

MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee

A-CC Planning Department Auditorium

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

10:00 a.m.

Summary Minutes

- Members Present:** Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Department
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department
Anie Bassey – GDOT – Planning Office
Wayne Provost – Oconee Co Strategic & Long Range Planning Dept.
Robert Mahoney – GDOT Planning-District 1
Steve Decker – ACC Traffic Engineering
David Clark – ACC Transportation & Public Works
John Devine – Northeast Georgia Regional Commission
David Ballard – Athens Transit System
Kim Coley – GDOT Planning-District 1
B.R. White – Oconee County Planning Dept.
Emil Beshara – Oconee County Public Works
Sandy Thursby – Oconee County Public Works
Ron Hamlin – University of Georgia Campus Transit System
- Others Present:** Joseph Walter – Oconee County Citizen

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 25, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Decker made a motion to approve the August 25, 2010 TCC meeting minutes. Mr. Devine seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

IV. REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS TO FY 2011 – 2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie explained to the committee that the Georgia Department of Transportation passed along new funding levels for the Section 5310 program. These funds are used by the Department of Human Services. The FY 2011 – 2014 Transportation Improvement Program will need to be administratively modified to correct the funding numbers. There was no discussion.

Mr. White made a motion to recommend approval of administrative modifications to the FY 11-14 TIP concerning 5310 funding. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

V. REVIEW OF FINAL DRAFT LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLAN AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie reminded the committee that the Draft Limited English Proficiency Plan was available for review by the public from September 20 to October 20, and a public meeting was held in Athens on October 5, 2010. No changes were made to the document since the last time the committee saw it. Ms. McDuffie pointed out that there was an error in the Table of Contents that would be corrected.

With no discussion, Mr. Ballard made a motion to recommend approval of the Final Draft LEP Plan. Mr. Bassey seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VI. REVIEW OF DRAFT FY 2012 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie explained that the Draft FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) contains the same funding levels as the FY 2011 UPWP, although the text of each element had been updated. In-kind match was included in the Draft FY 2012 version of the UPWP, but Ms. McDuffie explained that the use of in-kind match would have to be approved by both the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Draft UPWP is due to GDOT by December 1. Ms. McDuffie told the committee to expect revisions to this document after January 1, 2011 before it is finalized.

Mr. Ballard made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VII. REVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie explained that Oconee County had requested that MACORTS amend the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to modify some of the Oconee County project sheets. Some of the project descriptions and cost estimates have changed. The decreases in some project cost estimates offset the increases in other project cost estimates. Ms. McDuffie further explained that this action would be a full amendment requiring a 15-day public comment period. The proposed timeline was provided to the committee.

Mr. Provost indicated that most of the proposed amendments are necessary to reflect adjustments already made in the Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Clark asked if these amendments would be incorporated into the MACORTS Travel Demand Model. Mr. Bassey told the group that he will find the answer to Mr. Clark's question and pass it along. Mr. Mahoney expressed the importance of being as accurate as possible with cost estimates. He also suggested that Oconee County may be able to pursue some state funding or local funding options for the

SR 15 at US 441 Intersection Improvements project, as the project is now proposed in the amendment.

Mr. Provost made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft amendments to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan to go to the public for review. Mr. Bassey seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hamlin – University of Georgia Campus Transit System

Mr. Hamlin explained to the committee that the UGA Campus Transit System is experiencing over-capacity issues, especially near the new dormitories on the southeastern portion of campus. Four new buses just arrived; and, only two buses will be retired.

Mr. Mahoney – GDOT Planning-District 1

Mr. Mahoney updated the group on several projects in the region, including:

- SR 191 bridge project in Madison County – should move to construction in the next year or so
- SR 53 / Mars Hill Rd, Oconee County – the right-of-way phase is slowly moving forward. Oconee County received the notice to proceed for right-of-way acquisition.
- Old Hull Rd, Athens-Clarke County – moving forward

Mr. Mahoney reminded the committee that there is an amendment on the upcoming ballot concerning SR 821 that would allow GDOT to fund projects in a different way. He encouraged the group to support the amendment.

Mr. Clark – Athens-Clarke County Public Works

Mr. Clark informed the group that the Mayor has instructed staff to pursue Local Administered Project Certification. Ms. Coley and Mr. Mahoney responded that many local governments are doing the same, including Oconee County. GDOT will be setting up interviews shortly as part of this process.

X. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m. The next TCC meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2011. Mr. Griffin reminded the committee that there is one more Policy Committee meeting in Danielsville. In 2011, Policy Committee meetings will be held in Watkinsville.