Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Chairman Donald Lovette, Policy Committee Chair Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Director

HAMPO PC MINUTES: April 11, 2024

The Policy Committee (PC) on Transportation met in person and via ZOOM at 9:00 AM on April 1, 2024.

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 Karl Riles, Hinesville
Mayor James Willis, Allenhurst
Gary Gilliard, LCBOC
Jomar Pastorelle, GDOT
Donald Lovette, LCBOC Chairman
Vicky Nelson, Hinesville City Council
Mayor Sarah Hayes, Walthourville
Mayor Tina Eason, Gum Branch

Non-Voting Present
Jeff Ricketson, LCPC Director
Emma Frost, Ft Stewart

Non-Voting Absent
Joey Brown, County Administrator
Kenny Howard, City Manager

Voting Members Absent
Robert Parker, Long County BOC Chairman
Melissa Ray, LCDA
Verdell Jones, LCBOE

Participating
Rachel Hatcher, RS&H, LCPC
Katie Proctor, GDOT
Justin Dammons, RS&H
Joe Longo, FHWA
Vince Edwards, Atlas
Emily Brownholtz, GDOT

2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **Gary Gilliard made a motion to approve the February 8, 2024 minutes. The motion was seconded by Sarah Hayes. All voted in favor.**

3) **STATUS UPDATES**

a. **Project Status Update:** Katie Proctor presented the project update.

SR 38 Connector from SR/US 84 to SR 119: Next milestone is construction authorization.

CR 171/Lewis Frasier Rd at Peacock Creek bridge replacement project; The next milestone is FFPR.

SR 38/US 84/Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail Median project. In preliminary design and next milestone PFPR and it is anticipated September 2024.

Active: SR 38/US 84 at CR 73/Old Sunbury Road is under construction at 39%. Anticipated completion is summer of 2024.

SR 119 at Taylors Creek-Bridge replacement. Reporting 65% complete.

The Doctors Creek bridge replacement in Long County has begun.

b. **Liberty Transit Update:** Rachel Hatcher presented a list of the acronyms that are used during the HAMPO meetings for each member. Transit highlights for the second quarter of 2024 are the final recommendations, draft and final report have been completed. The stakeholders' meeting will be held in May along with the 30-day public comment period and the plan adoption should be in June. Paratransit ridership is lower than previous year for the month of March. March 2024 system-wide ridership grew by 5.6 % over the March 2023 ridership. Route 3 grew by 142%.

c. **Transportation Public Comment Log**: Intersection of Hardman Road and Airport Road in the City of Walthourville needs safety improvements. Mayor Hayes stated that she would like information for sidewalks along Dunlevie Road. Jeff stated that we would need to gain some engineering advice to help with the sidewalks in that area.

d. **HAMPO Administrative Updates:**

GAMPO Spring 2024 Conference: Rachel stated that the HAMPO staff attended the Spring 2024 conference on March 25, 2024 Additional updates were provided by FHWA and GDOT. The topics covered were incorporating resilience in the MTP; The PROTECT Program and grant funding that will be available for the program; and quantitative screening tools for network screening and environmental justice analyses.

GDOT Carbon Reduction Strategy: Rachel stated that FHWA certified that GDOT's CRS meets statutory requirements. Further information, including coordination with MPO's will be provided at a later date.

HAMPO FY 2024-27 TIP Admin Modification #3, #4: Rachel stated that HAMPO has performed two administrative modifications to the FY 24-27 TIP. Administrative modification # 2 incorporated the 2024 Safety Performance Measures into the TIP and Safety Performance Report. Administrative Modification # 3 updated the CST phase cost for PI 522570. The construction cost increased by $3,774,320.55.

GHG Final Rule: Rachel stated the FHWA informed Georgia MPO's that 22 states filed lawsuits challenging the GHG final rule. On March 27, the U.S. District court for the Northern District of Texas vacated and remanded the Final Rule to DOT, in effect nullifying the rule nationwide. States

and MPO's are not required to submit initial targets and reports. When new information becomes available, it will be brought forward to this committee.

4) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a) **HAMPO FY 2025 UPWP: (Action Item).** Rachel stated that UPWP contains MPO planning priorities and work activities and expected costs that will happen in a one-year timeframe. Required to be updated annually and compliant with federally prescribed activities with GDOT oversight. The FY 2025 budgets for PL and 5303 funds have been released with areas of emphasis on the MTP Update, the SS4A Safety Action Plan and Land Use Monitoring. Previous action taken is the 30-day comment period was completed in January. Oversight agency comments have been incorporated into the draft. The HAMPO TCC AND CAC unanimously recommended adoption for 2025 UPWP.

A motion was made by Gary Gilliard to adopt the HAMPO FY 2025 UPWP. The motion was seconded by Karl Riles, and all voted in favor.

b) **HAMPO FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment #2: (Action Item.)** On February 27, 2024, the GDOT Office of Planning requested an amendment to the FY 2024-2027 TIP document to update the construction phase for one project. The I-95 ITS. The funding increased by $13, 588,829.88. HAMPO is only responsible for 12% of the funds for this project.

A motion was made by Clemontine Washington to release the amended FY 2024-2027 TIP for a 15-day public comment period. The motion was seconded by Sarah Hayes, and all voted unanimously.

c) **HAMPO 2045 MTP Amendment #3: (Action Item.)** On February 27, 2024, the GDOT Office of Planning requested an amendment to the FY 2024-2027 TIP document to update the construction phase for one project. The I-95 ITS. Projects will be moved to different bands to ensure the document is fiscally constrained.

A motion was made by Paul Hawkins to release the amended 2045 MTP for a 30-day public comment period. The motion was seconded by Gary Gilliard, and all voted unanimously.

d) **Updated MPA Adoption: (Action Item).** Rachel stated that the UZA is what the US Census defined area 50,000+ population. The UAB is corrected boundary prepared by MPO and GDOT to refine the UZA. The MPA is adjusted planning area encompassing areas anticipated to become urban within 20 years. A memorandum of understanding identifies the areas that are the responsibility of the MPO. Previous action taken was HAMPO staff worked collaboratively with GDOT to establish new urban area boundaries and the TCC and CAC unanimously recommended adoption of the updated MPA boundary.

A motion was made by Clemontine Washington to adopt the MPA in accordance with the HAMPO MOU. The motion was seconded by Paul Hawkins, and all voted unanimously.

5) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Agency Updates: None.

6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Jeff stated the LCPC will host the next Comprehensive Planning Meeting on April 22, 2024 at the Dorchester Academy and Museum at 6 PM.

7) **SCHEDULE:** Next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be June 13, 2024.

8) **ADJOURN:** Chairman Lovette adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

Donald Lovette, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson