



Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

100 Main Street, Suite 7520 Hinesville, Georgia 31313
Phone: 912-408-2030 Fax: 888-320-8007

Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO TCC MINUTES: November 12, 2020

The Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) on Transportation met via Zoom conference call 9:00 AM on November 12, 2020.

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Joey Brown, Chair, called the meeting to order and noted a quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS: No introductions.

Members Present: Joey Brown, Jeff Ricketson, Mayor Hawkins, Ned Green, Trent Long, Ryan Arnold, Clemontine Washington, Paul Simonton, Robert Norby, and Arnold Jackson.

Members Absent: Kyle Wemett, Dr. Franklin Perry, Mayor Joe Harris, Mayor Thomas Hines, Mayor Richard Strickland, Mayor Larry Baker, Ron Tolley, Chuck Scragg, and Troy Pittman

Non-Voting Members Present: Karen Randolph. Ann-Marie Day.

Non-Voting Members Absent: Allen Burns, Robert Buckley, Don Masisak, and John Lyles.

Participating: Vivian Canizares, Mark Wilkes

Staff Present: Rachel Hatcher, Kelly Wiggins.

Public: None.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Paul Hawkins made the motion to approve the September 10, 2020 minutes, seconded by Trent Long, and all voted in favor.

3) OLD BUSINESS:

a) GDOT: Project Status Reports:

SR 38 Connector from SR/US 84 to SR 119 is under preliminary design and environmental work is ongoing. The preliminary plans are 90% complete. Construction funds remain in long-range funding.

SR 38/US 84 at CR 73/Old Sunbury Road is in final design and preliminary plans are 100% complete. Final plans are over 95% complete. Breaking ground anticipated for March 2021, with 12-24 months to complete project.

Final plans for SR 119 at Taylors Creek-Bridge replacement is 100% complete with final plans and working through a utility issue with the base.

Ryon Ave. realignment project is a TAP grant project with preliminary engineering funds authorized. Will share with the committees once the final designs are completed.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd @ Peacock Creek bridge replacement project was recently incorporated into the TIP with a schedule review slated for October.

SR 38 Connector resurfacing contractor is currently working on resolving issues with dips in the road and potholes being paved over. Mr. Ricketson stated that the Mayor of Midway had complaints about the construction work, and added the contractor briefly lost their rating with GDOT which paused work on the project. Construction work is ongoing and the complaints regarding delayed driveway installation will be addressed by the contractor.

1.686 miles of milling and resurfacing on SR 38 from SR 119 to E of US 84 is 85% complete.

12.55 miles of milling and resurfacing on SR 38 from E of OC Martin Drive to E of I-95 is 35% complete.

b) Liberty Transit:

Overall ridership increased slightly from August to September; with Route 3 operating the full month. Ridership is climbing slowly. Sanitation and protective barriers remain in effect.

The preliminary design phase of the second infrastructure project has begun. ADA infrastructure project is currently in the public notification phase. A virtual open house will be held on November 13th at 11 A.M. Liberty Transit TPO First Transit began operations in October 2020. The new general manager is Karen Randolph. Paratransit ridership increased from September to October 2020.

c) Transportation Comment Log:

Deputies running radar with lights off from the decel lanes on Leroy Coffey Highway. Preliminary communication with Liberty County Sheriff's office has been initiated.

US 17 Pedestrian Crossing near the Midway Museum. HAMPO Staff has had ongoing coordination with GDOT's District office and with Midway Museum. Cynthia Phillips with GDOT District 5 indicated that in the spring, GDOT District will reevaluate this corridor. Staff is working on getting this agreement documented and continuing coordinating with GDOT District and GDOT's Atlanta office.

No new comments have been received.

d) HAMPO Administrative Updates:

Upcoming Election of Officers: The By-laws require the TCC to select a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from its members. Selection shall be made by majority vote. This is required to be

done on the first meeting of the calendar year and they shall serve for the calendar year. The TCC members stated that they would like to nominate and vote at the first meeting of the TCC in 2021.

