

**GAINESVILLE-HALL METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONFERENCE ROOM
MARCH 10, 2004, 10:00 AM**

**TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Voting Members present: Chairman Kip Padgett, Stan Brown, Ken Cochran, John McHenry, Russell McMurry, Bill Meyer, James Miller, Jerry Presley, Scott Puckett, Christine Stava, Emily Tait, Paul Tanner, Dee Taylor

Nonvoting Members present: Joe Burnett

Voting Members Absent: Doug Derrer, Tony Dittmeier, Perry Eisenach, Verdell Hawkins,

Non-voting Members Absent: Steven Ballowe, Freida Black, Steve Cronic, Kit Dunlap, Dennis Fordham, Frank Hooper, Randall Moon, Christy Moore, Charles Tucker,

Staff present: Grace Grindle

Others present: Jeff Carroll, Joe Garland, Stan Hames, Tim Merritt, Matt Tate, Rod Wilburn

CALL TO ORDER Kip Padgett, Chairman

1. WELCOME

Mr. Padgett welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 9, 2004

Motion: Bill Meyer made a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 9th, 2004 meeting. The motion received a second from Russell McMurry and passed by a unanimous vote.

3. PRESENTATION ON LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROCESS

Mr. Padgett introduced Rod Wilburn with Day Wilburn Associates to give a presentation on the Long Range Transportation Plan process. Mr. Wilburn went over the work being completed as a part of the Georgia Department of Transportation Multi-County Study, which will generate the initial Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Association (GHMPO) which will be delivered in draft form in April. Mr. Wilburn went over the results of the modeling effort and indicated on maps future congested links according to the results of the model. Mr. Wilburn noted that the model is simply a tool in the transportation planning process and project selection process.

Discussion followed on the approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program by the GHMPO and its impact on project approval in the county. Ms. Tait and Mr. Tanner emphasized that the MPO is not fully functional until October 2005 and the past process for approval of projects will remain in place for 2004. Mr. Meyer noted that the LRTP would go through a public review process before official adoption in late 2004.

4. UPDATE ON AIR QUALITY AND TRANSMITTAL OF PROJECT LIST

Mr. McHenry discussed that Hall County will be designated a non-attainment county under the 8 hour standard for ozone this April. The Atlanta 20 county region will then have 1 year to submit a conformity determination report, which will be submitted by the GHMPO and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). This report will lay out a summary of the transportation plan for the 20 county region and how it conforms to the larger air quality plan that the state Environmental Protection Division has developed.

In light of this requirement, the GHMPO assembled a list of potential capacity increasing roadway projects that can impact air quality over the next 30 years from the work being completed on the multi-county study. As this list will be updated every three years, it can be subsequently revised.

Mr. Miller expressed concern that the other jurisdictions had not been able to contribute specific projects to this list and that it was not all-inclusive for the county. Mr. Brown suggested setting up a subcommittee to work on this before the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meets on March 18th. Mr. Padgett summarized the prior discussion that a subcommittee would meet on March 12th to develop a more inclusive list of projects that would be taken to the CAC. A brief meeting of the full TCC was scheduled for the 24th to vote on an official recommendation to approve the revised list.

MOTION: Mr. Tanner made a motion to table the issue until the subcommittee could meet on Friday, March 12th to revise the list. A special TCC Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 24th would go over the revised list and consider the formal recommendation. The motion received a second from Mr. Padgett and passed by unanimous vote.

5. DRAFT FY 2005 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Mr. McHenry went over the draft FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which describes all of the activities to be completed by the MPO. It corresponds to GDOT's fiscal year starting on July 1st and is a continuation of the previous work program. A draft document was submitted to GDOT for a mid-February deadline and by May 15th the final UPWP has to be approved. Ms. Tait asked when comments were needed, and Mr. McHenry said as soon as possible, but by the April

12th at the latest for inclusion in the final draft that will come before the committees in April and May for official adoption.

6. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR ATLANTA URBANIZED AREA

Mr. McHenry went over the Congestion Management System (CMS) requirements that pertain to southern Hall County, a small part of which falls in the Atlanta Urbanized Area. The only capacity increasing project in this section of South Hall is the widening of SR 347/Friendship Road and this info has been coordinated with ARC. To fulfill the requirements for the MPO, staff will develop a document that will identify existing traffic counts and volume-to-capacity ratios for this area and potential congestion reducing strategies. The document will be brought back along with the Long Range Plan later this year. Mr. Miller asked if the Holiday Road section of 347 was considered, and he was informed that this section of the roadway had been included.

7. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE LOGO

Mr. Meyer went over the recently designed logo for the GHMPO and requested recommendation to approve.

MOTION: Ms. Stava made a motion to approve. The motion received a second from Mr. McHenry and passed by unanimous vote.

8. UPCOMING MEETING DATE

Mr. Padgett advised they had a scheduled meeting date for Wednesday, April 21, 2004 at 3 PM. He also reminded members that there would be a special called meeting date for March 24, 2004 to approve the project list for air quality purposes.

9. OTHER

Mr. Padgett asked if there was any further business or projects that the members wanted to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn, with a second from Mr. Puckett, and the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kip Padgett, Chairman

Grace Grindle, Sr. Secretary