

**HEART OF GEORGIA - ALTAMAHA REGION
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ROUNDTABLE**

MEETING #1

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011
6:00 p.m.**

**Dailey Enterprises, LLC
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A P P E A R A N C E S

GDOT DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Todd Long

MEETING FACILITATOR

Inga Kennedy PEQ GDOT Facilitator

REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE MEMBERS PRESENT

Appling County	Steve Rigdon	Mayor-City of Baxley
Bleckley County	Kenneth E. Powell	Commissioner
Bleckley County	Cliff Avant	Mayor-City of Cochran
Candler County	H. V. Lanier	Commission Chairman
Candler County	Billy Trapnell	Mayor-City of Metter
Dodge County	Jack Burnham	City Council Chairman
Emanuel County	Charles Schwabe	Mayor-City of Swainsboro
Emanuel County	Keith Thompson	Commission Chairman
Evans County	Del Beasley	Commissioner Chairman
Evans County	Luther Royal	Mayor-City of Claxton
Jeff Davis County	R. Bayne Stone	Mayor-City of Hazelhurst
Johnson County	James McAfee, Jr.	Commission Chairman
Johnson County	Phillip Boatright	Mayor-City of Wrightsville
Laurens County	Buddy Adams	Commissioner Chairman
Laurens County	Phil Best	Mayor-City of Dublin
Montgomery County	Brandon Braddy	Commissioner
Montgomery County	Joey Fountain	Mayor-City of Mt. Vernon
Tattnall County	Frank Murphy	Commission Chairman
Tattnall County	Jean Bridges	Mayor-City of Glennville
Telfair County	Howard Hart	Commission Chairman
Toombs County	Buddy West	Commission Chairman
Toombs County	Ronnie Dixon	Mayor-City of Vidalia
Treutlen County	Joe C. Webb	Commission Chairman
Wayne County	John Shaver	Commissioner Chairman
Wayne County	Herb Shaw	Mayor-City of Jesup
Wheeler County	Keith McNeal	Commission Chairman
Wheeler County	G. M. Joiner, Jr.	Mayor-City of Glenwood
Wilcox County	Tracy Tyndall	Commissioner Chairman
Wilcox County	James Rhodes	Mayor-City of Rochelle

ALSO PRESENT:

Candler County	Chuck Perry	EMC Engineering Services
Candler County	Joseph M. Mosley	City Manager-Metter
Emanuel County	James Canady	Commission Out-going Chairman
Evans County	Caughey Hearn	County Administrator
Johnson County	L. Guy Singletary	County Administrator
Laurens County	Brian Rogers	County Administrator
Laurens County	D. M. Mullis	Commissioner
Tattnall County	Faye Hussey	County Manager
Telfair County	Mr. Smith	
Telfair County	Lawrence Spires	Commissioner
Telfair County	Nancy Livingston	Commission Clerk
Toombs County	Bill Torrance	City Manager-Vidalia
Treutlen County	Jim Crowdis	County Manager
Washington County	George Pruett	GDOT/Tennille
Wayne County	Teresa Scott	GDOT/Jesup
Wayne County	Hayden Rozier	GDOT/Jesup
Wayne County	Will Murphy	GDOT/Jesup
Wayne County	James Thomas	Commissioner
Wayne County	Terry Thomas	
ACCG	David Wills	
GA Municipal Assn	Becky Taylor	
Jacobs Engineering	Wade Carroll	GDOT Team
Vidalia Communications	Zack Fowler	
MPH & Associates	Beth Radke	Senior Planner
MPH & Associates	Mary Huffstetler	AICP
HOGARC	Alan Mazza	Executive Director
HOGARC	Rafael Nail	Asst. Exe. Director

et al.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. MAZZA: I appreciate you being with us tonight.
3 This is the first official meeting of the House Bill 277
4 Roundtable Meeting for our area. And we are pleased to
5 have Todd Long, Planning Director with D.O.T. over here
6 (indicating). Todd, standing over here (indicating).
7 He's going to help conduct or really conduct the meeting.

8 I'm Alan Mazza with the Heart of Georgia Regional
9 Commission. I know a lot of you; but I don't know
10 everybody. And so what I'd like to do is maybe start with
11 the Roundtable and go around the room and let's everybody
12 introduce themselves. I'll start with this young lady
13 right here (indicating).

14 (Roundtable members present and others from the
15 public introduced themselves as listed in prior sections.)

16 MR. MAZZA: I appreciate everybody being here. We
17 got good attendance. It's not 100 percent but it's,
18 probably, ninety something percent so that's pretty good.
19 Anytime you have a meeting you have you may have a few
20 people come in late. I want to take this opportunity to
21 tell Dave we appreciate ACCG's help and also GMA's help
22 over the last couple of meetings we've had and also DOT's
23 help. All of you have been here off and on when we've had
24 these unofficial meetings and subcommittee meetings so we
25 appreciate that very much.

1 We're going to have an invocation in a minute from
2 Mayor Trapnell of Metter and then we'll eat and then we're
3 to get down to business. If we do it the other way we may
4 not ever eat so. Mayor Trapnell.

5 MR. TRAPNELL: Let us pray. Most kind and gracious
6 heavenly Father, indeed we thank thee for all the
7 blessings we enjoy daily. Lord, we ask you to come and
8 dwell with us tonight. Give us the wisdom that we might
9 rightly discern what is best for our communities back
10 home. Give us listening ears and understanding minds that
11 we might discuss in a pleasing manner. And may all that's
12 said and done be honoring to thee. Now, we ask you to
13 bless the food that's been prepared. Bless it to the
14 nourishment of our bodies and our bodies to thy continued
15 service. We ask in Christ's name, Amen.

16 (Amen.)

17 MR. MAZZA: Let me have the roundtable eat first or
18 go through the line first and it's ready for us back
19 there.

20 (A pause ensued for the meal.)

21 MR. LONG: I'll get you some dessert if you want
22 some. Are we good? All right. Well let me say, I'm Todd
23 Long and I work for Georgia DOT. I'm the director of
24 planning and it's my pleasure to be here tonight. It's
25 good to be back down in South Georgia. I grew up right

1 close to this region, not in this region, but real close
2 to it; but it's good to be down here.

3 We've got a pretty good agenda tonight. So let's go
4 ahead and get started so we want be here too late. We've
5 got, really, basically, under House Bill 277, we have two
6 reasons for being here tonight: One is to elect an
7 Executive Committee; and two is to adopt criteria cause
8 according to the Bill. We're also going to do some other
9 things. I'm going to give you a quick -- just a quick
10 top-level overview of the Bill again. You guys have been
11 through it before; but I think if I go over a quick
12 overview you may have some follow up questions to make
13 sure everybody's on the same page.

14 Then we're going to talk about how you want to run
15 the meetings in general. Do you want to elect a chairman;
16 do you want to have Robert's Rule of Order; do you want to
17 allow proxies or not. We'll talk about that which the
18 answers should be known. But we'll talk about that aspect
19 of it in a little bit.

20 We'll go through the Executive Committee criteria
21 then we'll leave tonight with some kind of follow up steps
22 on what's next down the process. All right.

23 Just quickly, just a reminder, this Bill was passed
24 as a result of about four or five different efforts
25 through the last three or four sessions of the General

1 Assembly. Statewide, there was kind of a big need shown
2 that we need additional revenues for transportation. So
3 they passed this Bill as a result of a lot of discussion
4 and input from others. I didn't write the Bill.
5 Legislatures, actually, passed it. I was involved in
6 aspects of it for sure; and I know a lot about it, and
7 I've read it enough times now that I, ad nauseam, know a
8 little bit about it.

9 But it is a Bill that is not that long to read. If
10 you haven't read, you need to. It's, actually, in your
11 notebook in front of you; in fact, this notebook has
12 pretty much everything you need. Take this notebook home
13 with you. It's got criteria in it; it's got frequently
14 asked questions in the back. It's got discretionary money
15 that you would get as a city or county. So it's got a lot
16 of that in it, which is very good.

17 But as a reminder, it's a ten-year Bill and a one
18 percent sales tax. They decided on the sales tax option
19 for a different reason than you might think. They decided
20 on the sales tax option as opposed to raising the gas tax
21 mostly because we are driving more fuel-efficient cars.
22 Okay. A lot of you have put that linkage together, but
23 our revenue source in the state of Georgia for
24 transportation is based, basically, on motor fuel tax. So
25 the more you drive a car the more money we get and that

1 works great. As a matter of fact, the motor fuel tax is
2 probably the reason America is a better country than most
3 countries in the world because we have mobility. Think
4 about it. You go to other countries, I don't know if you
5 travel a lot; but they don't have the mobility we have.
6 In fact, the countries that are trying to catch up with
7 us, who is that, China? Guess what they are investing in
8 right now? Transportation. They are building roads like
9 you can't even imagine. As a matter of fact, the world's
10 supply of aggregates are going to China because they are
11 building roads and bridges with it when they saw what we
12 did back a long time ago. We made a great investment and
13 built a great interstate system; but we really haven't
14 kept up with that investment. Our motor fuel tax has been
15 real stable; but it's been, basically, the same through
16 years and years. You pay about 18 cents a gallon, it goes
17 to the federal government and then back to us by
18 percentages and then you pay state tax of about 15.1 cents
19 a gallon that goes to transportation. So when you pump up
20 the gas, you're paying about 33 cents per gallon that goes
21 to transportation out of the close to three dollars you're
22 paying.

23 Now, the problem is, if the fuel efficiency of the
24 fleet in America, in other words, if the fleets in
25 America, all the cars we have, gets 20 miles to the gallon

1 and all of a sudden we get, in six or seven years, 35
2 miles per gallon, what happens to the revenue source? It
3 goes down, right?

4 I give this example everywhere I go. I drove a Chevy
5 Silverado pickup truck for 20 years. I got 16 miles per
6 gallon, maybe 17 if I was lucky. Well, this last spring
7 my dad sold me his old Toyota car. I get 24 to 25 miles
8 per gallon. Well, Todd Long's personal contribution to
9 transportation infrastructure did what? It just went down
10 33 percent; and that's playing out all over the state, all
11 over the country. So, in ten years we may have less
12 revenue for transportation than we do now. If we look at
13 revenue streams and inflation, that just -- that's a
14 recipe for disaster.

15 So, as you know, most of y'all have been up to see
16 the commissioner and made trips to Atlanta and what do
17 they all tell you, there's just not enough money. You
18 want more, you got needs and there's just not enough to
19 meet those needs. So, the sales tax was an option the
20 General Assembly decided to follow. It does create this
21 one percent sales tax by region commissions now. You're
22 in here and you are representing a county or a city. As a
23 city mayor you are representing other mayors in your
24 county. I want you, as you're in this room though, to
25 think as a region as opposed to a city or a county.

1 Because that's how this is structured; it's structured on
2 a region basis. You, kind of, got to think regionally
3 instead of individual counties and cities. The money
4 raised in each district stays in the district.

5 I cannot tell you how many times I hear people from
6 South Georgia say that Atlanta gets all the money. I go
7 to Atlanta, you know what they say? They say South
8 Georgia gets all the money. So the truth is: There's
9 just not enough money.

10 But the money raised in this district doesn't go
11 anywhere else, okay. And the money raised in other
12 districts doesn't come here. Money is not subject to
13 congressional balancing. A lot of you guys, if you deal
14 with DOT at all, you deal with the district office, you've
15 heard this term before, that our money that we have for
16 transportation is balanced among the 13 congressional
17 districts in the state. Well, that's true. The state and
18 federal money that we have today is subject to what they
19 call congressional balancing. So we have 13 Districts,
20 you guys happen to fall in, I guess, probably, two
21 different congressional districts. You're part of the
22 northern half of Congressional District 12 and the
23 southern half is part of Congressional District 1, which
24 is Jack Kingston, which would be my guess. Maybe you've
25 got some of another district too; is that right, Allen?

1 MR. MAZZA: Eight.

2 MR. LONG: Some of Eight's here too. Okay.

3 So -- but, you see, that money you're tied -- and
4 those boundaries for congressional districts, there's no
5 strategy whatsoever from a standpoint of transportation
6 investment on those boundaries. Those boundaries were
7 drawn for different reasons. All right.

8 So the beauty of this is: All of this money is --
9 stays in this region. It's not subject to any
10 congressional balancing. That's a nice feature.

11 Individual counties, this is, like I said before,
12 this is not about individual counties. There was a lot of
13 discussion, at the very beginning, about the Bill where
14 counties wanted to be able to opt out, and say no, we
15 don't want to play. Well, the problem with that is: You
16 would have holes all of the state where counties opted out
17 and it's really hard to do any kind of strategic
18 investment for the state if that's going to be the case.

19 The criteria -- I recommend the criteria. I made a
20 recommendation November 9th when I set this meeting up.
21 All right. Well, guess what, after tonight it ain't my --
22 it's not my criteria. It's your criteria. Because you
23 going to adopt your own criteria and I don't have the
24 final say on criteria, you do. The Roundtable has the
25 final vote in this.

1 A lot of people say, well, this is a state driven
2 Bill. Guys, this is a local driven Bill. This Bill,
3 actually, has a lot of emphasis on local authority and
4 local decision-making. I mean, there's -- Todd Long is
5 not making decisions about projects. It will be this
6 roundtable making those decisions, which is made up of
7 local officials. So it is a locally driven Bill. The
8 vote is going to be in the primary election in the summer
9 of 2012. And the funds will not start flowing, really,
10 until 2013.

11 Next Slide.

12 (Slide 5 - Regional and Local Shares)

13 Okay, I just want to make sure everybody understands
14 we're here tonight to talk about the left side of the
15 screen, the regional share of money. The discretionary
16 share, which is, we call the local share, which is 25
17 percent. When the money revenues come in, it's split into
18 two pots. So the discretionary money or the local shares
19 will be sent to the individual cities and counties in this
20 region.

21 Now, on this Roundtable we have 17 counties, right,
22 17 mayors. But my understanding is: You have -- how many
23 cities, 60 --

24 MR. MAZZA: Sixty-three.

25 MR. LONG: Sixty-three cities. So every city and

1 every jurisdiction, legal jurisdiction, will get a share
2 of that discretionary money. So in y'all's case, looking
3 on the right side of the page, 8 million a year, 8.8
4 million a year will be sent back to the cities and counties.
5 And if you're a county commissioner, so if you're in the
6 City of Jessup, right, your city council decides how that
7 money's spent. The DOT's not going to decide how to
8 spend; the city council will decide how it's spent as long
9 as it's spent on transportation projects. We'll define
10 what that is in a minute. But it is not subject to
11 anybody telling you what to do with that money. You can
12 accrue that money so if you -- in this region, in
13 particular, you've got a lot of small cities that really
14 don't get a lot of money per year. If they need to accrue
15 a couple of years worth of money to do a project they can
16 do so. And I think that's one of the questions y'all
17 might've had. And you can do that on the discretionary.
18 And you will have to because in some places, I looked at
19 the numbers; you're only getting, like \$12,000 a year.
20 You're not going to do a whole lot with \$12,000 a year in
21 a little city of a hundred people.

22 But it based on a formula. Now, this formula is the
23 same formula that we been using for years in the LARP
24 Program, 1/5 population, 4/5 lane miles. Now, a lot of
25 people have questions about how we determine population.

1 Population is based on the latest U.S. Census. The lane
2 miles are based on data we have in our database up in
3 Atlanta.

4 Now, a lot of you guys need to check your numbers to
5 make sure what you have in your system matches what we
6 have. In fact, a letter was sent out, I think, this week
7 sometime, you should be getting in all jurisdictions
8 across the state, basically, said, hey, listen, you're
9 required under previous legislation many years ago,
10 required to report if you add a street or whatever, you're
11 required to report that. What we have found is a lot of
12 areas have grown or added a subdivision street have never
13 reported those miles to anybody. So they're not even in
14 the system. So we're trying to get all that entered.
15 Fortunately, we have some time to get it straight before
16 the Bill passes. All right.

