

***GAINESVILLE HALL TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM***

For  
Fiscal Year 2006

July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006

Prepared by: Gainesville Hall Transportation Study

In Cooperation With:  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration  
Federal Transit Administration

**FY 2006 PL Project #: PL000-0007-00-0210**

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## INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Bureau of the Census following the 2000 Census designated a Gainesville “urbanized area”. At that time the area came under the provisions of the Federal-Aid Highway Act and the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, which require a “continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative (“3C”) planning process in all urban areas of more than 50,000 population.

In keeping with these provisions, the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) was designated by the Governor as the MPO for the Gainesville urbanized area in February 2003. The process uses three committees (Policy Committee – the decision making body, Technical Coordinating Committee – the staff, and Citizen’s Advisory Committee – the public) to develop and carry out a comprehensive transportation planning process and to ensure that programs, improvements, and expenditures are consistent with regional goals, policies, and plans.

- The Policy Committee is the decision-making body and is represented by elected officials from the member jurisdictions and an official from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). The committee is responsible for taking into consideration the recommendations from the CAC and the TCC when adopting plans or setting policy.
- The Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) membership includes staff from the member jurisdictions, various federal, state, and local agencies and associations that have a technical knowledge of transportation or planning. The TCC evaluates transportation plans and projects based on whether or not they are technically warranted and financially feasible.
- The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) consists of volunteer members who are interested in transportation issues. They are appointed by their member jurisdictions. The CAC is responsible for ensuring that values and interests of the citizens in Hall County are taken into consideration in the transportation planning process.

### Scope of the Unified Planning Work Program

The Fiscal Year 2006 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the organization's planning goals and activities, provides cost estimates for each activity, identifies funding sources, and outlines a work schedule for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. The document is organized into four major sections entitled:

- Part I - Administration*
- Part II – Public Involvement*
- Part III – Data Collection*
- Part IV- System Planning*

The four sections of the UPWP include information on the parties responsible for carrying out the various planning activities. These activities are mostly geared towards the preparation and development of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) with at least a 20-year horizon, which is updated every three years due to the air quality non-attainment status of the area in the MPO. Public involvement is an integral part throughout the planning process.

In April of 2004, Hall County was designated part of the 20 county Atlanta nonattainment area for ozone under the 8 hour standard. This requires the GHMPO to participate in air quality activities for a nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act. It also requires coordination with the applicable local, regional, state and federal agencies. Also, as the Atlanta Urbanized Area extends into Hall County, the GHMPO will coordinate with the Atlanta Regional Commission relative to federal requirements for a Transportation Management Area. As part of a nonattainment area, conformity for all LRTPs and Transportation Improvement Programs with air quality requirements must be demonstrated.

### Funding

The Gainesville Hall Transportation Study receives funding from two federal reimbursement programs, GDOT and from Hall County. The Federal Transit Administration is the source of Section 5303 Program funds, which are primarily for transit planning. The Federal Highway Administration is the source of Planning (PL) funds, which are to be used for providing local information to the Department of Transportation to ensure a continuing transportation planning process. Federal transportation planning funds represent 80% of funding and require a 20% match. The County provides ten percent and the Georgia Department of Transportation provides ten percent. SPR funds are used for GDOT's planning efforts, which support the MPO process. The Georgia DOT provides the required 20% match for these funds.

**TASK # 1.1 Administration**

**Sub-element: Study Coordination and Operations**

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

To coordinate and conduct the transportation planning activities of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and requirements.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

In FY 2005, the three GHTS committees met four times. The initial Transportation Improvement Program and Long Range Transportation Plan were developed, reviewed and approved. Progress Reports and reimbursable forms were submitted to GDOT Planning Office.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The MPO has the responsibility to manage the Gainesville Hall Transportation Study program. The activities of the Policy, Technical Coordinating and Citizens Advisory Committees will be coordinated, including arranging meetings and preparing meeting minutes. The staff will insure the preparation of proper study records for the development of progress and performance reports, certification, and reimbursement procedure. The MPO also monitors all consultant contracts performed as part of the GHTS process. The MPO projects hiring an entry level planner in the upcoming year to assist with the growing responsibilities of the MPO.

