

SUMMARY MINUTES

MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee
WebEx Virtual Meeting Platform
Wednesday, June 24, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Director
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department
Cherie Varnum - ACC Planning Department
Jalen Ford - GDOT Planning Office
Sue Anne Decker - GDOT, District 1
Butch McDuffie - ACC Transit Department
Rani Katreeb – ACC & Transportation Public Works
Don Walter - UGA Campus Transit
Kim Coley - GDOT, District 1
Ryan Walker - GDOT, Intermodal Programs
Jody Woodall - Oconee County Public Works

Others Present: Tom Caiafa - GDOT Planning Department
Victor Pope - ACC Transit Department
Pat Hale - ACC Transit Department
Jessica Blankenship - GDOT

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order 10:02 am. Ms. McDuffie took roll of members and guests.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF MAY 27, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. McDuffie made a motion to approve minutes of May 27, 2020 TCC meeting. Mr. Woodall seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

IV. REVIEW OF FINAL AMENDMENTS TO FY 18 – 21 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WITH ASSOCIATED PUBLIC COMMENT: REVISIONS TO BRIDGE PROJECTS ON BELMONT ROAD, CLOTFELTER ROAD, AND SR 10 LP AT US 29 & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie 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 Bridge Replacement project construction phase funding has increased from \$6,165,720 to \$9,264,577 in FY 21.

Ms. McDuffie stated these amendments were taken to the public for review and comment from May 26 – June 9 with a virtual public meeting held on June 1 from 4-5pm. There was no public comment received during the public comment period.

Mr. Woodall made a motion to recommend approval of the amendments for the bridge projects in the 18-21 TIP. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

V. REVIEW OF FINAL AMENDMENTS TO 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN & FY 18 – 21 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WITH ASSOCIATED PUBLIC COMMENT: ADD UGA AS ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT, ADD 5339 GRANT FOR UGA, AND ADJUST 5339 FOR ACC TRANSIT & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. McDuffie stated the amendments would add UGA as an eligible recipient for FTA funds in the MTP, add UGA’s 5339 Capital Grant to the MTP and TIP, and adjust the 5339 grant for the ACC Transit Dept. She noted these amendments were taken to the public for review and comment from May 26 – June 9 with a virtual public meeting that was held on June 1 from 5:30 - 6:30 pm. There was no public comment received during the public comment period.

Mr. Walter made a motion to recommend approval of the amendments to the MTP and TIP. Mr. Katreeb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

VII. UPDATES / OTHER BUSINESS

ATHENS TRANSIT

Mr. McDuffie stated the transit system is currently operating their normal summer schedule and experiencing 4,000 passenger trips per day. The transit system has received financial assistance from GDOT of additional operating and capital assistance through the CARES Act program. This program is providing additional funding for transit systems affected by COVID 19. The Bus Stop Improvement Program continues to do well. The transit system should receive four hybrid electric busses soon and is currently operating fare free until July 15th.

UGA TRANSIT

Mr. Walter stated their transit system is not in operation at this time. They are awaiting Phase II of re-opening for UGA students and transit.

GDOT - PLANNING

Mr. Caiafa stated the GDOT Planning Director position should be filled soon by Jannine Miller.

GDOT DISTRICT OFFICE

Ms. Decker stated the Commissioner reported at the last board meeting the budget was 5% down from the amended budget and about \$39 million ahead of this time last year. The proposed budget will have a slight reduction but was approved with no furloughs and only minor cuts. The Capital Program budget took a more significant decrease, so some of the ROW phases for future projects will be shifted out.

OCONEE PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Woodall stated they are continuing to update the Mars Hill Phase II project plan and the environmental documents. This project has a January 2021 Let date but may have a minor setback with logical termini and independent utilities. Staff is consulting with GDOT project manager and team to reconsider design issues. The county may have to cover the environmental process for Mars Hill Phase III which may push the schedule back a little bit; however, it is projected to stay in the same fiscal year.

The Malcolm Bridge Road project at Malcolm Bridge Elementary & Middle School proposed bus entrance roundabout is a local project. It's underway and ahead of schedule. The project should be completed before school starts in August and should help the traffic flow in that area. The annual resurfacing program will begin soon.

ATHENS-CLARKE CO. TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Katreeb stated the Tallassee Bridge Road Replacement project has been delayed until later this year with a projected Notice to Proceed in September/October. Staff is in the process of reviewing current and future right-of-way in the county. The intersection improvements at Oglethorpe Avenue / Hawthorne Avenue and Tallassee Road & Mitchell Bridge Road will proceed to the design phase. Design will begin soon for the West Broad Street / Hancock Avenue roundabout. The annual Pavement Management Program to start construction for various pavement activities around the county will begin soon. The pavement of Lumpkin Street (near UGA) should be completed after Public Utilities finishes sanitary sewer work prior to opening of school in August. The staff attended a GDOT concept meeting about the replacement of Belmont Road Bridge over Shoal Creek. The grant for the Chase Street Corridor Improvement project will start the RFQ process soon. Ms. Decker reached out to UGA for the State Route 10 / West Hancock Avenue roundabout to explore pedestrian upgrades for their capstone project. She was excited to see what the coordination between ACC, UGA, and GDOT can generate.

VIII. ADJOURN

Mr. Griffin adjourned the meeting at 10:35 am. The next TCC meeting is scheduled for July 22.