

Gainesville-Hall MPO Regional Freight
Study

**Freight Advisory Committee
Meeting**

Friday, February 10, 2017

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



February 2017

MEETING NOTES

GHMPO Freight Advisory Committee

Friday, February 10, 2017 • 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Hall County Government Center – HR Training Room 2nd Floor

Attendees

Name	Agency
Tony Newsome	Fieldale Farms Corp.
Wayne Stradley	GHMPO Citizens Advisory Committee
Jeff Waggoner	Cottrell, Inc.
Jim Syfan	Syfan Logistics
Matt Tarver	City of Gainesville
Darlene Long	Martin Road Stakeholder Committee
Wender Bulloch	Martin Road Stakeholder Committee
Gary McClung	Martin Road Stakeholder Committee
Mike Giles	Georgia Poultry Federation
Gina Pilcher	Martin Road Stakeholder Committee
Kevin McInturff	Hall County
Quinton Spann	GDOT Planning
Deborah Semital	Martin Road Stakeholder Committee
Stan Brown	City of Oakwood
Srikanth Yamala	GHMPO
Sam Baker	GHMPO
Joseph Boyd	GHMPO
Adam Ivory	CDM Smith
Jeff Carroll	High Street Consulting Group

Meeting Summary

The meeting was called to order by Sam Baker, Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Planning Manager. Mr. Baker welcomed the meeting attendees and provided a project introduction to the GHMPO Freight Advisory Committee (FAC).

Mr. Baker requested GHMPO FAC meeting attendees introduce themselves and provide a comment of what they would like to see included in the GHMPO Regional Freight Study. Summaries of the comments received from the GHMPO FAC members are included below:

- Identify most efficient freight truck routes through the City of Gainesville;
- How to find a way to bypass Downtown Gainesville;
- Efficient and safety to Candler Road;
- Safety and travel time reliability;
- Last mile connectors;
- Available routes, better connection to industrial areas;
- Context Zone compatibility between Freight and Residential land uses;
- Improvement of east-west connections;
- Maintenance of freight network;
- Opportunities to identify SPLOST funding needs for freight infrastructure improvements – bridges; and,
- Identification of freight projects for State Freight Funding opportunities.

Adam Ivory, CDM Smith Project Manager, provided an overview of the freight planning process and included a summary on the importance of establishing a Freight Advisory Committee for the freight planning process. Mr. Ivory highlighted the project tasks and schedule, including upcoming Freight Advisory Committee meetings.

Task 1 – Project Management and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Mr. Ivory presented an overview of the **Task 1 – Project Management and Stakeholder Engagement Plan** deliverables – Project Management Plan (PMP) and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The PMP provides a summary of the project team members, along with their contact information. The project scope of work which outlines the project tasks, project schedule, and project deliverables is also contained in the PMP.

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan provides a list of the GHMPO Committee meetings and key project communication items, such as the project website, which is located at <http://www.ghmpo.org/170/Regional-Freight-Study>.

It was communicated to the Freight Advisory Meeting attendees that a draft of the PMP and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan are located on the GHMPO Regional Freight Study website.

Task 2 – Regional Freight Mobility Plan Goals and Objectives

An overview of **Task 2 – Regional Freight Mobility Plan Goals and Objectives** was presented by Jeff Carroll, High Street Consulting Group, at the Freight Advisory Committee. Mr. Carroll described the process of developing draft Goals and Objectives by researching freight goals, objectives, and measures from existing Plans, such as National FAST Act goal areas, the GHMPO Long-Range Transportation Plan, Georgia Statewide Transportation Plan/Statewide Strategic Transportation Plan, Atlanta Regional Freight Plan, and input provided by the GHMPO Technical and Policy Committees, the GHMPO Freight Advisory Committee and general public. The presentation of gathered input included that obtained from the web based survey conducted in advance of the first Freight Advisory

Committee meeting and distributed to FAC members. This survey sought the FAC's participation on the following tasks:

- Ranking the regional freight issues by importance;
- Ranking the factors for moving freight more efficiently and supporting the regional economy;
- Ranking the barriers to freight-related productivity; and,
- Identifying improvements to the GHMPO transportation system that would benefit freight movements.

A draft of the GHMPO Regional Freight Study Goals and Objectives were then presented to the FAC. Comments received from the FAC included:

- Inclusion of "maintenance" as a goal and objective;
- Freight network improvements are compatible with land use context of the surrounding area;
- Address bridge maintenance; and,
- Include a cause for improving air quality for the reduction of truck idling objective.

Next Meeting

In conclusion, a preview of the tasks which will be presented at the next FAC meeting was given along with an overview of topics to be discussed. These include **Task 3 – Freight Performance Measures Development** and **Task 4 – Assessment of Freight Trends, Opportunities and Needs**.

Sam Baker concluded the meeting by thanking all participants for attending and reminded the participants that the project documents could be found on the project website. Mr. Baker also recommended the FAC's next meeting date, Wednesday, April 12th, 2017.