

**GAINESVILLE-HALL METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONFERENCE ROOM
MAY 10th, 2005**

**POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Voting Members Present: Cedric Clark, Bryan Puckette, Montie Robinson, George Wangemann

Non-voting Members present: Bill Meyer, Russell McMurry, Phillippa Lewis Moss, Kip Padgett, Hugh Tyner

Voting Members Absent: Tom Oliver

Non-voting Members Absent: Tony Dittmeier, Andy Edwards, Steve Kish

Staff Present: John McHenry, Grace Grindle

Others Present: Jason Crane; GDOT; Neil Kantner, GDOT; Robert Mahoney, GDOT; Larry Sparks, Oakwood; Patti Doss-Luna, Oakwood; Nikki Young, Gainesville Times

CALL TO ORDER George Wangemann

1. WELCOME

In the absence of Mr. Oliver, Mr. Wangemann called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and thanked everyone for coming.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 8th, 2004

MOTION: Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 8, 2004. The motion received a second from Montie Robinson and passed by unanimous vote.

3. APPROVAL OF GHMPO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM & LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT PROCESS

Mr. McHenry discussed the need to revise the Transportation Improvement Program that was adopted. There will be changes in project date, dollar amounts and potential impact to air quality conformity as a non-attainment county under the 8 hour ozone standard. As part of the Atlanta 20 County non-attainment area, process was taken to the Interagency Group for review, incorporated their comments and received concurrence. The process was recommended for approval by TCC and CAC.

MOTION: Mr. Clark made a motion to recommend approval of the GHMPO Transportation Improvement Program & Long Range Transportation Plan Amendment Process. The motion received a second from Mr. Robinson and passed by unanimous vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINOR LRTP/TIP AMENDMENTS

Mr. McHenry went over the SR 53 Dawsonville Road/Sardis Road widening and SR 53 Winder Highway Widening which have moved up in schedule and cost. An Advanced Traffic Management System project - additional variable message boards, expansion of cameras and addition of fiber optic connections to Transportation Management Center – which had been missed and corrections in Hall Area Transit’s funding were discussed. These amendments were recommended for approval by the TCC and CAC.

MOTION: Mr. Clark made a motion to recommend approval of these amendments. The motion received a second from Mr. Robinson and passed by unanimous vote.

5. APPROVAL OF FINAL FY 06 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Mr. McHenry discussed the Unified Planning Work Program, which documents the MPO's metropolitan transportation planning activities and budget for the State's Fiscal Year July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. It was recommended for approval by TCC and CAC.

MOTION: Mr. Robinson made a motion to recommend approval of the FY 06 UPWP. The motion received a second from Mr. Clark and passed by unanimous vote.

6. STATUS OF GHMPO BIKE/PED PLAN

Mr. McHenry said that the member jurisdictions met on March 30th to interview consultants. There was a unanimous decision to team with ARCADIS/The Jaeger Company due, amongst other things, depth of experience, local partner and technical skills. The plan will develop cost effective bike and pedestrian improvements to be implemented in the short and long term. The contract will go the County Commission on May 26th. Recommended for approval by TCC and CAC.

MOTION: Mr. Puckette made a motion to recommend approval of these amendments. The motion received a second from Mr. Wangemann and passed by unanimous vote.

7. JURISDICTION AND AGENCY REPORTS

There was interest expressed by our committee members in status of transportation projects being completed by the jurisdictions and the Department of Transportation.

- Hall County –
 - Utilizing SPLOST dollars to move forward with McEver Road Intersections, Sardis Road Radial Connector and Skelton Road Widening.
 - The Hall County Board of Commissioners will be considering a GaDOT Project Management Agreement for the Sardis Road Radial Connector at their next Board meeting.
- Gainesville –
 - Awarded contract to signalize and add turn lanes intersection at Ramsey Road and White Sulphur Road.
 - Half the way through developing a complete redesign of a new intersection at West Academy, Maple and Oak.
 - Have received positive public comments on their new pedestrian walkways, for example the one at the end of Peal Nix Parkway at the Rock.
- Flowery Branch – Nothing to currently report.

- Oakwood – Right of way acquisition is planned for June for the third phase of Thurmon Tanner Parkway that will connect up to the Exit 16 split diamond interchange project.

9. ADJOURN

MOTION: Montie Robinson made a motion to adjourn. The motion received a second from Bryan Puckette and passed by unanimous vote.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George Wangemann

Grace Grindle, Sr. Secretary