

**GAINESVILLE-HALL METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)  
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONFERENCE ROOM  
MAY 11, 2004 10 AM**

**POLICY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Voting Members Present:** Gary Gibbs, Bryan Puckette, Montie Robinson, Paul Tanner

**Nonvoting Members present:** Verdell Hawkins, Bill Meyer, Kip Padgett, Todd Long, Phillippa Lewis Moss,

**Voting Members Absent:** George Wangemann,

**Non-voting Members Absent:** Tony Dittmeier, David Studstill, Emily Tait

**Staff present:** John McHenry

**Others present:** Stan Brown, City of Oakwood; Steve Kish, GDOT; Freida Black, GDOT

**CALL TO ORDER** Gary Gibbs

**1. WELCOME**

Mr. Gibbs called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for coming.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 11, 2004**

**MOTION:** Paul Tanner made a motion to approve the minutes of March 29, 2004. The motion received a second from Montie Robinson and passed by unanimous vote.

**3. APPROVAL OF FINAL FY 2005 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

Mr. McHenry went over the final Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that was brought forward at the last meeting. He said they had some comments from GDOT which they incorporated in this final draft. The comments covered the acquisition GIS software, website development used for public outreach, the collection of socioeconomic data for modeling purposes and an increase in transit spending. They also had comments from Hall County's Department of Public Works with a correction to the sidewalk data among other comments. The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) requested that additional language be added to the introduction on coordination between GHMPO and ARC on upcoming air quality non-attainment designation. All of these comments have been incorporated into the document. The UPWP has received

recommendations to approve it from the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC).

**MOTION: Paul Tanner made a motion to approve the UPWP. The motion received a second from Montie Robinson and passed by unanimous vote.**

**4. APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN GHMPO, ARC, GDOT AND EPD**

Mr. McHenry went over the MOA between GHMPO and ARC that defines the roles and responsibilities for transportation planning for the two adjoining MPOs since the Atlanta Urbanized Area extends into southern Hall County. Under advisement from GDOT and per federal regulation in areas where there is more than one MPO in a non-attainment area, GDOT needs to be a party to this document. The document also defines how the two MPOs will coordinate on federal requirements in a non-attainment area for air quality; therefore it was recommended that the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources also participate. The most recent draft includes changes from EPD regarding interagency activities. The agreement has received recommendations to approve it from the TCC and CAC.

**MOTION: Paul Tanner made a motion to approve the agreement between GHMPO, ARC, GDOT and EPD. The motion received a second from Bryan Puckette and passed by unanimous vote.**

**5. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN FOR GHMPO**

Mr. McHenry went over the Public Involvement Plan for Gainesville-Hall MPO. He said it lays out different types of public outreach techniques and methods for getting input out to the public on MPO plans and programs. Some of these methods are public meetings, stakeholder groups, focus groups, visioning exercises, websites and outreach at community events. He said there would be specific emphasis on considering the impact on those disadvantaged communities typically underrepresented in the planning process and ensuring their involvement. After the GHMPO committees approve this, there will be a 45-day public comment. They have received approval from the TCC and CAC.

**MOTION: Paul Tanner made a motion to approve the Public Involvement Plan. The motion received a second from Bryan Puckette and passed by unanimous vote.**

**6. UPDATE ON HALL AREA TRANSIT**

Phillippa Lewis Moss, Director of the Community Service Center, discussed Hall Area Transit's (HAT) use of 5303 transit planning funds. For FY 2004, the funding amount of \$35,000 was used to contract out a Comprehensive Operational Analysis for HAT. Currently Hall Area Transit is reviewing the recommendations that came from this

study, which include the reconfiguring or elimination of the fixed route system. Hall Area Transit is holding six public meetings in the next month to get input on potential changes to the system before they take the recommendations to the Hall County Commission and the Gainesville City Council. Commissioner Gibbs mentioned that the challenge for HAT was increasing riders and their ability to patronize retail establishments like the Lakeshore Mall here in Hall County.

**7. UPDATE ON QUEEN CITY PARKWAY BRIDGE REHABILITATION PROJECT**

Todd Long went over the maintenance project of State Route 60/Queen City Parkway Bridge over the railroad tracks just south of Industrial Boulevard in the City of Gainesville. He said they would be replacing the bridge deck (driving surface and sidewalks) and handrails. He said the bridge was almost 700 feet long and was four lanes wide. He said they would do two lanes at a time for 24-hour work zones for 240 days. They are projecting to start in late May or early June and will close the two northbound lanes and will start on the northbound side. He said two lane traffic will be shifted on the south bound lane cutting the capacity in half of the bridge. The project has an overall completion date of January 31, 2005.

**8. UPCOMING MEETING DATE - Tuesday, August 10th at 10am**

**9. OTHER**

- **Designation of alternate elected officials**
- **Multi-County Stakeholder Meeting on May 25th 5:30-7:30 at Blackshear Place Library.**

**10. ADJOURN**

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

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gary Gibbs, Chairman

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Grace Grindle, Sr. Secretary