



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 August 10, 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
Clemontine Washington, Vice-Chair
Lynn Pace, LCPC PC
Mayor Allen Brown, Hinesville
Melissa Ray, LCDA
Ted Hicks, GDOT
Mayor Pro Tem Pearlle Axson, Riceboro
Mayor James Willis, Allenhurst
Vivian Canizares, GDOT
Verdell Jones, LCBOE

Voting Members Absent

Mayor Richard Strickland, Gum Branch
Robert Parker, Long County BOC Chairman
Gary Gilliard, LCBOC
Mayor Larry Baker, Walthourville
Vicky Nelson, Hinesville City Council
Ted Hicks, GDOT

Non-Voting Present

Jeff Ricketson, LCPC Director
Emma Frost, Ft Stewart
Shawnae Johnson, GDOT Transit
Joe Longo
Katie Proctor, GDOT

Non-Voting Absent

Participating

Rachel Hatcher, RS&H, LCPC
Jeff Ricketson, LCPC
Katie Proctor, GDOT
Justin Dammons, RS&H
Jamie Zerillo RS&H

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Chairman Lovette asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2023 meeting. Clemontine Washington made a motion. Melissa Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

3) STATUS UPDATES

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

PRECONSTRUCTION STATUS AUGUST 23

List No.	County	Project ID	Short Description	Improvement Type	Project Manager Name	Project Sponsor	Design Consultant Name	FY PE	FY ROW	FY CST	Next Milestone
1	Liberty	522570-	SR 38 CONNECTOR FROM SR38/US 84 TO SR 119	Construction of New Roads	Edwards, Cassius Octavius	LIBERTY GDOT LET	Moreland Altobelli Associates.	Auth	Auth	2024	CST Auth
2	Liberty	0016567	CR 171/LEWIS FRASIER RD @ PEACOCK CREEK	Bridge Replacement with No Added Capacity	White, Chad	GDOT	GDOT D5 Design Office	Auth	2024	2025	ROW Auth
3	Liberty	0017697	SR 38/US 84 FM CR 971/FLOWERS DRIVE TO CR 502/PATRIOTS TRAIL	Safety Improvements	Ghuman, Jagpreet	GDOT	Atkins Global	Auth	2025	2027	Concept Submittal
4	Long	0013719	SR 38/US 84@ DOCTORS CREEK 3 MILES E OF LUDOWICI	Bridge Replacement with No Added Capacity	Wilson, Bianca	GDOT	ARCADIS U.S., Inc.	Auth	Auth	2023	Let

ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS AUGUST 23

	PROJECT #	COUNTY	DESCRIPTION	CONTRACTOR	Letting (GDOT /Local)	DATE LET	% Complete	ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT	Anticipated Completion Date
1	0011730	Liberty	Intersection Improvements SR38 /US 84 @ CR 73 /Old Sunbury Road	APAC-Atlantic	GDOT	1/21/2022	31%	\$ 4,910,653.00	Winter 24
3	0013750	Liberty	Bridge Replacement on SR 119 @ Taylors Creek	Southeastern Site Development, Inc.	GDOT	4/22/2022	33%	\$ 5,750,456.12	Fall 23
4	M006212	Liberty	Milling, Inlay and Plant Mix, Resurfacing and Shoulder Rehab on SR 119 Beginning N of Airport Rd and Extending S of SR 144	APA - Atlantic	GDOT	5/20/2022	73%	\$ 4,703,809.22	Summer 23

Jeff Ricketson asked if the safety improvements on Highway 84 concept will be to us this month, or it is submitted to GDOT this month. Katie stated she would find out and let us the committee know.

b. Liberty Transit Update: Rachel Hatcher

Rachel stated the system highlights include Third Party Operator RFP submittal deadline closes on 8-20-2023. They received 4 submittals, and they are under review. Paratransit ridership has been on a downward trend since May, but still above the previous year's ridership. Systemwide trips per revenue service hours are slightly above last year's ratio. All routes show a decrease in ridership, Total rides decreased by 58 trips from July 2022 to July 2023.

Chairman Lovette asked who the typical rider is. Rachel stated that they just completed a survey that received 1000 responses and will bring that information to the next meeting. He also asked if there is

opportunity to expand the routes to Exit 76 and Exit 67. Rachel stated yes, the development plan is underway, and these concerns are being discussed.

- c. **Transportation Public Comment Log:** No new comments received. However, Rachel stated that they have requested for additional feedback from the CAC Chairman that was initiated before about safe crossing at Highway 17 and the Midway Church, Cemetery and Museum. We are waiting to conduct an assessment on counts for the area. Chairman Lovette stated that the area on Highway 84 to the Midway Civic Center will need to be looked at also. The new gym will open soon, and the children will be coming from the neighborhood and have to cross Highway 84. Rachel stated that is listed in the MTP.

d. **HAMPO Administrative Updates:**

Safe Streets 4 All Grant Update. Rachel stated that the HAMPO staff has completed the FHWA grant agreement and scope of work. The LCPC staff is awaiting approval form FHWA to release RFP for consultant services. Jeff stated that Federal Highway has finalized our grant agreement as of yesterday and the RFP is ready to be sent out. The LCPC will be accepting proposals for this project between now and September 1. Melissa Ray asked if the projects had been identified and Rachel stated not yet. This project is a one-year project and the MTP project is a two-year project.

