

Spartanburg County Transportation Committee
MINUTES
APRIL 17, 2014
6:00 P.M.
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SPARTANBURG COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

A public meeting of the Spartanburg County Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in County Council Chambers, Spartanburg County Administrative Office Building, 366 North Church Street, Spartanburg, SC. Chairman Billy Painter presided. The following members were present: Ernestine Anderson, Tom Arthur, Steve Belue, Ed Memmott, Chet Morris, Hal Murphy, Billy Painter, John Throckmorton, and Bob Walker.

It was with profound sorrow that the committee learned of Mr. Sam Evatt's passing this morning. The committee and others in attendance joined in extending sympathy with a moment of silence followed by a special prayer led by Mr. Bob Walker.

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

Item # 1 - Approval of January 16, 2014 meeting minutes

A motion and second was made to approve the January 16, 2014 minutes as printed and mailed. The motion was approved.

Item # 2 - Financial Report – Ms. Lacey Bradey

Ms. Lacey Bradey reported the total unobligated funds as of March 31, 2014 was \$2,259,383.79 which includes gas tax from July thru February. Estimated unobligated funds at the end of fiscal year 2014 are \$4,033,463.53 which includes donor county funds to be received.

An attachment to the financial statement include all active C Fund projects as of 02/28/2014.

Item # 3 - Update on active projects – Mr. Todd Carroll

Mr. Todd Carroll reported he is waiting on Duke Power to move the guy pole for the Gossett road at Dewberry Road intersection project. Once the guy pole is move, construction can begin.

The easement drawings have been received for the Alabama Avenue drainage project. Mr. Carroll is currently working on the easement deeds for the project.

Pre bids were held for the Frank Clinton realignment project and bids will be received by April 24.

The plans are being finalized for the N. Blackstock Road at John Dodd Road project.

Item # 4 - Recommended projects from Advisory Committee – Mr. Steve Belue

a. Original Project Request 1051 – Representative Allison set-aside to resurface two underpasses and correct storm drainage and widen bridge on Syphrit Road in the Town of Wellford @ \$46,248.00

There is not enough funding available to widen the bridge as it is about a \$300,000 project; but the CTC Advisory recommended the drainage be corrected (which most has been corrected by the DOT). There are still issues to be corrected; i.e., the lids for the drainage will possibly be replaced; and the milling and resurfacing remain to be completed.

Motion was made to resurface the two underpasses and correct the storm drainage on Syphrit Road in the Town of Wellford @ \$46,248.00.

b. Project request 1053 – Representative Mitchell set-aside to demolish existing sidewalk, curb and gutter on Collins Avenue @ \$41,454.

The demolition of the existing sidewalks will separate Collins Park and Forrest Park by reconfiguring the lots to eliminate many curb cuts. There is heavy pedestrian use of this sidewalk area between Collins Park and Forest Park which leads back to the CC Woodson Center towards Duncan Park. There has been significant investment into tying these two areas together.

Mr. Tom Arthur moved to approve the \$41,454 to demolish the existing sidewalk, curb and gutter on Collins Avenue at \$41,454. The motion was seconded and approved.

c. Project request 1054 – City of Spartanburg to construct 4 feet of sidewalk on Collins Avenue @\$30,744.00. Requesting \$6,148.80 (20%) C Funds and the City of Spartanburg will fund the remaining \$24,595.20 (80%)

The City of Spartanburg will construct four feet of sidewalk on Collins Avenue. The City is requesting C Funds in the amount of \$6,148.80 which is 20% of the funding and the City will fund the remaining \$24,595.20 to complete the project.

Mr. Memmott moved to approve the project request at \$6,148.80. Mr. Tom Arthur seconded the motion. The motion carried.

d. Project request 1055 - Representative Tallon set-aside for Town of Pacolet – Pacolet River Gateway project @ \$17,000.00

This is additional set-aside funds going toward the Pacolet River Gateway project in the Town of Pacolet to establish a trail. Mr. Mike Garrett presented a detailed scope of this project along with an in-depth scope of the Sunny Acres Road phase of the project.

Mr. Bob Walker moved to approve Representative Tallon's set-aside request in the amount of \$17,000. The motion was seconded and approved.

e. Project request 1056 – Representative Tallon for the Town of Cowpens to upgrade street signs per DOT recommendations and two welcome signs @ \$11,406.82

When the State performed the Spartanburg County CTC audit, they caught that our CTC was allowing some of the Welcome signs to go through and they did not like that, but since this one was already in the works and had already been before the Advisory Committee, they would allow this one, but it would be the last one permitted. Therefore, the CTC Policy has been amended and will be addressed later in the meeting.

Mr. Bob Walker moved to approve the \$11,406.82 to upgrade the Town of Cowpens street signs per DOT recommendations along with the two welcome signs. The motion was seconded and approved.

f. Project request 1057 – Town of Pacolet, Sunny Acres Road safety, additional phase to the Pacolet River Gateway Project \$250,000

Pacolet was once a major source of industry with the textiles. Textiles have not only been lost to the Pacolet area, they have been lost to the nation as well. Therefore, Pacolet is looking back to the river for new an industry which is nature based tourism. This component is very much needed to provide new jobs in a new way for economic development. Mr. Mike Garrett is the Town of Pacolet's consultant explaining the scope of the project.

Mr. Stuart Winslow with Pacolet Milliken, and Mr. Mike Nation with Spartanburg County Parks and Recreation attended the meeting as they both have become partners in this project.

The slides point to the center of the project, but to the north is the Highway 150 Bridge over the Pacolet River. Also, within the vicinity of the project stands an old textile mill which will be renovated into an event/community center and a museum is located on the lower level of the Town Hall.

