Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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

HAMPO PC MINUTES: August 14, 2025

The Policy Committee (PC) on Transportation met in person and via ZOOM at 9:00 AM on August 14, 2025.

1) **CALL TO ORDER**:
   - The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM by Vice-Chairman Washington. Introductions were made.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Voting Members Present
Mayor Pro Tem David Edwards, Flemington
Mayor Pro-Tem Washington, Vice-Chair
Mayor Tina Eason, Gum Branch
Mayor Sarah B. Hayes, Walthourville
Louise Brown, Riceboro
Jomar Pastorelle
Melissa Ray, LCDA
Verdell Jones, LCBOE
Phil Odom, LCPC PC
Mayor James Willis, Allenhurst
Mayor Pro-Tem Vicky Nelson, Hinesville
Timmy Blount, LCBOC
Mayor Karl Riles, Hinesville

Non-Voting Present
Jeff Ricketson, LCPC Director

Non-Voting Absent

Voting Members Absent
James Craft, Long County BOC Chairman
Donald Lovette, LCBOC Chairman

Participating
Rachel Hatcher, RS&H, LCPC
Justin Dammons, RS&H
Wade Carroll, POND Associates
Joseph Mosley, County Administrator
Katie Proctor, GDOT
Tamara Drake, CRC
Jamie Zerillo, RS&H

2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Clementine Washington stated that she was listed as both present and absent in the minutes. She stated that she was in attendance.

- **Tina Eason made a motion to approve the June 12, 2025 meeting minutes with the mentioned corrections. The motion was seconded by Louise Brown. All voted in favor.**

3) **STATUS UPDATES**

a. **Project Status Reports: Katie Proctor:**

Preconstruction: SR 38/US 84/Flowers Drive to Patriots Trail median project. Next milestone ROW acquisition is anticipated in September.

Active: Intersection improvements at SR 38/US 84 @ CR 73/Old Sunbury Road has corrective work underway but has experienced delays due to weather. Lighting was installed along with corrections for drainage issues.

Phil Odom stated that there was pooling water on the site and noted the contractors on-site.

David Edwards commented on drainage issues on Old Hines and that property owners are receiving notices regarding work on drainage ditches. Katie confirmed this was part of the corrective work.

Phil commented that the three to four homes on the abandoned alignment from this project no longer receive packages because they have no address.

Jeff Ricketson confirmed that the County GIS department has rejected several proposed road names and the effort to name the road is underway.

b. **Transit Updates:** Rachel stated that Liberty Transit had received record ridership. She explained that there would be service changes to discontinue fixed route and complementary paratransit service to Walthourville. She explained there would be new service recommendations in the next 18 months.

c. **Transportation Public Comment Log: None.**

d. **HAMPO Administrative Updates: None.**

4) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a) **FY 2027 5303 Grant Application – Action Item:** Rachel presented to the committee and explained the TIP mass amendment that was incorporated into the draft MTP. She stated the changes incorporated did not impact the fiscal balancing and project prioritization.

Louise Brown made the motion to approve the FY 2027 5303 resolution and authorize the HAMPO Director to fully execute the grant funding application, seconded by Karl Riles and all voted in favor.

b) **HAMPO 2025 MTP – Action Item**

Wade Caroll of Pond & Company presented on this agenda item. He summarized the recommendations of the 2050 MTP.

Melissa Ray asked why Ryon Avenue was included in Band 3 since funding has been secured. She stated that improvements at Bryant Common Park's entrance would be a better use of City resources. Rachel shared that the park entrance upgrades would not be eligible for HAMPO funding.

David Edwards made the motion to recommend that the Policy Committee adopt the HAMPO 2050 MTP, seconded by Verdell Jones and all voted in favor.

c) **HAMPO FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment #6 – Action Item:** Rachel presented this item to the committee. She provided a correction in the motion, specifying that the HAMPO Participation Plan only calls for a 15-day comment period for TIP Amendments.

David Edwards made the motion to release the amended TIP for a 15-day public comment period, seconded by Louise Brown and all voted in favor.

d) **October Committee Meeting – Action Item:** Rachel presented this item. She stated that the TCC voted unanimously to cancel the September 11, 2025 meeting and GDOT concurs with cancelation. Jeff shared that the next meeting of the PC would now be on December 11, 2025.

Verdell Jones made the motion to cancel October 9, 2025 Policy Committee meeting, seconded by Louise Brown and all voted in favor.

5) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Agency Updates: Verdell Jones provided an update regarding the 2025-2026 school year. She offered praise to the resource officers and first responders. She provided comments regarding the community support and commitment to the health and safety of children in Liberty County. David Edwards shared that the repaving of Old Sunbury Road has been successful, but construction is being conducted during daytime hours and delays can be expected. Mayor Riles reminded the committee about the upcoming referenda. Vicky Nelson shared she will be hosting a school supplies giveaway and encouraged members to share this information with the community. Louise Brown stated that Trent Long met with local churches and businesses located near the proposed roundabout in Riceboro and received positive feedback. Joseph Mosley reminded the committee about the Lewis Fraiser Bridge and project and impacts to traffic that will occur. Tamala Drake shared that the CRC will be hosting transit awareness forums in all 10 counties where they operate. Jeff Ricketson thanked the committee members for their hard work in adopting the 2050 MTP. Mayor Pro-Tem Washington provided an update on the Midway Fire Department status stating they have reopened with 3 full time employees, 5-6 part time employees, and a new fire engine and support equipment. She thanked Chief Darby for his support. She shared that Midway recently celebrated their 100-year founding anniversary.

6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Clementine Washington requested that the HAMPO acronyms list be recirculated for the new members of the PC.

7) **SCHEDULE:** Next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be December 11, 2025.

8) **ADJOURN: MOTION: Sarah Hayes**
SECOND: Tina Eason
VOTE: All in favor.

APPROVED:

Donald Lovette, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Jeff Ricketson