➤ **PRODUCT**

GHTS committee meetings and minutes, Quarterly Reports, and an Annual Report to GDOT, Accounting Narratives and Invoices.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION

ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND  
END DATES**

7/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO

<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
FHWA-PL	\$28,000.00
STATE-PL	\$3,500.00
LOCAL	\$3,500.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$11,317.60
STATE (SPR)	\$2,829.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$49,147.00</b>

**TASK # 1.2 Administration**

Sub-element: Staff Education

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

Develop MPO staff knowledge of transportation planning through relevant workshops and conferences.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

The Transportation Planner attended classes on Intelligent Transportation Systems, and meetings with the Atlanta Regional Commission, the Georgia Transportation Summit conference and the GA MPO Conference.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

MPO staff may attend transportation-related conferences, seminars and courses offered by the National Highway Institute, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and GDOT. To be eligible for reimbursement, MPO staff shall seek prior written approval from GDOT before charging to this element if the courses involve reimbursable expenses for fees, registration, travel, per diem, lodging, etc.

➤ **PRODUCT**

Ongoing staff improvement and education.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION

ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

7/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO

**FUNDING SOURCE**

**AMOUNT**

FHWA-PL	\$6,400.00
STATE-PL	\$800.00
LOCAL	\$800.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$3,796.80
STATE (SPR)	\$949.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,746.00</b>

**TASK # 1.3 Administration**

Sub-element: Equipment and Supplies

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

Maintain computer systems used by the MPO for relevant transportation planning activities. Acquire software and hardware as necessary to maintain the MPO's transportation planning process. Purchase GIS software and application materials for system planning.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

A microphone was purchased for recording minutes at the Committee meetings. A laptop computer and projector were purchased to allow for presentations to the committees and the public for GHMPO efforts.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Maintain computer systems used by the MPO in line of relevant transportation planning activities. With the addition of MPO staff, furniture and computer hardware/software will be acquired.

➤ **PRODUCT**

Adequate technology to operate the MPO.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION

ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

7/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FHWA-PL	\$4,800.00
STATE-PL	\$600.00
LOCAL	\$600.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$3,404.00
STATE (SPR)	\$851.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,255.00</b>

**TASK # 1.4 Administration**

Sub-element: UPWP

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

Collect public and committee input on a proposed FY 2006 UPWP. Take into consideration MPO progress made on FY 2005 UPWP. Develop and draft final UPWP.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

Staff developed the second UPWP. Program was reviewed and approved by committees.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The MPO will identify priority transportation planning work tasks, prepare a descriptive narrative and cost estimate for each work task, coordinate input from other agencies, and prepare the FY 2007 UPWP.

➤ **PRODUCT**

FY 2007 UPWP Document

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION

ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

10/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FHWA-PL	\$5,600.00
STATE-PL	\$700.00
LOCAL	\$700.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$6,960.80
STATE (SPR)	\$1,740.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,701.00</b>



**TASK # 2.1 Public Involvement**

Sub-element: Community Outreach and Education

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

Identify and involve stakeholders and traditionally underserved groups in the transportation planning process.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

Staff developed and the Policy Committee adopted a Public Involvement Program, a document that will serve as the guideline for public involvement and ways to increase public involvement in the transportation planning process. Two public meetings were held as part of the outreach for the Long Range Transportation Plan.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The MPO staff will meet with community groups and individuals to provide information on current transportation planning programs. Staff and members will continue to address Environmental Justice and Title VI issues by insuring that groups that have been traditionally underserved by the transportation planning process be identified and included in the decision making process. Develop a website as part of the MPO's outreach efforts.

➤ **PRODUCT**

Ongoing community outreach and education.  
Development and adoption of an MPO website.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

7/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FHWA-PL	\$12,000.00
STATE-PL	\$1,500.00
LOCAL	\$1,500.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$7,619.20
STATE (SPR)	\$1,904.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,524.00</b>

**TASK # 3.1 Technical Assistance**

Sub-element: System Monitoring

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

As needed for transportation planning efforts, use technical data – such as Average Daily Traffic and GIS mapping to provide important tools in the development of the Transportation Improvement Program, Long Range Transportation Plan and other MPO planning efforts. Maps were an integral element to the committee and public meetings accomplished for the LRTP and TIP.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

Average Annual Daily Traffic along with project maps was included in project worksheets that were incorporated into the Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Use traffic and mapping data to support and enhance MPO planning efforts.

