

Summary Minutes of  
MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee  
A-CC Planning Department Auditorium  
Wednesday, April 26, 2017  
10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Director  
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department  
Butch McDuffie- Athens Transit System  
Cherie Varnum - ACC Planning Department  
Rani Katreeb - ACC Traffic Engineering  
David Ballard- Athens Transit System  
Tom Caiafa - GDOT Planning Office  
Kim Coley - GDOT District 1  
Emil Beshara- Oconee Public Works  
BR White - Oconee Planning Department

**Others Present:** Lee Becker - Oconee County citizen  
Russ Page – Oconee County citizen

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. He recognized David Ballard, Transit Planner for the Athens Transit System, for his years of service with ACC as he plans for retirement next month.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

There was none.

**III. APPROVAL OF MARCH 22, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. White made a motion to approve the March 22, 2017 TCC minutes. Mr. Ballard seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**IV. REVIEW OF DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION TO THE FY 2015 – 2018 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO UPDATE THE SECTION 5339 CAPITAL TRANSIT FUNDING AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie stated that there has been an increase in transit capital funding under Section 5339. The original grant amount for \$2,500,000 has increased to \$3,204,397. The additional funds were added to the acquisition of bus shelters, bus shelter construction, and acquisition of signage line items. Mr. McDuffie stated the modification requires a 20% local match and will be reviewed next week by the ACC

Mayor and Commission. Mr. McDuffie noted that all of the funds going toward the local match are allocated from SPLOST Bus Stop Improvement Program. Ms. McDuffie stated that the GDOT Intermodal Office approved the increase in funding to follow the administrative modification process.

Mr. McDuffie recommend approval of administrative modification to revise the transit capital funding under Section 5339 of the FY 2015 – 2018 TIP. Mr. Katreeb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

**VI. UPDATES / OTHER BUSINESS**

**Georgia Department of Transportation**

Mr. Caiafa noted the Interstate 85 project is continuing to make progress and is proposed to be completed near Memorial Day, which is earlier than the initial deadline of June 15.

**Oconee County Public Works**

Mr. Beshara stated Parkway Boulevard Extension construction is almost complete, and it should be open to the public next month. After some communication with GDOT Planning, the proposed corridor study at Epps Bridge and SR 316 has expanded into a proposed countywide transportation study for Oconee County. Mr. Caiafia stated that Mr. Darius Malone, with GDOT planning, would be the contact for more information.

**Athens Transit System**

Mr. McDuffie thanked Mr. Ballard, who is retiring in May, for the years of service to the transit department. Mr. McDuffie stated that May 8<sup>th</sup> will begin summer service hours which will reduce the routes to a 1 hour frequency. During this time, the peak hour number of buses will drop from 24 to 16. This service will end the week prior to school starting in the fall. During the summer service there will be a pilot route to revise Route 21, which currently goes out to Atlanta Hwy. & Mitchell Bridge that will return service back to the Columbia Brookside area. One of the conditions of the HUD funding to build that project was the return of public transit service after completion of construction, which is proposed for the end of the month. He noted that there are some location challenges for buses making turns in that area. Transit will monitor progress and conduct surveys to evaluate this reroute. He stated the Transportation Development Plan Stakeholder Committee will hold their next meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Athens-Clarke County Traffic Engineering**

Mr. Katreeb stated the College Station Bike Lane widening project will reach completion in about a month. All lanes are open, including bike lanes with temporary striping. The College Station Bridge project is completed; however, there is still a small segment of the sidewalk missing that the department is waiting for an update from the GDOT Project Manager. The 2017 Pavement Management Program (PMP) should be completed by the end of June. The FY18 PMP should be advertised soon and will be receiving bids and anticipate construction by the end of the year. They are also working on the Sidewalk Gap Programs and storm water projects. The MLK Parkway Bridge replacement project construction will require the area to be closed from the middle of May to the end of July and will be open again before the beginning of school in the fall. There will be signage to show the detour route.

### **VII. ADJOURN**

Mr. Griffin noted that there is a RFP out for the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Bids will be received until May 5<sup>th</sup>. He adjourned the meeting at 10:15 am. The next TCC meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2017.