



Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

GHMPO

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

POLICY COMMITTEE

Georgia Mountains Center, Room A
Minutes of November 12, 2008 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Sam Chapman, Hall County
Myrtle Figueras, City of Gainesville
Diane Hirling, City of Flowery Branch
Lamar Scroggs, City of Oakwood
Cindy Van Dyke, GDOT

Voting Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Randy Knighton, GHMPO
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO
David Fee, GHMPO
Hugh Tyner, CAC Chairman
Russell McMurray, GDOT
Erik Steavens, GDOT
Chester Thomas, GDOT
Chad Skogsberg, GDOT
Steve Farrow, GDOT Board Member
Jason Crane, GDOT
Charley Nix, Hall County
Phil Sutton, Hall County
Jody Woodall, Hall County
Ken Reardon, Hall County

Connie Daniels, Hall County
Dee Taylor, City of Gainesville
Phillippa Lewis Moss, City of Gainesville
Jeff Carroll, Wilbur Smith & Associates
Janice Crow, Hall Area Transit
Andy Edwards, FHA
Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Jeff Gill, Gainesville Times
Larry Sparks, City of Oakwood
Shelley Davis, Chamber of Commerce
Carolynn Segers, GMRDC
Faye DiMassimo, Kimley-Horn & Associates
Chip Burger, URS

1. Welcome

Mr. Chapman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

2. Approval of May 13, 2008 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mayor Figueras made a motion to approve the May 13, 2008 Minutes. The motion was received and seconded by Mayor. Hirling and passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Remarks from Mr. Steve Farrow, State Transportation Board Member (9th District)

Mr. Farrow reported on the GDOT's budget deficit and steps in reprioritizing projects. The Statewide Transportation Plan will be presented to the Board within the next 10 days. The

plan will consider projects inside and outside metro Atlanta separately and will then be taken to the legislature to make plans for funding for the next 5-10 years.

4. GDOT Project Prioritization Process

Mr. Crane presented the project prioritization process giving a status update, explaining the performance measures and weighting, project scoring system, feedback from the MPO's and the next steps in the process.

5. IT3 (Investing in Tomorrow's Transportation Today) Project

Ms. DiMassimo explained the IT3 concept takes a strategic planning view of the entire statewide transportation system. She noted investing in infrastructure for economic development is a key goal of IT3 and Hall County is well-placed as the one of counties in Georgia with traffic analysis zones (TAZ) in 2030 which will reach 100,000 jobs in a 30 minute or less commute.

6. SR 365 Corridor Study

Mr. Crane presented a PowerPoint presentation of the scenarios considered in the SR 365 corridor study, the recommendations and next steps on the project.

7. Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan

Mr. Burger reported that after the adoption of the Transit Development Plan (TDP), URS was tasked to do some supplemental service planning. In order to obtain Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds for additional grants, the MPO would need a locally developed human services coordinated transportation (HSTP) which includes: an assessment of available service, a needs assessment and strategies to address service gaps. There will be a second meeting with stakeholders in December or January.

8. I-985 Park-n-Ride Lot Surveys

Mr. Burger reported that URS had conducted a survey at the park-n-ride lots off I-985 at Exits 4 and 17. He presented detailed charts of the findings and summarized the information gathered from the survey results.

A six week survey was taken on the feasibility of extending bus service to the YMCA. Mr. Burger reported the 10 surveys turned in were favor on extending service but concluded there was not enough interest at this time to merit service to the YMCA.

9. Northern Connector Study

Mr. Carroll explained that the Northern Connector is a proposed project which emerged as a direct result of public involvement during the development of the 2030 Long Range Transportation (LRTP) Update which would provide connectivity in north Hall County between SR 60/Thompson Bridge Road and SR 365. Various tasks identified for the study include data collection, stakeholder/MPO/public coordination, needs assessment and identify alternatives and fatal flaws.

10. Hall County Crash Profile

Mr. Yamala presented the committee with a document detailing maps and tables on the number of accidents, how severe and where the accidents occurred within Hall County. He credited Kaycee Mertz, the MPO summer intern, with using the Critical Analysis Reporting Environment (CARE) software to compile the report.

11. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Ms. Crow for Hall Area Transit, Mr. Sparks for the City of Oakwood, Mr. Andrew for the City of Flowery Branch and Mr. Taylor for the City of Gainesville.

12. Upcoming Meeting Date

The next Policy Committee meeting is March 10, 2009.

13. Other

Mr. Chapman expressed his appreciation to Mr. Farrow and GDOT for attending the meeting and providing information to the Policy Committee. He noted there will be an Eggs and Issues Breakfast on December 11th hosted by the Chamber. A listing of the upcoming 2009 GMPO Committee Meetings was disseminated.

14. Adjourn

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

Sam Chapman, Chairperson

Connie Daniels, Secretary