

Tuscaloosa County Road Improvement Commission (TCRIC)
Meeting Minutes - - - October 26, 2020
Tuscaloosa County Annex Auditorium

Commission Member Attendees: Judge Rob Robertson – Chairman; Mayor Walt Maddox;
Mayor Donna Aaron – Vice-Chairman, Jim Page (by phone), Danielle Winningham, Rep. Rich
Wingo

Other Attendees:

Nicole Hampton; Kelly Johns; Kim Palm; David Kemp; Brad Darden; Kathryn Anderson; Scott
Anders; Russell Ware; Bobby Herndon; Glenda Webb; Eddie Pugh; Tera Tubbs; Susan
Snowden; Doug Varnon; Jack McGuire; Clay Randolph; Lindi Blackburn; Dennis Stripling;
Zach Wolfe; Steven Polunsky; Justice Smyth; Allen Parrish; Rep. Bill Poole; Sen. Gerald Allen;
Jason Walker; Chris Crawford; Craig Williams; Brad Matthews;

Judge Robertson called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Judge Robertson recognized and thanked Mr. Randy Skagen and Mayor Donna Aaron for their
service on TCRC.

Judge Robertson presented the minutes of the September 28, 2020 TCRC meeting.

Vote: Minutes of the September 28, 2020 TCRC Commission meeting were
unanimously approved after a motion by Rep. Wingo, seconded by Mayor Aaron. The
motion passed unanimously.

Summary of Bills

A summary of bills was presented for the Commission’s consideration. A motion to pay the bills
as presented was made by Rep. Wingo, seconded by Danielle Winningham, and approved
unanimously.

Financial Report

Kim Palm presented the accounting report. The October 2020 deposit (from August 2020 sales
tax collected) was \$832,300, which was a 5.55% increase from October 2019. The ledger
balance as of October 20, 2020 was \$8,803,605.15. The actual and projected expenditures (on
accrual basis) from October 2019 through September 2020 were \$5,246,293 and \$8,566,877,
respectively.

Announcement of Groundbreaking Ceremony

Mayor Maddox announced that a groundbreaking ceremony for the Martin Luther King / Jack
Warner Parkway project is tentatively set for December 4, 2020 at 9am. The event will be near
the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater; additional information will be forthcoming.

Finance Committee Report

Resolution 21-001: Mayor Maddox presented a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2021. The budget proposes cash flowing the Commission's anticipated obligations on the SR-69 South intersection improvement project during FY 2021. There was discussion regarding TCRIC's borrowing abilities under its enabling legislation. Rep. Wingo has requested that PFM provide a cost evaluation if TCRIC were to issue its own debt to better evaluate potential legislative action.

Vote: A motion to pass Resolution 21-001 was made by Mayor Maddox on behalf of TCRIC Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Mayor Aaron, and passed unanimously.

Quarterly Report

Kelly Johns, TCRIC Administrator, presented a draft of the TCRIC Quarterly Report (as of June 30, 2020).

Vote: The report was approved, after a motion made by Danielle Winningham, and seconded by Mayor Maddox. The motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates

Kelly Johns provided the following update:

- Union Chapel is still under construction. Recently, the contractor encountered undesirable materials while installing drainage along SR-69N. The project is expected to be complete in November 2020.

David Kemp (ALDOT) provided project updates:

- US-82 at University Blvd.: The ALDOT contract with the consultant is being finalized. ALDOT has considered four design options, and has already eliminated one. Before choosing a design option, ALDOT needs additional drilling to determine the depth to bedrock, for subsurface design criteria. The tentative schedule is to perform the bridge replacement during the Summer of 2021. Construction of the project would begin prior. Kemp stated that during the bridge installation, there would be times that McFarland Blvd will be closed but that those closures are expected to be minimized by the Accelerated Bridge Construction process.
- SR-69 South Turn Lane Additions: Construction is ongoing, but all turn lanes are now open to traffic. Final paving, followed by final striping will be done in the next few weeks.
- SR-69 South Intersection improvements: ALDOT presented maps of the SR-69/Skyland Blvd intersection, for Phases II, III and IV. The maps were annotated with project information, including ingress/egress of business entrances. It was noted that the entrance near the current IHOP building will be closed permanently, as part of the project scope of work. The need for media communication was also discussed.
- I-20/I-59/McFarland Blvd (not a TCRIC project): The arches have been rejected by ALDOT. The first arch replacement is expected in December 2020; the 2nd arch is scheduled to arrive 3-4 weeks after the 1st.

Tera Tubbs from the City of Tuscaloosa then provided project updates:

- MLK Jr. Blvd/Jack Warner Parkway: A contract for the first phase of the project was awarded to GFC on October 13, 2020; a notice to proceed is expected to be released in November 2020. The City of Tuscaloosa and KCS are in communication regarding a maintenance agreement.
- McWright's Ferry Road: The project continues to be in Right of Way acquisition.

ATI Presentation

Dr. Allen Parrish, the Executive Director of the Alabama Transportation Institute (ATI) at the University of Alabama presented a summary of ATI and their Strategic Plan for 2020 through 2024.

Public Comment

Judge Robertson opened the session for public comment.

- Mayor Donna Aaron addressed the Commission. As this was her last TCRIC meeting as Mayor of the City of Northport, she thanked the Commission members, and shared that it was an honor and pleasure to serve on TCRIC. She also reminded TCRIC of the need for improvements on SR-69 North.
- Rep. Bill Poole thanked ATI for their presentation and their work securing funding for roadway projects in the State of Alabama.

Next Meeting

The next TCRIC Commission meetings were set for November 16, 2020 and December 14, 2020, at 7:30 am, at the Tuscaloosa County Annex Auditorium.

Meeting adjourned.