17 Now, let's talk about this regional share. This is
18 the 75 percent money. This will be decided based on a
19 list of projects that the voters vote on, that are decided
20 by this group. In your case, that's about 26 million
21 dollars a year worth of projects. Over the course of ten
22 years you're talking, I think, it's three or four hundred
23 million dollars worth of projects, which is, if multiplied
24 by ten, is a bigger number, right? It's actually -- you
25 can do something with it. You are -- let's face it. This

1 is the lowest revenue-generating region in the state. I
2 think you all know that. So we're going to have some
3 discussion around the criteria. Y'all got a challenge
4 compared to other regions. Your partner to the -- Coastal
5 Georgia raised quite a bit more. It makes it easier
6 because you can do a lot more projects with that.

7 Next slide.

8 (Slide 6 - Project Definition)

9 This is the definition of a project. When the
10 writers of the Bill -- we wanted to make this as broad as
11 possible. It's transportation; but it's very wide open.
12 You can spend it on any form of transit, bike lane,
13 bridges, bus, mass transit. You guys -- a lot of you guys
14 have van systems, right? Well, you van people -- the
15 vanpool thing -- not van pooling, which is little local
16 transit systems, you can have those.

17 Now, look in the middle of the paragraph it says,
18 "providing, operating, and maintaining the same." Now,
19 this is what separates this sales tax from your SPLOST
20 Bill that -- how many people have SPLOST in here for your
21 counties?

22 (Roundtable members raised hands.)

23 MR. LONG: The majority, right. Well, you know with
24 SPLOST you can build a library; but you can't run it with
25 the SPLOST, right. You can build a baseball field; but

1 you can't run it. So this SPLOST -- this sales tax is
2 different. It allows you to spend money on operation and
3 maintenance. That is a big benefit for an area like this.
4 So keep that in mind particularly your smaller
5 jurisdictions with the discretionary money. All right.

6 Next slide.

7 (Slide 7 - Project Selection Process)

8 MR. LONG: All right. I know it's hard to see. And
9 this presentation is, actually, in your book too if you
10 want to see it. But what we're doing -- I'm just going to
11 walk you through the process. The process is this:
12 Tonight you will adopt criteria. Hopefully, next week
13 we're going to send out a blast to all local jurisdictions
14 in the state soliciting projects suggestions. All right.

15 My job, as director of planning, is to take these
16 project suggestions and match them up against the criteria
17 and then, ultimately, come back to the Executive
18 Committee, which you will elect tonight, with a
19 unconstrained, in other words, physically, unconstrained
20 list of projects for the Executive Committee to start
21 working with. All right. That unconstrained list may be
22 three or four times the amount of money you have available
23 to you.

24 The Executive Committee job, that's where it becomes
25 hard, right, the Executive Committee has to get that

1 unconstrained list, over the course of the summer, down to
2 a constrained list based on the revenue projections. All
3 right. We have preliminary revenue projections already;
4 but this spring the state economist is going to give new
5 projections based on all the different economic forecasts
6 he has at his disposal. It's the same state economist
7 that does the budget will work with the General Assembly
8 and others. Okay.

9 So what'll happen by May of this year, will give the
10 that unconstrained list and from, basically, June, July,
11 and August the Executive Committee will hone that down to
12 constrained list; and then this full Roundtable will have
13 from August 15th until October 15th to discuss, debate,
14 amend, and then, ultimately, approve that constrained
15 list. All right.

16 So from October 15th, after you guys say yes, until
17 the vote is about 9 months, 9 or 10 months. That's when
18 the campaigns going to be. So there's no reason to have a
19 campaign working hard and heavy until you have a list,
20 because the list drives everything. You know that. All
21 right.

22 Next slide.

23 (Slide 8 - Special District Gridlock)

24 MR. LONG: All right. There's been a lot of talk
25 about the punishment or the carrot stick that is in the

1 Bill concerning what happens, depending on how you behave
2 in this group, in other words; you pass it or don't pass
3 it with another program of funds. So, I want to quickly
4 explain that. And I know it's been explained to you
5 before; it's always good to hear it again.

6 There is a separate program. Do you remember the
7 State-Aid & LARP program? We combined those together into
8 something called LMIG, Local Maintenance Improvement Grant
9 program. That hard to say ain't it. It doesn't roll off
10 the tongue, unless you say LMIG (pronouncing). Well, that
11 program which has about 90 to 100 million dollars a year
12 that is distributed by a formula to all cities and
13 counties. In fact, you work now with your State-Aid
14 coordinator and your district office whether it be
15 Tennille or whether it be Jesup and y'all work on that
16 list now. In fact, every city and county in here July of
17 this last summer you were told how much you were getting
18 and you're submitting projects for that program. All
19 right. That program, which is unrelated to this regional
20 sales tax, is affected by what happens in the regional
21 sales tax process. All right.

22 So, if this group decides by October 15th of this
23 next year that you're not going to go forward with this
24 process and you vote in the negative on the list; in other
25 words, in this case you got 34 people, right? So if all

1 34 people are here and you end up with just 17 votes and
2 not 19 votes, right, or if you vote, excuse me, I jumped
3 to what number, if you're one vote short, you stop the
4 process and it becomes what, a special gridlock. That's
5 what they call it. And if it's a special gridlock, from
6 that point forward you're match on that other program, is
7 50 percent. All right.

8 Next slide.

9 (Slide 9 - Voter Referendum)

10 MR. CANADY: That's on the LMIG?

11 MR. LONG: On the LMIG program, you're matching the
12 LMIG. It's not under any other federal aid projects or
13 anything else. It's just that LMIG program.

14 MR. CANADY: Where now it's ten percent?

15 MR. LONG: What's that?

16 MR. CANADY: Where now it's ten percent.

17 MR. LONG: I'm going -- let me explain that in a
18 second.

19 If you pass out of here, but the region and the
20 region votes -- the people of the -- the citizens of the
21 region vote, yes, your match is ten percent. If the
22 citizens vote no, it's 30 percent. Now, you might be
23 asking why is that. Well, I don't control the voters.
24 Well, guess what, the legislators know one thing for sure,
25 if y'all pass out of here; but y'all badmouth this thing

1 to the voters; it will fail. And it would -- this -- it
2 would not pass the voters without a lot of support from
3 the people in this room. That's the incentive behind
4 that.

5 So, now, you might ask, what is the match today.
6 Well, the match in the past, when we had these programs
7 set, the LARP match was zero percent. In the State-Aid
8 match though, if you came to us for a left turn lane or an
9 industrial park road, a driveway to a school, who did the
10 engineering on that? Who paid for that? The locals. Who
11 paid for the right-of-way for that? The locals. Who paid
12 for 50 percent of the constructions? The locals. Your
13 match, previously, on State-Aid projects was probably
14 more, like, 80 percent. So, actually, you're going down
15 on those kinds of projects.

16 Now, on the LARP we surface at which, unfortunately,
17 that's what most of your guys need the most, your match
18 will be going up if you -- unless otherwise.

19 Now, we are -- I will say this: David is here --
20 Wells -- from ACCG and others. They're fighting on your
21 behalf; and on LARP we know that there's a lot of pre-work
22 that is done on those resurfacing projects. Typically,
23 y'all go out there and do some -- we're considering
24 whether that should be allowed to be soft matched toward
25 the cost; which would help out in a lot of cases.

1 So that's about it. Any questions about that whole
2 -- because we get a lot of questions on this whole -- they
3 call it punishable issue.

4 MR. LANIER: Everything you've told us tonight, sir,
5 is in this book?

6 MR. LONG: Yes.

7 MR. LANIER: Every word of it?

8 MR. LONG: Every word, yes, because the Bill's in
9 there.

10 So, yes?

11 PUBLIC SPEAKER: May I ask a question about this?

12 MR. LONG: Yeah.

13 PUBLIC SPEAKER: If you end up with a 50/50 match,
14 you know, you don't get gridlocked and get 50/50 match --

15 MR. LONG: right.

16 PUBLIC SPEAKER: -- and you want to get an LMIG for a
17 project and communities cannot get that because they don't
18 have the 50 percent match will the amount spent in that
19 district then go down or would that money have been spent
20 on other projects in the district --

21 MR. LONG: No. That would --

22 PUBLIC SPEAKER: -- that have been matched by 50
23 percent?

24 MR. LONG: Let's say a particular district gets --
25 let's just say they get -- their LMIG allotment's 10,000

1 and they can't match that for whatever reason; that'll go
2 back in the pot and get redistributed the next time
3 around, around the state. It gets redistributed around
4 the state.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So it can go to the other
6 parts of the state?

7 MR. LONG: That's right.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Earlier we said it had to go
9 to our district --

10 MR. LONG: No. No. Wait --

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- with sales tax money.

12 MR. LONG: He asked a question about the LMIG money.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right. Where does it come
14 from?

15 MR. LONG: The LMIG money comes out of --

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Fuel tax?

17 MR. LONG: -- it's motor fuel tax money.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

19 MR. LONG: That's right.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Earlier you said couldn't be
21 transferred if we don't do this; it can be transferred in
22 other parts of the state.

23 MR. BEASLEY: That's LMIG.

24 MR. LONG: That's the LMIG money. The regional sales
25 tax has to stay and be spent here in the region; but he's

1 talking about this separate pot of money, the LMIG. There
2 is a difference.

3 MR. WILLS: Todd, I very seldom have spoken up but
4 there's one thing, I think, probably should be said in
5 this case with the LMIG money. If a community couldn't
6 match it, that one year, they ought to request to hold it
7 because you can bank those funds for up to three years.
8 So you can sort of bank it.

9 MR. LONG: Great point.

10 MR. WILLS: And then see if you can get the money
11 later to finance a larger project.

12 MR. LONG: We do know that there are some communities
13 that couldn't even do that because they just have zero
14 cash on hand so. Good point.

15 Yes, sir?

16 PUBLIC SPEAKER: I understand the discretionary funds
17 can be spent on M & O. Can the regional funds be spent on
18 M & O as well?

19 MR. LONG: Yeah. Well, that'll be up to our
20 criteria. So we'll talk about that in a little bit. So
21 -- I -- we're -- on M and O we're encouraging most of that
22 to be spent on the discretionary side though. The
23 transportation project definition applies to both this
24 local and to the regional fund to answer your question.
25 All right.

1 Next slide.

2 (Slide 10 - Project Delivery)

3 MR. LONG: All right. Just a quick reminder: Now,
4 remember, from this point forward we're talking about the
5 regional side, not the discretionary side. Project
6 delivery on that regional project list, somebody has to be
7 responsible, according to the paper, in this case it is
8 going to be GDOT. Somebody's got to be responsible.
9 We'll look for help. Obviously, we'll need it; but
10 somebody's got to be held responsible for delivering the
11 projects on the list.

12 Discretionary, guess who's responsible for delivering
13 those projects; y'all will be. Totally. All right.
14 There will be a website on the regional project list
15 showing the progress.

16 Now, let's talk about, a little bit about citizen
17 involvement. We had a lot of questions about where
18 they're involved. They're involved in two spots. One,
19 this summer when the Executive Committee is constraining
20 that list down they're required to hold at least two
21 public meetings. Now, you can hold more than that; but
22 the Bill calls for at least two. In fact, in a region
23 like you have here, and Alan and I were talking about how
24 big this -- you may want to have multiple public meetings
25 because it's such a broad expansive land for people to

1 travel to come to meetings. So those two public meetings
2 will help you, as a Roundtable, make decisions on that
3 final list because it will give you good feedback.

4 Now, after a positive vote by the citizens then there
5 is a Citizens Review Panel that, actually, makes sure that
6 you're spending the money like you say you are. Now, I
7 want to make sure you understand this. This Citizens
8 Review Panel is not reviewing the project selection
9 process. They're not involved in the project selection
10 process. And most of you I bet you money in your SPLOST
11 programs in your counties; you have a citizens committee
12 helping you come up with that project list. But we don't
13 -- that's not the case here at all, okay.

14 The Citizen Review Panel is after the fact. And that
15 panel is named by the Speaker and the Lieutenant Governor
16 and it has to come from citizens in the region.

17 Next slide.

18 (Slide 12 - 10 More Years)

19 MR. LONG: All right. The conclusion of it. If you
20 will, like any SPLOST or any sales tax if you want to do
21 it again, you can opt to go through this whole process
22 again with the Roundtable and do it all again every ten
23 years. All right.

24 Any questions about the Bill itself?

25 MR. TRAPNELL: Will the census figures change or are

1 we going to maintain the ones we are at right now?

2 MR. LONG: We will update that as soon as the -- I
3 think that's based on 2009 US Census that we have in the
4 book. And we'll base it on the latest US Census at the
5 time of the vote. Let's back up a second.

6 The discretionary money is done by formula. And, I
7 think, your question is: Does it change over the ten-year
8 period?

9 MR. TRAPNELL: Correct.

10 MR. LONG: And the answer to that question we think
11 is yes.

12 So in year 2016-2017 you'll use the latest figures as
13 you distribute the money in the region. Does that make
14 sense?

15 MR. TRAPNELL: It does.

16 MR. LONG: So it's, basically, every year you, kind
17 of, almost have to recalculate how that's done.

18 Now, that, just so you know, this is very important
19 for a lot of local governments. There is not an
20 administration fee by the Department of Revenue on this
21 tax collection. It's, specifically, spelled out in the
22 Bill.

23 MR. RIGDON: Let me question what he was just saying
24 there. We will be restricted to the figures of the
25 present census until the next census on the distribution

1 or will be not?

2 MR. LONG: Okay.

3 THE COURT REPORTER: Excuse me.

4 MR. LONG: Oh, I'm sorry.

5 THE COURT REPORTER: Y'all I am the court reporter
6 and I am taking this down. When you speak, could you
7 please tell me who you are? I can't see everybody's
8 nametag and I don't know everybody in the room, I'm sorry.
9 So, if you will, please speak loud enough that I can hear
10 you over here and please tell me who you are. Thank you.

11 MR. LONG: Okay. Let me mention right quick. The
12 court reporter is here for a reason. Under the Bill I'm
13 required to, basically, produce a report by all 12
14 Roundtable meetings. And we felt like the best way to do
15 a report is just, simply, have a court reporter -- I'm --
16 we'll post the transcript on our website. So if anybody
17 wants to see what happened in this meeting, it's open to
18 you guys. So that's why they're here, so no other reason
19 than that. We appreciate -- I -- we meant to say that
20 earlier in the process that she does need your name.

21 So let me postpone the answer to that question and
22 think about it. He's gone to get some tea. But that's a
23 good question. Because we are locked in on the dollar
24 amount on the Bill as far as the projections when we
25 develop out list so you don't have a lot of wiggle room on

1 the other part on the discretionary as we go forward. But
2 I am going to come back to that. But, theoretically,
3 whatever per year, I think, the discretionary is going to
4 be, it could, whatever it is, could be based on whatever
5 the latest census and population figure and the centerline
6 miles are. All right.

7 Any other questions? Yes, sir.

8 MR. TORRANCE: Bill Torrance from Vidalia. The --
9 in this ten more years, is it -- if the voters approve
10 this, this Roundtable to exist and continue, at the end of
11 ten years if it doesn't go back to the voters for a vote,
12 the Roundtable can petition it?

13 MR. LONG: No. It just says you can -- the Bills a
14 little bit unclear there. It, basically, says the local
15 governments can, basically, petition the General Assembly
16 to allow the process to go over today. So at that point
17 you would have to, actually, re-pick a Roundtable and pick
18 a project selection and have a vote by the public, all the
19 same things we're doing here today. Okay. All right.
20 Good. All right.

