

**MINUTES
OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, August 14, 2008; 1:30 p.m.
1st Floor Community Room
City/School Administration Center
Rapid City, South Dakota**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mason Short – Rapid City Regional Airport, Bob Mallow – Meade County Commissioner, Jerry Shoener – South Dakota Transportation Commission, Mayor Alan Hanks – City of Rapid City, Ethan Schmidt – Pennington County Commissioner and Lloyd LaCroix – Rapid City City Council for Deb Hadcock

OTHERS PRESENT: Terry Keller and Tim Bjornberg – South Dakota Department of Transportation, Marcia Elkins, Monica Heller and Jeanne Nicholson – Rapid City Growth Management Department, and Jim Bailey

Vice Chairperson Shoener called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2008 AND JULY 23, 2008 MEETINGS

Mallow moved, Short seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2008 and July 23, 2008 meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

Construction Updates

Remmich reported that Exit 61 is opened and that minor cleanup work is being completed. He added that a ribbon cutting ceremony is being held on August 18, 2008. He stated that the eastbound lanes of South Dakota East Highway 44 are finished and that traffic is being rerouted to these lanes so that work can start on the westbound lanes. He added that the Sturgis Service Road is finished and that cleanup work is being completed. He also reported that the Exit 52 interchange is about 50% complete with an anticipated completion date of October 30, 2009 and that the bridge rehabilitation work near Box Elder will be starting soon.

In response to a question from Mayor Hanks regarding the condition of Elk Vale Road north of Mall Drive, Tim Bjornberg from the South Dakota Department of Transportation advised that the improvements to Elk Vale Road north of Mall Drive should begin shortly and be completed yet this year.

Heller reported that the Anamosa Street project west of LaCrosse Street should be completed in December and that Mall Drive is approximately 45% complete.

Study Updates

Heller informed the Committee that a Special Planning Commission meeting for the 2008 Rapid City Area Future Land Use Plan Overview and the Southeast Connector Neighborhood Area Future Land Use Plan was held on August 13, 2008. She added that another Special Planning Commission meeting has been scheduled for August 25, 2008 for the West Rapid Neighborhood Area Future Land Use Plan. She noted that all of these plans should be available for Committee review at the September 18, 2008 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the Sheridan Lake Road Jackson Boulevard to Deadwood Avenue Traffic Analysis and Route Alignment Study – Draft Report

Heller advised that this study was a result of the Jackson Boulevard Extension Study that was completed several years ago. Heller reviewed the study boundaries and the proposed alignments of the different segments of Sheridan Lake Road from Jackson Boulevard to Canyon Lake Road, from Canyon Lake Road to West Main Street, from West Main Street to West Chicago Street and from West Chicago Street to Deadwood Avenue. She noted that the study indicates that the cost of the project is not economically feasible at this time and that traffic counts indicate that this extension would not eliminate traffic congestion in the “Gap”. She stated that the study recommends that the City look at reserving right-of-way along West Chicago Street and Deadwood Avenue in the event that the land uses change drastically in the future. Discussion followed.

Mallow moved, Short seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Sheridan Lake Road Jackson Boulevard to Deadwood Avenue Traffic Analysis and Route Alignment Study Draft Report.

2008 – 2012 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #08-015

Heller informed the Committee that this amendment is to add the right-of-way phase in 2008 to the East Anamosa Street project east of Walmart to East North Street.

Mallow moved, LaCroix seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2008 – 2012 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #08-015.

2009 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program – Final Report

Heller provided a revised copy to the Committee members and reviewed the items that have been changed. She noted that the City has decided that Mall Drive between Haines Avenue and LaCrosse Street needs to be reconstructed as soon as possible, delaying the Anamosa Street project between Midway Street and Milwaukee Street. She requested that the Committee approve the Final Report and authorize staff to make minor changes to the report.

Mallow moved, LaCroix seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2009 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program Final Report and authorize staff to make minor changes to the report.

Fiscal Year 2009 Capital Grants for 5309/5310 Vehicles

Heller advised that the Coordinated Transit Plan was adopted in 2007 and stipulates that grants need to be reviewed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization to ensure that services are being coordinated, not duplicated. She noted that the Black Hill Workshop and Youth and Family Services have submitted grants for replacement vehicles. Heller requested that Committee to support the grants.

LaCroix moved, Mayor Hanks seconded and motion carried unanimously to support the grants and to authorize staff to submit them to the South Dakota Department of Transportation for approval.

Socio-Economic Report

Heller advised that the Socio-Economic Report and the 2008 Rapid City Area Future Land Use Plan Overview contain similar information. She added that both of these items will be on the agenda for the September 18, 2008 meeting.

Mayor Hanks moved, Short seconded and motion carried unanimously to continue the Socio-Economic Report to the September 18, 2008 meeting.

Schmidt departed the meeting at this time.

OTHER

South Dakota Department of Transportation - Presentation on I90 Environmental Assessment

Terry Keller, South Dakota Department of Transportation, advised that an Environmental Assessment was completed for I90 between Exit 40 and Exit 51. He reviewed zoning, the rebuilding of service road, interchanges and mainline lanes, water utilities, drainage, right-of-way, public participation and the timeline for the design work, and the mainline and service road construction. A brief discussion followed.

In response to a question from Elkins regarding the completion of the study for the US Highway 16/16B interchange, Keller advised that the study is about 50% complete and that a draft should be available this fall.

2009 Meeting Dates

Heller requested the Committee members to review the proposed meeting dates and to let staff know if there are any conflicts. She added that action will be taken on the proposed meeting dates at the September 18, 2008 meeting.

There being no further business, Short moved, Mallow seconded and motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2:17 p.m.