



Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO CAC MINUTES: November 18, 2021

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) on Transportation met in Room 2100 of the Historic Court House via phone/ZOOM at 100 N. Main Street in Hinesville at 5:30 PM on November 18, 2021.

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Phil Odom called the meeting to order and noted a quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS:

PRESENT

Emanuel Joyner	Riceboro
Phil Odom, Chairman	Gum Branch
Curles Butler	Hinesville
Marcello Page-Vice-Chair	Hinesville
Cassidy Collins	Hinesville
Bob Dodd	Walthourville

EXCUSED:

ABSENT:

Joe Kelly	Liberty County
Troy Cook	Liberty County
Ernest Brown	Liberty County
Ron Collins	AASU
Jimmy Shanken	Long County
Terry Sellers	Savannah Tech
Tim Byler	Flemington
Terry Fortson	Midway
Elaine Moore	Hinesville
Pearlie Axson	Riceboro

STAFF/GVT/Other:

Jeff Ricketson	HAMPO/LCPC
Rachel Hatcher	RS&H, LCPC
Justin Dammons	RS&H, LCPC

VACANT SEATS:

Vacant	Allenhurst
Vacant	Fort Stewart

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- The minutes were not approved due to the committee lacking a quorum.

3) STATUS UPDATES

a. **Project Update:** Rachel.

SR 38 Connector from SR/US 84 to SR 119 is awaiting FFPR.

SR 119 at Taylors Creek-Bridge replacement has an anticipated December let date.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd @ Peacock Creek bridge replacement project is awaiting concept approval.

Sr 38/US 84/Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail Median project. A task order has been issued for concept.

Active:

SR38/US 84 at CR73/Old Sunbury Road is being re-let, with an anticipated selection date sometime between February – April 2022. Anticipate receiving email from District 5 with sixteen locations that have let for signing, pavement marking upgrades, shoulder rehab on various CRs.

b. **Transit Update:**

Rachel stated that the sidewalk construction on Phase I has been completed. Solicitation bids for Phase II taking place in the City of Flemington and Walthourville is ongoing, with bids due back November 30. Has an anticipated beginning work date in January 2022 and finished by June 30, 2022. Funding is coming from federal sources. Rachel stated that year-over-year paratransit ridership was up for four months straight from July to October. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours ratio was higher than previous year's ration in August, September, October. Routes 2 and 3 had increased ridership in October, with Route 1 decreasing ridership. Total trips increased from October 2020 to October 2021 by nine percent.

c. **Transportation Public Comment Log:** GDOT committed to reevaluating pedestrian counts on US 17 in Midway near the Museum in Spring 2022.

New Comments: None.

d. **Administrative Updates:**

Upcoming Election of Officers. The CAC will select a chairperson and vice-chairperson at the first meeting of the calendar year when a quorum is present by simple majority vote.

E.G. Miles Pkwy Special PL Study Update. Four proposals were received and evaluated by the selection committee. Atlas Consulting was selected and is under contract to kick-off on schedule.

The study is anticipated to run for nine months. Phil Odom asked when the consultants began work. Jeff stated that the contract has already been signed and that they have begun work already.

September GAMPO Special PL Funds Review Committee Update. The Georgia Association of MPOs (GAMPO) held their Fall 2021 meeting on September 27, 2021. Rachel reminded the committee that HAMPO last completed their freight plan in 2017. At the meeting, GDOT presented the Georgia Freight & Logistics Plan that is underway. Highlights included growth at Georgia's Ports, including neighboring ports in Savannah and Brunswick, as well as inland port facilities. Freight tonnage has also grown in the state, including freight volume on Georgia's roadways. The study will also include a statewide air cargo study.

Status reports were reported on by other Georgia MPOs. DARTS has a freight and bike ped plan out for bid, Brunswick had a corridor study adopted and a bike route study with bids opened, Hinesville had four proposals received for the EG Miles Pkwy corridor study, and CORE has two studies ongoing. There were six proposals presented at the fall meeting, including a proposal for urban flooding dynamic modeling tools (CORE).

Phil asked if any MPOs mentioned the I-14 project. Rachel stated that no one discussed that at this meeting, but it was brought up at the Spring 2021 meeting. He asked if the US 84 corridor had a project number and how long would it be before construction begins on the project. Rachel stated that a schedule hasn't been presented yet. He wanted to know if GDOT could do a safety study from O.C. Martin to I-95 – he stated there were safety issues when making turns on this corridor. He listed additional problematic intersections. Rachel responded that there are several TSPLOST projects that are included in the list regarding the intersections he mentioned. She discussed recommendations from the US 84 corridor study with the committee. The long-range plan requires a safety audit as well. Discussion continued regarding traffic volume on US 84.

The next GAMPO meeting will be held in March 2022, and proposals require two rounds of MPO meetings before presenting at the next GAMPO meeting.

New GDOT and FHWA Leadership. Phillip Peevy is the new GDOT Intermodal contact, and Ann-Marie Day is the Planning Team Leader for the Georgia Division of FHWA. Rachel stated that Olivia Lewis is the new Division Office Planner and will be working and sitting in on HAMPO committee meetings.

4) **New Business:**

- a) **Public Hearing FY 2023 FTA 5303 Grant Application.** Rachel stated that even though there isn't a quorum present, there should still be a public hearing held. A public hearing was requested on October 13, 2021 regarding the upcoming FY 2023 FTA 5303 Grant Application after an advertisement was posted in the newspaper. 5303 funding is for multimodal aspects of the transportation process, including public transit usage. Curles Butler commented on the roadway conditions of South Main St. Jeff responded that it is the city's top priority, with funding through SPLOST and TSPLOST. The project is working through ROW acquisition currently. Curles asked about the phases of the project. Jeff explained the first phase of the project and its boundaries.

Marcello Page asked about the streetlights on 15th St. Jeff stated that the city is looking into that, with several councilmembers commenting on that issue as well.

- b) **Draft FY 2023 UPWP.** Rachel stated that document states the MPO’s planning priorities and work efforts for the next fiscal year. This document is updated annually and is compliant with federal prescribed activities with GDOT oversight. FY 2023 budgets have been released, and they build on FY 2021 and 2022 values. Rachel listed the areas of emphasis, including freight planning, community outreach, multi-year planning schedule, and an equity analysis. The UPWP update schedule shows that the document is currently being reviewed by the MPO and ready for release for agency review and a 30-day public comment period.

There was consensus by the committee to release this document for a 30-day public comment period but could not be acted upon without a quorum present.

- c) **Transit Performance Measures Compliance.** GDOT develops recommended performance targets for safety measures, and the 2022 calendar year targets were released. Rachel stated that these targets were agreed upon by HAMPO, and the MPO is required to approve the resolution adopting them for the next calendar year. The targets include the number of fatalities, number of serious injuries, fatality rate, serious injury rate, and total number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. The new safety performance measures have been included in the HAMPO 2045 MTP, the HAMPO 2021-2024 TIP. Jeff stated that to participate in the MPO planning process, HAMPO has to have safety performance targets adopted annually.

There was consensus by the committee to recommend this document to the Policy Committee for adoption but could not be acted upon without a quorum present.

- d) **HAMPO 2022 Committee Meeting Calendar.** There are no conflicts with holidays in 2022. Curles wanted to know if the committee could add more members to easier obtain a quorum. Jeff responded that Phil requested an attendance sheet for committee members per the committee bylaws to give to the PC Chairman.

Phil stated that if committee members miss two meetings in a row, they are automatically dismissed per the CAC bylaws. It is the committee’s responsibility to reach out to their respective government officials to replace committee members for that jurisdiction.

- e) **FY 2023 FTA 5303 Authorizing Resolution.** This agenda item is a requirement for the application to GDOT Intermodal Division for 5303 formula MPO funding for the upcoming fiscal year. The MPO committees need to approve the grant application in order to submit the signed resolution to GDOT.

There was consensus by the committee to recommend to the Policy Committee for approval but could not be acted upon without a quorum present.

- 5) **OTHER BUSINESS AND AGENCY UPDATES:** None.

- 6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Phil stated that on Leroy Coffey Hwy there are potholes on the westbound lanes and at Mackay Bridge there is pavement degradation. He added that on GA 38 the pavement is coming up, as well as in Midway. Marcello asked about remedies for potholes in the city of Hinesville. Phil stated that this same issue was brought to GDOT because US 83/SR 38 was having issues with unbalanced paving. MPO staff will reach out to the GDOT District 5 representative before the next overlay. Discussion continued over responsibility of fixing the manholes.

SCHEDULE:

- The next regularly scheduled CAC meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2022.

- 7) **ADJOURN:**
The meeting was adjourned by consensus.

APPROVED:

Phil Odom, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson, Executive Director, LCPC