

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

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** The Honorable Mayor **David P. Merchant**; County Council Chairman **James T. McCain**; County Councilman **James Byrd, Jr.**; Sumter CTC Chairman **Hugh M. McLaurin, IV**; Sumter Economic Development Board President & CEO **Jay Schwedler**; City Councilman **Colin Davis**; Planning Commission Chairman **James Munford**; Shaw Air Force Base Representative **Ashley Nichols** (*non-voting*); and SWRTA Executive Director **Tanisha Gibbons** (*non-voting*).

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** State Representative **J. David Weeks**; State Senator **J. Thomas McElveen, III**; State Representative **G. Murrell Smith**; SCDOT Commissioner, 5<sup>th</sup> District **Curtis Spencer** (*non-voting*); and SCDOT 6<sup>th</sup> District Commissioner **John Barnwell Fishburne** (*non-voting*); Sumter County Manager **Gary Mixon** (*non-voting*), and Sumter City Manager **Deron McCormick** (*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, October 18, 2024, @ 12:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers (21 N. Main St., Sumter, SC). Chairman James T. McCain called the meeting to order.

A motion to approve the agenda for the October 18, 2024, meeting was made by Mr. McLaurin and seconded by Mr. Byrd. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2024, meeting was made by Mayor Merchant and seconded by Mr. Schwedler. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item #1 - Amendment #1 to SUATS 2050 LRTP – 2021-2025 Safety Performance Measure Targets**

The Long-Range Transportation Plan is used as the guide for how SUATS plans to invest in the area's transportation system over a 20 or more year period. Federal regulations and SCDOT Planning Procedure Agreement PL-2017-01 require that MPO Long Range Transportation Plans include Safety Performance Measure Targets for urbanized areas. MPOs can support all State-established targets, establish their own targets for all categories, or any combination.

To accomplish this requirement, staff is proposing Amendment #1 to the current 2050 LRTP to adopt the Statewides Annual Safety Performance Measure Targets for the 5-year average period covering 2021-2025, as follows:

Measure	Statewide 2021-2025 Targets	SUATS 2019-2023 Averages
Number of Fatalities	1,081.6	18.8
Fatality Rate*	1.775	2.413
Number of Serious Injuries	2,782.2	53.4
Serious Injury Rate*	4.567	6.854
Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	479.8	8.4

A motion to adopt Amendment #1 to the SUATS Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), subject to a 30-day public comment period was made by Mayor Merchant and seconded by Mr. Davis. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item #2 - 2050 LRTP Projects to be Advanced to SUATS FY2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

SUATS currently has a projected \$47.3 million balance available for the FY2024-2033 TIP window.

While remaining phases for some existing projects (e.g. West Liberty Street) and potential cost increases for active projects are likely to require a portion of these available funds, there remains an opportunity to begin planning the next SUATS Regional Mobility Program projects.

The current SUATS 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan separates projects containing an emphasis on motorized transportation from those in which the emphasis is on non-motorized transportation. The categories are further separated by type, with intersection projects and corridor projects each listed separately.

Staff reviewed the current LRTP projects list extensively, and has identified candidate projects for potential advancement in each category, including the following:

Project ID	Project Name	Project Type	Project Cost Estimate
S-5	Broad Street Corridor Improvements	Roadway Corridor	PE - \$890,000 ROW - \$600,000 C - \$4,080,000
IO-4	Broad St. at Mason Rd. Intersection Improvement	Roadway Intersection	PE - \$310,000 ROW - \$125,000 C - \$1,440,000
G-7	Palmetto Park Greenway Connector	Walk + Bike	PL - \$200,000 PE - TBD ROW - TBD C - TBD
RD-4	N./S. Harvin Street Retrofit	Roadway Corridor	PE - \$220,000 ROW - \$1,000 C - \$980,000
G-2/ G-21	Turkey Creek Greenway, Phase 1 Lafayette Dr. Sidepath	Walk + Bike	PE - \$1,300,000 / \$70,000 ROW - \$750,000 / \$300,000 C - TBD / \$320,000

A motion to approve funding specified phases all 6 proposed projects as outlined in the above chart and include them in Revision #5 to the SUATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY2024-2033, subject to a 21-day public comment period was made by Mr. Byrd and seconded by Mayor Merchant. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item #3 - Revision #5 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.

Revision #5 to the current TIP for FFY2024-2033, incorporates the following modifications:

1. **Reduce** Right-of-Way phase for US-76 over US-76 Business Bridge Project from \$230,000 to \$0.
2. **Reduce** Construction phase for US-76 over US-76 Business Bridge Project from \$21,375,000 to \$0.
3. **Shift** Right-of-Way phase for US-76 over US-15 Bridge Project from FY 2024 to FY2025.
4. **Shift** Construction phase for US-76 over US-15 Bridge Project from FY2027 to FY2026.
5. **Increase** Construction phase for Project P039228 (Miller Rd Bridge over Shot Pouch Creek) from \$4,155,000 to \$5,600,000.
6. **Change funding source** for Project P039228 (Miller Rd. Bridge over Shot Pouch Creek) from STBGP (Federal source) to SFP (State source).
7. **Add** Broad St Corridor Improvement Project (Miller Rd. to Warren St.), with Engineering and Design phase at \$890,000, Right-of-Way phase at \$600,000, and Construction phase at \$4,080,000.
8. **Add** Lafayette Drive Sidepath Project (Crosswell Dr. Park to Sumter Police Dept.), with Engineering and Design phase at \$70,000, Right-of-Way phase at \$300,000, and Construction phase at \$320,000.
9. **Add** Broad St. at Mason Rd. Intersection Project, with Engineering and Design phase at \$310,000, Right-of-Way phase at \$125,000, and Construction phase at \$1,440,000.
10. **Add** Palmetto Park Greenway Connector Project, with Planning/Feasibility phase at \$200,000.
11. **Add** N./S. Harvin St. Complete Street Retrofit Project, with Engineering and Design phase at \$220,000, Right-of-Way Phase at \$1,000, and Construction phase at \$980,000.
12. **Add** Turkey Creek Greenway, Phase 1, with Engineering and Design phase at \$1,300,000 and Right-of-Way phase at \$750,000.

SCDOT policy regarding the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) makes the content of this revision an "Amendment", which requires a 21-day public comment period

and SCDOT Commission or Secretary of Transportation validation.

A motion to adopt Revision #5 to the SUATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the SUATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), in the category of an “Amendment”, and open a 21-day public comment period was made by Mr. Byrd and seconded by Mayor Merchant. The motion carried a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item #4 - 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.

Chairman McCain accepted the update on behalf of the Policy Committee, and no action was taken.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kellie K. Chapman*

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Board Secretary