➤ **PRODUCT**

Integration of technical data and maps into all planning efforts to further most comprehensive information to the public and GHMPO committees.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION

ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

7/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO  
GDOT

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FHWA-PL	\$8,800.00
STATE-PL	\$1,100.00
LOCAL	\$1,100.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$3,796.80
STATE (SPR)	\$969.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,100.00</b>

**TASK # 4.1 System Planning**

Sub-element: Transit/Paratransit

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

To perform a public transit operations, administration and maintenance facility feasibility study.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

None.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This study will provide Hall Area Transit with a determination of the feasibility of combining Administration, Operations and Maintenance into one facility. The study will identify reasons for consolidation of these activities into one site and will determine the parameters needed. Once this step is complete, the study will identify parcels available within a selected geographic range and rank them for viability. It will also identify any issues associated with a separate facility, including financial constraints and land availability.

➤ **PRODUCT**

A final facility feasibility study will be produced.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION

ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

10/01/04 – 12/31/05

**LEAD AGENCY**

Hall Area Transit/Hall County

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FTA -5303	\$40,675.00
STATE	\$5,084.38
LOCAL	\$5,084.38
FHWA (SPR)	\$0.00
STATE (SPR)	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$50,843.76

➤

**TASK #4.2 System Planning**

Sub-element: Long Range Plan

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

Develop and review inputs for the eventual creation and adoption of a long-range, multi-modal Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for the study area for adoption in 2007.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

In the previous year a 2005-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan was developed, reviewed by the GHMPO committees and the public for their input and adopted by the Policy Committee.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The LRTP provides project descriptions and cost estimates for proposed long range transportation projects. The document also contains information and plans for potential multimodal projects, transit, Transportation Enhancement projects, GDOT and local maintenance projects. This task also includes the tracking and coordination of projects as they progress while meeting air quality requirements.

➤ **PRODUCT**

Preliminary analysis and data gathering for the upcoming Long Range Transportation Plan.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITIES
Hall County and City of Gainesville	Comprehensive Plan

TARGET START AND END DATES	LEAD AGENCY
7/01/05 – 6/30/06	GHMPO

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FHWA-PL	\$12,240.00
STATE-PL	\$1,530.00
LOCAL	\$1,530.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$9,492.00
STATE (SPR)	\$2,373.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,165.00</b>

**TASK #4.3 System Planning**

Sub-element: Transportation Improvement Program

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

Undertake transportation planning activities that will lead to the development /implementation of the upcoming transportation improvement program and any needed amendments.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

In the past year, the 2005 –2010 Transportation Improvement Program was developed with input from the member agencies and brought forward to all three committees.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Produce the upcoming TIP and any required amendments for review by the public and MPO Committees prior to submission to GDOT. This task also includes the tracking and coordination of projects in the TIP as they progress while meeting air quality requirements.

➤ **PRODUCT**

A completed, reviewed and adopted Transportation Improvement Program.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION

ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

7/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FHWA-PL	\$9,600.00
STATE-PL	\$1,200.00
LOCAL	\$1,200.00
FHWA (SPR)	\$10,124.80
STATE (SPR)	\$2,531.20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,656.00</b>

**TASK #4.4 System Planning**

Sub-element: Special Transportation Studies

➤ **OBJECTIVE**

To provide appropriate transportation related studies during FY 2006.

➤ **PREVIOUS WORK**

A Request for Qualifications for a comprehensive bike/ped plan for the county.

➤ **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The MPO may periodically be asked to conduct special studies, prepare reports for participants, other agencies, or the public or to analyze data not otherwise covered in the UPWP. Under this element the MPO will fund and/or negotiate with outside consultants or prepare in-house any transportation or traffic studies, which may be needed. These studies may include safety, intersection signalization studies, trip generation for unanticipated land use changes, a bicycle and pedestrian plan, corridor studies, congestion management or special studies and/or planning efforts required by air quality designations.

➤ **PRODUCT**

Development of a comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plan for the MPO. Other studies as appropriate.

**TRANSPORTATION RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITIES

**TARGET START AND END DATES**

7/01/05 – 6/30/06

**LEAD AGENCY**

GHMPO

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT
FHWA-PL	\$94,867.55
STATE-PL	\$11,858.45
LOCAL	\$11,858.45
FHWA (SPR)	\$3,284.00
STATE (SPR)	\$821.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$122,689.45</b>