

**MINUTES
OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 29, 2007; 1:30 p.m.
1st Floor Community Room
City/School Administration Center
Rapid City, South Dakota**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Curt Nupen – Meade County Commissioner, Bob Mallow – Meade County Commissioner, Ken Simmons for Mason Short – Rapid City Regional Airport, Mayor Dial – City of Box Elder, Nancy Trautman – Pennington County Commissioner, Malcom Chapman – Rapid City City Council, Ethan Schmidt – Pennington County Commissioner, Marcia Elkins – Growth Management Director for Mayor Shaw and Terry Keller – South Dakota Department of Transportation for Jerry Shoener

OTHERS PRESENT: Monica Heller and Jeanne Nicholson – Rapid City Growth Management Department, Mark Hoines – Federal Highway Administration and Steve Hoff – HDR Engineering, Inc.

Chairperson Nupen called the meeting to order.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

Elkins introduced Monica Heller as the new Community Planning Coordinator. She noted that Tim Roberts as been hired as the Transportation Planning Coordinator and that he will start on May 22, 2007.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2007 MEETING

Mallow moved, Keller seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2007 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Construction Updates

Heller advised that the section of Mountain View Road between Canyon Lake Road and West Main Street will close next week. She added that at the Technical Coordinating Committee meeting, Rich Sagen from Rapid Transit advised that Rapid Transit was not notified of the closure of Mountain View Road. She added that work has started on Exit 61 and that the anticipated completion date for this project is July, 2008.

Elkins advised that no reports were available from the City or County.

Study Updates

Elkins advised that staff is working with the consultant on the contract for the Mt. Rushmore Road study. She added that no progress reports are available for the Southeast Connector Future Land Use Plan and the Sheridan Lake Road Traffic Analysis.

NEW BUSINESS

Metropolitan Planning Organization 101 Presentation

Mark Hoines, Federal Highway Administration, provided a video about the Metropolitan Planning Organization process. The video addressed the required documents, vision and goals, public participation, land use and the different modes of transportation.

Hoines briefly reviewed the SAFETEA-LU requirements for preparing the Transportation Improvement Program and the Long Range Transportation Plan. He added that South Dakota is a minimum state which means that the State receives a minimum amount of Federal funds regardless of the number of Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the state. This means that Sioux Falls and Rapid City have funding available for special studies and projects.

US Highway 16/16B Presentation – SD Department of Transportation

Keller informed the Committee that HDR Engineering, Inc. has been hired as the consultant to do the feasibility and traffic study for the US Highway 16/16B interchange.

Steve Hoff, HDR Engineering, Inc., presented the proposed alignments for the US Highway 16/16B interchange, the section line road intersection and the Moon Meadows Road/Sammis Trail intersection. He reviewed the goals, designs parameter and rearage road system. He pointed out that the study indicates that the single point interchange is preferred because this type of interchange allows for continued growth and one location for signalization. A brief discussion followed.

Schmidt departed the meeting at this time.

Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Listing of Obligated Transportation Projects

Elkins informed the Committee that this is a new annual report required by SAFETEA-LU and that previously the Committee approved the South Dakota Department of Transportation's report. She added that this report is for the City of Rapid City, Pennington County and Meade County projects. She noted that this report allows for tracking of the projects listed in the Transportation Improvement Program

Mallow moved, Simmons seconded and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge the Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Listing of Obligated Transportation Projects Report.

Citizens' Advisory Committee, Technical Coordinating Committee and Executive Policy Committee Bylaw Amendments and Operations Plan Update

Elkins advised that the Bylaws and the Operation Plan were updated to include the Rapid City School District, Douglas School District and Meade County School District 46-1 as members of the Technical Coordinating Committee, to remove the Rapid City School District from the membership of the Executive Policy Committee and to add the Box Elder City Council to the membership of the Executive Policy Committee.

Simmons moved, Mayor Dial seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Citizens' Advisory Committee, Technical Coordinating Committee and Executive Policy Committee Bylaws and the Operations Plan Update.

Amendments to the 2007 Unified Planning Work Program and the 2007 Unified Planning Work Program Agreement

Elkins informed that Committee that these amendments allow for the roll over of funds from the 2006 Unified Planning Work Program into the 2007 Unified Planning Work Program to complete unfinished projects.

Mallow moved, Mayor Dial seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the amendments to the 2007 Unified Planning Work Program and the 2007 Unified Planning Work Program Agreement.

2007 – 2011 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #07-012

Elkins advised that the South Dakota Department of Transportation is changing the funding source for the East Mall Drive project. She added that staff needs to further review the dollar amounts and requested the Committee to approve the amendment subject to staff review of the dollar amounts.

Chapman moved, Simmons seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the 2007 – 2011 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #07-012 and to authorize staff to correct the dollar amount if it is necessary.

Participation Plan

Elkins requested the Committee to continue this item to the next meeting.

Mayor Dial moved, Mallow seconded and motion carried unanimously to continue the Participation Plan to the next meeting.

Joint Cooperative Agreement Amendment

Elkins noted that the only change was to correctly identify the Rapid City Planning Department as the Rapid City Growth Management Department.

Chapman moved, Mayor Dial seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the Joint Cooperative Agreement Amendment.

2006 Annual Report

Elkins advised that the Annual Report identifies what work has been completed and what funds were expended in 2006.

Mallow moved, Keller seconded and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge the 2006 Annual Report.

2004 – 2006 Pedestrian & Bicyclist Crash Report

Elkins thanked John Less for completing this document. She added that John indicated that there has been a slight drop in the number of crashes and that he wants to include accident information from the entire Metropolitan Planning Organization in the next report. Elkins noted that the Safe Streets Committee has applied for a grant for public education.

Chapman moved, Simmons seconded and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge the 2004 – 2006 Pedestrian & Bicyclist Crash Report.

Socio-Economic Report

Elkins stated that the information in this report is from building permit activity and that more information from the outlying areas should be included in the report when it becomes available.

Mallow moved, Keller seconded and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge the Socio-Economic Report.

OTHER

In response to Nupen's question regarding 150th Avenue, Heller advised that when Liberty Boulevard was built, the curb cut for 150th Avenue was constructed. She added that Transportation Planning funds cannot be used for the design work for 150th Avenue.

Hoines advised that the South Dakota Department of Transportation is hosting a conference April 24-26 at the Ramkota in Rapid City. The registration fee for this conference is \$150.00. If anyone is interested in attending, let me know.

A brief discussion followed regarding the length of the acceleration lane for the eastbound traffic at Exit 61.

There being no further business, Simmons moved, Mallow seconded and motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

