

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee  
A-CC Planning Department Auditorium  
Wednesday, April 24, 2019  
10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Director  
Sherry McDuffie – MACORTS Staff  
Cherie Varnum – MACORTS Staff  
Rani Katreeb - ACC Transportation & Public Works  
Victor Pope - ACC Transit Department  
Tom Caiafa - GDOT Planning  
Drew Raessler - ACC Transportation Public Works  
Nat Kuykendall - Oconee Rivers Greenway Commission  
Jody Woodall - Oconee County Public Works  
Bruce Lonnee - Alternate for Public Utilities

**Others Present:** Ann Marie Day - FHWA  
Rachel Hatcher - RS & H  
Beverly Davis – RS & H  
Lee Becker – Oconee County Citizen

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

There was none.

**III. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 23, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Raessler made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2019 meeting with the revised language from Mr. Kuykendall. Mr. Katreeb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**IV. REVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENT TO LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLAN & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie explained the Limited English Proficiency (LEP Plan) provides an analysis of the non-English speaking populations in the MACORTS region and outlines measures taken to ensure the non-English speakers are not excluded from the transportation planning process or from the services provided by the MPO and/or the ACC Transit Department.

Ms. McDuffie stated the LEP Plan was submitted for review as part of the Title VI Plan to GDOT Intermodal Programs. GDOT's Intermodal's review triggered a minor amendment to the LEP Plan to include an additional section on p. 13 that discusses the monitoring and updating of the LEP Plan and adding two items to the Language Assistance Measures section on the same page that outline recent initiatives of the ACC Transit Department. She noted that a 45-day public comment period is required for changes to the LEP Plan.

Mr. Raessler made a motion to recommend approval to take the Draft Amendment to the Limited English Proficiency Plan to the public for review. Mr. Lonnee seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**V. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE TO 2045 – DRAFT NEEDS ASSESSMENT & UNCONSTRAINED PROJECTS & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE (RS&H)**

Ms. Hatcher, with RS & H, gave a progress report on the update of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and presented the Draft Unconstrained Project List. The list was to be prioritized by the TCC Subcommittee.

Mr. Caiafa requested the GDOT project identification numbers be added to the project list. He also noted that he would research information about GDOT HB170 funding for the proposed SR 316 projects in the plan.

Ms. Day emphasized the importance of the assessment of freight in the project evaluation and prioritization in the MTP. Mr. Caiafa stated that GDOT would share the freight network shape files they have with Ms. Hatcher to help evaluate freight information.

Mr. Caiafa made a motion to recommend approval of the unconstrained project list as a starting point for developing a fiscally constrained project list for the 2045 MTP. Mr. Raessler seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Note: Mr. Caiafa found that all of the SR 316 interchanges are currently to be funded with HB 170 funding; therefore, those projects would not need to be included in the 2045 MTP.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

**VII. UPDATES / OTHER BUSINESS**

**Athens County Public Works**

Mr. Raessler stated the construction for the roundabout at South Milledge Avenue and Whitehall Road is on schedule, and the contractor has worked out a phasing plan that will not require detours. The Tallassee Road Bridge

SPLOST replacement project has made a lot of progress and they submitted plans to CSX for review (hopefully out for bid soon).

#### **Oconee County Public Works**

Jody Woodall stated he is the new Oconee County Engineer for the Public Works Department. He also noted the county is working on their annual resurfacing program. Intersection improvements and signalization for Mars Hill Road, Rocky Branch Road, and Virgil Langford Road area are proposed to be completed during the summer. He also noted that one of the signalization projects on their list includes Malcolm Bridge Road / Mars Hill Road with a possible roundabout with development.

#### **FHWA**

Ms. Day explained the importance of freight corridors and taking credit for consideration of freight in the project prioritization tool. She also acknowledged the Athens MPO for being used as an example for others in the state.

#### **GDOT**

Mr. Caiafa stated that GDOT is working on the MPO Transportation Planning Grant invoice template from GAMPO. They are also in the process of preparing information for the travel demand model and project list for the 2045 MTP update.

#### **Oconee Rivers Greenway**

Mr. Kuykendall stated the extension of the North Oconee River Greenway Trail under College Avenue along the riverside to North Avenue is on the verge of breaking ground soon.

### **VIII. ADJOURN**

Mr. Griffin adjourned the meeting at 10:45 am. He reminded the committee of the TCC subcommittee meeting taking place the next day.