



Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO PC MINUTES: December 8, 2022

The Policy Committee (PC) on Transportation met in person and via ZOOM at 9:00 AM on December 8, 2022.

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Chairman Lovette called the meeting to order.
- Introductions were made.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Voting Members Present

Chairman Donald Lovette, LCBOC
Mayor Paul Hawkins, Flemington
Gary Gilliard, LCBOC
Lily Baker, LCBOE
Vicky Nelson, Hinesville City Council
Mayor Pro Tem Axson, Riceboro
Clemontine Washington, Vice-Chair
Lynn Pace, LCPC PC
Mayor Larry Baker, Walthourville
Radney Simpson, GDOT

Voting Members Absent

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

Non-Voting Present

Jeff Ricketson, LCPC Director
Joey Brown, LC Administrator
Kenny Howard, Hinesville, City Manager
Emma Frost, Ft Stewart
Phil Odom, CAC Chairman

Non-Voting Absent

Participating

Rachel Hatcher, RS&H, LCPC
Jeff Ricketson, LCPC
Trent Long, County Engineer
Joe Longo, FHWA
Katie Proctor, GDOT

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Chairman Lovette asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2022 meeting. Paul Hawkins made a motion. Gary Gilliard 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; ROW ongoing. 88% acquired.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd at Peacock Creek bridge replacement project; preliminary plans and environmental is ongoing. PFPR is scheduled for January 11.

SR 38/US84 from Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail median project; awaiting NTP from concept development. Kick off meeting was held in October and layout is under development

SR 38/US 82 at Doctors Creek 3 miles East of Ludowici. Final bridge plans have been approved. FFPR was held November 30th.

Active Projects: SR 38/US 84 at CR 73/Old Sunbury Road; work is progressing.

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. Awarded in May. Work has begun. No lane closures and no time restrictions.

Milling, Inlay, and Plant Mix, Resurfacing and shoulder rehab on SR 119 from Airport Road to S. of SR 144. APAC Atlantic began work on 11-28.

Kenny asked if he could coordinate a meeting with GDOT to discuss the safety improvements on Highway 84 and the Ryon Avenue intersection. Katie stated she would get the contact information to him.

b. Liberty Transit Update: Rachel Hatcher

- c. Transit Development Plan has been initiated. And we have successfully submitted 5307 grant application. Paratransit ridership is lower than the previous year. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours ratio is higher in October. Routes 1 and 3 increased ridership by 32% and 114%, and Route 2 decreased by 9.2%. Total trips increased from October 2021 to October 2022.

Rachel stated that two new buses will be delivered by April 2023.

- d. **Transportation Public Comment Log:** No new comments received.

e. HAMPO Administrative Updates:

FY 2024 GDOT 5303 Grant Application. Rachel stated that the 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 and TIP.

E.G. Miles Parkway Corridor Study. Rachel stated that on September 8th the TCC and CAC took action to recommend PC approval with condition that subcommittee convene to review Deal Street recommendations.) September 16th the sub-committee convened and provided direction to consultant

tram for final recommendations. On October 13th the PC accepted study and endorsed recommendations. The next steps include the final report and appendices will be transmitted electronically to partner agencies and placed on the MPO website. The projects will be incorporated into 2050 MTP and funding partners will be identified with meetings established to advance projects.

Chairman Lovette asked about the manhole covers and was also asked if the same attention could be given to Islands Highway. Joey stated that the LCBOC voted last month to conduct a traffic study on Islands Highway and that GDOT wanted to see it. That analysis will cover what you are talking about. Rachel stated that it would be incorporated into the MTP.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Study Status Update. Rachel gave update. The HAMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was last updated in 2013. The FY 2022 UPWP contained planning funds to develop and update to the Bike and Ped Plan. The plan update will be completed in conjunction with developing a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan. The Complete Streets Prioritization Plan is a task under the current FY 2023 UPWP. Rachel stated that the HAMPO staff participated in the Scarecrow Stroll on Friday, October 28th and had over 900 attendees visiting our booth. 756 participated in an exercise to determine bicycle and pedestrian priorities for the region. The prioritized responses were collected by category: safety-326, connectivity-85, equity-166, activity-179.

Rachel stated that we did have an increase in the responses to the wikimapping. Rachel asked for the committee to participate in the wikimapping exercise. It will be up until the end of December. The previous actions listed are the launching of the public survey and interactive mapping exercise, presentation of update at countywide retreat, the scarecrow stroll exercise and finalization of draft technical report. The next steps include conducting additional public and stakeholder meetings, sending technical report to oversight agencies and committee members for feedback, 30-day public comment period and the anticipated project completion date is December 2022.

4) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. **Draft FY 2024 UPWP (Action: Release for 30 Day Comment).** MPO planning priorities and work efforts include planning activities, expected costs and one-year timeframe. Compliant with federally prescribed activities with GDOT oversight. Fiscally constrained by federal, state, and local funding from July 1-June 30. It is updated annually. Rachel stated the FY 2024 budgets have not been released. The areas of emphasis will be MTP Plan Update, Freight Planning and Land Use Monitoring. Previous action was staff solicited feedback from committee members.

A motion was made by Lily Baker to recommend that the Policy Committee release the Draft FY 2024 UPWP for 30-day public comment period. Gary Gilliard seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

b. **Bicycle Pedestrian Study Update (information Item).** Rachel stated the HAMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was last updated in 2013. The FY 2022 UPWP contained planning funds to develop an update to the Bike and Ped Plan. The plan update will be competed in conjunction with developing the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan. The Complete Streets Prioritization Plan is a task under the current FY 2023 UPWP. The study goals include identification of bike and pedestrian infrastructure needs, creation of connected bike and pedestrian corridors and creation of safe walking and bicycling facilities. Encouragement of biking and walking and reduce bicycle and pedestrian crashes. Rachel

stated there is an interactive wikimapping exercise on the website that can be used to provide feedback regarding bicycle and pedestrian-related issues in the HAMPO region. Previous Actions: Developed Draft Goals. Created public survey and interactive mapping exercise, presented study update at the Countywide Retreat. Next steps include conducting public and stakeholder meetings, finalizing technical report and sending oversight agencies and committee members for feedback. Action will be taken to release for 30-day public comment period. And the anticipated project completion date is December 2022.

c. HAMPO 2023 Committee Meeting Calendar.

A motion was made by Gary Gilliard to recommend to the Policy Committee approval of the 2023 HAMPO Committee Calendar. Larry Baker seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

d. 2023 Election of Officers (Nominating Committee Appointment).

Rachel stated that a nominating committee of three recommend officers to the Committee. Nominating committee will be Gary Gilliard, Clemontine Washington and Phil Odom. The committee will be prepared to bring names of nominated officers to the first meeting of 2023.

5) OTHER BUSINESS:

a. **Agency Updates:** None.

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

7) SCHEDULE: Next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be February 9, 2023.

8) ADJOURN: A motion was made by Paul Hawkins and seconded by Gary Gilliard. The vote was unanimous in favor.

APPROVED:

Donald Lovette, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson