

**MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee**

A-CC Planning Department Auditorium

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

10:00 a.m.

**Summary Minutes**

**Members Present:** Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Department  
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department  
Anietie Bassey – GDOT – Planning Office  
David Clark – ACC Transportation & Public Works  
Steve Decker – ACC Traffic Engineering  
David Ballard – Athens Transit System  
Butch McDuffie – Athens Transit System  
Wayne Provost – Oconee Co. Strategic & Long Range Planning  
B.R. White – Oconee County Planning Dept.  
Doc Eldridge – Athens Area Chamber of Commerce  
Lucy Rowland – ACC Planning Commission  
Linda Fortson – Madison Co. Planning & Zoning Dept.  
Robert Mahoney – GDOT District 1

**Others Present:** George Rodrigues, Oconee County Citizen - Watkinsville  
Charles Ivie, Mayor of Watkinsville

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present. Mr. Griffin welcomed Ms. Rowland back to the Technical Coordinating Committee.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

There was no public comment received at this meeting.

**III. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 25, 2012 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the January 25, 2012 TCC meeting minutes. Mr. Eldridge seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**IV. REVIEW OF AMENDMENT TO FY 2012 – 2015 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) TO REVISE THE OLYMPIC DRIVE / PETER STREET INTERCHANGE PROJECT AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie explained that the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has informed MACORTS that the funding amount for construction had increased. She reminded the group that this project was administratively modified to decrease the funding necessary for the project in November. Since the funding is increasing from approximately \$11.1 million to approximately \$19.7 million, this action requires an amendment. Ms. McDuffie presented the proposed timeline for the amendment process including the 15-day public comment period.

Mr. Mahoney explained that there were issues with the design consultant who made several estimation errors. Another factor was that the Environmental Protection Division required more to be done with the bridge design. He apologized on behalf of GDOT that MACORTS was being asked to amend this project again. There was some discussion about whether or not this action will delay the progress of the project. Mr. Mahoney related his feeling that the project will remain in the March let. Mr. Provost asked if the addition of these funds will impact other projects in the MACORTS area. Mr. Mahoney and Mr. Basse explained that the effect of the proposed action will be felt in the Congressional District, but no projects in the MACORTS area will be affected.

Mr. Eldridge made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment to the FY 2012 – 2015 TIP to revise the funding of the SR 10 Loop at Olympic Drive / Peter Street project to go to the public for review and comment. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

## V. OLD BUSINESS

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO FY 2012 – 2015 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ADD PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING FUNDS TO THE SR 10 LOOP AT ATLANTA HIGHWAY PROJECT**

Mr. Griffin reminded the committee that this item had been tabled last month. He informed the committee that GDOT had withdrawn their request to amend the FY 2012 – 2015 TIP for this project. No further action is needed.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS / UPDATES

### Mr. Provost – Oconee County Strategic and Long Range Planning Department

The opening of the Oconee Connector Extension has been delayed due to a problem with the reflective striping. The contractor is working on correcting that problem.

### Mr. Clark – Athens-Clarke County Transportation & Public Works

Construction has been completed at the Barnett Shoals Road / Old Lexington Road intersection.

### Mr. McDuffie – Athens Transit System

MegaBus, a private provider, will begin offering intracity bus service between Atlanta and Athens on Feb. 29, 2012. They will be bringing buses to the Multimodal Transportation Center three times daily during a six month pilot program. More details can be found on their website at <http://us.megabus.com>.

ACC will be examining what can be done to provide public transit service out to the Caterpillar development.

Mr. Eldridge – Athens Area Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Eldridge thanked the ACC employees that were involved in the work done prior to the agreement with Caterpillar to locate in Athens-Clarke / Oconee Counties.

The Chambers of Commerce in the region have been meeting recently and have been preparing to promote the transportation referendum to be held in July 2012.

Mr. Mahoney – Georgia Dept. of Transportation, District 1

Athens Park and Ride project will be bid out Thursday, Feb. 23, 2012 and hopefully awarded on March 6.

In Oconee County, right-of-way acquisition is still underway for the Mars Hill Road project from SR 316 to Butler's Crossing Shopping Center.

In Madison County, right-of-way acquisition is still underway for the SR 72 project.

Reminder: The Transportation Referendum will be voted upon in July. Information is available on the GDOT Website for anyone interested.

**VII. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.