



# Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

## HAMPO PC MINUTES: February 10, 2022

The Policy Committee (PC) on Transportation met via phone/ZOOM at 9:00 AM on February 10, 2021.

### 1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman Lovette called the meeting to order.

### INTRODUCTIONS:

#### Voting Members Present

Mayor Allen Brown, Hinesville  
Chairman Donald Lovette, LCBOC Chairman  
Lynn Pace, Tim Byler proxy, LCPC Vice-Chair  
Mayor Paul Hawkins, Flemington  
Gary Gilliard, LCBOC  
Vicky Nelson, City Council, Hinesville  
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning  
Mayor Pro-Tem Axson, Riceboro  
Lily Baker

#### Non-Voting Present

Jeff Ricketson, LCPC Director  
Joey Brown, LC Administrator  
Kenny Howard, Hinesville, City Manager

#### Non-Voting Absent

Mark Wilkes  
Kyle Wemett

#### Voting Members Absent

Larry Baker, Walthourville  
Mayor Pro-Tem Washington, Midway  
Mayor Richard Strickland, Gum Branch  
Mayor James Willis, Allenhurst  
Robert Parker, Long County BOC Chairman  
Melissa Ray, LCDA

#### Participating

Rachel Hatcher, RS&H, LCPC  
Justin Dammons, RS&H, LCPC  
Katie Proctor, GDOT  
Debra Attical, City of Riceboro  
Phil Odom, LCPC

### 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Lily Baker made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2021, meeting, seconded by Vicky Nelson and all voted in favor.

### 3) STATUS UPDATES

#### a. Project Status Update: Katie Proctor with GDOT

SR 38 Connector from SR/US 84 to SR 119; all ROW funding has been released and 19 of 57 properties have been acquired. Anticipated completion in December.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd at Peacock Creek bridge replacement project; environmental is ongoing and beginning process of PIOH (Public Information Open House).

SR9838/US84 from Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail median project; still in early concept.

**Active Projects:** SR 38/US 84 at CR 73/Old Sunbury Road is under construction. The project was LET and was awarded and pulled. It was re-Let in January 2022. It was awarded in February. It has an anticipated completion set for summer of 2023.

Signing, Pavement marking upgrades, shoulder rehab on various roads was awarded in October. GDOT is waiting on the contractor to begin.

SR 119 at Taylors Creek-Bridge replacement; LET has been moved to January 2022. This project had one bid, and it was rejected.

Jeff asked if the utility issues have been worked out on the military base. Katie stated they did work it out and it was in contracts. Jeff asked when they anticipate it being re-LET. Katie stated it has not been put on the schedule yet. Jeff asked if the Sunbury Road project was still planned to be worked on during the off hours. Katie stated yes.

Chairman Lovette asked Joey if the sidewalk project for Flemington would coincide with the road project. Joey stated that the sidewalk might already be completed before the road

**b. Transportation Update: Rachel Hatcher**

Rachel stated that the sidewalk construction phase 1 has been completed. Bids for Phase 2 was due back on November 30. We are anticipating that work on phase 2 will began in February of 2022 and be complete by June 2022. Liberty Transit is waiting on the purchase order for the two new buses, but due to cost increase, we may only get one new vehicle at this time. She will have more information on that at our February Transit Steering Committee meeting. Paratransit ridership has increased year over year. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours ratio was higher than previous year's performance in August, September, and October. All three routes increased in ridership in January. Total trips from January 2021 to January 2022 increased by 9 percent.

**c. Transportation Public Comment Log:** No comments received.

**d. HAMPO Administrative Updates:**

**E.G. Miles Pkwy Special PL Study Update.** Rachel stated we will give an update on this study at each of the HAMPO meetings to share how we are progressing through this. Our area of emphasis for February is stakeholder and public involvement. We will have a technical committee and stakeholder committee meeting this month. We have requested GIS data from Hinesville and Liberty County to obtain crash data from GDOT and we have reviewed existing studies, plans and documents. Chairman Lovette asked how we are selecting the stakeholders. Jeff stated that he did a virtual drive down the

road using the County website and has selected 25 participants. Jeff stated that they will start interviewing these stakeholders in March. Rachel stated that there will be a public forum held also.

**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.

Chairman Lovette asked that the LCPC to include the County Commissioners and City of Hinesville Council members Nelson, Riles and Reid to the stakeholders. Jeff stated he would include them.

#### 4) NEW BUSINESS:

a. **Draft FY 2023 UPWP (Action).** It is required that we have to adopt this plan prior to June 2022. The UPWP is updated annually. The FY 2023 budgets have been released. The area of emphasis should be freight planning, community outreach, multi-year planning schedule and equity analysis. We build our FY 2023 budget on FY 2022 values. Equity planning will be incorporated into the Bike/Ped plan. Rachel presented the UPWP schedule. Staff solicited feedback from the committee members regarding areas of emphasis for the FY 2023 UPWP. 30-day public comment period was published from December 17, 2021 – January 16, 2022. Comments received from oversight agencies were incorporated into the final draft. The TCC and CAC unanimously recommended adoption.

**Motion was made by Gary Gilliard to adopt the Draft FY 2023 UPWP. The motion was seconded by Lily Baker. The motion passed unanimously.**

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 Improvement Program (TIP) was adjusted from 30 days to 15 days.

**Motion was made by Gary Gilliard to release the draft HAMPO Public Participation Plan for a 45-day public comment period. Seconded by Paul Hawkins. The motion was unanimously approved.**

c. **Elections of Officers.** Term is for a period of one year.

Gary Gilliard spoke on behalf of the nominating committee and stated that they discussed the nomination and unanimously decided to re-elect the current Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

**Gary made a motion to have the officers from 2022 remain the same for 2023. Vicky Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Chairman Donald Lovette will remain Chairman and Vice-Chair Clemontine Washington.**

5) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

a. **Agency Updates:** LCSS Chair Lily Baker stated that the Career Academy has been approved to be a part of the economic development program for the State of Georgia. They are looking at the partnership between the Academy and businesses. She stated their Covid numbers have decreased.

b. **CORE MPO Update:** No update.

6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Phil Odom stated that as the Chairman of the CAC, they met 6 times last year and only had a quorum 4 of those times. He asked the elected officials to please check with their appointee and encourage that member to attend the meeting. Chairman Lovette asked Phil to let Joey know if the County members are not attending. They have a policy that the member has to attend to be on the committee. Jeff and Joey stated that we have already advertised for those positions.

7) **SCHEDULE:** The next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be April 14, 2022.

8) **ADJOURN:** Gary Gillard made a motion to adjourn. Paul Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED:

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Donald Lovette, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Jeff Ricketson