SR/EG Miles traffic Study and traffic Impact Analysis. Rachel explained that there is a development that is proposed to be built on the property across from Schoolhouse Road. The City of Hinesville Council approved this development with the condition that a traffic study be acquired. Rachel stated that this development coincides with a multi-family development located next door. This is within the parameters of two of our MTP projects. This was advanced to band one because it would allow for potential right-of-way acquisition to support the project. There was discussion among the committee. Trent Long stated that the developer is willing to allow the increased right-of-way. Trent also stated that this project is most likely 5 years away from development. Chairman Brown stated that he wants this committee to keep this on their radar for the long-range plan. Jeff stated that he does not believe this will warrant traffic signals but will probably help with getting the turn lane installed. Chairman Brown stated that he would like a plan starting from General Screven to the Railroad Track. Trent stated that they have been in discussion. Jeff has talked with Cynthia Phillips at GDOT and she expressed interest in speaking with the locals to discuss this issue. Joey asked Trent to get with Cynthia at GDOT and remind her of our vision since this is on the list of 30%-funded T-SPLOST projects calling for installation of access management median infrastructure.

MPO By-Laws Update and PPP Update:

Draft article 8: Meeting remotely and virtually. Rachel went over this draft to the By-laws concerning meeting virtually during a public health emergency. At the next meeting, the TCC will be asked to recommend to the Policy Committee adoption of this addition to by-laws and approval to send participation plan out for 45-day public comment period. Rachel will send the finished document to the TCC for review before the January 2021 meeting.

4) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Draft 2018 - 2021 TIP Amendment #6.** Mrs. Hatcher stated that the GDOT Planning office is requesting an amendment to the FY 2018 – 2021 TIP and the 2045 MTP and explained the proposed changes. This amendment is to include PI# 0017411 (I-95 from Florida State Line to S Carolina State Line – ITS Exp) into the 2018-21 TIP and 2045 MTP.
Trent Long made a motion to approve TIP Amendment # 6 and seconded by Arnold Jackson and all voted in favor.
- b) **Draft 2021 -2024 TIP.** Mrs. Hatcher stated that the draft 2021 – 2024 TIP is currently being developed by HAMPO staff. Projects must be in the TIP to receive federal and state highway funding. This document is updated annually and is financially constrained by year. She added that the projects in the TIP are consistent with the Metropolitan Transportation Program (MTP). She explained the federally mandated documents an MPO creates and how they are related. The final draft will be presented for adoption in Spring 2021 after being presented to the MPO committees in December 2020 and a 30-day public comment period in January 2021. Previous action included HAMPO staff presenting GDOT source data to the Policy Committee at the October 2020 PC meeting.

Paul Simonton made a motion to recommend to the Policy Committee to release the Draft 2021-2024 TIP for a 30-day Public Comment period and seconded by Trent Long and all voted in favor.

- c) **Draft FY 2022 UPWP.** Mrs. Hatcher explained the purpose of the UPWP, which contains the MPO planning priorities and work efforts. This document is updated annually and is fiscally constrained by federal, state, and local funding from July 1 – June 30. The FY 2022 Budgets have not been released but will be incorporated into the final draft. She stated areas of emphasis as: freight planning, bicycle and pedestrian greenway analysis, Liberty Transit TDP, high crash location analysis, and TSPLOST implementation support. The Draft FY 2022 UPWP was presented to CAC in November 2020 and they unanimously recommended to the Policy Committee release for a 30-day public comment period.

Paul Hawkins made a motion to recommend to the Policy Committee release the Draft FY 2022 UPWP for 30-day comment and seconded by Paul Simonton and all voted in favor.

5) OTHER BUSINESS:

Joey Brown gave an update on the airport. He stated that bids were entertained for an expansion of the tee hangar. He added that there is an overflow from the Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport with small planes that want to get out of the air mix at SAV. Local partners at the airport are engaged with GDOT regarding airport layout, including expansion at the airport, with most of the funding from GDOT and FAA.

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

7) SCHEDULE: The next regularly scheduled TCC meeting will be January 14, 2021.

ADJOURN:

- Jeff Ricketson made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Paul Simonton, and all voted in favor.

APPROVED:

Joey Brown, Chair

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson