

Lowcountry Area Transportation Study (LATS)

Policy Committee Meeting

Friday, November 17, 2017

10:00 a.m.

TCL New River Campus, Conference Room

Policy Committee Members Present:

Chairman Lisa Sulka, Mayor, Town of Bluffton
Vice Chair Paul Sommerville, Beaufort County
Richard Hamilton, LRTA Board
Robby Robbins, SCDOT Commission
Samuel E. Murray, Mayor, Town of Port Royal
Harry Williams, Mayor, City of Hardeeville

Policy Committee Designees Present:

Stephen Murray, Council, City of Beaufort
Lisa Wagner, Planning Director, Jasper County

Policy Committee Members Absent:

Sen. Tom Davis, Beaufort County Leg.
Delegation
David Bennett, Mayor, Town of Hilton Head
Island
Barbara Clark, Jasper County Council
David Blauch, Chairman, LRTA Board
Billy Keyserling, Mayor, City of Beaufort
Sam Glover, SCDOT Commission
Clifton Parker, SCDOT Commission
Rep. Bill Herbkersman, Jasper County Leg.
Delegation Chairman

Technical Committee Members:

Colin Kinton, Chair, Beaufort County
Mary Lou Franzoni, LRTA Executive Director
Anne Cyran, Planner, Town of Hilton Head

Katie Woodruff, Planner, City of Hardeeville
Kraig Gordon, Chair, Beaufort County CTC

Technical Committee Members Absent:

Lauren Kelly, Planner, City of Beaufort
Linda Bridges, Planning Director, Town of Port
Royal

LCOG Staff Present:

Ginnie Kozak, Planning Director
Lawrence Holdsworth, Regional Planner

SCDOT Staff Present:

Craig Winn, Project Manager
Michael Pitts, Program Management
Kenny Larimore, Program Manager

FHWA Staff Present:

Others Present:

David Spisso, Mayor Pro Tem, City of
Hardeeville
Susan Zellman, LRTA Board
Joe Croley, Lowcountry Inside Track
Mark Wilkes, Director, CORE MPO
Kate Schaeffer, SC Coastal Conservation League
Joe Fragale, Greater Island Council
Ashley Beschell, Moffatt & Nichol
Frank Turano, Engineer, Alliance Consulting

1. Call to Order.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Invocation
- c. Introduction of Members, Guests and Staff
- d. Designees
- e. Action on October 6th, 2017 Meeting Minutes (Draft minutes attached.)
 - i. Approved

2. Old Business.

a. SCDOT Project Update—Craig Winn

ACTION: Information

Mr. Winn provided an overview of projects in the LATS boundary including progress on the widening of US-17 and the development of engineering studies for the US-278 corridor. For more information, reference the full reports on the LCOG website.

<http://www.lowcountrycog.org/Planning/LATS%20-%20SCDOT%20Project%20Status%20Report%20-11.17.2017.pdf>

<http://www.lowcountrycog.org/US%2017%20Status%20Update%2011-17-17.pdf>

b. Beaufort County Project Update—Colin Kinton

ACTION: Information

Mr. Kinton offered details on the progress of the Jenkins Island access management project. Mr. Kinton reported that construction would occur over a 12 month period with nighttime lane closures. Mr. Kinton said that signal retiming for the US-278 corridor is being coordinated with SCDOT Traffic Engineering. For more details on these projects please visit the LCOG website or the Beaufort County Transportation website.

<http://www.lowcountrycog.org/Planning/Project%20Reports/LATS%20Beaufort%20County%20Projects%20Update%2011-17-2017.pdf>

<https://www.bcgov.net/departments/Engineering-and-Infrastructure/traffic-engineering/highway-projects/index.php>

c. LRTA/Palmetto Breeze Update—Mary Lou Franzoni

ACTION: Information

Ms. Franzoni gave information on LRTA activities beginning with the assessment of RFP's for an upcoming urban services planning process. The Palmetto Breeze headquarters requires a roof and HVAC replacement and will be adding a modular building for additional office space. A campus plan is being solicited to guide the logical implementation of improvements. A bid for a backup generator has been awarded. Three trolley busses are out for bid. Cutaway busses will soon be put out for bid. Software systems will be replaced as part of a collaborative bid with SCDOT and several other transit systems.

LRTA is continuing to coordinate with Santee Cooper for the development of a park and ride lot on a utility easement on Burnt Church Road, a project that will eventually need to be incorporated into the TIP to qualify for funding from SCDOT. Ms. Franzoni

provided details relating to the disposal of a LRTP property on Argent Road, which will need to complete a wetland delineation before appraisal.

3. New Business.

- a. Technical Committee recommendation to accept wording provided for Performance Measures amendment to LRTP (attached)

ACTION: Approval

Ms. Kozak explained that the Technical Committee recommended adopting the FHWA draft amendment, with the addition of LATS data, for submission to SCDOT in February. Ms. Kozak will make the necessary adjustments for the Commission's approval in January.

Approved.

4. Other Business.

Ms. Sulka introduced Stephen Murray as the Chairman of the Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Williams offered details on a recent visit by Senator Graham to Jasper County, where upcoming projects such as the Jasper County Airport improvements, the Jasper Ocean Terminal, and the development of Exit 3 were emphasized for their potential regional impacts. Mr. Williams offered that a recent traffic study has shown that without the addition of Exit 3, Exit 5 will not be able to handle forecasted traffic. Mr. Williams said that Hardeeville's population is expected to rise from 5,800 to 21,000 in the next 10 years.

Ms. Sulka said that the Southern Lowcountry Regional Board is drafting a regional plan, and that LATS would play a key role in the transportation aspects.

5. Public Comment Period.

6. Next Meeting. Voting Members Workshop—January 2018; Regular Meeting—February 9, 2018.

7. ADJOURN.