

## SUMMARY MINUTES

MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee  
A-CC Planning Department Auditorium  
Wednesday, October 25, 2017  
10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Director  
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department  
Cherie Varnum - ACC Planning Department  
Rani Katreeb - ACC Traffic Engineering  
Juliane Dixon-Crump - Athens Transit System  
Matthew Risher - GDOT Planning Office  
Justin Kirouac - Oconee County Administrator  
Emil Beshara - Oconee County Public Works  
Drew Raessler - ACC Transportation & Public Works  
Gavin Hassemer - (Alternate) Athens Transit

**Others Present:** Lee Becker - Oconee County citizen  
Kris Raybon - GDOT Planning Office

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:12 am.

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

There was none.

### **III. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Raessler made a motion to approve the September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 TCC meeting minutes. Mr. Katreeb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **IV. REVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO FY 2018 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM: ADD FY 2019 SECTION 5303 TRANSIT PLANNING FUNDING & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie explained that the Section 5303 grant application has a required approval schedule by the Federal Transit Administration, and the UPWP has a required approval schedule by the Federal Highway Administration. There was a discrepancy in these schedules that interferes with the timeline that the GDOT

Intermodal Office needs to execute the 5303 grant contracts. She noted that, as a compromise between the two agencies, the MPO is now allowed to include 2 years of 5303 grant funding data into the UPWP. She explained that the changes to the UPWP document were in the funding tables and the work element pages that included the 5303 transit planning funding to include both the FY 2018 and 2019 funding. She stated there was also an additional handout that showed minor text amendments to the 1.6 UPWP Work Element in response to the FHWA review of the MPO and updated 5303 to reflect the need for whole dollar amounts.

Mr. Beshara made a motion to recommend approval of the amendments to the Section 5303 related content of the FY 2018 UPWP to include FY 2018 and FY 2019 funding for Section 5303 and other changes discussed. Mrs. Dixon-Crump seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**V. REVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND FY 2018 – 2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: SAFETY PERFORMANCE TARGETS AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SCHEDULE & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie reminded the group of last month's presentation from GDOT and the need for all of the MPO's in Georgia to include safety performance targets in their LRTP & TIP by February 27, 2018. She noted that MPO's may choose to either agree to support the safety performance targets adopted by GDOT or develop targets specific to their MPO area. She stated that either way will require an amendment to the 2040 LRTP and the TIP to include a resolution stating MACORTS' choice. The amendments will have to go to the public for 30 days of review and comment. If TCC decides to support the state's targets, the presented proposed public involvement schedule will be recommended to the Policy Committee. There was some discussion.

Mr. Beshara made a motion to recommend that the Policy Committee agree to take the proposal to support the GDOT's safety performance targets to the public for review and comment. Mr. Raessler seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

**VII. UPDATES / OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Griffin stated that the MACORTS Certification Review by the Federal Highway Administration and the Georgia Department of Transportation was conducted on October 11, 2017. He noted that staff did a great job in preparation for this review. He told the group that the report associated with the Review would be sent to all TCC and PC members and posted on the MPO website once it is available.

**Oconee County Public Works**

Mr. Beshara stated that Mars Hill Phase I had a significant traffic shift change last week with all of the current traffic located on the northbound lanes. They are in the process of finishing one box culvert near the Humane Society as they continue to do concrete work and finish the shoulders for the project. This project should be completed near May 2018. The signalization of the Mars Hill Road / Rocky Branch / Virgil Langford intersection is in the early stages of utility relocation and should be completed by the middle of 2018.

**ACC Public Works**

Mr. Raessler stated that Athens-Clarke County citizens will vote on the TSPLOST on November 7<sup>th</sup>. The Bike and Pedestrian master plan is making progress. The MLK bridge project is complete. The Firefly Trail ribbon-cutting for the first section of the trail was last week.

**GDOT**

Mr. Risher stated that consultants, HNTB, should reach out to Oconee County representatives soon to begin the formulation of the stakeholder committee for the Oconee County transportation study.

**VIII. ADJOURN**

Mr. Griffin stated that this is the last meeting of TCC for the 2017 calendar year. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2018. The TCC committee meetings will still be in Athens and the Policy Committee meetings will be held in Oconee County next year starting in February 2018. He adjourned the meeting at 10:37 am.