

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
JULY 22, 2008**

The Public Works Committee met on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 2:15 p.m. Ms. Summers, Committee Chairman presided.

Members Attending:

Debra B. Summers, Chairman	M. Todd Cullum, V Chairman
Bobby C. Keisler	John W. Carrigg, Jr.
William C. Billy Derrick	

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Joe Mergo, Deputy County Administrator; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

2009 State Match Program (SMP 09) (Goals 1,2,3) - Public Works - John Fechtel, Director

- Mr. Fechtel presented a letter of participation from the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) for the 2009 State Match Program (SMP 09). He reported that Mr. Herbert Cooper is the new "C" Program Administrator. SCDOT has provided the prioritization schedule for Lexington County for review along with the preliminary estimates for the work. Mr. Jim Starling, Public Works' Engineering Associate II, provided a listing of County roads for paving outside of the match program. Mr. Fechtel will request SCDOT to take the County's road index and combine it with the state's road index. The SCDOT match funding is \$848,000 with \$424,000 available for the County. Funding will be available beginning July 1, 2008. Mr. Fechtel indicated that the County has three choices in participating in the SMP 09; 1) Not participate at all, 2) Participate and let SCDOT prioritize the paving, or 3) Meet with SCDOT and bring back recommendations for Council's review at the next Council meeting. The deadline for participation in the program is August 29, 2008. Staff was requested to provide a paving list to include the state's road numbers with the County road names and Council Districts for Council prior to the August 26 meeting. For information only, no action taken.

Taylor Road/City of Cayce Request - Public Works - John Fechtel, Director

- Mr. Fechtel presented a request from the City of Cayce for "C" funds to pave 2,200 feet of Taylor Road. The County has already paid \$121,457 for a one-third share of the Taylor Road railroad crossing project. He reported that the County could pave Taylor Road at an estimated cost of \$275,000 that would consist of a two-lane, twenty-two foot wide pavement section that would have storm drainage on the first 600 feet (40-foot right-of-way) with a typical ditch section. The developer's plan is estimated at over \$600,000 and would include curb and gutter, sidewalks, turn lanes, etc. Staff recommended approving \$91,667 (one-third) of the \$275,000 cost estimated (not including engineering). The \$91,667 could be taken from the \$128,543 Project Frame balance.

A motion was made by Mr. Cullum, seconded by Mr. Keisler to recommend to full Council to approve paving Taylor Road at the full cost of \$275,000 and request the developer to contribute to the cost.

Mr. Derrick made an amendment to the motion to have the City of Cayce and the developer to contribute one-third of the cost to pave Taylor Road, if not remain on the list of roads to be paved.

The amendment died for lack of second.

Original motion:

In Favor:

Ms. Summers Mr. Cullum
Mr. Keisler

Opposed:

Mr. Derrick

*Mr. Carrigg was not present at the time the vote was taken.

Town of Irmo Request - "C" Funds - Public Works - John Fechtel, Director – Mr. Fechtel presented a request for \$57,000 in "C" Funds from the Town of Irmo for the construction of curb and sidewalks on Carlisle Street adjacent to the Irmo Town Park. The Town has a SCDOT grant of \$145,000 and their 20 percent match is \$57,000. Staff recommended approving the Town of Irmo's request. Funds are available in the "C" Fund Special Projects account 2700-121302-539900, unclassified.

A motion was made by Mr. Keisler, seconded by Mr. Derrick to recommend to full Council to approve the Town of Irmo's request for \$57,000 in "C" Funds.

The vote was in favor. Mr. Carrigg was not present at the time the vote was taken.

Road Maintenance Fee Discussion (Goal 3) - Public Works - John Fechtel, Director – Mr. Fechtel presented information and list of road maintenance fees charged by other South Carolina counties. Twenty-five of the 46 counties impose a road maintenance fee. The fees range from \$8 to \$35 per vehicle. Several of the counties listed have increased their fee as noted in the comments section of the list. Mr. Fechtel reported that if Lexington County imposed a \$25 per vehicle user fee excluding owners 65 or older and government vehicles, it would generate approximately \$5,000,000 per year. For discussion only, staff submitted a "tentative" proposed budget combined of "C" Funds and Road Maintenance Fees to show some areas in which the funds could be spent. For information only, no action taken.

Approval of Easement Termination - Public Works - John Fechtel, Director – Mr. Fechtel presented an easement termination for a forty-foot right-of-way easement given by Willie T.

Lever dated October 21, 1966. The Northwood Baptist Church of Lexington has asked the County to terminate the easement. Mr. Fechtel said the County has never used the easement and recommended approving the Easement Termination.

A motion was made by Mr. Cullum, seconded by Mr. Derrick to recommend that Council approve staff's recommendation to terminate the easement.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Early Action Compact Support Letter (Goal 2) - Public Works - Synithia Williams, Environmental Coordinator – Ms. Williams reported that Lexington County has achieved its goal to improve air quality by December 2008 through participation in the Early Action Compact (EAC). Lexington County has met the requirements of the 1997 ground level ozone standard and was recognized in February by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) for the County's leadership and efforts in improving air quality in Lexington County. DHEC and other local governments, such as Greenville County, have written to EPA to reconsider another early action compact process for the 2008 ozone standard. Staff has submitted a proposed letter for approval which highlights the goals the County achieved as part of the EAC.

A motion was made by Mr. Cullum, seconded by Mr. Derrick to recommend to Council to approve staff's recommended Early Action Compact Support letter to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EAP).

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes - Meetings of May 27 and June 12, 2008 – A motion was made by Mr. Derrick, seconded by Mr. Keisler to approve the May 27 and June 12, 2008 minutes as submitted.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Old Business/New Business - Policy for Skip Paving, Road Right-of-Way Issues, Traffic Congestion – None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

Debra B. Summers
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk