the improved section at US 29. The only section that remains to be completed on Willis Road is from the culvert back to Caldwell Road.

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

The following projects were presented to the committee:

a) Intersection Improvements Spartanburg Exchange Village at US 29 - \$63,958

This project is to make improvements at the intersection of US 29 at the Spartanburg Exchange Village opposite Nazareth Church Road. A left turn lane and right deceleration turn lane will be constructed into the development. The Advisory Committee is recommending the C Fund project cost not to exceed \$63,958.

Some of the committee members requested clarification on economic development projects. The committee has established a policy, i.e., *not to provide funding for any existing road or infrastructure improvements that are interior to a proposed economic development project that would be used for the financial benefit of the developer in developing the project. Interior means within the property lines of property owned by the developer or entity responsible for the development project.*

This particular intersection improvement is being required by SCDOT with the developer installing a traffic signal. In order for the traffic signal to be installed, the SCDOT is requiring the turning lanes be constructed.

Tom Arthur moved to approve the project funding not to exceed \$63,958. Sam Evatt seconded the motion. John Throckmorton opposed the funding. The motion carried.

b) Spartanburg Regional Medical Center – Relocation of Westmoreland Road to Highway 14 in Greer – Not to exceed \$100,000 and subject to construction beginning in 2006

Spartanburg Regional Medical Center (SRMC) is planning on relocating Westmoreland Drive in a circular fashion around their new campus in phases. The first phase is to relocate Westmoreland Drive from Highway 14 to Abner Creek Road. The request for \$100,000 is to improve the intersection at Highway 14 @ Westmoreland Drive. The Advisory Committee reviewed the request and is recommending the CTC approve \$100,000 toward the project. The

relocation of Westmoreland Drive is estimated to cost \$1.8M.

Andrew Sherrod, SRMC, explained that the project is to relocate the existing Westmoreland Drive away from what will become the hospital campus. A traffic signal will be installed along with the intersection improvements. A traffic study has been completed to consider future hospital system growth. The demands of the intersection improvements are requiring dual right turn lanes from Westmoreland onto Highway 14 as well as having a dedicated right turn off Highway 14 onto Westmoreland. In the future Westmoreland Drive will be extended to Abner Creek. The relocated Westmoreland Drive will be owned by the City of Greer.

As noted, the committee cannot commit future funding for the project.

John Throckmorton made a motion to reject allocating funds for this Intersection Improvement project at Highway 14 @ Westmoreland Road for SRMC. Tom Arthur seconded the motion. Mike Garrett opposed the motion. The motion carried.

c) Change Representative Walker's set-aside from Highway 14 medians to drainage and sidewalk improvements on Highway 14.

Representative Walker is requesting his 2006 set-aside funds be transferred from the median project on Highway 14 in Landrum to sidewalk and drainage improvements on the same highway.

A motion was made to approve the set-aside funding transfer to sidewalk and drainage improvements on Highway 14 in Landrum. John Throckmorton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

d) John Martin Road @ North Blackstock Road Intersection Improvements – not to exceed \$179,500

The project is to improve John Martin Road at North Blackstock Road intersection at an existing Industrial Park. EchoStar is locating in the Industrial Park creating 1300-1500 jobs. The recommendation is to reconstruct the intersection by constructing left and right turn lanes at a cost not to exceed \$179,500. John Martin Road is a county roadway and North Blackstock Road is a state road.

Tom Arthur moved to approve funding not to exceed \$179,500 to improve the intersection at John Martin Road @ North Blackstock Road. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

e) Garner Road Bridge Replacement – not to exceed \$380,000

This project is located inside the City of Spartanburg on Garner Road. The two (2) thirteen foot corrugated metal pipe culverts are in very poor condition and needs replaced. The Advisory Committee reviewed a number of projects that are needed to be completed, and this project was ranked number one, for safety reasons. The City will use \$100,000 from their portion of the \$25 road fee maintenance fund; SPATS will be asked to contribute \$300,000; and, the CTC request is for \$380,000. The Advisory Committee is making the recommendation to fund \$380,000 for the project.

Tom Arthur moved to approve funding not to exceed \$380,000 for the Garner Road culvert replacement. Sam Evatt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Item # 5 – Projects NOT recommended from the Advisory Committee – Mike Garrett

a) North Spartanburg Fire District traffic control devices

The Advisory Committee voted not to recommend the North Spartanburg Fire Department request to fund traffic control devices as it would establish a precedent.

b) Highway 176 at Franklin Clinton Road

The Advisory Committee voted not to recommend this project to the CTC as the SCDOT would try to make some improvements.

Item # 6 – New project ranking and prioritization report – Mike Garrett

The Advisory Committee, over the last three or four years, has looked at various improvement projects to consider for CTC funding. Most of the projects have been completed or programmed. In the last six months, the projects have been reconsidered and ranked according to priority. The projects listed (See Attachment 1) are planned to be funded over a four year period. However, this ranking system is not set in-stone, given the various projects presented to the committee from time to time for consideration.

Item # 7 – New Business

a) Road naming of portion of Daniel Morgan Avenue “Vic Bailey, Jr. Boulevard.”

The SC Code of Laws requires the CTC fund up to \$500.00 for signs as presented.

Item # 8 - Old Business

No old business to bring forth at this time.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Billy Painter, Chairman

Carol Crowe, Attested