

## SUMMARY MINUTES

MACORTS Technical Coordinating Committee  
A-CC Planning Department Auditorium  
Wednesday, July 22, 2020  
10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Brad Griffin - ACC Planning Director  
Sherry McDuffie - ACC Planning Department  
Cherie Varnum - ACC Planning Department  
Rani Katreeb – ACC Transportation & Public Works  
Jalen Ford – GDOT, Planning Office  
Steve Decker – ACC Transportation & Public Works  
Stephen Bailey - ACC Transportation & Public Works  
Butch McDuffie - ACC Transit  
Ryan Walker – GDOT, Intermodal Programs  
Marilyn Hall – ACC Public Utilities  
Jessie Blankenship – GDOT District 1  
Sue Ann Decker – GDOT District 1

**Others Present:** Lee Becker - Oconee County citizen  
Pat Hale – ACC Transit  
Carol Myers – ACC County citizen  
Victor Pope – ACC Transit

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

There was none.

### **III. APPROVAL OF JUNE 24, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Decker made a motion to approve minutes of the July 24, 2020 meeting. Mr. McDuffie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **IV. REVIEW OF FINAL AMENDMENT TO FY 18 – 21 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: SR 10 LP AT LEXINGTON ROAD INTERCHANGE & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie stated the amendment to the 18-21 TIP involves shifting the construction phase from FY 20 (June) to FY 21 (fall) and updating the cost estimate. The utilities cost estimate increased from \$1,562,640 to \$2,089,688. The construction cost estimate increased from \$14,541,694 to \$22,781,160.

She noted this item was taken to public review and comment from June 22 – July 6, 2020 (15 days) with a virtual public meeting on Tuesday, June 30, 5 – 6pm. No public comment was received.

Mr. Decker made a motion to recommend adoption of the final amendment to the SR 10 Loop at Lexington Rd interchange project in the 18-21 TIP. Ms. Hall seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**V. REVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENT TO 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN: ADD SR 10 LP AT ATLANTA HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE AND SR 316 AT JIMMIE DANIEL ROAD INTERCHANGE & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie stated the Policy Committee supported the amendments proposed by TCC regarding the removal of the construction phases of the SR 10 LP at US 29 Interchange project and the SR 316 Frontage Road, Phase 1 in order to add the construction phase of the SR 10 Lp at Atlanta Highway and the PE and ROW phases for SR 316 at Jimmie Daniel Rd Interchange project. These amendments are necessary for these projects to be added to the Draft 21-24 TIP document, and both will be taken through the public involvement process together.

She noted the public comment period will be held August 24 – September 22 (30 days) with a virtual public meeting on August 27, 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Since the TCC meeting is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>, all comment received by that time will be forwarded to the committee in the mail out. Any comment received after the mail out will be presented at the TCC meeting.

Mr. Decker made a motion to recommend approval to begin public involvement for the amendments to the 2045 MTP to add the construction phase of SR 10LP at Atlanta Highway interchange and the PE and ROW phases of SR 316 at Jimmie Daniel Rd Interchange to the MTP and remove the construction phases of the SR 10LP at US 29 Interchange and the SR 316 Access Road, Phase 1 from the 2045 MTP. Mr. McDuffie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**VI. REVIEW OF DRAFT FY 2021 – 2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM & RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McDuffie stated the MTP contains the projects that MACORTS would like to see federally funded. The TIP shows the projects, including airport and transit, that are currently being federally funded through GDOT. The counties were given the opportunity to highlight any local transportation projects they wanted in a local section.

She also noted the public comment period will be held August 24 – September 22 (30 days) with a virtual public meeting to be held on Aug 27, 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Since the TCC meeting is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>, all comment

received up to the mail out date will be forwarded to the committee in the mail out. Any comment received after the mail out will be presented at the TCC meeting.

Ms. Hall made a motion to recommend approval to begin public involvement for the Draft FY 2021 – 2024 TIP document. Mr. Katreeb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

## **VIII. UPDATES / OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Athens-Clarke County Transit**

Mr. McDuffie stated the transit system is currently operating their summer schedule with reduced evening service from 6 am to 7 pm daily. Since the transit system has returned to charging fare to riders, ridership has decreased significant from 4,200 to 2,100 passenger trips per day. Some of the significant decrease is due to the reduction of ridership from the homeless population. The system will begin normal fall service when students return to school and will continue social distancing requirements. The transit system should receive two new 35 feet hybrid electric busses soon and will retire the last 30 feet buses they have in current use.

### **Athens-Clarke County Transportation & Public Works**

Mr. Katreeb stated that staff is working on the concept and preliminary engineering for the North Chase Street Corridor. This is a TAP grant project that is 80% federal funds with 20% local match. The sidewalk gap project near Camellia Drive/West Broad St. should begin construction soon and be completed in a few months.

The West Broad and Hancock roundabout project design phase is scheduled to begin late Summer or early Fall. The Athens In Motion projects that include Cherokee Road, Jefferson River Road, Riverbend Road, and Barber Street, are in the concept and public engagement phase. The Tallassee Road Bridge Replacement project has been delayed due to utility coordination with CSX.

### **Athens-Clarke County Public Utilities**

Ms. Hall stated the water business office is now open from 9 am - 4 pm and has a new traffic pattern for entry on North Lumpkin Street and exit on East Hancock Avenue. They have started the leak protection program for the west side of Athens that includes Atlanta Hwy. There will be a few inspectors checking for possible leaks under Atlanta Highway; however, this will not cause any disruption in traffic flow.

## **IX. ADJOURN**

Mr. Griffin adjourned the meeting at 10:20 am. The next meeting is scheduled for August 26, 2020.