

SUMMARY MINUTES

MACORTS Policy Committee
WebEx Virtual Meeting Platform
Wed, October 14, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Kelly Girtz, Athens-Clarke County Mayor
John Daniell, Oconee County Chairman
John Scarborough, Madison County Chairman
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning Office
Sara Beresford, Athens-Clarke County Citizen
Dave Henson, Oconee County Citizen
Virginia Hamilton, UGA Campus Transit
Ann-Marie Day, FHWA (ex-officio)
Sue Anne Decker, GDOT, District 1 (ex-officio)

Others Present: Sherry McDuffie, MACORTS Staff
Cherie Varnum, MACORTS Staff
Brad Griffin, MACORTS Staff
Jalen Ford, GDOT Planning
Tom Caiafa, GDOT Planning
Victor Pope, Athens Transit
Ryan Walker, GDOT Intermodal Programs
Lee Becker, Oconee County Citizen

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mr. Girtz called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Ms. McDuffie took roll of members and guests in attendance.

II. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 12, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve the August 12, 2020 Policy Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Scarborough seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

III. REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED AT TCC MEETINGS / PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

There was none.

IV. REVIEW AND DETERMINATION OF FINAL AMENDMENTS TO 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN - ADD SR 10 LP AT ATLANTA HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE AND SR 316 AT JIMMIE DANIEL ROAD INTERCHANGE & ASSOCIATED PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. McDuffie stated that this is the final review of the amendments to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The amendments would remove the construction phases of the SR 10 LP at US 29 Interchange project and the SR 316 Frontage Road, Phase 1 in order to add the construction phase of the SR 10 Lp at Atlanta Highway and the PE and ROW phases for SR 316 at Jimmie Daniel Rd Interchange project. She noted these amendments are necessary for the added projects to be included in the Draft FY 21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document. These amendments and the Draft FY 21-24 TIP were taken through the public involvement process together. She also noted the public comment received was previously sent to members for review. TCC recommended adoption of the amendments.

Ms. Beresford made a motion to recommend adoption of the amendments to the 2045 MTP to add the construction phase of SR 10LP at Atlanta Highway interchange and the PE and ROW phases of SR 316 at Jimmie Daniel Rd Interchange to the MTP and remove the construction phases of the SR 10LP at US 29 Interchange and the SR 316 Access Road, Phase 1 from the 2045 MTP. Mr. Scarborough seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

V. REVIEW AND DETERMINATION OF THE FINAL FY 2021 – 2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM & ASSOCIATED PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. McDuffie stated the TIP shows the projects, including airport and transit, that are currently being funded through GDOT. The counties were given the opportunity to highlight any local transportation projects they wanted in a local section. She stated the only changes made to the document were in response to FHWA review. The TIP numbers were modified to show the connection between the TIP and MTP documents. The System Performance Report was updated to reflect conditions for the FY 21-24 TIP.

The public comment period was held August 24 – September 22 (30 days) with a virtual public meeting on Aug 27, 5:30 – 6:30pm. TCC recommended approval of the Draft 21-24 TIP.

Mr. Scarborough made a motion to recommend approval for adoption of the Final FY 21-24 Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Beresford seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VI. PRESENTATION FROM FHWA – 2020 CENSUS’ POSSIBLE IMPACT ON MACORTS

Ms. Day, FHWA – Georgia Division, presented information about the importance of the 2020 Census and how it could impact the MPO. If the urbanized area population were to exceed 200,000 per the 2020 Census, the MPO would transition to a Transportation Management Area (TMA). Ms. Day explained the additional requirements and responsibilities that the MPO would have as a TMA. She highlighted the enhanced certification review and requirements for the Congestion Management Process specifically. She explained that more detailed information would be shared later if the population of the urbanized area increased beyond 200,000.

There was some discussion regarding the urbanized boundary versus the MPO Planning Boundary. Ms. McDuffie reviewed a map showing the MPO Planning Boundary area to the board members. Another map was emailed to members after the meeting for their information.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. McDuffie stated the next scheduled meeting is November 11, which is Veterans’ Day. The ACC government offices are open on this day; however, Madison County offices are closed. She asked the Policy Committee if they prefer to meet on November 11th or reschedule. There was some discussion. Ms. McDuffie shared Chairman Daniell’s preference of November 12. The board decided to move the meeting date to Thursday, November 12th at 11 am. This will be the final meeting of 2020.

IX. ADJOURN

Mr. Girtz adjourned the meeting at 10:38 am.