



**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
SUMMARY MINUTES  
November 22, 2024 – 12:00 p.m.  
Rock Hill Operations Center – Room 132**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian Carnes; Guynn Savage; John Gettys; Jose Luis; Christi Cox; Michael Johnson (P); Tom Audette; Ben Hudgins (P); Chris Gray; Kevin Sutton; Watts Huckabee; Health Sessions (P) and Jim Reno.

**ADMINISTRATIVE / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:**

Patrick Hamilton (York County); Josh Meetze (SCDOT); Leah Youngblood (City of Rock Hill); Tony Edwards (SCDOT); Penelope Karagounis (Town of Fort Mill); Chris Herrmann (City of Rock Hill); Jim Walden (SCDOT); Yijun Zou (SCDOT); Diane Dil (York County); Tommy Feemster (SCDOT); Christopher Stephens (York County); David Vebaun (City of Rock Hill); Jimmy Bagley (City of Rock Hill); Jason Johnston (SCDOT); Cliff Goolsby (City of Rock Hill); Cary Vargo (Town of Fort Mill); Jonathan Buono (York County); Rob Ruth (City of Rock Hill); Scot Sibert (STV, Inc); Andrew Fisher (STV, Inc); Alex Wiseman (STV, Inc); Kim Shepard (City of Rock Hill); and David Hooper (RFATS).

**CITIZENS / VISITORS PRESENT:** John Marks (Herald); Cleopatra Allen (CAC); Jim Van Blarcom (CAC); Randall Young (JMT); Brandon Murr (Kimley-Horn); Elizabeth Harris (FS Advisors - TAS); Tony Spacek (Kimley-Horn); Liz Duda (Tega Cay Resident); Phil Leazer (KCI); David Kerns (HDR); David Speer (HDR); Frank Myers (CAC); Heather Jones; and Stephen Comer (Lancaster County);

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

**a. Welcome** – Chair Carnes called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and welcomed all in attendance.

**b. Citizen Comment Period** – No comments were made at this time.

**2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Carnes asked if there were any changes, deletions, or comments to the minutes of the October 25, 2024 meeting. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to approve; this was seconded by Mr. Gettys and unanimously approved.

**3. REPORTS:**

**a. SCDOT Project Status Report** – Mr. Meetze provided a brief overview of existing project priorities and material progress at each location.

**4. PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Celanese / I-77 Interchange Evaluation Study** – Mr. Fisher outlined the working short list of alternative configurations; in particular, their operational layout; expected improvement outputs as well as the expected useful life of each option. Discussion then followed regarding the principal variables affecting corridor demand level as additional development moves further west towards York and Clover.

Mr. Gettys then made a motion to defer any action in support of an alternative until the next meeting in January 2025; seconded by Ms. Savage and unanimously approved.

**b. 2055 Long Range Transportation Plan Update Project List** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed principal points of discussion from the October Workshop on the 2055 LRTP Update; and then focused each of the project components of the draft project list (i.e., cost constrained; Pennies funding; unfunded new alignments; intersections; bicycle / pedestrian and transit service provision. Discussion then briefly followed regarding the significant investments made along I-77 and the completion of debt service in 2032. Mr. Sutton then made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Cox and the project list was unanimously passed.

**c. CAC Reappointments** – Mr. Hooper noted the contributions that Mr. Jim Van Blarcom and Mr. Frank Myers have made to the Citizens Advisory Committee over the years and recommended their reappointment. Mr. Carnes then made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Savage and unanimously approved.

**d. 2025 Policy Committee Meeting Schedule** – Mr. Hooper briefly reviewed the proposed schedule for 2025 and then requested its approval. Mr. Huckabee then asked about the comments offered by Ms. Duda to “live stream” or Zoom meetings. Discussion then followed about the importance of “in-person” participation and the favorable impact from such an approach. As a point of reference, Mr. Hooper then summarized the range of practices among MPOs; the contrast between the work of MPOs versus city / county meetings (i.e., technical context; procedural variables, etc.). Mr. Sutton then called for the question. Mr. Carnes then made a motion for approval; seconded by Mr. Gettys and the motion was unanimously approved.

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**a. Next Meeting** – Mr. Carnes noted that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2025.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT:**

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Carnes and seconded by Ms. Savage; the motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 P.M.