

MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee
A-CC Planning Department Auditorium
Wednesday October 1, 2014
10:00 a.m.

Members Present: BR White - Oconee Planning Department
Brad Griffin- ACC Planning Department
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department
Cherie Dalton - ACC Planning Department
David Ballard - Athens Transit System
Tom Caiafa – GDOT – Planning Office
Kim Coley – GDOT District 1
Wayne Provost - Oconee Strategic & LR Planning Dept.
Ron Hamlin – UGA Campus Transit System
David Clark – ACC Transportation & Public Works
Steve Decker - ACC Traffic Engineering
Dale Hall - ACC Planning Commission
Pamela Thompson - ACC Downtown Development Authority
Blaine Williams – ACC Manager’s Office

Others Present: Kyle Mote - GDOT Planning Office
Radney Simpson-GDOT Planning Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. He expressed his appreciation for Mr. White being Chairman in his absence for the past couple of months.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 27, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. McDuffie made a motion to approve the August 27, 2014 TCC meeting minutes. Ms. Thompson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

IV. REVIEW OF FINAL DRAFT 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie stated the members had received results of the Public Comment Period held from August 25 – September 23, 2014 for the Draft 2040 LRTP. She stated quite a few people attended the public meetings, but very few submitted written comment regarding the Plan. She also stated that some of the changes made to the document were in coordination with our state and federal partners. She explained there were no changes made to the projects, project timeframes, or costs in the Plan. The most substantial changes were made to the Environmental Justice / Title VI section of the Plan and the Financial Plan section.

She also stated there were additional comments, since the mail out, from our Federal partners that were addressed in the handouts given to TCC members. Ms. McDuffie stated this is the final approval of this document and no further public involvement will be required.

Mr. Clark stated the location for project R-9, SR 10 Loop/Atlanta Hwy. Connector would be on the western side of the river; however, the public comments received made reference to impacts on the Greenway and Ben Burton Park, which is located on the eastern side of the river. He stated this project should not have any effect on the Greenway/Ben Burton area.

Mr. Mote stated he appreciated all of the hard work and effort from MACORTS to complete the LRTP document.

Mr. Caiafa made a motion to recommend approval of the Final Draft 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clark. The vote was unanimous.

V. REVIEW OF DRAFT FY 2016 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie stated the Draft FY 2016 UPWP includes only the primary award of \$216,243.20 (federal: 172,994.56; local: 43,248.64). The entire document was updated, but a few highlights in Element 1.4 and 4.11 were reviewed by Ms. Dalton.

Mr. Griffin stated FHWA will have upcoming training on the format of the FY16 UPWP to be in compliance with elements of MAP -21.

Ms. Day asked what the next action will be after the document is sent to Policy Committee. Ms. McDuffie stated this document is the draft version and after the first of the year, work would begin on the final draft.

Mr. Clark questioned if the additional funding needed to revise the LRTP was in the FY16 UPWP. Ms. McDuffie explained the funding would not show up in the FY16 because it would take more than what is awarded at this time. If the funds are not used in FY15 to update the LRTP, it will be rolled over into the FY16 UPWP, and the funds would show up in an amendment.

Mr. Clark recommended approval of the draft FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program to the Policy Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hamlin. The vote was unanimous.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

University of Georgia Campus Transit System

Mr. Hamlin stated their new software application for transit information, RouteShout, had received over 2 million requests for information since school opened on August 18th. They received over 5,700 unique users, and their peak day was August 21st, with over 79,000 users. He stated yesterday they had over 65,000 users.

Athens Transit System

Mr. McDuffie stated they would have to install 20 solar shelter lights at different bus stops and shelters within the community. He stated they are also working with UGA Campus Mobility Development to create an application that shows UGA and Athens Transit real time information services.

Athens-Clarke County Transportation & Public Works Department

Mr. Clark stated the Old Hull Rd. Project is almost completed. The Mitchell Bridge Rd project is under construction, and the roundabout project for Tallassee Road / Whitehead Road will be under construction in the next 30 days. He stated they are finalizing the plans for the Whitehall Hill Reduction project. Mr. Clark stated that UGA requested that ACC does not route traffic through their parking lot so ACC will move forward with the detour and full closure of Whitehall Road for a couple of months starting during May of next year.

Federal Highway Administration

Ms. Day stated FHWA would like to see MAP-21 changes incorporated into the FY16 UPWP. She stated that training to address the Planning Factors and Planning Emphasis Areas with the MAP-21 requirements will be scheduled soon statewide.

VIII. ADJOURN

Mr. Griffin stated he recently rode Bus #7 and complimented the Athens Transit System for the services they provide and noted that the bus was traveling full.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 am. Ms. McDuffie stated the next scheduled is Wednesday, October 22; however, this meeting may be cancelled pending information for the agenda. She stated she would inform the TCC members either way.