



Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

100 Main Street, Suite 7520 Hinesville, Georgia 31313
Phone: 912-408-2030

Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO PC MINUTES: August 12, 2022, 2022

The Policy Committee (PC) on Transportation met in person and via ZOOM at 9:00 AM on August 12, 2022.

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman Lovette called the meeting to order.
- Jeff Ricketson named each member that was present.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Voting Members Present

Chairman Donald Lovette, LCBOC
Lynn Pace, Phil Odom proxy, LCPC Vice-Chair
Mayor Paul Hawkins, Flemington
Gary Gilliard, LCBOC
Tom Caiafa, GDOT Planning
Lily Baker, LCBOE
Larry Baker, Walthourville
Vicky Nelson, Hinesville City Council
Mayor Pro Tem Washington, Midway
Mayor Pro Tem Axson, Riceboro

Voting Members Absent

Mayor Richard Strickland, Gum Branch
Mayor James Willis, Allenhurst
Robert Parker, Long County BOC Chairman
Melissa Ray, LCDA
Mayor Allen Brown, Hinesville

Non-Voting Present

Jeff Ricketson, LCPC Director
Joey Brown, LC Administrator
Ryan Arnold, Hinesville, Assistant City Manager
Phil Odom, CAC Chair
Wykota Wang

Non-Voting Absent

Participating

Rachel Hatcher, RS&H, LCPC
Vishanya Forbes, RS&H, LCPC
Trent Long, County Engineer
Ann-Marie Day, FHWA
Joe Longo, FHWA
Katie Proctor, GDOT
Todd Long, Atlas
Van Mason, Atlas
LN Manchi, Atlas
Robinson Nicol, Atlas

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Chairman Lovette asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 26, 2022 meeting. Paul Hawkins made a motion. Lily Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3) STATUS UPDATES

a. **Project Status Update: Katie Proctor.**

SR 38 Connector from SR/US 84 to SR 119; 76% of ROW acquired, 53 of 69 properties; in FFPR.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd at Peacock Creek bridge replacement project; Environmental is ongoing. POH has closed and response letter is under review. PFPR requested.

SR9838/US84 from Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail median project; awaiting NTP from concept development.

Active Projects: SR 38/US 84 at CR 73/Old Sunbury Road; anticipated completion date is now summer of 2023.

Signing, Pavement marking upgrades, shoulder rehab on various roads was awarded in October. Expected completion fall of 2022. No new update.

SR 119 at Taylors Creek-Bridge replacement. Do not have an anticipated completion date at this time. No new update.

Trent asked on the stripping, signage, markers and rehab. He stated there were some places the striping needed to be corrected and asked Katie to send him the contact information to speak with project manager.

b. **Liberty Transit Update: Rachel Hatcher**

Rachel with RS&H stated that the sidewalk infrastructure project in Walthrouville on Busbee Road has been completed. Liberty Transit is still in process of purchasing new vehicles and may be limited to only one due to costs and lack of inventory. Ryan stated as part of their grant application they applied for an infrastructure project. This will provide sidewalks on General Stewart, connecting General Stewart to Memorial Drive. The second part will be Fraser Drive and Norman Street and Link Street. The five-year on call consulting team has been selected and contracting is underway. Transit Development Plan will be initiated Summer/Fall 2022. Year-over-year paratransit ridership has decreased for the first time in over a year. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours ratio is higher in July. Routes 1 and 3 increased ridership by 20%, and Route 2 decreased by 25%. Total trips increased from July 2021 to July 2022 by 2 trips (1121 to 1123 trips).

c. **Transportation Public Comment Log:** No new comments received. Rachel did state that it is time to get back the Midway Museum issue.

d. **HAMPO Administrative Updates:**

Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program. Rachel stated This program was established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in 2021, which provides \$1 billion over the next five years. Funding is available for projects designed to reconnect communities that have been previously cut off from opportunities by transportation infrastructure, such as highways and rail lines. This program provides

funding for two types of grants: Planning Grants, Capital Construction Grants, Funding split for Planning Grants is 80/20. Federal split for Capital Construction Grants is 50% but may be supplemented with other Federal funding sources for a total split of 80%, with a minimum 20% local match. Rachel explained an eligible facility. Rachel went over Project Criteria. Projects will be evaluated on the following merit criteria: Equity, Environmental Justice, and Community Engagement Mobility and Community Connectivity, Community-based Stewardship, Management, and Partnerships, Equitable Investment and Shared Prosperity. Applications are due October 12, 2022. Chairman Lovette asked if anyone has given any thought to what would qualify. Rachel stated that this was discussed with the TCC and CAC and there was a lot of interest, but not specific projects given. Joey stated that the training for this emphasized that this was for communities of commonality that have been cut off from each other.

GAMPO Special PL Funding Schedule. Next rounds of GAMPO Special PL funding applications are due in September 2022 and March 2023. Funding is for planning only and cannot be used for PE, ROW, UTL or CST phases of projects. Funding split is 80% Federal and 20% Local with no minimum or maximum award size. Projects must be reflected in the HAMPO UPWP. Proposed projects must go through two cycles of MPO meetings prior to submittal. Proposed projects must support the HAMPO 2045 MTP. Rachel went over the schedule and timeline with the members.

4) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. **E.G. Miles Parkway Study Update. (Information Item)**

Robinson Nicol of Atlas Consulting went over study findings and recommendations with the members.

Vicky Nelson asked if the traffic signals that are being installed would have crosswalks. Robinson stated that GDOT does not permit a signal without crosswalks or pedestrian signals.

b. **FY 2024 UPWP Kick-off (Information Item)** Rachel went over the planning highlights. Amended FY 2021 – 2024 TIP to bring in new funding from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Adopted FY 2023 UPWP. Completed updates of PPP to include streamlined TIP public engagement process. Initiated E.G. Miles Parkway Study. Welcomed new CAC members and began efforts to fill all vacancies.

FY 2023 Summary of Anticipated Activities: Review and update Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Support local, state, and federal efforts to enhance multimodal accessibility and safety. Perform Equity Analysis and participate in Urban Area Boundary smoothing and Urban Planning Area delineation following 2020 US Census Data release.

Develop Complete Streets Prioritization Plan Y 2024 Areas of Emphasis: 1. Administration 2. Public Involvement 3. Data Collection 4. System Planning 5. Transit Planning a. Formula Funding b. Special Studies 6. Unfunded Special Studies (GAMPO candidates) a. FY 2050 MTP (Due 2024) b. 2018 Freight Plan Update Next Steps. Committee members provide feedback to MPO staff by 8/30/2022. Draft document will be circulated to committee members and oversight agencies for comment. Action will be taken to release for 30-day public comment period. Comments will be logged and incorporated. Final draft will be presented for approval in March/April meeting cycle.

c. **FY 2024 GDOT 5303 Grant Application (Action Item).** Rachel presented: HAMPO annual formula funding includes both PL and 5303 funds. Staff has initiated FY 2024, 5303 Application including the following Activity Line Items: Administration, Short Range Planning, Long Range Planning, TIP FY 2024 FTA 5303. Rachel stated that the TCC and CAC recommended approval. Rachel stated they will be sending forms for the members to complete.

Motion was made by Paul Hawkins to approve the FY 2024 5303 funding application, authorizing the Policy Committee Chair to sign the resolution. The motion was seconded by Gary Gilliard. The motion passed unanimously.

d. **Safe Streets and Roads for all (SS4A) Grant Application (Action Item).** Rachel stated that the new Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) will provide \$5-6 Billion in grants over the next five years. This funding can be used to support regional, local, and tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Rachel provided an overview of eligibility requirements. Expected release of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in May 2022 for Round One of funding. Applicants will need to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) through GSA to apply for grant opportunities in grants.gov. Applications covering several agencies are strongly encouraged. MPO can create single Action Plan for all or some member jurisdictions. MPO or transit agency applying for and distributing funds and/or assistance to members for individual plans. State DOTs are not eligible recipients. **Previous Action:** HAMPO Policy Committee directed staff to prepare an application for an Action Plan. Staff developed an application for the minimum funding award total of \$200,000, with 20% local match with LCPC as local sponsor. TCC and CAC recommended approval recommended Action.

Motion was made by Gary Gilliard to approve Safe Streets and Roads for All grant Application Resolution with 20% local match. The motion was seconded by Paul Hawkins. The motion passed unanimously.

5) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

a. **Agency Updates:** Lily Baker stated that they have off to a great start in the new school year. Paul Hawkins stated the construction work at McLarry's Curve has started.

6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor Baker stated that he is having a meeting next week with GDOT to discuss the intersection of Airport Road and Hardman Road.

7) **SCHEDULE:** Next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be October 13, 2022.

8) **ADJOURN:** Unanimously voted to adjourn.

APPROVED:

Donald Lovette, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson