



Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO CAC MINUTES: January 13, 2022

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 January 13, 2022.

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Phil Odom called the meeting to order and noted a quorum was not 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:

Troy Cook	Liberty County
Ernest Brown	Liberty County
Ron Collins	GSU
Jimmy Shanken	Long County
Terry Sellers	Savannah Tech
Tim Byler	Flemington
Terry Fortson	Midway
Elaine Moore	Hinesville

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 for July 8, 2021 and November 18, 2021.**

- 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 Right of Way (ROW) has acquired 18 of 57 parcels.

SR 119 at Taylors Creek-Bridge replacement has a let date is scheduled for this month however, they are still experiencing utility issues.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd @ Peacock Creek bridge replacement project past concept approval and is undergoing environmental. PFPR has been requested.

Sr 38/US 84/Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail Median project. Project is still in concept development.

Active: Signing, pavement marking upgrades, shoulder rehab on various CRs on 16 different roads let in September. Rachel stated that they did receive a list of the roads and it has been published to the LPCC HAMPO website. The anticipated completion date will be September 2022.

Chairman Odom asked if the Doctor's Creek project had been completed. Rachel said it has been and that's why it has been removed from the active project list. Phil stated there was no work done on bridge. Rachel stated she would contact Katie Proctor and ask for an update.

b. **Transit Update:**

Rachel stated that the sidewalk construction on Phase I has been completed, and solicitation bids for Phase II taking place in the City of Flemington and City of Walthourville is ongoing, with bids due back November 30. Rachel mentioned that there is an anticipation of beginning work in January 2022 and completion by June 30, 2022. We are still waiting for purchase orders for two new buses and based on cost increases we may be limited to just one new vehicle.

Someone asked if there was a way for the city to drive the buses through a carwash. Rachel stated she does not have an answer for that. Jeff stated that would be a question for Karen Randolph. Someone asked if the buses were owned by the City of Hinesville or Liberty County. Rachel stated they are owned by the city and have a financial agreement with the City of Walthourville and the City of Flemington to provides services to their jurisdictions. He stated they used to have advertising on the bus and asked if they still do that. Rachel stated they will advertise on the buses, they just haven't yet because the buses are new, and the vendor contract has not been completed yet. Rachel will pass comment to Karen Randolph.

Rachel mentioned that Liberty County Transit was a part of the Hinesville Christmas Parade. Rachel stated that year-over-year paratransit ridership was up for six months straight from July through

December. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours ratio was higher than previous year's ratio for five months straight. Routes 2 and 3 had increased ridership in December, with Route 1 decreasing ridership but only by two trips. Total trips increased from December 2020 to December 2021 by seventeen percent.

Rachel stated that the City of Hinesville is getting ready to update their transit development plan that is required every five years.

c. **Transportation Public Comment Log:** No new public comments.

d. **Administrative Updates:**

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. The project kick-off date was held December 1, 2021 and traffic counts were collected in December 2021. It was reported that there were significant increases in traffic compared to DOT's published counts for that corridor. Instead of two percent for freight on that corridor we received 22 percent. It has increased significantly from the past. The stakeholder and public participation elements of this project will start soon. We will be posting monthly updated reports for the study and posting on the LCPC/HAMPO website. The study is funded by TSPLOST and PL Supplemental funds from GDOT.

HAMPO Certification Review Results. Every four years a certification review is conducted to determine where the MPOs planning process adheres to federal statutes and regulations. HAMPO has been recertified for four years. Some of HAMPO's strengths and best practices were highlighted along with a list of recommended areas for improvements.

2021-2024 TIP Admin Modification # 2. A request for funding increase was requested by GDOT office. No action is needed.

4) **New Business:**

(With no quorum it was decided to reach a consensus of the group and move forward.)

a) **Draft FY 2023 UPWP (Action).** Rachel stated that the Draft FY 2023 UPWP is an action item to approve the document for your Policy Comment Committee pending the comment period closure. There have been no comments thus far. We would like this action in order to close this out without waiting to bring it back to you at next meeting. The areas of emphasis, include freight planning, community outreach, multi-year planning schedule, equity analysis, climate crisis, and complete streets. The 30-day public comment period was published from December 17 to January 2022. The comments received from oversight agencies were incorporated into the final draft. The Final draft will be presented to the Policy Committee in February for adoption, pending receipt of and substantial comments. GDOT asked for our comment periods to be shortened by 15 days. This will put us two months ahead of schedule.

With no quorum it was decided to reach a consensus of the group and move forward.

There was a consensus of the members present.

- b) **HAMPO Public Participation Plan Update (Action).** HAMPO has updated the public participation plan on guidance received from GDOT during the HAMPO Certification Report process. The public Comment period for the Transportation Program (TIP) was adjusted from 30 days to 15 days.

There was a consensus of the members present.

- c) **Elections of Officers.** Term is for a period of one year. This action is postponed until next meeting of a full quorum.
- 5) **OTHER BUSINESS AND AGENCY UPDATES:** Jeff stated that as he looks through the roster for this committee, he will talk with the governments and let them know that their committee selection has not been attending the meetings. It is very important to have a quorum. He will also send a letter to the LCBOC Chairman Lovette. Jeff thanked the members that are present for attending and their dedication. He will also reach out to Long County.

Curles asked for an update on the sidewalk project in Flemington to the high school. Jeff stated that in the HAMPO meeting this morning Mayor Hawkins expects that to be under contract within the next month. Jeff stated that the City of Walthourville is about to start a sidewalk project that goes from the police department to Busbee Road.

- 6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Jeff stated that we typically conduct a new member training. We should do that when we acquire the new members. Rachel stated that they should be able to squeeze it in or we can set up a separate meeting if need be. Chairman Odom stated he and Mayor Pro Tem Washington had received a lot of complaints about making left turns from Highway 84 when there is no center turn lane. Chairman Odom asked Jeff what it would take to get GDOT to study the area from O.C. Martin Road to I095 at Exit 76, (Midway). Rachel stated there are things that have been done and things that are in the works for that corridor. The US Hwy 84 study already called that segment out as needing improvements in 2008. Its on the radar and schematics were developed for that segment. Trent Long is going to speak to GDOT about this issue. All of these improvements are in the TSPLOST list. They began to collect funds in 2021.

Chairman Odom asked if they could get a list of the projects with the City and County from them to be able to tell the public what is in the pipeline.

SCHEDULE:

- The next regularly scheduled CAC meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2022.

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

APPROVED:

Phil Odom, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson, Executive Director, LCPC