21 Next, let's talk about how we're going to run these
22 meetings. And what I've -- what we've done in the other
23 12 is: I have a facilitator here, Inga Kennedy. Inga's
24 done a great job. And she's been helping us with these;
25 and she'll facilitate you guys through some guidelines on

1 how to run the meetings. And she'll help; also help us
2 with our selection process of how we select our Executive
3 Committee. So it gives me a chance to sit down a little
4 bit and think about your tough question. But that was a
5 good one. You were getting tea a minute ago. That's a
6 good question. All right.

7 MS. KENNEDY: Thank you. Thank you. Good evening,
8 again. And thank Allen and the staff and their caterers
9 for this good food tonight because it's really good food.
10 And I also thank you for this warm weather down here.
11 It's, actually, cold in Atlanta where we came from so it
12 feels good down here.

13 As Todd mentioned I want to reiterate the importance
14 of stating your names before you speak. Particularly as
15 we go through the process of approving some action items
16 that are coming up next. It really helps the court
17 reporter and I'll help you out a little bit too over
18 there.

19 And I want to also remind those who are visiting from
20 the public that you should also have copies of the
21 presentation as well as a copy of a comment form that you
22 can provide written comments and provide those to us at
23 the end of the evening. And so -- and then, of course,
24 you have all the information in your notebooks for the
25 Roundtable members.

1 (Slide 14 - Recommended Roundtable Guidelines)

2 Let's talk a little bit about the guidelines and Todd
3 touched on some of the recommendations for how you're
4 going to conduct your Roundtable meetings. And these are
5 some recommendations. And after we go through them and
6 have some discussion we'd like to -- I'd like to ask for a
7 vote of approval, please. I'm assuming that most of you
8 in your normal commission and mayor and council meetings
9 use Roberts Rules of Order for your format. That's a
10 typical format that is used and we would suggest that.

11 It is recommended that you vote or select a
12 chairperson for the Roundtable. And, as Todd mentioned,
13 this is the 12th meeting of Roundtables and no one has
14 done it the same. Everyone has elected or decided to do
15 different things with their Executive Committee and with
16 their chair. So there is no one way to do it or there is
17 no right way to do it. The right way is your way. And so
18 -- but we do recommend a chair as well as an Executive
19 Committee. And you've done some advance work on that
20 already; and I'll come back to that. We suggest that all
21 voting members meaning all of the Roundtable members be,
22 physically, present to vote just like, again, at your
23 commission meetings and your council, mayor and council
24 meetings; you have to be present to cast a vote.

25 Some people are deciding to select or send proxies to

1 the meetings. If you can't participate or if you can't
2 attend you may want to send someone to sit in your seat
3 and participate in a discussion. But the proxy -- you
4 probably don't want the proxies to vote. And so we'll
5 talk about that if you'd like to have a discussion.

6 Obviously, all meetings are open to the public. We
7 have a lot of participation tonight and we're very pleased
8 that some of your people came out to observe and learn
9 more about this House Bill 277 just like you are. But we
10 want to have you determine whether you want the public to
11 have a speaking opportunity or whether you'd like to have
12 them limit their comments to the written forms that are
13 already provided. Some of them have already asked
14 questions tonight. They've asked really good questions
15 and I'm sure some of them are assisting you and
16 representing you and helping you in this process. And
17 that's a real good thing. But you may want to determine
18 how you want the public to participate.

19 Let me tell you what some of the other Roundtables
20 are doing. Some of the Roundtables are allowing a
21 ten-minute time frame in the front of the meeting where a
22 full ten minutes is provided for everyone who wants to
23 participate or on the backside. And then some have
24 elected to or decided to just limit the comments to the
25 written form. And, again, that's, totally, up to you.

1 So let's go back and I want to make sure that you all
2 have consensus on a couple of things with the guidelines:

3 That all voting members must be present -- do I have
4 a -- I think that's kind of an accepted way of voting.

5 Let's talk about the proxies not being able to permit
6 -- not being permitted to vote. Again, just like at your
7 commission or council meetings some of you, you don't send
8 proxies and other people are not allowed to vote. If
9 you're not there then there is no vote cast on your
10 behalf. Any consideration for that? But a lot of the
11 Roundtables are allowing proxies to attend on their
12 behalf. Any discussion? Do you agree with the proxies
13 not being able to vote, but can attend on your behalf.
14 And I see the heads shaking. Okay. How -- what is your
15 pleasure or your desire for the public's participation?

16 MR. BEASLEY: I would like for them to be able to
17 speak as we go along.

18 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Okay. All right. So you --

19 MR. BEASLEY: Del Beasley, Evans County.

20 MS. KENNEDY: Yes. Okay.

21 MR. BEASLEY: Sorry.

22 MS. KENNEDY: So Mr. Beasley said that he'd like for
23 them to be able to speak. Let's kind of -- and you said
24 as we go along?

25 MR. BEASLEY: As we go along. As much -- my County

1 Administrator, Caughey Hearn -- I'm a farmer.

2 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

3 MR. BEASLEY: And I would like to say I know
4 everything and know all the acronyms and all the
5 percentages; but I do not.

6 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right.

7 MR. BEASLEY: And that's the reason he's our county
8 administrator to aid us on these things.

9 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

10 MR. BEASLEY: And he could have a lot of good input
11 that it may not realize.

12 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Okay. So he's
13 suggesting that we have -- and so you're suggesting just
14 as it has occurred --

15 MR. BEASLEY: Already.

16 MS. KENNEDY: -- already tonight --

17 MR. BEASLEY: Already occurred.

18 MS. KENNEDY: -- that the public be allowed to ask
19 questions and -- because I think most of it asking
20 questions more than anything else. Is that --

21 MR. BEST: I have no problem with that.

22 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Is that consensus with you? So
23 we're going to say -- anybody differ from that?

24 Yes, sir, Mr. James Rhodes, City of Rochelle?

25 MR. RHODES: James Rhodes. The limitation on the

1 amount of minutes?

2 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Suggest some --

3 MR. RHODES: I think there should be a limitation on
4 the amount of minutes.

5 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

6 MR. RHODES: That's what we do at city council
7 meetings.

8 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. So then that would, essentially,
9 change the format, though, so he's suggesting that there
10 be a limit on the amount of time that the public can
11 participate?

12 MR. BEST: I have no problem with that.

13 MS. KENNEDY: And if you want to do that then that
14 would change the format. So do you want to say that they
15 speak on the front end or the back end? Sometimes the
16 backend will provide more opportunity for the information
17 that's been shared.

18 MR. BEASLEY: He said a limit on the time. I mean,
19 does he mean as in when or the amount of time they speak
20 is way I understood it.

21 MS. KENNEDY: He means the amount of time -- the
22 total amount of time that the public can speak just like
23 -- he mentioned that some of you have limits on -- at your
24 public meeting that your council and commission meetings
25 on the public to speak. And so you're suggesting a time

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limit?

MR. RHODES: Per speaker.

MS. KENNEDY: Per speaker. Okay. Per speaker not a total time.

MR. RHODES: Not total time, per speaker.

MS. KENNEDY: Okay. I'm sorry. I misunderstood you. So total. Ok All right. What would you suggest that that be, two minutes?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Three.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Five minutes.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Three.

MS. KENNEDY: Three minutes?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Three's enough.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Five minutes at the most.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Three's enough.

MS. KENNEDY: Three -- three minutes?

MR. RHODES: Three's fine.

MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Three minutes for everybody, three minutes? Three minutes? I'm looking back here (indicating). I'm looking back here (indicating). Three minutes. Okay. So we're going to amend the guidelines and say that the public has three minutes to vote -- to speak per person.

MR. THOMPSON: Ma'am.

MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir. Mr. Keith Thompson.

1 MR. THOMPSON: If -- Keith Thompson, Commissioner. I
2 know at our meetings and probably at everyone's meeting
3 here, if the chair manages the meeting, at his discretion,
4 I think, if we're going to do this, it should be done,
5 basically, like we do it at meetings within our counties.
6 I mean, it'd be hard to let someone just start speaking
7 that's in the public without someone being able to control
8 and manage that. And the chair could manage that also,
9 the time and the discussion. I mean, because, you know,
10 right now I'm sure everything's, you know, I know the
11 meeting is going to go great.

12 MS. KENNEDY: Right.

13 MR. THOMPSON: But you need, if the chair is going to
14 manage the meetings, then I think he would be the one that
15 should limit the person or say whether or not they can
16 speak or not. I mean, that's just, kind of, the way we
17 do. I don't know what you think about that.

18 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. I see the heads
19 shaking that the chair will have the ultimate decision on
20 terms of speaking and being able to call for comments and
21 questions --

22 MR. THOMPSON: I would think so. I mean, that's --

23 MS. KENNEDY: -- in the meetings.

24 MR. THOMPSON: In the meetings, right.

25 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

1 MR. THOMPSON: If the chair is going to be
2 controlling the meetings.

3 MS. KENNEDY: Yes. The chairs will be controlling
4 the meeting. That's their role. Okay.

5 So I think that's fair. And that would be the way it
6 would be handled anyway. All right.

7 So then the agreement is to have the meetings -- have
8 the public speaking limited to three minutes during the
9 meeting. And the chair would manage that process, manage
10 that discussion process.

11 MR. THOMPSON: Even with the -- the only thing about
12 limited to three minutes --

13 MS. KENNEDY: Uh-huh.

14 MR. THOMPSON: -- I mean, number one, who's going to
15 sit here taking the time down; number two, if the
16 discussion is of value, it may take longer than three
17 minutes for someone to be able to help this board. That's
18 what I mean by the --

19 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Okay.

20 MR. THOMPSON: -- not just the chairman conducting;
21 but the chair would --

22 MS. KENNEDY: Use his discretion.

23 MR. THOMPSON: -- use his discretion as to the
24 minutes also.

25 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Gotcha. Gotcha. Okay. All

1 right. I think that's fair. Okay.

2 Everybody is in agreement with that, generally,
3 generally in agreement. And I think we've seen occur
4 already tonight.

5 Do I have a motion for approval of the guidelines?

6 MR. BEST: Motion. Phil Best, City of Dublin.

7 MS. KENNEDY: Yes.

8 MR. SHAVER: Second. John Shaver, Wayne County.

9 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. It's been moved and seconded
10 that we adopt the guidelines with the amendment to allow
11 the public to speak with maybe a limit of three minutes;
12 but at the discretion of the chair. All in favor indicate
13 by --

14 I'm sorry. Yes, sir?

15 MR. LANIER: Is this motion after the Roundtable
16 speaks or during? H. V. Lanier, Candler County.

17 MS. KENNEDY: They said during. It sounded kind of
18 like it's occurred already. So --

19 MR. LANIER: All right.

20 MS. KENNEDY: -- some of the members of the public
21 had questions for Todd as he moved through his
22 presentation.

23 MR. LANIER: Recognize themselves to the chairman and
24 -- at any time and the chairman would let them speak.

25 MS. KENNEDY: He'll use his discretion, remember,

1 yes, sir. Okay.

2 Any other discussion?

3 (No member of the Roundtable indicated further
4 discussion.)

5 MS. KENNEDY: All in favor indicate by a show of your
6 right hand, please. Okay.

7 Unanimous.

8 Any -- no opposed. No opposition. Okay. All right.
9 Those are you guidelines. Govern yourselves accordingly.

10 And we'll go on to the next action item, which is --
11 and we're going to flip the format here or the agenda
12 here, Wade. And the reason why I'm going to do -- yes --
13 and the reason why I'm going to do that is because
14 normally we would elect a chair first, the chairperson,
15 and then go to the election of the Executive Committee.
16 But you've done work already in advance on the Executive
17 Committee.

18 (Slide 16 - Executive Committee)

19 MS. KENNEDY: So let's start with the Executive
20 Committee because Michelle Brown sent out an email to
21 everyone or a call to everyone asking whether you were
22 interested in participating on the Executive Committee or
23 not. Some of you responded yes. Some of you responded
24 no. And we'll get to that in just a few minutes.

25 But let's talk about the roles and responsibilities

1 of the Executive Committee:

2 It's the responsibility of the Executive Committee to
3 develop the constrained investment list in collaboration
4 with the planning director who's Todd;

5 That Executive Committee must consist of five voting
6 members from this Roundtable;

7 You'll also have two nonvoting members who are State
8 Representatives, Butch Parrish and Jimmy Pruettt; I don't
9 think they're here.

10 Are they here?

11 MR. MAZZA: No.

12 MS. KENNEDY: They're not here tonight.

13 They will be nonvoting members. And there is also
14 going to be a senate representative name who will also be
15 a nonvoting member; that person will be named at a later
16 time;

17 You are also responsible for holding the public
18 hearings as Todd mentioned.

19 Now, that's the role and responsibility of the
20 Executive Committee.

21 Let me call out -- I'm not going to -- those of you
22 who have responded already to Michelle, I have your names
23 here (indicating). And I know how you responded. Some of
24 you said yes, some of you said no and then some of you
25 have not responded at all. I'm going to call off the

1 names of those who are -- who have offered themselves as
2 being interested in the Executive Committee and then we'll
3 ask if there are others so:

4 Cliff Avant, I hope I pronounced that correctly.
5 Yes, sir. Okay. And you're still interested?

6 MR. AVANT: (Nods.)

7 MS. KENNEDY: Buddy Adams.

8 MR. ADAMS: (Identifies self.)

9 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir. Okay.

10 Joey Fountain.

11 MR. FOUNTAIN: Here.

12 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

13 H. V. Lanier.

14 MR. LANIER: Right here (indicating).

15 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right.

16 James McAfee.

17 MR. MCAFEE: (Identifies self.)

18 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

19 Bayne Stone.

20 MR. STONE: Here.

21 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

22 Billy Trapnell.

23 MR. TRAPNELL: (Identifies self.)

24 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right.

25 John Shaver.

1 MR. SHAVER: Here.

2 MS. KENNEDY: All right.

3 And Keith Thompson.

4 MR. THOMPSON: Here.

5 MS. KENNEDY: Are the name -- Okay. All right. Are
6 the names that I have and that you have responded to the
7 RC in terms of being interested in the Executive
8 Committee. Is there anyone else who wants to add their
9 name to this list of the Executive Committee member -- to
10 be considered for Executive Committee membership?

11 MR. ROYAL: I'd like to have mine on there.

12 MS. KENNEDY: You'd like to add -- okay.

13 MR. ROYAL: And I didn't get the email either.

14 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. So we're adding Luther Royal,
15 who is the Mayor of Claxton. Anyone else? The Executive
16 Committee.

17 Now, before we go to vote -- oh, yes, sir?

18 MR. WEST: Yes, ma'am. I'd like to submit my name,
19 Buddy West from Toombs County.

20 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Buddy West, Commission Chair of
21 Toombs County. Anyone else?

22 (No response.)

23 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Before we -- and we're going to
24 pass around a ballot and ask you to vote for five of these
25 people. I'm going to call the names one more time:

1 Cliff Avant, did I call that right? Did I say that
2 right?

3 MR. AVANT: Avant (pronouncing).

4 MS. KENNEDY: Avant (pronouncing).

5 Buddy Adams, Joey Fountain, H. V. Lanier, James,
6 McAfee, Bayne Stone, Billy Trapnell, John Shaver, Keith
7 Thompson, Luther Royal, and Buddy West.

8 So we're going to pass around a nominations form and,
9 if you will, check off five of the names because the
10 Executive Committee is required to have five members.

11 Now -- yes, sir.

12 MR. RHODES: James Rhodes, City of Rochelle.

13 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

14 MR. RHODES: Those you called out, ask them to stand
15 up so I can look at who I'm voting in.

16 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Thank you. All of
17 you who put your names out there for consideration, please
18 stand.

19 (Members of the Roundtable whose name was called
20 stood.)

