



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY
TRANSIT ADVISORY TASK FORCE COMMITTEE
July 24, 2014

MEMBERS:

Scott Moulder, Oconee County, **Chair**
Al Babinicz, CEO, CAT Bus
Lorenia Lee, Salem
David Underwood, Walhalla
Gene Blair, At Large Member
Arthur Rodgers, At Large Member

Sandra Powell, Westminster, **Vice Chair**
Mike Smith RME, SC DOT
Ed Halbig, Seneca
Linda Oliver, West Union
Charles Morgan, Jr., At Large Member
Elizabeth Hulse, Clerk to Council, TATFC Secretary

The Oconee County Transit Advisory Task Force Committee [TATFC] met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all representatives present [except Mr. Babinicz & Ms. Lee] and Clerk to Council Elizabeth G. Hulse present.

Press:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: none.

Call to Order:

Mr. Moulder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

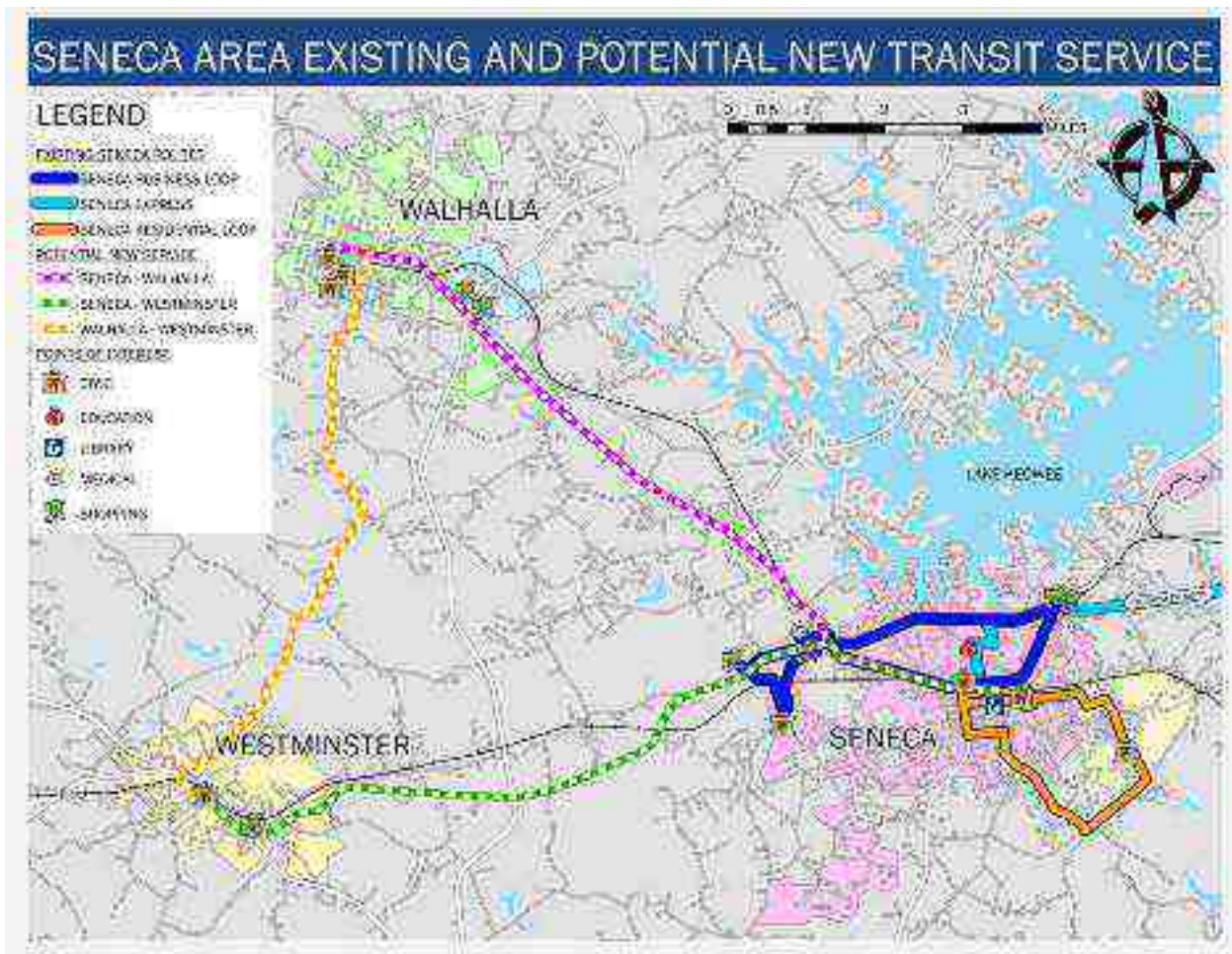
Approval of Minutes

Mr. Underwood made a motion, seconded by Mr. Halbig, approved unanimously to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2014 as presented.

URS Implementation Study / Update

Mr. Moulder turned the meeting over to Mr. Chip Burger, URS Senior Transportation Planner, and Mr. Jim Brown, URS Transportation & Environmental Planning Section Leader, who addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following issues:

- Review of Current Transit Services in Oconee County
- Path Forward
- Implementation Plan Elements
- Key Area Employer Survey
- Commute Patterns
 - Clemson Residents' Commute Patterns [map]
 - Seneca Residents' Commute Patterns [map]
 - Walhalla Residents' Commute Patterns [map]
 - Westminster Residents' Commute Patterns [map]
 - Findings
- Service Implementation Plan / Proposed Routes
 - Seneca Area Existing & Potential New Transit Service [map]
 - **PURPLE LINE:** Seneca to/from Walhalla
 - **GREEN LINE:** Seneca to/from Westminster
 - **GOLD LINE:** Walhalla to/from Westminster
- O&M and Capital Cost Estimates for each Route
- Financial Plan
- Next Steps



Lengthy discussion followed to include: proposed estimated cost per revenue hour as being too low; current CAT/City of Seneca electric busses and charging facilities; smaller busses versus full size busses; diesel versus electric; potential Federal and/or SCDOT grant funding; initiation of three lines versus one line at a time; free versus fee based services [pros/cons]; governance of expanded services; possible “circle” route within Oconee County; cost of busses, and additional charging stations in Oconee County.

Mr. Moulder summarized discussions as follow:

- Move forward with the three proposed routes
- Request revised [more conservative] operation cost estimates for the routes
- Pursue looking at potential grant funding
- Meet with City of Seneca Administrator to discuss governance of potentially expanded service
- Proceed in phased approach if necessary based on financial issues

Ms. Powell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blair, approved unanimously to request URS to prepare a draft final recommendation/report for review at the next meeting.

Other Business

No Other Business was addressed at this meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held August 28, 2014.

Adjourn

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rodgers, approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council