



Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

GHMPO

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

POLICY COMMITTEE Georgia Mountains Center Minutes of May 8, 2007 Meeting

Voting Members Present:

Diane Hirling, City of Flowery Branch, Chairperson
Bob Hamrick, City of Gainesville
Monty Robinson, City of Oakwood
Tom Oliver, Hall County
Cindy Van Dyke, GDOT

Voting Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Bill Andrew, City of Flowery Branch
Kip Padgett, City of Gainesville
Phillipa Lewis-Moss, City of Gainesville
Robert Mahoney, GDOT
Jerry Presley, Council for Quality Growth
Kevin McInturff, Hall County
Randy Knighton, Hall County
Srikanth Yamala, GHMPO
Melvin Waldrop, Jr., GDOT

Russell McMurry, GDOT
Billy Cantrell, GDOT
Jason Crane, GDOT
Shelley Davis, GHCC
Larry Sparks, City of Oakwood
Jeff Carroll, Wilbur Smith Associates
Connie Daniels, Hall County
Susie Dunn, ARC
Kesha Walker, GDOT

1. Welcome – Mayor Hirling, Chairperson

Mayor Hirling welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Approval of March 12, 2007 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: *Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the March 12, 2007 Minutes. The motion was received and seconded by Mayor Hamrick and passed by a unanimous vote.*

3. Approval of Draft FY 2008 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Yamala presented the Draft FY 2008 Unified Planning Work Program. He noted additional task under data collection for future work surrounding the 2010 census update.

MOTION: *Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the Draft FY 2008 Unified Planning Work Program. The motion was received and seconded by Mayor Hamrick and passed by a unanimous vote.*

4. Approval of Draft Participation Plan

Mr. Yamala reviewed the plan explaining that this draft covers the following: new federal requirements under SAFETEA-LU, expands our Public Involvement Plan, incorporates the consultation process, and incorporates comments from FHWA to include specific agencies. There was a 45 day public comment period and no comments had been received prior to today. This plan needs to be adopted by July 1, 2007.

MOTION: *Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the Draft Participation Plan. The motion was received and seconded by Mayor Hamrick and passed by a unanimous vote.*

5. Update on ARC and GHMPO's Coordinated Transportation Planning Process

Ms. Dunn with ARC thanked the GHMPO for inviting her and stated how much ARC appreciated working with GHMPO. She presented an overview and stressed the importance of the various groups working in tandem to complete and meet the air quality requirements.

6. Update on 2007 Legislative Session: Transportation Funding

Mr. Presley with Council for Quality Growth explained that federal and state dollars are getting less and it is getting harder to get projects to the construction state. He stressed the need for local governments to work together to generate funds. Mr. Pressley highlighted some of the House Bills that are currently under consideration.

7. 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan Update

a) Cost Escalation Process

Mr. Carrol with Wilbur Smith Associates explained the new federal requirements under SAFETEA-LU. He relayed that there is a significant change in this plan from what they had received at their last meeting. This is due to the rapid rise in the cost of materials, construction and right-of way costs. Initially a 4% inflation rate was used, after consultation with ARC it was determined that a 2.2% annual inflationary rate be used to escalate GHMPO project costs.

b) Recommendation to approve Draft Project List

Mr. Yamala presented details on several of the projects on the list. The draft project list has been submitted to ARC. There will be a public meeting on June 12.

MOTION: *Mayor Hamrick made a motion to approve the Draft Project List. The motion was received and seconded by Mr. Robinson and passed by a unanimous vote.*

c) Status of Travel Demand Modeling

Mr. Yamala stated they have evaluated three scenarios. He presented a graphical view of the modeling results including maps reflecting 2030 Existing and Committed Projects and 2030 build-out conditions for Hall County.

8. Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Priority Projects Update

Ms. Davis presented the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce priority list of projects to be included in the 2030 LRTP.

9. Administrative Change to 2006-2011 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Yamala and Ms. Moss gave an update on a couple of administrative changes to the 2006-2011 Transportation Improvement Program.

10. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Representatives discussed the status of transportation projects being completed in their jurisdictions: Mr. McInturff for Hall County; Mr. Padgett for the City of Gainesville; Mr. Scroggs for Oakwood; Mr. Andrews for Flowery Branch, Ms. Moss for Hall Area Transit and Mr. McMurray for GDOT.

11. Upcoming Meeting Date

The next meeting will be August 14, 2007.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

MOTION: *Mr. Robinson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was received and seconded by Mayor Hamrick and passed by a unanimous vote.*

Diane Hirling, Chairperson

Connie Daniels, Secretary