21 MS. KENNEDY: They want to see what you look like.

22 (Ballots are passed out to Roundtable members.)

23 MR. SHAVER: If I may, let me make a correction on
24 Wayne County Ed Jeffords is -- I'm the chairman, John
25 Shaver so...

1 MS. KENNEDY: All right. So -- Okay. Before we go
2 down that list we're -- we have some corrections to be
3 made to the list. Let's call out those corrections.

4 Buddy West's name should, actually, be there for
5 Laurens County; is that correct --

6 (Several Roundtable members spoke simultaneously.)

7 MS. KENNEDY: I mean, Buddy Adams.

8 (Corrections were made to the list.)

9 MS. KENNEDY: For those of you who are -- who don't
10 see your names, okay, who don't see your names. If you
11 will, change it on the sheet for us.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Everyone needs to change it.

13 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, everyone.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How about just writing it on
15 the back?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why don't we just write the
17 five names who we want to list on the back? It would be a
18 lot easier than using this.

19 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Just write the
20 names. Sorry for the incorrections.

21 MR. CANADY: Miss. Miss.

22 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

23 MR. CANADY: James Canady, Emanuel County.

24 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

25 MR. CANADY: We just recently changed commission

1 chairs --

2 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

3 MR. CANADY: -- and Mr. Thompson's here. They got me
4 on this as the Emanuel County representative.

5 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

6 MR. CANADY: So Mr. Thompson's name is there instead
7 of mine.

8 MR. THOMPSON: Everyone needs to know I haven't been
9 here before; but I'm not a rookie. I've been three-time
10 chairman. I've been there for 12 years. So don't think
11 because it's the first time you saw my face that I'm a
12 rookie at this job.

13 MS. KENNEDY: We know that already based on your
14 questions.

15 MR. THOMPSON: I just wanted to let you know that.

16 MS. KENNEDY: Todd, come on.

17 MR. LONG: I want to -- a point of order. We are
18 going to go ahead and vote; but at the end of the vote if
19 the top five vote getters -- if two of the top five or if
20 there's a combination where two people are from one
21 county, in other words, you got a county commissioner and
22 a mayor both in that top five from the same location;
23 that's forbidden in the Bill. All right. So we'll deal
24 with that possibility after you vote. If that's the case
25 then if those two individuals -- then one will have to

1 step off.

2 MR. BEST: Why don't you go to the next highest vote
3 getter if that happens?

4 MR. LONG: What's that?

5 MR. BEST: If that happens go to the next highest
6 vote getter, number six.

7 MR. LONG: Let's just see what happens first.

8 MS. KENNEDY: Yeah. Let's see what happens.

9 MR. STONE: If you'll look at your list, I don't
10 think that can happen. I don't think it's possible.

11 MS. KENNEDY: You're right. You're right. Okay.
12 Let's -- and then while you're also --

13 MR. STONE: Where can it happen?

14 MR. MAZZA: Candler County.

15 MR. STONE: Candler and Metter. Okay. All right.

16 MS. KENNEDY: And also while you're writing your
17 names down and we have a list of 11 people --

18 MR. SHAVER: Who else is on the list that are write-
19 ins.

20 MS. KENNEDY: That's the full list. So you're only
21 giving us five.

22 Remember, now, you're only -- remember you're only
23 voting for five, only voting for five.

24 Now, also while you're in that mode of thinking
25 regarding the elect -- the Executive Committee, also

1 remember that you have a chair to elect. And we're not
2 going to do that just yet. We're going to come back with
3 the Executive Committee vote.

4 But I'm going -- I made some assumptions. One
5 assumption that I made about the chair is that the same
6 people who said that they are not interested in the
7 Executive Committee are probably not interested in being
8 chair. And so we probably won't throw your name back out
9 there. It looks like this list of people --

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We don't do it on the same
11 paper here?

12 MS. KENNEDY: It doesn't go on the same paper. We're
13 not ready yet. I just want you to start thinking about
14 it.

15 I'm going to assume as we are moving through that
16 these 11 members are the ones who still want themselves
17 considered as chair. Now, while they're taking up your
18 ballots and you're still considering --

19 (Ballots are taken up from Roundtable members.)

20 MS. KENNEDY: Todd a question has come up about how
21 the senate representative is going to be selected.

22 MR. LONG: We'll talk about that while we're counting
23 votes.

24 MS. KENNEDY: Yes.

25 MR. LONG: All right. Who has not voted yet?

1 Everybody? All right. All right.

2 She said there was a question about the -- how the
3 General Assembly is involved in this process a little bit.
4 As you know the Executive Committee is five people off
5 this (indicating). They're voting members. They're also
6 three nonvoting members from the General Assembly. In
7 y'all's case there are two House members and one Senate.
8 That's just like everywhere in the state; but in your
9 case, you -- who are the House members? You got that
10 Beth?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Butch Perrish and somebody
12 else.

13 MR. CANADY: Butch Perrish and Jimmy Pruett.

14 MS. KENNEDY: Jimmy Pruett.

15 MR. LONG: Okay. It's Jimmy Pruett and Butch
16 Perrish.

17 MR. CANADY: Butch Perrish.

18 MR. LONG: Okay. All right. You may have a question
19 about who the Senate rep is. All right. These positions
20 are chosen by the House and Senate transportation chair.
21 So in the case of the Senate, Jeff Mullis out Chickamauga,
22 Georgia, is choosing who his Senate members are. He
23 decided to wait until the session started because he had
24 so many new Senators. And I met with him Friday or
25 Monday, I guess it was, and we went through all of his

1 selections and he's fine-tuning it and we should have
2 those posted by the end of the week.

3 MR. CANADY: And you don't know who ours will be?

4 MR. LONG: I think I know who yours is going to be;
5 but I'm going to let him make that decision, not me.

6 So -- but there -- you would be surprised -- these
7 guys are a little bit nervous because they're afraid you
8 guys are going to meet like every night, you know. I'm
9 like, no, no, the Executive Committee is going to have to
10 meet a lot; but it's not going to meet all the time and
11 they're very interested in being an active part of this
12 process. So, honestly, guys the only involvement by the
13 General Assembly in this, other than writing the Bill, but
14 in the selection process, really, is, you know, their
15 involvement on the Executive Committee. You know, you're
16 not getting -- your list is not going through them for
17 approval. So that's a pretty big -- you know, they write
18 a Bill and then write the amount of it totally as far as
19 making the decision. Some of the previous versions of the
20 Bill, actually, had, you know, the General Assembly had a
21 list of projects in the Bill. So this is a pretty big
22 local government push, really, to be honest with you. All
23 right.

24 Yes, sir?

25 MR. MCAFEE: James McAfee from Johnson County. With

1 all the meetings be here of the Executive Committee?

2 MR. LONG: Let me describe right quick, we've asked
3 the RC's, the Regional Commission Staff or Regional
4 Commissions, if you'd read the Bill are not in the Bill
5 anywhere. Okay. And there's a reason for that because,
6 you know, not all RC's are created equal, not all -- they
7 didn't know how to deal with them. So what we decided to
8 do early on, though, we met with the Regional Commission
9 Association back in August and we, basically, came up with
10 five or six different roles the RC's could play. And one
11 of them is: meeting facilitation, meeting location,
12 logistics, etc.

13 Now, we've asked, in your case, Alan here, they've
14 been doing a great job, and they picked this location and
15 this, apparently, where y'all come for a lot of your
16 meetings, right?

17 MR. MAZZA: Exactly.

18 MR. LONG: So we don't care. We're not going to make
19 you come to Atlanta. So the Executive Committee, though
20 that's a smaller committee. It's doesn't have to be here;
21 but it can. It's the center of the district so. It's
22 surprising most of the RC's are located in small
23 communities that are in the center. Like Columbus we met
24 in Buena Vista, which is not a very big town at all. So
25 you're meeting in small areas. But we'll do whatever.

1 All right. All right.

2 Any other questions about the Bill or anything? Well
3 --

4 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir, question? James Rhodes.

5 MR. RHODES: James Rhodes, Mayor of Rochelle. I
6 think we all ought to thank these people for having us to
7 come over here. It is closer for a lot of people; but it
8 is in the center, and the fine meal that they served.
9 They put forth a lot of effort and not, for me,
10 personally, but it's not that far for me, 50 miles. And I
11 think they should be commended for letting us have it
12 here.

13 MR. LONG: I agree. So we have the, I don't know, I
14 guess, the RC -- y'all end up footing all the Bill for
15 this, right, which means y'all foot the Bill --

16 MR. MAZZA: (Inaudible.)

17 MR. LONG: Yeah. Thank you very much. We appreciate
18 eating y'all's dime, I guess so. All right.

19 There was a question asked earlier and we didn't
20 answer it and we're going to go back and look. The
21 question was: Does the discretionary money change on a
22 yearly basis, the formula, based on differences in
23 population and lane miles because we do know that US
24 Census figures do come out on an annual basis. They go
25 the -- the census is set every ten years; but there are

1 census estimates every year. And we're going to -- I'm
2 going to, basically, claim ignorance at this point. I
3 didn't bring my lawyer with me so I don't know if it's
4 going to change or not.

5 Certainly, it's a complicated question because the
6 amount of money raised under the regional side, you set
7 your project based on that. So if you have ten dollars
8 worth of projects or let's assume ten dollars here
9 overall, right, so seven-fifty was on the project side;
10 you only had two-fifty on the discretionary. Well, your
11 project side can't change during the course of the ten
12 years.

13 So the question is: And I think what he's leading to
14 is if the amount of money in revenue is much more than we
15 thought then, ultimately, the discretionary is the
16 benefactor of that because you just, basically, raise the
17 amount of money the region gets and it's distributed by
18 formula. Or if a city had tremendous growth the
19 population then they would end up getting a little but
20 more share of that money as well. All right.

21 MR. SHAVER: And our population, I think, has shown
22 over ten years about a ten percent increase so it would
23 effect.

24 MR. LONG: Yeah.

25 MS. KENNEDY: (John Shaver, Wayne County, speaking to

1 court reporter.)

2 MR. LONG: But if your population -- if the
3 population of all the cities and counties have gone up
4 about ten percent then the net effect of distribution --

5 MR. LANIER: H. V. Lanier, Candler County. Once on
6 the Executive Board Member, once they're placed, will that
7 be an open public meeting? Like, for instance, if I
8 wanted to bring -- I wanted to come and I wanted to bring
9 my county attorney with me; is that okay?

10 MR. LONG: You would be treating -- every region has
11 pretty much decided to make those open meetings.

12 MR. LANIER: Open meeting?

13 MR. LONG: Yes.

14 MR. LANIER: Okay.

15 MR. LONG: There's nothing in the Bill that says it
16 one-way or the other; but it's a meeting of public
17 officials --

18 MR. LANIER: Got nothing to hide.

19 MR. LONG: -- probably some lawyer can give you an
20 opinion in this open meeting no matter what.

21 MR. LANIER: Well, either way I'd like, you know, I'd
22 like my --

23 MR. LONG: Yes.

24 MR. LANIER: -- county attorney to attend.

25 MS. KENNEDY: Any other questions?

1 (No response.)

2 MS. KENNEDY: Now, do you want to wait for your
3 Executive Committee slate to come back before we go to the
4 chair selection? You want to wait? Okay. Remember I
5 told you now these are the 11 people who placed themselves
6 open.

7 MR. FOUNTAIN: The chair doesn't come out of those
8 five?

9 MS. KENNEDY: The -- you determine that. And no, the
10 chair does not, necessarily, come out of that five.

11 MR. FOUNTAIN: It's five plus --

12 MR. LONG: But it can?

13 MS. KENNEDY: But it can. And so that's why I'm
14 asking. You can do it any way you want to. And so do you
15 want -- let's talk about how you might like to do that.

16 MR. STONE: Let me interrupt you --

17 MS. KENNEDY: Every Roundtable is doing it
18 differently.

19 MR. STONE: Let me interrupt you just a minute.

20 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

21 MR. STONE: Explain to us, to the group, you're
22 talking about the chair of the Roundtable --

23 MS. KENNEDY: The chair of the Roundtable.

24 MR. STONE: -- not the chair of the Executive
25 Committee?

1 MS. KENNEDY: That's --

2 MR. STONE: We're talking about the chair of the
3 Roundtable.

4 MS. KENNEDY: The chair of the Roundtable. Now, I'm
5 glad you asked that question. I told you that a lot of
6 Roundtables are doing everything different. Nobody's
7 doing it the same way. So there are some Roundtables that
8 have only a chair of the Roundtable and they have their
9 five Executive Committee Members and they go on. Some
10 people have a chair of the Roundtable who is also a sixth
11 and nonvoting chair of the Executive Committee. So that's
12 how some of them do it. Then another person did it the
13 way you just asked, so another Roundtable did it the way
14 you just asked; that the chair comes from the Executive
15 Committee. And that person is the chair of the Roundtable
16 and the Executive Committee. So there are a lot of
17 different ways that you can do it. And so that's my
18 question to you: Do you want to wait? And we have some
19 other things we need to do tonight. We can go on to the
20 criteria and come back to the chair if you want to wait
21 for that count and determine how you want to select your
22 chair; that's my question to you or we can move forward
23 with the chair.

24 MR. THOMPSON: I think we should wait, I mean, until
25 you can get the list.

1 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Well, yes, sir, Mr.
2 Rhodes?

3 MR. RHODES: I recommend that the Executive Committee
4 elect their own chair.

5 MS. KENNEDY: They can do that. But, now, you -- but
6 you agreed that you're going to have a chair of the
7 Roundtable, that's the chair that we're electing tonight.
8 But you can decide any -- you can do it any way you want.

9 MR. SHAW: Let's -- Herb Shaw, Jessup. Let's wait
10 until we get an Executive Committee. If you got a
11 question you going to call the chair and you want them to
12 be knowledgeable. If they're not on the Executive
13 Committee they're not going to be knowledgeable.

14 MR. DIXON: Why don't we say that it comes from that
15 Executive Committee?

16 (Several Roundtable members agreed with the above
17 statement.)

18 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Then -- okay. All
19 right. Then I think I'm hearing that you're agreeing to
20 wait until the Executive Committee is identified then
21 we'll come back to the chair for that; is that the
22 consensus -- is there a consensus with the group in that
23 regard? Mr. Rhodes, I want to make sure you --

24 MR. RHODES: Yes.

25 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. So then --

1 MR. MCAFEE: Let me ask you something else.

2 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

3 MR. MCAFEE: James McAfee, Johnson County.

4 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

5 MR. MCAFEE: I hadn't heard it mentioned and I don't
6 know if Phil did and I --

7 MS. KENNEDY: And please, Mr. McAfee is talking and
8 we need to make sure that the court reporter is hearing
9 this.

10 MR. MCAFEE: I'm on some local boards and ever who is
11 elected to be on this board, how many meetings can they
12 miss and still be on the board? You know, I'm on some
13 boards and if you miss three meetings you off the board.
14 Now, if you off the board then how do you put somebody
15 else in that place is my question.

16 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. That's and I'm going to turn
17 that question back other to you all. How would you all
18 like to handle that process? That's an important question
19 and it's been dealt with at other Roundtables. So how do
20 you want to deal with that?

21 MR. SHAVER: John Shaver, Wayne County. We might
22 need to add an alternate to that list to elect an
23 alternate in case somebody gets hit with a truck or can't
24 attend so many meetings --

25 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

1 MR. SHAVER: -- to step up.

2 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

3 MR. MCAFEE: I'll make that in the form of a motion.

4 MR. STONE: Well, then you need to notify the --

5 MR. MCAFEE: We need to have an alternate person.

6 MR. STONE: If you do that you need to notify the
7 vote counters to get the sixth high person as the
8 alternate, whoever gets the sixth highest number of votes
9 would be the alternate.

10 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. So you're suggesting
11 that you want to have an alternate and, again, it's,
12 perfectly, acceptable to do that and that's a good
13 question, Mr. McAfee.

14 So you're suggesting Mayor Stone that the alternate
15 and he's suggesting, Mr. McAfee is suggesting an alternate
16 to the five just in case someone is unable to attend along
17 the way.

18 MR. RHODES: One may have died.

19 MS. KENNEDY: I'm sorry?

20 MR. RHODES: One may have died.

21 MS. KENNEDY: We're not saying that; we're not
22 claiming that. Just so you know there might be traveling
23 or something.

24 So let's -- But the point is that you want to identify
25 an alternate. And Mayor Stone suggested that the sixth

1 highest vote getter is that person or should be that
2 person.

3 MR. STONE: Right.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'll second that.

5 MR. SHAVER: John Shaver, Wayne County. I don't want
6 to muddy this; but you've got two mayors and three
7 commissioners. So you almost need a mayor and
8 commissioner alternate.

9 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right.

10 (Multiple Roundtable members spoke among themselves
11 simultaneously.)

12 MR. STONE: I don't think you can change that. The
13 Bills got us tied in on five.

14 MR. SHAVER: The Bill is tied in to two and three, I
15 think.

16 (Multiple Roundtable members spoke among themselves.)

17 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

18 MR. SHAVER: Doesn't the Bill tie in two mayors and
19 three commissioners?

20 MS. KENNEDY: For the Executive Committee.

21 MR. SHAVER: Yes.

22 MS. KENNEDY: For the alternates you're asking if
23 that same process should apply.

24 MR. SHAVER: Well, it would almost have to.

25 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. So you're suggesting that it

1 apply. And Todd I'm going to let you weight in there.

2 MR. LONG: Okay. What's -- I got the results here.

3 MS. KENNEDY: So the question was or the suggestion,
4 recommendation was that they identify that the Roundtable
5 -- that the Executive Committee identifies a sixth person
6 --

7 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

8 MS. KENNEDY: -- as an alternate in case someone is
9 unable to attend one of the meetings. And a suggestion
10 was made first that it was the sixth highest vote getter.
11 But now Mr. Shaver is suggesting that that might -- that
12 that may not be the best method and it be the --

13 MR. SHAVER: Doesn't the House Bill call for two
14 mayors and three commissioners? No combination?

15 MR. LONG: No.

16 MR. SHAVER: Well, then it doesn't matter. I
17 withdraw all those comments.

18 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. So then -- okay. So the sixth
19 -- so I'm hearing consensus for the sixth highest.

20 MR. LONG: All right. Lets --

21 MS. KENNEDY: For the sixth highest.

22 MR. LONG: So the -- but the Bill -- let's think
23 through this. The Bill allows you to vote as a round
24 table. It says the majority vote of the Roundtable for
25 five members. And you're saying if somebody just can't be

1 there this sixth person comes and votes in their place?

2 (Multiple members of the Roundtable respond with,
3 "No, sir.)

4 MR. STONE: If something happens that the -- that
5 you've got an alternate if something were to happen that
6 -- let's say that all the sudden I have a catastrophe in
7 my family and I happen to be on it and I ask to get out;
8 you've got an alternate without having --

9 MR. LONG: Okay. What you're doing is preventing --

10 MR. STONE: Spare tire.

11 MR. LONG: -- the Roundtable from having to reconvene
12 to pick another person.

13 MR. STONE: We get the spare tire in case we need it.

14 MR. LONG: Like in Atlanta we, actually, had a Round
15 -- and Executive Committee Member withdraw his name but --
16 and they had to reconvene to elect a replacement --

17 MR. STONE: We wouldn't have to do that here.

18 MR. LONG: You would not have to that in this case.
19 That's fine with me. All right. All right.

20 Here are the winners. All right. All right.

21 Billy Trapnell from the City of Metter.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Stand up.

23 MR. LONG: Stand up.

24 (The members chosen stand as their name is called.)

25 MR. LONG: All right. Bayne Stone from Hazlehurst.

1 Let's see. Buddy Adams from Laurens County, Joey Fountain
2 from the City of Mt. Vernon, and Buddy West from Toombs
3 County.

4 (Roundtable members applaud.)

5 MS. KENNEDY: Now --

6 MR. LONG: All right. Now, where's my counter at --

7 MR. STONE: Where's your sixth high now?

8 MS. KENNEDY: Yeah.

9 MR. LONG: All right. The sixth place was, actually,
10 really close with several people. But sixth place, the
11 alternate, will be Keith Thompson from Emanuel County.
12 All right.

13 That's a good mix. Y'all did very good.

14 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Okay. Now, that you
15 have -- yes, sir?

16 MR. BEASLEY: Del Beasley --

17 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

18 MR. BEASLEY: -- Evans County.

19 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

20 MR. BEASLEY: Earlier it was mentioned that, several
21 people mentioned, I'm going against what several people
22 want and it's my fault for sticking it out there. If the
23 chairman from the Roundtable should come from this list,
24 I'm thinking of this list as a committee from this
25 Roundtable.

1 MS. KENNEDY: It is.

2 MR. BEASLEY: And for the committee to make a report,
3 they're reporting, you know, you got a chairman up here
4 that's taking that report; I would think the chairman
5 should come from someone else, is my opinion. For the
6 chairman -- this chairman for the Roundtable should be a
7 separate one from the chairman of the committee. A couple
8 said they thought it should be from the committee; I think
9 I should be someone else that's not on the committee
10 because they'll be reporting back to the Roundtable.

11 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Discussion? And we
12 didn't vote on it. That was just kind of consensus. So
13 discussion on that? Did you hear Mr. Beasley's
14 explanation for selecting a committee chair from the
15 Roundtable chair from another list of persons who are not
16 the -- not members of the Executive Committee?

17 (No response.)

18 MS. KENNEDY: It's real quiet all the sudden.

19 MR. STONE: What have the other districts done? What
20 --

21 MS. KENNEDY: Everybody's done everything different.
22 Remember, let me go back to tell you what some of the
23 other districts have done. Some of them -- Todd talked
24 about Atlanta. Initially, Atlanta didn't have a chairman
25 of anything. They went back and reconvened and now they

1 have a chairperson and who is the chair of the Roundtable
2 and the Executive Committee.

3 MR. LONG: But as a nonvoting member --

4 MS. KENNEDY: But as a nonvoting member.

5 MR. LONG: -- of the Executive Committee.

6 MS. KENNEDY: -- of the Executive Committee. So he's
7 the -- he's a nonvoting member of the Executive Committee;
8 but he's also the chair of the Roundtable.

9 MR. STONE: I think that's kind of what our friend
10 right there is suggesting, maybe, to elect a chairman
11 remote from us and let that person be a nonvoting member
12 of the Roundtable. And then when we do get back together,
13 at least, we're all oriented -- we're all on the same page
14 maybe; is that what you're saying?

15 MS. KENNEDY: Is that what you're saying?

16 MR. BEASLEY: (Nods head.)

17 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Okay. That person not be
18 allowed -- to only thing that you're suggesting is that
19 the chair not be allowed to vote instead it's a nonvoting
20 member of the Executive Committee.

21 MR. BEASLEY: A nonvoting member of the Executive
22 Committee.

23 MS. KENNEDY: Right. But also the -- right.

24 MR. BEASLEY: Okay.

25 MS. KENNEDY: That's what -- that's right.

1 MR. STONE: Okay. We need to elect a chairman then
2 other than this committee. You --

3 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. But let's determine before we
4 elect a chairman what that chairman's role is going to be.
5 So you're determining that the chair is the chair of the
6 Roundtable and a nonvoting member of the Executive
7 Committee?

8 MR. STONE: That's what he suggested.

9 MS. KENNEDY: That's what he suggested and is that
10 the consensus of everyone? It got quiet all the sudden.
11 Okay. I want you to talk-up now because I -- we're about
12 to --

13 MR. LANIER: H. V. Lanier, Candler County. I the
14 chair should have a vote.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I vote (inaudible) from six.

16 MR. STONE: We can't do that. The Bill won't let you
17 put him on as a voting member now. You're --

18 MS. KENNEDY: You can elect a chair from your five
19 who is a voting member.

20 MR. LANIER: You talking about a Roundtable.

21 MS. KENNEDY: Of both if you want. Right now what
22 you agreed to is a -- what you agreed to earlier in your
23 guidelines is to elect a chair for your Roundtable. And
24 I've given you a lot of different scenarios of what other
25 people have done and you've come back and said -- and

1 saying that you might want a chair of the Executive
2 Committee as well.

3 MR. LANIER: If he's not going to be able to vote
4 that's going to cut his own county out to be represented.

5 MR. THOMPSON: Well, if you go with the five member
6 --

7 MS. KENNEDY: Keith Thompson.

8 MR. THOMPSON: I'm sorry, Keith Thompson. If you go
9 with a five-member board and take a chair and let him be
10 the chair of that committee in a Roundtable you solve all
11 the problems. He can vote. He can still be there and
12 he'll have the knowledge of that committee to be here with
13 the Roundtable also.

14 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

15 MR. RHODES: I, basically -- we'll these are
16 important --

17 MS. KENNEDY: And if we could listen -- if we could
18 listen to the discussion please. This is very important.

19 MR. RHODES: -- why we have five person to vote is to
20 break ties. I think the Executive Committee ought to
21 elect the chairman who they want. And because the
22 chairman is just like a city council, you got five members
23 you keep breaking the tie. So I think the Executive
24 Committee should elect their own chairman then he could
25 serve as this other one too. And then that way you won't

1 have any conflict.

2 MS. KENNEDY: Or you don't have to have a chair of
3 the Executive Committee. You could only have a chair of
4 the Roundtable.

5 MR. RHODES: You can't have a chairman of the
6 Executive Committee?

7 MS. KENNEDY: You don't have to have to have, I mean,
8 that's up to you.

9 So let's -- what I need to do is for someone to make
10 a motion in terms of what you want to do.

11 MR. THOMPSON: I make a motion that we pick the or
12 have the Executive Committee pick a chair from the five
13 and let that chair be also -- also be the Roundtable
14 chairperson also.

15 MR. TYNDALL: I second that motion also.

16 (Several members of the Roundtable seconded the
17 motion simultaneously.)

18 MS. KENNEDY: Okay.

19 (Several Roundtable members all started speaking
20 simultaneously.)

21 MS. KENNEDY: Wait a minute. One person at a time.

22 It's -- we have a motion and it's been seconded on
23 the floor that the Executive Committee select the chair
24 and that person will serve as a voting member of the
25 Executive Committee and the chair of the Roundtable. Do I

1 have that right, Mr. Thompson?

2 MR. THOMPSON: That's right.

3 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. And it's been
4 seconded. Okay.

5 Mr. Dixon, I think you had hand up.

6 MR. DIXON: I just, I think, that the -- this group
7 should elect the chairman rather than the five.

8 MR. THOMPSON: Yeah. I'll go right along with that.
9 I think so too, other than the five number that it be
10 elected; but let it come from those five.

11 (Several Roundtable Members agreed verbally
12 simultaneously.)

13 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. So you're
14 withdrawing your motion?

15 MR. THOMPSON: That's right.

16 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. So --

17 MR. THOMPSON: Change it to that.

18 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. So the motion is withdrawn. And
19 Mr. Dixon, do I have that in the form of a motion, Mr.
20 Dixon?

21 MR. MCAFEE: I'll make it in the form of a motion.

22 MR. DIXON: Yes, ma'am?

23 MS. KENNEDY: Do I have that in the form of a --

24 MR. DIXON: You have it in the form of a motion.

25 MS. KENNEDY: -- in the form of a motion that the

1 Roundtable elects the chair and the chair comes from the
2 five.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second the motion.

4 MS. KENNEDY: I'm sorry?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I second the motion.

6 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. So does everyone
7 understand how that's going to occur?

8 (No response.)

9 MS. KENNEDY: And all in favor of -- any other
10 discussion? Is everyone clear in terms of how we're going
11 to elect the chair?

12 MR. RHODES: Elect (inaudible).

13 MS. KENNEDY: Mr. Rhodes says he doesn't understand.
14 There's a motion and it's been seconded.

15 And I ask you, please, let me talk so that everyone
16 is clear. You may not be able to hear well because you're
17 having your own conversations.

18 So the motion is to -- and it's been seconded -- to
19 have the Roundtable elect the chair from the Executive
20 Committee. That person would serve as the chair for the
21 Roundtable and the Executive Committee. And that that
22 person is going to come from the Executive Committee.

23 (Several Roundtable members responded, "right.")

24 MR. MCAFEE: Are we going to do it by ballot just
25 like we did a while ago?

1 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Okay.

2 So it's -- any discussion?

3 Yes, sir, Mr. West?

4 MR. WEST: Buddy West, Toombs County. He mentioned
5 the -- from taking it from the -- like we just voted on,
6 it may be that a person does not want to be the chair.

7 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Is there anybody --
8 As I asked all of you in the beginning if all those 11
9 names that we put up there on the screen, were putting
10 yourselves out there for the Executive Committee and the
11 chair; is there any five -- is there anyone -- any member
12 of the Executive Committee who does not want to serve as
13 chair, would not be willing to serve as chair. Okay.

14 (No response.)

15 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. Y'all agree to do it. All
16 right. So then all in favor of moving forward with that
17 format to elect the chair raise your right hand please.

18 (Unanimous.)

19 MS. KENNEDY: Any opposed?

20 (None.)

21 MS. KENNEDY: Any opposed? Do I have any opposed?

22 (None.)

23 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. If we'll just -- we are going to
24 take a ballot and if you will just write the name on the
25 back of the --

1 MR. SHAW: Madam Moderator.

2 MS. KENNEDY: Yes, sir.

3 MR. SHAW: Yes, sir. I would like to nominate Mr.
4 Buddy West, Toombs County, to chair.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This is a better way of doing
6 it.

7 MR. LONG: This is the better way to do it.

8 MR. SHAW: Herb Shaw, Jessup.

9 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. So you want to do it
10 that way. You want to take nominations. Okay.

11 (Several Roundtable Members spoke simultaneously.)

12 MR. WEST: I withdraw my name. I had rather let's go
13 to consensus of the group.

14 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Let's -- you've
15 already voted.

16 MR. WEST: Vote on it. I appreciate that.

17 MS. HUFFSTETLER: Are we doing a ballot?

18 MS. KENNEDY: Yeah. Just give them a piece of paper
19 and they're going to write the name on it.

20 (Roundtable members are given ballots.)

21 MS. KENNEDY: You're just going to write one name on
22 it. One name from the slide. Can everybody see all the
23 five names?

24 (Roundtable members cast votes and have a discussion
25 among themselves.)

1 MS. KENNEDY: All right. So we have a chair. We
2 have a chair. And if you would, come back to your
3 positions, please. We have one more piece of discussion
4 and action item to move on after this.

5 So the chair is Buddy Adams from Laurens County.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. KENNEDY: And in the spirit Mayor Rhodes, will
8 you stand up, Mr. Adams, please.

9 MR. BEST: I just hope he does a better job for y'all
10 than he does us.

11 (Laughter.)

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There goes 50 percent of his
13 paved roads in the City of Dublin. We won't get another
14 one.

15 MS. KENNEDY: Okay. All right. Okay. So we have
16 one last action item and I'm going to ask Todd to come up
17 and you may need some -- you may have the assistance of
18 Brian Rogers on that.

19 MR. LONG: We haven't had a break. You guys have got
20 up and got tea. It's getting late do you want a
21 five-minute break. Chairman, I'll ask him.

22 MR. ADAMS: Keep going.

23 MR. LONG: The chairman says keep going. All right.

24 (Some Roundtable members wanted a break.)

25 MR. LONG: The pleasure of the chairman is a

1 five-minute break.

2 (A break ensued for approximately five minutes.)

3 MR. LONG: All right. It's getting late we'll go
4 through the criteria now.

5 As we develop criteria, which is required under the
6 Bill, I was asked, under the Bill, the director of
7 planning commission was to lay it out as a recommendation
8 to the locals. You guys are in a very unique region here.
9 I understand that. You don't have a major engine in your
10 region that generates a lot of revenue. You've got a lot
11 less revenue than the other regions. And you got some
12 unique characteristics that lend itself to a little but
13 more flexibility. I've worked with some of your ideas
14 that you have on criteria. But I want to back up before
15 we talk about the details and kind of tell you how we got
16 to where we are today so you know the background.

17 As we developed the criteria -- go to the next slide.

18 (Slide 21 - Overview of Regional Criteria.)

19 MR. LONG: -- we, basically, looked back at the
20 statewide strategic plan we did last year. And that has
21 four goals in it. And these goals are great goals.
22 They're good goals for anywhere in the state. As a matter
23 of fact you go to Washington State out west they'll have
24 probably similar type thoughts and actions. When you do
25 any kind of transportation projects you're looking at

1 getting the economic growth engine and making us
2 competitive. You want companies to come Georgia. You
3 want companies that are in Georgia to stay in Georgia.
4 And that means you got to invest.

5 And second you want to make sure your safe. You want
6 to make sure. You want to make sure you're putting a
7 product on the street that's safe.

8 Third, you want to maximize what you have. I-16 is a
9 great example. What are we doing outside of Dublin on
10 I-16? We're repaving it, right, a concrete section.
11 That's an asset we own now. Trucks are beating it up
12 since it opened back in the 70's, right; trucks are
13 beating it up coming out of the Port. And it was falling
14 apart. It was getting where you couldn't hold a cup of
15 coffee on that section of 16; could you, without it
16 spilling it in your lap. But that's -- we've got to
17 maximize the use of those assets and take care of them.

18 Third [sic], we got to minimize the impact on the
19 environment. So those are general broad goals that kind
20 of drove some of the decisions made in the criteria.

21 Next, Outcomes. At the end of the day if you want
22 the sales tax to pass you've got to do three things and
23 these are the same three things you did on your SPLOST:

24 You've got to get out there and say, all right, the
25 projects in the sales tax have value to the taxpayers; if

1 the taxpayers don't -- if the taxpayers don't feel like
2 there's a value there, forget it. Projects have to be
3 delivered. You can't have projects on there that you
4 can't deliver in this time span. Just like if you're
5 putting a SPLOST list together, if you put a SPLOST list
6 together on projects that you can't deliver, you're asking
7 for failure, right. Same principle.

8 And last, but not least, your list has to be
9 publically appealing because if you can't sell the voters
10 on the list, you're back to square one where we're at
11 today. And we're just riding on the regular federal aid
12 program that we have. And you know how that goes, just
13 kind of piecemeal, we kind of moving along at a real slow
14 pace. Yeah, your projects on the list; but it's going to
15 be a number of years getting out to it. And, now, I know
16 that's frustrating for everybody. It's frustrating for
17 me.

18 So we look at our Guiding Principles. We want to
19 focus on projects that can be delivered fairly easily.
20 We'll look at projects that have had some vetting, some
21 thought process. Now, we'll talk about that a little bit
22 in your criteria. But, particularly, in areas that have
23 plans, you guys don't have an MPO. You might not even
24 know what an MPO is, a Metropolitan Planning Organization.
25 You don't have a -- in this region, this is, actually, the

1 only -- of all 12 regions this is the only region that
2 doesn't have an MPO. You might not have known that.
3 They're required by federal law to have a transportation
4 plan.

5 Investments need to be consistent with the statewide
6 goals and objectives. I don't think that's going to be an
7 issue.

8 Next slide.

9 (Slide 22-23- All Program Areas - Roadway Capital)

10 MR. LONG: All right. Now, let's talk about these
11 program areas. When we started developing programs areas
12 and you saw it on your sheet in your criteria, we,
13 basically, laid out the general broad categories. And,
14 you know roadway capital projects are projects -- now,
15 we're talking about the regional list not the
16 discretionary. These are projects that connect activity
17 centers or employment centers, to get people to market,
18 you know, you remember Old Farmer Road Market Friday's
19 that we used to have many moons ago. These are new roads,
20 widening, interchanges, interstate improvements, bridges,
21 Economic Development Corridors.

22 Next Slide.

23 (Slide - 24 Roadway and Bridge Maintenance)

24 MR. LONG: Roadway and Bridge Maintenance. These are
25 roads that, you know, obviously, serve interconnections

1 and is it taking care of what you have.

2 Next slide.

3 (Slide 25 - Safety and Traffic Operations)

4 MR. LONG: Safety Projects are big projects in sales
5 tax. You know that probably on your SPLOST. So those are
6 the things that sell. People kind of, they can visualize
7 that improvement and see how it's going to help them.

8 Next slide.

9 (Slide 26 - Freight and Logistics)

10 MR. LONG: Freight and Logistics. You got several
11 corridors in your district that I consider Freight
12 Corridors. The Freight Corridors in the Roadway Capital,
13 those areas actually overlap a little bit. The widening
14 of 441 is really a roadway widening project; but it's also
15 a Freight and Logistics project. Treutlen County falls in
16 either category.

17 Next slide.

18 (Slide 27 - Aviation)

19 MR. LONG: Aviation. How airports you got Alan? How
20 many airports do you have in your region? I bet you got
21 eight or nine, though, maybe more than that.

22 MR. MAZZA: Oh, yeah, more.

23 (Several Roundtable members said, "more.")

24 MR. LONG: Well, you know, if companies are coming to
25 look at locating in your community they don't drive,

1 right. They fly in. They fly in to nice places like
2 Vidalia, nice beautiful airport. You got some nice
3 airports. But, guess what, most of the airports in our
4 state severely lack funding and taxiway, runways are too
5 short, taxiways are not appropriate. Any navigational
6 aids added and a lot that's local money that you -- we
7 don't have to do those because we hadn't had the state
8 money to match you.

9 In fact, our General Assembly, guys, last year only
10 gave like just under two million dollars statewide to
11 airports. We have over a hundred general aviation
12 airports in the state. And the state funding for airports
13 is under two million a year.

14 Now, we don't -- we can't use motor fuel tax for
15 that. I don't know if y'all knew that. Motor fuel tax is
16 restricted to just roads and bridges. So any kind of
17 aviation money has to come from the general fund. So
18 there is a need in that area.

19 Now, the question you may have is: Is that
20 publically appealing? You know, the only thing a runway
21 yet it means a lot to you guys because you know what it
22 means economically. But is that something you can sell
23 your friends and neighbors on?

24 (Slide 28 - Bicycle and Pedestrian)

25 MR. LONG: Bike and ped projects. You know, to this

1 region might not be that important. But to some regions
2 it's very important. The most comments that we got on the
3 criteria they were bike and peds. We had more comments on
4 bike and ped than any other category.

5 MR. STONE: That shows you how much different we
6 really are.

7 MR. LONG: Okay. These weren't from Atlanta. I'm
8 talking about bike and ped comments from places like Macon
9 and Columbus, they were cites though. Okay. It wasn't
10 just Atlanta. So you're right. It did show, I didn't get
11 any -- I don't think I got bike comments from down here.

12 All right. Next slide.

13 (Slide 29 - Transit)

14 MR. STONE: You see what we did with your
15 (inaudible); didn't you?

16 MR. LONG: I saw. All right.

17 Transit. You guys do have transit systems here,
18 though. Let's not forget that. There may be a need to
19 put some money in there in regards to some of your local
20 transits. All right.

21 Next slide.

22 (Slide 30 - Investment Allocation Targets for HOG-A)

23 MR. LONG: All right. This is what we recommended
24 originally. So what I'd like you to do, I got the RC --
25 have you already passed out your sheet? Good.

1 Y'all have gone through and I worked with Brian
2 Rogers, who has kind of worked with you guys a good bit on
3 the committee and I'm not sure who worked on the criteria
4 committee. But we appreciate all y'all's hard work.

5 And I've, actually, gone through a lot of the changes
6 that are -- if you hold up this sheet here (indicating)
7 that you guys proposed. Let's go through some of the
8 highlights that you guys have. And y'all did change some
9 of the percentages from what I have -- oh, there you go.
10 We got both of them straight. Good.

11 Actually, I'm just fine with these changes. Now,
12 remember it's not my decision; it's y'all's decision. But
13 I am just fine with that. So, certainly, it represents
14 what you guys want to have and we thought about a good bit
15 and that's fine. At the bottom of that sheet you got a
16 sentence you added about project monies shall be spent on
17 projects located on dedicated or acquired county, city --
18 I'm not sure that statement's needed. Because, you know,
19 these are public funds. You know, expenditure of public
20 funds is another part of the code. You know, you can't be
21 paving the driveways. And there's a reason we got other
22 sections of the code section that dictate where you spend
23 the money. And you can't spend it on private property
24 anyway. You know, you can leave it in there, it just is
25 -- it's, basically, a duplicate of --

1 On Page 3 of your changes you did change that. You
2 wanted 50 percent that could be completed. The whole
3 concept was here, hey; let's make sure these are projects
4 that you can deliver quickly. You want that. The money
5 is only going to come so fast. But it just assures you,
6 that at the end of the day, you're not stuck with money
7 that you can't spend because you can't get the project
8 ready. That's the dream I have at night that keeps me
9 awake. And it's a dream you guys have on your SPLOST
10 program, you're not getting your projects done for SPLOST,
11 right. It's a nightmare, right? So we don't want to get
12 there.

13 Now, the next, the very next paragraph you got as
14 "add." Now, I want to bring up a couple -- I want to
15 break this paragraph into different sections. It says,
16 excluding the area determined the 25 percent share. It
17 says 50 percent of the remaining funds shall be spent on
18 projects located on county and city roadways. And then
19 you would, basically, spend that money pro rata share
20 based on proceeds -- basically, the share of the proceeds
21 based on population.

22 Now, let's talk about that a little bit.

23 If you read the Bill, carefully, the Bill, clearly,
24 says projects, projects over and over again. There's a
25 project list associated with the revenue strain. This is

1 the 75 percent money, okay. There is no allowances that
2 hey, X number of percent is going to be spent on so and
3 so, local governments or the county roads. You guys
4 dictate the projects at the very end of the day. The
5 Roundtable is going to select the projects. You can do
6 this without -- you can have a generic sentence if you
7 want to, that says, generally, speaking, we think 50
8 percent is going to be spent. But to say it's going to be
9 spent on a pro rata share based on population, you got to
10 have projects to match that pro rata share. You're not
11 prepared to do that.

12 Now, I think, I was following the thought process of
13 why you got there. But I just don't think that on a
14 project list you going to have to figure out what that
15 share is and then have projects -- you'll be fitting them
16 into the slots to match up with the money of each county
17 and city. And you may not have a project. Listen, every
18 city and county is not going to get lots of projects. You
19 just --

20 MR. STONE: Todd, let me interrupt you.

21 MR. LONG: Okay.

22 MR. STONE: Our intent there was once we get the 25
23 -- we understand that, and then the remainder, Roundtable
24 -- we were wanting the Roundtable to be able to make sure
25 that half of that remaining was spent at our discretion

1 and not yours.

2 MR. LONG: It is at your discretion, though.

3 MR. STONE: Yeah, but see you go on to a multiple
4 county unit who would get on I-16 that you were talking
5 about in our area, then you could put -- we want to have
6 -- you said we have local control. We want 50 percent of
7 that money that we decide where it's going to be spent
8 within our city and county. And if we've over dealt I'm
9 sorry.

10 MR. LONG: Well, okay. I guess my point is: I don't
11 understand what you're asking because you have that
12 authority. Now, I'm not picking your projects. Now,
13 ultimately, I develop the unconstrained list; I do develop
14 that. But I'll work with you guys. I promise that. If
15 you submit projects to me, not ever project you submits
16 going to meet the criteria we've laid out here. But, I
17 mean, a lot of them will. But at the end of the day
18 you're deciding but don't box yourself in to this pro rata
19 share that you're distributing the money out. That is a
20 terrible way to do this from a -- remember you got to sell
21 this to the public. We got nothing at the end of the day
22 --

23 MR. STONE: We were doing this for our own good. You
24 can convince us that it's not to our good; we'll listen.
25 But until you convince us --

1 MR. LONG: All right.

2 MR. STONE: -- we're pretty well set with it.

3 MR. FOUNTAIN: Our thinking was, we put that in
4 there, we got to sell this to this whole region; and if
5 the counties, if the people in our counties couldn't see
6 where that -- their particular county is benefiting
7 they're not going to vote for it.

8 MR. LONG: Yeah.

9 MR. FOUNTAIN: The Legislature is throwing this in
10 our pocket to sell it for them because they didn't want to
11 add a penny to that transportation fuel tax. And what
12 we're saying is: Is for us to pass it to be able to get
13 out and get the voters to vote in this, the little 25
14 percent that comes to us that can be used for whatever is
15 really not enough money in our cities in this area and
16 counties, really, needs some local paving and resurfacing
17 and that's why we changed those figures around to match
18 what they did. And we wanted a bigger slice of that
19 rather than it going to state highways and...

20 MR. LONG: But let's back up a second. There's
21 nothing in the Bill that prevents the Roundtable,
22 ultimately, from picking projects all across the region.
23 Now, let me put a twist on that thought. It's not a
24 county-by-county vote. It's a region vote.

25 MR. FOUNTAIN: We understand that.

1 MR. LONG: If the voters only -- the bulk of your
2 voters live in three or four counties, probably.

3 MR. FOUNTAIN: If it doesn't pass the whole region,
4 though, then it penalizes everybody somewhere.

5 MR. LONG: No doubt about it.

6 But the way this is -- the sentence is structured is
7 I don't think, allowable under the Bill. I'm not telling
8 you; it's my opinion. I just don't think you can do that.
9 Because you, ultimately, what did I say, projects,
10 projects, projects. If I don't have a project and some
11 city, at all, that meets the criteria, how do I spend a
12 pro rata share in that city?

13 MR. STONE: It's just the framework by which we do as
14 we work at this Roundtable works to submit these projects.
15 They have to be and we are allowed to make sure --

16 MR. BEST: That's right.

17 MR. STONE: -- that half of those projects meets this
18 criteria.

19 MR. LONG: Yeah. I just don't -- okay.

20 MR. TRAPNELL: Billy Trapnell, Candler County, a
21 number of us need a lot of LARP for resurfacing. All
22 right. If we put in and we're going through in Metter,
23 we're going through every street and we're getting the
24 distances, we're getting the estimated cost and that --
25 we're going to submit all of those as part of our

1 projects.

2 MR. FOUNTAIN: That's right.

3 MR. TRAPNELL: Now, you're saying if we don't put the
4 50 percent in there and everybody does that and we submit
5 1100 LARP resurfacing projects --

6 MR. STONE: I don't think you visualize the -- again,
7 we're a very sparse populated area with these needs that
8 Billy's talking about. And I think you're going to find
9 that our projects will meet this. And it's -- already it
10 may meet that. But we want to make sure that it does.

11 MR. LONG: All right.

12 MR. ADAMS: Todd, some of this --

13 MR. LONG: The part of the sentence I have trouble
14 with is the pro rata share. Now, 50 percent going to
15 local streets, that's something we can talk about. To me
16 that's two different issues.

17 MR. ADAMS: All right. You take local, anything like
18 some of this little small areas that gets two or three
19 thousand dollars out of the 25 percent, you can't even do
20 a half, I mean, a tenth of mile with that kind of money.
21 How in the world are they going to complete a project?

22 MR. LONG: They accumulate the money over a number of
23 years. Okay.

24 MR. ADAMS: We put that in there where we could
25 accumulate the money; but we think we need 50 percent to

1 do that with. We can't do it with 25 percent.

