

**MINUTES
SUATS POLICY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2020 @ 3:00 P.M.
SUMTER OPERA HOUSE THEATER**

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: The Honorable Mayor **Joseph T. McElveen, Jr.**; Chairman; County Council Chairman **James T. McCain, Jr.**; Sumter CTC Chairman **Hugh M. McLaurin, IV**; State Representative **J. David Weeks**; City Councilman **Thomas J. Lowery**; County Councilman **James Byrd, Jr.**, and Sumter Economic Development Board President representative **Eliza Buxton** (as proxy for Greg Thompson)

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: State Representative **G. Murrell Smith**, State Senator **J. Thomas McElveen, III.**; Shaw Air Force Base Commander Col. **Derek O'Malley**, SCDOT 5th District Commissioner **David E. "Gene" Branham**, Sumter County Administrator **Gary Mixon**, SCDOT 6th District Commissioner **John Barnwell Fishburne**. Planning Commission Chairwoman **Sandra McBride**; and Sumter City Manager **Deron McCormick**.

OTHERS PRESENT: (See sign-in sheet)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Senior Planner **Kyle Kelly** and Executive Assistant **Kellie Chapman**

A meeting of the Sumter Area Transportation Study (SUATS) Policy Committee was held on Friday, October 2, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. Chairman James T. McCain, Jr. called the meeting to order.

A motion to approve the agenda for the October 2, 2020 meeting was made by Mr. Weeks and seconded by Mr. McLaurin. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 29, 2020 meeting was made by Mr. Weeks and seconded by Mr. McLaurin. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Revision #1 to FY2021-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Kelly briefed the committee on the adoption of the new Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) covering federal fiscal years 2021-2027. The TIP is SUATS' transportation capital projects plan maintained consistent with federal regulations and local policies. The *FAST Act* requires inclusion of all federally assisted and regionally significant transportation projects.

Mr. Kelly informed the Committee that revisions contained in the proposed amendment include:

1. **Increase bridge replacement construction budget for US 76/378 Bypass over US-15 (#P030439) from \$5.9 million to \$17.9 million.**

2. **Increase bridge replacement construction budget for US 76/378 Bypass over US-76 Bus. (#P030461) from \$5.9 million to \$17.1 million.**
3. **Addition of Project: Sumter Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan project to be funded by Guideshare account, at \$160,000.**
4. **Addition of Project: US-378 (Robert E. Graham Freeway) Operational and Design Improvement Project Planning Stage at \$200,000.**
5. **Project Scope Change: US-378 at N. St. Paul's Church Rd. Intersection Improvements to add Oleander Dr. to the project scope.**

Mr. Kelly stated that staff recommends that the Policy Committee approve the proposed Revision #1 to the SUATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FFY2021-2027 and open the required 21-day public comment period.

A motion to adopt Revision #1 to the SUATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FFY2021-2027 was made by Mr. McLaurin and seconded by Mr. Weeks. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Proposed Changes to Selected SUATS Area Functional Classifications

Mr. Kelly briefed the Committee that several SUATS roadway segments are currently classified differently from their existing and/or desired uses. Changes to functional classifications move roadway segments into and out of various funding allocations for resurfacing. For example, moving a road from minor collector to local access will mean it is not eligible for certain paving funds, but eligible for others. However, moving a road to a higher intensity use (such as from minor collector to major arterial) does not automatically mean that it will be paved more frequently, as there are strata of funding allocations for different road classes.

Mr. Kelly stated that the current roadways proposed for revision of functional classification are:

Route Name	Route Number	<i>Begin</i>	<i>End</i>	Current Functional Classification	Proposed Functional Classification
E. Calhoun St. Ext.	S-307	<i>Fort St.</i>	<i>Salterstown Rd.</i>	Major Collector	Local
Fort St.	S-333	<i>E. Liberty St.</i>	<i>E. Calhoun St. Ext.</i>	Local	Major Collector

Mr. Kelly added that Functional Classification are also used by the Sumter City-County Planning Department to inform various elements of the City and County Zoning and Land Development Ordinances, including front yard setbacks.

Mr. Kelly stated that staff recommends that the Policy Committee approved the proposed

list of Functional Classification adjustments.

A motion to adopt the proposed list for Functional Classification adjustments was made by Mr. McLaurin and seconded by Mr. Byrd. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

N. Main St. and Manning Ave. Corridor Revitalization Projects

Mr. Kelly provided an update on the N. Main St. and Manning Ave. Corridor Revitalization Projects. The update focused on the costs associated with the project, timeline, and additional considerations related to the feasibility of adding utility undergrounding to the project scope. Mr. Kelly noted that in order to meet SCDOT's current design standards for stormwater drainage, an estimated 23 conflict boxes would need to be used on the Manning Ave. corridor. Due to the maintenance challenges and liabilities associated with conflict boxes, SCDOT has indicated that they are unwilling to approve the plan with that number to conflict boxes included.

Mr. Kelly mentioned that the City of Sumter is currently engaging with SCDOT on the possibility of assuming ownership of the roadways post-construction in order to apply a "replace in-kind" methodology for stormwater drainage (in lieu of SCDOT statewide requirements that would escalate costs, timeline, and ROW required).

Mr. Kelly added that SCDOT is currently reviewing the revised conceptual drainage plans developed by the City of Sumter Engineering Department. Once an agreement is made regarding the path forward on utility alignment, the project design consultant estimates approximately 10 months for design updates and completion of construction plans prior to letting.

Mr. Kelly stated that the material provided was for the Committee's information only. Should the Policy Committee desire to make a decision regarding funding additional utility relocation work as part of the projects, the item would need to be added to a future meeting agenda for Policy Committee review and approval.

Active Projects Update

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

With no further business, Mr. Byrd made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. McLaurin and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie K. Chapman

Kellie K. Chapman
Board Secretary