



# *Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization*

## **GHMPO**

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

### **CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Conference Room, Development Services Center  
Minutes of April 23, 2009 Meeting

#### **Voting Members Present:**

Hugh Tyner, City of Oakwood  
Charles Mensinger, City of Oakwood  
Doris Evans, Hall County  
Brent Hoffman, Hall County  
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville  
Ed Myers, City of Gainesville  
Alan Wayne, City of Flowery Branch

#### **Voting Members Absent:**

Ron Petrie, City of Flowery Branch  
Connie Davis, City of Gainesville  
Ken Cochran, Hall County  
Frank Simpson, City of Gainesville  
Linda Carruth, City of Gainesville  
Larry Poole, Hall County  
Jim Syfan, Hall County  
David Lee, Hall County  
Harold Goss, Hall County  
Blair Hutson, Hall County

#### **Others Present:**

David Fee, GHMPO  
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO  
Steve Brown, Wilbur Smith Associates  
Bob McGarry, Disability Resources

James Riker, City of Flowery Branch  
Janice Crow, Hall Area Transit  
Connie Daniels, Hall County  
Robert Mahoney, GDOT

### **1. Welcome**

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

### **2. Approval of February 26, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Ms. Evans made a motion to approve the February 26, 2009 Minutes with a second by Mr. Meyer and passed by a unanimous vote.

### **3. Recommendation to Approve the Draft FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Yamala reported that FHWA requested a draft resolution be included with the draft FY 2010 UPWP. Mr. Yamala directed the attention of the committee to the Major Transportation Studies work element and provided a handout on previous and ongoing studies. Mr. Riker commented on the letter the City of Flowery Branch had sent to the GHMPO Policy Committee requesting funding assistance to conduct a transportation study and agreed to provide a letter of commitment in terms of the local match to GHMPO as soon as their City Council approves the FY 2010 budget.

**MOTION:** Mr. Wayne made a motion to recommend approval of the request by the City of Flowery Branch seeking assistance to conduct a transportation study with a second by Mr. Hoffman and passed by a unanimous vote.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Wayne made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program with a second by Mr. Hoffman and passed by a unanimous vote.*

#### **4. Northern Connector Study - Data Layers and Ranking**

Mr. Brown explained the data layers and preliminary rankings associated with the study. Different scenarios of the proposed alignments will be presented at the next TCC meeting. Mr. Yamala informed the committee that the second stakeholder meeting for the Northern Connector Study was held on April 21, 2009.

#### **5. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program - Transportation**

Mr. Yamala explained this is a new grant to assist state, local and tribal governments in implementing strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, reduce total energy use and improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building and other sectors and to spur economic growth and create/retain jobs. He noted Hall County alone is eligible as a direct grant recipient for \$726,600 dollars and that the grant covers a wide variety of activities. No local funding match is required and the application deadline is June 25, 2009.

#### **6. Administrative Modifications and Amendments to the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Fee presented four administrative modifications and seven amendments to the 2008-2013 TIP. Mr. Yamala stated that GHMPO staff met with Steve Farrow, GDOT Board Member and Russell McMurray, GDOT District Engineer to get an update on both projects and budget issues.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Wayne made a motion to approve the administrative modifications and amendments to the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Program with a second by Ms. Lipscomb and passed by a unanimous vote.*

#### **7. Update on the 2009 Georgia Legislative Session**

Mr. Fee reported that the 1% sales tax for transportation projects had not passed in the General Assembly. Senate Bill 200 did pass creating a GDOT Director of Planning position. The Legislature would choose 20% of all funding projects and nearly all the new projects from a list provided by the Governor. The current Transportation Board would select repair and repaving projects. There are changes being made throughout GDOT and all the details have not been worked out at this time.

#### **8. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports**

Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed by their jurisdictions: Mr. Mahoney for GDOT, Mr. Yamala provided an update for projects in Hall County, City of Gainesville, City of Flowery Branch, City of Oakwood and HAT.

#### **9. Upcoming Meeting Date**

The next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting will be July 23, 2009.

## 10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 5:21 p.m.

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Hugh Tyner, Chairperson

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Connie Daniels, Secretary