2 MR. LONG: Well, I didn't write the Bill. They wrote
3 the Bill.

4 MR. SHAVER: You said that we could set our criteria.

5 MR. LONG: Well, you can set your criteria; but the
6 criteria doesn't do distribution. I didn't set the 25
7 percent mark. The General Assembly did. Okay. So the 75
8 percent goes back to projects and it doesn't go back to
9 money. It doesn't go back to like each area gets their
10 percentage of the money.

11 MR. FOUNTAIN: Well, you said you would consider
12 streets or county roads, then. How could we word it to
13 make it to where that part of that --

14 MR. LONG: That's --

15 MR. FOUNTAIN: -- the 25 percent that we're talking
16 about --

17 MR. LONG: Okay. Here's what you can do, let me give
18 you a suggestion. You can do this. Now, remember I'm
19 still adamant about hey, if we're resurfacing roads, this
20 is the strategic side of the pot here. You can do which
21 ever you want to with the discretionary. But let's choose
22 roads that are serving activity centers or employment
23 centers so there's some strategy. It's not just every
24 little street. It's not a subdivision street that you're
25 trying to pave. These are roads -- and you got dirt roads

1 that do that. Okay. I got no problem paving dirt roads
2 that do that. But why don't you say that we want at least
3 50 percent of our projects to be on the local street
4 network and leave it at that. When you box yourself in to
5 a pro rata share going out to individual cities and
6 counties, I don't think you can work within that box. I
7 really don't. I don't think it's something you can do.

8 MR. STONE: Well, I don't see much difference in what
9 you're saying and, of course, if the Roundtable --

10 MR. LONG: It's the overall pot of money.

11 In your case over the course of ten years, what does
12 this raise?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thirty-five million.

14 MR. LONG: No, of course, in ten years it's like --

15 (Several Roundtable members spoke simultaneously.)

16 MR. LONG: But it's -- that's overall, though, right?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What is the tax --

18 MR. LONG: The regional pot is how much?

19 MR. NAIL: Twenty-six million a year.

20 MR. LONG: It's 30 --

21 MR. NAIL: It's 26.

22 MR. LONG: Twenty-six a year. So it's probably just
23 over 300 million on the regional side.

24 MR. LANIER: How are we going to explain to the
25 taxpayers of this region that we want you to pass this

1 thing; but we want you to know some of your money is going
2 get took from you. It's going to the region. It's not
3 going to stay in your county. It's your money. You voted
4 for it.

5 MR. LONG: Well, it happens every day. They pay a
6 sales tax on their food today, it goes to Atlanta.

7 MR. STONE: But we want them --

8 MR. LONG: Four percent to goes to Atlanta.

9 MR. STONE: -- we want them as they look at it
10 though, to see like you're talking about that it's local
11 city and county money and --

12 MR. LONG: All right.

13 MR. STONE: -- not state routes. That's what we're
14 trying to get to.

15 MR. LANIER: Right.

16 MR. LONG: But think about this: You're acting like
17 the voters in your county are just adamant that this has
18 to be on local roads. The voters in your county travel
19 this region.

20 MR. STONE: Yeah. But you still got a big hunk of
21 money. You still got the local fuel tax. You've got all
22 this other revenue on your state route and we want this
23 local money that we're imposing on our citizens --

24 MR. LONG: Whoa. You need to stop there. The reason
25 we can't widen all these roads that y'all keep begging for

1 us to widen, US 1 and 441, is because we don't have enough
2 money.

3 MR. STONE: We'll give you half of the balance of it;
4 we just want the other half.

5 MR. LANIER: Why don't y'all look after the state
6 roads and us look after the county roads and give us
7 (inaudible) and be done with it.

8 (Several Roundtable members spoke simultaneously.)

9 MR. LONG: Okay. Listen to me. The Bill started out
10 as a state sales tax and didn't pass the General Assembly.
11 And so this ended up being the compromise.

12 Now, they decided they did not want to go the path
13 of, let's raise another -- each county had their own
14 individual sales tax. That is not what they passed. They
15 passed a Bill that was somewhere in the middle between a
16 statewide sales tax and a local tax. You want a local
17 tax, obviously, or no tax at all. You want a local --
18 another -- a penny SPLOST at your disposal. And that's
19 not what they --

20 MR. LANIER: This is going to pull the rug out from
21 under our -- Candler County, then, yes, I want another one
22 percent; but I want us to keep it.

23 MR. LONG: Okay.

24 MR. LANIER: I don't want each county and each mayor
25 in this district slit one another's throat about one's

1 getting more than the other and that's just exactly what's
2 going to happen.

3 MR. LONG: But I will be remiss if I didn't say this:
4 All right. This isn't about Candler County. What's good
5 for Laurens County is good for Candler County. What's
6 good for Candler County is good for Wheeler County. I
7 mean, we're in this together, guys. We're trying to make
8 this part of the United States better economically,
9 competitive. This isn't about protecting your own turf.
10 This is about making the region more competitively
11 acceptable to the outsiders. I guarantee the companies
12 that want to come here aren't thinking, well, good grief,
13 they didn't take care of their local roads; they're
14 thinking, hey, are you taking care of routes that can
15 handle my freight and logistics. They're thinking bigger
16 than what you're thinking. You got to think bigger than
17 just your little boundary. Now, if y'all aren't willing
18 to do that then you're in trouble for this region.

19 MR. THOMPSON: Our problem is: Y'all are asking us
20 to go out here and --

21 MR. LONG: I'm not asking you.

22 MR. THOMPSON: Well, the state or whoever, you know,
23 for use to go out here and get the people in our county to
24 understand what you're trying to get us to understand that
25 it's about the big picture. Don't worry about Emanuel

1 County. Don't worry about the fact you voted me in to
2 represent you. It's the big picture. It's regional. We
3 may not get anything in Emanuel County; it may go
4 somewhere else on, you know, the state routes. Do you see
5 what I'm saying? It's not the fact that we may not -- we
6 disagree with, totally, what you say; it's the fact that
7 if y'all expect us to try to get our people to vote for
8 it, we got to have something to show them. I mean, we
9 can't, you know...

10 MR. LONG: That's what the campaign will be about.
11 I'm not going to be in charge of the campaign. That's not
12 the way -- I'm a state employee. Your campaign will be
13 run by others. But the campaigns message will be,
14 exactly, what I'm telling you. That we're doing this --
15 this is benefitting the region, you -- listen, every study
16 on the books, if you invest in it, economic benefits do
17 come. Every study out there says if you make an
18 investment in transportation infrastructure economic
19 benefits follow. This isn't just transportation; it's
20 just infrastructure in general.

21 MR. LANIER: Are there any other states that have
22 made some sense out of this or done it or are we --

23 MR. LONG: Every state in the country is trying to
24 raise money for transportation investing. Every one of
25 them. In fact, when --

1 MR. LANIER: That's not what I'm talking about.

2 MR. STONE: This is unique just to Georgia.

3 MR. LONG: I'll say this: When we go to --

4 MR. LANIER: No other state has it?

5 MR. LONG: I'll answer that question. Kansas is
6 doing it. Oregon is doing it. And when we go to make
7 speeches at national conventions, the line backs up for
8 people talking to us trying to figure out how they can do
9 what Georgia did because the gas tax is in trouble.
10 Nobody -- we talked about it a minute ago. Yeah, it'd be
11 great to raise the gas tax. Everybody says, yeah, raise
12 it a nickel. Listen, nobody's -- the politicians in
13 Washington are not doing that on the federal side. And
14 the Georgia section decided not to do that. They decided
15 to go this route. So that's not going to happen. This is
16 Plan A.

17 MR. BEST: So they're not looking at the big picture,
18 are they?

19 MR. LONG: This is Plan A.

20 MR. LANIER: I'll put it like this: I grew up on a
21 farm with about four or five other siblings and if we
22 didn't have but one Baby Ruth, it was hell about who got
23 what.

24 MR. STONE: Todd, let me ask you a question here now.
25 You prefaced your remarks by saying that you liked what we

1 had done.

2 MR. LONG: Yeah. This is the only piece.

3 MR. STONE: Yeah. All right. And we're asking
4 because of our uniqueness, Billy just talked about it a
5 few minutes ago and then I look at my situation too, we're
6 asking you to accept the fact that they turned it over to
7 for us, we're going to our people to ask for this money.
8 We're asking that the remaining portion of this -- these
9 funds be left to local, county, and city roads at our
10 discretion on these projects. It'll fit us better and the
11 other half of the go to the state routes. It's that
12 simple.

13 MR. BEASLEY: It's 50 percent of the 75 is what he's
14 asking, right?

15 MR. LONG: Right. Now --

16 MR. BEASLEY: Let me get a clarification on that part
17 now.

18 MR. LONG: It is 50 percent of the 75.

19 MR. BEASLEY: We've beat this dog pretty hard here.
20 It's 50 percent of the 75?

21 MR. STONE: Seventy-five, that's correct for local.

22 MR. LONG: I think I just suggested that that was one
23 way that you could phrase this.

24 MR. STONE: That's what I was asking.

25 MR. LONG: With the pro rata shares the part -- look

1 a here, think about your job as Executive Committee, you
2 five people on the Executive Committee, now, think about
3 the impossible task you're fixing to have. Every city --
4 how many cities again?

5 MR. MAZZA: Sixty-three.

6 MR. LONG: Sixty-three. How many counties, 17.
7 You're going to get five to six times the amount of
8 projects than you have money. All right. And you got to
9 decide, you're going to have to decide which projects you
10 do in all those cities. So let's say the pro rata share
11 for this city of -- let's think of a city here --
12 Wrightsville is a hundred dollars. I'm just making that
13 number up being facetious. Let's hope it's more than
14 that. If it's a hundred dollars and I gave you a list of
15 projects worth seven times that; how do you decide which
16 you're going to do? The Executive Committee has got to do
17 that, an impossible task.

18 MR. THOMPSON: Wouldn't that be only of the remainder
19 of the 50 percent?

20 MR. LONG: No, you got to decide. There's a list --
21 guys the project list is what's presented to the voters.
22 The voters will never see this pro rata share. They'll
23 just see project, project, project, project -- not on the
24 ballot, by the way; the ballot is just -- but they'll see
25 it whatever publications -- they'll just see a list of

1 projects and they won't even know how you distribute it
2 and how you did the 50 percent that'll be irrelevant to
3 them.

4 MR. MCAFEE: Todd, is there anywhere we said that
5 each county will get something?

6 MR. LONG: Absolutely. As a matter of fact --
7 (Several Roundtable members speak simultaneously
8 among themselves.)

9 MR. LONG: Now -- okay. You asked if the Bill said
10 that anywhere.

11 MR. MCAFEE: Well, the way the Roundtable and all is
12 going to work with every county to get something?

13 MR. LONG: The Bill does not say anything to that
14 regard.

15 MR. MCAFEE: Okay.

16 MR. LONG: Now, the -- now, what y'all are proposing
17 in the criteria, if you do the pro rata, you can say and
18 make it a general statement that it'll be distributed with
19 some equity around the region.

20 Now, I advise -- now, in other regions -- y'all's is a
21 little different -- I advise them not to put labels like
22 that because what happens is, let's just take a region
23 like Augusta; where do the voters live in that region?
24 Augusta and Columbia County. You better have most of your
25 projects in Augusta and Columbia County or they're never

1 going to pass. And the other counties just need to say,
2 all right, the discretionary money is good enough because,
3 in fact, the discretionary money, in most cases in those
4 small rural counties where the big city's at is more than
5 they can raise in sales tax on their own anyway. So they
6 don't care if they get regional projects. The word,
7 equity, they don't even want that to even be anywhere
8 close to their criteria. But, you guys, you don't have a
9 major city so it's a little bit different. So if y'all
10 want to use some word like that; that's fine we'll move it
11 in that boundary.

12 But, you know, there's no provision in the Bill that
13 says you have to spend in every jurisdiction in the
14 region. In fact, the Bill very, very much encourages you
15 not to do that in my opinion.

16 MR. ADAMS: Well, on that if we attempt, like if the
17 language that you say that we cannot do, if we attempt to
18 do that to try to get everybody together to this so it's
19 up to us to do that.

20 MR. STONE: But it helps if we've established it now.

21 MR. ADAMS: Yeah.

22 MR. STONE: If we don't have it there --

23 MR. LONG: I think you'll end up just not following
24 your criteria.

25 MR. ROGERS: Todd, what if -- would you feel better

1 about it, you know, if the wording was something like that
2 we'll, you know, I know what you're concerned about is
3 that there won't be projects to fit the Bill, but what if
4 we do put some language in the criteria, right here, just
5 like it is and just say -- come down here where it says,
6 with each entity receiving projects in an amount, come in
7 there and say something, if the Executive Committee will
8 attempt to distribute the money in an amount equal to,
9 then you ain't boxed in. You're saying you attempting to
10 do it, if you're so worried about the specific dollar
11 amount.

12 MR. LONG: Okay. Here's another thing I'm worried
13 about: I think a lot of the projects in some of these
14 smaller communities that is going to be submitted aren't
15 going to meet the criteria, the other parts of the
16 criteria.

17 MR. ROGERS: Even if we're making the criteria,
18 though.

19 MR. LONG: Well, so far, you haven't changed the
20 other part of the criteria. You, basically, said, that
21 listen, activity centers, employment centers. So once
22 again you got to be careful. All these cities are going
23 to be submitting these little side streets that don't
24 serve anything but a couple of houses.

25 MR. ROGERS: Well, we've put something else in there

1 about enhancing the quality of life or enhancing the
2 quality of life. We didn't just -- and that's the reason
3 we put that in there.

4 MR. LONG: Yeah.

5 MR. ROGERS: Was to get away from that regional
6 activity center, employment center. We put that --

7 MR. MCAFEE: That's right.

8 MR. TRAPNELL: It's much like you mentioned earlier.
9 If we let out streets through the neighborhoods or
10 whatever deteriorate because we can't afford to the work
11 or do the resurfacing. We're just going away -- and yet
12 we're trying to get the people to vote for that and yet
13 they're getting nothing in return.

14 MR. BEASLEY: In defense of what -- Del Beasley,
15 Evans County. In defense from our side, I understand what
16 you're saying, boxing yourself in, and I think it should
17 be worded a little looser where it won't be boxed in
18 entirely. I'll agree with you on that. Our problem, and
19 I don't know about other counties and cities; but we have
20 Claxton, Mr. Luther Royal, right here (indicating) and we
21 have Daisy and the little bitty ones you're talking about,
22 Bellville and Hagan; those three cities by the 25 percent
23 and I don't remember the number now, but it was minute,
24 the amount they get. And they already, I mean, we have
25 been in the last and it's gotten worse every year, we

1 don't have enough money to do any of our projects to
2 complete them at one time.

3 MR. LONG: I know.

4 MR. BEASLEY: If we build a LARP road and we drew it
5 in half roads one-mile stretches and that -- we don't see
6 that we'll have a problem spending the money. I think we
7 shouldn't box ourselves in. I agree with you on that.
8 But we have some terrible roads out there our citizens are
9 riding on and we have been promising them for years that
10 we'll going to do something about it and we just don't --
11 won't have the money to do it.

12 MR. LONG: Okay.

13 MR. BEASLEY: And I don't want anybody out here that
14 has that problem that they won't be able to spend it.

15 MR. SHAVER: Todd, let me make comment, if I may.
16 The problem I see with the whole Bill, we got Laurens
17 County and Toombs County and Wayne County.

18 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

19 MR. SHAVER: We represent two-thirds, probably, of
20 the population.

21 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

22 MR. SHAVER: But the hard sale that I'm going to have
23 to my constituents and to the voter out there, Wayne
24 County is going to generate four and half -- a penny
25 represents four and a half million dollars to us.

