



Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO CAC MINUTES: March 9, 2023

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) on Transportation met in Room 2100 of the Historic Court House via ZOOM and in person at 100 N. Main Street in Hinesville at 5:30 PM on March 9, 2023.

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Phil Odom called the meeting to order and noted a quorum was present. Jeff Ricketson announced roll call.

INTRODUCTIONS:

PRESENT

Phil Odom, Chairman	Gum Branch
Marcello Page-Vice-Chair	Hinesville
Bob Dodd	Walthourville
Cassidy Collins	Hinesville
Marcie Hamilton	Liberty County
Curles Butler	Hinesville
Julian Jones	Liberty County
Ron Collins	GSU
Bobbie Ruiz	Hinesville

EXCUSED:

ABSENT:

Jimmy Shanken	Long County
Terry Fortson	Midway
Emmanuel Joyner	Riceboro
Tim Byler	Flemington
Ernest Brown	Liberty County

STAFF/GVT/Other:

Jeff Ricketson	HAMPO/LCPC
Justin Dammons	RS&H, LCPC
Kelly Wiggins	LCPC

VACANT SEATS:

Vacant	Allenhurst
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2) **Approval of minutes for January 13, 2023. Motion made by Bob Dodd, seconded by Curles Butler. Passed unanimously.**

3) **STATUS UPDATES**

a. **Project Update:** Justin went over the status updates.

SR 38 Connector from SR/US 84 to SR 119 Right of Way (ROW) has acquired 86% completion of ROW acquisition. Justin stated that at the TCC meeting Joey Brown stated that the traffic circle at Barrington Ferry and Highway 17 has been approved.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd at Peacock Creek bridge replacement project; ROW authorization is anticipated in July. There will be a detour for the bridge replacement.

SR 38/US 84/Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail Median project. Awaiting concept submittal.

SR38/US 84@ Doctors Creek in Long County next milestone is corrected FFPR.

Active: SR 38/US 84 at CR 73/Old Sunbury Road is under construction. The work has begun on intersection improvements. Clearing is underway.

Signing, pavement marking upgrades, shoulder rehab on various CRs on 16 different roads let in September. Waiting on a start date.

SR 119 at Taylors Creek-Bridge replacement; It Re-LET in April and was awarded on May 6, 2022. Has started but has not made the reports yet.

Milling, inlay and plant mix, resurfacing and shoulder rehab on SR 119 beginning N of Airport Rd and extending S of Sr 144 has been authorized awaiting NTP. Will be conducting work during the night hours. Jeff stated that this is ongoing.

b. **Transit Update:** Justin stated the new transit vehicle will arrive on April 1, 2023. Transit Development Plan is underway. Paratransit ridership has been lower than the previous year's ridership since July 2022. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours ratio has been higher since September 2022. All three routes increased ridership in January by a total of 38%. Justin stated that at the TCC meeting Ryan Arnold stated they are still tracking for vehicles to be delivered. GDOT is holding \$ 460,000.00 funding for the next infrastructure project. We have placed a work order with our consultant to assist us in NEPA compliance. Then they will get the streets and sidewalks completed on a few more roads. Curles Butler asked if the new buses would be electric. Jeff stated no. Julian Jones asked how many transit routes are active. Justin stated three.

c. **Transportation Public Comment Log:** At today's TCC meeting, Midway Mayor Pro-Tem Washington suggested the traffic circles on Hwy. 119 and Hwy. 17 are large enough to accommodate semi-trucks without driving over the sidewalks. Jeff stated that GDOT fixed the spelling on the Leroy Coffey sign located on Highway 17. Phil stated that Freedman Grove sign is misspelled also. Jeff said he would notify GDOT.

d. Administrative Updates:

SS4A Award Notification. Justin stated HAMPO was awarded an Action Plan grant from the Safe Streets for All Grant program. The total fund amount is \$200,000.00 with local share being \$40,000.00. An RFP will be released later this year. The grant award was for development of a Safety Action Plan. Having this Plan allows HAMPO to be eligible to apply for an Implementation Grant.

Spring 2023 GAMPO Special PL Application Status Update. Justin stated that the application was successfully submitted to GAMPO. After the GAMPO meeting this month, we will announce if we received funds at the next TCC meeting. Jeff stated that Chairman Lovette signed the application yesterday and it has been submitted to GDOT. Jeff stated that it is a \$250,000.00 project with \$50,000 of it local funds.

HAMPO 2020 Census Updated UZA. Justin stated that on December 29, 2022 the US Census Bureau released its tabular list of 2020 urban areas. The list and a description of the criteria used for determining urban areas in the 2020 decennial Census can be found on the link provided.

4) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Draft FY 2024 UPWP. (Action).** Justin stated that the final UPWP was reviewed by CAC/TCC and recommended to HAMPO PC for approval. The FY 2024 budgets have not been released. Later this month we received the Special PL funding and will be able to bring that into the work program (\$141,023.28). There was a 30-day public comment period that ended on January 14, 2023. Comments received from oversight agencies were incorporated into the final draft and recorded in the UPWP comment log.

A motion was made by Marcello Page to recommend that the Policy Committee adopt the draft FY 2024 UPWP. The motion was seconded by Ron Collins, and all voted in favor.

- b) **GDOT Carbon Reduction Strategy Program.** Candace Foster with GDOT presented information about carbon reduction. The purpose is to introduce MPOs to the CRS development process and obtain inputs and guidance on strategies that can work in your regional context. There will be opportunity for feedback from MPOs to gain insight into the needs of our area.

4) OTHER BUSINESS:

a. **Agency Updates.** Justin stated that at the TCC meeting earlier today Joe Longo with Federal Highway stated there would be two webinars and he will share the links. Joey Brown stated that the corridor access management plan for Exit 76 has been approved by the County and the City of Midway. The planning on the safety project for Islands Highway is waiting on the Commission and will be approximately an 18-month process to complete. the roundabout to be located at Barrington Ferry has been approved by GDOT. Jeff introduced and welcomed our new member, Bobbie Ruiz. Jeff also stated that he will coordinate with staff a training before the next meeting for new members.

- 5) **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION:** Julian Jones asked about the detour for the bridge on Lewis Frasier Road. He suggested that there be some public notice given to the citizens for this detour.

Jeff stated that GDOT will handle that. Curles Butler stated that the manholes on Hwy 196 have not been raised even though the highway has been resurfaced. Jeff stated he will check to see who is responsible for raising the sewer manholes. Ms. Ruiz stated that the buses are filthy. She is going to ride on them before our next meeting and give us an update on the condition of the transit buses.

6) **SCHEDULE.**

- The next regularly scheduled CAC meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2023.

7) **ADJOURN. A motion was made by Curles Butler to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ron Collins, and all voted in favor.**

APPROVED:

Phil Odom, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson, Executive Director, LCPC