

MINUTES
SUATS POLICY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024, @ 12:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
(21 N. MAIN STREET, SUMTER, SC)

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: County Council Chairman **James T. McCain**; Sumter Economic Development Board President & CEO **Jay Schwedler**; City Councilman **Colin Davis**; County Councilman **James Byrd, Jr.**; Sumter CTC Chairman **Hugh M. McLaurin, IV**; State Representative **J. David Weeks**; Planning Commission Chairman **James Munford**; Sumter County Manager **Gary Mixon** (*non-voting*), SCDOT Commissioner, 5th District **Curtis Spencer** (*non-voting*); Shaw Air Force Base Planner **Ashley Nichols** (*non-voting*); and SWRTA Executive Director **Tanisha Gibbons** (*non-voting*).

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: The Honorable Mayor **David P. Merchant**; State Senator **Jeff Zell**; State Representative **G. Murrell Smith**; Sumter City Manager **Deron McCormick** (*non-voting*) and SCDOT 6th District Commissioner **John Barnwell Fishburne** (*non-voting*).

OTHERS PRESENT: (See sign-in sheet)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Senior Planner **Kyle Kelly**, Planning Director **Helen Roodman**, and Executive Assistant **Kellie Chapman**.

A meeting of the Sumter Area Transportation Study (SUATS) Policy Committee was held on Friday, February 21, 2025, @ 12:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers (21 N. Main St., Sumter, SC). Committee Chairman James T. McCain called the meeting to order.

A motion to approve the agenda for the February 21, 2025, meeting was made by Councilman Byrd and seconded by Councilman Davis. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2024, meeting was made by Mr. Schwedler and seconded by Councilman Byrd. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

Mr. Kyle Kelly introduced Ms. Amber Martin, a high school senior in Sumter, is part of the Sumter Emerging Leaders Program. Ms. Martin will be shadowing the SUATS Technical and Policy Committees during the year as part of the Emerging Leaders program.

Amendment #2 to SUATS Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

The 2025 SUATS Long-Range Transportation Plan serves as the area's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and identifies ways that SUATS plans to invest in the area's transportation system looking at least 25 years into the future. The LRTP includes both a description of the transportation vision for the region as well as a detailed list of policies, operational strategies, and specific projects to achieve the vision.

The SCDOT Office of Planning has completed the 2025 System Performance Report that

reflects SCDOT's progress towards statewide performance measures that are included in our Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP). The report is part of federal regulatory requirements 23 CFR 450.324 (f) (3-4).

Mr. Kelly introduced Ms. Erin Porter from SCDOT to present the 2024 System Performance Report.

Ms. Porter presented the System Performance Report baseline, performance/condition measures, targets and the progress made toward achieving those targets. The performance measures are a part of SCDOT's Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP). SCDOT's TAMP has been developed in a collaborative effort with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The plan has been designed to not only satisfy federal rulemaking, but to transcend these requirements by setting 10-year performance estimates for all state maintained roads and bridges.

To ensure statewide consistency, SCDOT has asked all MPOs to amend their LRTPs to include the 2024 System Performance Report as an Appendix.

A motion to adopt Amendment #2 to SUATS Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), subject to completion of a 30-day public comment period was made by Councilman Byrd and seconded by Mr. Schwedler. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

Revision #7 to FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the SUATS area's transportation capital improvement program, which contains a matrix of transportation projects consistent with federal regulations and area policies and strategies. The TIP serves as a planning tool to ensure the most effective use of limited funding for transportation improvements. Federal transportation legislation requires that transportation improvements be identified in the TIP to be eligible for federal funding.

The proposed Revision #7 to the current TIP for FFY2024-2033, which incorporates the following modifications:

1. **Adjust** project boundaries for Project #P042862 (E./W. Calhoun St. Corridor Improvement) to now extend from N. Washington St. to Daconia St.
2. **Add** additional PE funds in FY25 for E./W. Calhoun St. Corridor in the amount of \$185,000.
3. **Add** additional Construction (C) funds in FY26 for E./W. Calhoun St. Corridor in the amount of \$1,385,000.
4. **Shift** \$2,200,000 in Construction (C) funds for W. Liberty St. Corridor project from FY25 to FY26.
5. **Incorporate** exact carryover balance of \$16,856,557.58 for FY2025 per SCDOT Financial Statement.

A motion to adopt Revision #7 to the SUATS Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) makes the content of this revision and "Amendment", subject to completion of a 21-day public comment period was made by Representative Weeks and seconded by

Councilman Byrd. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

Proposed Bylaws Revisions

This agenda item was presented at the December 2024 SUATS Policy Committee meeting, with action deferred by the Committee so that staff could provide additional recommendations and bylaws references for selection of the individual Resident Advisory Committee members. That additional detail is presented for the Policy Committee's review in Enclosure #5.

The SUATS Policy Committee maintains the SUATS MPO's organizational bylaws to provide for the transaction of business in the development and administration of transportation planning in the designated study area located within Sumter County, South Carolina.

The current organizational bylaws were last revised in June 2024.

Staff proposes revisions to the SUATS Bylaws, as follows:

1. Shift Technical Committee Section from III to V to make the document more internally consistent.
2. Clarify that Section II and III reference the Policy Committee only.
3. Add new Section VI establishing Resident Advisory Committee. The Resident Advisory Committee would function as a public information and involvement committee and provide a forum for additional inputs on transportation issues and problems, review of transportation reports and recommendations to ensure that resident concerns are considered, and direct issues of public concern to the attention of the Policy Committee.

A motion to adopt the presented revisions to the organizational bylaws was made by Representative Weeks and seconded by Mr. McLaurin and carried a unanimous vote.

Old Business Agenda Item #1 - Active Projects Update

Mr. Kelly provided a status update on current area transportation improvement projects funded via the Sumter Penny for Progress sales tax initiative and SUATS Regional Mobility Program. The briefing focused on the implementation schedules for each major phase of work.

Respectfully submitted,
Kellie K. Chapman
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Board Secretary