

Summary Minutes of
MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee
A-CC Planning Department Auditorium
Wednesday, May 24, 2017
10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Director
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department
Cherie Varnum - ACC Planning Department
BR White - Oconee Planning Department
Conolus Scott, Jr. - Madison County Planning Commission
Juliane Dixon-Crump - Athens Transit System
Butch McDuffie – Athens Transit System
Darius Malone - GDOT Planning Office
Emil Beshara - Oconee County Public Works

Rani Katreeb - ACC Traffic Engineering
Jestin Johnson – ACC Manager’s Office
Tim Griffeth – ACC Public Works

Others Present: Adam Layfield - Oconee County Public Works
Lee Becker - Oconee County citizen
Russ Page – Oconee County citizen
Jim Rundorff - Oconee County citizen

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. He introduced Conolus Scott, Jr., who will be representing the Madison County Planning Commission on TCC. Then he introduced Juliane Dixon-Crump, the new Transit Planner for the Athens Transit System, to the TCC committee.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF APRIL 26, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. White made a motion to approve the April 26, 2017 TCC minutes. Mr. Beshara seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

IV. REVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO 2040 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN ASSOCIATED WITH UPDATE OF DRAFT FY 2018 – 2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Ms. McDuffie stated that some of the proposed projects programmed in GDOT's Construction Work Program for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) are not currently in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). She reminded the committee that projects in the TIP are required to be in the LRTP. Ms. McDuffie stated that the LRTP is a fiscally constrained document; therefore, to remain balanced, any additional funds for projects added will require funds to be removed from the document.

Staff sent out a proposed solution to the committee board for consideration. The proposal included removal of the Daniels Bridge Road Extension project from the LRTP along with the existing surplus in the plan. She noted this amount would be enough to fund the proposed GDOT projects.

She explained that staff would request the public involvement for this item and the TIP update (next item) concurrently since they are so closely related. She stated the proposed schedule was handed out to TCC members. There was brief discussion.

Ms. McDuffie presented two options to TCC for a proposed public involvement schedule. The first option was to continue the regularly scheduled meeting on July 26 (day after public comment ends). Staff would send out all public comment received up to the mail out, and then prepare the remainder of the comment to be handed out at the meeting on July 26. The second option would require a special called meeting on August 26 (the following Wednesday), and all comments would be sent to the committee in the mailout. After brief discussion, TCC members supported the option that retained the regularly scheduled TCC meeting on July 26.

Mr. Beshara made a motion to recommend approval to take the Draft Amendments to the 2040 LRTP associated with the FY 2018 - 2021 TIP to the public for review and comment. Mr. Malone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

V. REVIEW OF DRAFT FY 2018 – 2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie noted that most of the content for the Transportation Improvement Program was previously discussed during the first item for the Long Range Transportation Plan Amendments. The public involvement would be conducted concurrently since the two items are so dependent upon each other. She reviewed the minor changes reflected in the handouts passed out at the meeting. The changes were made since the mailout to TCC members in response to information GDOT Office of Financial Management and Oconee County.

Mr. Beshara noted that the terminus on the map of the Jimmie Daniel / Jimmy Daniell Road Widening project needed to be revised to show the project ending at Mars Hill Road. Following brief discussion, Ms. McDuffie noted that staff would update the terminus for the

R-25 project map. She clarified that there were interchanges proposed at both the Dials Mill Road Extension and Dials Mill Road intersections on SR 316. The SR 316 at Dials Mill Road Interchange was proposed to be funded with HB 170 funding; therefore, it will not be included in the MACORTS TIP.

Mr. Beshara made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft 18-21 TIP to be taken to the public for review and comment. Mr. McDuffie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

VII. UPDATES / OTHER BUSINESS

Athens Transit System

Mr. McDuffie welcomed Juliane Dixon-Crump as the new ACC Transit Planner. He noted that summer service had begun.

Athens-Clarke County Traffic Engineering

Mr. Katreeb stated Greencrest Drive and East Creek Bend are current storm water projects under construction. He also noted that the HT Edwards Safe Routes to School project is in the bid selection process. It is anticipated to be awarded in the next two months. The intersection of South Milledge and Whitehall Phase - II is under construction, and the MLK bridge will be open by the end of July.

VIII. ADJOURN

Mr. Griffin adjourned the meeting at 10:25am. The next TCC meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2017.