HAMPO 2050 MTP Update. LCPC selected Pond and Company Team through a competitive RFP process. The 2050 MTP is due September 10, 2025.

4) **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) **HAMPO FY 2024 UPWP Admin Mod #1 (Informational Item).** Rachel stated that on July 5 2023 and administrative modification was made to the FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). This administrative modification revises the funding totals for the fiscal years 2024 and 2025 5303 Transit Planning budget. The updated document had been posted to the MPO website for reference.
- b) **HAMPO FY 2024-2027 TIP (Action Item).** Rachel went over the short-range work program for projects over the next four years. Projects must be in the TIP to receive federal and state highway funding for: Preliminary Engineering (PE), Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisition, utility relocation (UTL), construction (CST). The current TIP is 2021 – 2024. HAMPO staff received draft FY 2024 – 2027 TIP information from GDOT to include project list, authorized projects, lump sum projects and descriptions. The FY 2021 – 2024 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. She also provided a timeline for review. The previous action included a 30-day comment period that ended on July 12, 2023. No public comment was received and comments from oversight agencies were incorporated into the final document. The TCC and CAC unanimously recommended adoption of the final TIP document. Verdell Jones asked who monitors the projects and decides which project gets moved from one band to another. Rachel and Vivan explained the process.

A motion was made by Verdell Jones and seconded by Allen Brown to adopt the HAMPO FY 2024-2027 TIP, and all voted in favor.

c) **HAMPO 2045 MTP Amendment # 2 (Action Item).** Rachel stated that 2045 MTP Amendment #2 was required to ensure the fiscally constrained MTP project list remains consistent with the FY 2024 – 2027 TIP. An administrative modification was made to the 2021 – 2024 TIP to refine the cost of the Taylors Creek Bridge Replacement. This change was carried forward into the MTP Amendment. She gave a summary of the overall MTP changes by Band and a list of the projects impacted by the amendment. Previous action taken was a 30-day public comment period that ended July 12, 2023. No public comments were received. TCC and CAC unanimously recommended approval.

A motion was made by Clemontine Washington to approve the amended HAMPO 2045 MTP. The motion was seconded by Paul Hawkins, and all voted in favor.

d) **FY 2024 GDOT 5303 Grant Application (Action Item).** Rachel stated this is an annual occurrence in order to move forward with your grant applications. HAMPO annual formula funding includes both PC and 5303 funds. The application includes the following line items: administration, short range planning, long range planning, TIP and other activities. Previous action was the TCC and CAC unanimously recommended approval.

A motion was made by Clemontine Washington to approve the FY 2025 5303 application resolution. The motion was seconded by Pearl Axson, and all voted in favor.

e) **FY 2025 UPWP kick-off.** Rachel provided a timeline and highlights. The highlights included maintaining compliance with all federal and state requirements. Adoption of FY 2024 UPWP. Successfully securing funding through the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) federal grant program to develop a Safety Action Plan. Successfully securing GAMPO Special PL funding for 2050 MTP. Completion of the EG Miles Parkway Study. HAMPO staff attended several workshops and meetings throughout the year to include fall 2022 and spring 2023 GAMPO meetings, GDOT Subrecipient Workshop, Fort Stewart Resiliency Workshop. She also provided a summary of the FY 2024 activities which include support of local, state and federal efforts to enhance multimodal accessibility, safety, and freight efficiency. Perform equity analysis and participate in Urban Area Boundary smoothing and Urban Planning Area delineation efforts. Finalize and adopt 2024-2027 TIP and amended 2045 MTP. Develop 20505 MTP, develop safety action plan and develop FY 2025 UPWP. Included also are the expected goals and objectives.

5) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

a. **Agency Updates: None.**

6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** John McIver expressed safety concerns for school buses and citizens in the Riceboro/Midway area of Highway 17. The traffic on E.B. Cooper and Barrington Ferry is increasingly getting worse and the conditions of that intersection are not safe. He suggested a traffic safety study be done to look at that intersection to see the amount of traffic that is on this two-lane highway.

Jeff stated that the County has been working on redesigning both of the intersections with a traffic circle signal. Rachel stated that is the number one project on the T-SPLOST list. Mr. McIver asked what stage this plan is at. Rachel stated the preliminary layout is completed, local funding almost in entirety is collected, and the agreements are being finalized between the county and GDOT.

- 7) **SCHEDULE:** Next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be October 12, 2023.
- 8) **ADJOURN:** A motion was made by Clemontine Washington and seconded by Verdell Jones. The vote was unanimous in favor.

APPROVED:

Donald Lovette, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson