



Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair

Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO PC MINUTES: June 8, 2023

The Policy Committee (PC) on Transportation met in person and via ZOOM at 9:00 AM on June 8, 2023.

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lovette. Introductions were made.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Voting Members Present

Mayor Paul Hawkins, Flemington
Gary Gilliard, LCBOC
Clemontine Washington, Vice-Chair
Lynn Pace, LCPC PC
Mayor Allen Brown, Hinesville
Vicky Nelson, Hinesville City Council
Melissa Ray, LCDA
Ted Hicks, GDOT

Voting Members Absent

Mayor Richard Strickland, Gum Branch
Robert Parker, Long County BOC Chairman
Mayor Pro Tem Pearlle Axson, Riceboro
Mayor James Willis, Allenhurst
Gary Gilliard, LCBOC
Verdell Jones, LCBOE
Mayor Larry Baker, Walthourville

Non-Voting Present

Jeff Ricketson, LCPC Director
Joey Brown, LC Administrator
Kenny Howard, Hinesville, City Manager
Emma Frost, Ft Stewart
Shannae Johnson, GDOT Transit
Joe Longo
Vivian Canizares, GDOT
Robby Caudill, GDOT

Non-Voting Absent

Participating

Rachel Hatcher, RS&H, LCPC
Jeff Ricketson, LCPC
Katie Proctor, GDOT
Justin Dammons, RS&H
Trent Long, County Engineer

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Chairman Lovette asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2023 meeting. Paul Hawkins made a motion. Allen Brown 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; On schedule for construction and authorization. LET in July.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd at Peacock Creek bridge replacement project; anticipate ROW authorization in July.

SR 38/US84 from Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail median project; Concept submittal anticipated in August.

SR 38/US 82 at Doctors Creek 3 miles East of Ludowici. Final plans anticipated in July and LET in September.

Active Projects: SR 38/US 84 at CR 73/Old Sunbury Road; anticipated completion has been pushed to winter 2024.

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 is reporting at 32%.

Milling, Inlay, and Plant Mix, Resurfacing and shoulder rehab on SR 119 from Airport Road to S. of SR 144. Reporting 73% complete.

Joey Brown mentioned that the county has applied for earmark funds for the US 84 Freight Connector project.

b. Liberty Transit Update: Rachel Hatcher

Rachel stated a stakeholder meeting was to be held in May. The public survey ended on June 6, 2023. They hosted pop-ups during April and May and two new buses arrived in May. Rachel presented the Liberty Transit Development Plan schedule. Paratransit ridership has been lower than the previous year's ridership since July 2022. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours decreased sharply from February to March but is still higher than previous years ratio. Route 1 was the only route to show increased ridership by 10.9%. Systemwide trips decreased by 8.9% from March 2022 to March 2023.

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

d. HAMPO Administrative Updates:

Safe Streets 4 All Grant Update. Rachel stated that the HAMPO staff attended FHWA webinar for grant awardees on March 22, 2023 and is actively developing FHWA grant agreement for the RFP to be released in July or sooner.

HAMPO 2050 MTP Update. LCPC staff is actively developing RFP for consultant services. The 2050 MTP is due September 10, 2025. It takes approximately 18 months to complete. Jeff stated the RFP went out last Friday.

4) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **HAMPO FY 2024-2027 TIP (Action Item).** Rachel stated that the TIP is your short-range work program for projects over the next four years. The projects must be in the TIP to receive federal and state highway funding for Preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation and construction. The current TIP is 2021-2024. The HAMPO staff received draft FY 2024-2027 TIP information from GDOT. The current TIP will be referenced as current TIP until FY 2024-2027 is approved by the Governor and FHWA/FTA and incorporated into the STIP. Administrative modifications and amendments will be made as needed. Previous action included the TCC and the CAC unanimously recommended PC to release of the draft TIP for 30-day public comment period.

A motion was made by Paul Hawkins to release the draft 2024-2027 TIP for a 30-day public comment period including supplemental information anticipated from Liberty Transit, CRC and GDOT. The motion was seconded by Melissa Ray, and all voted in favor.

- b) **HAMPO 2045 MTP Amendment #2 (Action Item).** Rachel stated an amendment to the 2045 MTP was requested by the GDOT Office of Planning in April 2023. The amendment is to ensure the fiscally constrained MTP project list remains consistent with the FY 2024-2027 TIP. Rachel listed the projects that are impacted by the Amendment. The previous action was the HAMPO Technical Sub-Committee and oversight agencies reviewed the methodology and amendment summary prior to the publishing of meeting materials. TCC and CAC unanimously recommended PC to release amended 2045 MTP for a 30-day public comment period.

A motion was made by Allen Brown and seconded by Melissa Ray to release the amended 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for a 30-day public comment period, and all voted in favor.

- c) **Calendar Year 2023 Performance Measures 2 & 3 (Action Item).** Rachel stated that as a refresher there is a final rule and this guides/provides for the development and implementation of the Highway Safety Improvement Program. Measures if a State has met, or made significant progress, in meeting the performance targets. PM Targets 2 consist of Bridge Level of Service measures and Pavement Level of Services. PM Target 3 is a summary of the PM 3 Performance Measures. Previous action was the HAMPO Committee acted November 1, 2022 to support State's targets.

A motion was made by Paul Hawkins to adopt by resolution the GDOT established 2023 Performance Measures 2 and 3 targets as approved by GDOT. The motion was seconded by Vicky Nelson, and all voted in favor.

Jeff announced that GDOT and Federal Highway have requested that the voting members go back to meeting in person. Jeff spoke with our county attorney, and he agreed that in-person attendance is required and will commence the July 13, 2023 TCC and CAC meetings. Proxy's will be allowed.

5) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- a. **Agency Updates:** Joe Longo asked how the supplemental information for the TIP will be distributed. Rachel stated that it can be circulated back to committee members. Mayor Pro-tem Washington asked when the bike lane on Highway 84 in Midway will be installed. Jeff stated they added to the shoulder already when they overlaid Hwy 84 about 4 years ago and there are no other plans to add an actual bike lane at this time. Rachel stated that the SS4A includes items such as that. Chairman Lovette stated that adding a trail from Cay Creek to Riceboro would be an asset.

- 6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
- 7) **SCHEDULE:** Next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be August 10, 2023.
- 8) **ADJOURN: A motion was made by Clemontine Washington and seconded by Melissa Ray. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

APPROVED:

Donald Lovette, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson