

**Tuscaloosa County Road Improvement Commission (TCRIC)
Meeting Minutes - - - April 1, 2022
Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama**

Commission Member Attendees: Mayor Walt Maddox– Chairman; Judge Rob Robertson; Jim Page; Rep. Rich Wingo

Other Attendees: Sen. Gerald Allen; Rep. Cynthia Lee Almond; Alyce Spruell; Kelly Johns; Kim Palm; Glenda Webb; David Kemp; Wallace McAdory; Carly Standridge; Scott Holmes; Tom Bobitt; Richard Rush; John McWilliams; Tera Tubbs; Ron Bolton; Bill Lamb; Chris Crawford; Justin Fisher; Bryan Gurney; Ethan Hand; Mike Mahaffey; Mark McKinley; Scott Anders; Zach Wolfe; Edward Henderson; Clay Randolph; Bob Geolias; Scott Harrington; Paul Connolly; Tim Weaver; Allen Parrish; Ron David; Brendon Moore

Mayor Maddox called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

Mayor Maddox presented the minutes of February 28, 2022 TCRIC meeting.

Vote: Minutes of the February 28, 2022 meeting was unanimously approved after a motion by Judge Robertson seconded by Rep. Wingo.

Summary of Bills

A summary of bills was presented for the Commission’s consideration.

Vote: A motion to pay bills as presented was made by Rep. Wingo seconded by Judge Robertson and approved unanimously.

Financial Report

Kim Palm presented the accounting report. The ledger balance as of March 25, 2022 was \$17,439,635.58. The interest earned in February 2022 was \$373.87. The March 2022 deposit (January 2022 sales tax collected) was \$853,000 (19.87% increase over the prior year). The projected and actual accrual basis revenues for Fiscal Year 2022 to date are \$3,273,200 and \$3,715,300, respectively. Project expenditures to date (for Fiscal Year 2022) is \$1,906,572. Operating expenses to date totals \$49,456.

Vote: A motion to approve the financial report, as presented, was made by Judge Robertson seconded by Mr. Page and approved unanimously.

Resolution 22-007

TCRIC Legal Counsel Alyce Spruell presented the resolution to approve the payment of \$155,250 requested by the City of Tuscaloosa for reimbursement of Right of Way acquisition costs for the McWright’s Ferry Road project. The TCRIC funding agreement provides that the City can seek interim project cost reimbursement prior to obtaining its bond to finance this project. Spruell explained that the amount budgeted for Fiscal Year 2022 had been maximized and a budget amendment would be required if this request was approved.

Vote: After discussion, a motion to adopt Resolution 22-007 was made by Judge Robertson, seconded by Rep. Wingo and approved unanimously.

Resolution 22-008

Alyce Spruell presented the resolution to authorize the request for a direct payment of \$3,393,146 by the City of Tuscaloosa for property acquisition costs not deemed reimbursable by the City’s 2020-A Bond for the Jack Warner Parkway/ Martin Luther King Blvd Project Improvements. The direct payment request was initiated by an invoice from the City to TCRIC dated March 11, 2022; the total invoice amount was \$4,449,121 (Exhibit C to this Resolution).

Spruell explained that the proposed resolution authorized the Commission to review the funding request for immediate consideration and approval of a one-time direct payment to the City for non-reimbursed project expenses that had been previously included in the amended project agreement adopted by the Commission in September, 2020; that agreement provided and authorized only

annual amortized bond repayments. She further explained that if the Commission adopted this resolution, a budget amendment would be required to authorize a direct payment in addition to the annual bond payment budgeted for this fiscal year. In recognition of the expressed need for immediate consideration and payment by the City, the provisions of the proposed resolution reserved further review of the requested expense reimbursement due to the short time period involved.

Spruell added that the City has again reported that the total JWP/MLK project cost has increased significantly since September, 2020, and that an updated project cost estimate and additional funding proposal will be forthcoming; the City and the TCRIC administrator, accountant, auditor and legal counsel will work together to document this one-time direct payment by the Commission, if approved, as a credit to TCRIC's total project obligation at that time.

The remaining balance of the March 11, 2022 invoice will be reviewed and considered at a later date as the fiduciaries of TCRIC continue to work with the City to provide additional information on the amounts requested.

Vote: After discussion, a motion to adopt Resolution 22-008 was made by Mr. Page seconded by Rep. Wingo and approved unanimously.

Resolution 22-009: Amendment #2 to Fiscal Year 2022 TCRIC Budget

Vote: After discussion, a motion to adopt Resolution 22-009 was made by Mr. Page seconded by Judge Robertson and approved unanimously.

Project Updates: City of Tuscaloosa

- McWright's Ferry Road Extension: Bryan Gurney reported that 31 out of 45 needed tracts have been acquired. The City projects the project will go to bid at end of year, with construction lasting approximately 2 years. The project will include a pedestrian path and pedestrian bridge. With respect to the ALDOT permit application, comments from ALDOT are being addressed and the permit approval is expected soon.
- Martin Luther King/Jack Warner Parkway: Gurney reported the following:
 - Phase 1: Jack Warner Parkway is now open to traffic, and the contractor is working on a preliminary punch list. The contractor continues to install conduit for the conversion of overhead to underground utilities along the Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd section of the project; within the next month, GFC will get back on the roadway portion of the project.
 - Phase 2: This phase is projected to start at end of April, after the completion of a City sewer project (not a TCRIC project). During construction, there will be a complete shutdown for through traffic for approximately 6 months, with local access maintained. The City plans to meet directly with companies in the area of construction soon.
 - Phase 3: The main rail line and spur rail modification will be submitted to KCS in mid-May, and the City has planned a 60 day window for KCS's review. Phase 3 is expected to open for bids in October 2022.

Project Updates: Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT)

David Kemp (ALDOT) provided ALDOT project updates.

- SR-69 South Intersection Improvements: Mr. Kemp reported that APCO Distribution is in process of finalizing their plans for relocation, and there is likely to be a cost savings. The City of Tuscaloosa is working on updated property appraisals for ROW acquisition needed for its utility relocations. ALDOT is in discussion with Spire/ALAGASCO to begin their

work. The construction letting is currently scheduled for early 2023, but is tentative based on the utility relocation timeline.

- US-82 at University Blvd: Letting is expected in late July 2022 with one main contractor for both the bridge and interchange projects; the University Blvd bridge will not be replaced until the Summer of 2023. APCO relocation work is expected to begin soon. ALDOT has a request before MPO for funding, which will be considered at the April 2022 MPO Policy Committee meeting.
- US 82/Hwy 43 PE work: ALDOT recently did a 65% review, and is looking into possible improvements for access at City of Northport City Hall.
- US-11 (SR-7) from Daimler Benz Boulevard (Tuscaloosa County) to SR-5 (Bibb County) (not a TCRIC project): The majority of utility work is complete.

Highway 82/ University Blvd. Drainage Improvements

Due to a lack of time, Mayor Maddox tabled the discussion until a later time.

Discussion of Potential Future Projects

Mayor Maddox shared that he, Judge Robertson and Kelly Johns met with Dr. Parrish and Justice Smyth of ATI, to discuss the topic of a master plan of roadway projects (within the Tuscaloosa area). ATI is creating a proposal for TCRIC consideration, to be shared at a later time.

Public Comment

Mayor Maddox opened the meeting for public comment. None were received.

Next Meeting

The next TCRIC meeting is scheduled for April 27th at 7:30 AM at the City of Tuscaloosa City Hall.

Executive Session

Mayor Maddox introduced a motion that the Commission convene an executive session for the purpose of discussing matters and information that will have a detrimental impact upon the City's competitive position in negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce if disclosed outside an executive session, and which may also impact the City's agreements with the Commission now or in the future.

Vote: Mr. Page made the motion to enter into executive session, seconded by Judge Robertson and passed unanimously.

TCRIC entered executive session.

The Commission left executive session, and the meeting was adjourned.