

## SUMMARY MINUTES

MACORTS Policy Committee  
WebEx Virtual Meeting Platform  
Wed, May 13, 2020  
10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Kelly Girtz, Athens-Clarke County Mayor  
John Scarborough, Madison County Chairman  
John Daniell, Oconee County Chairman  
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning Office  
Sara Beresford, Athens-Clarke County Citizen  
Dave Henson, Oconee County Citizen

**Others Present:** Sherry McDuffie, MACORTS Staff  
Cherie Varnum, MACORTS Staff  
Brad Griffin, MACORTS Staff  
Butch McDuffie, Athens Transit Department  
Jalen Ford, GDOT Planning  
Tom Caiafa, GDOT Planning  
Virginia Hamilton, UGA Campus Transit  
Jalen Ford, GDOT Planning  
Ann-Marie Day, FHWA

### **I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF THOSE ON CALL**

Mr. Girtz called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. He introduced the new citizen representative for Oconee County, Dave Henson and took roll call of the members and guests in attendance.

### **II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 12, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Daniell made a motion to adopt the Feb 12, 2020 Policy Committee minutes. Mr. Scarborough seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **III. REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED AT TCC MEETINGS / PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**

There was none.

### **IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL TO BEGIN PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO FY 18 - 21 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: REVISIONS TO BRIDGE PROJECTS (BELMONT ROAD, CLOTFELTER ROAD, SR 10 LP AT US 29)**

Mr. Griffin reviewed the following amendments to the FY 18-21 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

- The Belmont Road Bridge at Shoal Creek right of way phase has moved into FY 21 with a funding decrease from \$250,000 to \$125,000.

- The Clotfelter Road Bridge at Barber Creek right of way phase moved into FY 21 with a funding decrease from \$250,000 to \$136,000.
- The SR 10 Loop at US 29 construction phase funding has increased from \$6,165,720 to \$9,264,577 and moved into FY 21.

Mr. Griffin presented the proposed timeline previously sent to members showing the public comment required. Staff will hold a virtual public meeting on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 4 – 5pm. The amendments and public comment received would come back to Policy Committee for final approval on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Scarborough made a motion to approve to begin public involvement for the amendments to the bridge projects in the 18-21 TIP. Ms. Beresford seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL TO BEGIN PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN & FY 18 -21 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: ADD UGA AS ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT, ADD 5339 GRANT FOR UGA, & ADJUST 5339 FOR ACC TRANSIT**

Mr. Griffin explained that this amendment is a result of UGA Campus Transit System recently receiving a Section 5339 Discretionary Capital Grant from FTA. He explained GDOT has determined UGA Campus Transit System is an eligible recipient for federal transportation funds. Since their eligibility is new, the MPO must amend the 2045 MTP to include UGA Campus Transit System’s profile and anticipated federal funding requests as it does for ACC Transit Department.

He also stated an amendment to the FY18-21 TIP is required to show the new grant award in the amount of \$8,778,824 total (\$7,462,000 Federal; \$1,316,824 Local Match). The other amendment to the TIP involves updating the Section 5339 grant amount for the ACC Transit Department from \$2,825,000 to \$1,500,000 to match the award amount.

Mr. Griffin presented the proposed timeline previously sent to members showing the public comment required. Staff will hold a virtual public meeting on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-6:30pm. The amendments and public comment received would come back to this committee on June 24<sup>th</sup> then to Policy Committee for final approval on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Beresford made a motion to begin public involvement for the amendments to the MTP and TIP related to the Section 5339 grants and UGA eligibility for federal transit funding. Mr. Daniell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**UPCOMING MTP AMENMDENT & TIP DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Griffin stated staff recently received financial information from GDOT to begin the update of the Transportation Improvement Program. There was a change in funding

source for the SR 10 Loop at Atlanta Hwy Interchange and the SR 316 at Jimmie Daniel Road Interchange projects. During the development of the 2045 MTP, both projects were to be funded with HB 170 funding (state); therefore, they were not included in the Plan. Now both projects are to be funded with federal funding. A project must be included in the MTP to be funded in the TIP. Therefore, to add those projects into the TIP, the MTP must be amended and kept fiscally constrained. MACORTS will need to identify \$36.3 million in federal funds to cut from the MTP to make room for these projects. He noted staff has planned to take this to the TCC at their next meeting for a recommendation to this body. Once a decision has been reached, staff will be able to finish the Draft TIP and send it to FHWA, GDOT, and the public for review and comment. He explained that no motion is needed at this time.

There was some discussion about the timeline for the projects and the process to amend the MTP. Mr. Simpson acknowledged the hard work of staff in reviewing the amendment process to identify opportunities for streamlining.

## **VIII. ADJOURN**

Mr. Girtz adjourned the meeting at 10:23 am. He thanked everyone for their attendance and stated the next PC meeting is scheduled for June 10 and will be held virtually.