Lockhart power has a hydro electric plant at the dam. This area is slated to be developed in a recreational mode along the river. Above the dam is a boat take-in and take-out for kayaks and canoes.

People come to Pacolet from the Clifton area. They can take the boat out above the dam. There will be trails constructed above the dam area along the river front to a point below the bridge where boats can be put back in the river. The Pacolet River flows to the Broad River and on down to Columbia.

The road configuration at the entrance to the bridge: Highway 150 comes from the right and there are two significant turning problems. At the Town Hall is a real sharp curve and taking a right to cross the bridge is difficult for trucks due to the turning radius. Truck traffic uses Highway 150 from Union and Jonesville area. Sunny Acres Road is crooked and steep. The request for funding the project will be for much needed road improvements.

The overall picture: At the base of the dam is a Hydro Electric plant – above is a boat takeout, and a parking area. The river walk pathway will be constructed as part of the project.

This proposal is to construct a round-about and re-align Highway 150 in order for truck traffic coming down Hwy 150 to cross the bridge using part of the round-about to make a right turn to go north towards I-85 into the Gaffney area. Sunny Acres road would be re-aligned taking the curve out to go into the round-about location. Sunny Acres Road is very steep and to the right is the amphitheatre (park area). The old roadway curve was put in to avoid Milliken's old boiler room. The proposal is to take out the curve and locate the round-about in the low spot. The cost for the project is about \$810,000.

Truck traffic is taking Highway 150 as a short cut avoiding I-85 and I-26. Highway 150 will take you from Pacolet strait through Gaffney to I-85 and if you take Hwy 150 to Hwy 56, it will take you to I-26. Hence, the heavy truck traffic.

An accident occurred last night with one of the tractor trailers as their load shifted and the truck ended up on its side.

Mr. Tom Arthur visited the sight for two or three hours on a Saturday. The company he is with sends their truck traffic this way. He came back with a much different perspective. He not only witnessed the safety issues involved, but also recognized the fact that commercial commerce is involved. And, now that Bass ProShop is coming in - one of the things they mentioned was the fact that Spartanburg was of interest to them because of the various rivers and streams running through this county.

Large tractor trailers just cannot make the necessary turns. Some trucks pull into a parking area in order to make the 360° turn to get back across the bridge. This is a very awkward truck traffic problem.

The proposed round-about at the Town Hall will be constructed with a 50' radius curve and shrink back into the round-about in order for a truck to make the maneuver. Sunny Acres Drive will tie into the round-about. The round-about would be about 100 feet back from the bridge. Pacolet has met

with DOT Traffic Engineer Eric Dillon several times to go through this layout and they have agreed this is the best approach. Different alternatives have been pursued, but felt this is the best solution.

This design takes out the curve up toward the Hotel. The sketch on Sunny Acres Drive shows how the reverse curve on the steep grade would be taken out of the road as the project would slip onto the Pacolet Milliken property. (Pacolet Milliken has agreed to donate the right-of-way for the project.)

The estimated cost to complete the project is \$810,000.

The Riverwalk trail is a separate funding package that Mayor Harris has acquired for the project at a cost estimate of \$425,000.

The round-about: Mayor Harris has already received \$77,360 from set-aside dollars; \$387,500 from Appalachian Regional Commission (federal dollars); and, the Town of Pacolet is going to contribute \$95,450 in Road Fee money. Pacolet Milliken is donating the right-of-way necessary for the project which makes a total of \$560,000 and C Funds are being requested in the amount of \$250,000 to make up the remaining funds to complete the project.

Mike Garrett states his estimate is conservative with a 10% contingences built in to the estimate. He does not anticipate any overruns.

This project is a \$1.2 M project, with a variety of funding already confirmed. This request will also include the \$17,000 set-aside funding request from Representative Tallon.

Mr. Tom Arthur moved to approve the request up to \$250,000 subject to the other participates contributions. Mr. Bob Walker seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

g. Project request 1058 – City of Spartanburg resurfacing list @ \$350,000.00. Total estimate \$733,271.88 with the City requesting \$350,000 from C Funds and \$383,271.88 Road Fee funds.

The City of Spartanburg submitted a resurfacing list with a total estimated cost of \$733,271.88. The City is requesting \$350,000.00 from C Funds and use \$383,271.88 from their Road Fee funds.

The County resurfacing list was submitted earlier and this is the City resurfacing list for this year.

Mr. Tom Arthur moved to approved \$350,000 to help resurface streets in the City of Spartanburg as submitted. The motion was seconded and approved.

h. Annual CTC/County Contract @ \$264,000

With the beginning a new fiscal year, it is time for the renewal of the CTC County/Contract @ \$264,000. This annual contract has not increased since it's inception in 2000.

Mr. John Throckmorton moved to approve the \$264,000 to validate the CTC/County contract for another fiscal year.

i. Annual Administrative funds @ 2,000

Mr. Bob Walker moved to approve the annual administrative funds @ \$2,000 as stated in the SC Code of laws.

5. Old Business

No old business discussed.

6. New Business

a. Vote of changes to the Approved Policies

After speaking to Mr. Herb Cooper regarding the Wayfinding and Welcome signs, the committee reviewed the policy and decided to make the proper changes.

Section A Standards: Number 5 was added to read: Welcome signs are not considered wayfinding signs and will not be permitted.

And, on line two of item VI. the word various has been changed to **public** points of interest . . .

Wayfinding signs are still permitted to direct traffic to public facilities.

A motion was made to approve the changes in the Wayfinding sign policy. The motion was seconded and approved.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Billy Painter, Chairman

Carol Crowe, Attested