1 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

2 MR. SHAVER: With the numbers that we've gotten it's
3 not possible for Wayne County to get back over three
4 million dollars. So how can I sell to my constituents
5 that I'm -- that Wayne County, Laurens County is at a
6 bigger position than we are and Toombs County also because
7 of your population that we're going to be supplementing
8 Candler and all the way down.

9 MR. LONG: Those four counties should be, violently,
10 opposed to the change you're making.

11 MR. SHAVER: Yeah, well, especially, on the criteria
12 of the second criteria to roads and bridges from a county
13 standpoint because that's resurfacing --

14 MR. LONG: Let me say this: If you go with this
15 allotment of 50 percent pro rata share, then you should
16 be, violently, opposed to that language.

17 MR. SHAVER: Yeah.

18 MR. LONG: Laurens County should be opposed to it;
19 your four counties that have the population where it's
20 going to pass or not pass should be opposed to that.

21 MR. SHAVER: But it still shouldn't address --

22 MR. BEST: But we got to look at it regionally again,
23 right?

24 MR. LONG: Yeah.

25 MR. BEST: I mean, you're -- you --

1 MR. SHAVER: But that's a hard sale to sale to the
2 three big counties --

3 MR. BEST: That's right. Look at this right here.
4 Let's look at Allentown based on 25 percent they get \$18.
5 I think they can spend twice that much. You know, I mean,
6 a stop sign costs about a hundred and fifty, probably.

7 MR. HEARN: I just got a comment. Caughey Hearn,
8 Evans County. I been biting my tongue for a few minutes
9 over here.

10 (Roundtable member: Speak up louder.)

11 MR. HEARN: Yes, sir. If the General Assembly wanted
12 a statewide sales tax they should've voted on a statewide
13 sales tax; but they didn't do that. They passed a sales
14 tax to be done by regions, which is this group of people
15 sitting right here (indicating). So I want to commend the
16 group that had revised the criteria. I think it's a good
17 rewrite. There's some good changes. And I think that if
18 this group likes those changes and agrees on that criteria
19 then that's your prerogative. I think the criteria, as
20 they've been revised, makes the sell to the voters a lot
21 easier than telling them that the cities and counties are
22 going to be penalized by 30 or 50 percent on your LMIG
23 funds so...

24 MR. STONE: That was, exactly, our thinking.

25 MR. HEARN: I just want to commend you on what you've

1 done and, you know, it's your decision if you like it, you
2 know, it's your prerogative to move forward with it.

3 MR. LONG: Yeah. He's right about it; it is y'all's
4 prerogative. But I'll refer to -- do want to break it
5 down. Let's skip over this section right quick and go to
6 the rest of it just to make sure this is the only
7 remaining issue.

8 You also revised about the quality of life. We're
9 fine with that and --

10 MR. JOINER: G. M. Joiner, Wheeler County. This back
11 up here on this add, "each entity can carry an amount
12 forward," we wanted to make sure because we -- is that a
13 problem?

14 MR. STONE: No.

15 MR. LONG: That is not a problem; but that doesn't
16 apply to the regional money. It has no bearing. The
17 regional money is not set up that way. It's on project.
18 So that sentence, really, is out of place because that
19 applies on the discretionary funding. Because you're not
20 -- on this money you've got to identify the projects up
21 front. You can't -- you're not going to have this money
22 coming to you every year.

23 MR. STONE: Yeah, but he's asking about the 25
24 percent. That 25 percent can be carried over as long as
25 you want to for any project you want to spend?

1 MR. LONG: Correct. But it's just misplaced in here.

2 MR. JOINER: It's in the wrong place; but we can --
3 but the general -- but we can carry it forward? Because
4 we might not have enough money in a small town like
5 Glenwood to do. It might take us three years to get
6 enough money to --

7 MR. ADAMS: Well, we suggested that you be able to
8 accumulate that money until you got enough money to do
9 that project.

10 MR. ROGERS: Todd, can I say something?

11 MR. ADAMS: You said that was no problem.

12 MR. ROGERS: When the subcommittee met, just to give
13 you a little bit more of the thought process in the way
14 this was, in being a county administrator I understand
15 exactly what you're saying. The reason, you know, Laurens
16 County is a huge donor and I'm the county administrator of
17 Laurens County.

18 MR. STONE: Well, Wayne and Toombs also are big
19 donors.

20 MR. ROGERS: Exactly. But we realized to try to not
21 to have a gridlock thing in here, this was the only --
22 because, you know, we can count. You know, three counties
23 are giving everything it doesn't really matter what we
24 thought. You know, we've got to give it everybody around
25 this table some projects to try to make this thing even

1 work. And then maybe the bigger counties can really jump
2 on the regional projects or whatever because it may affect
3 us more. But, you know, everybody would be getting some
4 local projects, it'd be able to sell a whole lot easier.
5 So that was the thought process in that. I just wanted to
6 share that with you.

7 The carrying it forward, this whole added addition,
8 the subcommittee really talked a long time about it. We
9 realized that if we got this revision in the criteria it
10 was going to put a huge burden on the Executive Committee
11 to choose projects as well as yourself. But the
12 subcommittee felt like, you know, if the people on the
13 Executive Committee were going to be willing to serve on
14 it that they needed to take that into consideration and
15 they're going to be counties like myself; I've got seven
16 cities in my county. I've got five real small ones.
17 Guess who's going to be getting those project numbers up
18 and those estimates. It'll be me. You know, and the
19 county is going to have to take responsibility for that
20 because we realize this is project based. It's going to
21 have to be project based. The Executive Committee may
22 look at that and say, hey, you know, about the carrying
23 forward part, their population share of the money is maybe
24 only \$20,000. Well, they've got a project here that, you
25 know, we may submit it for -- in their -- we'll have to

1 let them know that if this is the only project they have;
2 we'll have to carry it forward to maybe the third year.
3 So their project amount would've gotten up enough where
4 they should -- they could put that in there.

5 So that's the -- that's kind of misleading right
6 there; but that's what the carrying it forward was. It
7 was to help guide the Executive Committee in looking at
8 the projects. But you're right; it's going to be a huge
9 burden on the Executive Committee. But that's the only
10 way it's going to get -- it was agreed upon that it was
11 the only way you were going get a project list out of
12 gridlock in here was to try to do it this way. And I
13 agree, it's the only way it's going to happen. That's --

14 MR. LONG: The carry it forward, you're now applying
15 -- you're getting this money on yearly basis --

16 MR. ROGERS: No. Well, I guess, the -- in the
17 Executive Committee's minds if it would help them -- these
18 people understand when they're submitting projects that
19 this is how much money they may get. And it may be, you
20 know, they may can only submit four projects to equal
21 their amount of money during that whole ten-year period
22 because they may have, you know, for them get up enough.

23 When we put in the quality of life issue and the
24 revised portion, you know, that was our way of trying to
25 get in, basically, a project that the local entity felt

1 like was significant in it's community. You know, there's
2 a lot of roads that may not have a whole lot of travel and
3 things of that nature. But it may serve a lot of citizens
4 and we wanted to make -- and we realized that you may
5 could fit in up under there; but there again, we wanted to
6 hammer it out and put it in black and white. So we feel
7 like if we put in there about enhancing the quality of
8 life of the citizens and put it up to local governments,
9 we could cover all aspects of it so that's the -- I just
10 wanted to give everybody a little bit of thought process.
11 I didn't want the people to think the subcommittee wasn't
12 thinking this through. But they put a lot of time and
13 effort in this and tried to think through every little
14 caveat about it so.

15 MR. SHAVER: What, if may ask, on the criteria
16 section, the roadway and bridge maintenance, on the
17 original criteria it was zero to ten percent?

18 MR. ROGERS: Right.

19 MR. SHAVER: Could you give us your change 40 to 50
20 percent. Well, what's your thought process behind that?

21 MR. ROGERS: That's the resurfacing category. As we
22 all know that -- if y'all are anything like us we need
23 tons of resurfacing in our community because LARP just
24 doesn't go far enough. So that's the reason we bumped it
25 up so much. Bridges in our rural areas are just in really

1 bad shape. So we felt like we needed a whole lot more
2 money maintaining our existing infrastructure than we had
3 put in there. So that was the thought -- that's the
4 criteria, there for -- we also did have a question and I
5 think Mr. Long answered it for me yesterday. Where
6 exactly would paving a dirt road fall into it? Is it
7 maintaining -- would it be the maintenance because it's
8 already an existing road or are we going to put it under
9 roadway capital where we do it as paving. He did feel
10 like it would go under roadway capital. So, you know, we
11 had some questions like that that were put in there. But
12 the main thing was for the resurfacing of the roads.

13 MR. SHAVER: Todd, could you comment, where did you
14 come with up the zero ten or your department? It looks to
15 me like we're shading more towards the resurfacing in the
16 municipality if we lock ourselves in to 40 to 50 percent.

17 MR. LONG: Well, here's the thought on the lower end
18 on the maintenance. We're thinking about the voters.
19 What's appealing to the voters? You're region's unique.
20 But the other regions, I can assure you, the capital
21 projects people seeing roads being widened, new
22 intersections, new interchanges, that's what's appealing
23 to the public, that's what's going to sell at the ballot
24 box.

25 MR. BEASLEY: They have gridlock.

1 MR. SHAVER: We need resurfacing.

2 MR. LONG: If you feel like resurfacing is what's
3 going to sell to the public, then it goes back to that
4 opening slide what's publically appealing. If you guys
5 feel like that's what's publicly appealing then that's why
6 you changed to the higher number. I told you I had no
7 problems with the percentage change.

8 MR. BRADDY: May I ask a question? This is just for
9 clarification. I was wondering right here in this revised
10 remark here where routes regionally significant by roads
11 that connect mainly regional employment. When you say
12 regional employment, can you just expand on that just a
13 minute? Will your shopping centers fall under that?

14 MR. STONE: Part of that was say the port down here
15 where the port is and all the traffic and regional
16 interest, it may be important to Wilcox County to get that
17 route improved because they may be pulling things out of
18 the port and housing it in a particular area. So actually
19 even though they were a small county that regional
20 corridor to get them get that job done is the reason
21 that's in there.

22 MR. BRADDY: Okay.

23 MR. ADAMS: Is there anybody else if we don't we are
24 going to halt the questioning --

25 MR. TRAPNELL: If we were to come up with not enough

1 projects for the funds that we'll, eventually, get, where
2 does that money go?

3 MR. LONG: If you don't come up with enough money.

4 MR. TRAPNELL: If we come up with 50 million dollars
5 worth of projects and we come up with 60 million dollars
6 worth of tax revenue, where does the ten million go?

7 MR. LONG: All right. You're going to come up with a
8 list that matches --

9 MR. STONE: I don't think that's even possible.

10 MR. TRAPNELL: We may grow.

11 MR. LONG: What his question is: Is at the end of
12 the day what if our revenues exceed the money spent on the
13 projects, that money according to the Bill goes back to
14 the local jurisdictions by --

15 MR. TRAPNELL: (Inaudible) property.

16 MR. LONG: No. It'll go back to the counties and
17 cities by formula.

18 MR. WEST: Here's the answer to your question.

19 MR. LONG: Yes, I know. I've read that a million
20 times.

21 MR. WEST: It stays in the district.

22 MR. LONG: Yes. It goes back to the cities and
23 counties by formula just like the discretionary funds.

24 MR. ADAMS: got one other question.

25 MR. CANADY: James Canady, Emanuel County. Todd, I

1 guess the biggest thing that you have a problem with is if
2 there is 50 percent whether that will fly or not with the
3 state or the pro rata share leaving out that part of it,
4 you know, to let population not drive that is what you're
5 saying.

6 MR. LONG: The pro rata share is a piece that I'm
7 trying to advise you guys not to have in here. I'm -- the
8 50 percent, if that's what you want to distribute back to
9 local governments, that's fine, that's what you want. You
10 know, I --

11 MR. CANADY: It's not going to fly with the state.

12 MR. LONG: It's just I think you're boxing yourself
13 in the corner. If somebody suggested some softening to
14 that language; but listen, I made my appeal. This is
15 y'all's criteria and I'll live with whatever y'all decide
16 to do.

17 MR. STONE: Mr. Chairman, I move that we accept our
18 criteria as the Executive Committee says it.

19 MR. MCAFEE: I second it.

20 MR. ADAMS: All in favor raise your right hand.

21 All opposed.

22 Two opposed, three, sorry.

23 MR. LONG: The next step and we'll get out of there.

24 All right. Next step. When you've done what you're

25 supposed to do. You've got an Executive Committee, you

1 got criteria. The next step is we'll be soliciting
2 projects so hopefully next week sometime we'll be sending
3 out a blast to all the cities and counties in the state
4 with a project nomination form. All right. So you want
5 to look out for that and we'll be asking you to send that,
6 actually, back to the RC. They'll collect them for us and
7 then we'll do an evaluation. The Bill actually requires
8 us to determine the public benefits of each project so
9 we'll do that.

10 And, ultimately, the Executive Committee is really
11 not going to start their work until they get an
12 unconstrained list from us. And that'll probably be May
13 or June. You'll have all -- the Executive Committee works
14 this summer. So plan your vacations wisely; but you'll be
15 working this summer and by August 15th you've got to come
16 back for this full Roundtable with a constrained list.

17 MR. STONE: That's what John just asked. The project
18 list is to be completed by when?

19 MR. LONG: The solicited projects -- right now, we
20 wanting to try to get those in by the end of March.
21 Because see what happens is, guys, I've got to put that
22 unconstrained list together in time to get it back to you
23 guys by May.

24 MR. STONE: Make sure to get everybody's attention
25 and say that again.

1 MR. LONG: March 31, first of April we're trying to
2 get this -- all the solicited projects, the nominations.

3 MR. CANADY: From each county?

4 MR. LONG: The Bill says I solicit -- I can accept
5 nominations for projects from local jurisdictions so in
6 this case --

7 MR. BEASLEY: Del Beasley, Evans County. This is a
8 question unique to us. Every bordering county will have
9 this with other regions and it's probably addressed in
10 some of this stuff I haven't read. But a county road, a
11 county maintained road, in Evans County that connects
12 Tattnall but it also connects to Bulloch in a different
13 region, how would that work? Would it work with that
14 region to do a joint project?

15 MR. LONG: You could. But you may end up --

16 MR. BEASLEY: It won't be regional like I say if it
17 just ends at the Evans County line.

18 MR. LONG: Yeah. But if you're paving a portion of a
19 regionally significant -- say you're paving -- let's say
20 it was a dirt road that connects two areas that's not
21 paved, then you pave your side, Bulloch County may very
22 well be in a position to do because they, actually, do
23 quite well on the discretionary because of the way their
24 structured in another district. So you have to work
25 hand-in-hand with them. If it were -- let's say it's a

1 big project like say 441 or US 1 then we would work
2 hand-in-hand with -- that's part of my job is to try to
3 help coordination of that.

4 MR. BEASLEY: Right. Well, it's got a bridge on it
5 that fails weight standards.

6 MR. LONG: We have a lot of bridges on county lines.

7 MR. BEASLEY: And it's causing a problem.

8 MR. ADAMS: Todd's going to get the information to us
9 and then we'll get that together to the Executive
10 Committee and the Roundtable at the appropriate time to go
11 forward.

12 I appreciate everybody coming tonight.

13 Do I have a motion to adjourn?

14 (Motion was made and seconded by several.)

15 (The meeting concluded at approximately 8:43 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF DODGE

I, SHARON K. DAILEY, being a Certified Court Reporter, hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of the proceedings was taken down before me and thereto was transcribed by me; that the foregoing pages, 1 through 114, represent, to the best of my ability, a true, correct, and complete transcript of the proceedings.

This 6th day of February, 2011.

Sharon K. Dailey, CCR
Certificate Number 2752